reynolds homestead - community enrichment center, critz, va

prepared for the reynolds homestead, reynolds family, virginia tech, and the community of patrick county
community design assistance center - college of architecture and urban studies, virginia tech

project team

Elizabeth Gilboy
Director

Arian Korkuti
Architecture Project Coordinator

Chris Houck
Graduate Student, Architecture

Ivan Sergeyev
Graduate Student, Architecture

Harley Walker
Undergraduate Student, Landscape Architecture
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acknowledgements

reynolds homestead staff
Julie Walters Steele
   Director
Beth Ford
   Historical Services Assistant
Lisa Martin
   Senior Program Manager
Kyle R. Peer
   Superintendent
Forestry Resources Research Cntr.

reynolds family
J. Sargeant Reynolds, Jr.
Mary Ballou Reynolds Williams
Richard S. Reynolds, III
W. Noah Reynolds
Walker Bagley

community
Ray Dietz
Dr. Joe B. Keiper
Virginia Museum of Natural History
Frank Pettway
Kimble Reynolds
Richard Alfonso Reynolds

Eugene Gray Smith, III “Gray”
Cyndi Williams
   Patrick County School Board Office

local architects
Tim Colley
   Principal, Colley Architects
   Blacksburg, VA
Mark McConnel
   Principal, Summit Studio
   Blacksburg, VA
Jeffery Weiseman
   Associate, Colley Architects
   Blacksburg, VA

virginia tech
Julia Beamish
   Professor, Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, VT
Dr. John E. Dooley
   Outgoing Vice President for University Outreach and International Affairs and
   incoming CEO for VTF
Dr. LuAnn R. Gaskill
   Professor CY - Apparel, Housing and Resource Mgt., VT
Elizabeth Grant
   Assistant Professor,

School of Architecture and Design, VT
Terri Mitchell
   Assistant VP and Controller, VTF
Sherri G. Mylott
   Assistant Vice President of Development for University Programs,
   University Development, VT
Dr. Susan Short
   Associate VP for Engagement Outreach Programs Administration, VT
Dr. Raymond D. Smoot, Jr.
   Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer, VTF
Joseph H. Vipperman
Dr. Paul M. Winistorfer
   Dean, College of Natural Resources and Environment, VT
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As a Commonwealth Campus Center of Virginia Tech, the Reynolds Homestead Community Enrichment Center provides educational and cultural programs for the residents of Patrick County and the surrounding communities in Virginia and North Carolina. A wide variety of classes are offered such as music, art, lectures, children’s activities, fitness programs & movies. Located in Critz, Virginia, the current facility (constructed in the 1980s) does not meet current program demands. Consequently, the Reynolds Homestead asked the Community Design Assistance Center to conduct a design feasibility study to determine a program plan of space needed and develop conceptual drawings for a renovation/addition to the current facility.
The CDAC team worked with members of the Reynolds Homestead Long Range Planning Committee, Homestead Staff, Patrick County community members and Reynolds family members to develop conceptual plans for additional facilities. The following report documents the design process and describes the proposed concepts.

Unique to this project is the history of the site. The land on which the Community Enrichment Center is located was founded as Rock Spring Plantation, the birthplace of R.J. Reynolds. The Homestead, built in 1843 and Reynolds’ boyhood home, is located yards away from the Center and has been restored as a museum. The Reynolds Homestead was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1977 and the Community Enrichment Center serves as an extension of Virginia Tech’s campus.
The CDAC team extensively photographed the site landscape and existing buildings. The catalogue of images developed helped to see the character of the land and the potential for a positive addition to the site in built form.

slave cemetery

panoramic view - near reynolds home
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project description

left side elevation

front elevation - looking toward front door

right side elevation
reynolds homestead - community enrichment center, critz, va

rear elevation
As part of the iterative design process, the CDAC team discussed the design concepts on numerous occasions with staff, the Long Range Planning Committee, Reynolds family members, and community members. Input from these groups aided the understanding of the day-to-day operations within the facility, the goals for the Homestead’s outreach, and needs of the community. These discussions made apparent ways in which the existing facility accommodated, or fell short, of the Homestead’s needs. Feedback throughout the process helped the team measure how well the concepts could potentially remedy facility deficiencies. Knowledgeable staff and friends of the Homestead helped the team to understand the site’s history and physical features fueling the design process.
Chris Houck discusses a preliminary concept with staff and Long Range Planning Committee members.

