



*View From Fort Hunt Road*

*Photo by: Prakash Patel*

### **Project Name**

**MARTHA WASHINGTON LIBRARY**

### **Project Location**

Fairfax, Virginia

### **Project Category**

Institutional Architecture

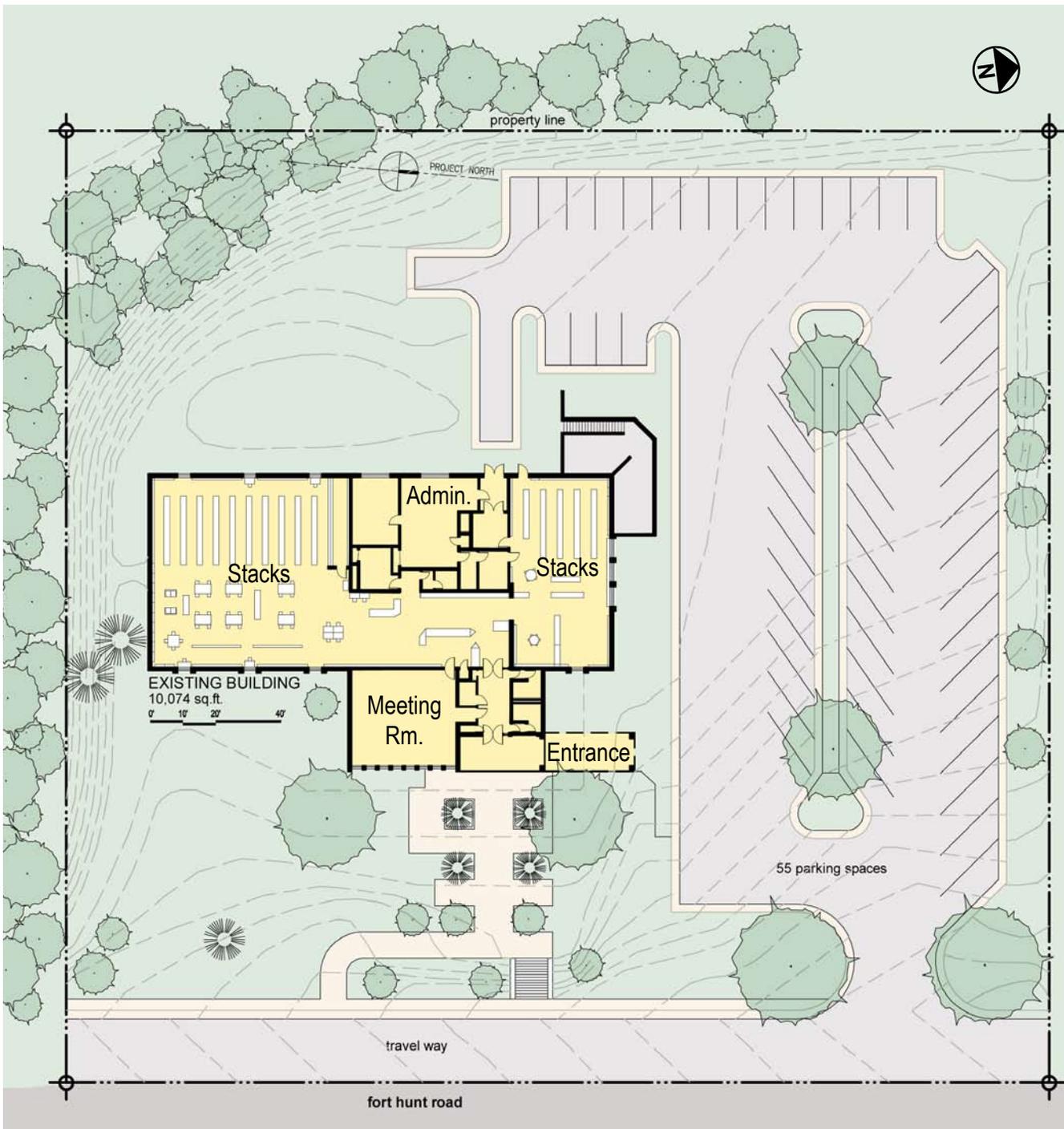
### **Project Synopsis**

The design of this LEED Gold Certified 7,700 sf addition and 9,000 sf renovation project addresses several primary client requirements: expanded program; better functional relationships between spaces; implementation of green and sustainable design strategies; and to convert the library from a non-descript, dark, and enclosed place to a more open and welcoming facility with greater presence to the street and within the community.

