

1. Call to Order**2. Land Acknowledgement****Indigenous Land Acknowledgement**

We are members of the City of Markham's Accessibility Advisory Committee. Our role is to provide advice to the municipal government on a wide range of municipal processes to help ensure public services and facilities are accessible to everyone. We begin today by acknowledging the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples and their commitment to stewardship of the land. We acknowledge the communities in circle. The North, West, South and Eastern directions, and Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Anishnabeg, Seneca, Chippewa, and the current treaty holders Mississaugas of the Credit peoples. We share the responsibility with the caretakers of this land to ensure the dish is never empty and to restore relationships that are based on peace, friendship, and trust. We are committed to reconciliation, partnership and enhanced understanding

3. Disclosure of Interest**4. Approval of Advisory Committee On Accessibility Minutes & Review Of Action Items****3****5. Presentations****5.1 McKay House Renovation to Make Accessible Consultation (1 hour)****7**

Niamh O'Laoghaire, Manager, Varley Art Gallery, will be in attendance to provide a presentation on this item.

6. Accessibility Updates**6.1 National Accessibility Awareness Week (NAAW) Debriefing (10 Minutes)**

Satya Arora and Yoyo Chen will speak to this item.

6.2 Markham Accessibility Recognition Award Next Steps (15 minutes)

Laura Gold, Yoyo Chen and Lois Davies will speak to this item.

6.3 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act - Update (5 Minutes)

Lois Davies, Accessibility Consultant, will speak to this item.

6.4 Logo and Banner Discussion (20 Minutes)

Jewell Lofsky will speak to this item.

6.5 Summer Break (5 Minutes)

Lois Davies, Accessibility Consultant, will speak to this item.

7. Deputations

8. Communications

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment

11. Next Meeting Date



Markham Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 28, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Attendance Councillor Ritch Lau
 Yoyo Chen
 Jewell Lofsky
 Julia
 Chun Yu
 Adrian Benoit
 Anittha Kannuthal
 Satya Arora

Regrets Regional Councillor Alan Ho
 Jisan Phillips
 Stephanie Mak
 Kim Adeney

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| Staff | Lois Davies, Accessibility Consultant | Hristina Giantsopoulos, Election/Council & Committee Coordinator |
|-------|--|--|

1. **Call to Order**

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 5:07 PM with Yoyo Chen presiding as Chair.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

The meeting began with a reading of the Land Acknowledgement by the Chair.

3. **Approval of Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes & Review of Action Items**

Moved by Jewell Lofsky

Seconded by Satya Arora

That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2025, be confirmed.

Carried

4. Presentations

4.1 Unionville Seniors Hub

Meaghan Miller, and Ines Cortada, of York Region, and Agnes Kazmierczak, of GEC Architecture, were in attendance to provide a presentation on the Unionville Seniors Hub that will be located at Unionville Commons and to obtain feedback from the committee on the accessible design components. They advised that construction is slated for 2025 and that the hub is expected to open in 2026.

There was discussion on the following elements from Jewell, Satya, and Anittha during the presentation:

- accessible washrooms,
- the size of the facility and how it can accommodate various accessibility and mobility devices,
- the available parking,
- whether the reception area will be staffed,
- the use of wayfinding indicators,
- the use of sound absorbing materials,
- concerns with materials that may be used on furniture, flooring, ceiling, for visitors and daily maintenance,
- the types of furniture for various areas to ensure ease of entry and exit for all visitors including those with accessibility/mobility devices, and,
- the integration of door handles and suggested use of sight markers on them.

The committee thanked the Meaghan, Ines, and Agnes for attending the meeting and made suggestions related to furniture styles, features and background music in addition to having four chairs in the reception area of the satellite medical clinic and that it be located closer to the common area of the facility.

5. Accessibility Updates

5.1 Change of Meeting Room/Accessible Features

Lois Davies, Staff Liaison, provided a brief update on the use of the York Room for this meeting and highlighted its enhanced accessibility elements, room brightness, video conferencing and sound control elements. She indicated that this is the preferred meeting space for upcoming meetings until all Civic Centre meeting rooms are upgraded to provide consistent meeting experiences for all attendees both in person and virtually.

5.2 National AccessAbility Week (NAAW) Corporate Event

Yoyo Chen presented the proposed Markham Advisory Committee on Accessibility social media that is in support of National AccessAbility Week. She noted that this is a collaboration with the City's corporate communication group. She indicated that this will be a weeklong campaign with a different message being posted on City social media each day beginning on May 25, 2025. She further indicated that the messages were designed to promote inclusion, awareness, removal of barriers and how community members can become involved in accessibility initiatives.

The committee discussed the logo, use of pictures and colours to ensure compliance with corporate and accessibility standards. It was suggested that corporate communications assist with reviewing the messages prior to posting the material.

The committee also discussed the corporate Lunch and Learn featuring John Draper from, Together We Rock! Markham Accessibility Advisory Committee members were invited to attend this event on May 29, 2025, at the Civic Centre, Canada Room.

5.3 2025 Accessibility Award - Updated Form

The committee reviewed the accessibility award nomination form and made suggestions regarding format and available space for nominee contributions. Additional comments will be forwarded to Laura Gold for implementation on the revised forms.

6. Other Business

Satya Arora, provided an updated on the Accessibility Advisory Committee Professional Development Forum which will be held on Wednesday May 28, 2025, which is also [Red Shirt Day](#).

The event will take place at York Region offices, 17150 Yonge Street, from 10 am - 3 pm.

7. Adjournment

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Markham Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on May 26, 2025, at 5:00 PM.

Future Meeting Dates of the Committee will be held on:

May 26, 2025

June 16, 2025

September 15, 2025

October 20, 2025

November 17, 2025

December 15, 2025



Accessibility Advisory Committee May 26, 2025



Agenda

- 1. Introduction
- 2. How the McKay Art Centre is used
- 3. Tour of the Property
 - Main floor
 - Top floor
 - Basement
 - Garden
- 4. Committee's suggestions and feedback



