

# A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Mistaya Smith

Master in City Planning student

2024 APA Community Design and  
Planning intern

Interested in working in rural  
communities on outdoor recreation  
and community planning



ROOSTER COMB

# HAGUE, NY

Proposal for a New Visitor Center



# VISITOR CENTER

Improving community facilities and the visitor experience



Proposal 1



Proposal 2

# COMMUNITY GOALS

## EXPAND SQUARE FOOTAGE

Maximize lot space

Visitor center info

Welcome center

Museum

Meeting space

Catering kitchen

## NEW PERFORMANCE VENUE

Convenient location on lake side of main visitor center

Attached v. Detached

Audience faces the lake for performances

## UPGRADED AMENITIES

ADA accessible, upgraded bathrooms

Improved town museum space

Catering kitchen

## CAPITALIZE ON LAKE VIEWS

Design provides connection between indoors and outdoors

## MAINTAIN ADIRONDACK STYLE

Build in line with local style

# VISITOR CENTER BUILDING CURRENT CONDITIONS 1700 SQ FEET\*

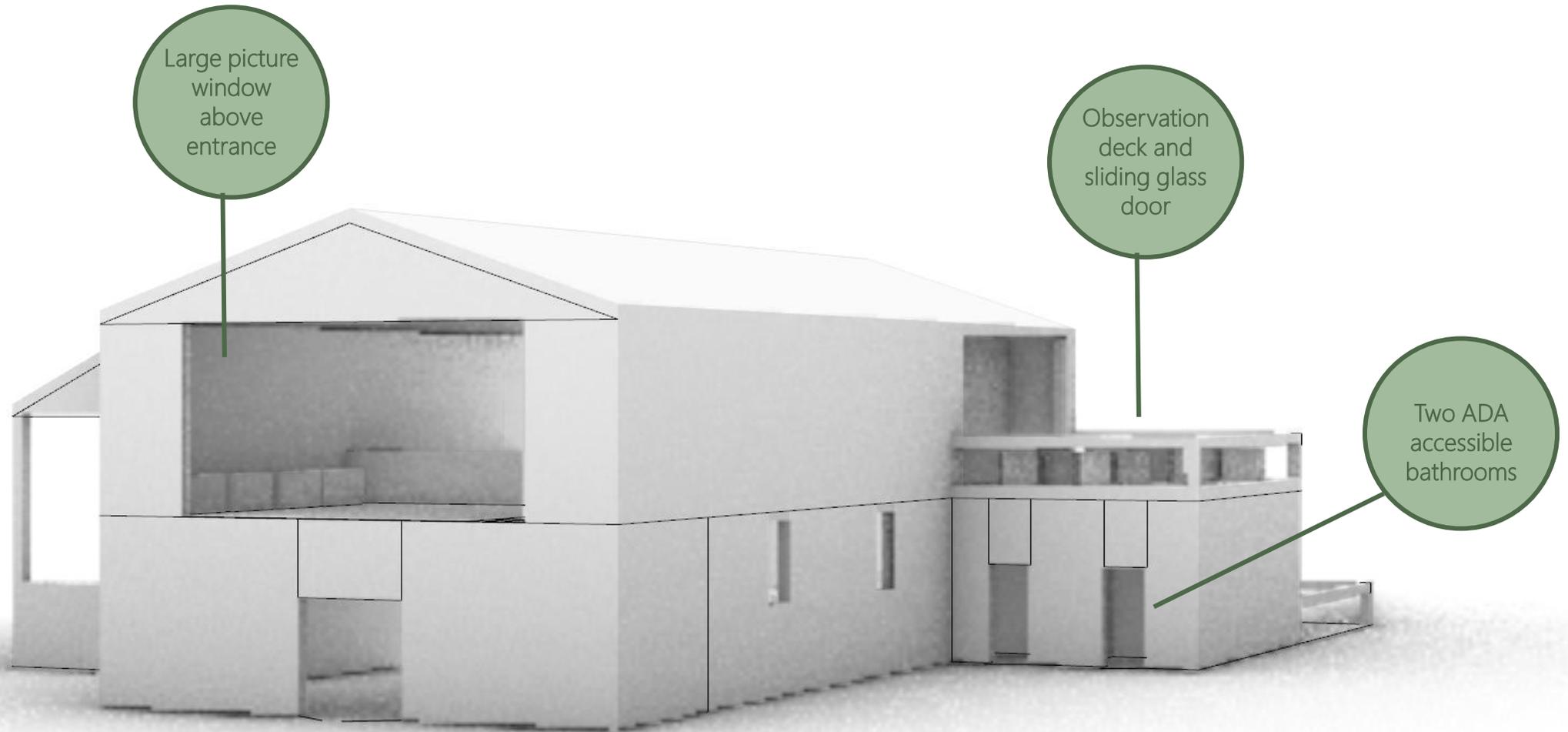
\*Measurements taken from roofline on Google Earth, actual square footage may differ