Lisa Martin (l), Julie Walters (c), Chris Houck (r), and Ivan Sergeyev (r) discuss constraints of the kitchen and multi-purpose room.
**existing conditions & analysis**

**Work room** is too small to support current operations.

The small **entry** is minimized by display cases and objects. It feels closed to both wings of the building, deck, and view beyond.

**Deck** is rarely used and is located above noisy mechanical equipment.

**Kitchen** is too small to support current operations and to be utilized as a teaching kitchen. Its close proximity to the multipurpose room is convenient for serving, but noise from cleanup disrupts events in multi-purpose room.

**Multipurpose room** has good natural light but very poor acoustics. Blinds, are typically closed for artwork displays. Large performances are difficult due to small room size, poor acoustics, and difficulty in viewing performers from a flat floor.

Continuity and accessibility between floors is limited.
Books are stored in stairwell.

The small conference/classroom has better acoustics than the multipurpose room, but is too small for most club meetings and conferences. No natural light.

No gallery space available to display Reynolds artwork currently stored in equipment room.

Mechanical room is cluttered with storage.

Storage room is overwhelmed by storage of items for multiple clubs. Built partitions or compartments are necessary for organization.

Stage and other items stored along walls.

Office receives minimal natural light.

Column in center of art studio space presents difficulty in the teaching of large classes.

Restroom is used for storage.
The team visited the Center for Real Life Kitchen Design at Virginia Tech to learn more about kitchen layout, appliances, and facility needs for teaching hands-on culinary classes. Julia Beamish, Head of the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, guided the team through multiple kitchen configurations and explained the benefits and drawbacks of various appliances and kitchen technology. Her expert advice aided the team in understanding the potential for a kitchen design which has the familiarity and accessibility of a residential kitchen, but the capabilities to function as a classroom or catering kitchen.
Elizabeth Grant, assistant professor in Virginia Tech’s School of Architecture and Design, met with the team to discuss the appropriateness of including a green roof as a design element in the plan for the addition to the Community Enrichment Center. Professor Grant explained the benefits of utilizing a vegetative roof as an educational tool and a means for controlling water runoff. Extensive (shallower root depth) planting requires minimal modification to roof structure and minimal maintenance throughout the year. Professor Grant recalled various case studies where vegetative roofs were used successfully, including locations on the Virginia Tech campus.
The team’s goal throughout the design process was to paint a coherent picture of the Reynolds Homestead in our minds and allow this image, as it developed, to shape our design proposals. We strove to understand the Homestead’s complex network of relationships, its role in the community, its day-to-day operations, its goals for the future, as well as the Homestead’s standing on a physical site comprised of physical buildings. The team sought to engage and respond to the many voices of individuals connected with the Homestead and connect with experts in the field to add depth to the design concepts.

Multiple visits to the Homestead gave the team the opportunity to analyze the existing conditions of the site and community center building conditions. Discussions with staff members, committee members, Reynolds family members, and community members all contributed to an understanding of the existing facilities and ways in which the facilities contributed to, or fell short of, the Homestead’s vision. This information contributed to an analysis of the existing floor plans and the development of a building program which could accommodate the Homestead’s needs.

