

Meditation Retreat Center

Project Location: **Stanwood, WA**

Project Area: **4,085 GSF**

Project Cost: **\$1,811,094 (Building), \$407,362 (Site Work)**

This feasibility study prepared for Bhakti Marga North America aims to define the scope desired for a new 4,000 square-foot event space building located on a private residence in Skagit County. This event space is envisioned to be a mixed-use space used for meditation practices, retreats and workshops, and special events / celebrations.

This Meditation Center is proposed as built upon the footprint of the existing, but now demolished, barn building north of the existing house. Staying within the footprint of the barn allows the Center to have zero impact on new impervious area, and eliminates the need for additional stormwater detention and filtration. Pervious paving is also proposed in order to maintain a net-zero change in pollution generating surface area.

The site around the existing barn also drastically slopes down toward the North, so the new Center is proposed as a two-story structure with a day-light basement. The program between the two levels functions independently of one another, so there is no need for interior circulation between the two levels. Circulation between floors is via an exterior ramp and stair, as well as a secondary service entry and parking space provided at both the lower and upper level to assure all areas of the Center are accessible.

The upper floor's primary function is a Meditation Hall for 100 users, with accessory office, storage, entry, and restroom spaces. The Meditation Hall supports not only religious events for Bhakti Marga NA, but also yoga and private gatherings. The lower floor features a classroom-type space for 20-30 person workshops and is supported by a warming kitchen, mechanical equipment room, shared laundry area, and restroom/showers.

The Meditation Center also expands upon the existing site conditions. The Meditation Hall is afforded wonderful views to the north and west to the Puget Sound. The west wall features a fully retractable folding glass wall leading to a semi-sheltered exterior deck. As allowed by the weather the doors may retract and allow the Meditation Hall space to extend towards the view and expand to include the deck. Landscaping is also used as a wayfinding tool to help guide the visitor's experience on the approach to the building, while also providing a buffer to some of the utilitarian space on the property.

Materials have been selected for their connection to nature, and their honest use without pretense. The selective use of stone as an exposed material connects the building to the earth and shelters the building from the more public side of the site. It speaks to the ancient use of exposed stone and a sense of permanence. The more secluded north and west corner of the building peels back the stone to reveal a modern use of wood, tying the building to local materials.