PROPOSAL 1

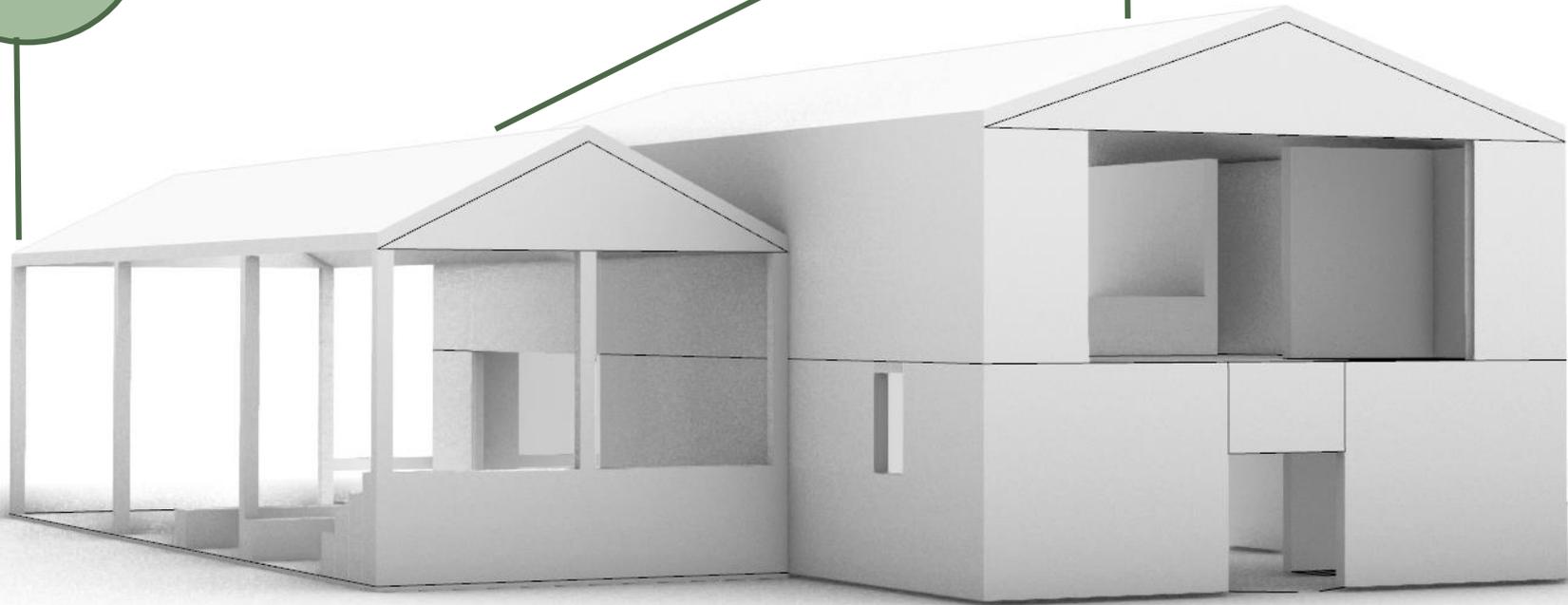
# PERSEPECTIVE FROM ROAD I



# PERSEPECTIVE FROM ROAD II

Post and  
beam  
performance  
pavilion

Matching  
gabled roofs



# PERFORMANCE PAVILION



Amphitheater seating

Performance space

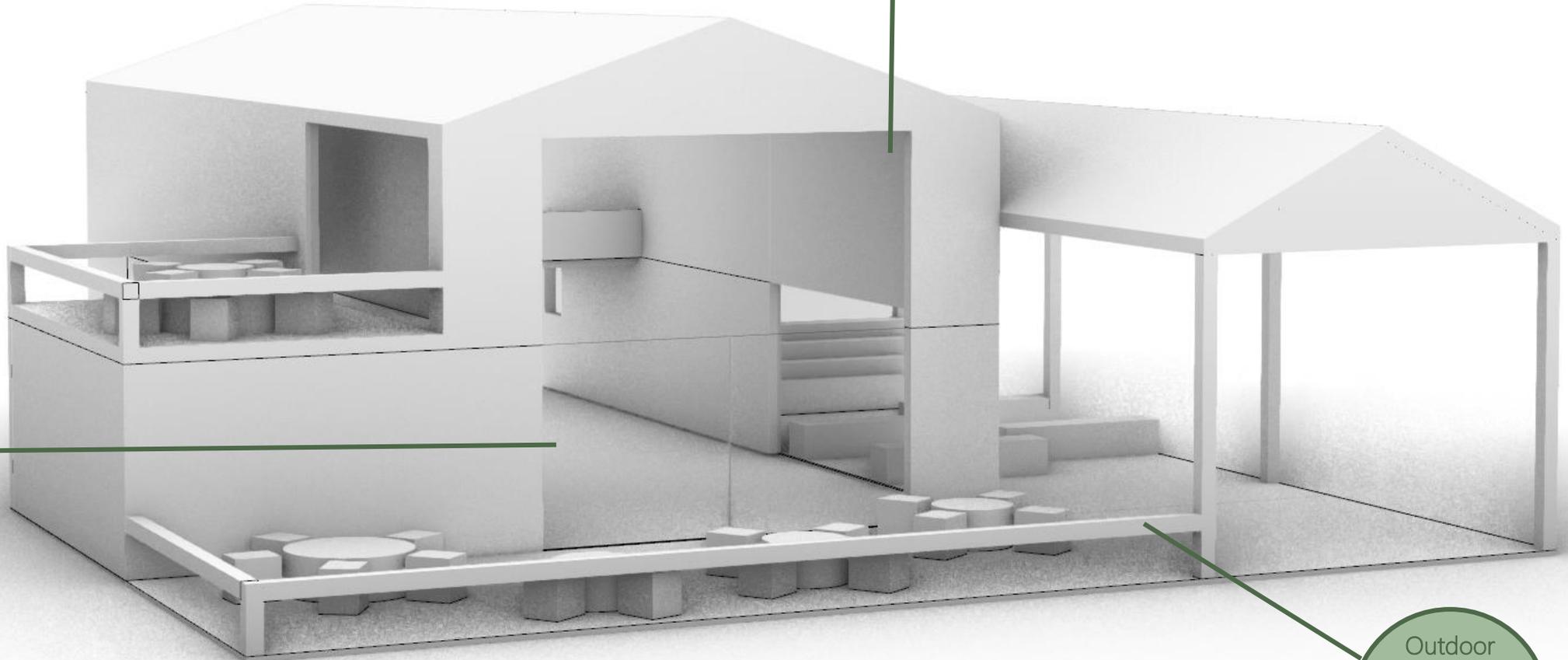
Sliding glass doors lead to pavilion

Benches with space for wheelchairs and strollers

# PERSPECTIVE FROM LAKE

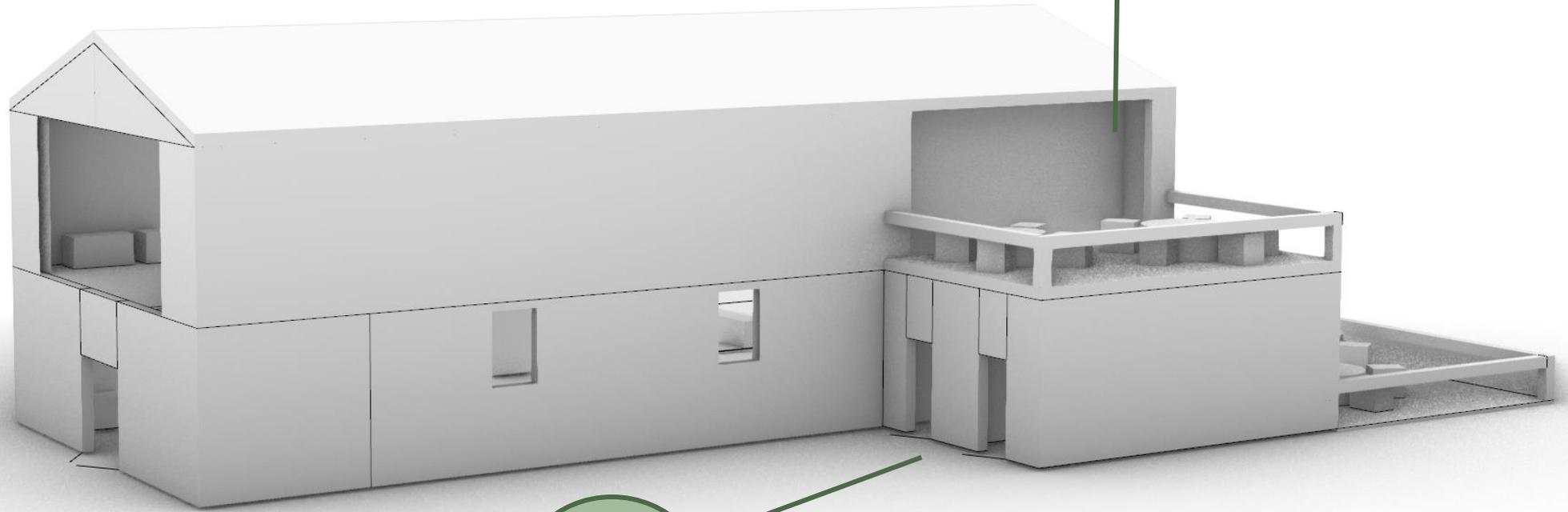
Large picture window

Sliding glass doors



Outdoor deck area with seating and lake views

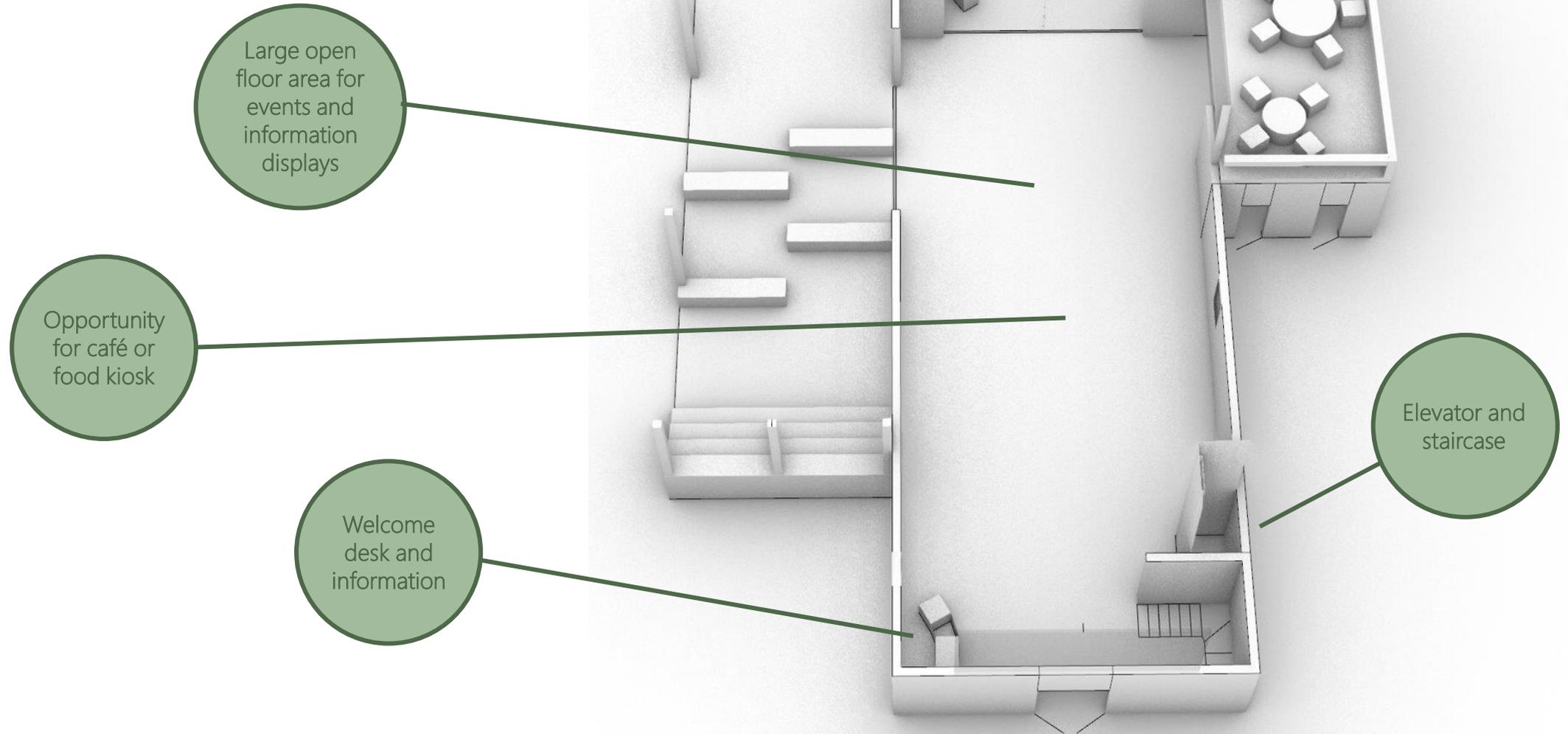
# PERSPECTIVE FROM PARKING LOT



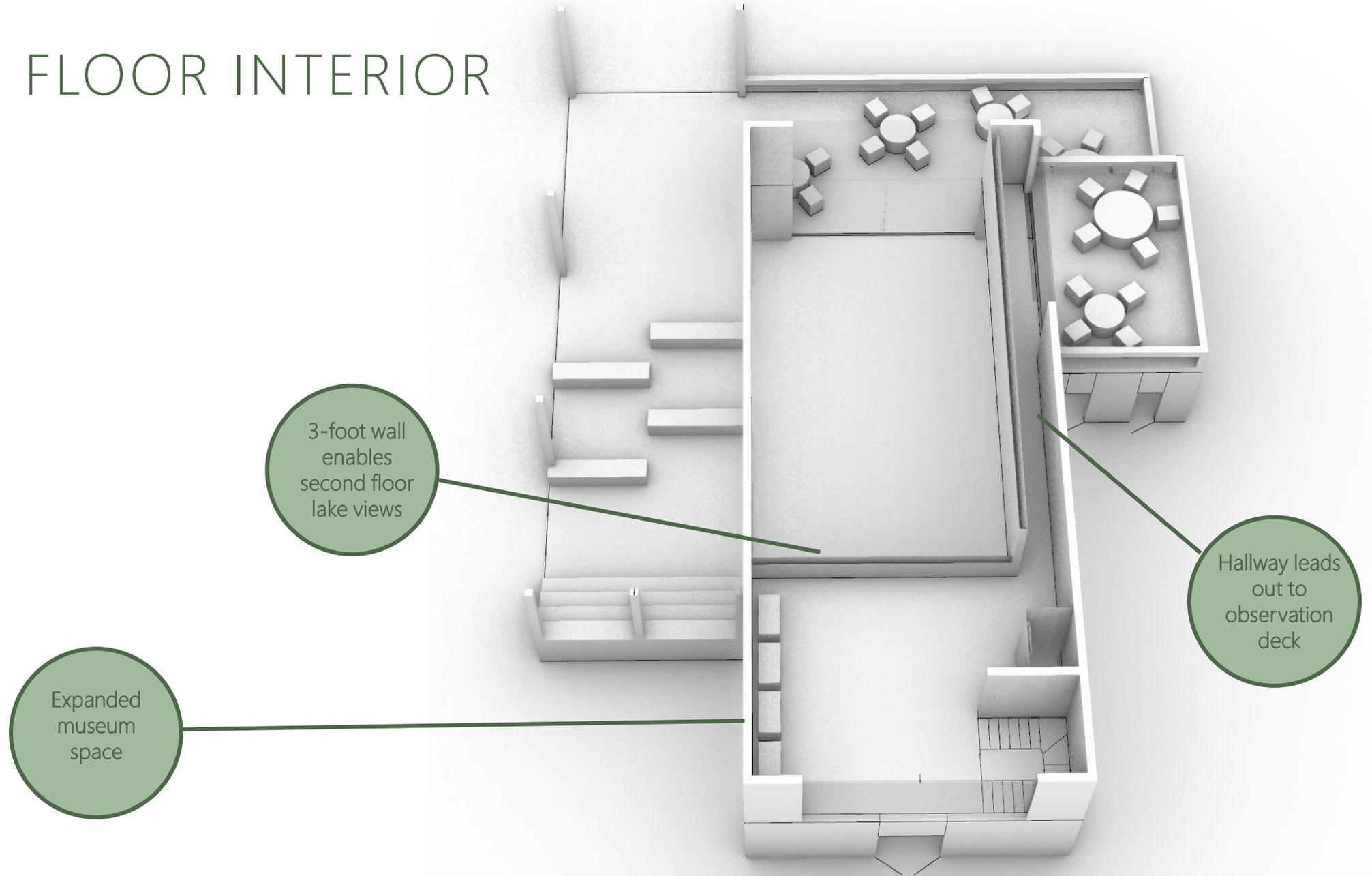
Sliding glass doors lead to observation deck

