

### ***Graphite Arts Center - Edmonds, Washington***

This 11,000 sf community arts building was designed to be an artists' hub; bringing together local artists, teachers, and students to facilitate and support art development in public education for users of all ages.

The architects worked closely with the client to develop a modern arts facility as a keystone building in Edmonds. The site sits within the Edmonds Creative District, the first certified creative district in Washington state, and provides a point of connection for patrons disembarking the ferry right down the block. It acts as a lynchpin building to a series of arts buildings that line the Edmonds arts corridor. Graphite is also the center for the non-profit "Art Start Northwest", the funding source for programs held at Graphite. The central location and integration of the non-profit with the facility poises Graphite to make a difference in the community.

There are three main tiers of program types in the facility: interactive, observational, & private.

The highly interactive spaces include a studio, classroom, darkroom, ceramics room, and a library. The observational spaces include private artists' studios, the main gallery, and the flex galleries along the exterior. The private zones are the accessory spaces which include storage, offices, restrooms, kitchen.

Centrally located in the building is a large studio space adjacent to a classroom and library that will be used to hold classes and other educational programs for teachers, artists, and students. The high ceilings and skylights in these spaces provide a functional backdrop for the technical tools, such as kilns and dark room, that are integrated throughout the main classroom areas. The client chose polished concrete floors for easy cleanup and maintenance, and exposed rafters to give the spaces an industrial feel, paying tribute to Edmonds roots as a mill town. The weathered steel panels on the exterior and wood soffits also pay homage to the industrial origins of the city. The northeast wing of the building holds a






cafe that provides views onto the main gallery space and classrooms.

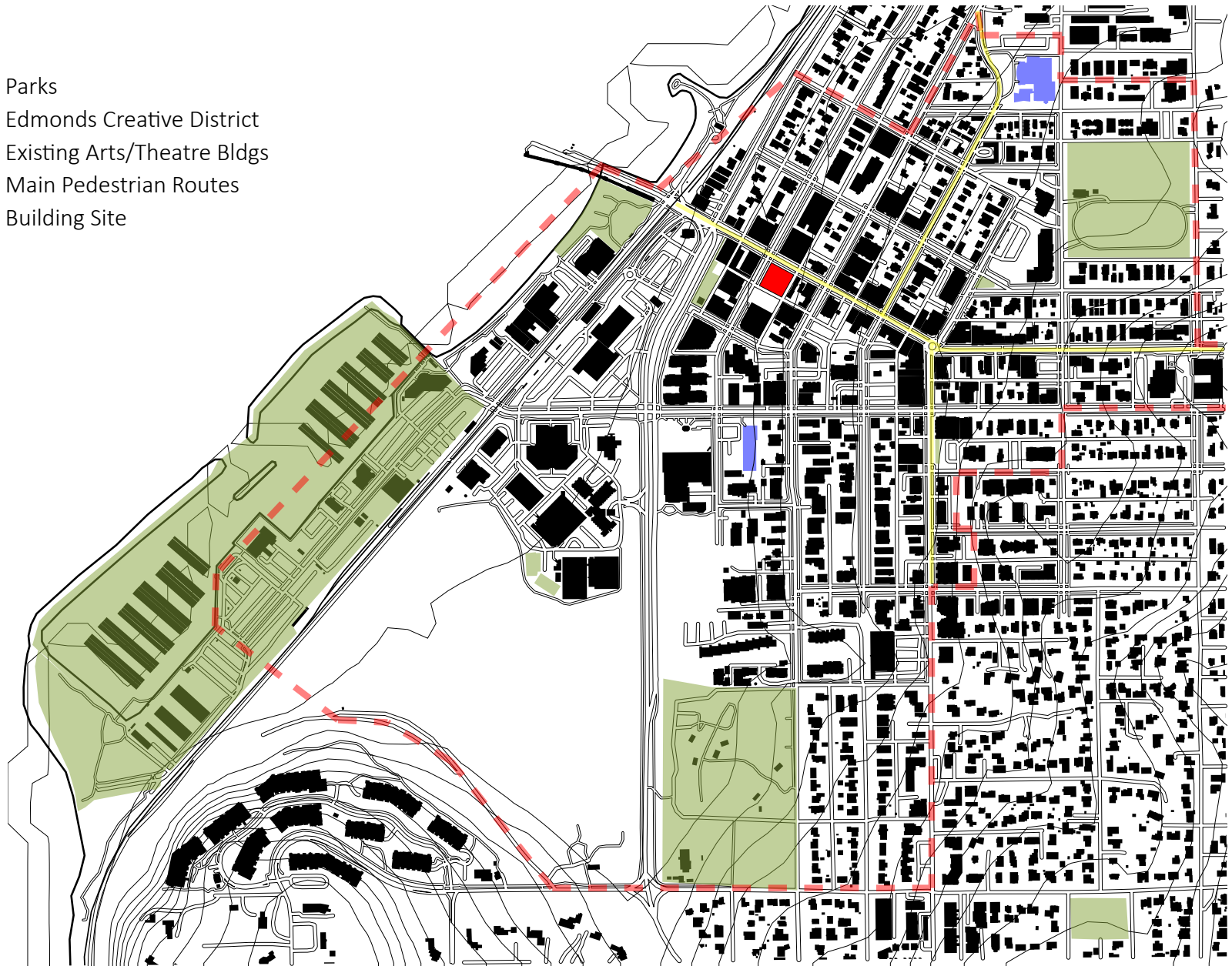
Adjacent to the street front and lining the central studio space are individual artist studios and galleries. There are several designated gallery spaces right off the street to be viewed by pedestrians, as well as a formal internal gallery space. The individual artist studios will be rented to local artists and feature large windows to the exterior streets and access off the main classroom space to allow for observation into the studios and creative exchange to take place.