1. Introduction



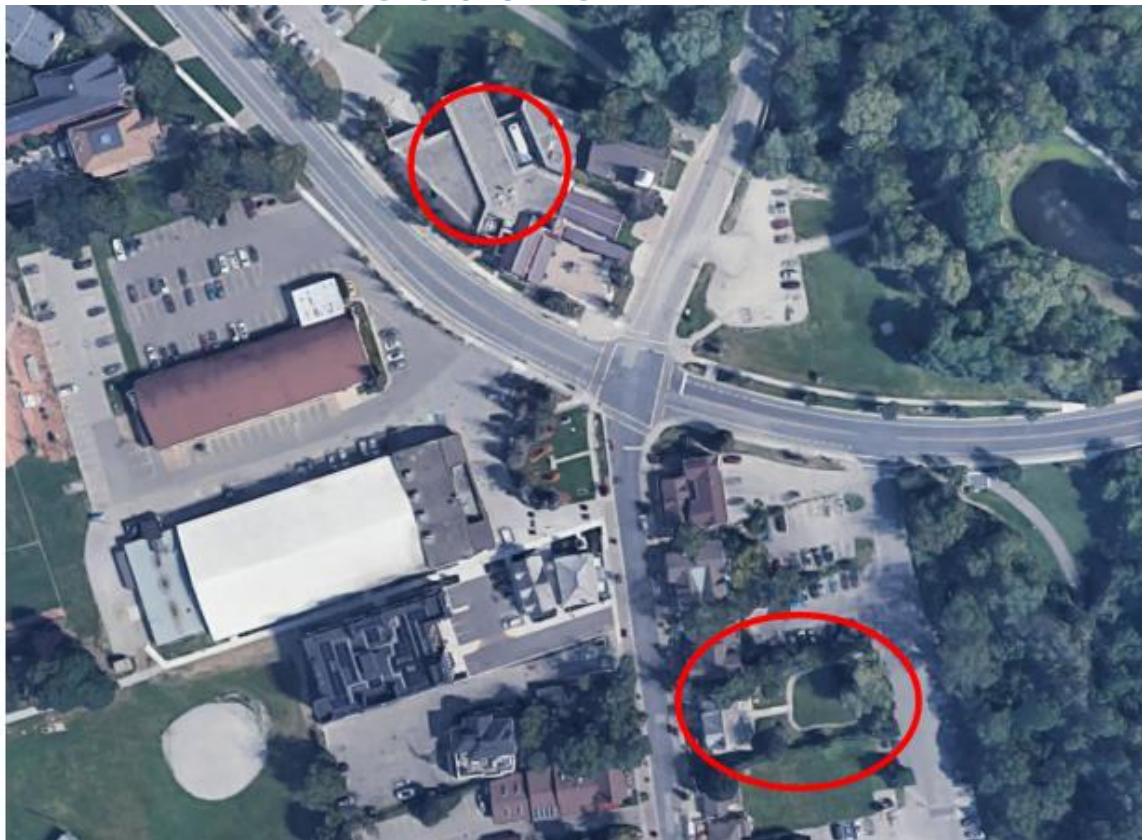
The Varley Art Gallery of Markham, 216 Main Street Unionville



Introduction

Varley Art
Gallery

MacKay Art
Centre
197 Main Street
Unionville





Introduction

MackKay Art
Centre
197 Main
Street
Unionville





Introduction



F. H. Varley in his basement studio at 197 Main Street Unionville, Saturday,
December 31, 1960



F. H. Varley, **Head of Kathy**, c. 1952-53, charcoal and graphite on paper, 38 cm x 32 cm. Collection of the Varley Art Gallery of Markham. Gift of the Estate of Kathleen Gormley McKay, 1996



Introduction



Kathy McKay on the porch of the McKay Art Centre



Introduction



McKay Basement today





2. How the building is used

| | January to March | April to June | July to August | September to December |
|-------------------|---|---|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Top Floor | Unionville BIA Offices and Studio Rentals | | | |
| Main Floor | Studio Rentals | Exhibition Rentals | Summer Camp | Exhibition Rentals |
| Basement | Studio rentals, art classes | | Summer Camp | Studio rentals, art classes |
| Garden | | Rentals. Unionville Festival, Jazz Festival, etc. | | |



3. Objectives

- Circa 2008: Renovations were executed to make the 1850s heritage building usable for the community and programs
- The gardens were also updated. One ramp added
- The City met the AODA requirements for a Heritage building
- Since then the focus has been on maintenance and minor renovations
- The approach has been generally piecemeal or ad hoc
- We now want to hire a consultant to create a detailed report, and
- Develop a comprehensive long term plan for how best to proceed with improving the building's accessibility
- Getting this Committee's input and advice is the first step in that process