Aspects of the programming presented challenges to the team. In working through concept ideas the team relied on input from experts at Virginia Tech and professionals in the Blacksburg area to aid us. Presentation of our work throughout the design process to staff, the Long Range Planning Committee, and community members cultivated an ongoing dialogue which allowed further refinement of design concepts.
Throughout the design process the team worked with the Long Range Planning Committee to develop a coherent and comprehensive program. The general motivations for expansion included the lack of proper storage space for a diverse range of items, the desire for an art gallery to display historic Reynolds tobacco paintings, a kitchen that could support both catering and educational purposes, spaces capable of housing events of various sizes and functions, and lodging for overnight guests to relieve the Homestead Museum from accommodating guests in the second floor. The existing facility is strained in sustaining the variety of programs offered at the Homestead and it is difficult to hold multiple events simultaneously. Continuity and accessibility between floors is limited partially due to the absence of an elevator.

spaces / activities to accomodate:

- music events
- lectures
- banquets
- movies
- fitness and dance classes
- art classes
- clubs
- continuing education classes
- distance learning
- cafe
- library
- art display
- offices
- reception
- catering and teaching kitchen
- artist retreat
- proper storage
The CDAC team developed three preliminary concepts for review by the Long Range Planning Committee. Presenting multiple concepts broadened the range of ideas discussed and encouraged both Long Range Planning Committee and the CDAC team to pursue finding the best way of approaching the building proposal. Though there are both significant and subtle differences between proposals, the simplest way of categorizing the three designs is an understanding of the relationship between the proposed building and the existing building.

The following several pages include floor plans, sketches and descriptions of the three concepts.

Concept one proposes renovation of the existing building and a significant addition.
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concept two proposes significant renovation of the existing building with a small addition

concept three proposes to replace the existing building with a new facility over the existing foundation
discussion with local architects

The CDAC team met with Mark McConnell, AIA (American Institute of Architects) member, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) professional, and principal of Summit Studio in Blacksburg, VA to discuss the preliminary design concepts. The team presented each concept and Mr. McConnell offered detailed input regarding a wide range of issues. The team also discussed case study examples and ways to better each design through material selection, space planning, and general architectural approach. Mr. McConnel’s professional advice helped to pinpoint troublesome issues in the concepts and move forward in refining the designs.
The CDAC team also met with Tim Colley, AIA member, President of Colley Architects, and Director of Sustainable Blacksburg and Jeffrey Weisman, an associate architect at Colley Architects for additional feedback about each of the concepts.
concept one

In this concept the historic Homestead is respected by the careful siting of the addition behind the existing facility with extension down grade.

The existing facility is minimally modified to focus the use of resources in constructing new space.

The relationship of the addition to the existing facility allows for staged construction, ensuring continuity of operations.

The presence of the landscape is highlighted through framing of views and use of courtyards to bring natural light into the building.

A heart for the Community Enrichment Center is established by incorporating a central fireplace and hearth in a large community room on the lower level.

The selected material palette references the Homestead’s connection to forestry research and Virginia Tech.
As the team worked to develop a coherent program based on the Enrichment Center’s growing number of activities, it became evident that more space was needed to accommodate all of the current and future activities at the Center. Another “bay” was added to the plan to the north-west for a sloped, fixed-seat theater. The space previously allotted to the theater becomes the large, multipurpose banquet space. A fireplace defines the space at one end, and the room becomes the center and hub for activities at the Center. The lower floor is now the main floor of the complex and consideration is given to lower level parking. The expansion of the building and inclusion of parking necessitated the relocation of the artist retreats to the other side of the access road.

1. cafe
2. art gallery
3. courtyard
4. conference
5. teaching kitchen
6. art studio
7. main hall
8. amphitheater
9. theater
concept one

The team began to develop the form of the building and thought about ways to recognize the presence of the landscape. The building extends down the slope behind the existing facility. The flat roof lines minimize the height of the building, accentuates the directionality to the forest, and creates a plane for the planting of a roof garden to be viewed from the upper parking lot and existing building. The sloped roof admits clearstory lighting to the main hall and opens to the forest. It extends past the enclosure of the building to cover a rear porch.
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1 theater
2 main hall
3 art studio
4 amphitheater
5 main hall
6 courtyard
7 art gallery

drawings not to scale

east side section drawing
concept one

An alternate roofline and location for fireplace are considered. This roofline unified the form of the addition and referenced the monitor barn type, a loose connection with the vernacular architecture of the region. On the downside, it greatly increased the height and volume of the addition. The addition became a dominant form on the site and the raised roof in the central area seemed to be inappropriate if small group gatherings were to take place around the fireplace. The shift of the fireplace enabled views to, and through, the courtyard. Although this shift created views, it weakened the idea of the hearth as a center for the building and minimized the fireplace’s presence and significance in the space. The rejection of these alternatives strengthened the confidence in idea for the roof line in an earlier version of concept.
reynolds homestead - community enrichment center, critz, va