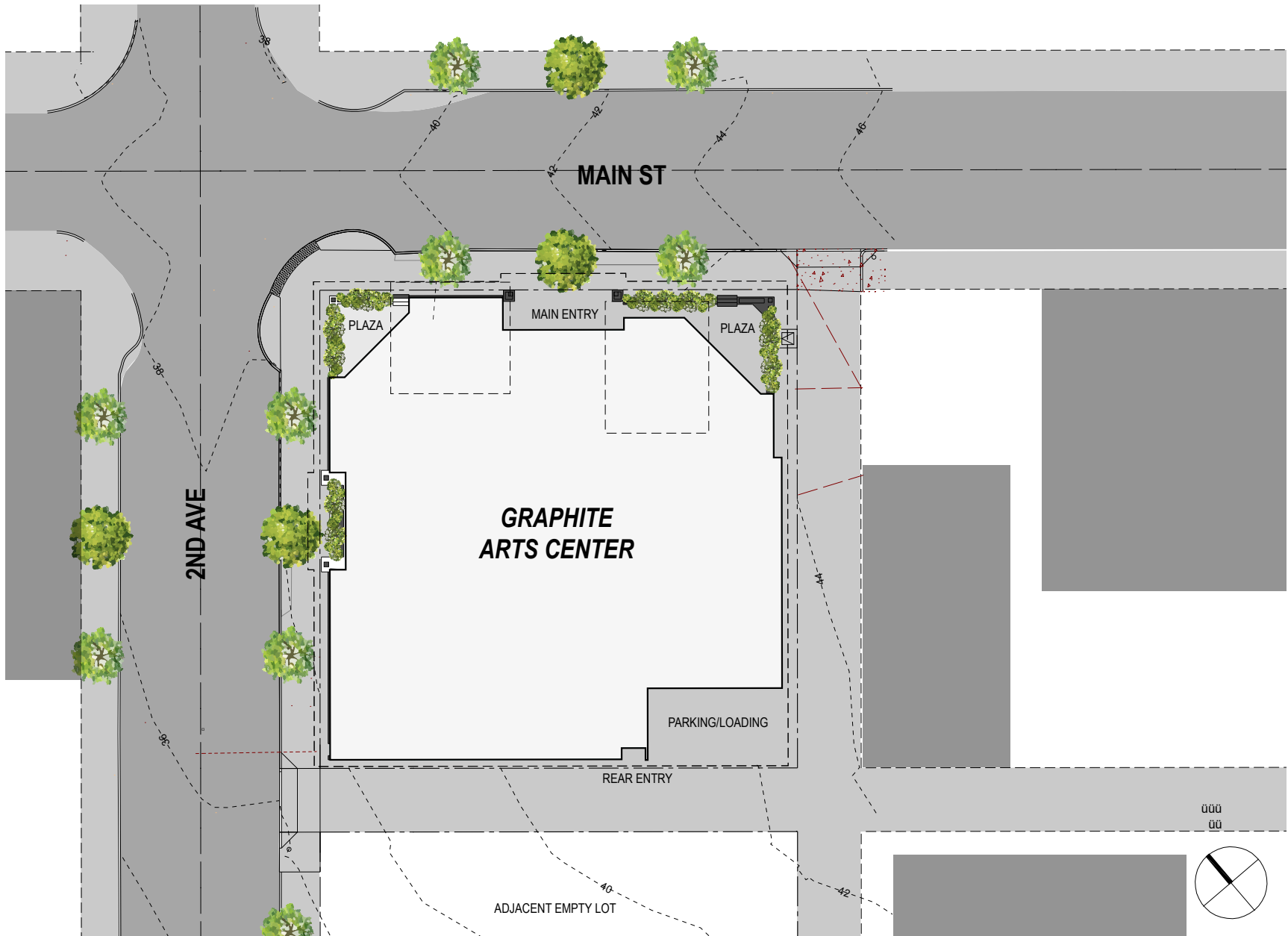
The accessory spaces are largely located toward the southeast corner of the lot. A large loading area is provided for the restaurant and artist's use.