4. Property Tour



Main Public Entrance





Main Entrance



Main Public Entrance





Driveway at the North Side



Driveway and ramp access





Ramp to Main Door



Front ramp



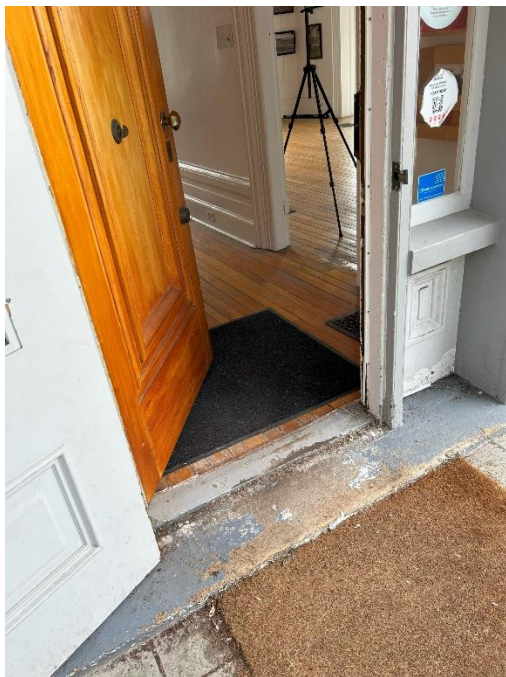


Ramp to Main Door





Main Door Threshold

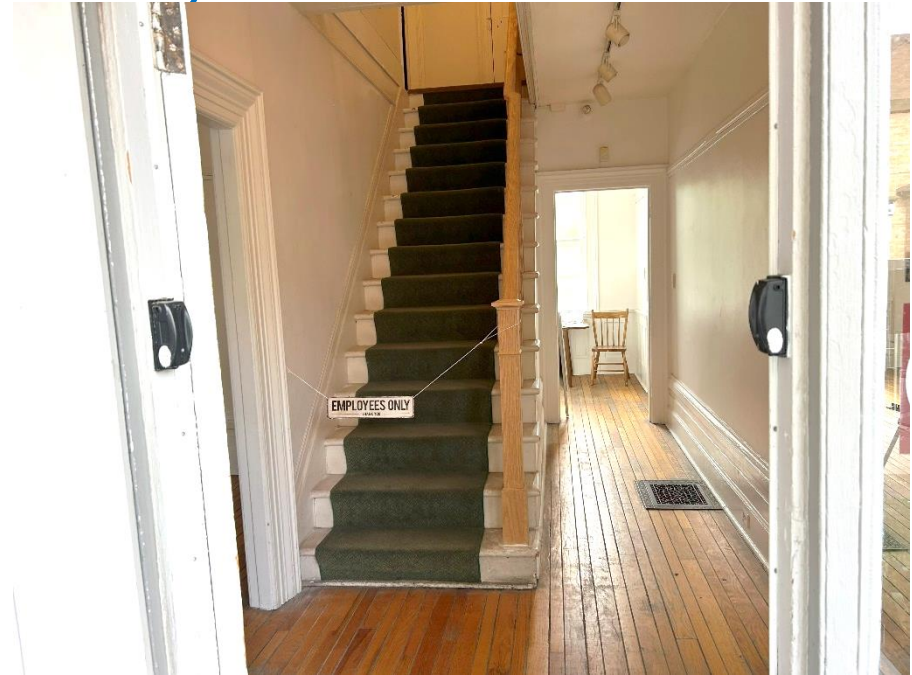
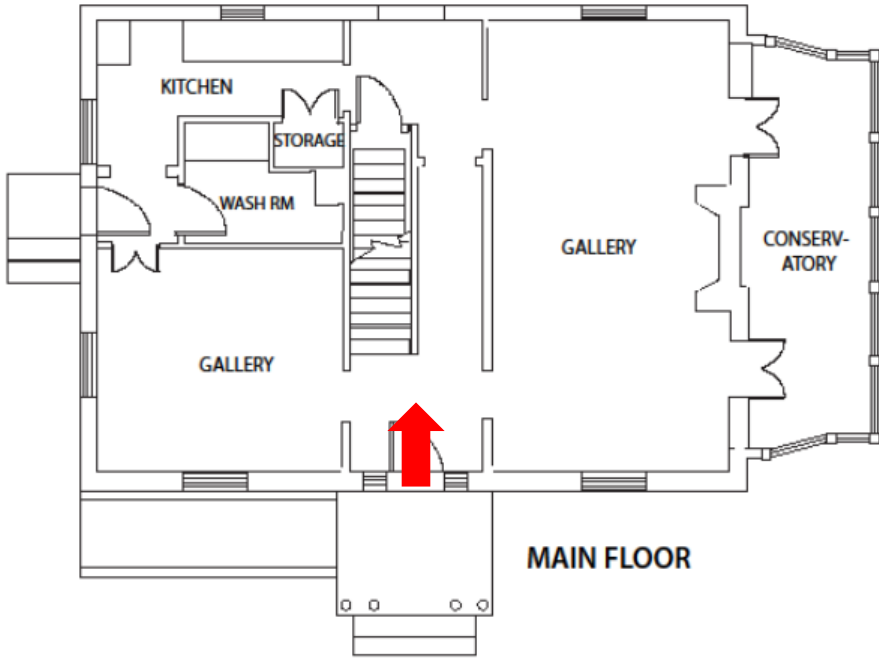