1. theater
2. main hall
3. art studio
4. hearth

drawings not to scale

rear view
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preliminary design concepts

concept one

1 cafe
2 library / conference
3 courtyard
4 permanant art gallery
5 teaching kitchen
6 art studio
7 main hall
8 amphitheater
9 theater
10 lower entrance

upper floor plan
concept one

Materials and cladding were explored. It is proposed that the existing building be painted white, while the addition be clad in wood harvested on-site and finished to leave the wood grain visible. Hokie stone accents are proposed for the hearth and chimney.
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drawings not to scale

right side elevation
Concept two

In this concept, the team tried to minimize the impact of the addition on the surroundings by keeping its footprint minimal. Thus, the extension "closes the square", which is hinted at by the current orientation of the building. The existing building is left as is. The addition is tightly connected to the existing structure and the new functions are "intertwined" with the existing ones.

Directionality - The existing main hall has a very distinct orientation - towards the view of the stream and the forest. This concept regards this orientation as crucial - as it connects the building to its surroundings. The addition reinforces this directionality.

Towards the view - The existing building is currently "closing its eyes" to the magnificent view outside its walls. Using the opportunity of the addition, the southwestern facade of the building is opened up to allow light and the view not just to become a setting, but one of the major aesthetic elements in the building.

The addition has a barn-like typology: an archetypical "house" image of the gabled roof. Thus, the building blends into its surroundings, but still manifests its modern origins by its use of modern materials and modifications, such as avoidance of eaves.
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proposed addition footprint

existing footprint

drawings not to scale
concept two

This concept proposes that the first floor of the building accommodate major public functions and office spaces, while the lower floor be dedicated to education, art display and storage, while atrium provides the means of connecting these functions with ease.

Atrium - The two levels of the building are connected by an atrium which acts both as a major functional node of the building, and as a major environmental element. The roof overhang protects the atrium from excessive summer sun, while allowing sun to penetrate and heat the space in the winter.

On the first floor, the atrium acts as a grand entrance and as the main “mingling space”. The areas for reception, cafe, gift shop and information table are all combined into one and attended by a single staff member, who is able to keep an eye on the whole building from a single vantage point.

On the lower level, the atrium acts as
the grand exhibition space, allowing for paintings to be hung on the walls and taller structures - such as sculptures or installations – to be placed on the floor. Banquets and larger classes can also be organized in the atrium, as all the adjacent spaces "spill out into it". Thus, a larger banquet can take over the atrium and the adjacent classrooms, if necessary.

Interconnection of the program via the atrium is the key. The atrium is also the hearth of the building with its warm timber finish and a fireplace, which is open on all sides.

The theater area, remains in the current multi-functional space and includes movable seating. Adjacent to the theater is the kitchen. To satisfy the client's interest in a teaching kitchen, the kitchen is positioned in a wide open space, with a monolithic exhaust hanging right from the roof as a sculptural piece and making sure no fumes seep into the theater part of the hall. The walls around the kitchen area are filled with cabinets to provide storage.
concept two

The lower level of the building houses mostly its educational and storage functions. The back side of the building, by virtue of being mostly underground, is ideal for placing supporting functions, such as club storage, HVAC systems and sanitary equipment. The front, now opened to the view and the light, is much more suitable for educational and exhibition spaces. The main classroom on the west side of the building is designed to function both as either independent classrooms, or a single large one.

