

Orcas Island Public Library Expansion

Project Location: **Eastsound, WA**

Project Area: **12,850 GSF Total** (5,967 GSF Addition; 6,883 GSF Existing)

Project Cost: **~\$3.14 million** including site work (Right-Of-Way improvements & existing Library Park Stairs replacement)

The Orcas Island Public Library was originally constructed in 1992 as a 6,500 square foot library. In 2005, an addition was built that accommodated offices and storage, but other needs remained unmet. The community desired an addition that addressed the needs of the patrons, staff, and volunteers for diverse spaces with current technology, while respecting the design of the existing library.

The design team faced numerous challenges during the course of the project. The pure form of the existing building, the poor soils under the buildable area, the steep slope on the west side of the property, and maintaining a much-used pathway around the building informed the addition's footprint are just a few of those challenges. The addition was elongated in the north-south direction and held tight against the existing library to maximize the square footage, while still allowing for community access around the building.

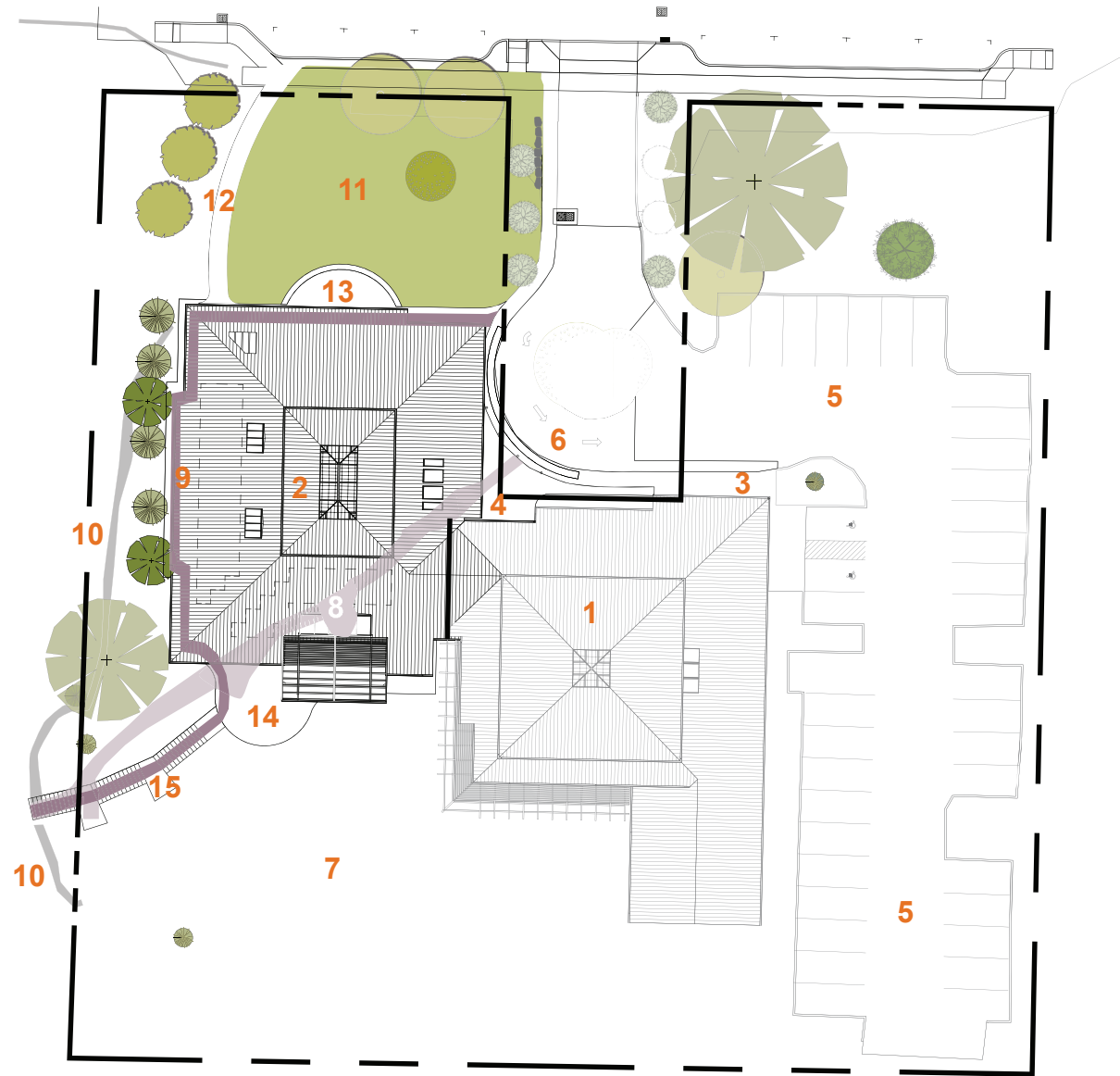
The form, light quality, and materials of the library addition were derived from the much-loved design of the existing library. Continuity of exterior materials, expansive windows, and similar roof slopes provide homogeneity between the existing library and addition. The use of wood ceilings, trusses, and large wood columns provides the interior consistency the community desired. Program priorities included: a separation of noisier spaces from quiet spaces, a dedicated young adult room with seating, work tables, and collections; a larger children's room with seating, activity tables, and collections; group study rooms of various sizes and capable of video conferencing; Friends of the Library retail space; a shared office for the young adult and children's librarians; expanded computer area with direct access to the circulation desk; an expanded reading room; and a quiet reading room. The existing reading room and periodicals area were reprogrammed as quiet reading rooms. The addition houses the noisier program areas and the circulation desk is located between the existing spaces and the addition as the transitional zone.