Front door threshold





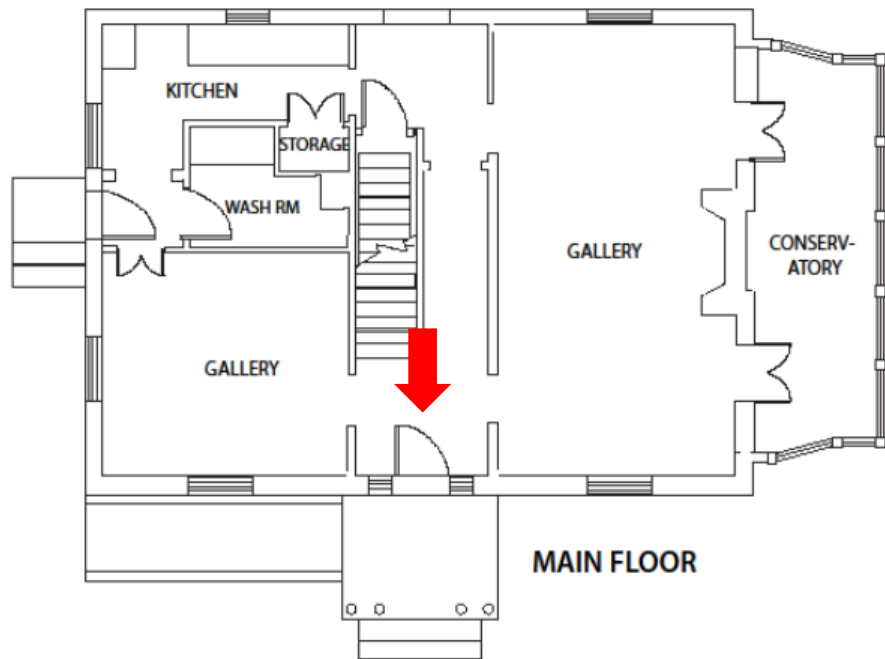
Main Floor: Foyer



Main Floor Interior. Red arrows show viewpoint in the images at right



Main Floor: Foyer

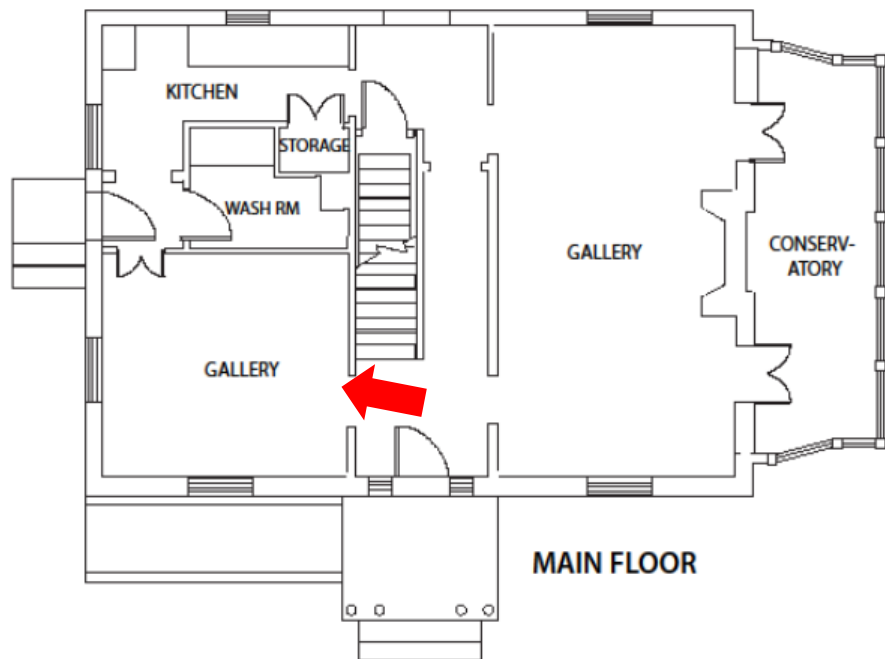


Main Floor Interior