The main hall is designed to be a single large space, divided into separate functional zones by a “stair”, or tiered seating, which is designed as a separate feature and a central element to the hall. The “stair” can be used for casual seating during low activity periods, for storage (using the space within it), or as theater seating, as it allows enough space for chairs to be placed onto it. Most importantly, it divides the space without actually dividing it, keeping the grand scale of the hall intact, but separating it functionally.
The first floor hold the building’s main public functions, such as its main hall combined with the kitchen (comfortably ca. 150 persons), and its offices. The library and a 1-2 person overnight room for accommodating speakers and important guests are also located there.

1 entry
2 reception / cafe / gift shop
3 library
4 art gallery
5 elevator
6 office
7 employee rec. space
8 meeting room
9 theater
10 classroom / studio
11 kitchen
12 restroom
13 storage
14 mechanical
15 porch
16 movie / lecture theater
concept three

In addition to the other two concepts which take into consideration renovation of the existing building and a new addition, the CDAC team decided to propose a third concept. In talking with one of the architects at a concept review meeting, the question was raised as to how many renovations can be done to an existing structure before it becomes cost-prohibitive and actually less expensive to demolish all of the structure except for the foundation, and design and build a totally new structure. This concept design explores the idea of demolishing the existing building and creating a new building on the same footprint along with an expanded area.
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preliminary design concepts

concept three

1 entry
2 reception + file room
3 conference room
4 printing + copying
5 lead office
6 office
7 restroom
8 coats area
9 janitorial
10 elevator
11 multi-purpose area
12 kitchen
13 pantry room
14 storage
15 theater
After presenting the previous three initial concepts, the Long Range Planning Committee decided they would like the CDAC team to refine concept one and also provided feedback for revisions.

The final proposed concept includes a renovation of the existing facility with a new attached addition, a series of artist retreats, and two new parking lots. The artist retreats and the parking plan are discussed briefly following the description of the renovation and addition.

The renovation of the existing building is to be minimal and the addition significant. By minimizing the modifications to the existing building, resources can be focused on providing new space. This approach, aided by the physical relationship of the existing building to the proposed addition, enables continuity of operations through construction. The intention is for operations to continue in the existing facility while the addition is built. Once completed, the activities of the Community Enrichment Center can be shifted to the addition while the renovation of the existing facility is completed. The completion of the proposed lower parking lot would allow for seamless and independent access to the addition while avoiding foot traffic through the existing facility during renovation.

Much of the design effort is directed towards shaping the proposal to meet the functional needs of the Community Enrichment Center. The general approach accommodates desired elements of the program which could not feasibly fit in the existing building (such as a fixed seat sloping theater for 150 people) in the addition, and repurposes the existing space to better use. For example, the large multipurpose room is a poor lecture and performance space due to its acoustic limitations. Therefore, the space is partitioned to structure smaller sized meetings. In another case, the classroom and volunteer office in the existing building are located in areas which receive low natural light as the building is built into the ground. It is proposed that the classroom and offices be shifted to naturally lit areas, and to reserve their current space for functions not dependent on natural light such as storage, work rooms, restrooms, and the fitness room.

The proposed location for the addition responds to both the historic and physical qualities of the site. The Reynolds Homestead occupies the position of prominence on the site. It has commanding views and asserts itself as the most significant building on the property. The decision to site the building behind the existing facility, with the addition down grade and away from the Homestead, is an acknowledgement of, and a respectful gesture towards, the Homestead.