The two primary building functions: gaining knowledge through books and other media and providing a place for community gathering; are given special prominence by being housed in new iconic forms that face the street and express their special status. The square form of the Main Stack Area addition is designed to be an open, light-filled, and transparent space highly visible to the community passing by. Seating and reading areas are placed along the glass perimeter to better connect the occupants to the outside.

The Community Meeting Room addition is housed in a masonry cylindrical form with clerestory lighting and a “floating” roof. The more enclosed nature of the cylinder is intended to promote a sense of unity and togetherness to the occupants while still providing ample natural daylighting and openness. A serpentine spine wall helps unify the various building functions, guiding visitors from the main entrance through the public areas and into the library space.

Meeting and stack spaces are often buried within a larger volume, but in this case, placing them out in front help the building serve as a beacon to the community. As patrons arrive they immediately recognize their destination (reading or meeting) and they carry the image of those forms in their memory when they leave.



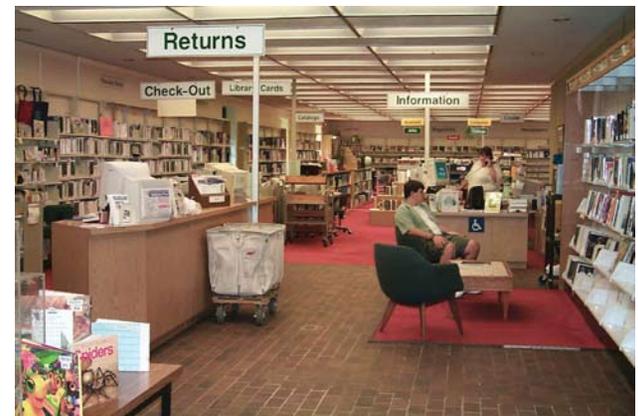
Original Site Plan



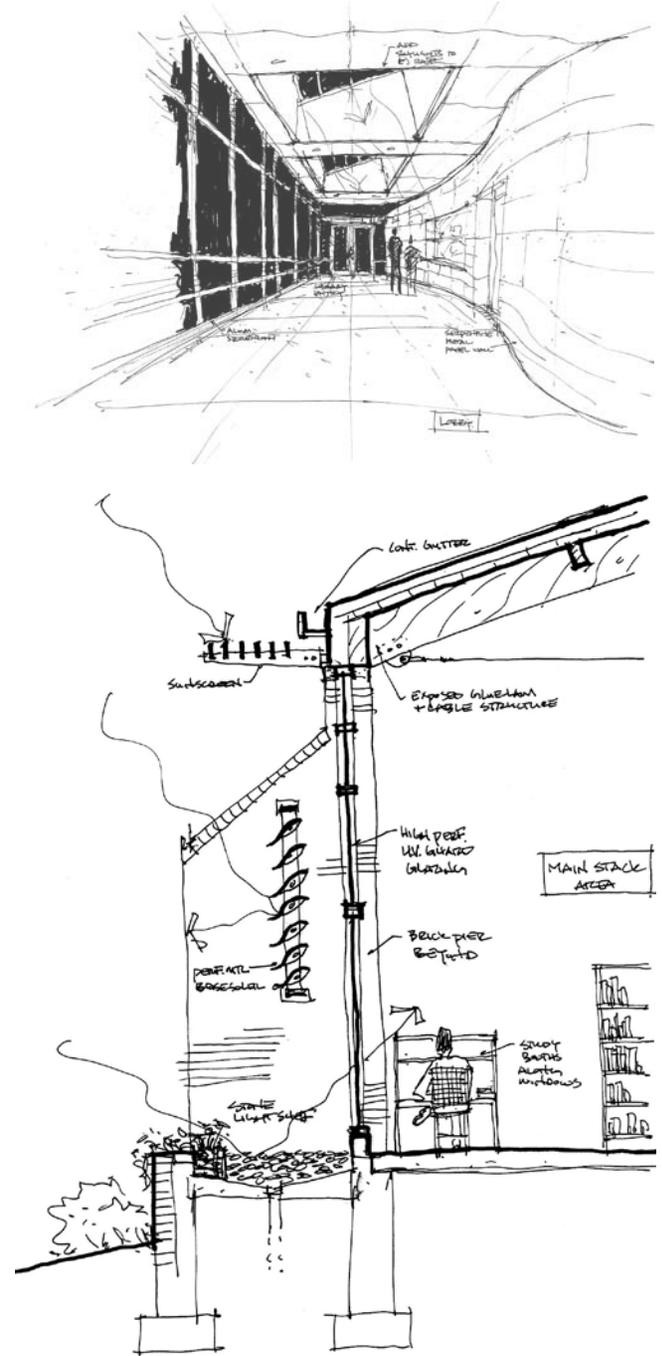
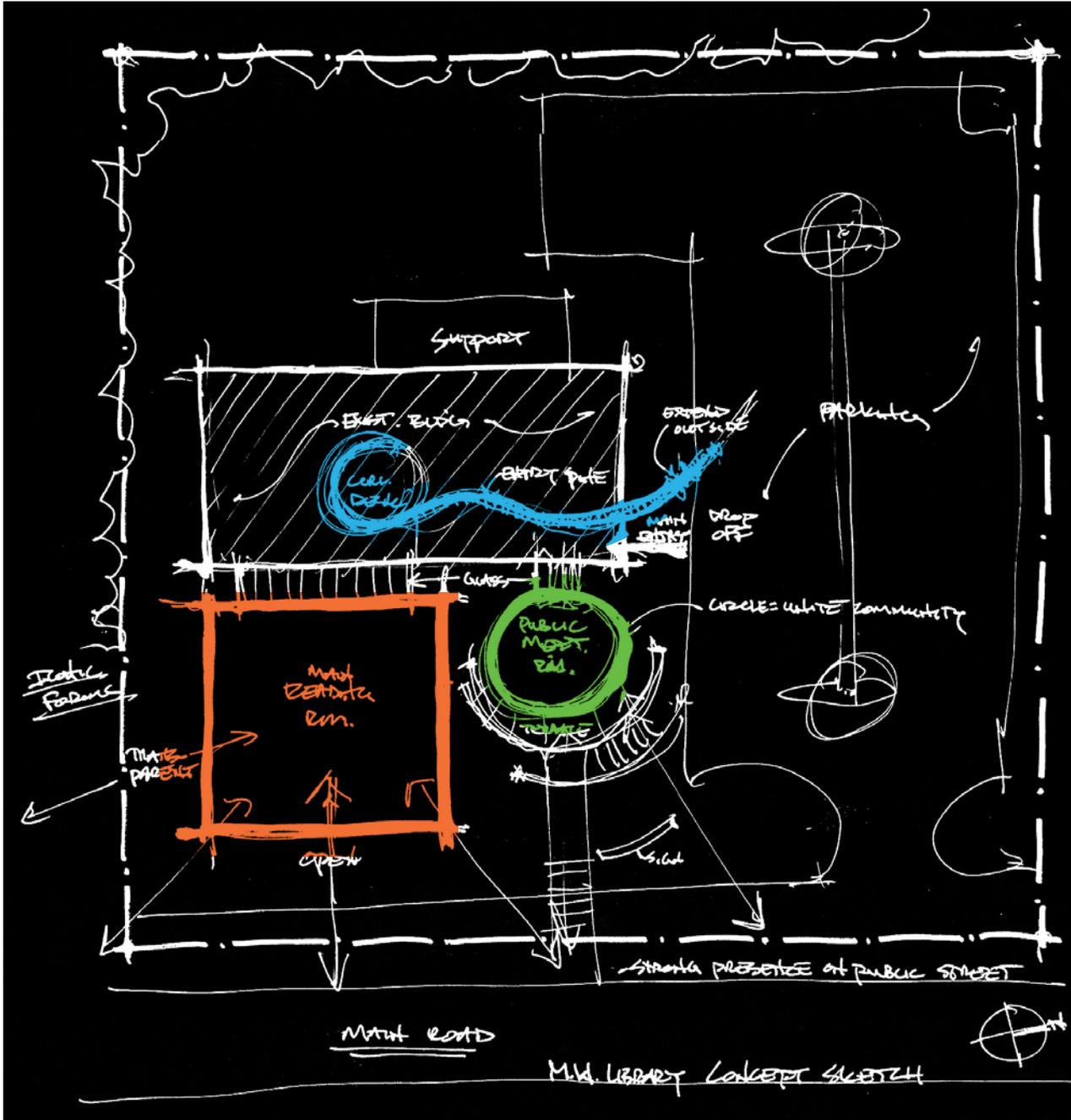
Original Building from Fort Hunt Road