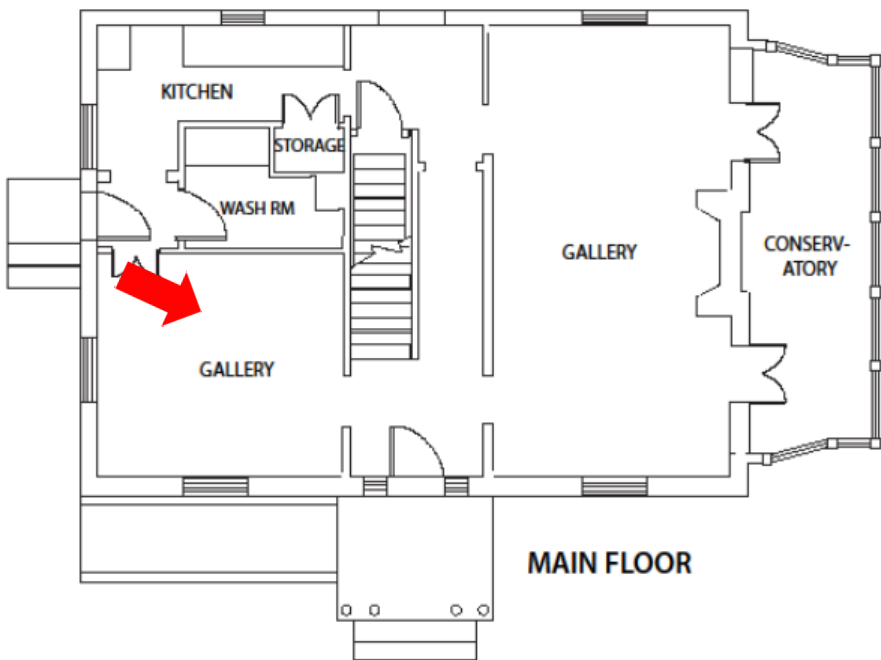


Main Floor: Small Gallery/Studio



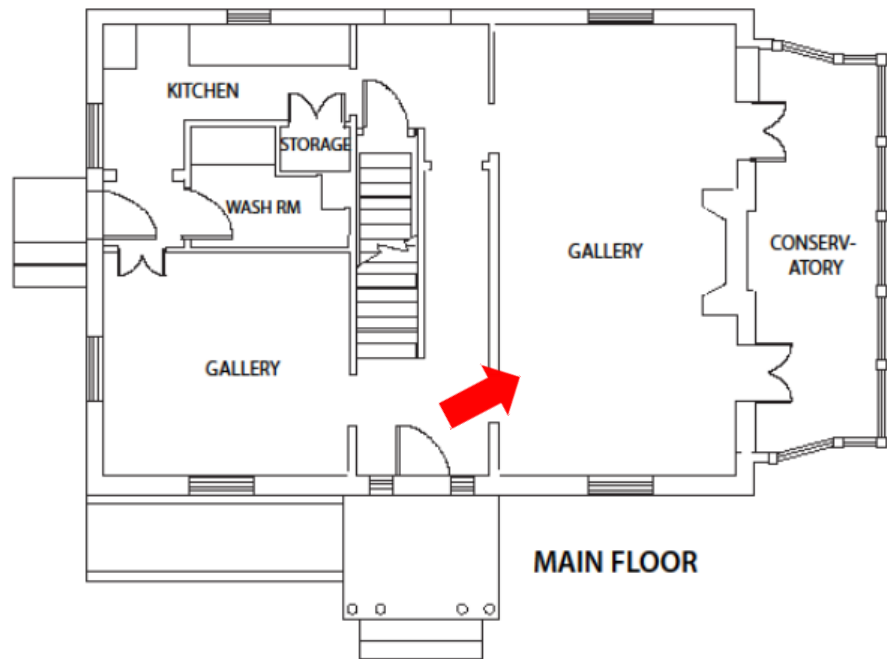


Main Floor: Small Gallery/Studio



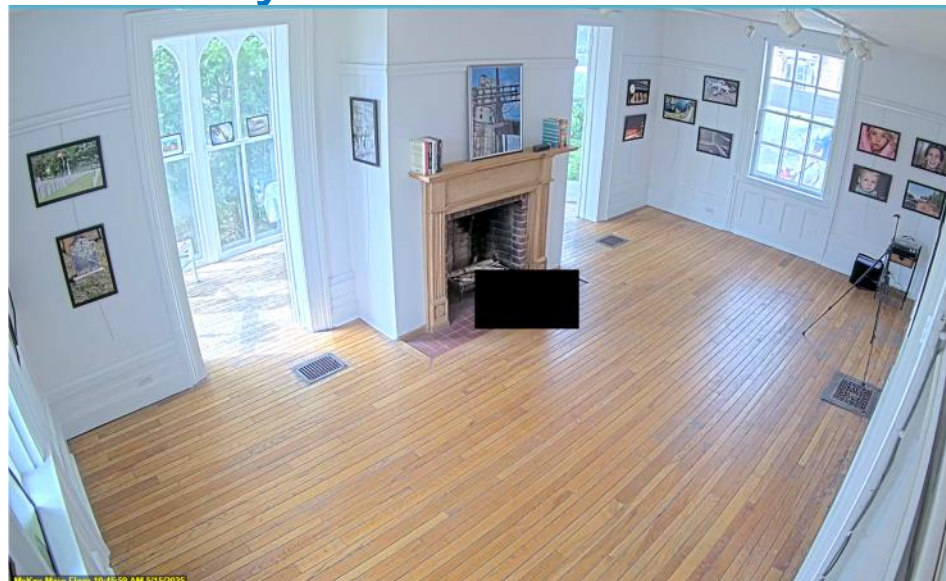
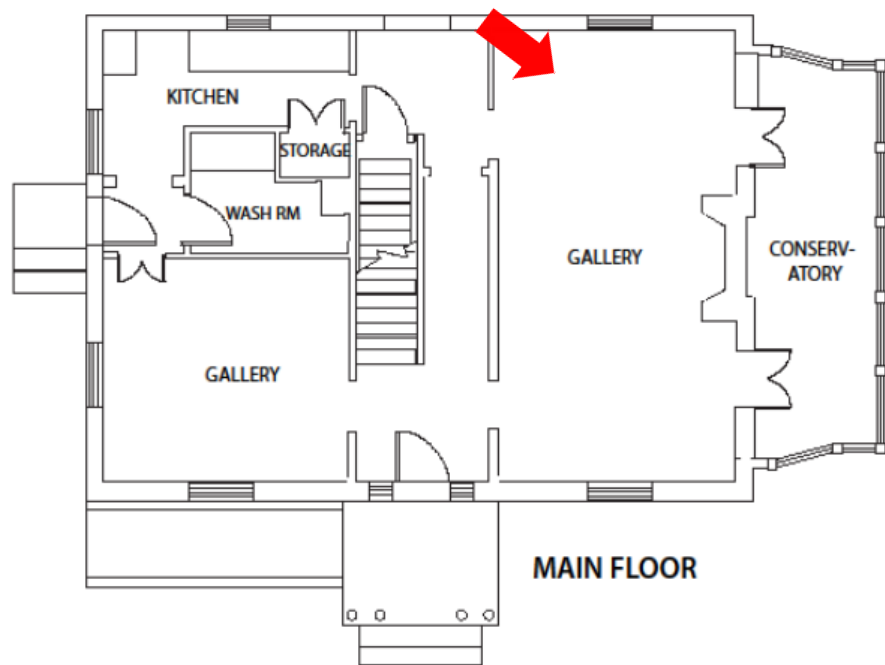