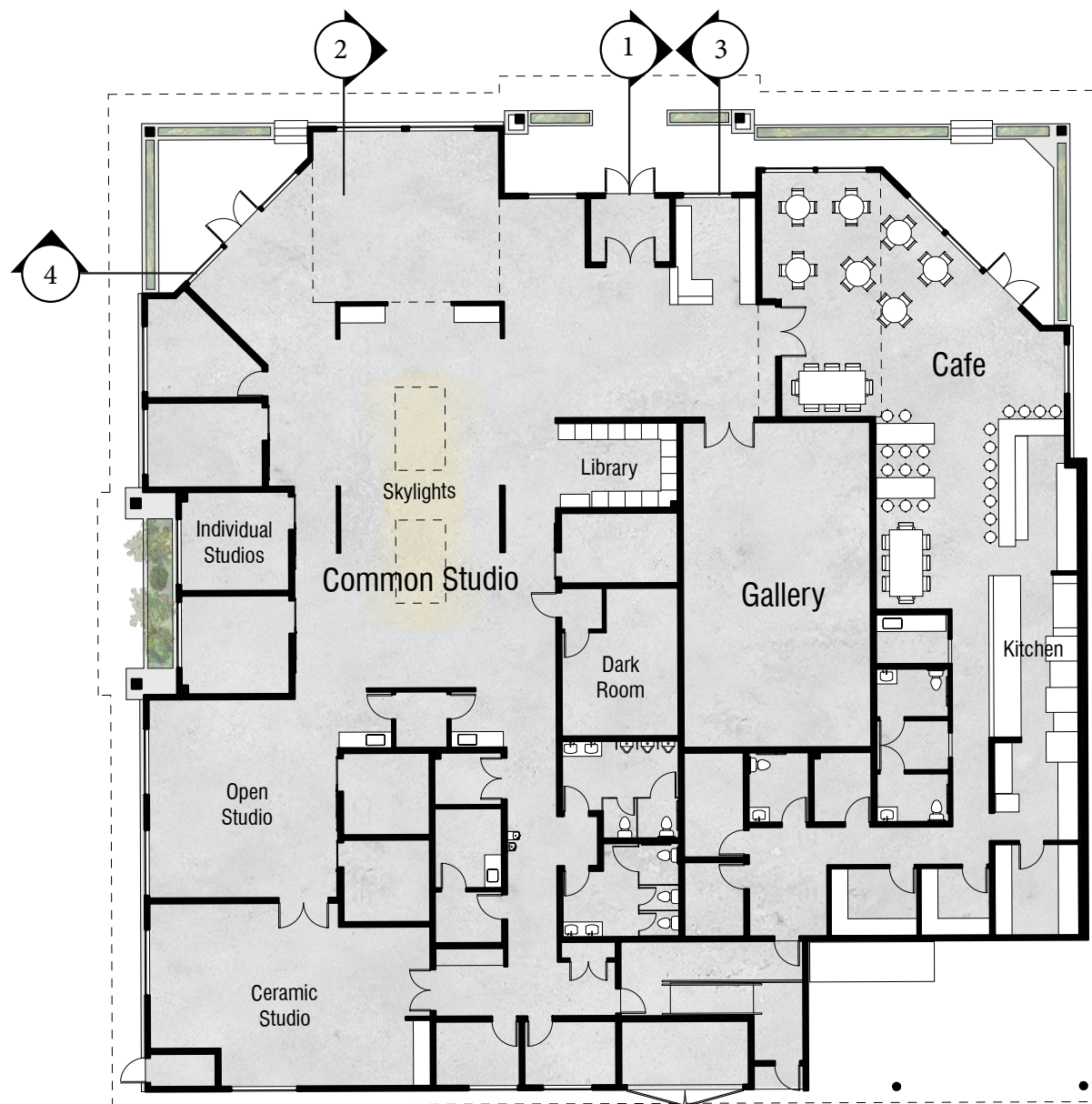
The client's long-term goal is to inspire children and the greater community to build skills in the arts and create a greater understanding and appreciation for them in our region. This aims to create a sustainable cycle of knowledge and cultural exchange that will impact the community for years to come.

