"The more living patterns there are in a place--a room, a building, or a town--the more it comes to life as an entity, the more it glows, the more it glows, the more it has that self-maintaining fire which is the quality without a name."

Alexander
"This is a fundamental view of the world. It says that when you build a thing you cannot merely build that thing in isolation, but must also repair the world around it, and within it, so that the larger world at that one place becomes more coherent, and more whole; and the thing which you make takes its place in the web of nature, as you make it."

Alexander
The elements are patterns

Each pattern a problem which occurs over and over again describes the core of the solution to that problem
You can use this solution a million times over, without ever doing it the same way twice
"Everybody loves window seats, bay windows with low sills and comfortable chairs drawn up to them."

Alexander
Links between patterns
A pattern language is a structured method of describing good design practices within a field of expertise. It is characterized by:

1. Noticing and naming the common problems in a field of interest,

2. Describing the key characteristics of effective solutions for meeting some stated goal,

3. Helping the designer move from problem to problem in a logical way, and

4. Allowing for many different paths through the design process.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattern_language
A pattern garden is not merely pretty but designed to truly satisfy. Certain fundamental, universal elements, or patterns, appeal to human nature: the intimacy of a plant-filled enclosure, the soothing reflection on water's surface, the pleasure of dappled sun beneath a pergola, the promise of a curving path.

A gate is the portal to the garden, and its style sets the tone. The process of passing in and out of the garden can feel as significant as crossing over a bridge — with the added advantage of a satisfying click as the gate closes behind you. Even the simplest of gates can be designed to conceal, to shut off and protect, or to frame views into the garden.

Gates and doors set the mood and style of the garden, as in this romantic, slightly hobbit-like scene.
...fifty-seven patterns provide a framework for an ecologically restorative, socially just, and reliably prosperous society. They are adaptable to local ecosystems and cultures, yet universal in their applicability. Together they form what we call a Conservation Economy.

http://www.conservationeconomy.net/
Liberating Voices! A Pattern Language for Communication Revolution

2 The Commons

David Bollier

One of the biggest problems in contemporary life is the unchecked growth of market values as a way to govern resources and ourselves. This is reflected in the privatization and commodification — or "enclosure" — of the commons. Resources that morally or legally belong to everyone are increasingly coming under the control of markets.

Not only does enclosure result in higher prices and the need to ask for permission to use something previously available to all, it shifts ownership and control to private companies. The market efficiencies that businesses seek can be illusory, however, because they often depend upon unacknowledged subsidies from the commons (for example, discount access to public resources) and the displacement of costs onto the commons (pollution, social disruption, harm to future generations). Enclosure does not add value in the aggregate; it merely privatizes value at the expense of common wealth.

Our "pattern language" is a holistic collection of "patterns" that can be used together to address an information or communication problem. Each "pattern" in this pattern language, when complete, will represent an important insight that will help contribute to a communication revolution.
Patterns are optimal solutions to common problems. As common problems are tossed around a community and are resolved, common solutions often spontaneously emerge. Eventually, the best of these rise above the din and self-identify and become refined until they reach the status of a Design Pattern.
"Libraries say something important about the communities which build them."

Brophy
Patterns and Libraries
We could develop our own language of patterns.
NOTICE!!

CARDS MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE DRAWERS!
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE IN A SELF-SERVICE LIBRARY
OF THIS TYPE TO KEEP THE CARDS IN ALPHABETICAL
ORDER IF THEY ARE LIFTED OUT OF THEIR SECTIONS
AND REPLACED AT RANDOM.

YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

LIBRARIAN

http://www.flickr.com/photos/exlibris/2391618226/
It seems like there are lots of different kinds of libraries:
But really there's just One Big Library,

with branches all over the world.

Wendy Newman
One Big Library
Universal Access to All Knowledge
Books Available for Scan-On-Demand
(Boston Public Library)

We are excited to announce a new program to allow users and patrons to "scan-on-demand". It's simple to use: just search for a public domain book on OpenLibrary.org and, if it's at the Boston Public Library and hasn't been scanned yet, there will be a "Scan This Book" button on the left-hand side.