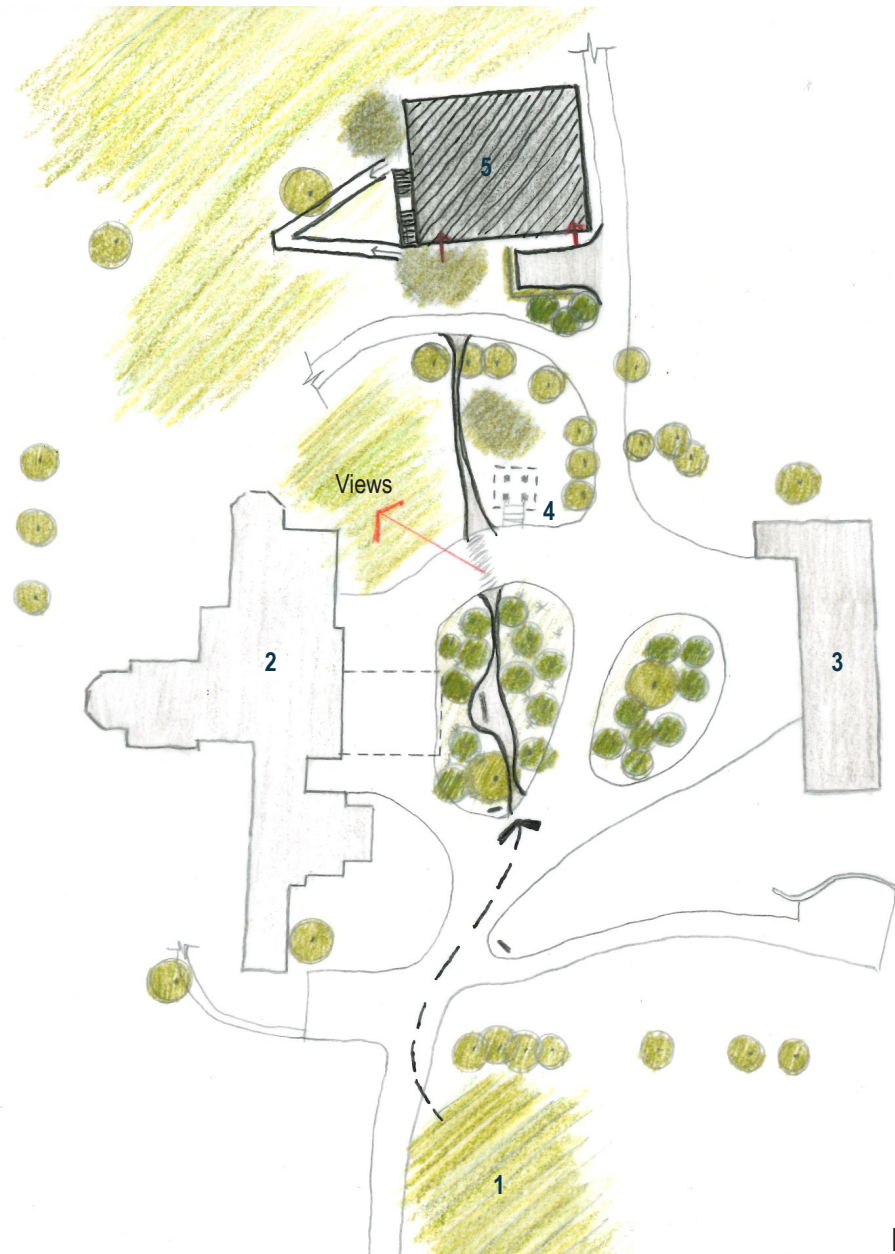
Existing Site Plan

LEGEND

1. Approximate Septic Location
2. Existing Septic System & Reserve
3. Existing Septic Tank Lids
4. Barn Footprint
5. Wetlands
6. Existing Gravel Drive
7. Propane Tank
8. Bell Tower Canopy
9. Existing House
10. Existing Garage
11. Existing Septic for House
12. Parking



Preliminary Site Plan

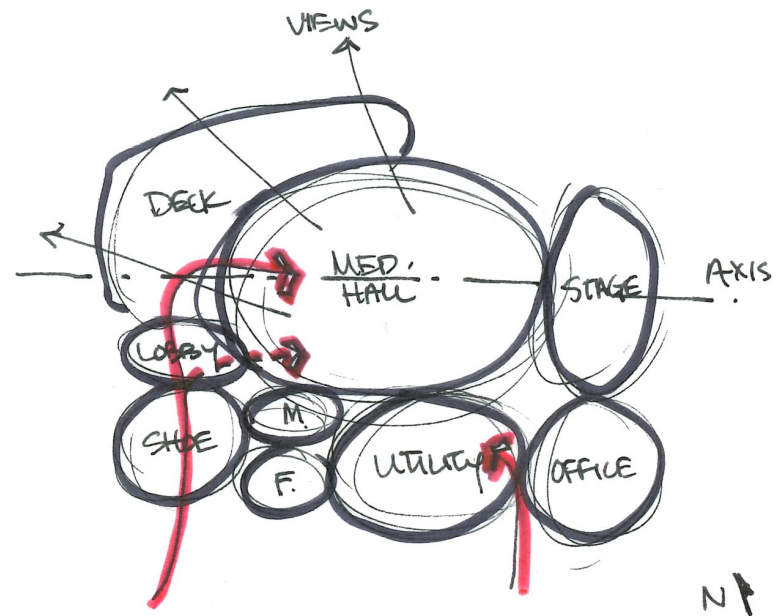


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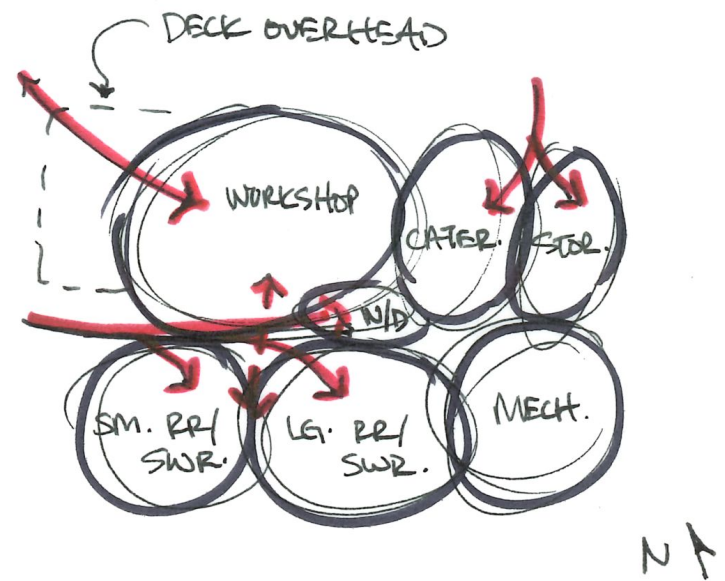
1. Existing Parking
2. Existing House
3. Existing Garage
4. Existing Bell Tower
5. Meditation Center

