Ma On Shan Sports Centre and Ma On Shan Public Library

Location
Ma On Shan, Hong Kong
Ma On Shan Sports Centre and Ma On Shan Public Library

Reading and recreation

Ma On Shan Sports Centre and Ma On Shan Public Library at the junction of On Chun Street and On Yuen Street in Ma On Shan was completed in July 2004. Built on a 10,336 sq m site next to an existing swimming pool complex and town park, the indoor recreation centre and library will help to create a focal point of community facilities for local residents.
The 6,701 sq m Ma On Shan Sports Centre features a multi-purpose design that includes two basketball courts, one tennis court, eight badminton courts, two volleyball courts and a handball court. Other social and recreational amenities include a table tennis room, an activity or dance room, a fitness training room, a children’s playroom and a chess or reading room.

The roof of the recreation centre is the most eye-catching feature of the project, rising 22.1 metres and adopting an oval-shaped design. The sports arena occupies an area of approximately 62.4 m by 36.7 m and has a fixed seating capacity of 1,000 and 256 moveable seats in the main arena. The roof spans 70 m end-to-end, is supported by two sets of structural steel trusses and is clad with
aluminum roof sheeting. The roof is indented in the centre, ensuring that the structure does not create a bulky appearance when viewed from neighbouring buildings. The indented section also features a skylight to admit natural light into the sports arena and to disperse smoke in case of fire.

The 3,450 sq m Ma On Shan Public Library is a two-storey structure rising to a height of 15.4 metres. The building is formed by two adjoining blocks, circular and rectangular in
shape, to house various functions and services. On the ground floor, the circular-shaped section is the Children’s Library and a newspaper and periodicals room is also included. The first floor of the circular wing is the Adult’s Library. The rectangular-shaped section comprises the main entrance, an exhibition area, two activity rooms and a computer and information centre. Users can gain access to the first floor via staircase or lift. The block also houses a staff room, a reading room, a computer and information centre and an audio-visual room.
The circular shape of the library was selected to provide easy and efficient access to different types of books and periodicals. Visitors standing at the centre of the library can easily see aisles and bookshelves at a glance. A skylight is incorporated into the ceiling of the Children’s Library at the ground floor to create a more pleasant internal environment and to increase
the penetration of natural light and glazed walling is used on the external walls of the Adult’s Library on the first floor.

A sitting out area has been provided in the project’s landscaped public open space to supplement the two structures and enhance the outdoor environment.

Leisure & Cultural Services Department
client

Aedas Ltd
architect (outline schematic proposals & project design)

Architectural Services Department
architect (inception, feasibility studies, contract documents & building construction), structural engineer, quantity surveyor, landscape architect

Far East Consulting Engineers Ltd
building services engineer

Dickson Construction Co Ltd
main contractor