

Atrium Lobbies: Concept in Hotels

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Abstract: *The demand of atriums to building developers, designers, and inhabitants has given them current prominence. Atriums were common in ancient Roman dwellings. These enormous open areas with skylights inside of buildings give interiors a feeling of openness and natural light. The impluvium, marble cartibulum, and domestic safe could all be found in the atrium, which served as the opulent dwellings' central courtyard in ancient Rome. Thanks to improvements in the glass and iron industries, which made it possible for horizontal glazing and weather protection, modern atriums first appeared in the 19th century. The Federation Square Atrium in Melbourne, the vast glass-ceilinged areas of the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, and the imposing Leeza SOHO in Beijing are notable examples of modern atriums. The largest atrium in terms of volume is found at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas. John Portman, an architect and developer, popularized atriums in hotels by converting lobbies into sociable, welcoming places that provided guests with a break and architectural delight. Hotel atrium lobbies are praised for their lavish decor, copious amounts of natural light, and immersive aesthetics. They effectively utilize available space, provide a variety of amenities, encourage social contact, and instill a sense of security. They elevate the total stay and redefine the guest experience with their sensory appeal and fascinating views.*

Keywords: Architecture, Lobby, Atrium, Modern Lobby, Trends.

I. INTRODUCTION

Atriums are huge open spaces with skylights that are enclosed by buildings in architecture. Ancient Roman homes frequently had atriums, which let light and air into the inside. Atria are a well-liked architectural element because they offer buildings a "feeling of space and light." In recent years, the atrium has grown in importance in numerous structures. Atria are well-liked by developers, designers, and users of buildings. Atria are popular with users because they produce an energetic and engaging space that offers protection from the outside environment while preserving a visual connection with it. Atria are premium amenities that developers believe can boost a building's commercial value. Designers relish the chance to design novel building spaces.

Early Atria

The atrium was the open central court with enclosed chambers on all sides in a domus, a huge mansion built in the style of ancient Roman architecture. The impluvium, a small pool built into the atrium's floor to collect rainwater from the roof, was located in the center of the space. Some of the surviving specimens have exquisite decorations. There were five different types of atriums because of the aperture in the ceiling above the pool (compluvium), which required some kind of roof support. The atrium was the most opulently furnished space in the home because it served as its focal point. A marble cartibulum, an oblong marble table supported by trapezophoros pedestals featuring mythological monsters such winged griffins, was a common feature of wealthier homes. Additionally, it housed the household safe (arca), a little chapel for the ancestral spirits, and perhaps a bust of the head of the household. The water cistern, which was supplied by water that seeped through the porous bottom of the underlying impluvium, was accessible by the cylindrical puteal (a wellhead). The atrium helped keep the house cool passively.



Figure 1 Ancient Roman House



Figure 2 Domus with Atrium

Modern Atria

The industrial revolution of the 19th century saw significant improvements in the processes used to manufacture glass and iron. The modern atrium was born when courts could have horizontal glazing above, removing part of the weather factors from the room.

The Atrium, a street-like area five stories high with glass walls and a roof, is one of Federation Square's principal public places in Melbourne, Australia. Fractal geometry was employed to organize the panels on the other Federation Square facades, and this building's construction and glass pattern also does so.

The Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee, has four distinctively enormous atriums that together cover nine acres (36,000 m²) of glass ceiling. These atriums are located over the gardens of Delta, Cascades, Garden-Conservatories, and Magnolia.

The Burj Al Arab in Dubai had held the title of the tallest atrium before the Leeza SOHO in Beijing opened in 2019 with a height of 194 meters (636 feet). The largest atrium in the world (by volume) is found at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, and measures 29 million cubic feet (820,000 m³). Circus Circus Enterprises spent \$375 million developing The Luxor. The resort opened on October 15, 1993, with 2,526 rooms, after construction got under way on April 21, 1992.

Hotels Atrium History

The 1958 construction of the Dallas Trade Mart atrium by real estate tycoon Trammell Crow, whose name is the most Dallas-sounding you've ever heard, served as an early example of the form. But his sporadic collaborator and Atlanta architect-developer John Portman transformed the form into a colossus. When Portman's Hyatt Regency Atlanta was opened in 1967, it caused a huge stir. The Hyatt Regency brand came to be known for its atriums, and Portman went on to work with a number of other hotel brands, including Marriott and Westin. Later, atriums were a regular feature of the majority of Embassy Suites.

With his hotels, Portman did not cut corners. The Hyatt Regency Atlanta, his first hotel, has 22 floors; the Marriott Marquis in New York City has 37 stories; and the Marriott Marquis Atlanta has 50 stories. The tallest atrium in Portman was subsequently surpassed only by Dubai's Burj Al Arab, which opened in 1999. (Paletta, 2020)

Prior to the 22-story Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Portman's first futuristic marvel, most hotel lobbies served as nothing more than efficient consumer pass-throughs. Hotel lobbies changed into comfortable meeting areas where visitors and guests lingered under Portman's direction. They consumed food, read, and took pictures of the breath taking, dizzying attraction above them.