Programming

UPPER FLOOR



LOWER FLOOR



LEGEND



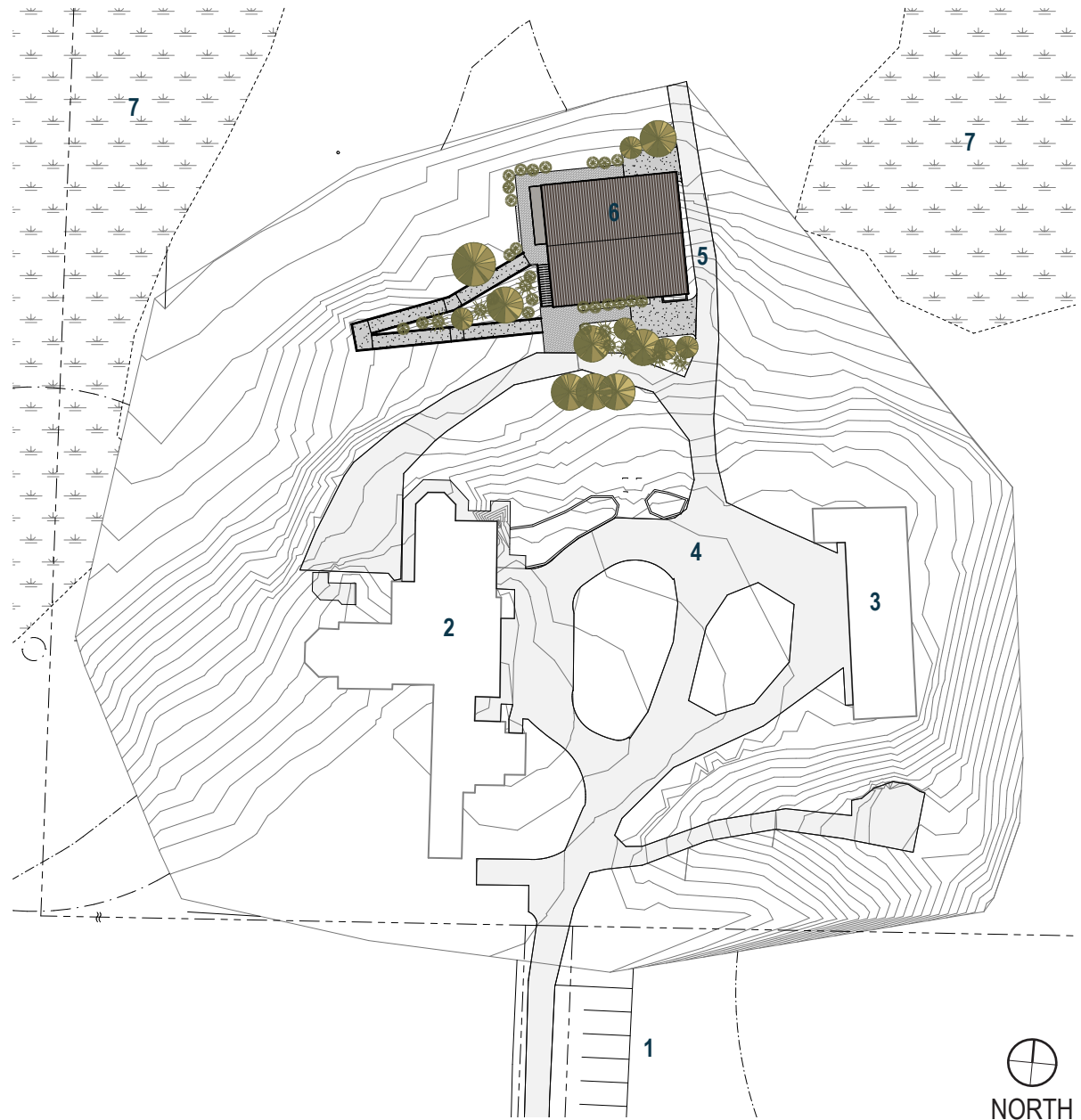
IDEAL ENTRY (GOOD WEATHER)