KEY

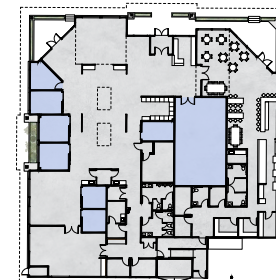
-  Parks
-  Edmonds Creative District
-  Existing Arts/Theatre Bldgs
-  Main Pedestrian Routes
-  Building Site







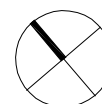
Interactive Spaces



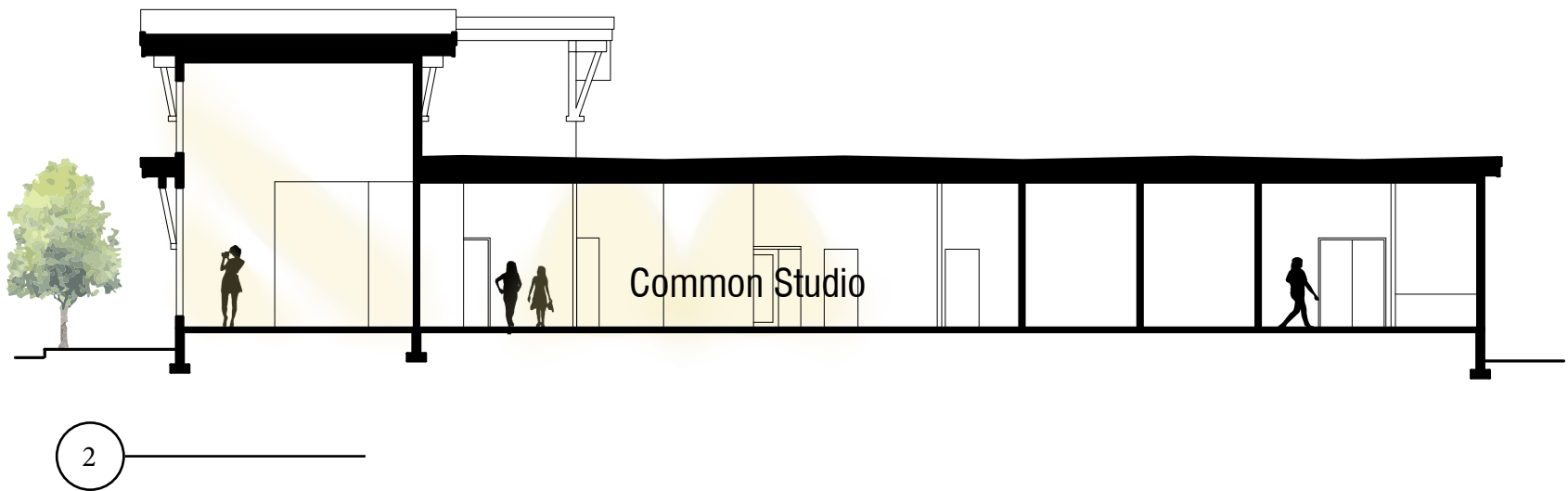
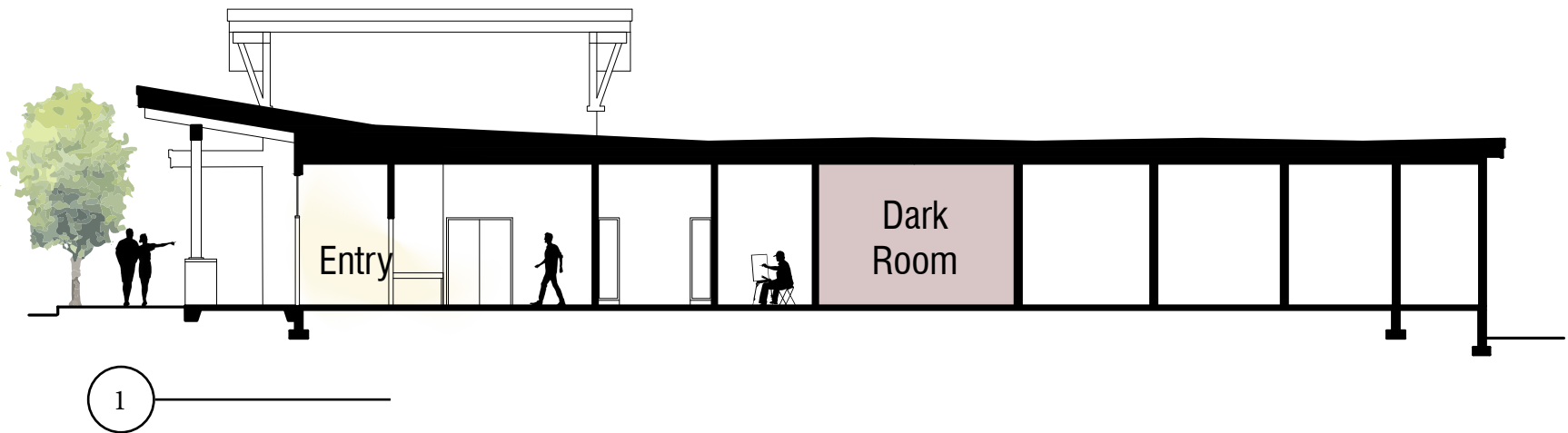
Observational Spaces