In recognizing the quality and beauty of the surrounding forest, the final concept seeks to highlight and promote interaction with the landscape. The existing building is separated from the forest by a clear, grassy portion of land. The proposed addition, by means of its extension, serves as a bridge from the existing facility to the forest. This arrangement provides an armature for the design which establishes a dialogue between building and forest.
The formal arrangement of the addition can be understood as two rectangular volumes with flat roofs offset from each other and the existing building, connected by a sloping roof which spans the intermediate space. Offsetting the volumes from the existing building creates courtyards for light and nature to be brought into the interior. Created within the intermediate space is a great hall that establishes a focus for the complex. On one end is a fireplace, the geometric and symbolic center of the building; on the other end, a window-wall opens the space forming a visual connection to the forest. The roof is raised above the height of the two volumes admitting clearstory light. The slope creates a more compressed space with an intimate feel close to the fireplace while opening to the forest beyond on the other side. The flat roof-line of the two volumes minimizes the height and visual impact of the building while in the landscape it emphasizes the directionality of the building’s extension to the tree-line. It also creates a flat plane for the planting of roof gardens to
be viewed from the upper floor of the existing building. The consistent floor plane of the addition, from the lower level of the existing building to the tree-line, provides a platform to view the forest from the art studio, amphitheater, and main hall.

Materials were chosen to differentiate the addition from the existing buildings on site, while at the same time, reinforcing the new building’s connection to place, Virginia Tech, and forestry research. By differentiating the addition, the building participates in the progression of building construction on the site. Each building’s construction throughout the Homestead’s history has a definable character and symbolizes a renewed investment to the Homestead and its purpose. It is recommended that in order to not compete with the Reynolds Homestead, the new construction should not be concrete or masonry in order to leave the materials of permanence for the Homestead.

Instead, a structure primarily wood framed and wood clad is proposed. It is suggested that wood be harvested from the Homestead’s lands and milled on site. The wood cladding and floors are to be stained and sealed but not painted, to leave the wood grain visible. The roof garden will serve as a visual and educational tool and will be planted with a diverse variety of plant materials. Rainwater from the sloping roof will be collected through the courtyard into a cistern to irrigate the roof garden. The fireplace and chimney, the heart of the building, will be constructed of hokie stone, to provide a subtle connection to Virginia Tech.

Four small cabins are proposed for the artist retreat area with the understanding...
that construction could be staged, based on availability of resources and need for lodging. The retreats are sited north of the addition, across the access road by the lower parking lot. A path connects the retreats to the parking lot and Community Enrichment Center. The cabins, built amongst the trees, are oriented to share the view that is seen from the front porch of the Reynolds Homestead but from a different vantage point. The viewshed from the Homestead is preserved as the cabins are hidden within the trees. The artist retreats share formal and material characteristics with the addition while presenting them in a smaller version.

The following pages demonstrate through drawings CDAC’s vision for the addition and renovation of the Community Enrichment Center.
The addition is sited behind the existing building and serves to connect the facility to the tree-line. The selected site for the addition is down-grade from the Reynolds Homestead and respects the Homestead’s position of prominence.
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1. reynolds homestead
2. granery
3. existing building
4. addition to enrichment center
5. artist retreats
6. proposed lower parking

drawings not to scale

site elevation
The renovation of the upper floor seeks to unite the various parts of the building by the removal of partition walls. By repurposing the space in the main room for smaller group gatherings, the poor acoustics performance for large groups are bypassed. The double height stairway and elevator connects the existing facility to the lower addition.

1 receptionist  
2 restroom  
3 distance learning classroom  
4 storage  
5 coat check  
6 elevator  
7 cafe  
8 library and conference  
9 children's room  
10 roof garden
Offsetting of the addition from the existing facility creates courtyards that bring natural light into the building. The availability of natural light helps to dictate the arrangement, and repurposing of space in the existing building. The great room and hearth serve as a focus for the complex. An alternate entrance on the lower level becomes the main entrance during events. Storage is integrated with the spaces it serves.
The addition's extension from the existing facility to the forest provides a platform from which to view nature. The fireplace within the main hall establishes a center for the building. Diffuse light will permeate the art gallery through the sculpture garden courtyard. Bookshelves partition space in the library, conference, and cafe.