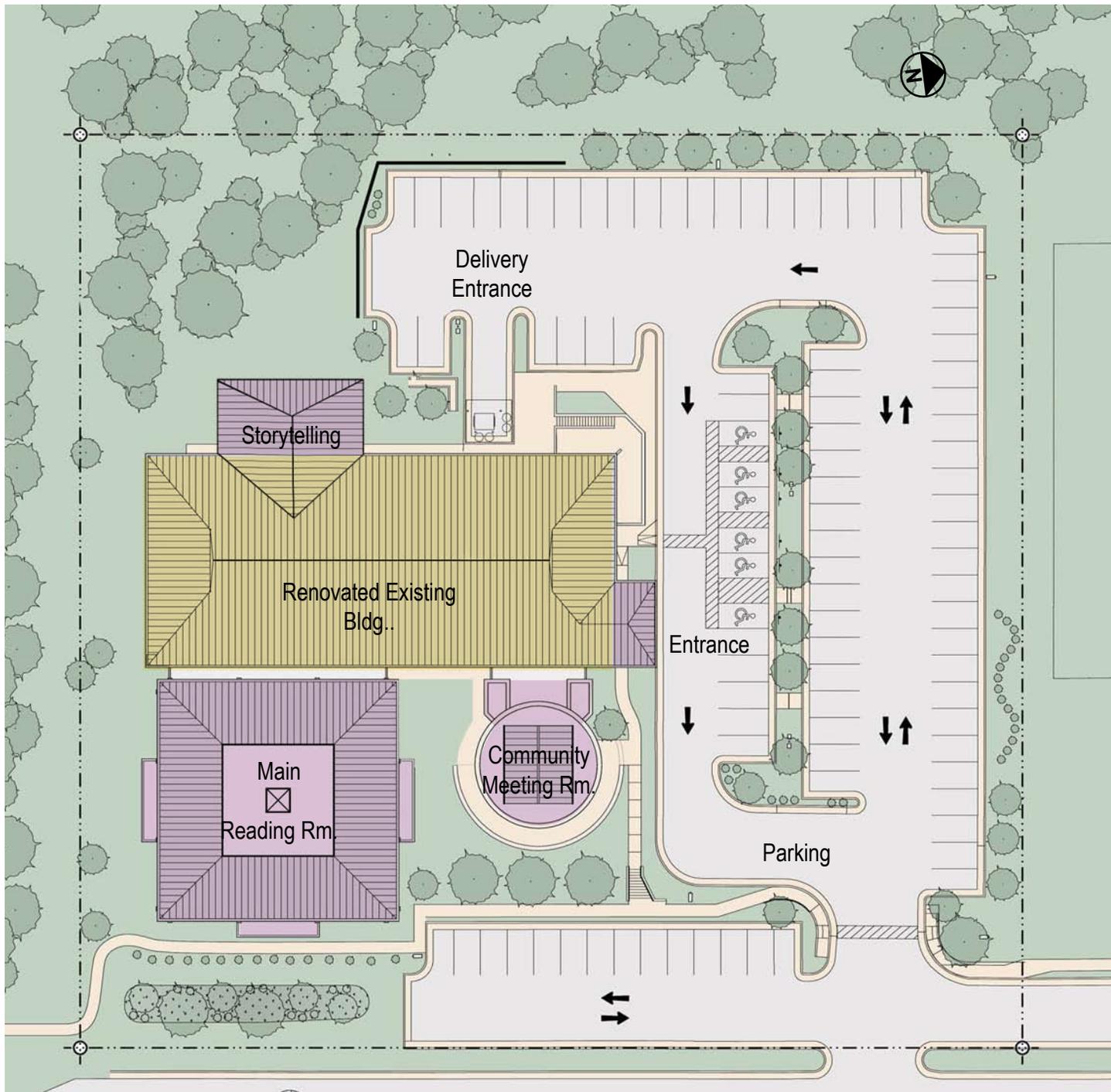
Original Building from Service Entrance



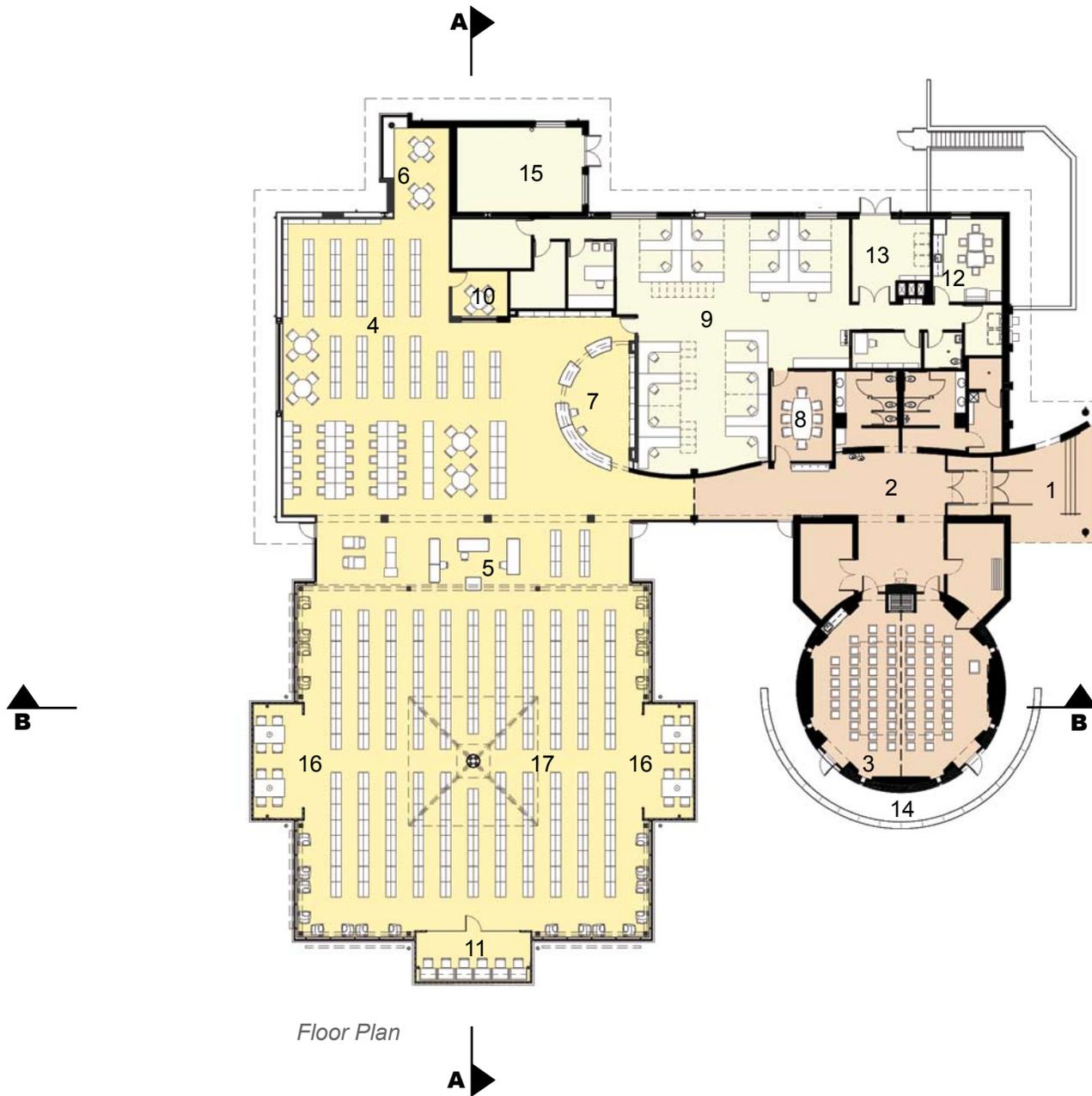
Original Building Interior



Early Conceptual Sketches



Site Plan



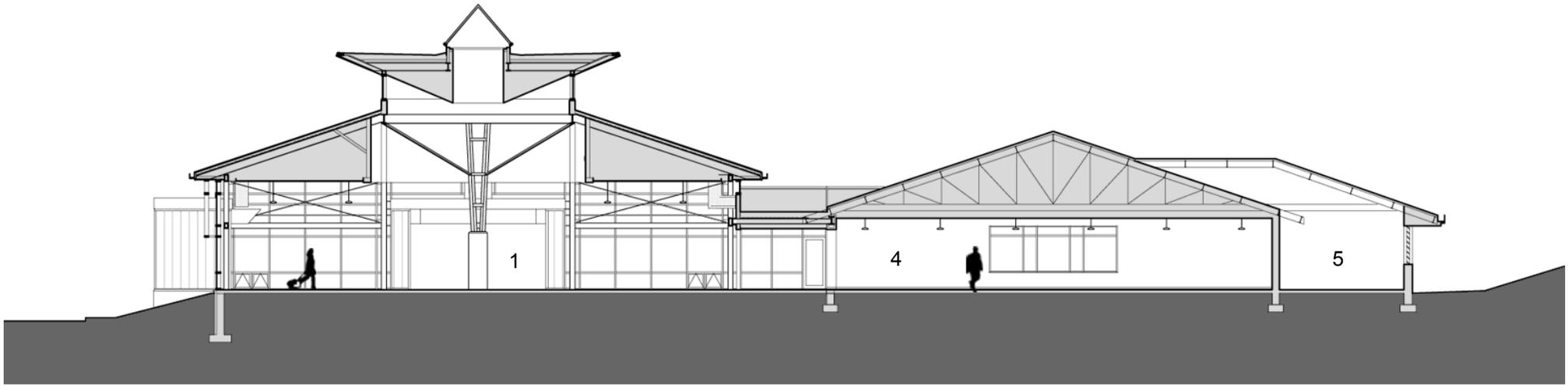
Floor Plan

**Legend**

- 1. Main Entrance
- 2. Lobby
- 3. Community Meeting Rm.
- 4. Adult / Young Adult
- 5. Information Desk
- 6. Story Telling
- 7. Circulation Desk
- 8. Conference
- 9. Staff Office
- 10. Group Study
- 11. Quiet Rm.
- 12. Break Room
- 13. Delivery
- 14. Terrace
- 15. Mechanical
- 16. Study Carrel
- 17. Main Reading Room & Stacks

**Key**

- Community Meeting Room And Services
- Library, Reading Rooms, Circulation Desk
- Administrative Office Space



A-A Building Section

**Legend**

- 1. Main Reading Room
- 2. Study Carrel
- 3. Community Meeting Rm.
- 4. Renovated Building
- 5. Mechanical Room



B-B Building Section



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Entrance Lobby, Corrugated Metal Serpentine  
Wall And Conference Room Entrance