SECONDARY ENTRY (BAD WEATHER)

Site Plan

LEGEND

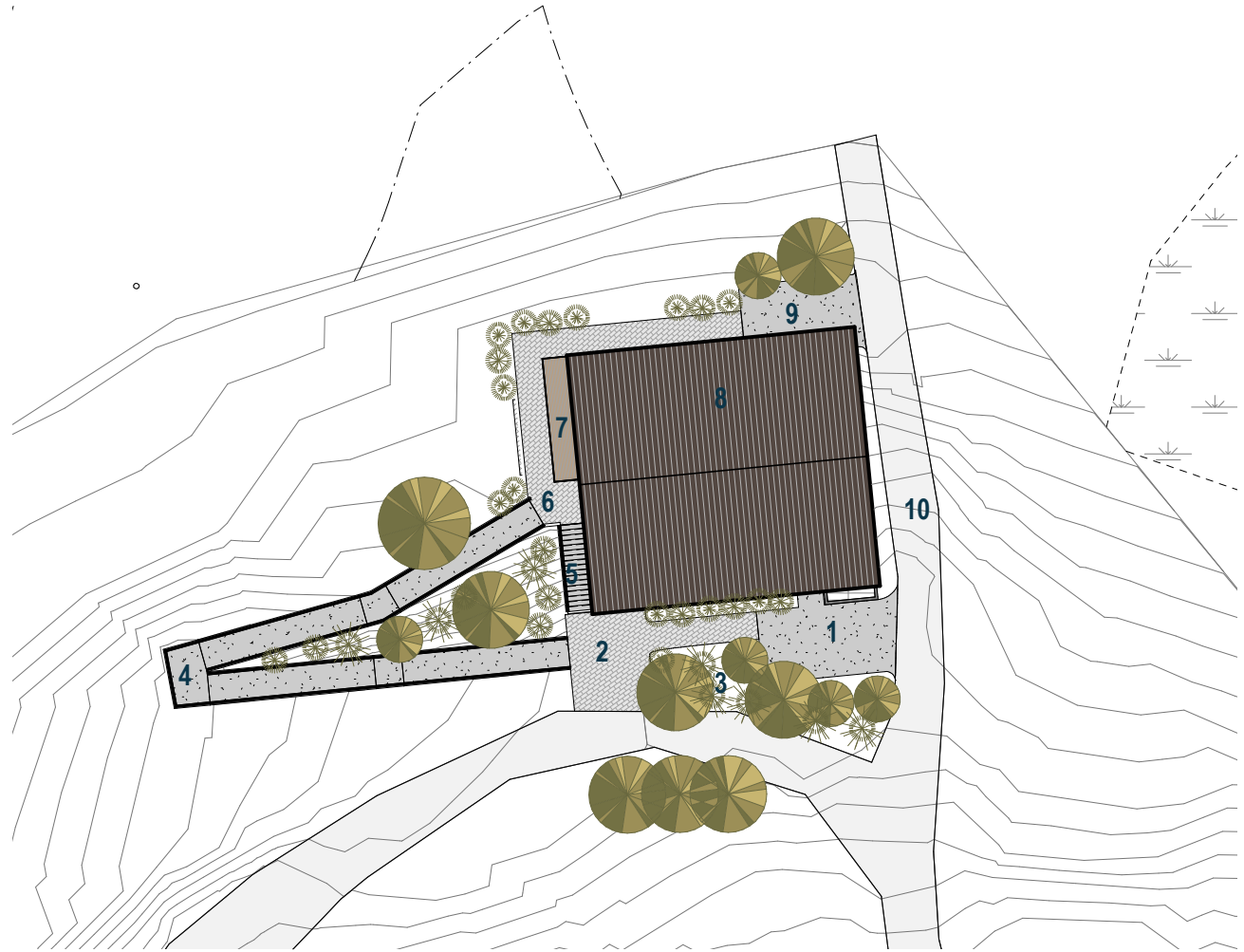
- 1. Existing Parking
- 2. Existing House
- 3. Existing Garage/Shed
- 4. Existing Driveway
- 5. Existing Service Drive
- 6. Meditation Hall
- 7. Wetlands