Portman referred to the hotel lobby as its "internal lung," providing guests with a respite from the crowded, filthy, and potentially hazardous streets outside. In response to a question from the New York Times in 2011, Portman said he also wanted to provide individuals with a moment of relief and delight. He told the Times, "You want to hopefully pique their enthusiasm." "Everyone talks on a glass elevator, just like when you're traveling in one. Everyone in the enclosed elevator is looking down at their shoes as you enter. A glass elevator allows individuals' spirits to soar. It should be like a symphony, architecture. (Quito, 2018)



Figure 3 Burj al Arab



Figure 4 Hyatt regency Lobby, Atlanta

Hotel Atrium Lobbies

The Beauty of Atrium Lobbies

Hotel Atrium lobbies are recognized for their opulent and exquisite designs, which contribute to their aesthetic appeal. They frequently have rich decor, high ceilings, and significant architectural features.

Since atrium lobbies are frequently distinguished by a heavy use of glass and open spaces, they are flooded with natural light. This fosters serenity and a sense of connectedness with the environment. Numerous atriums contain lush interior gardens and water elements, which further improve the sensation of being completely surrounded by nature.

Numerous works of art, sculptures, and interactive installations are frequently shown in these lobbies, which frequently double as their own mini-galleries. These eye-catching features enhance the overall guest experience by bringing a sense of culture and intrigue.

Advantages

The objective of atrium lobbies is to make good use of available space. In the lobby space itself, they frequently include a variety of hotel amenities, including restaurants, bars, lounges, and even shops. This clever design makes the most of the available space while giving visitors quick access to a number of services.

Atrium lobbies act as gathering places for visitors to mingle, converse, and unwind. The open architecture promotes interaction, making it the perfect location for gatherings, networking, or just relaxing with a drink.

Glass and an open, breezy layout give atrium lobbies a sense of transparency and security. Visitors can readily watch people entering and going from the lobby, which fosters a feeling of security and comfort.

Guest Experience

Dramatic check-in areas are frequently found in atrium lobbies, leaving an impression on visitors. More than just a formality, the check-in procedure plays a crucial role in the whole visitor experience.

Beautiful views of the surroundings or even the hotel's interior can be found from many atrium lobbies. By doing this, the routine act of arriving or leaving is transformed into an unforgettable experience.

Atrium lobbies appeal to a variety of senses, from the aesthetics of the surroundings to the sounds of running water or live music. A rich, enduring environment is produced by these sensory encounters.

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Objectives:

- To know the history of Atrium.
- To understand the concept of Atrium lobbies

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Despite being an interior area, the atrium is tall and wide, which gives visitors a feeling of freedom, claims the author. The large space's first floor also houses a pop-up shop and a café coquille where guests may unwind and sit comfortably. (Yeo, 2019)

The area beneath the eaves in the atrium, the hallway, and the opening of the structure are significant influencing variables and research objects in the study of traditional houses in Quanzhou, particularly restored traditional dwellings and traditional residential living spaces. (Xinpeng Wang, 2019)

The author discusses how the cruise ships that are currently being built are intended for a new generation of passengers with broader, more varied interests. These ships also incorporate a number of novelties, like expansive multi-level atrium lobbies that are modelled after hotel lobbies, fitness centres, and business centres. (Vasudavan, 2014)

Author claims It's interesting to note that recent years have witnessed a return to a civic mission, at least in architectural language, as opposed to internalized, atrium spaces typically associated with North American hotels (of which John Portman has been the leading exponent). (McNamara, 2009)

according to a BBC article on the development of airport hotels: Jimmy Im takes it from boring to chic. Only 15 minutes from the city center, the 249-room hotel boasts a six-story atrium lobby with panoramic glass elevators, a lively Fifth, Lounge and Bar, a spa with a 24-hour fitness center, steam room, and sauna, and a business center with 10 conference spaces. There are soundproof windows throughout the hotel, so you can leave your earplugs at home.

With a 433-room hotel at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, Hilton has continued to push the envelope. The building was built by renowned Dutch architects Mecanoo. The new structure, which will replace the existing Hilton facility and debut in 2015, will feature 23 meeting rooms and a café. (Im, 2013)

III. METHODOLOGY

The exploratory study used secondary data collection for which includes academic journals, industry reports, online review platforms, social media, and databases related to Atrium.

IV. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, atriums, inspired by ancient Roman architecture, have experienced a renaissance in modern design. They offer developers, designers, and occupants a valuable blend of natural light, spaciousness, and architectural allure. With a rich historical legacy, modern atriums have evolved to become captivating features in contemporary buildings worldwide. From Melbourne's Federation Square to the Opryland Hotel in Nashville and the Leeza SOHO in Beijing, these spaces have become emblematic of architectural innovation and design. Thanks to visionary architects like John Portman, atriums have redefined the role of hotel lobbies, offering visitors a welcoming and engaging environment. Additionally, the visitor experience in these lobbies is nothing short of exceptional. The arrival and departure experiences are redefined by dramatic check-in spaces and stunning views, while the multimodal appeal enthralls guests and leaves a lasting impression. Atrium lobbies are now recognized as a hallmark of contemporary elegance and a crucial component of giving hotel guests an unforgettable and immersive experience. The enduring appeal of atriums lies in their ability to seamlessly blend history and innovation in the heart of modern structures.

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