Lake Cavanaugh Addition

Project Location: **Lake Cavanaugh, WA**
Project Area: **560 SF (interior), 800 SF (exterior)**
Project Cost: **$330,000 (Building and Bridge), $155,000 (Landscaping for complete property)**

Tread lightly with a light touch

In the early 1990’s, a client commissioned us to design a two-bedroom summer cabin on the shore of Lake Cavanaugh. The selected site was a ¾ acre peninsula with a stream bisecting it. The stream overflows its banks seasonally, and combined with the lakes seasonal rise and fall, the available buildable area on the site was significantly reduced.

Embracing these site challenges, the original design separates the residence into two cabins located on opposite sides of the stream. One cabin is the “sleeping” cabin (646 SF) and contains the bedrooms and bathroom. The other “shared” cabin (768 SF) contains the dining, kitchen, and living functions. In addressing the site challenges, both cabins were raised on columns, allowing the waters to expand and recede at will; with both cabins joined by an enclosed unconditioned bridge straddling the stream below.

Years later, new owners came to our office with a request for an addition. The new clients, who live at the residence full time, envisioned an addition that would add another restroom and a shared space for yoga, music, and entertaining visitors or their visiting grandchildren. As their primary residence it was important for all living spaces to continue to be on one level, allowing for aging in place without restriction.

In designing the addition, it was critical to respect the site and the intent of the original design. The selected solution, after several iterations, was to add a third “guest” cabin (560 SF) that would connect to the existing “shared” cabin with a second enclosed bridge. The new bridge was designed to provide connectivity, movement, and access within the house and to the adjacent patio spaces. With operable glazed walls on both sides of the bridge, the owners have the choice of four options; fully enclosed, open just to the lake, open to the forest but sheltered from the lake, or fully open on both sides.

Matching the existing design language, the new cabin is also raised from the site and respects shoreline setbacks of both the lake and stream. A new pedestrian bridge allows easy at-grade access to both sides of the site without traveling around the original cabins. Two trees were removed for the addition, their trunks were sectioned and placed in the landscaping to serve as nurse logs.

The “guest” cabin has a shared living space, office, murphy bed, storage room, and restroom, as well as an overhead loft. Even with the addition, the footprint remains smaller than most homes on the lake. Materials and details are modest, natural, and durable; wood shakes, wood beams, wood flooring, and corrugated metal roofing.

The original design and drawings provided the “recipe” used to create an addition fitting with the original home. The impression from the water is of three distinct small cabins, standing lightly on the land. Thirty years span the addition and the original buildings, yet they feel as if they are all of the same vintage.
SITE PLAN

LEGEND

1. EXISTING DRIVEWAY
2. EXISTING GARAGE
3. NEW LANDSCAPE PAVING
4. NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
5. NEW COVERED MAIN ENTRY
6. "GUEST" CABIN ADDITION
7. NEW PATIO BRIDGE
8. EXISTING "SHARED" CABIN
9. EXISTING ENCLOSED BRIDGE
10. EXISTING "SLEEPING CABIN"
11. EXISTING PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
12. NEW FIRE-PIT PATIO
13. NURSE LOGS FROM REMOVED TREES
14. EXISTING BOAT DOCK
15. EXISTING GREENHOUSE
16. EXISTING RAISED DECK
17. LAKE CAVANAUGH
18. PROPERTY LINE
19. NEW PLANTING MITIGATION AT STREAM
UPGRADES AT ORIGINAL MAIN ENTRY

NEW COVERED ENTRY ROOF STRUCTURE, LANDSCAPING PAVER IMPROVEMENTS, REBUILT ENTRY ADA RAMP
ORIGINAL ENCLOSED BRIDGE ABOVE STREAM

VIEW TOWARDS SHARED CABIN

VIEW TOWARDS MAIN ENTRY
ORIGINAL SLEEPING CABIN
ORIGINAL SHARED AND SLEEPING CABINS

ORIGINAL SHARED CABIN  ORIGINAL ENCLOSLED BRIDGE  ORIGINAL SLEEPING CABIN SUNROOM
ORIGINAL SHARED CABIN

REFINISHED CABINETS
NEW COUNTERS
NEW PATIO BRIDGE

COMpletely Closed

Open Only To The Lake

Completely Open - Lake To Forest

Completely Open - Forest To Lake (Open Only To Forest Not Shown)
THE USE OF SHINGLES ON THE END WALLS IS A CONTINUATION OF THE EXTERIOR WALL CONSTRUCTION. THIS IS CRITICAL FOR PROTECTING THE WALLS WHEN THE GLAZED SIDE PANELS ARE FULLY OPENED.

THE EXTERIOR PATIOS ARE AN EXTENSION OF THE BRIDGE FLOOR LEVEL. THE OVERHANGING ROOF SHELTERS THE DOOR OPENINGS AND THE PATIO SPACES.
NEW GUEST CABIN

LOFT ABOVE RESTROOM AND STORAGE
EXTERIOR - SITE FEATURES

NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

NURSE LOGS

UPDATED ORIGINAL DETAILING
NEW FOUNDATIONS MIMICK THE OLD BY REPLACING WOOD COLUMNS WITH CONCRETE
GUEST CABIN AND PATIO BRIDGE WITH NEW PATIO LANDSCAPING
THREE CABINS FROM THE SHORE

NEW GUEST CABIN

ORIGINAL SHARED CABIN

ORIGINAL SLEEPING CABIN
GUEST CABIN ADDITION

NEW GUEST CABIN, PATIO AND BRIDGE

ORIGINAL SHARED CABIN

ORIGINAL SLEEPING CABIN (BEYOND)