



Designing tribunal spaces

How can architecture contribute to effective communication?

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Landsgericht und Amtsgericht, Dusseldorf
Architect: Andreas Reichau

Overview

- My background
- Strengths and challenges for tribunals
- Messages conveyed by design of tribunal spaces
- How can design contribute to better tribunal processes?

Strengths of tribunals

- Cheap and accessible access to justice
- Dynamic and Innovative
- Variation across country – natural experiment
- Flexible people and spaces



Palais de Justice, Pontoise

Henri Ciriani

Special challenges for tribunals

- Diversity of hearings
- Diverse spaces
- Diverse technologies
- Diverse populations

Watercolour
John Hockings
From 2005 Court architecture tour



Diversity of hearings

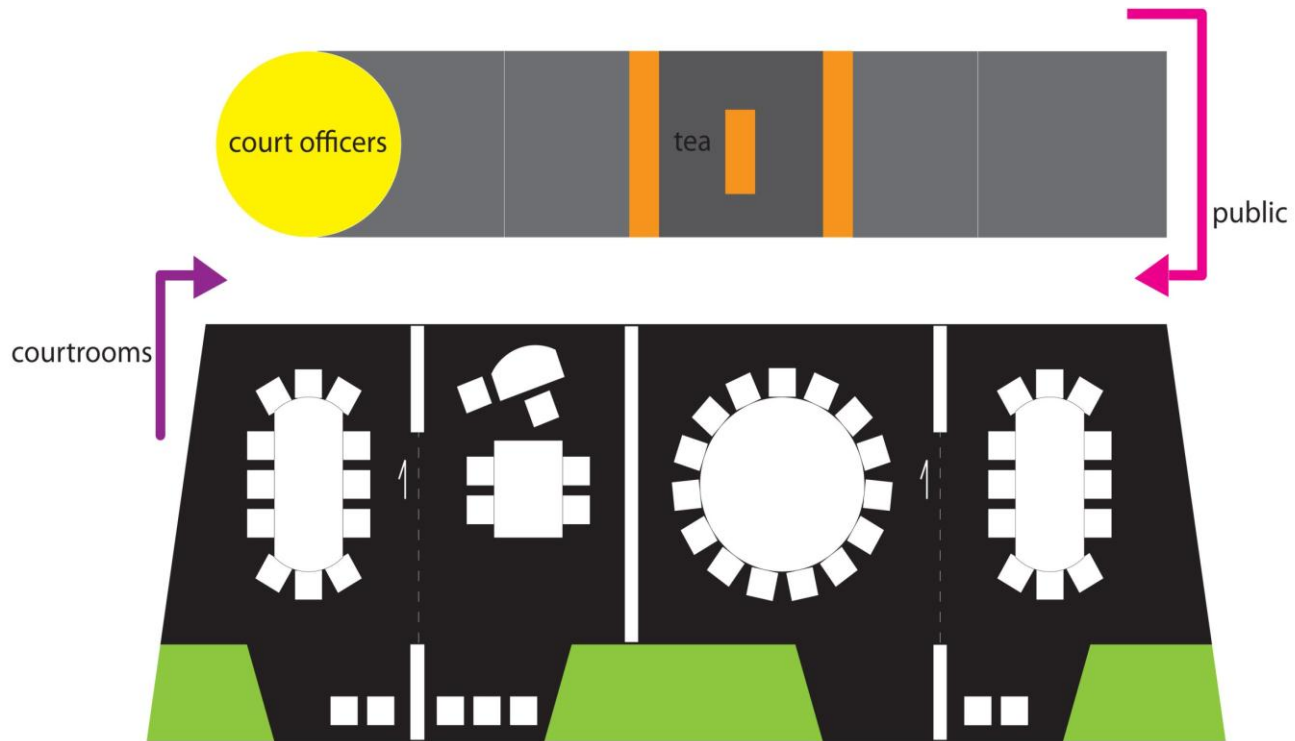
- Nature of hearing
- Complexity of issues
- Intensity of emotions
- Expectations
- Role of government



Palais de Justice, Paris
Guardianship hearing

Watercolour: Noelle Herrenschmidt

Diverse spaces



Grouped Rooms: Dual Access
Different Configurations
Ability to open up
Diane Jones, PTW Architects

Diverse populations



Tonga

A tapa cloth presented to the Manukau Family Court by a staff member

Source: Jan Doogue, Chief Judge, District Court of NZ

Diverse technologies

- Logistics of accessing up-to-date files
- Cluttered rooms
- Providing speedy decisions
- Tribunal in a box



ICTY courtroom, The Hague
Photograph: Alan Wilson

Communicating messages

- Authority
- Cultural inclusion
- Serenity
- Dignity



Port Augusta Courthouse
Denis Harrison, DAIS

Communicating authority in low symbolism environment



Collingwood Neighbourhood Justice Centre
Lyons

Photography: Graham Brawn

Communicating cultural inclusion



New Port Augusta Courthouse - Denis Harrison of DAIS

Photography by PTW Architects

Communicating serenity



Steiner Social therapy workshop,
Berlin-Brandenburg

Communicating dignity



Familiengericht, Templehof-Kreuzberg, Berlin
Architect: Oswald Mathias Ungers
Photograph: Emma Rowden

How can better design improve tribunal processes?

- Strengthen transitions
- Create 'just distances'
- Provide relief- views
- Improve the waiting experience

Avignon, New courthouse