Bathrooms easily accessible and visible for visitors

# FIRST FLOOR INTERIOR



# SECOND FLOOR INTERIOR



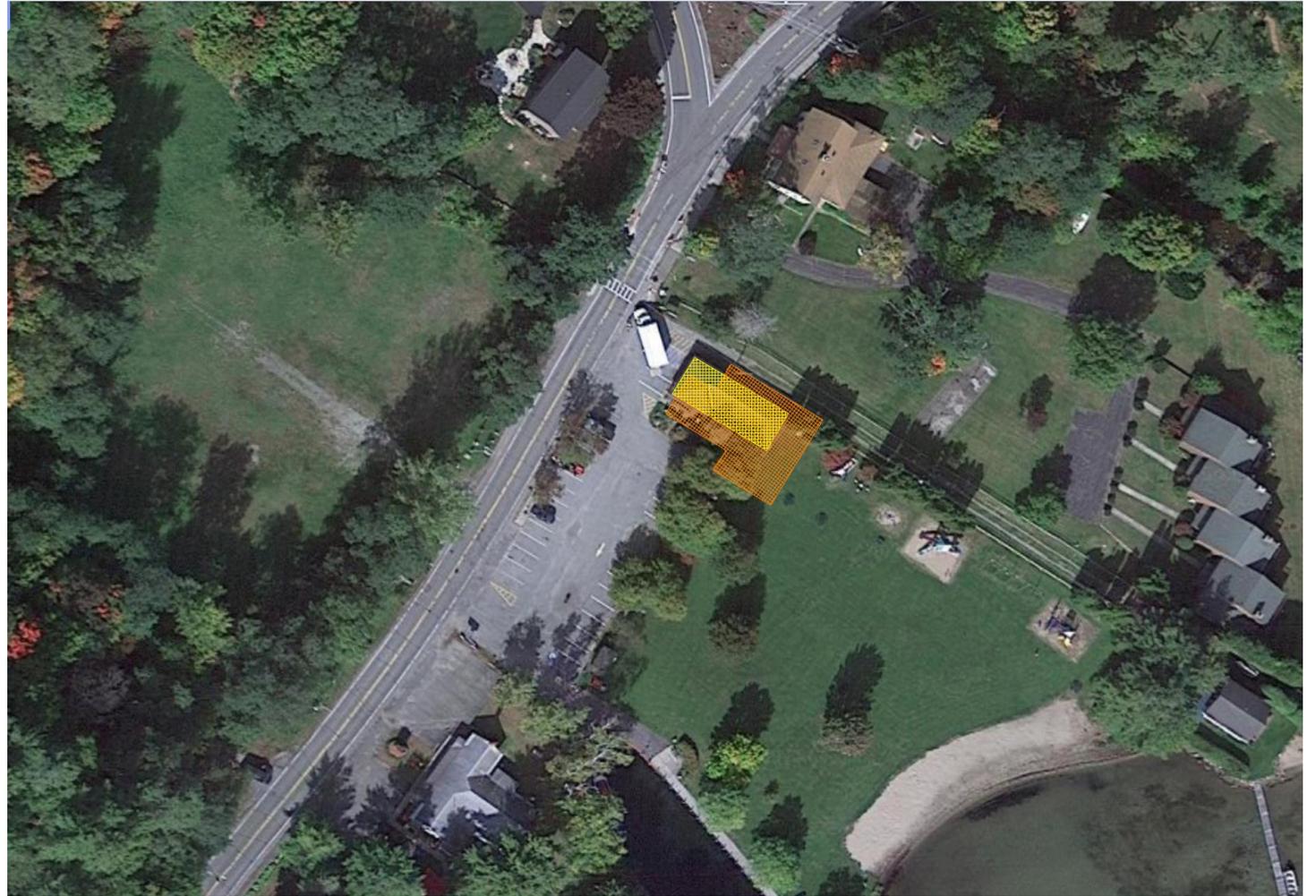
Expanded museum space

3-foot wall enables second floor lake views

Hallway leads out to observation deck

Total 6,094 sq ft of usable space with 3,422 sq ft of indoor space

Where yellow is current visitor center and orange is Proposal 1



# COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

## SINGLE GABLE

Bring all uses under one gable rather than two

## ADD EXTENSION

Extend building along parking lot

## DETACH PERFORMANCE VENUE

Create a performance venue that is separated from the main building

## MAXIMIZE LOT SPACE

Increase ceiling heights and building footprint to maximize lot

## FOCUS ON FORM

Emphasize shape of the building over details to be worked out by an architect later

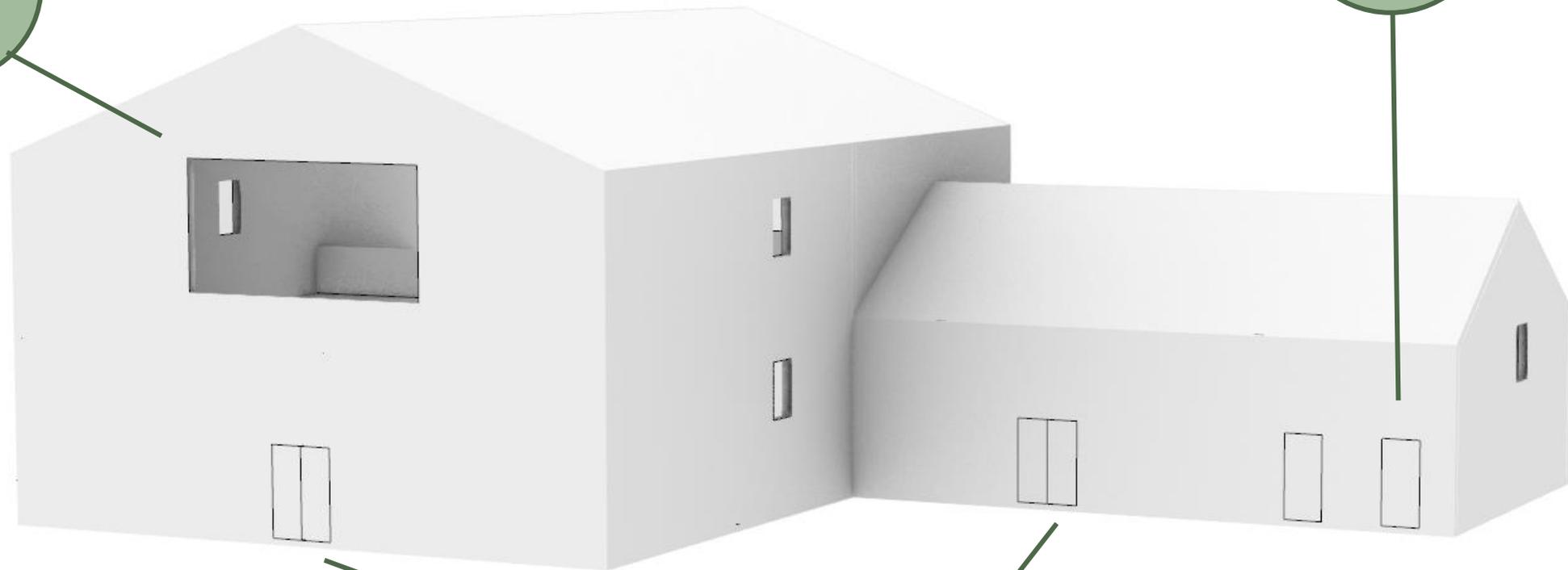


PROPOSAL 2



# PERSEPECTIVE FROM ROAD I

Large picture window above entrance



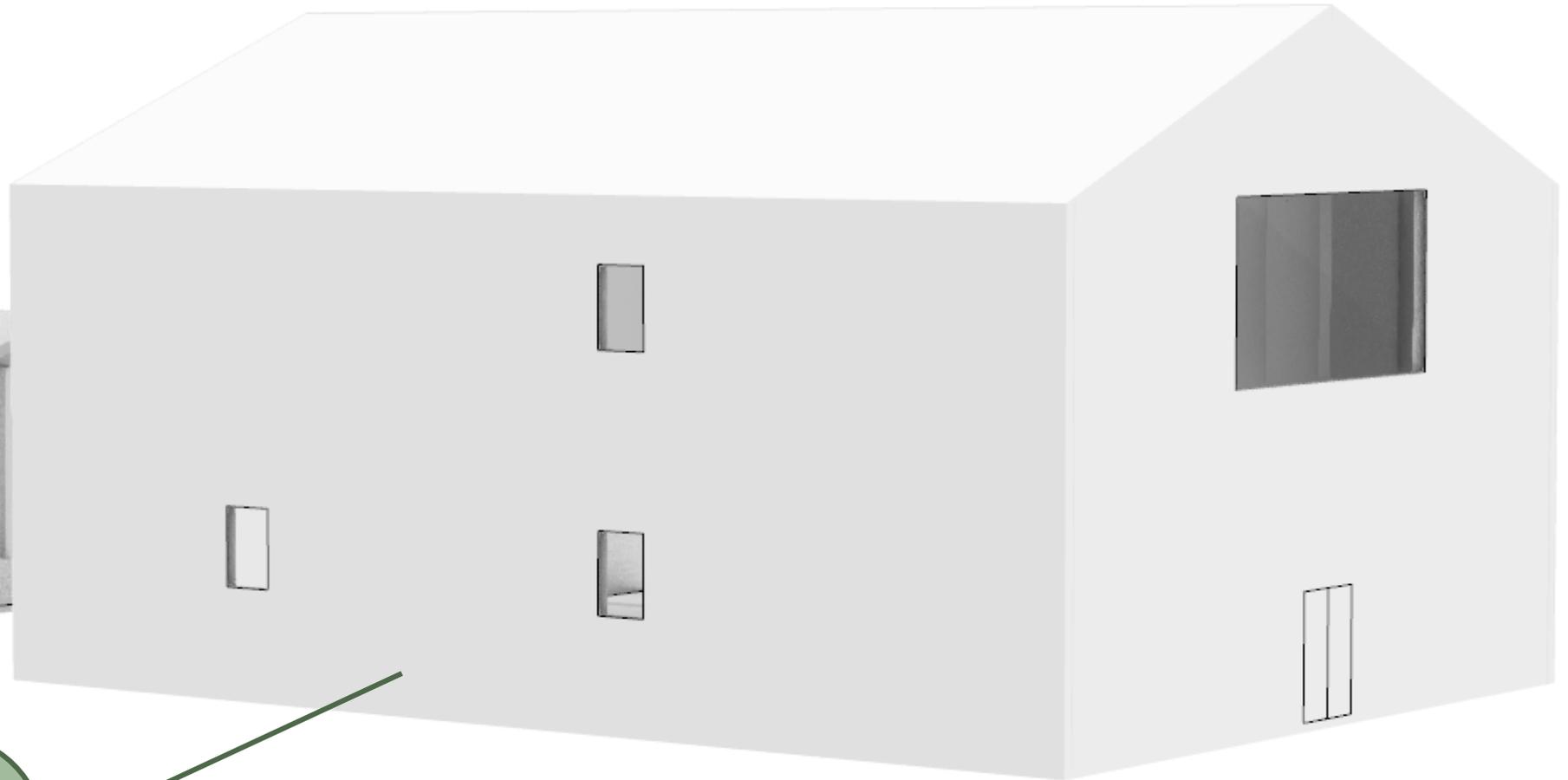
Two ADA accessible bathrooms visible from parking