Main Floor: Large Gallery/Studio



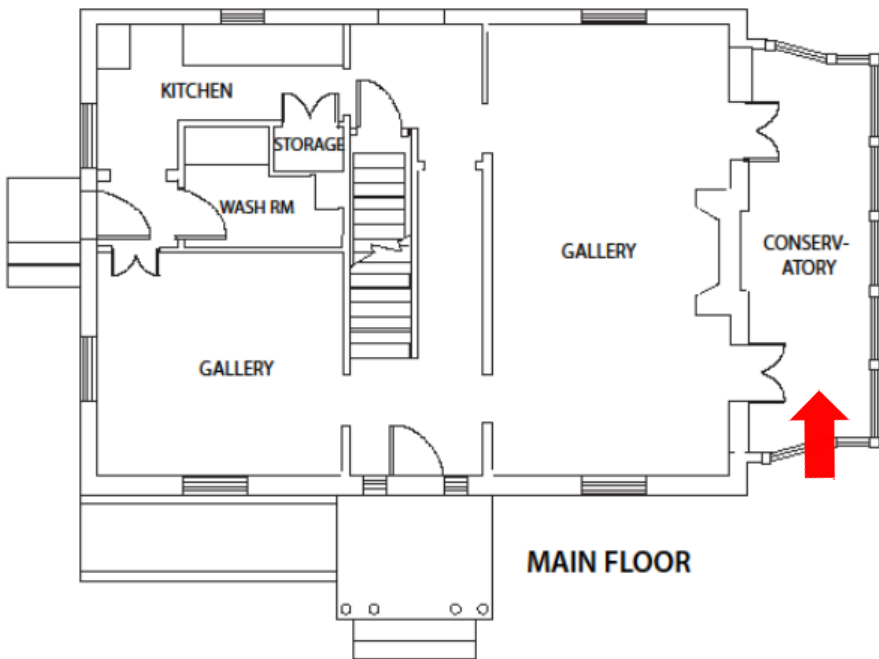


Main Floor: Large Gallery/Studio



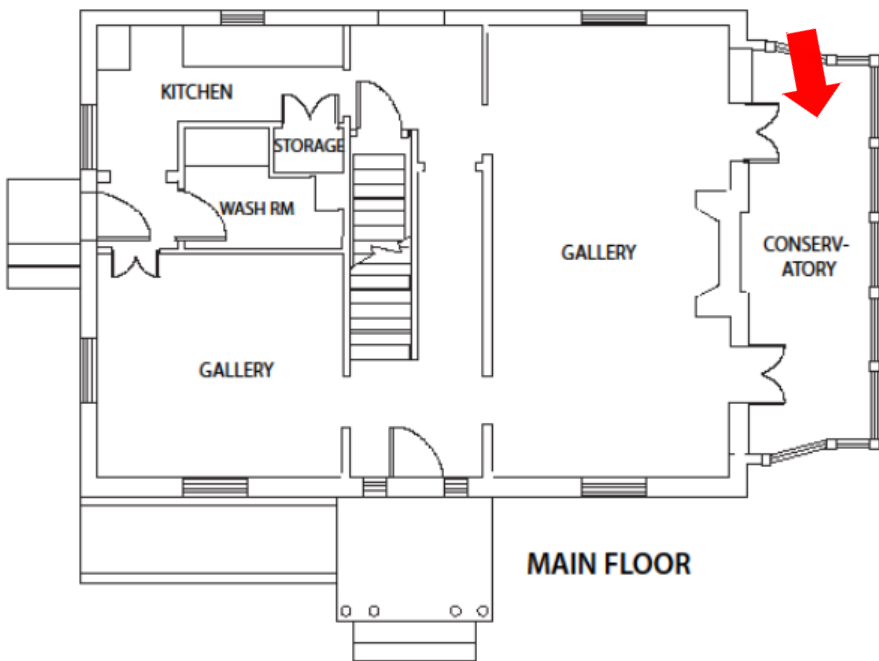


Main Floor: Conservatory



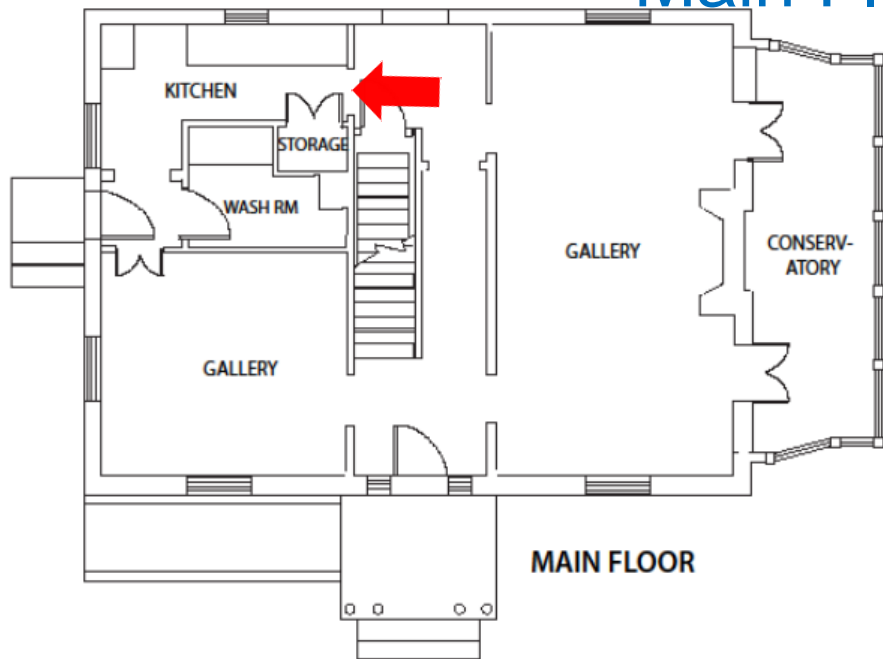


Main Floor: Conservatory



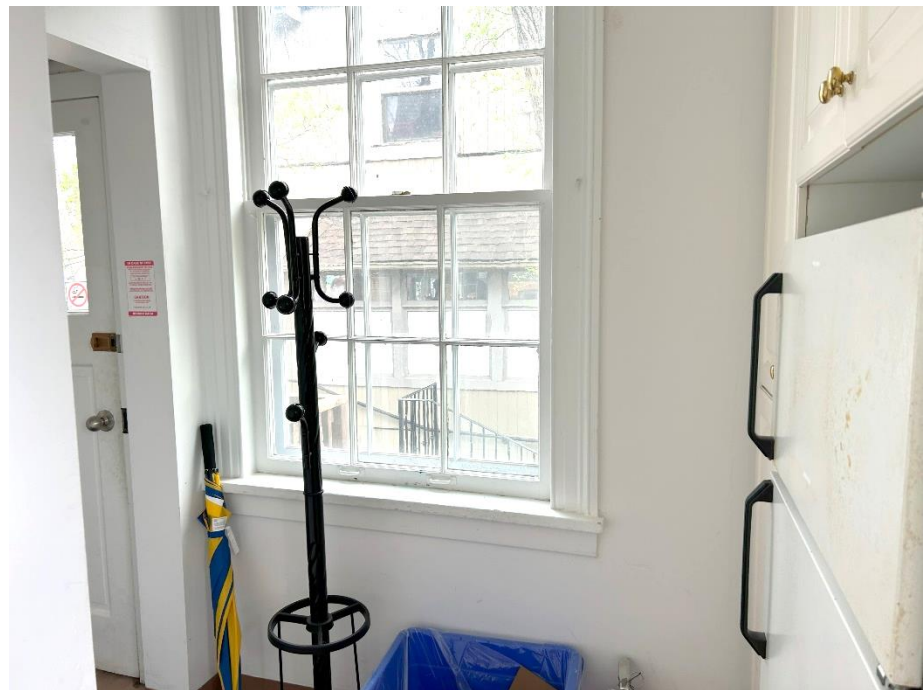
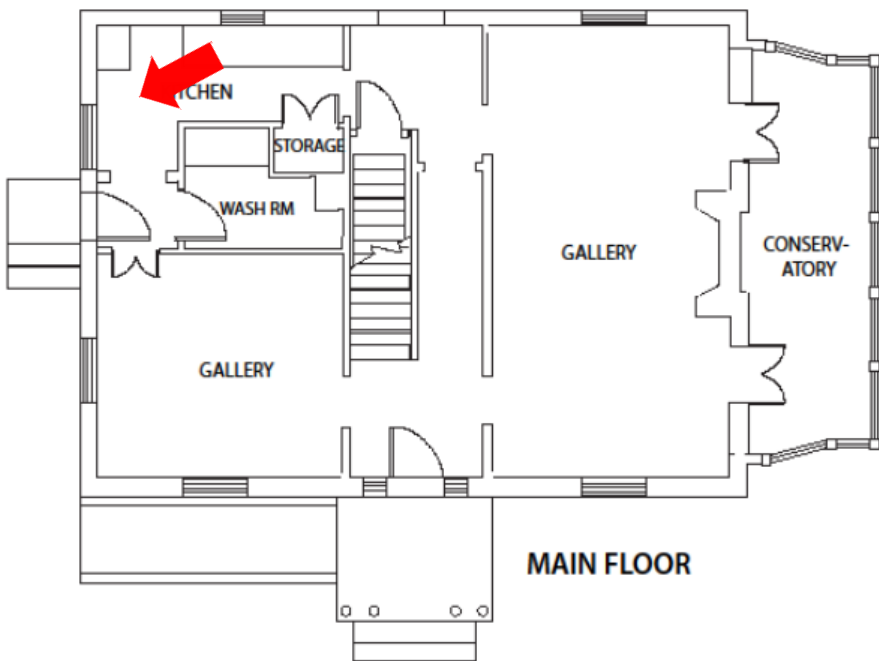


