The City of Monterey Park, populated predominately by Asians, lies east of the diverse downtown Los Angeles. The library targets the Asian community in Monterey Park with the intent to promote and preserve Chinese culture within American society. One of the essential elements is the “Wall of Books’ which faces the bustling street. Underneath this wall, translucent floor planes allow sunlight to penetrate through the bookshelves.

Another vital element is the inner canyonesque facade which segregates the “community side” from the arcade of books. This double curtain wall acts as a thermal insulator for the interior space. The building on the opposite side of the facade is represented with rows of bamboo along an organic path. The layers of vegetation become the transition to a different aspect of the complex. The use of wood siding on the three community buildings further enhances a serene environment. The yin and yang qualities of the project will provide an overwhelming sensation for those who travel the main paths within the canyon.