Separate entrances so that two events can be held at once

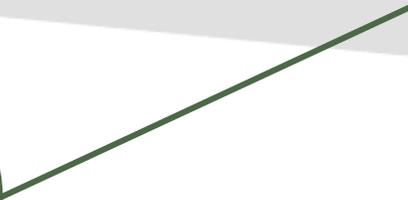
Note: Model depicts foundation, all entrances are at ground level and ADA accessible as seen on Slide 20

# PERSEPECTIVE FROM ROAD II

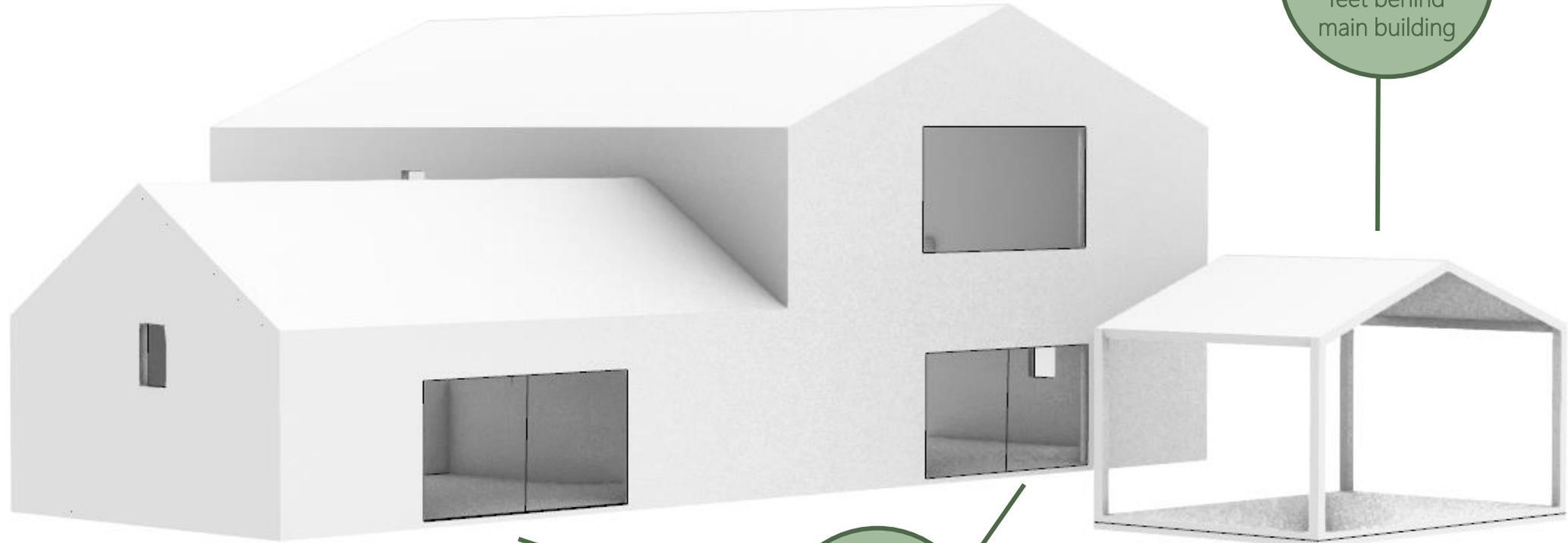
Performance center behind main building (option to attach)



