

Building Materials

The proposed structure is designed to be built out of concrete. Concrete was selected for three main reasons. The first is durability. Concrete is extremely strong and is termite and mold resistant. Considering the longevity expected from this community center the building envelope needs to avoid materials that will breakdown or rot over time. Secondly, ease of repair. Over time, any structure is weakened by the elements and foreign objects, such as falling trees. Concrete can be easily patched and renovated. Lastly, the environmental impact from concrete is limited compared to traditional building material. Greenbelt has many quarries in the surrounding area that can supply the aggregate needed to build and repair the community center. Additionally, as advancements are made in recycling concrete and aggregates the community center can take advantages of these materials during renovations.

First Floor Plan

The first floor has three main community areas, plus a community kitchen and restrooms. As you enter the community center you will pass through the portico. This area is intentionally left open to provide an outside meeting or performance space during good weather. The pillars convey the community center's prominent role in the community.

The auditorium is the central focal point of the 1st floor. The auditorium is designed to serve many functions. It can be used to hold community meetings that require ample seating; fine art performances can be conducted here along with workshops and physical activities that require open space.

Surrounding the auditorium is an art walk. The walls can be used to display art work developed by citizens or local schools. Also, artifacts representing the history of Greenbelt and community can be exhibited in this area.

Second Floor Plan

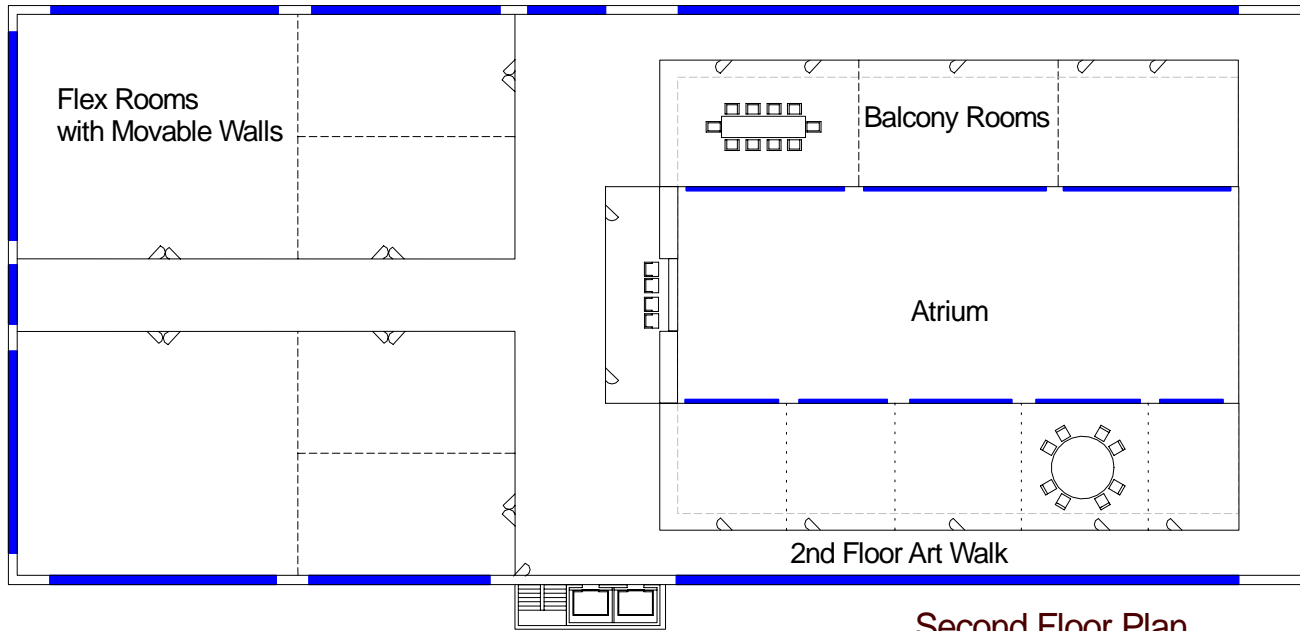
The second floor consists of flexible space to be used as needed. The rooms' sizes can be adjusted through movable walls to satisfy the needs of the occupants. The balcony rooms can be used as meeting places and to observe the activities in the auditorium.