When you click the button and follow the steps to confirm, we'll have a librarian go and get the book from the stacks, bring it to our scanning center, and have our team of scanners digitize it page-by-page. Within 3-5 days, you should receive an email follow-up with a link to the newly-digitized copy, complete with PDF, online flip book, full text (using OCR technology) and more, all thanks to your request! We’re excited to be introducing this breakthrough new technology and we hope you enjoy it. You can learn more about this new feature by reading our developer documentation.

http://www.openlibrary.org/bpl/
Twine guy asks why librarians don't build central site for online reference. Uh, because we're feudal and don't work across org/geo lines?

about 4 hours ago from web

kgs
K.G. Schneider

http://twitter.com/kgs/status/1143241236
told to take down his similar experiment in December. Karen Coyle, a librarian and consultant on digital libraries, says: "If library records were open access on the web, it would be possible to create bibliographies that go beyond the holdings of any one library."

She points to Kosovo, where libraries have been destroyed in generations of conflict. Open records, she says, "could create a virtual library of books published in that geographical region, which would allow scholars to study the literature and history of that area in a way that isn't possible today with our separate, physical libraries." Rob Styles, a

Something between what Borges described and Steve Coffman's "Earth's Largest Library" with a flavour of complete data interlinkedness expressed in both a variety of SF titles over the years and more recently with "linked data" and the "web of data," which both come from Sir Tim Berners-Lee, most likely, with a solid core of a "bibliographic backplane," which, so far as I know, is my own coinage.

Chudnov
Sorry, but I don’t buy it as a reality or as a desirable future. I don’t think of Harvard College Library as a branch of The ARL Library, much less Mountain View Public Library, Harvard College Library, NYPL, Hewlett-Packard Corporate Libraries and the Poy Sippi Public Library as all being branches of One Big Library.

I think of all these as distinctive and distinctly local institutions— institutions which, being libraries, are really good at sharing and should get even better at it. But sharing is quite different than being a branch of a whole.

http://walt.lishost.org/2008/05/many-distinctive-local-libraries/
Six New Databases Added

Six new databases have been added to our library's Research Tools page:

- Auto Repair Reference Center: cars & trucks from 1954-2007, both foreign & domestic; includes wiring diagrams
- Small Engine Repair Reference Center: tractors, snowblowers, snowmobiles, ATVs, motorcycles, outboard motors, personal watercraft, lawn mowers, chainsaws, tillers & more
- Business Source Complete: full text of business publications covering accounting, banking, insurance, taxes & more
- Consumer Health Complete: full-text articles from mainstream medicine to complementary & holistic medicine on topics like aging, cancer, diabetes, fitness, nutrition, and children's health
- Points of View Complete: provides help with school assignments, with essays that present multiple sides of a current issue
- Biography Collection Complete: comprehensive collection of full-text biographies about people in history, science, music, literature, government, politics, sports, entertainment & more

NEW MATERIALS AT OUR LIBRARY!

Our blog is back! Thanks to your many requests, I've resumed adding new library materials to our library's blog.

http://www.poysippilibrary.org/
Member: Richard Francis Burton

Library 213 books — see library
Reviewed None so far
Clouds tag cloud, author cloud
Tags d (118), a (100), l (29), i (20), h (15), k (11), e (5), j (3) — see all tags
Groups None
About me Captain Burton (1821 – 1890) was an English explorer and adventurer, linguist and translator. He journeyed to Mecca in disguise, searched for the source of the Nile, and translated the 1001 Nights and the Kama Sutra.

More at Wikipedia.

About my library In the Huntington Library, formerly at the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Catalog based on Kirkpatrick (order).