Natural light through both floors



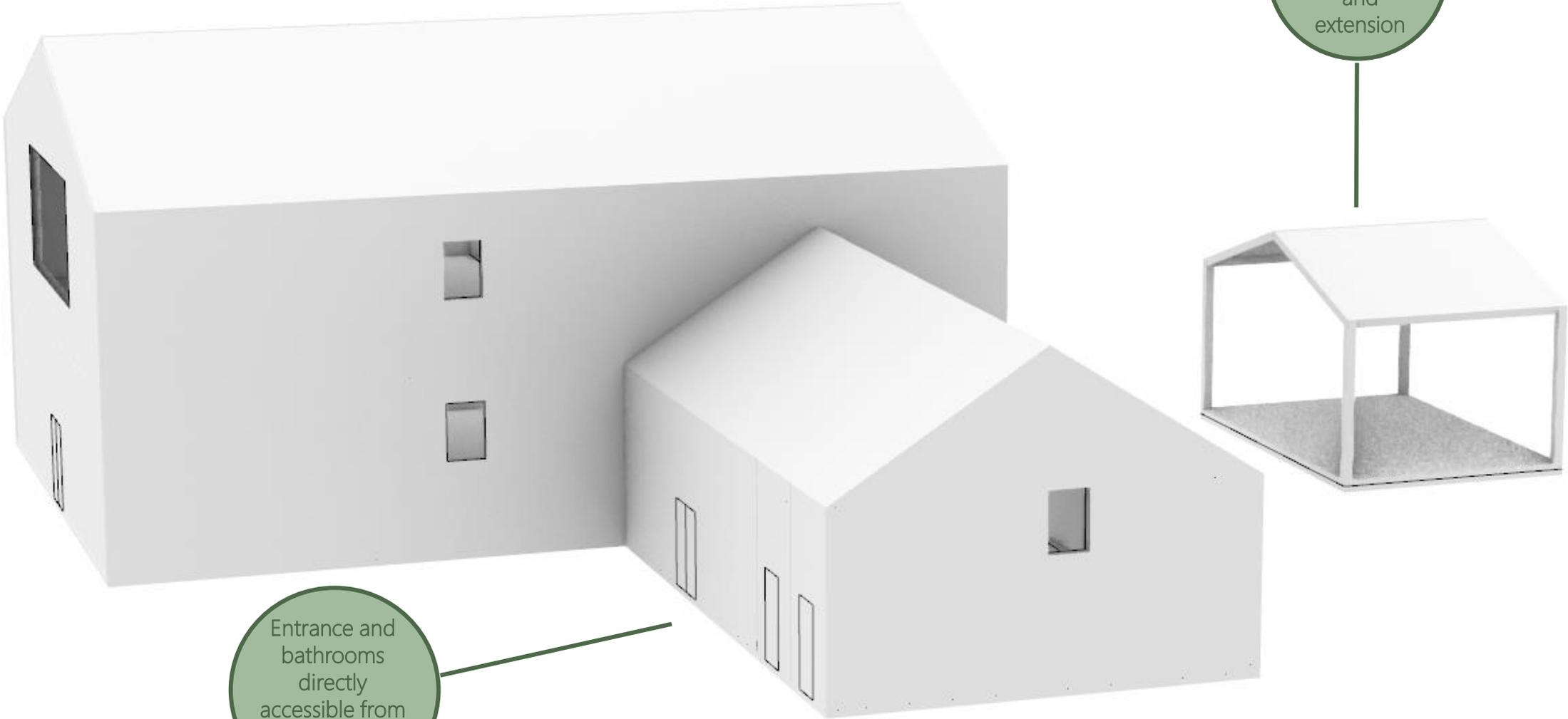
# PERSPECTIVE FROM LAKE



20'x30'  
performance  
pavilion 30  
feet behind  
main building

Large sliding  
glass doors  
offer access to  
outdoors and  
views of lake

# PERSPECTIVE FROM PARKING LOT

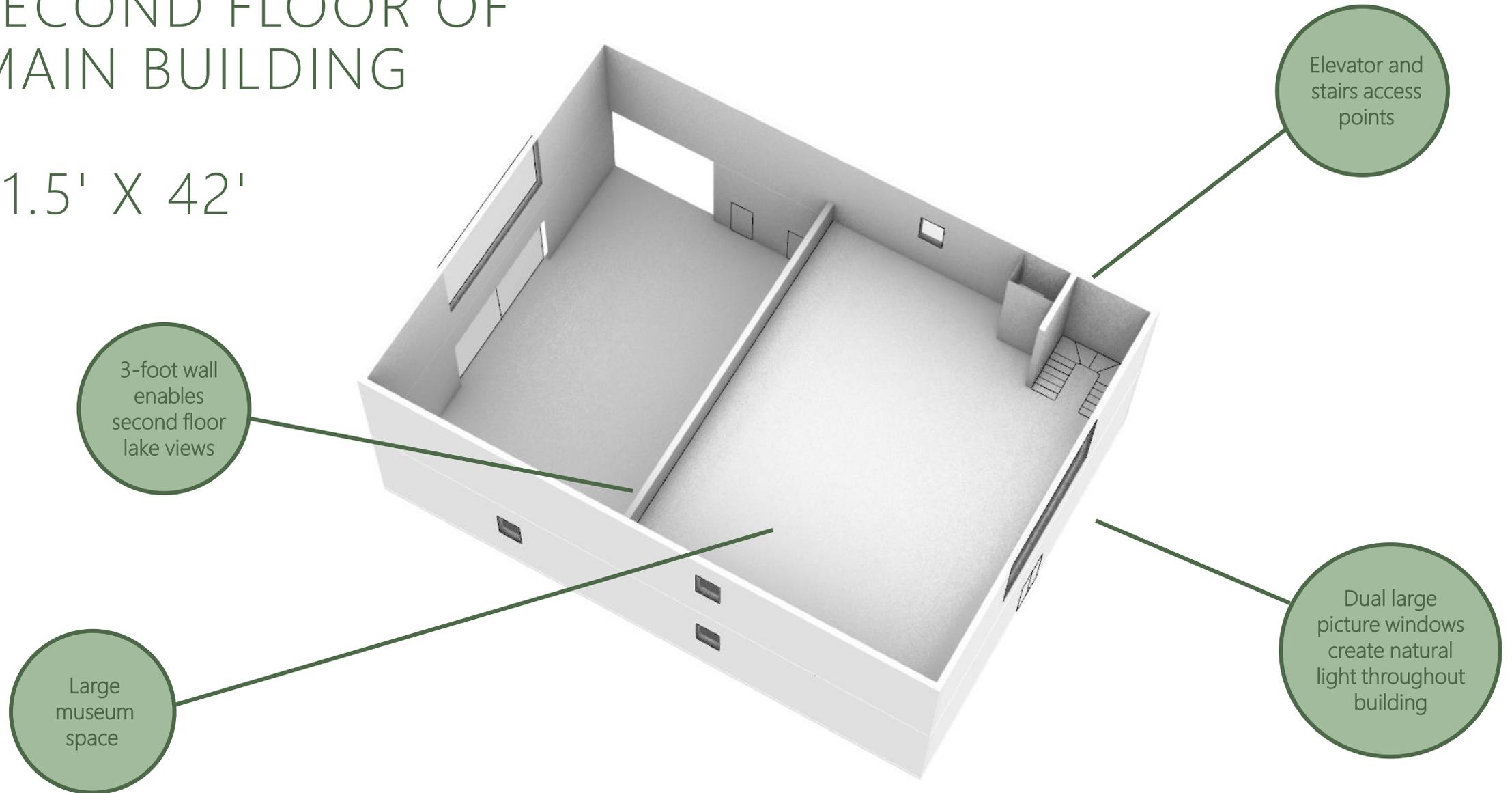


Entrance and bathrooms directly accessible from handicap parking

Pavilion visible from main building and extension

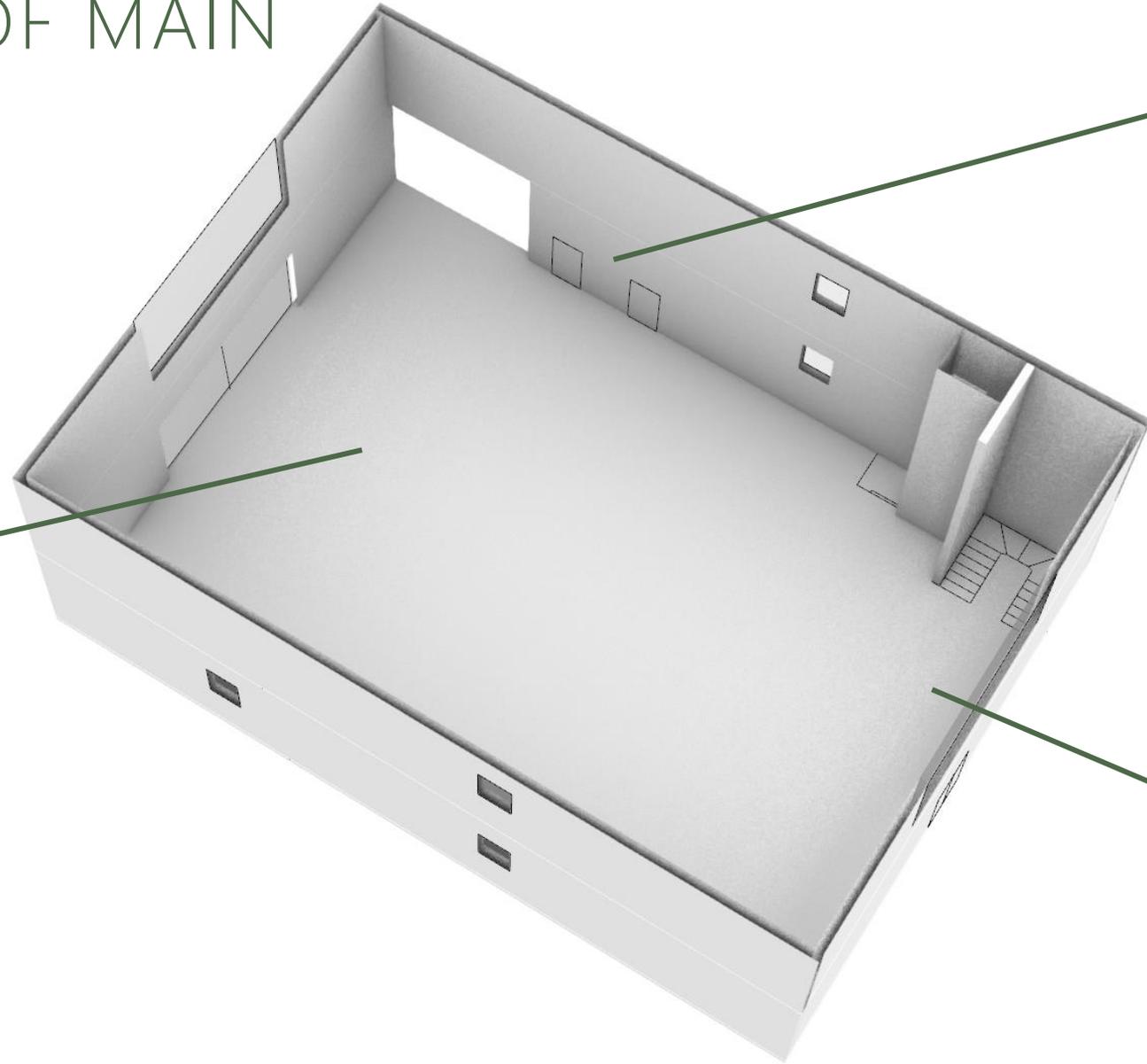
# SECOND FLOOR OF MAIN BUILDING

51.5' X 42'



# FIRST FLOOR OF MAIN BUILDING

51.5' X 71.5'



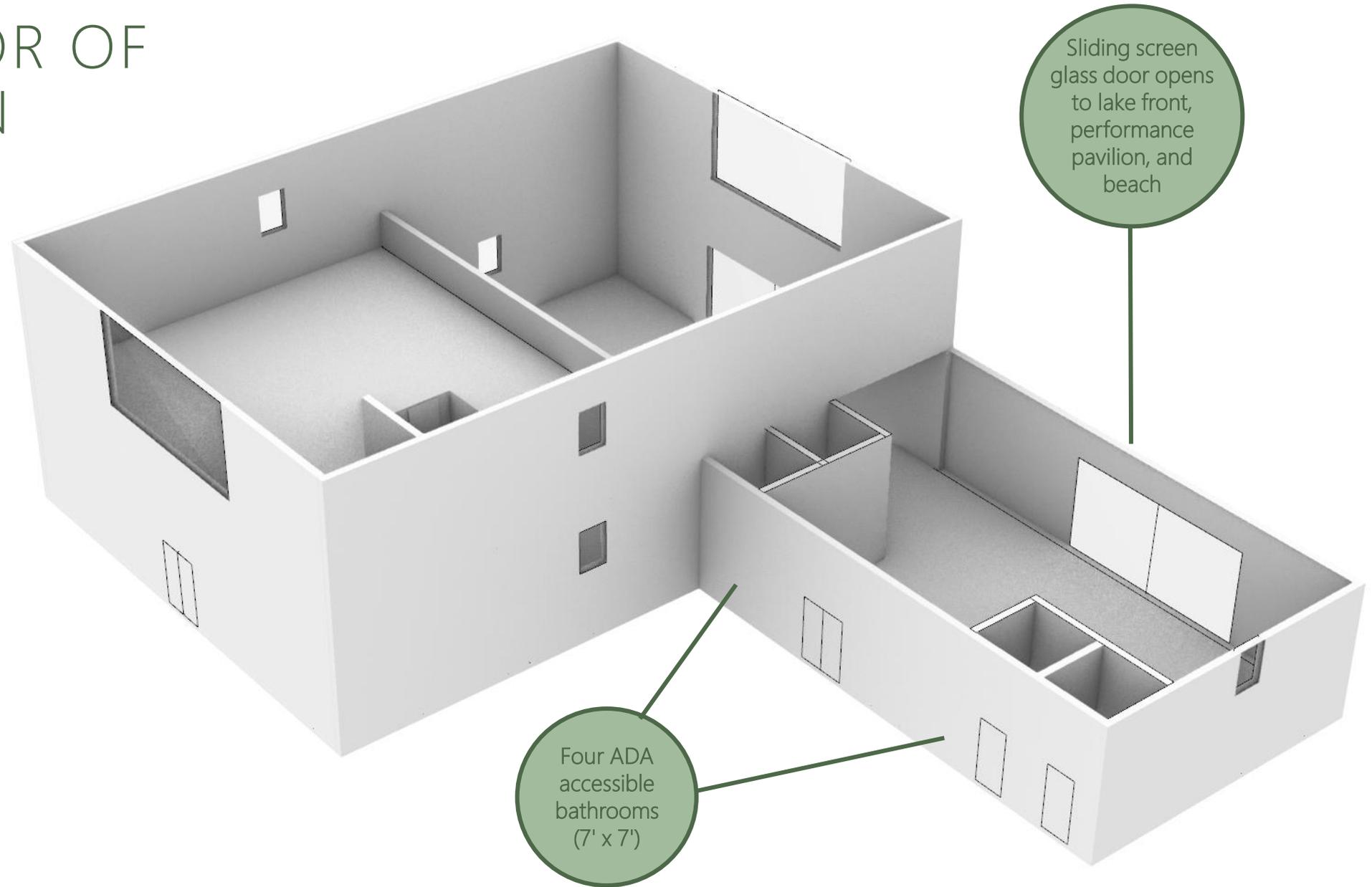
Cathedral ceiling, open floor area for events and gatherings

Two indoor ADA accessible bathrooms

Visitor welcome area, brochures, information near entrance, under second floor ceiling

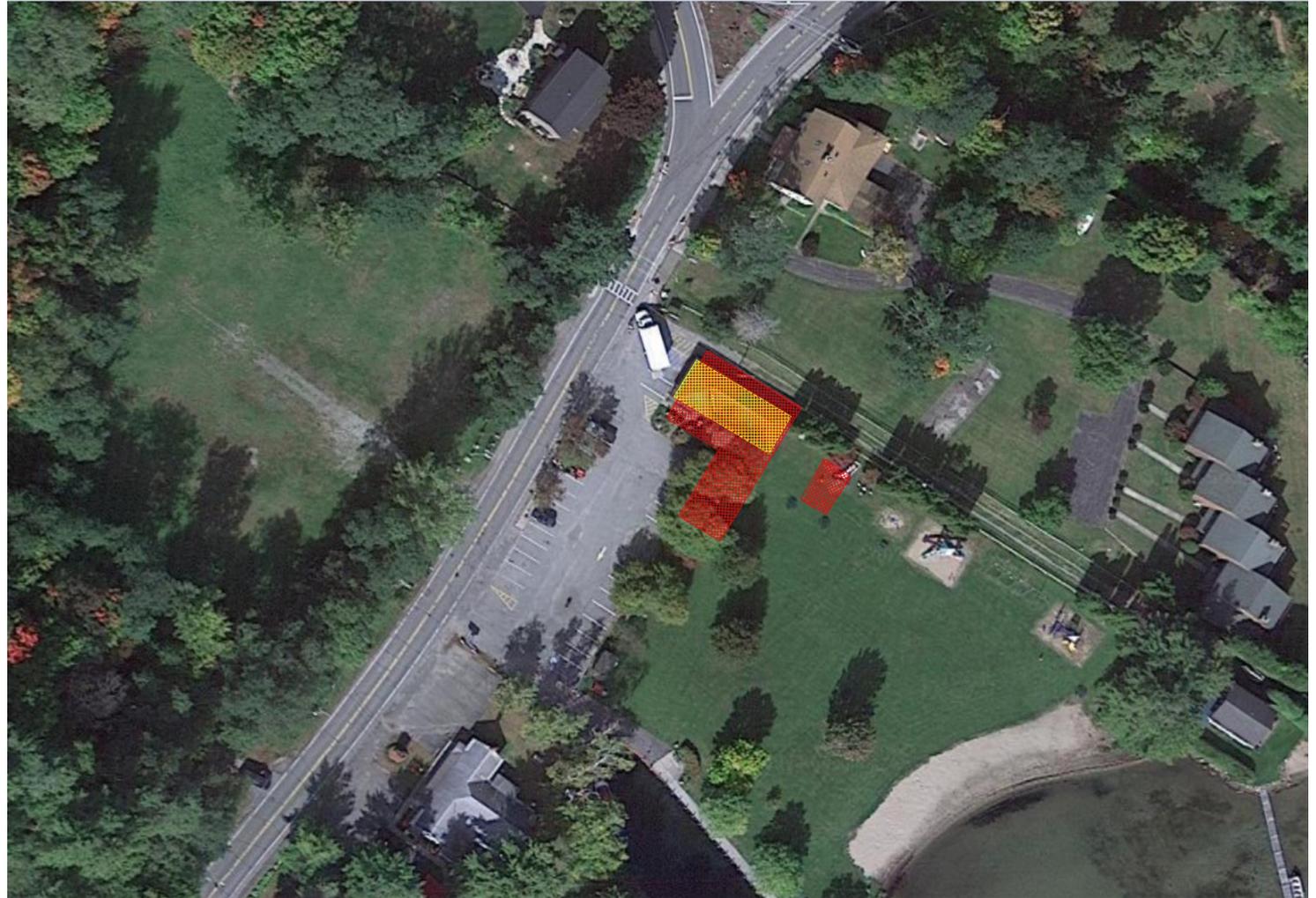
# FIRST FLOOR OF EXTENSION

50' X 31.5'



Total 8,020.25 sq ft of  
usable space  
with 7,420.25 sq ft of  
indoor space

Where yellow is  
current visitor  
center and red is  
Proposal 2



# KEENE, NY

Trail System Mapping  
and Wayfinding



# COMMUNITY GOALS

## INCREASE TRAIL VISIBILITY

Bring attention to new town trails for both visitors and locals

Connect trail system with main street and Town of Keene

## IMPROVE WAYFINDING

Produce a design schema that can be applied going forward for trail and wayfinding signage

## EXPAND DOCUMENTATION METHODS

Create both online and printable trail maps

## COMMUNICATE ACCESSIBILITY

Offer a legible categorization of trail difficulty and use (i.e. by stroller, wheelchair, bike, foot, skiing, etc.)