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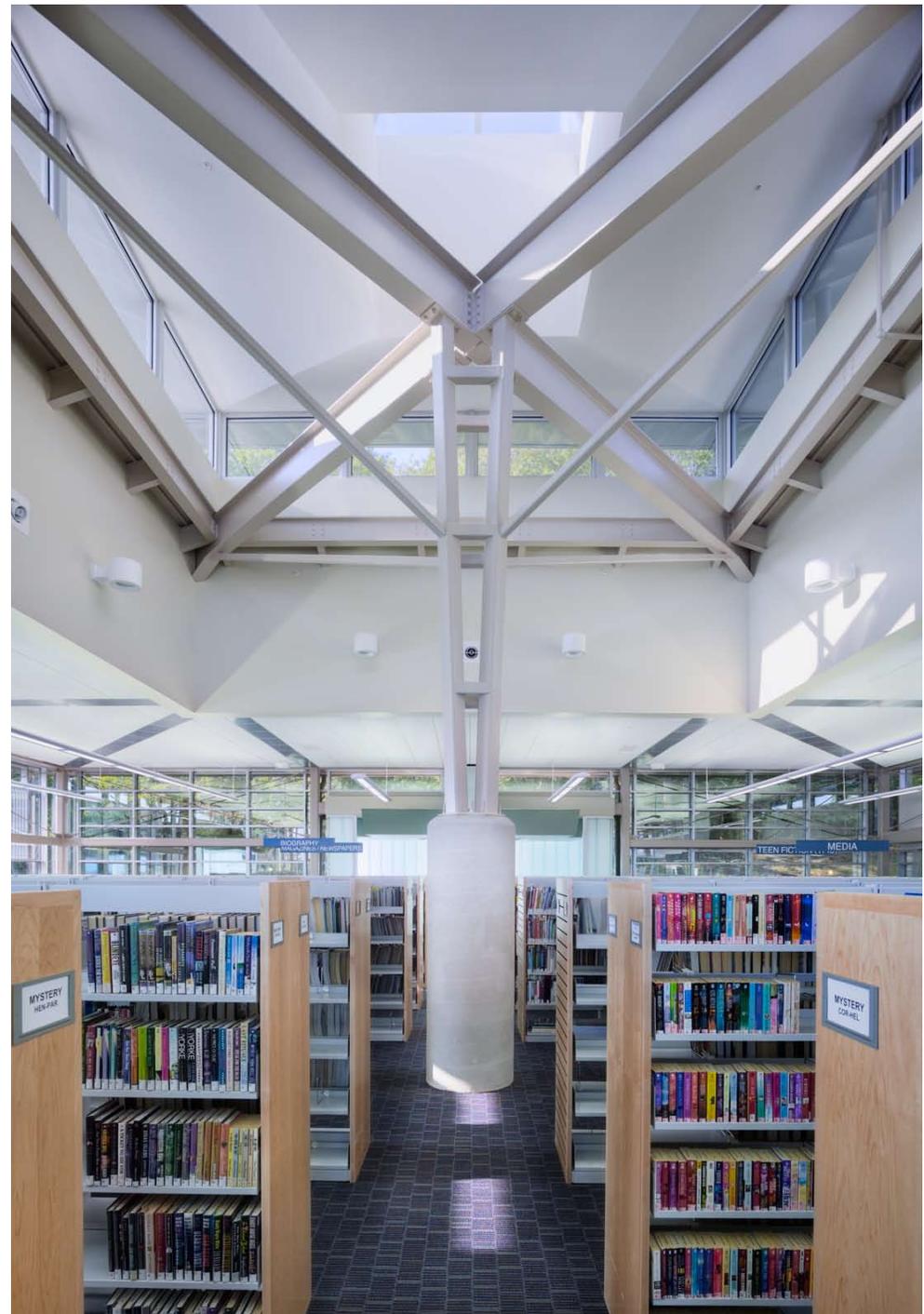
*Community Meeting Room*

