

The house that Seuss built: the Geisel Library at University of California San Diego is an impressive architectural gem

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When Theodor Seuss Geisel, best known as Dr. Seuss, first saw the library at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) campus, he turned to his wife, Audrey, and said, "That looks like something I might have drawn."

The Geisels were long-time supporters and patrons of the library. In 1995, the library was renamed the Geisel Library to honor a generous donation from Audrey and the Geisels' devotion to literacy. "The Geisel Library was already famous in the mid-'90s due to its stunning architecture and numerous film and TV appearances," said Brian Schottlaender, The Audrey Geisel University Librarian. "However, the renaming strengthened the association between Dr. Seuss and the library with the library becoming known by many as 'Dr. Seuss' Library."

The library further honors the creative achievements of Dr. Seuss in the Mandeville Special Collections, a repository for personal papers of Dr. Seuss. The Dr. Seuss collection includes original drawings, sketches, notebooks, manuscript drafts, books, photographs and other materials documenting Dr. Seuss' literary contributions.

Something Out of a Dr. Seuss Book

The Geisel Library is the main library on the UCSD campus. Its unique geometric design has a futuristic quality that has been described as a grounded spaceship. It has been prominently featured in numerous movies, television shows and commercials. When it was built in 1970, the bold, innovative building quickly became the symbol of the campus.

"It is so unusual...

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Geisel Library is the main library building of the University of California San Diego Library. It is named in honor of Audrey and Theodor Seuss Geisel. Theodor is better known as children's author Dr. Seuss. The building's distinctive architecture, described as occupying "a fascinating nexus between brutalism and futurism", has resulted in its being featured in the UC San Diego logo and becoming the most recognizable building on campus. Geisel Library on the campus of the University of California-San Diego. Nagel Photography / Shutterstock. From museums to churches, architecture in U.S. cities ranges from jaw-dropping modernist masterpieces to historic gems hidden on side streets. But an oft-overlooked category of Instagram-worthy architecture is our country's libraries. Designed by American architect Frank Furness in 1888, the library at the University of Pennsylvania rejected the popular marble or granite designs of the late nineteenth century in favor of fiery red brick. The building contains a mix of towers, chimneys, and sky-lighted rooms that mimic the factories of downtown Philadelphia. Welcome to ArchitecturePorn, a SFWPorn Network reddit devoted to interesting architecture and individual images of buildings as the sole focus. Want More? Try! /r/architecture & /r/urbanism. Submission Rules. Include some context about the image in the title (such as the location or the name of the building). Only submit static images. Videos, collections, interactive images/websites, and articles are not allowed. Do not submit a shortened link using a URL shortener like tinyurl. If your image is of a city, please submit it to /r/CityPorn. Make sure your image is hosted by an approved host