Main Floor: Kitchen



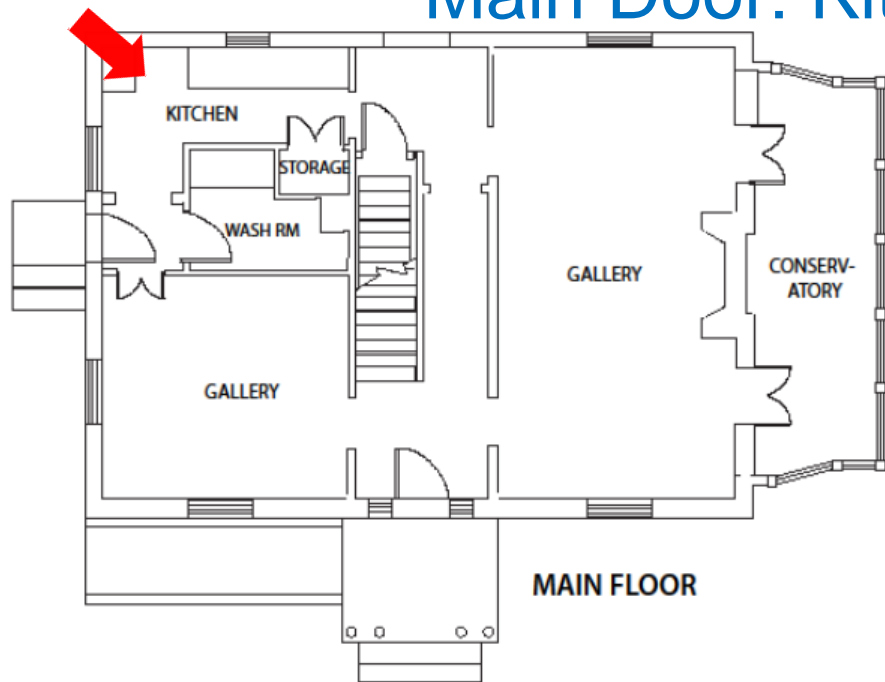


Main Floor: Kitchen to Side Door



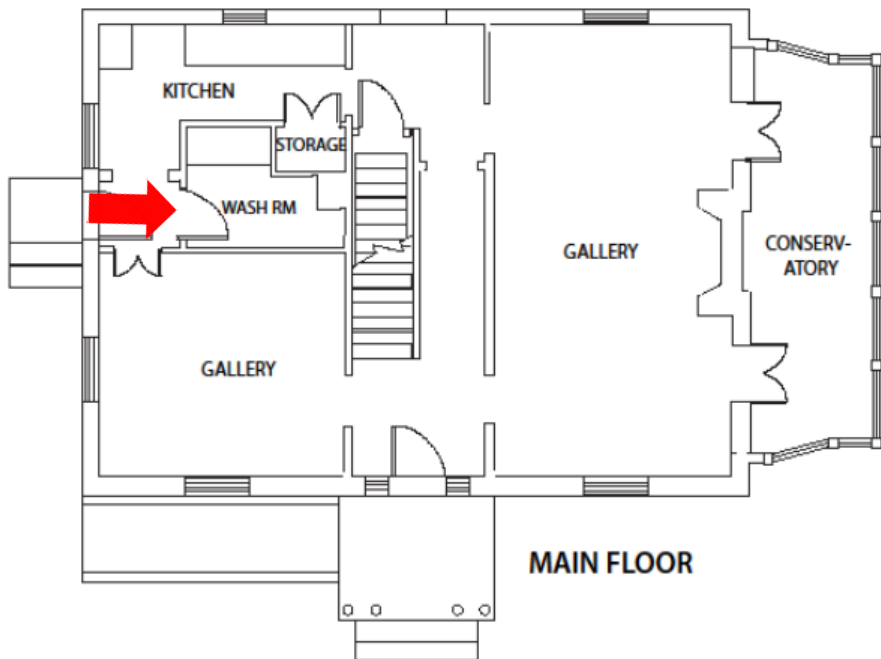


Main Door: Kitchen to Side Door



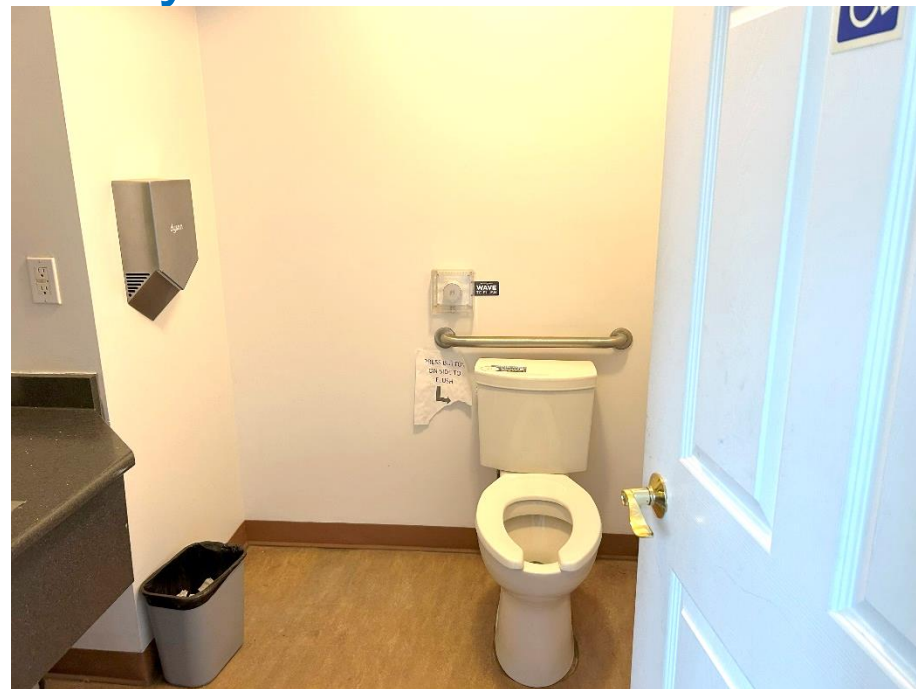
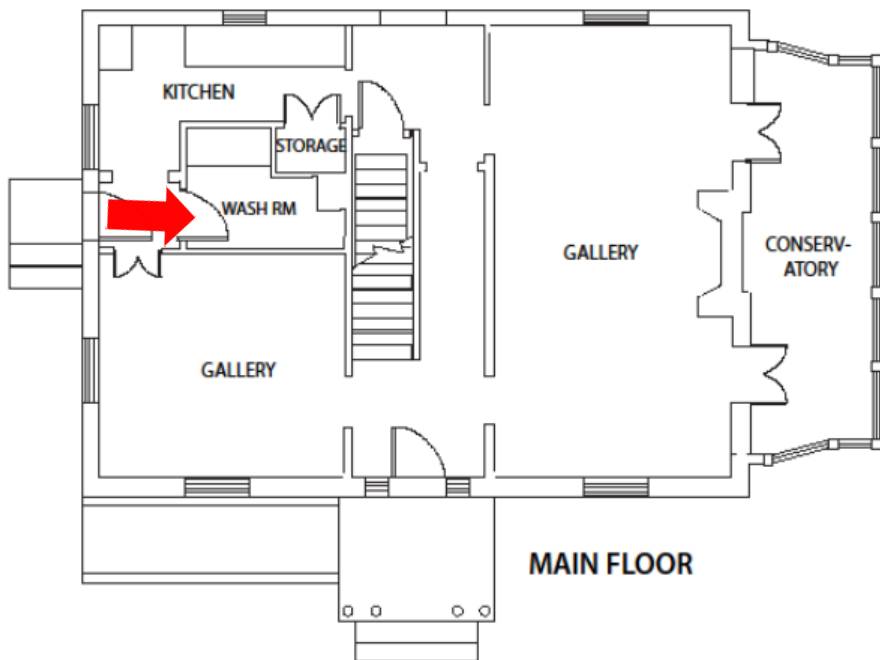