Greenbelt Observation Deck

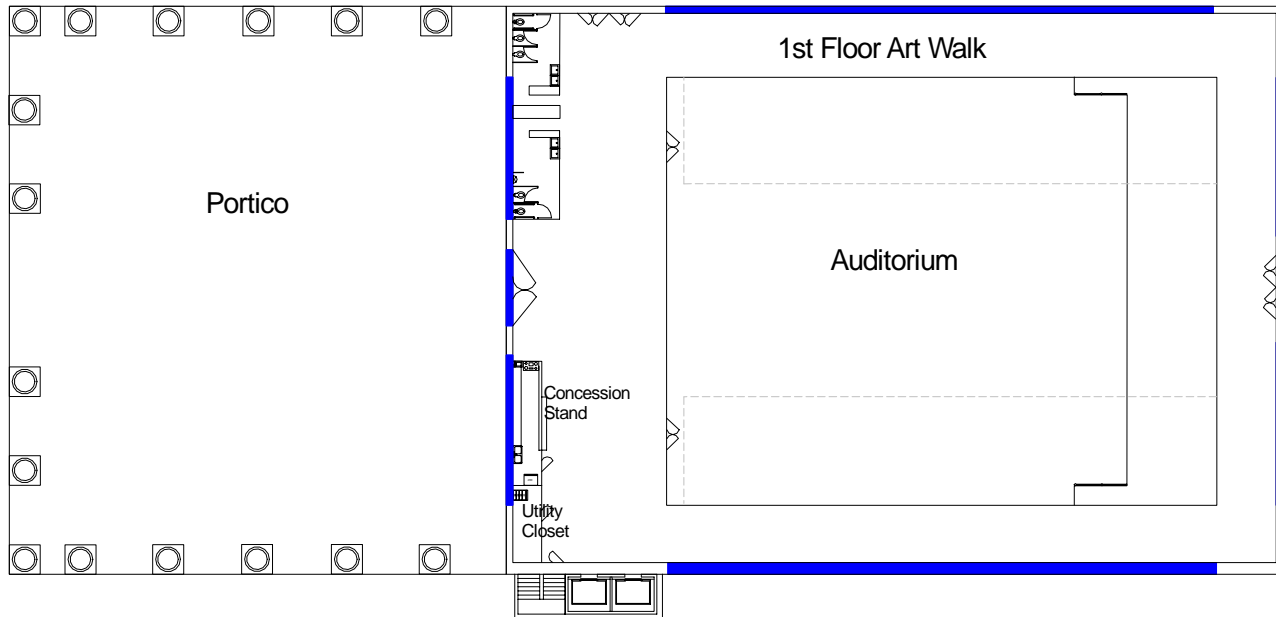
The roof top garden is designed to remind the visitors of the pastoral roots of Greenbelt. The walking path is shaped to resemble the original layout of Greenbelt. The shallow retention pond is designed to look like the Albert S. "Buddy" Attick Lake.

Hanging Garden

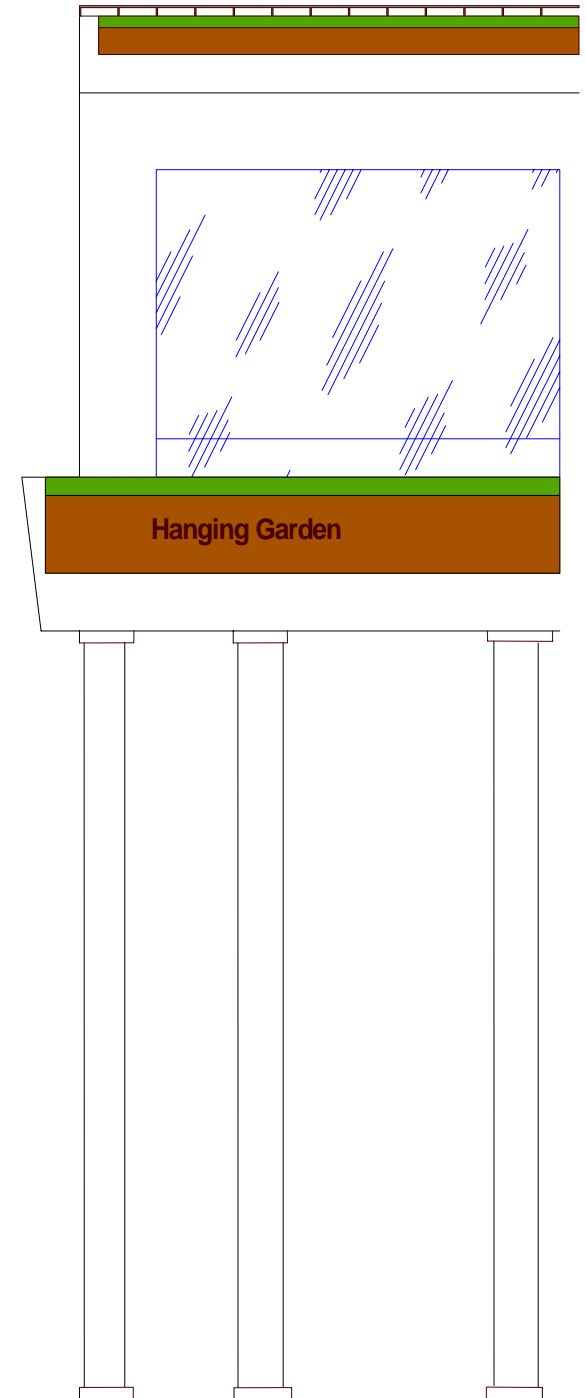
The second floor windows will provide access to the hanging gardens. The gardens are designed to reduce the community center's impact on the local watershed. The hanging garden will provide opportunities to grow vegetables and teach citizens about horticulture.