Enlarged Site Plan

LEGEND

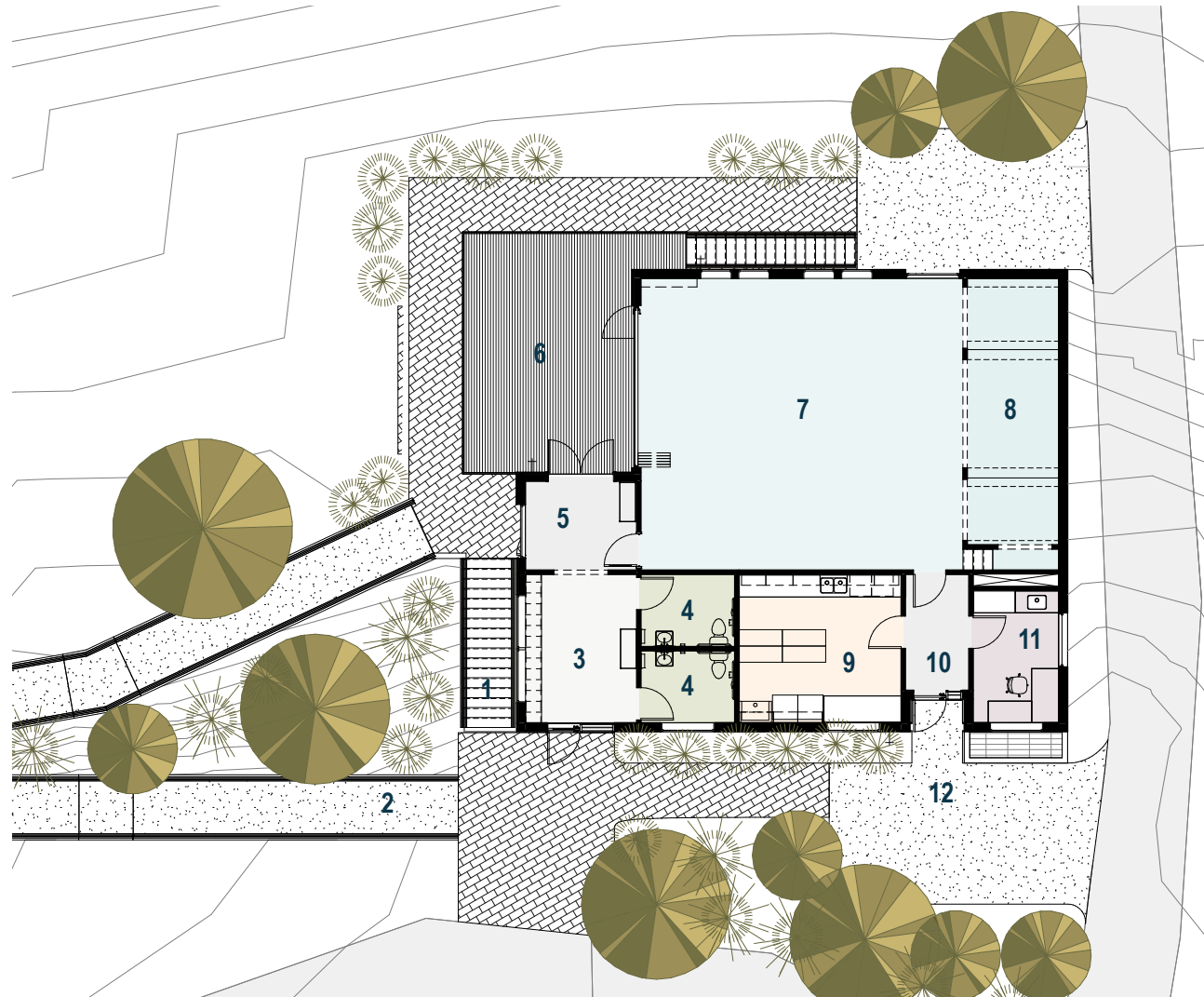
1. Upper Service Entry
2. Upper Pervious Patio / Main entry
3. Landscaping (by Owner)
4. Ramp
5. Exterior Stair
6. Lower Pervious Patio
7. Covered Deck
8. Meditation Hall
9. Lower Service Entry
10. Existing Service Drive