Strategic phasing allowed the existing library to remain open during construction of the addition. As the addition neared completion, a temporary barrier was installed in the existing children's room allowing the addition to be connected to the existing library and for the original children's room to be converted into the new electrical room and large group study. The library closed for only a handful of days throughout construction. Now twice the size of the existing space, this community hub serves residents and visitors much more efficiently and remains one of the favorite spaces for island residents to spend time exploring, reading, learning, and socializing.

VICINITY PLAN



SITE PLAN

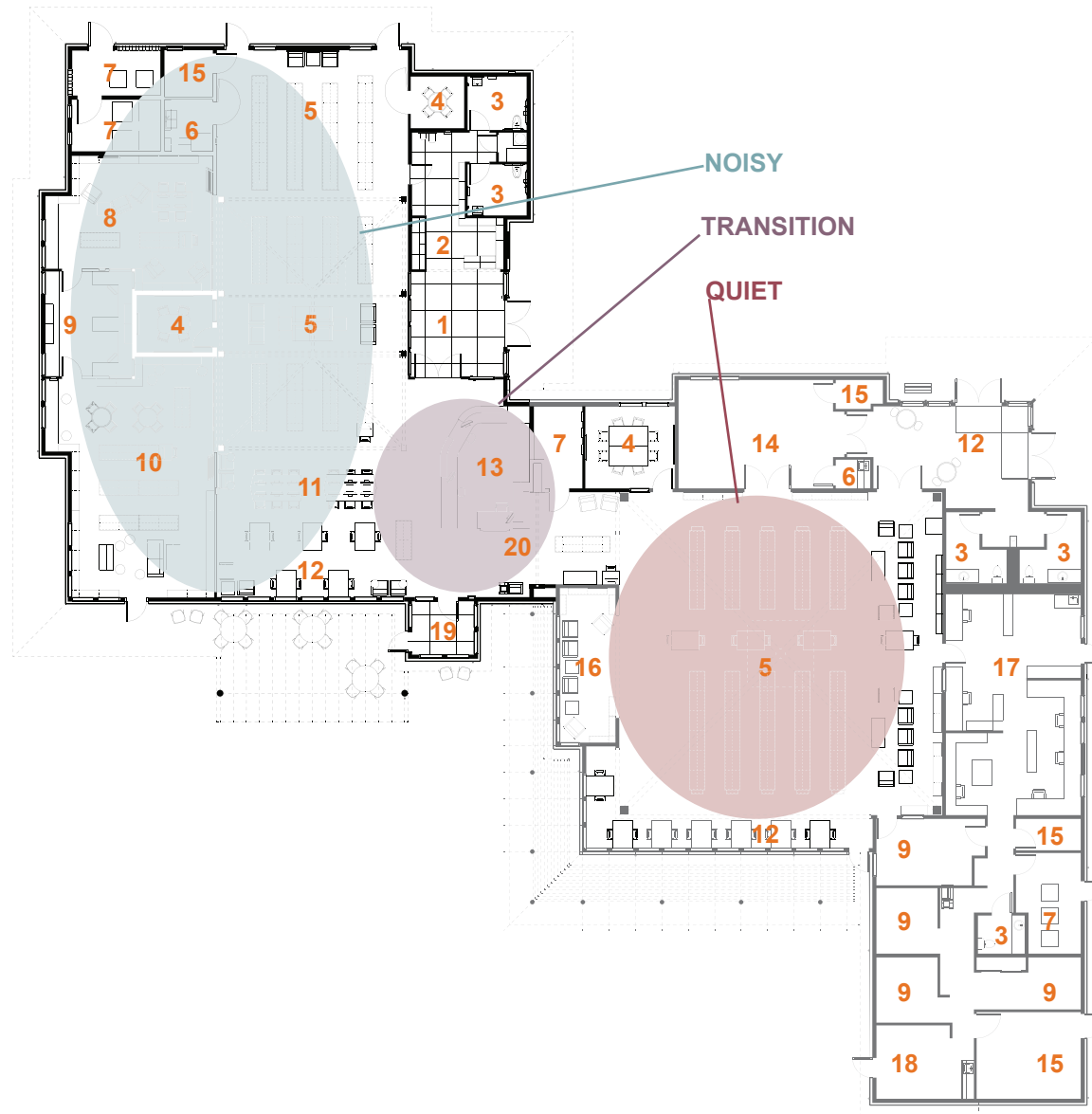


0' 15' 30' 60'



- 1 EXISTING LIBRARY
- 2 LIBRARY ADDITION
- 3 EXISTING ENTRY
- 4 NEW ENTRY
- 5 EXISTING PARKING
- 6 IMPROVED DROP-OFF
- 7 EXISTING SOUTH LAWN
- 8 DEMOLISHED SITE PATH
- 9 NEW SITE PATH
- 10 EXISTING RETAINING WALL
- 11 MODIFIED NORTH BERM
- 12 NEW GRAVEL PATH
- 13 NEW NORTH PLAZA
