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Redefining library learning Facilities in Malaysia: Lesson from Frank Lloyd Wright sustainable approach in spatial and landscape design

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Abstract

The main objective of this paper is to initiate and open a wider discussion on library design and learning facilities in Malaysia. It tries to take some lesson from one of the greatest modern American Architect which is Frank Lloyd Wright. The discussion itself will consist of four (4) parts. First part will discuss on the current problem and situation in reading and library issues in Malaysia while the second part will try to explore and review on the definition of outdoor learning with its importance and character in learning environment. The third part will focused on the Frank Lloyd Wright's sustainable approaches in spatial and landscape arrangement while the last part will do some analysis and comparison which result on the suggestion and recommendation for outdoor learning facilities design in Malaysia. With some understanding from the established environmental approaches of Frank Lloyd Wright's above it is expected that we can reconstruct and redefine some framework and guideline for future outdoor facilities design in Malaysia.

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Keywords: Outdoor Library Learning Facilities Design, Frank Lloyd Wright, spatial and Landscape arrangement;

1. Introduction

In 1982, the National Literacy Survey carried out by the National Library reported that Malaysians only read an average of one to two *pages* a year. Fortunately, the reading habit among Malaysians improved to two books per year when the National Literacy Survey was repeated in 1996. Nonetheless, the last National Literacy Survey carried out in 2005 reported that Malaysians still read an average of two books a year. In short, there had been no improvement.

The last survey also reported that Malaysians read increasingly less as they grew older. By the age of 50, for example, only 20% of Malaysians would still continue to read books, a drop from 40% (a figure which is already

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