Upper Level Floor Plan

LEGEND

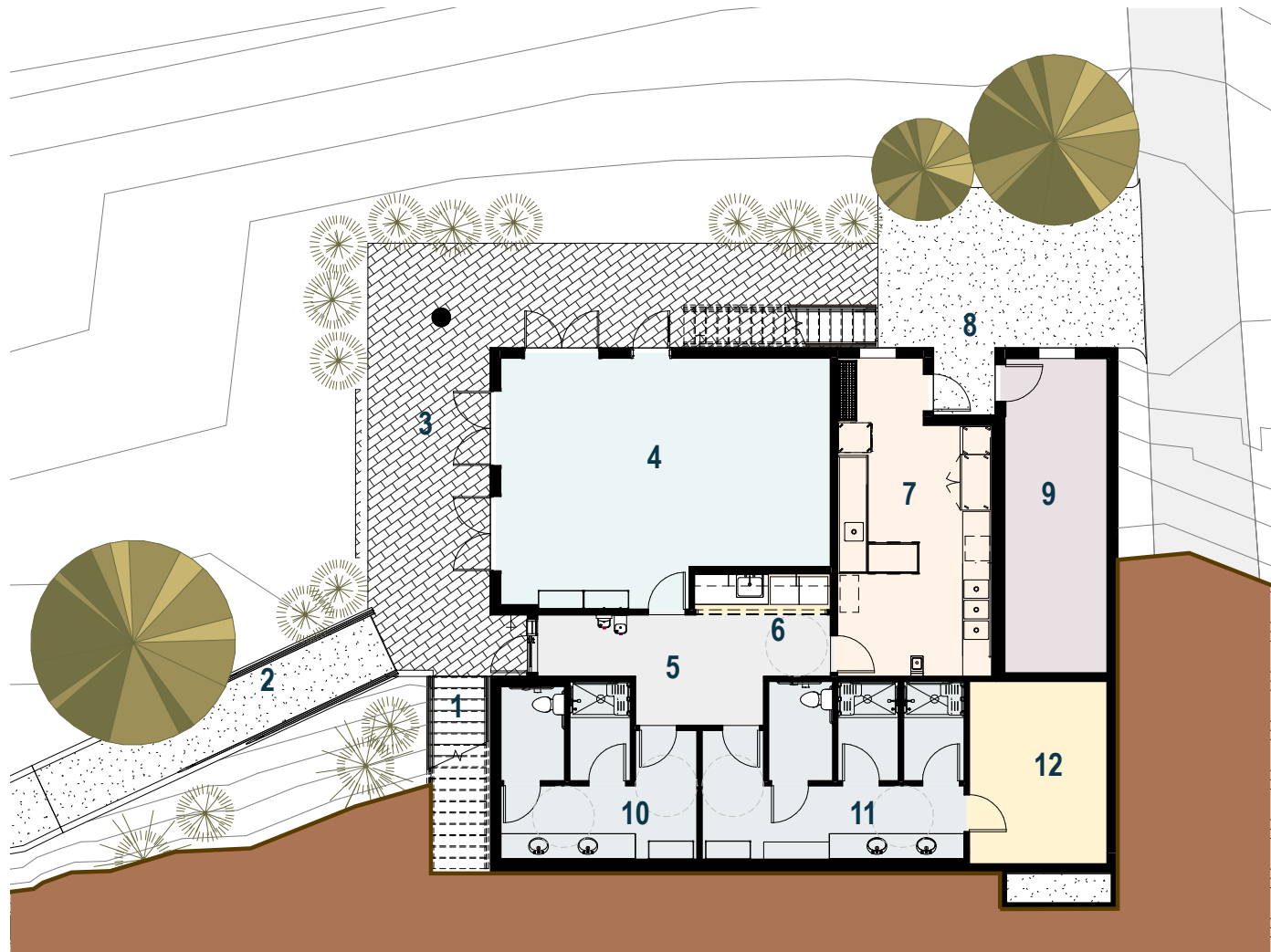
1. Exterior Stairs
2. Ramp
3. Shoe/Coat Storage
4. Unisex Restroom
5. Lobby
6. Covered Deck
7. Meditation Hall
8. Stage
9. Utility
10. Service Hall
11. Office
12. Service Entry



Lower Level Floor Plan

LEGEND

1. Exterior Stairs
2. Ramp
3. Pervious Patio
4. Workshop
5. Hall
6. Laundry
7. Catering
8. Service Entry
9. Storage
10. Small restrooms
11. Large restrooms
12. Mechanical