Homepage http://burtoniana.org/
Real name Sir Richard Francis Burton
Favorite authors None specified
Account type public, lifetime
Connection News Connection News
URLs http://www.librarything.com/profile/RichardFrancisBurton (profile)
http://www.librarything.com/catalog/RichardFrancisBurton (library)
Member since Sep 30, 2008
Storing research in your personal branch

http://www.zotero.org/
Help people build, manage, and share their personal branches of the One Big Library.
The One Big Library Unconference
The One Big Library Unconference wiki

"It seems like there are lot of different kinds of libraries: public libraries, school libraries, university libraries, college libraries, law libraries, medical libraries, corporate libraries, special libraries, private libraries. But really there's just One Big Library, with branches all over the world." - Wendy Newman (Senior Fellow, Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto)

The One Big Library Unconference is a one-day gathering of librarians, technologists and other interested people, talking about the present and future of libraries. Its organized and sponsored by York University Libraries and the YUL Emerging Technologies Interest Group.

When and Where?

When: Friday 27 June 2008, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Where: The Centre for Social Innovation, 215 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario. (That's on the east side of Spadina, between Dundas and Queen.)


http://onebiglibrary.yorku.ca/
What was the unconference about? We said:

In an interconnected world, all physical and virtual libraries can really be thought of as branches of One Big Library. We would like to get together and explore that concept. Our areas of interest are:

- The future of libraries
- Collaboration on building One Big Library collections and services
- Uses of social software in libraries
- Tools to support and extend the One Big Library
One Big Library Unconference
Session Suggestion

Topic: ONE BIG LIBRARY ON ONE LITTLE DEVICE

Speakers (you and/or others):

Suggester: DAN SCOTT

Comments:
One big library on one little device? Pocket-sized web-capable devices are available to the masses at negligible cost, including access fees. These have the potential for being ubiquitous powerful passports to the web of linked data, if we can get the interfaces right. So what do we need to do to get it right? These devices can send as well as receive; how do we also take advantage of their potential to contribute to the web of linked data? (Dan Scott)

Put a * if you think this session should happen.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Drupal</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Amanda Etches-Johnson)</td>
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<td>Evergreen and Project Lorifer</td>
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<td>Open Book (WordPress) Plugin</td>
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<td>(John Niedema)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>Open Book (WordPress) Plugin</td>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Cataloging/Semantic Web/Folksonomies/Bibliographic Control</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(John Niedema)</td>
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<td>(John Depuy + George O)</td>
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<td>3:15</td>
<td>Metasearch/ APIs/Facebook</td>
<td>4:15</td>
<td>Open Big Library on Our Little Device</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(P. Fiander/G. Sinclair/Rick)</td>
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<td>(D. Scott)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15</td>
<td>Up: Do we want the One Big Library? If so, how do we build it?</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Open Everything
Twitter microblogging

 Posted at 10:22 - 10 days ago - View Tweet - Reply

 adr : Wow! What a great #onebiglibrary
 Posted at 23:44 - 10 days ago - View Tweet - Reply

 conniecrosby : @tjowens Sorry--just seeing your message now. You could have joined everyone for dinner #onebiglibrary
 Posted at 23:06 - 10 days ago - View Tweet - Reply

 conniecrosby : Impressed that new library grads @jambina @nanunishi & Jaqueline drove from Montreal to attend--someone offer to hire them! #onebiglibrary
 Posted at 21:38 - 10 days ago - View Tweet - Reply

 tjowens : Flight canceled. Next 16 hrs = Toronto airport suburban wasteland. Any other stranded #onebiglibrary friends out there want to get a drink?
 Posted at 19:33 - 10 days ago - View Tweet - Reply
People have a strong desire to talk to one another, to share experiences, and find common solutions to common problems.

We share many of the same concerns no matter what kind of library we are at, and what kind of library work we are engaged in.

There is a strong desire to work together.
Given the One Big Library and the pattern language approach, here are three clusters of patterns: problems, contexts, and solutions.
Problem:
The main elements of a cafe, and indeed the "Street Cafe" pattern, seem to share qualities we see in libraries, like reading, studying, and talking together in a relaxed setting. The growth in popularity of chains like Chapters has given rise to further pressure on libraries to create cafe spaces. However many cafe implementations seem to fall flat.
Library Café
Solutions:
● Create "rooms" to foster an intimate feel
● Keep some parts open to public view, like a terrace, but other parts not
● A variety of seating and tables, not all the same type
● Offer reading material, games that we don’t mind getting “messed up”
● Emphasize a local feel, perhaps through artwork
● Offer a small variety of food and drink
● Build it for different purposes and a variety of people
● Make it a restful place, especially at educational institutions
Problem:
We need lots of good metadata to run libraries. But the production of, and access to, metadata is being threatened: it is considered too expensive to produce locally by many libraries, the technology and standards used to create and exchange metadata are becoming antiquated, and there is a greater desire for enhanced content. There is a conflict between a movement to implement restrictive use policies, and the rising strength of the open source, open data, open everything movements.
"If library records were open access on the web, it would be possible to create bibliographies that go beyond the holdings of any one library."

