

Building 26

Graphic Arts

Map Redesign

Defining the problem

The problem

Where am I?

Because of the confusing architecture of the building, when people walk into an entrance they aren't sure if they are on the first or second floor. It should be more obvious than a map.

There are four entrances to the building:

Two of them takes the individual to the first floor and two of them takes the individual to the second floor depending on which side of the building the individual is on.

The problem

Outdated maps

Maps are outdated and don't have a current list of all the organizations located in the building.

Give more recognition to various organizations in the building.

The problem

Lack of noticeability

There are a lot of posters on the wall that can lead to people barely scanning the wall and not noticing important posters. Less is more.

Various GrC students who enter the building that I spoke to aren't aware of the third floor.



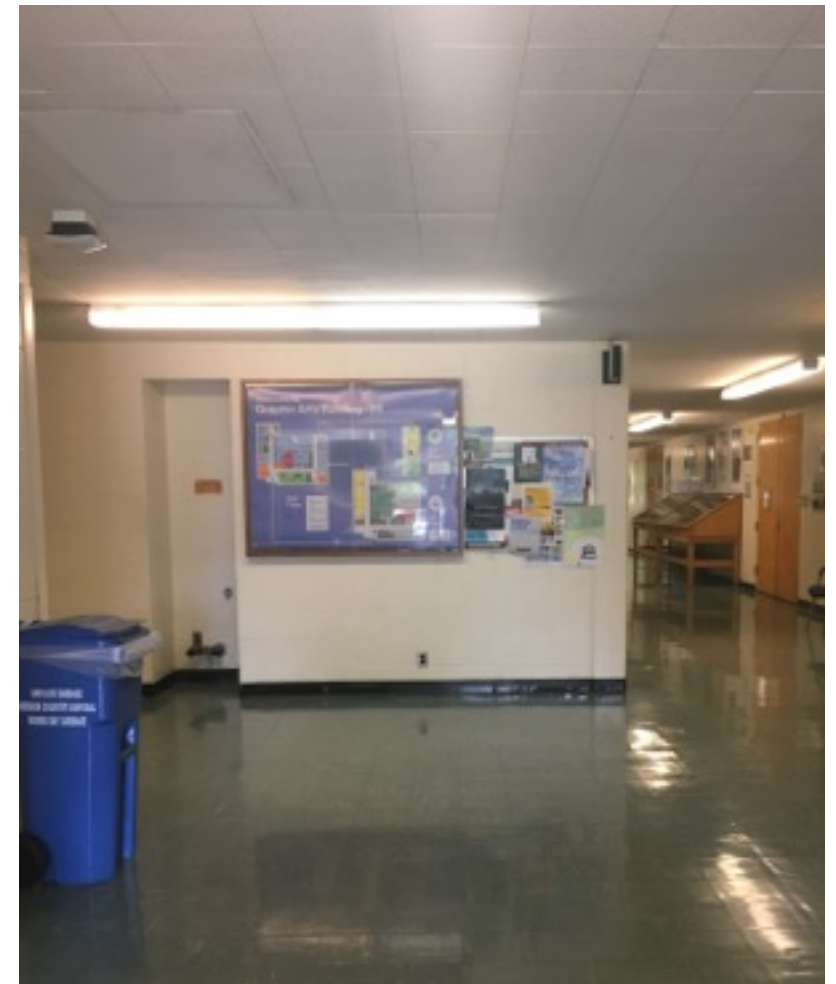
The problem

Location of maps

Second-floor entrance map facing the Recreation Center

Map is inside a glass frame that is inconsistent with the other maps that are taped to the wall.

It is also placed among the busy decorated walls of the second floor that may go unnoticed.



The problem

Location of maps

First-floor entrance closest to Building 26A

The map is at a confusing location because it is directly in front of the individual as they enter the building, but they aren't on the first-floor nor are they on the second floor.