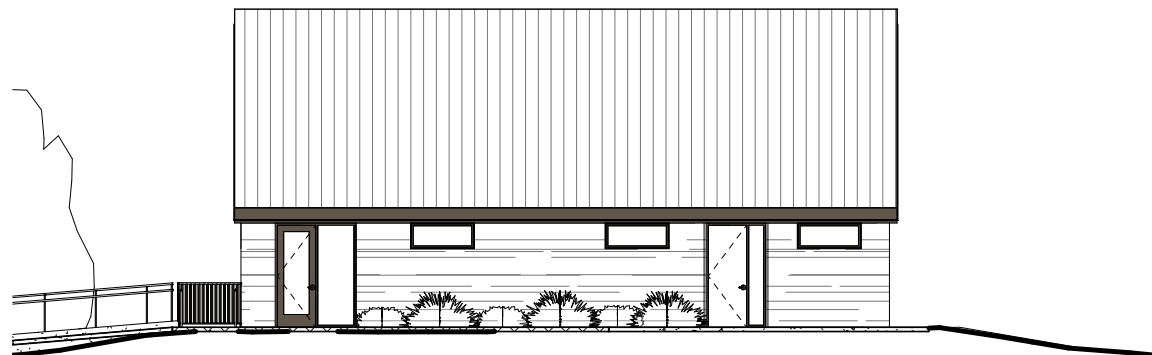


Exterior Elevations

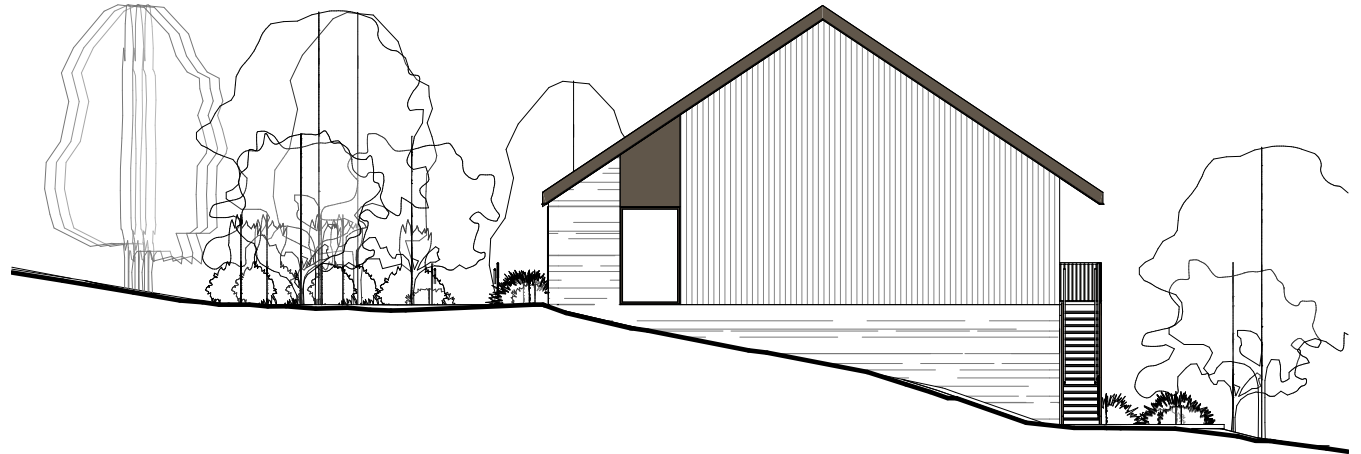
NORTH ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