Trails for all ages

## INCLUDE ALL RECREATIONISTS

Expand languages on signage, highlight diverse histories of place, communicate accessibility and use levels, etc.

# LOCAL RECREATION WAYFINDING

Left: 3' x 2' sign for trailheads, featuring major trail use information

Right: 1' x 2' sign for wayfinding through town and major recreation areas



## East Branch Community Trails

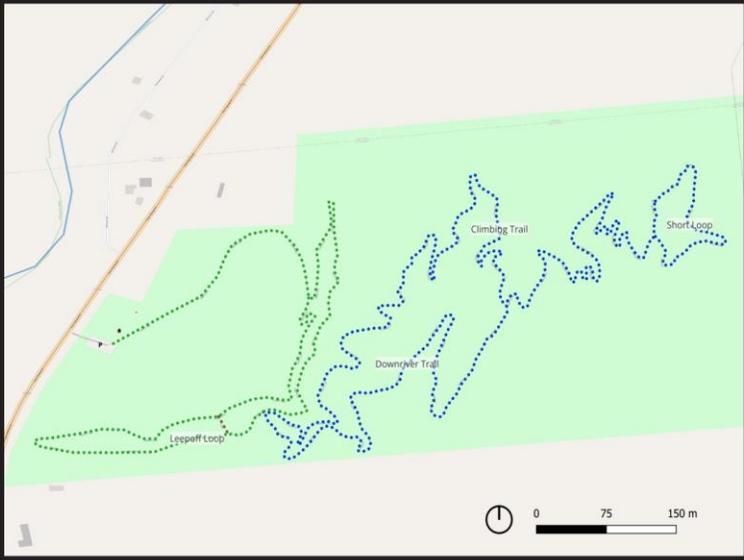
Sentiers communautaires d'East Branch | Senderos comunitarios de East Branch



P

- Leepoff Loop 0.75 miles one way
- Downriver Trail 0.25 miles one way
- Climbing Trail 1.05 miles one way
- Short Loop 0.26 miles one way

The Adirondack Park Agency recognizes that what is now widely referenced as The Adirondack Park is the unlawfully ceded hunting grounds and seasonal lands of local Indigenous people, primarily the Mohawk and Mahicans of the Iroquois Confederacy. The APA offers gratitude to the historic and ongoing land stewardship practiced by these tribes and wishes to revise the longstanding and false narrative that no native people lived on the Park's land prior to its designation. As recreationists and visitors of this area, please show respect and consideration toward both the land and its native people.





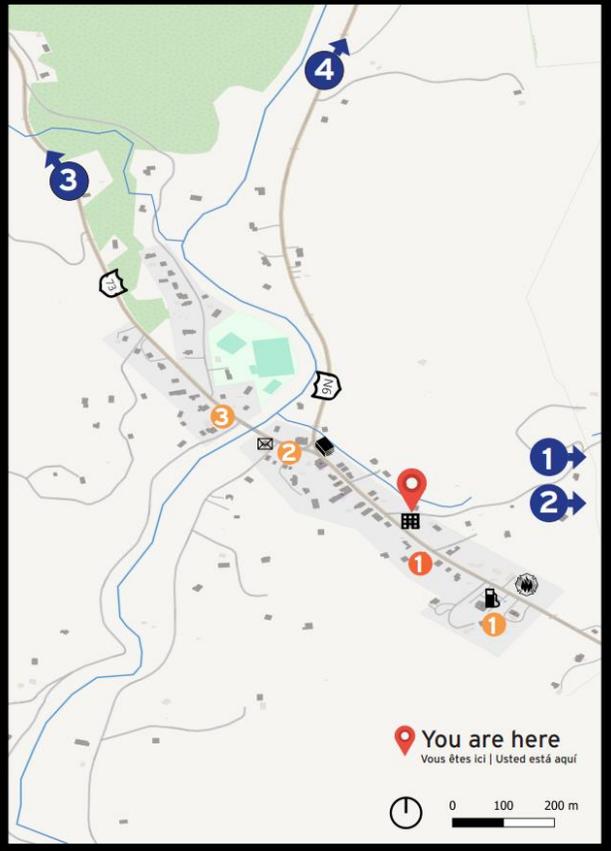



In partnership with Barkeater Trails Alliance and Keene Youth Commission



## Downtown Keene

Centre-ville de Keene | Centro de Keene



**Recreation**  
Loisirs | Ocio

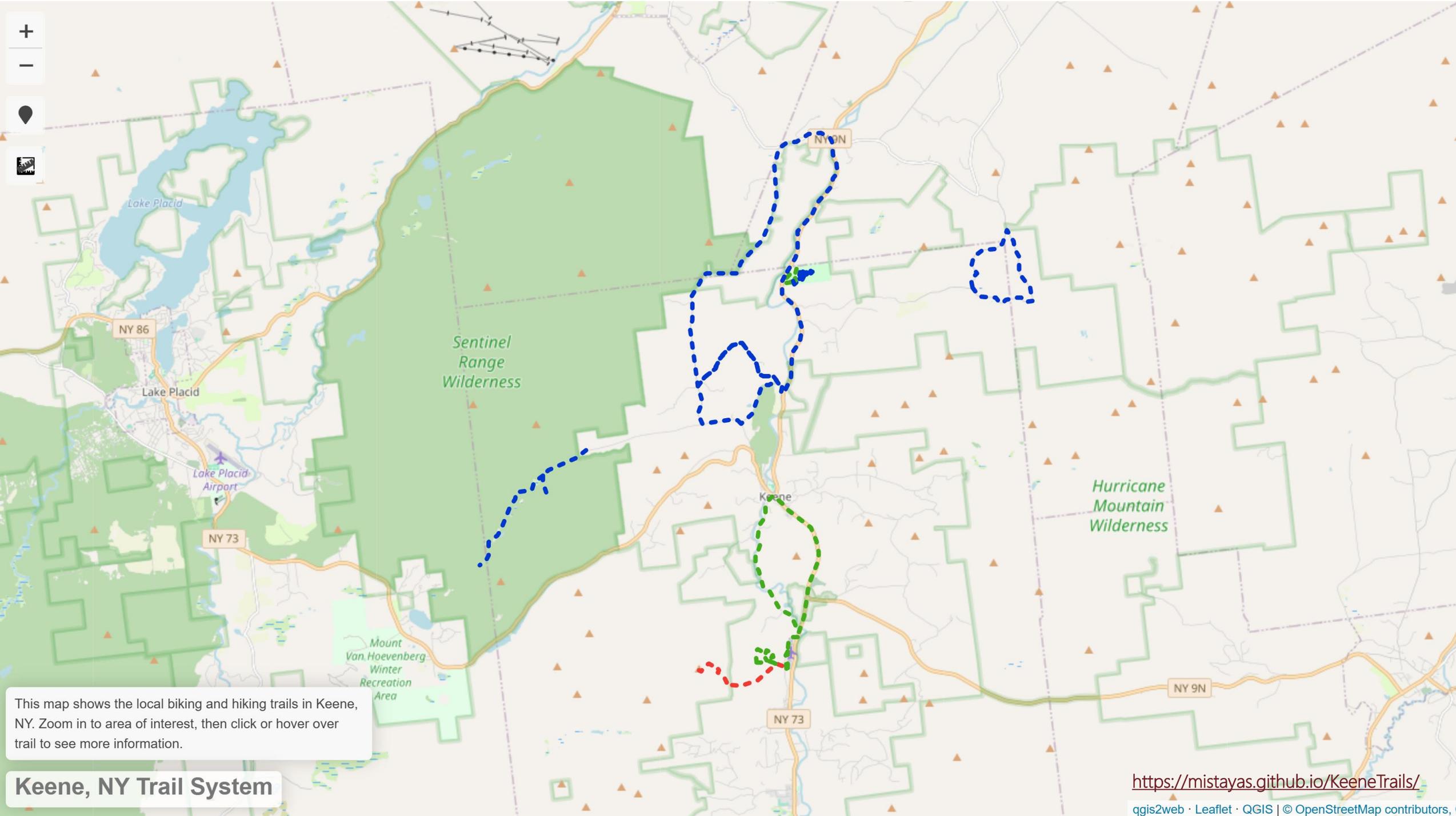
- 1 Little Crow
- 2 Big Crow
- 3 Owl's Head
- 4 East Branch Community Trails