The problem

Lack of Consistency



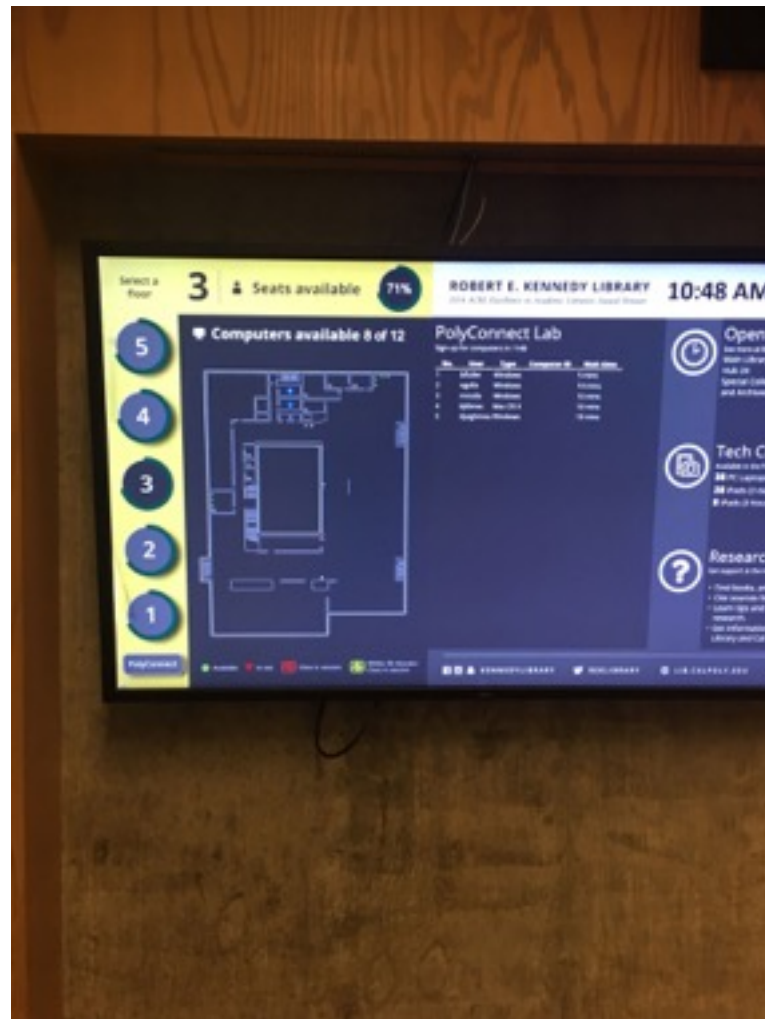
Orientation

Different floors



Map Design Research

Other maps on campus

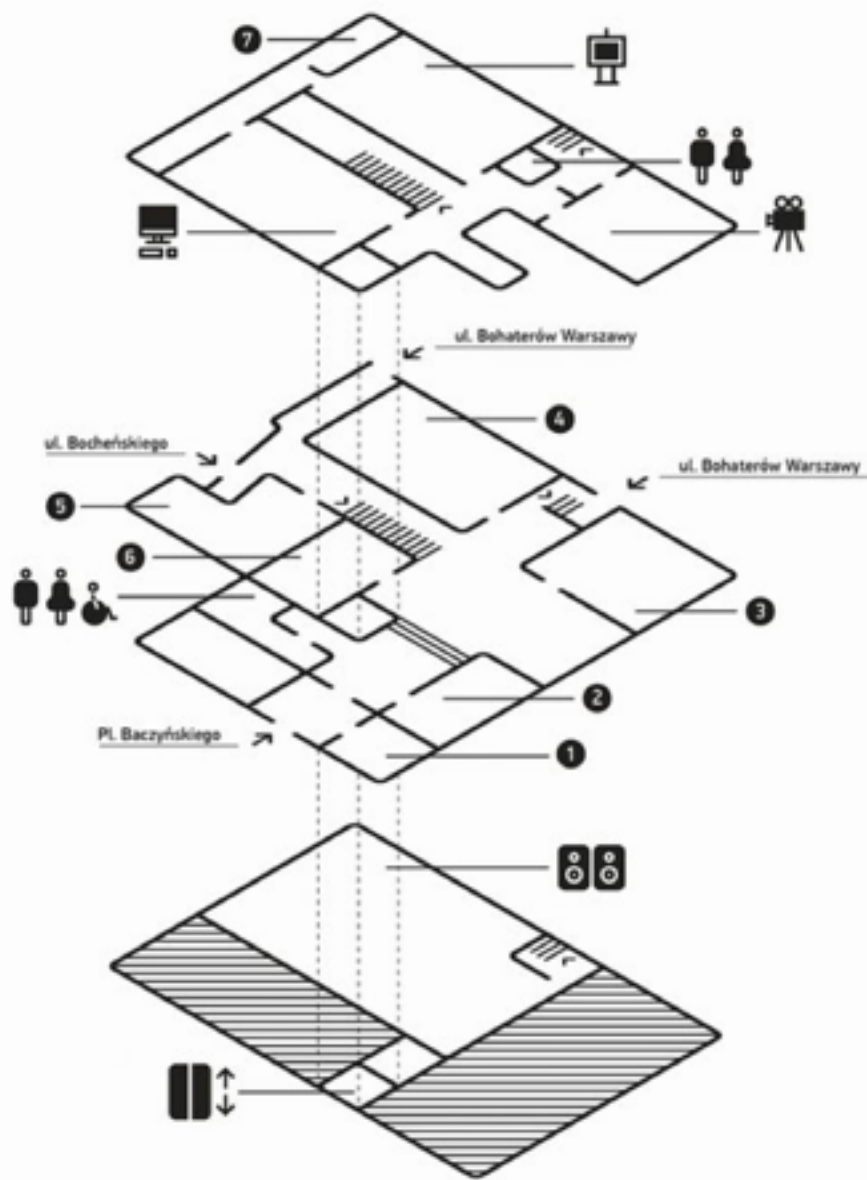