1. amphitheater
2. main hall
3. mechanical and rainwater cistern
4. sculpture garden
5. art gallery
6. fitness
7. janitorial closet
8. library and conference
9. cafe
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final design concept
Material selection differentiates the addition from the existing facility and Reynolds Homestead while fostering a connection with Virginia Tech and the landscape. To emphasize this differentiation, the proposed addition is wood framed construction compared to the masonry of the Homestead. It is clad in locally harvested wood with visible wood grain contrasted with the painted wood exterior of the existing facility. A roof garden, Hokie stone foundation and chimney, and stainless steel fixtures and railings complete the material palette.
artist retreats

A series of cabins, nested in a stand of trees, house guests of the Homestead. Trees obscure the view of the cabins from the Reynolds Homestead, but the orientation allows for the cabins to share the view also enjoyed from the Homestead’s front porch. The sloped roof, hearth, and wood construction of the retreats reference the addition to the Community Enrichment Center.

1 bed
2 desk
3 covered porch
4 fireplace and sitting area
5 miniature kitchen
6 bathroom
7 changing area
reynolds homestead - community enrichment center, critz, va

drawings not to scale

plan + section
The existing parking arrangement cannot accommodate the influx of vehicles during large events. Patrons often resort to parking on unpaved areas which can be hazardous at times of inclement weather.

The proposal for an addition to the Community Enrichment Center will enable the Center to host larger events also posing a need for additional parking.

The construction of two parking areas, one adjacent to the Community Enrichment Center which serves as an entry to the lower level and an overflow parking area located behind the reconstructed tobacco barn, is proposed.

The addition of these two parking areas would increase the number of parking spaces from 35 (current) to approximately 93. Utilizing a one-way traffic configuration around the loop and along Homestead Lane enabled roadside parallel parking, which increases the total parking availability to 161 spaces. Widening Homestead Lane to accommodate additional parking is not recommended as the road will then be too wide for the scale of the area and will consequently destroy the rural feel / character of the Homestead. Since large events happen periodically, implementing a temporary one-way traffic configuration should allow ample room for parallel parking along Homestead Lane.

A variety of low impact development techniques should be explored to reduce the environmental impact of parking. Four specific actions - reducing the amount of impermeable surfaces, increasing on-site water infiltration, albedo, and shade are explored on the following page.

Harley Walker (l) presents parking concept to the long range planning committee.
reduce impermeable surfaces
• avoid asphalt
• use of permeable paving
• avoid paving where unnecessary

increase on-site infiltration
• direct and capture rain water in designated infiltration areas before it reaches storm drains or natural water sources
• capture water in rain gardens and bio-swales

increase albedo
• increase reflection of the sun’s rays off of parking surfaces
• reduce the amount of heat absorbed by surfaces (reduce heat island)
• avoid dark surfaces such as black asphalt

increase shade
• the presence of shade trees greatly reduces the amount of heat absorbed by a surface
• ideally 50% or more of a parking area should be shaded
• shade trees along the southern edge of a parking area are especially valuable
Parking Proposal for Design Concept
Reducing the Environmental Impact of Existing Parking

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final design concept

Proposal for Overflow Parking
Reynolds Homestead - Community Enrichment Center, Critz, VA

Total Number of Parking Spaces

Existing Parking Lots
- Lot 1: 20 Spaces
- Lot 2: 15 Spaces
- Total: 35 Spaces

Roadside Parking
- Along Homestead Ln: 20 Spaces
- Around the Loop: 40 Spaces
- Along Widened Road: 8 Spaces
- Total: 68 Spaces

Proposed Parking Lots
- Proposed Building Lot: 16 Spaces
- Proposed Overflow Lot: 40 Spaces
- Total: 56 Spaces

Total Parking: 161 Spaces
The final proposed concept seeks to serve Patrick County and to contribute to the mission of the Reynolds family and Virginia Tech. This proposed concept offers something unique to the region which embodies the qualities of the natural surroundings and respects the history of the site. Through understanding the community’s needs, the CDAC team endeavored to design a building that accommodates a multitude of functions and spaces which are sensitive to materials and light. It is hoped that if implemented, the proposed building will contribute to the legacy of the Reynolds family by enhancing the Homestead’s position as a prominent destination and acting as a worthy extension to the Virginia Tech campus for many years to come.