**Eating**  
Manger | Comer

- 1 Stewart's
- 2 Forty-Six
- 3 Cedar Run Bakery

**Attractions**  
Attractions | Atracciones

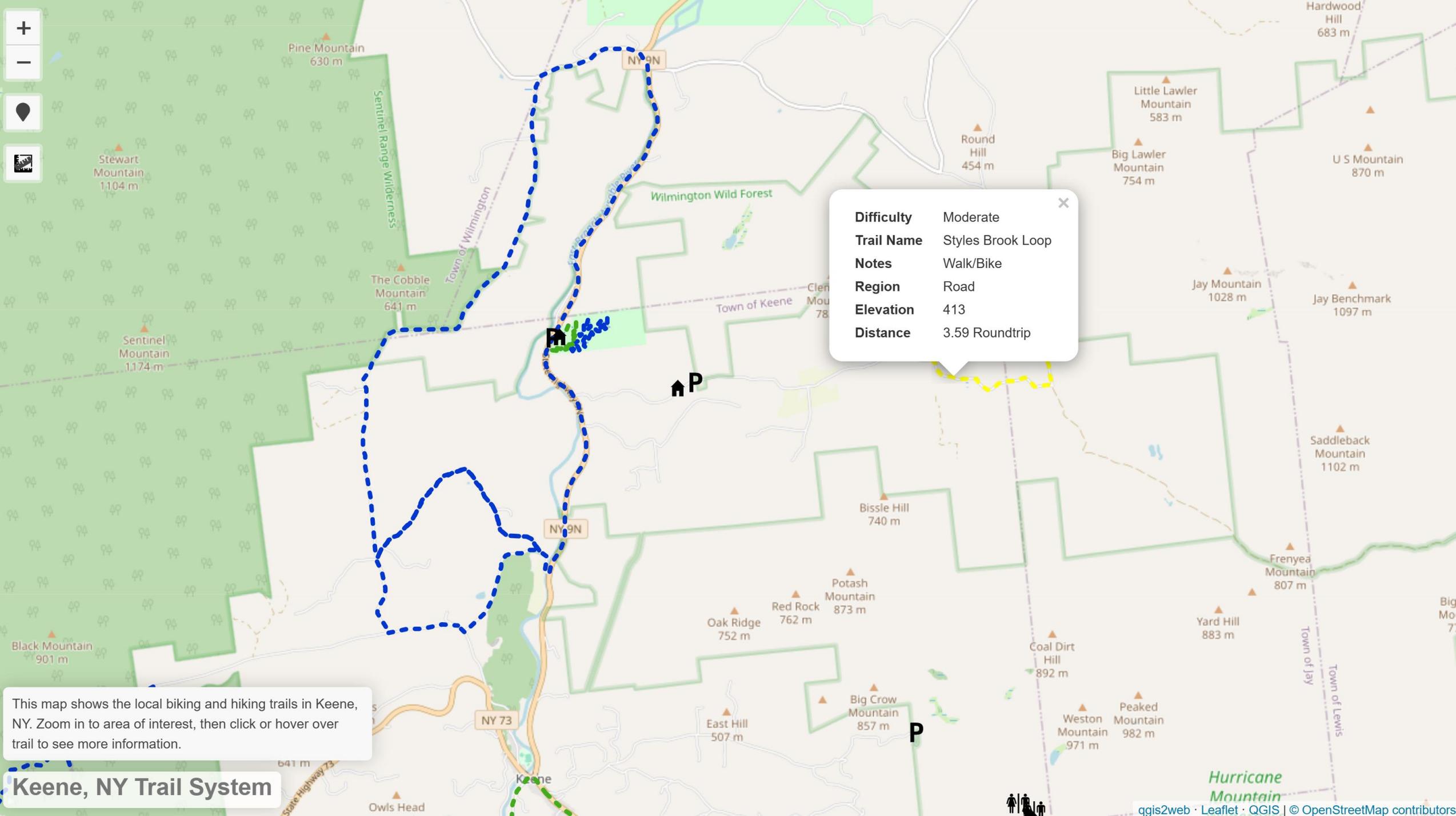
- 1 Keene Arts Gallery



This map shows the local biking and hiking trails in Keene, NY. Zoom in to area of interest, then click or hover over trail to see more information.

### Keene, NY Trail System

<https://mistayas.github.io/KeeneTrails/>

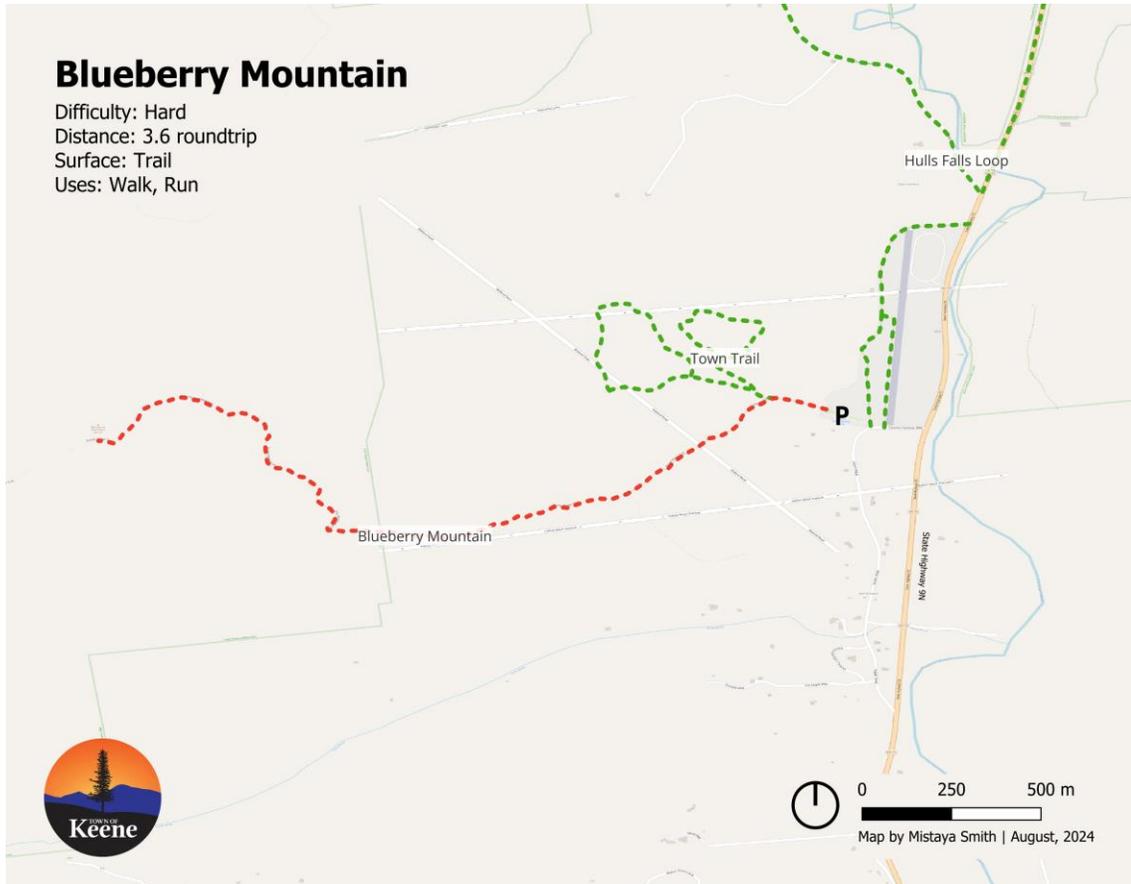


This map shows the local biking and hiking trails in Keene, NY. Zoom in to area of interest, then click or hover over trail to see more information.

### Keene, NY Trail System

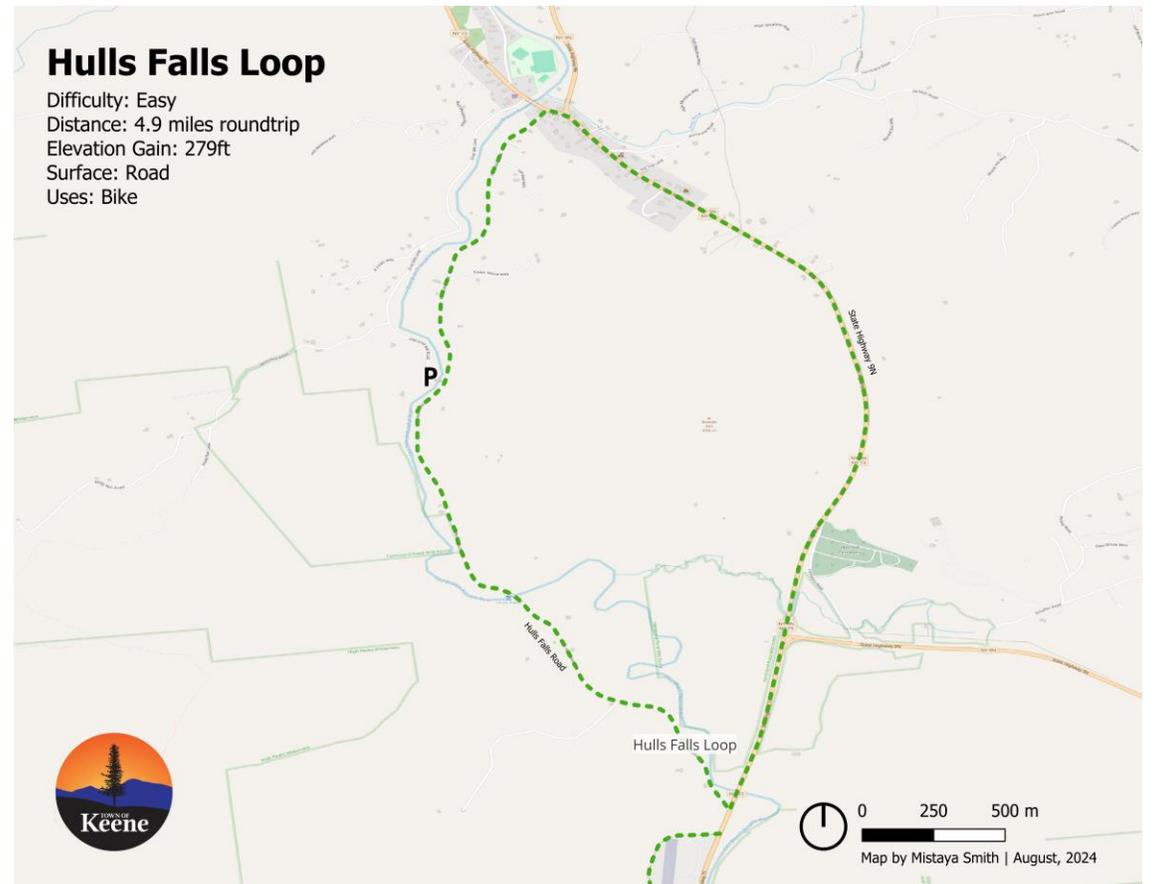
## Blueberry Mountain

Difficulty: Hard  
Distance: 3.6 roundtrip  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Walk, Run



## Hulls Falls Loop

Difficulty: Easy  
Distance: 4.9 miles roundtrip  
Elevation Gain: 279ft  
Surface: Road  
Uses: Bike



## Jack Rabbit Trail

Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 6 miles one way  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Walk, Run, XC Ski