The designs of these maps aren't very applicable to our redesign.

Other maps off-campus

Example 1

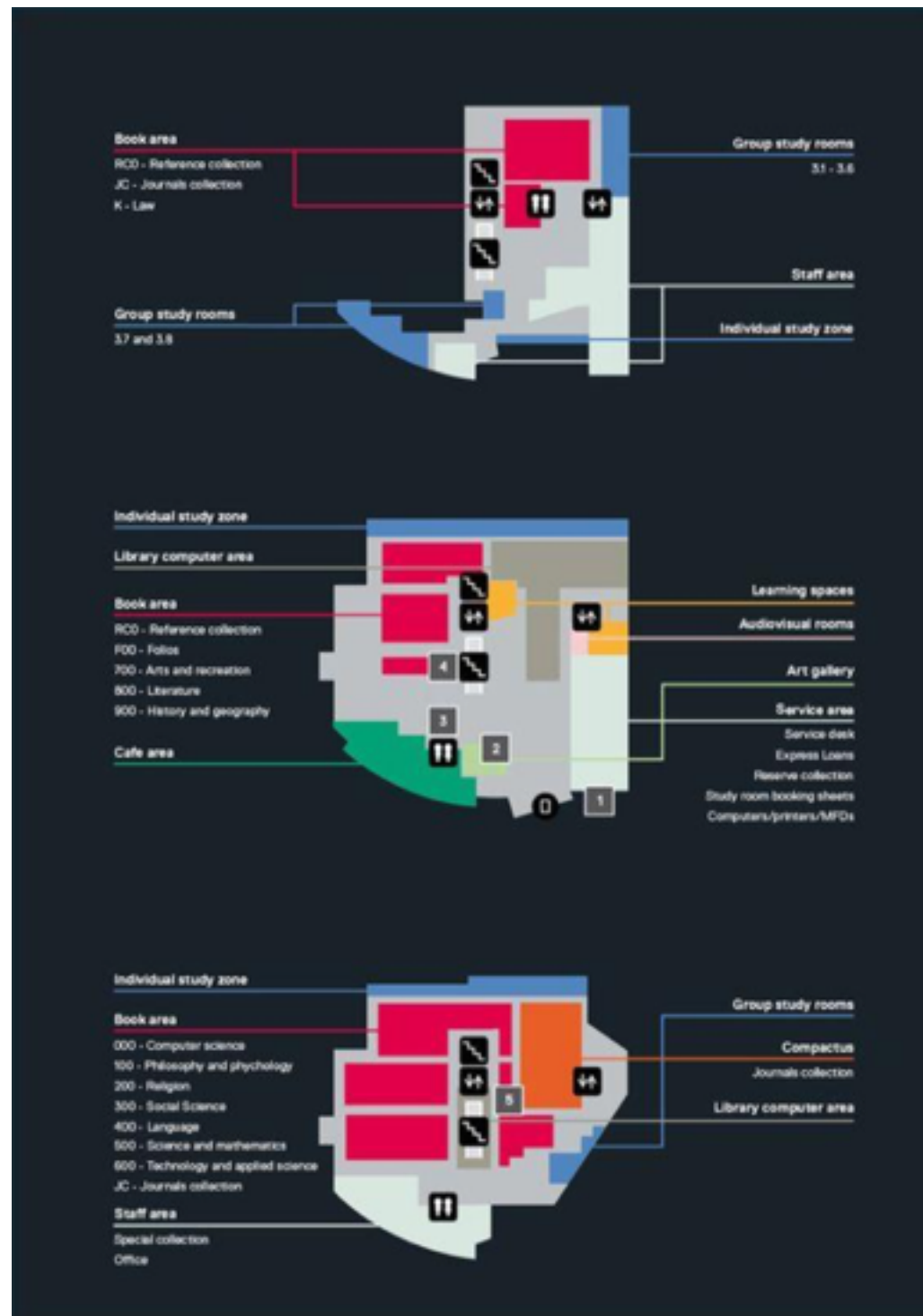
- Minimalistic design
- Stacked floors on top of each other
- Allows the user to quickly visualize the structure of the building and where the elevators/stairs are located on each part of the building.