- 14 NEW SOUTH PATIO
- 15 NEW LIBRARY PARK STAIRS

NEW FLOOR PLAN



0' 8' 16' 32'



- 1 LOBBY
- 2 FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
- 3 RESTROOM
- 4 GROUP STUDY ROOM
- 5 STACKS/READING ROOM
- 6 KITCHENETTE
- 7 MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL
- 8 YOUNG ADULT ROOM
- 9 OFFICE
- 10 CHILDREN'S ROOM
- 11 COMPUTER AREA
- 12 WORK TABLES
- 13 CIRCULATION DESK
- 14 MEETING ROOM
- 15 STORAGE ROOM
- 16 QUIET READING
- 17 WORK ROOM
- 18 BREAK ROOM
- 19 VESTIBULE
- 20 FIRE DOOR

EXISTING CONDITIONS: NORTH ELEVATION AND MAIN READING ROOM

As one of the community's treasured icons since its construction in 1995, there was concern the addition would detract from the pure form and design aesthetic of the existing building.



EXTERIOR DESIGN



NEW EXTERIOR ENTRY TO THE ADDITION



REVISED DROP-OFF LOOP AND NEW ENTRY



EXTERIOR DESIGN: ADDITION WITH COVERED PATIO TO THE WEST OF EXISTING LIBRARY

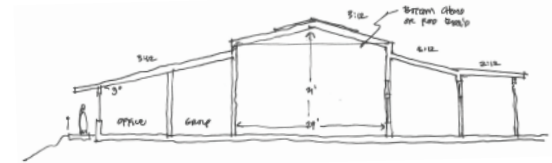
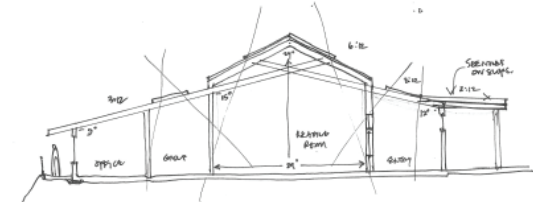
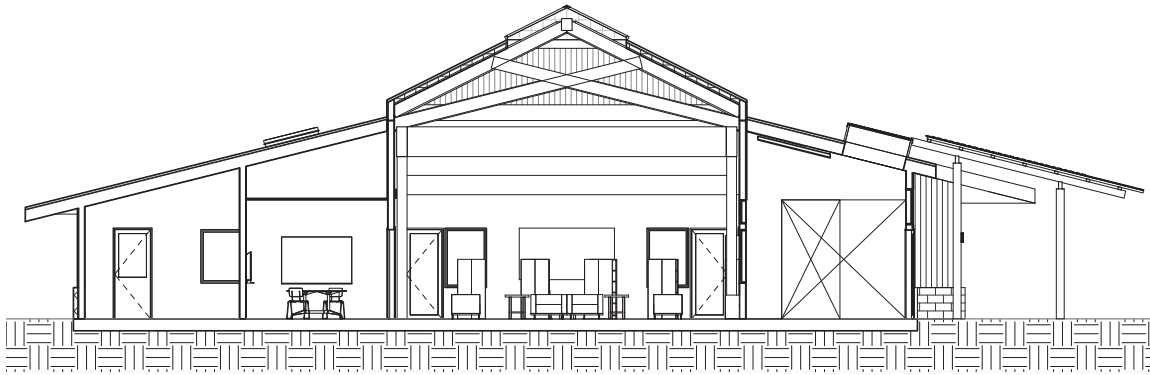