*Photo by: Prakash Patel*



Main Reading Room And Quiet Reading Room

Photo by: Prakash Patel



Main Reading Room and Stacks

Photo by: Prakash Patel



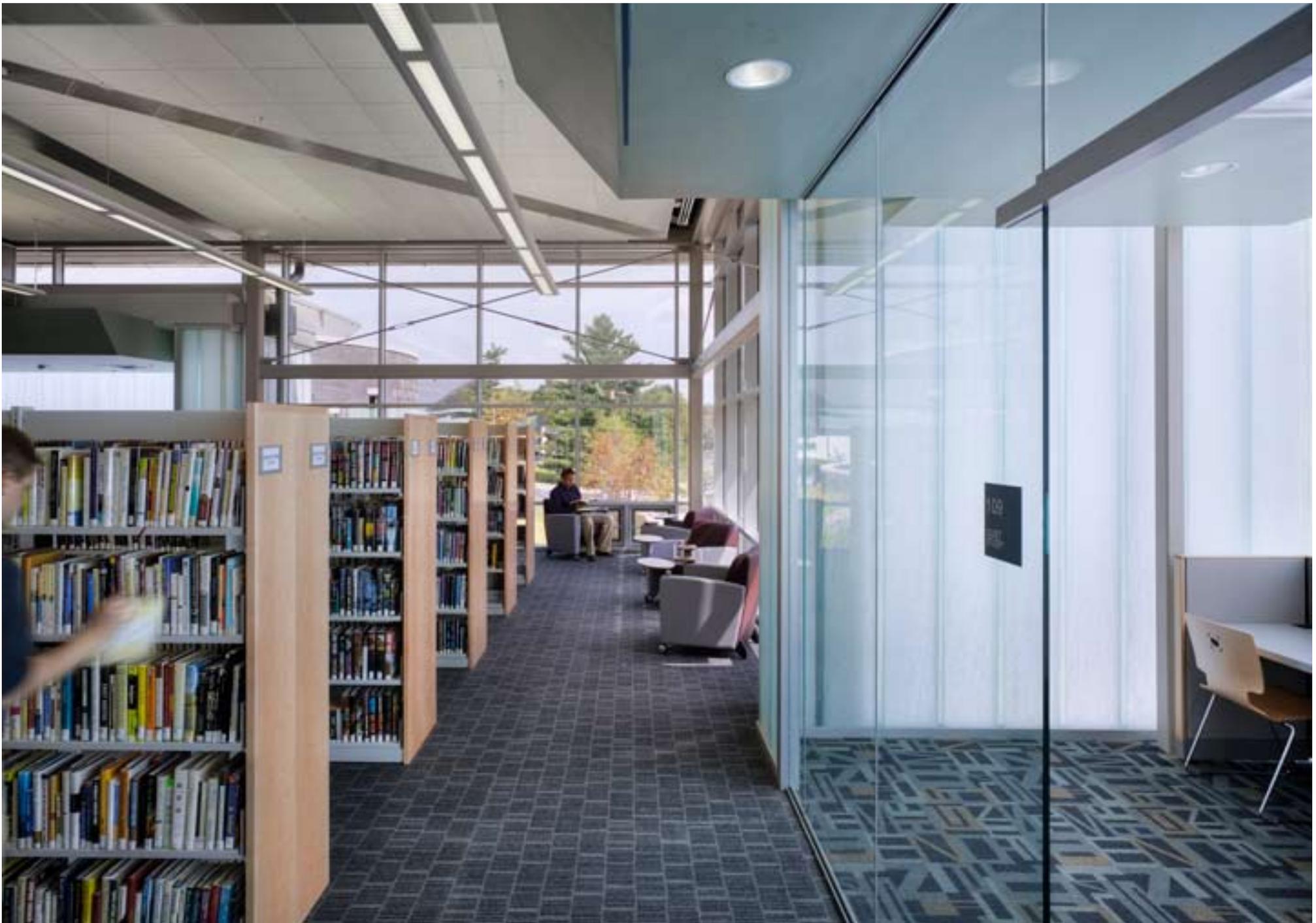
*Main Reading Room And Quiet Reading Room*

*Photo by: Prakash Patel*



*Study Carrel*

*Photo by: Prakash Patel*



Main Reading Room And Quiet Reading Room

Photo by: Prakash Patel



Main Reading Room & Stacks



Main Reading Room Exterior



Group Study Room



### Sustainable strategies implemented to achieve LEED Gold certification.

- Low-e coated glass and insulated channel glass.
- Reduced solar heat gain with careful overhangs design and brise-soleil.
- Views to the outside from 90% of regularly occupied spaces.
- Recycled, local, and renewable material for interior finishes were used.
- Low albedo roof.
- Storm water management strategies included, bio-retention pond, vegetated swale, and planted storm inlets.
- Native and drought-tolerant plant material were used to eliminate irrigation needs.
- Energy efficient mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design.
- Reduced impervious surface by implementing a shared parking agreement with neighbors.
- Preferred carpool and hybrid vehicles parking spaces provided.

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*Main Reading Room Exterior*

*Photo by: Prakash Patel*



*Main Reading Room Exterior*

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