Other maps off-campus

Example 2

- Strong contrasting colors
- Dark background makes colors stand out more
- Rather than labeling rooms themselves, uses lines to point to each section



Other maps off-campus

Example 3

- Smaller color palette
- List of entities at the bottom of the map



The solution

The solution

Where am I?

The maps aren't enough an indicator for individuals to know which floor they're on when they first walk in.

We can add additional hanging signage, similar to the ones on the second floor, inside each entrance with text “2nd floor” or “1st floor”.



The solution



First floor entrance

Sign with "1st floor"

The solution



First floor entrance

Sign with “1st floor”

The solution

Second floor entrance

Sign with “2nd floor”



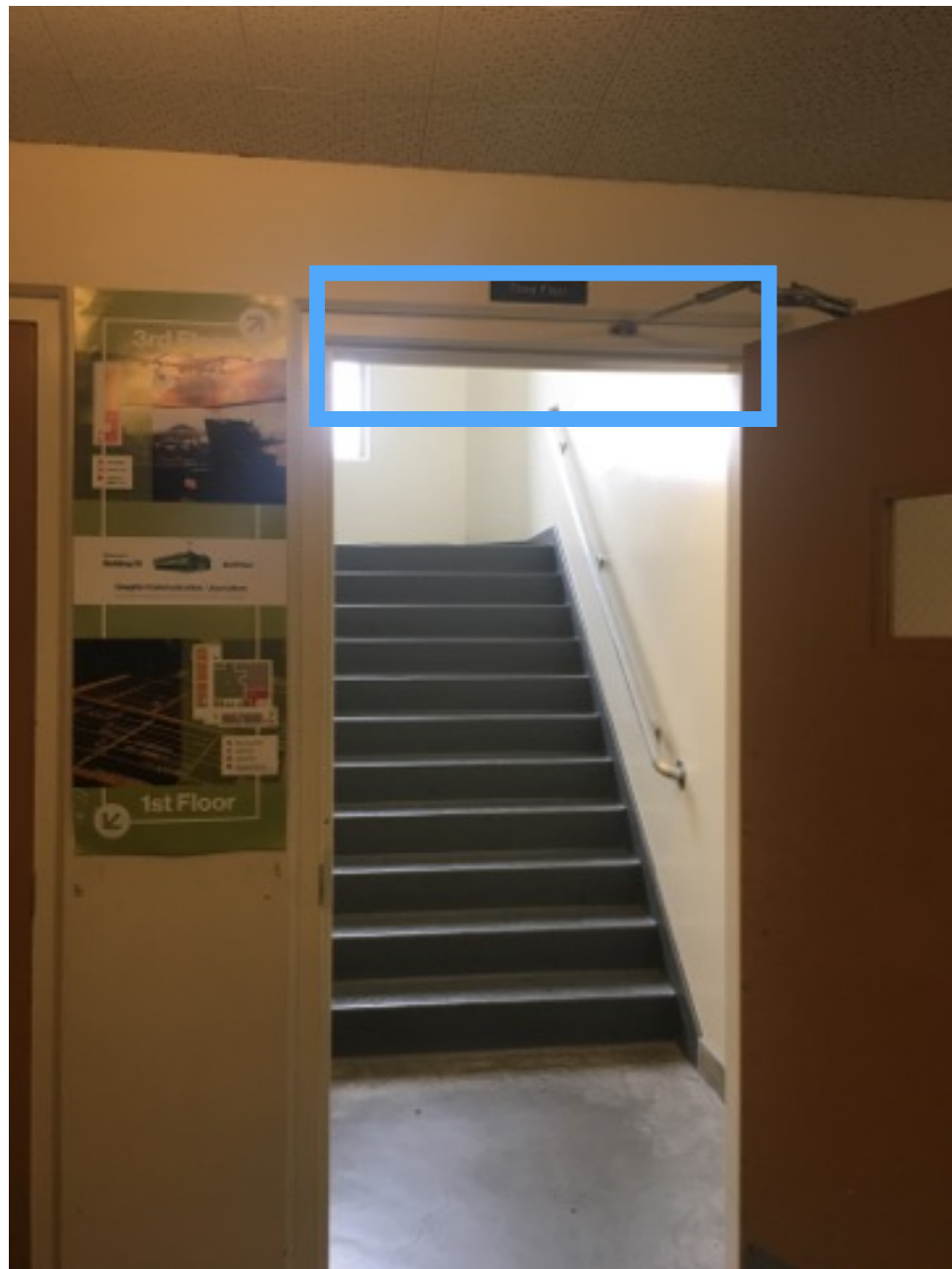
The solution

Stairs lead up to second floor

Sign with “2nd floor ↑”



The solution



Stairs lead up to third floor

Sign with “3rd floor ↑”

The solution

Outdated maps

Create an excel document of all organizations in Building 26 to display on the map that include the organization name, contact, email, building floor, and status.

Click [here](#) for the google sheets.

The solution

Outdated maps

Use logo entities to showcase various organizations in building 26.



The solution

Lack of noticeability

Current solution:

Placement of maps chosen based on most available visual real estate.

Forward-looking solution:

Consider reducing the number of posters on the walls of the second floor so important content will stand out more among the wall.

The solution

Location of maps

Second-floor entrance map facing the Rec Center

It should be on the white wall to the right of the door entrance.



Current location (2nd floor)



Proposed location (2nd floor)

The solution

Location of maps

First-floor entrance closest to Building 26A

It should be placed up the stairs at the immediate entrance of the second floor.



Current location (neither floor)



Proposed location (2nd floor)

The solution

Location of maps

First-floor entrance closest to Construction Management

There is currently no map at this entrance. I suggest putting one there so there is a map at every entrance.



Proposed location (1st floor)

or



Proposed location (1st floor)

The solution

Consistency

Each of the maps will display all three floors in the same design and color.

“You are here” will change depending on where the map is.



Forward-looking solutions

- Reduce the number of posters on the walls
- Uploading the map on the GRC website for contact and location
- Mounting signs