Coyle
It's a lofty, but achievable, goal.

http://openlibrary.org/about
To build it, we need:

hundreds of millions of book records,

a brand new database infrastructure for handling huge amounts of dynamic information,

a wiki interface,

multi-language support,

and people who are willing to contribute their time, effort, and book data.
Catalog Flash-mob

St. John's Episcopal in Beverly Farms

16 photos | 44 views

items are from 15 Nov 2008.
Member: StJohnsBeverlyFarms

Library 1,373 books — see library

Reviewed None so far

Clouds tag cloud, author cloud

Tags Church History (81), Theology (55), VHS (50), New Testament (49), History (45), video (37), Biblical Studies (36), copy 2 (35), Commentary (31), wrong edition (26) — see all tags

Groups None

About me Named for St. John of Beverly, an English saint of the seventh and eighth centuries who is credited with achieving performed many healing miracles, St. John's Parish Church in Beverly Farms, Massachusetts was established in March, 1902, with the laying of the cornerstone of the present church building. The architecture is that of Henry Vaughan of Boston, and the stained-glass windows were executed by Connick Studios of Boston, in consultation with Ralph Adams Cram, architect. The pipe organ, a three-manual instrument of 60 ranks, was built in 1963 by the M.P. Moller Company. St. John's is an Episcopal Church and member of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. We serve approximately 600 families.

About my library We have approximately 1,200 volumes in our library.

Homepage http://www.stjohnsbeverlyfarms.org

Real name St. John's Episcopal Church
How To Free Culture

CC
RIAA → Horray

http://www.flickr.com/photos/scuddr/3556250/
"...towns and buildings will not be able to become alive, unless they are made by all the people in society, and unless these people share a common pattern language, within which to make these buildings, and unless this common pattern language is alive itself."

Alexander
Library Metadata Commons

Solution:

- Make bibliographic metadata open access
- Adopt model of free exchange of all bibliographic (meta) data. Make your bibliographic data available to others
- Encourage the creation of metadata preferably according to standards
- Everyone has a role to play in creating the metadata commons
- Provide tangible incentives to metadata creators, especially institutions that actively support the creation of metadata
- Develop open data exchange methods
- Promote the idea of the digital commons everywhere
Problem: When a person works with a librarian at a reference desk computer, all history and context is lost when the person leaves.
Save collaboration

Problem: When a person works with a librarian at a reference desk computer, all history and context is lost when the person leaves.

Solution: Reference tools and services should allow the librarian and user to collaborate on their work, and let the session be passed over to the user, without any loss of history or context, so that the user can continue the work uninterrupted.
Problem: It is impossible to learn a new system by watching someone else use it. One must use it oneself.
Problem: It is impossible to learn a new system by watching someone else use it. One must use it oneself.

Solution: Where possible, work at the user's computer. Use the library's computer only when the user doesn't have one.
Tagging is like a salt water fish that lots of people thought was pretty and they started trying to stick in fresh water tanks.

Leslie Michael Orchard
http://decafbad.com/blog/2009/01/18/tags-do-work-for-me-at-least#comment-384509
Live and work in the One Big Library
Build the library pattern language
Help people build, manage, and share their personal branches
One Big Library
http://hdl.handle.net/10315/2501

Stacy Allison-Cassin
<sacassin@yorku.ca>

William Denton
<wdenton@yorku.ca>

Ontario Library Association
Super Conference

30 January 2009

1. Live and work in the One Big Library.
2. Build the library pattern language.
3. Help people build, manage, and share their personal branches.

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Further reading