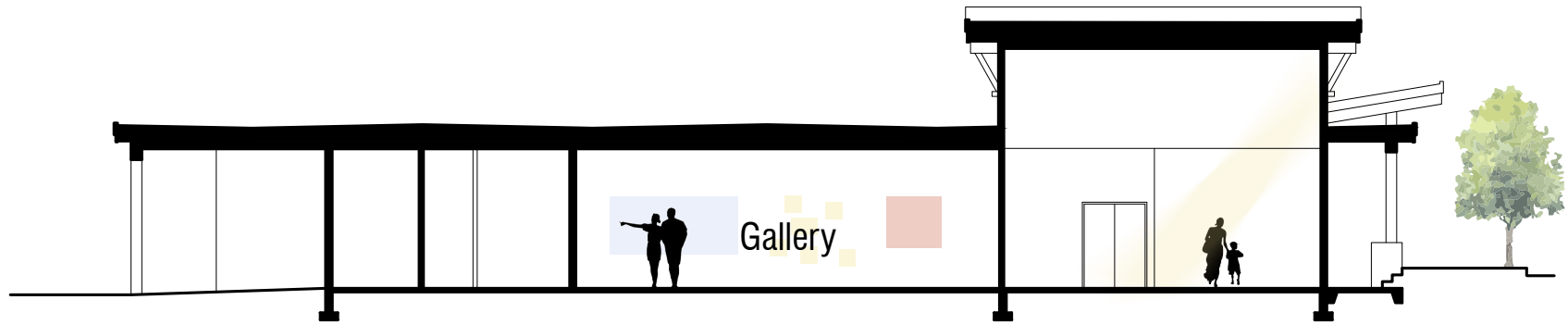


Private Spaces









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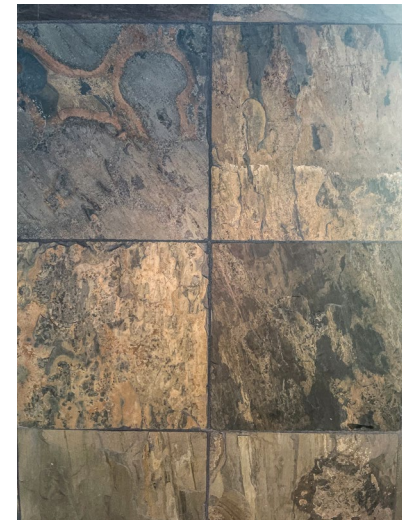




