

Art and science

Science, information technology, engineering, health and medicine are key themes of the art displayed in the Hargrave-Andrew Library. The pieces support and complement the geometry and colours of the building's architecture, and promote innovation, exploration and evolution. The collection includes works by many inspiring Australian artists in a range of different media.

John Perceval's *Homage to Lawrence Hargrave* 1961-62, installed on the wall in the entranceway, is the library's most prominent artwork. The ceramic work, which was commissioned by the university as the signature piece of the original library in 1961, was cleaned and restored prior to being remounted during the refurbishment.

This ceramic sculptural mural considers the post-Hiroshima existence of humankind, as well as the brilliant and dangerous potential of human achievement. Signifying the earth's population explosion and the splitting of the atom, interpretation of this artwork has caused controversy over the years. This has been welcomed by the library as evidence that the art chosen to be displayed is achieving its goal of promoting interest and debate in the Hargrave-Andrew's key subject areas.



(Detail), John Perceval, *Homage to Lawrence Hargrave* /1961-62 Ceramics, glazed earthenware, Monash University Collection, Monash University Museum of Art

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More information

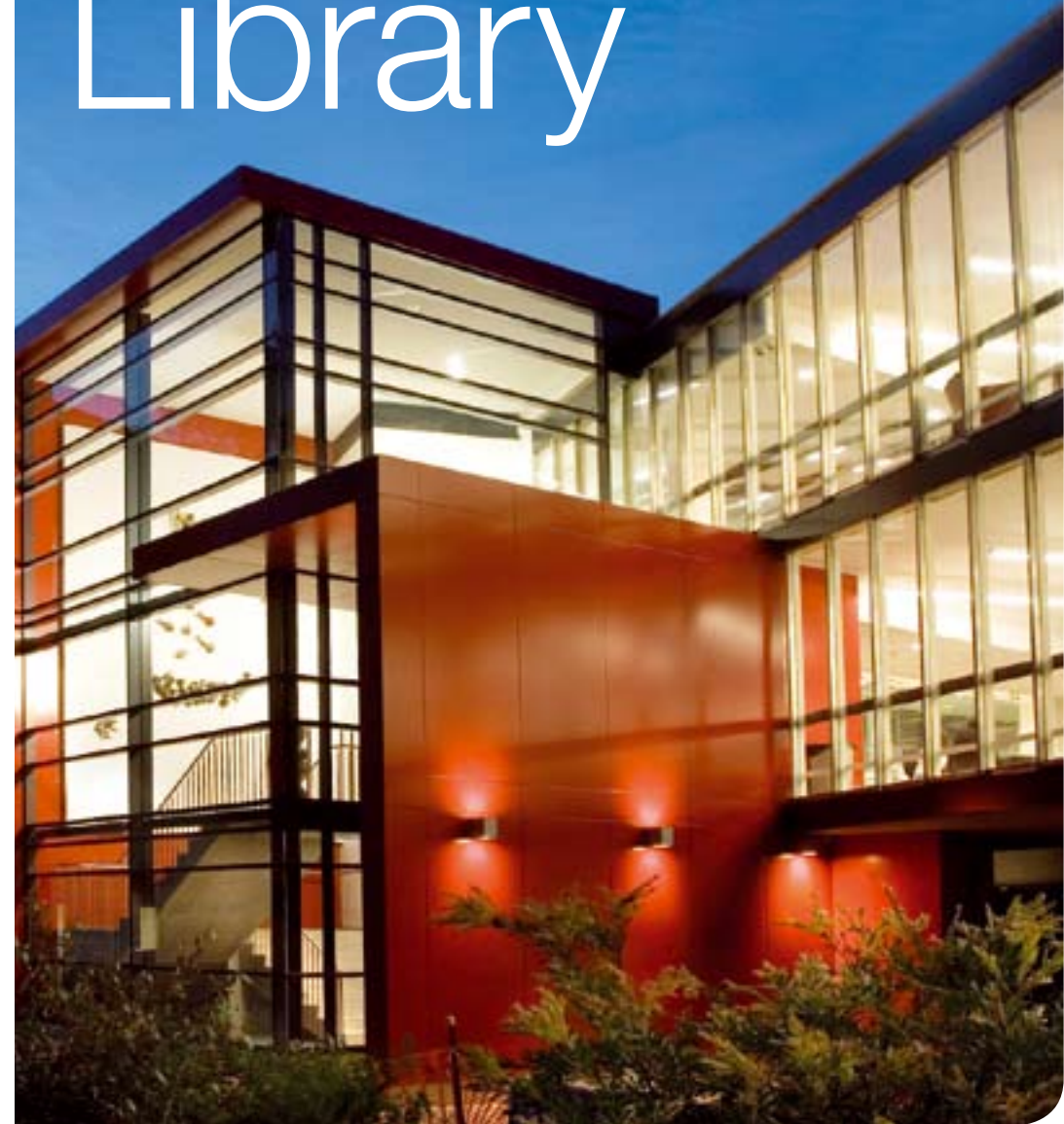
For more information on the Hargrave-Andrew please see www.lib.monash.edu.au/hal/.