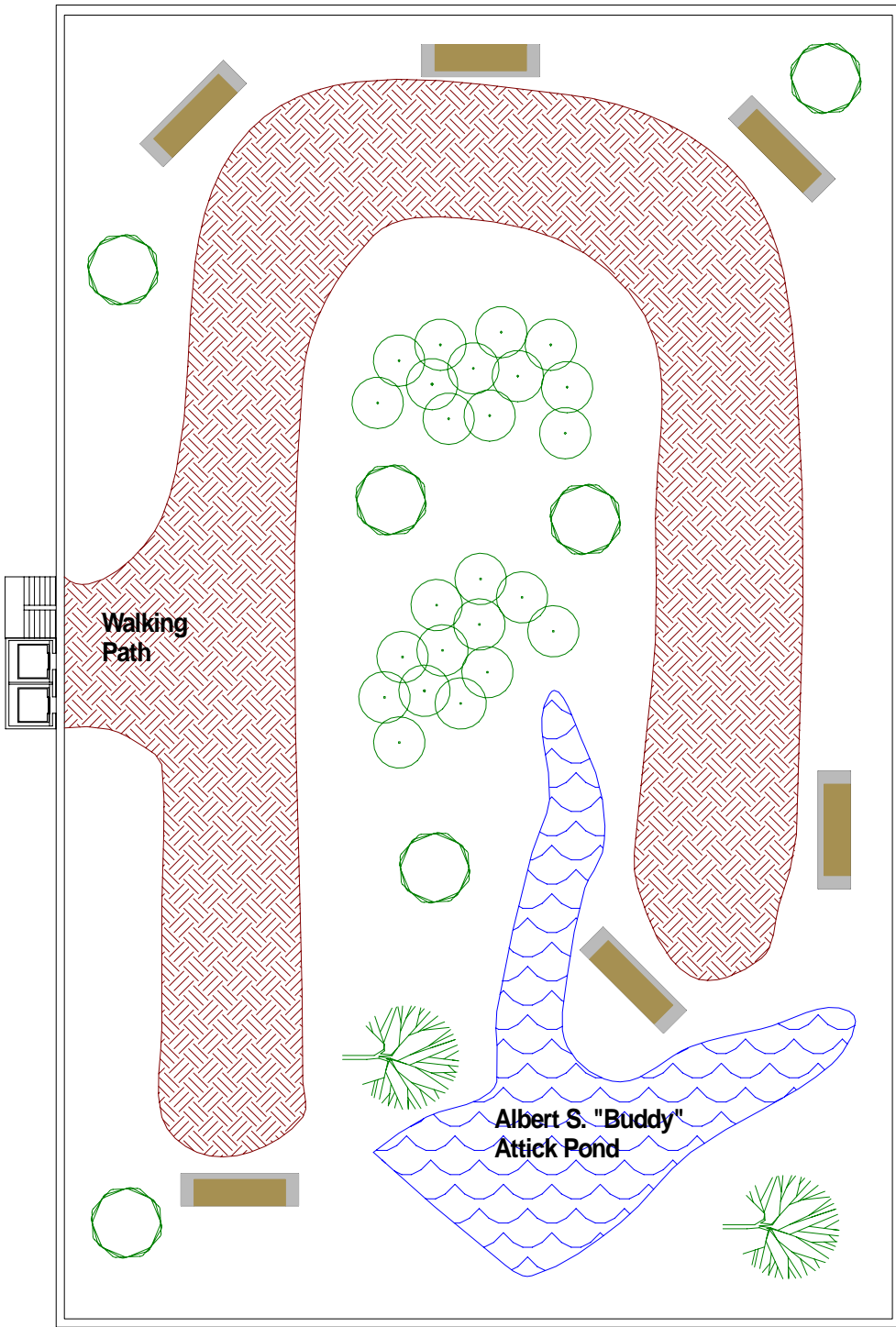
Second Floor Plan



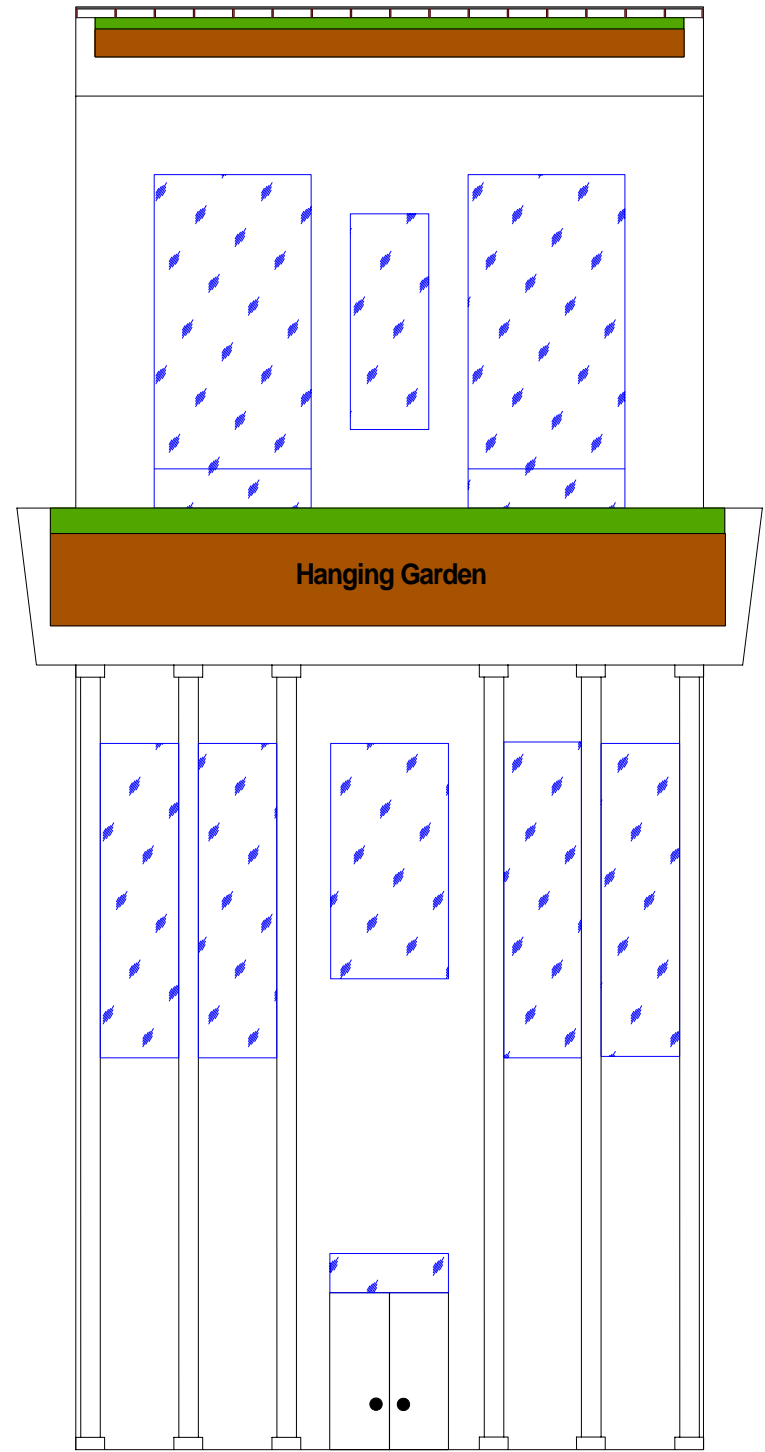
First Floor Plan



Wall Section of Portico



Greenbelt Observation Deck



Front Elevation