EXTERIOR DESIGN: SUNSHADE DETAIL AND COVERED PATIO

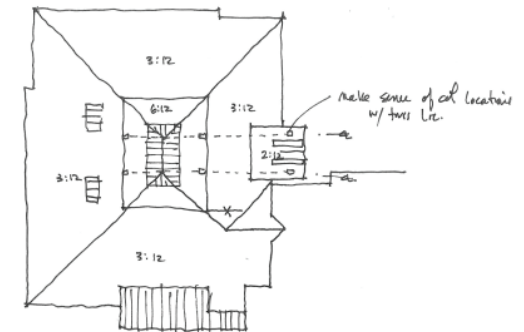
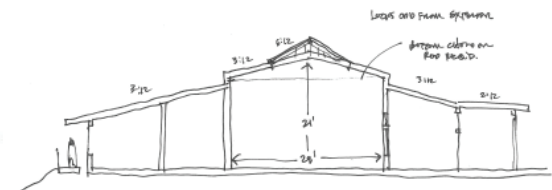
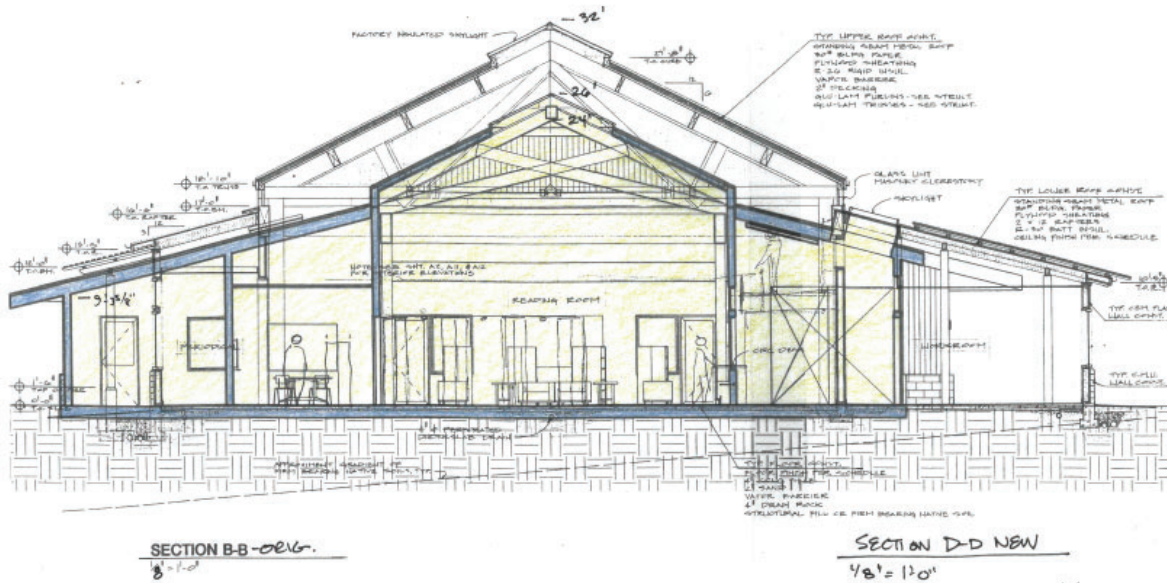