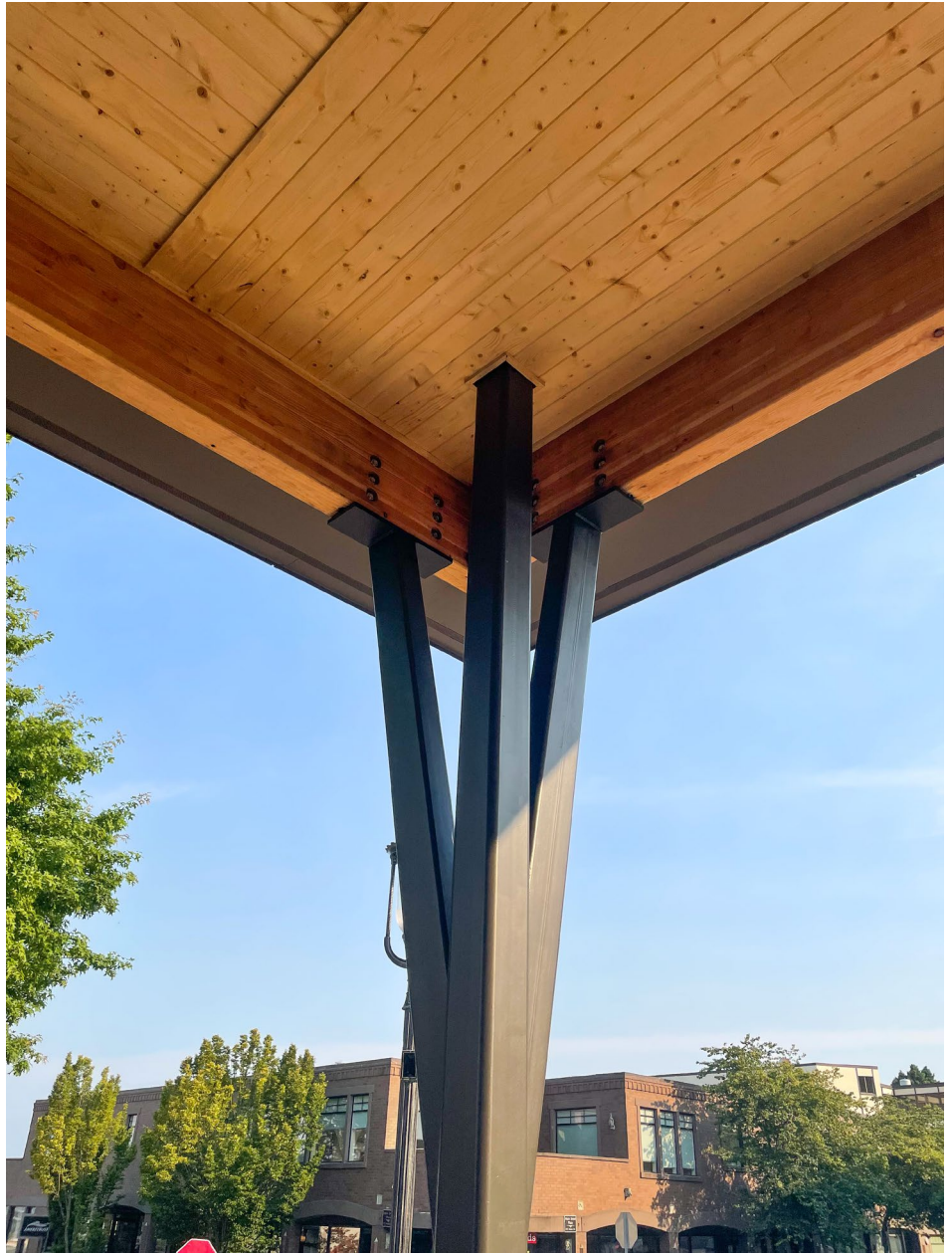




*weathered steel siding*



*slate tile*













*central studio space*





*formal gallery space*













*view onto artist studios and main studio space in background*





