POTRERO BRANCH LIBRARY
FACTS & FIGURES

Address
1616 - 20th Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

Grand Reopening
March 6, 2010

Opened
1951

Original architect
Pollack & Pope

Original cost
$100,428 (building & land)

Open hours
Open 6 days per week

City Librarian
Luis Herrera

Branch Manager
Lia Hillman

Architect
San Francisco Department of Public Works Bureau of Architecture

Project Management
Department of Public Works

General Contractor
CLW Builders, Inc.

Public art
Sculpture by Gina Telcocci titled “here and past here”

Total project cost
$5.4 million

Scope
Renovation and expansion

Size
6,410 square feet (33% bigger with an expansion of 1,362 square feet)

Financing
Renovation of the branch was funded by a $105.9 million bond measure passed by voters in November 2000 and $500,000 in private funds raised by the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library for furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Program
The Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP) is the largest capital improvement campaign in the history of the San Francisco Public Library. BLIP calls for 16 branches to be renovated, four leased facilities to be replaced with City-owned buildings, three branches to be replaced with new buildings, and one brand-new branch in Mission Bay. The Potrero renovation is the 14th completed library project.
Highlights

Safe and accessible

- ADA accessible
- Seismically retrofitted
- Accessible restrooms for public and staff
- New elevator
- Automatic front doors

Functional and efficient for the public and staff

- Updated & expanded collections of books, magazines, CDs, & DVDs
- Children’s Area with age appropriate seating & materials
- New designated Teen Area
- Expanded spectacular views
- After hours book drop
- New Children’s Play-to-Learn interactive wall
- A variety of seating in lounge areas, at tables and at computers
- Ergonomically & efficiently designed dedicated staff work areas
- Program room with built-in media equipment for library programs and after-hours access for community use
- New furniture
- Self pick up of reserved materials

Technologically updated

- 14 public computers for children, teens, and adults
- 12 laptop computers for public in-library use
- Wireless (Wi-Fi) access to the Internet on both floors
- Convenient power outlets for public access
- Express checkout machines

Environmentally sound

- Energy efficient mechanical and lighting systems
- An enhanced natural ventilation system with operable windows
- Rapidly renewable linoleum flooring throughout
- Improved air quality with low VOC paints, adhesives, and sealants
- Radiant heating system
- Maximum use of natural light & window shades to control light levels
- High performance light fixtures
- Deep overhangs to block sun on south façade
- Storefront glazing, windows, building insulation and roof designed to keep branch comfortable
- Use of formaldehyde free composite wood products
- Restroom skylights for less electric light use during the day
- Transit friendly location (MUNI lines 19, 10 & 22)

Building better libraries for stronger communities