For information on any of Monash University's other branch services or resources please see www.lib.monash.edu/.

Geyer Pty Ltd was responsible for the redesign and upgrade of the Hargrave-Andrew Library.

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Hargrave-Andrew Library





Located on the Clayton campus, the Hargrave-Andrew Library primarily serves the biological and physical sciences, engineering, information technology and medicine and health sciences. It also houses an extensive Map Collection, comprising maps from around the world with an emphasis on geological and topographical maps of Australia.

Back in time

The Hargrave Library was the first of the Monash University libraries, being officially opened on 15 December 1962. Often described in the early days as the science and technology library, it was named the Hargrave Library after inventor and aviation pioneer Lawrence Hargrave.

The library was extended in 1974, and in 1999 it became the Hargrave-Andrew Library when it merged with the Biomedical Library. This resulted in further extensions to the original building.

Professor Richard Andrew, recognised in the new name, was a foundation member of the Interim Council planning the establishment of Monash University and full-time founding Dean of the Faculty of Medicine from 1960 until 1976. Professor Andrew made a significant contribution to building a world class medical school at Monash.

A culture wall incorporated as a feature on level one of the refurbished library showcases artefacts and information about the history of the library, its namesakes and the faculties it serves.



Building blocks (1962): The Hargrave Library (right) and Science buildings – Administration, Physics and Chemistry. Photo courtesy of Monash University Archives, Image 5040.

Celebrating the Hargrave-Andrew Library

“The opening of the refurbished Hargrave-Andrew Library is a milestone in the library’s ongoing efforts to respond to changing teaching and learning styles.”

Today and the future

The design of the refurbished building reflects the technological sophistication of its users, and makes the most of light and space. Key features of the refurbishment include twice as many computer workstations, a variety of seating and desks to accommodate different study styles, a modern,

open-plan layout allowing for easier navigation, central photocopy facilities and the creation of an improved precinct with the relocation of the entrance. It also includes increased accessibility and facilities for those with disabilities, improved signage and the latest technology, such as a wireless network and data and powerpoints for notebook users.



Enriching the learning process

The opening of the refurbished Hargrave-Andrew Library is a milestone in the library’s ongoing efforts to respond to changing teaching and learning styles. Driven by the goal to create library spaces that are a pleasure to use, we have made the most of contemporary design and architecture supported by the latest technology. The result is the creation of a progressive information resources environment which engages both students and academics

and enriches the learning and research journey. As the oldest of Monash University’s libraries, there is a wealth of history associated with the Hargrave-Andrew Library which we have attempted to preserve and promote through the refurbishment. The artworks chosen for the library, largely from the Monash University Museum of Art collection, reinforce the university’s history with the underlying themes aligned to the academic subject areas served by the Hargrave-Andrew Library.

The refurbishment, completed late in 2005, is about far more than just a functional, new look building. It is the blueprint for the upgrading of our eight library branches and a statement of the library’s commitment to the university’s strategic goals.

Cathrine Harboe-Ree
Monash University Librarian

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A feature of the Hargrave-Andrew Library’s culture wall is this portable refracting telescope which belonged to Sir John Monash.