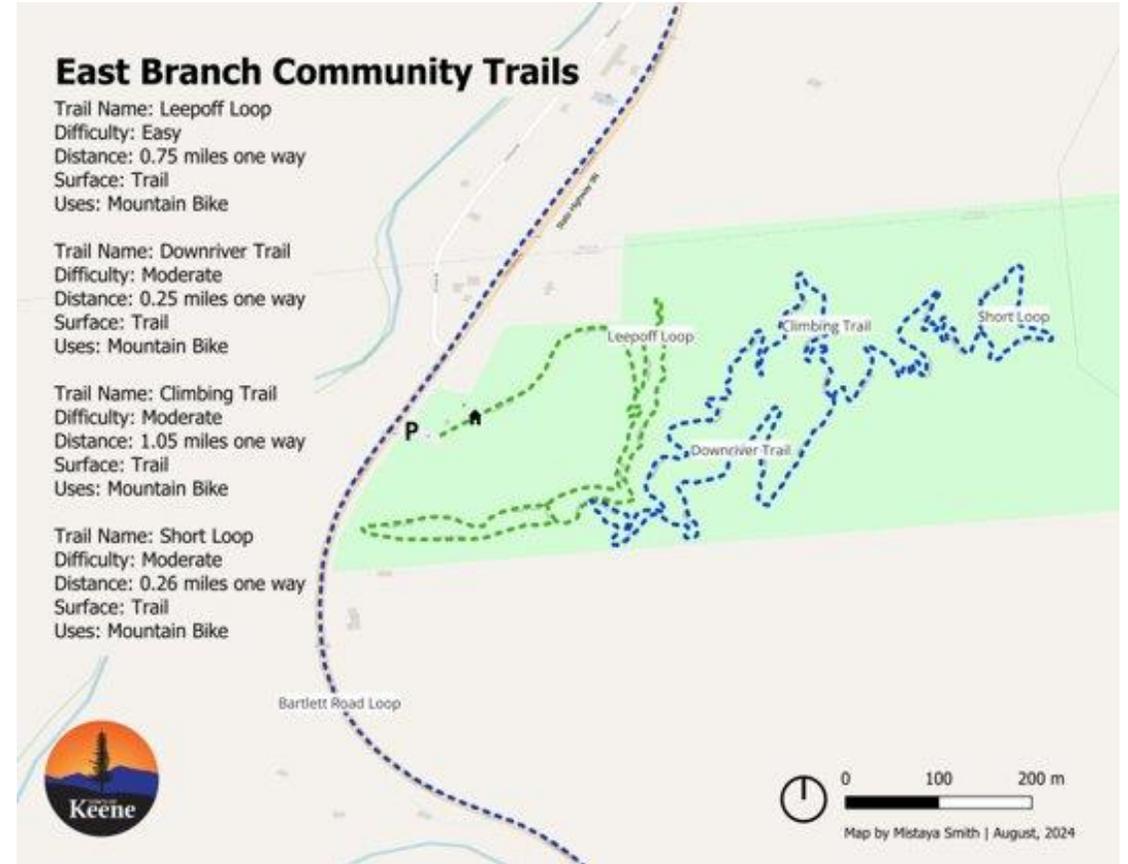
## East Branch Community Trails

Trail Name: Leepoff Loop  
Difficulty: Easy  
Distance: 0.75 miles one way  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Mountain Bike

Trail Name: Downriver Trail  
Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 0.25 miles one way  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Mountain Bike

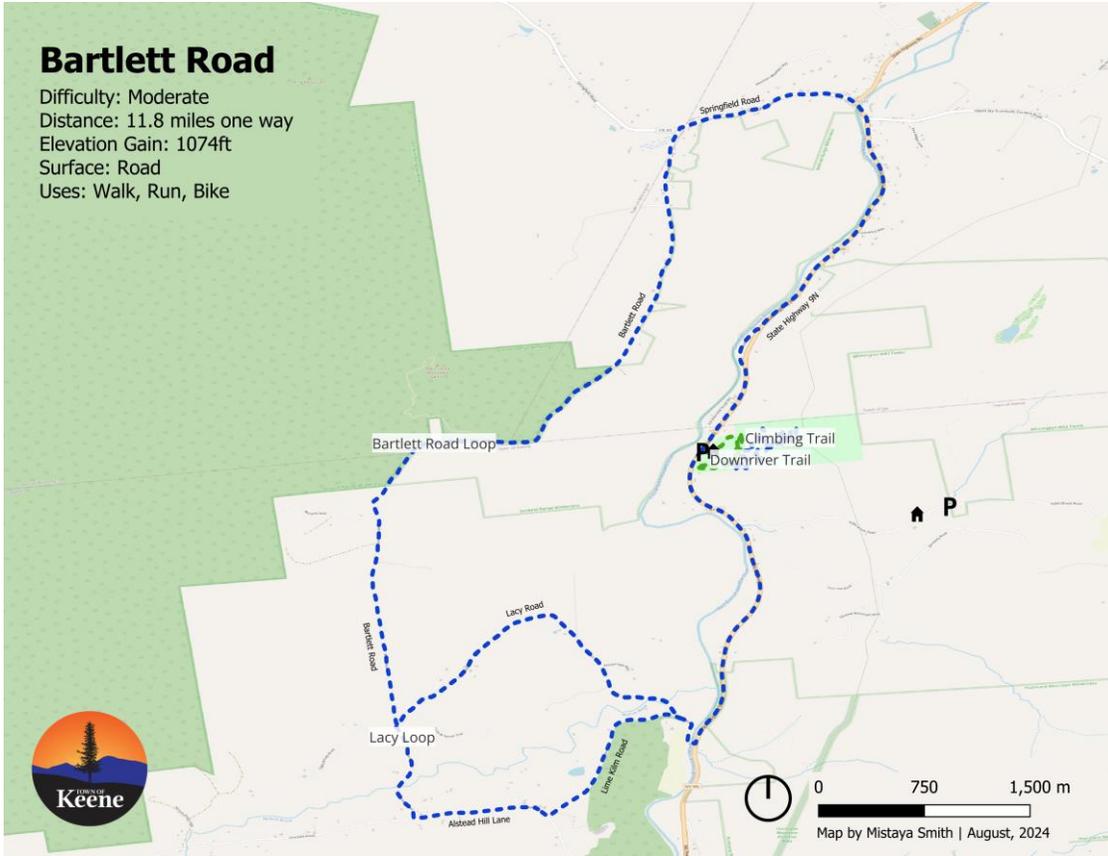
Trail Name: Climbing Trail  
Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 1.05 miles one way  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Mountain Bike

Trail Name: Short Loop  
Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 0.26 miles one way  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Mountain Bike



## Bartlett Road

Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 11.8 miles one way  
Elevation Gain: 1074ft  
Surface: Road  
Uses: Walk, Run, Bike



## Lacy Loop

Difficulty: Moderate  
Distance: 4.1 miles roundtrip  
Elevation Gain: 635ft  
Surface: Road  
Uses: Walk, Run, Bike



## Styles Brook Loop

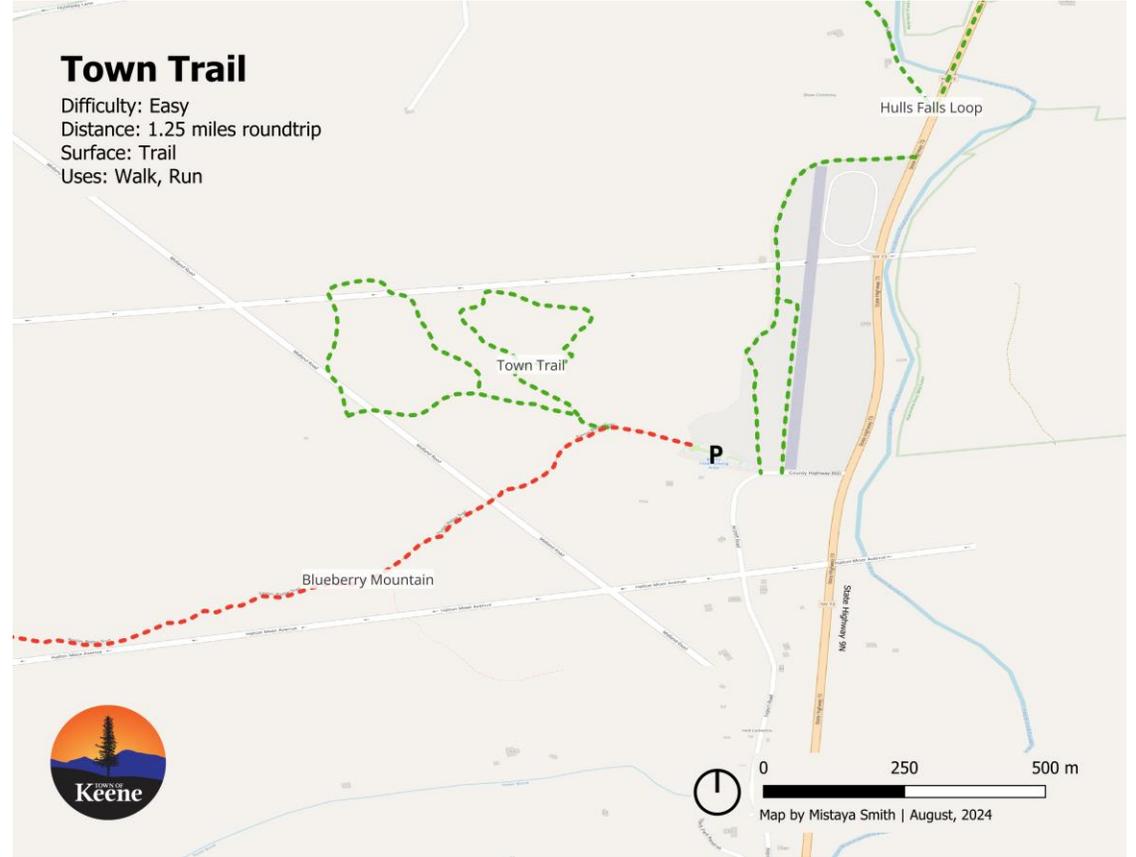
Difficulty: Moderate  
Elevation Gain: 413ft  
Distance: 3.59 miles roundtrip  
Surface: Road  
Uses: Walk, Run, Bike



Map by Mistaya Smith | August, 2024

## Town Trail

Difficulty: Easy  
Distance: 1.25 miles roundtrip  
Surface: Trail  
Uses: Walk, Run



Map by Mistaya Smith | August, 2024

# INTERNSHIP TAKEAWAYS

## DIVERSITY OF PROJECTS

Great to work with two towns taking on different projects to learn the range of community planning

## MENTORSHIP

Grateful to Megan Philips' fantastic mentorship and feedback throughout this summer

Appreciated learning from the town leadership

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Great practice integrating iterative community feedback into work

## SELF-DRIVEN

Enjoyed the independence and creativity offered with these projects

## SKILL BUILDING

Opportunity to apply a wide range of writing, communication, and design skillsets and softwares in this role

Improved upon my design experience

THANK YOU

For such a wonderful summer!



# SQUARE FOOTAGE

Proposal 1

3,422 sq ft of building

- 2,472 sq ft first floor
  - 30' x 70' main area
  - 15.5' x 24' bathroom area (7' x 7' ADA bathrooms)
- 950 sq ft second floor
  - 30' x 24' main area plus 5' x 46' hallway

Plus an additional 2,802 sq ft of performance pavilion and deck space

- 1400 sq ft Performance pavilion
  - 20' x 70'
- 372 sq ft Observation deck
  - 15.5' x 24'
- 900 sq ft Back deck
  - 20' x 45'

**Total 6,094 sq ft of usable space  
with 3,422 sq ft of indoor space**

# SQUARE FOOTAGE

Proposal 2

7,420.25 sq ft of building

- 5,257.25 sq ft first floor
  - 51.5' x 71.5' main area
  - 50' x 31.5 extension with bathrooms (7' x 7' ADA bathrooms)
- 2,163 sq ft second floor
  - 51.5' x 42'

Plus an additional 600 sq ft of performance pavilion and deck space

- 600 sq ft Performance pavilion
  - 20' x 30'

Total 8,020.25 sq ft of usable space  
with 7,420.25 sq ft of indoor space