Exterior Elevations



EAST ELEVATION

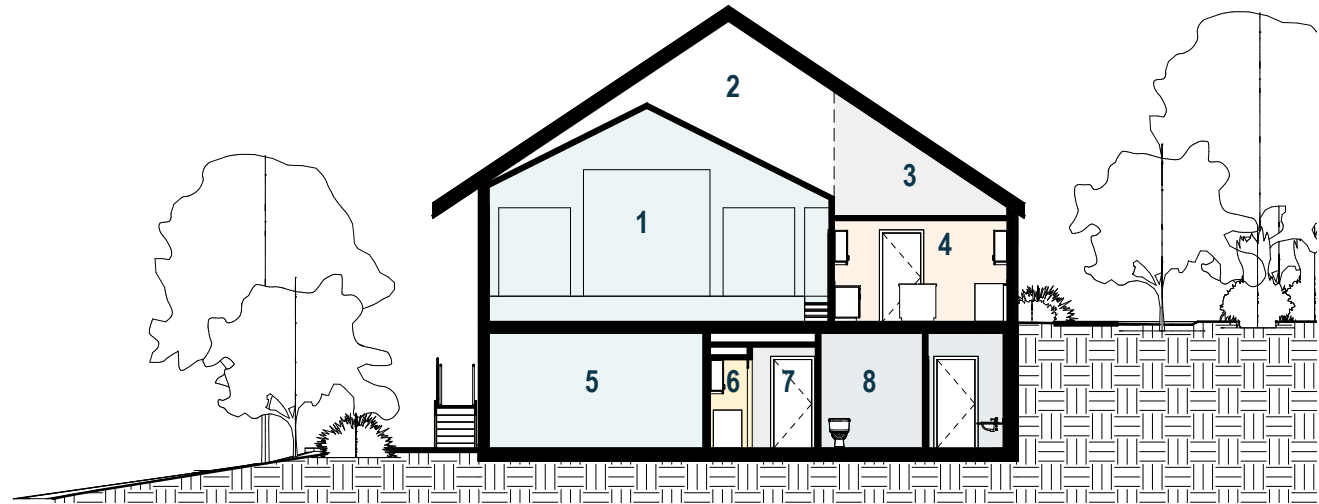


WEST ELEVATION

Section Cuts

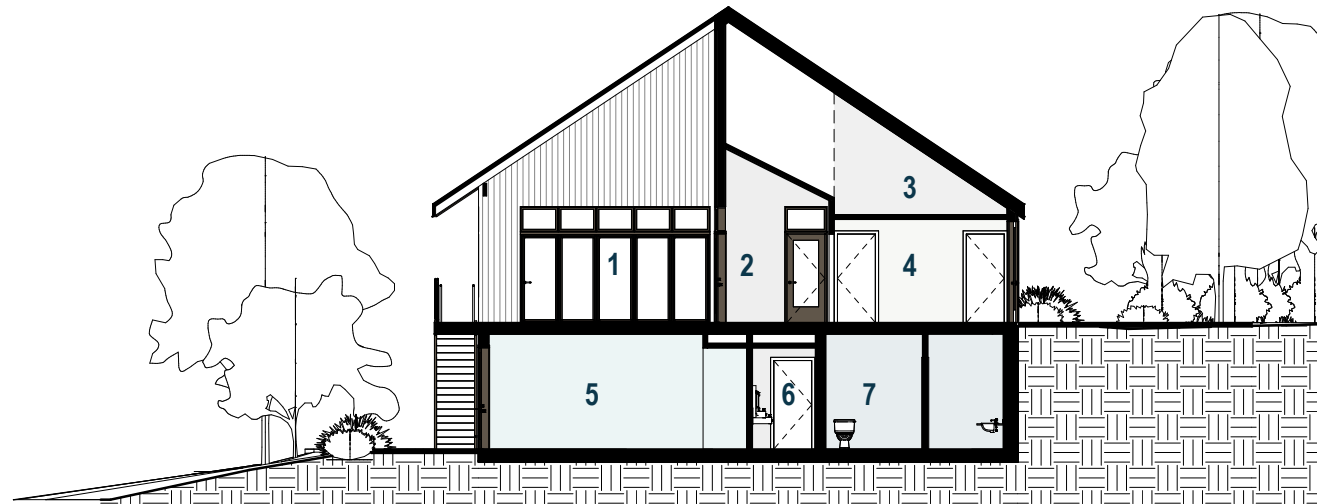
LEGEND

1. Meditation Hall
2. Truss space
3. Attic storage
4. Utility
5. Workshop
6. Laundry
7. Hall
8. Restrooms, showers, changing



LEGEND

1. Exterior covered deck
2. Lobby
3. Attic storage
4. Shoe storage
5. Workshop
6. Hall
7. Restrooms, showers, changing



Proposed Conceptual Design



VIEW OF MAIN ENTRANCE FROM SOUTHWEST

Proposed Conceptual Design



VIEW OF COVERED DECK AND LOBBY WINDOW

Proposed Conceptual Design



DECK AND EXTERIOR VIEW FROM MEDITATION HALL

Proposed Conceptual Design



VIEW OF DECK FROM MEDITATION HALL

Proposed Conceptual Design



VIEW OF MEDITATION HALL STAGE