ROOF STUDIES

NEW ROOF



NEW ROOF (COLORED) OVERLAPPING EXISTING ROOF

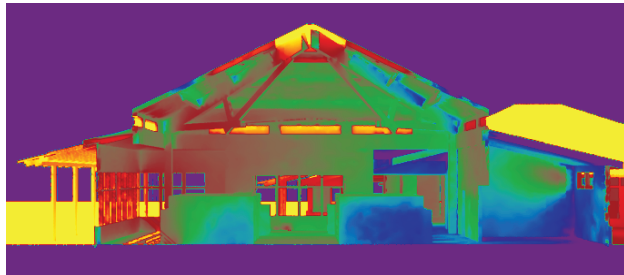
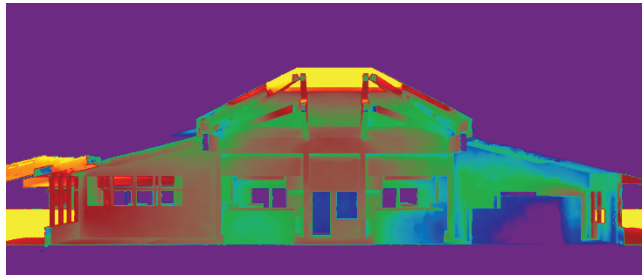
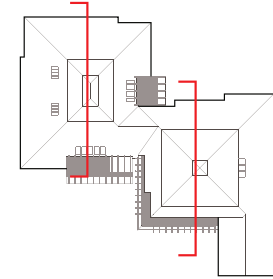
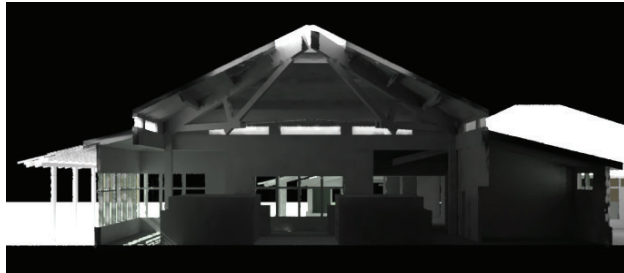


LIGHTING LEVELS STUDY

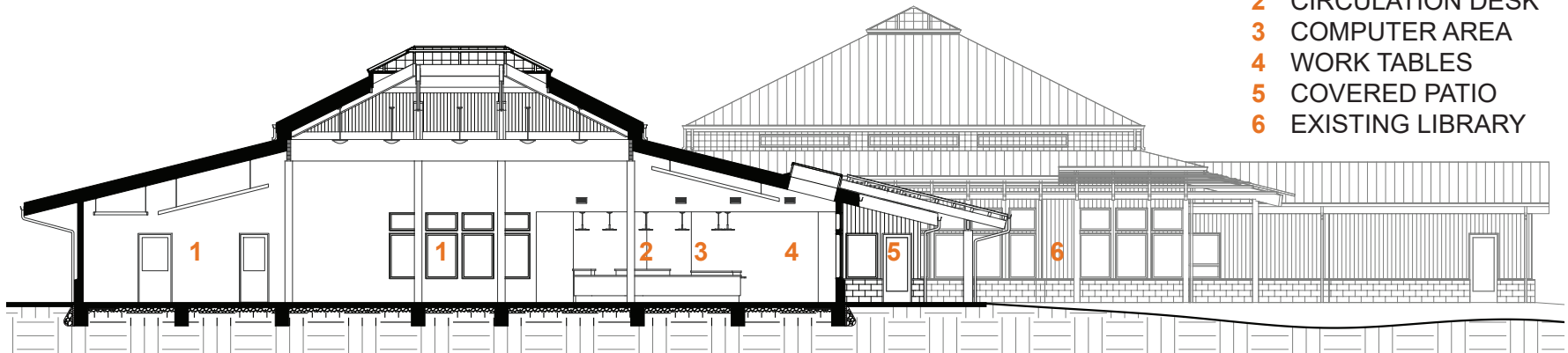
ADDITION



EXISTING



- 1 READING ROOM
- 2 CIRCULATION DESK
- 3 COMPUTER AREA
- 4 WORK TABLES
- 5 COVERED PATIO
- 6 EXISTING LIBRARY



Above shows the final window and skylight layout for the **addition reading room**, with lighting levels similar to the existing reading room.

NEW ADDITION

Lighting levels in the existing reading room were studied to provide similar lighting levels in the existing and new spaces.



EXISTING READING ROOM



NEW CIRCULATION DESK



NEW FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY AREA AND ENTRY LOBBY



NEW CHILDREN'S ROOM



NEW YOUNG ADULTS ROOM



NEW READING ROOM