Main Door: Accessibility Washroom



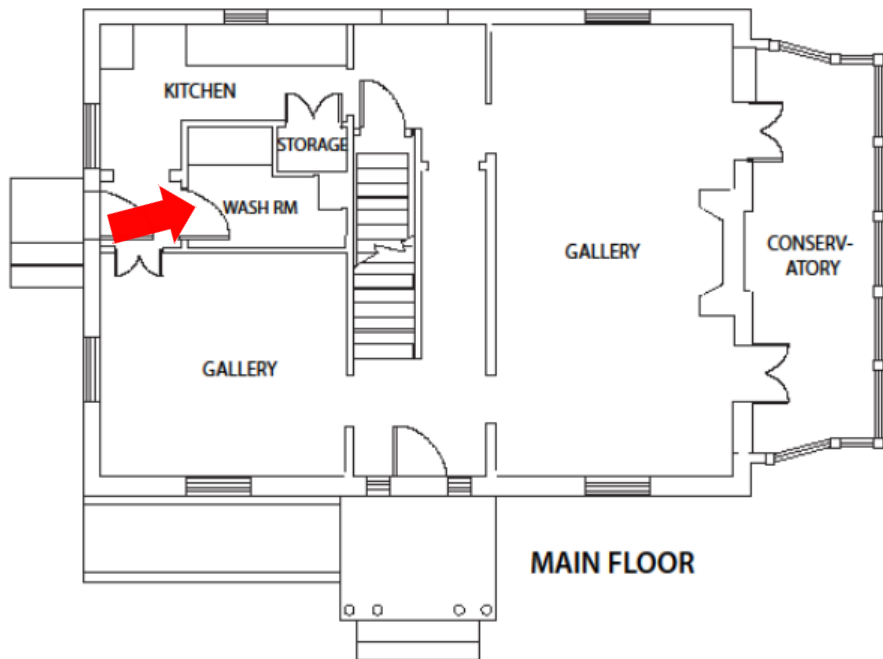


Main Floor: Accessibility Washroom



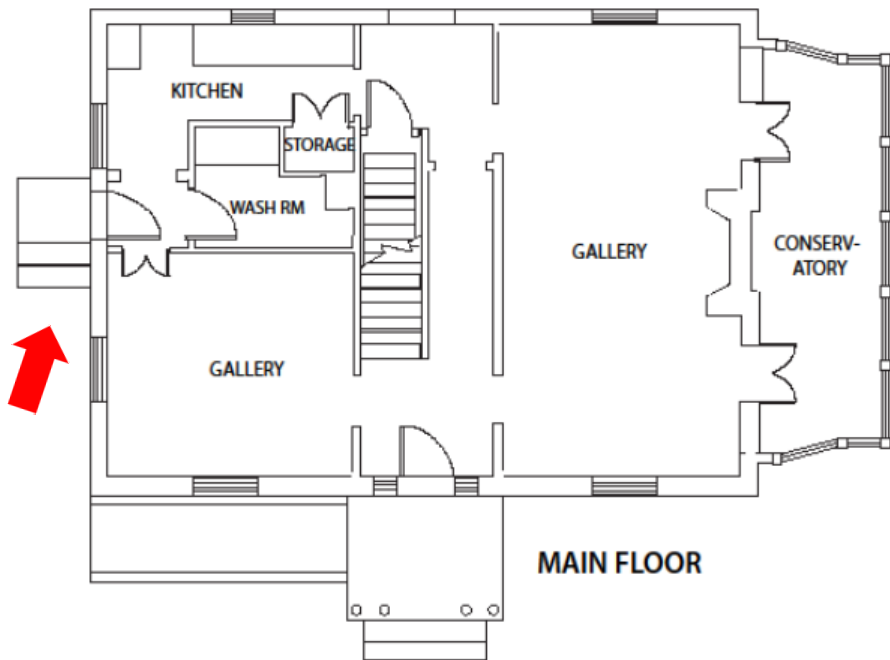


Main Floor: Accessibility Washroom



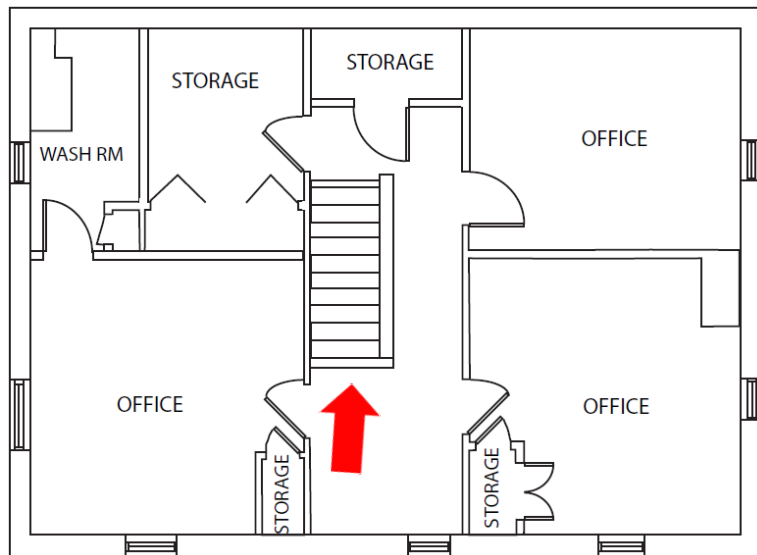


Side Door Exterior

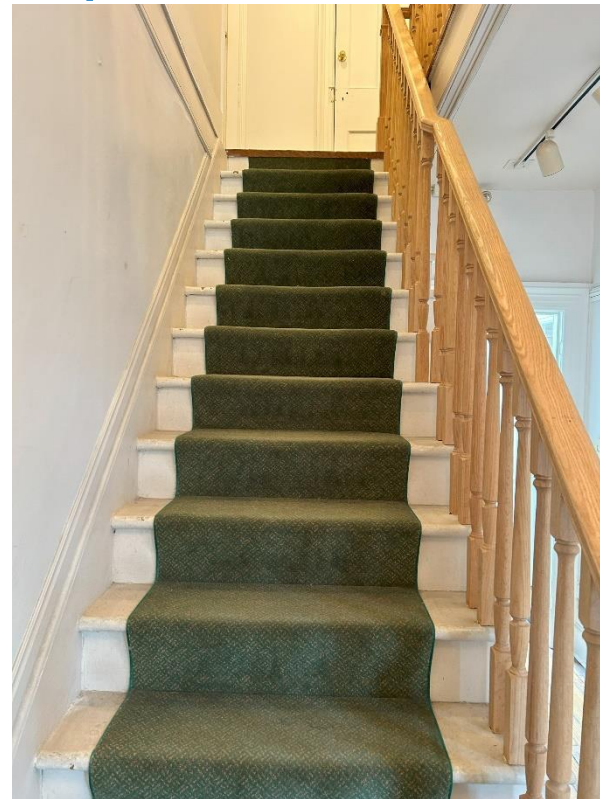




Second floor: Stairs up

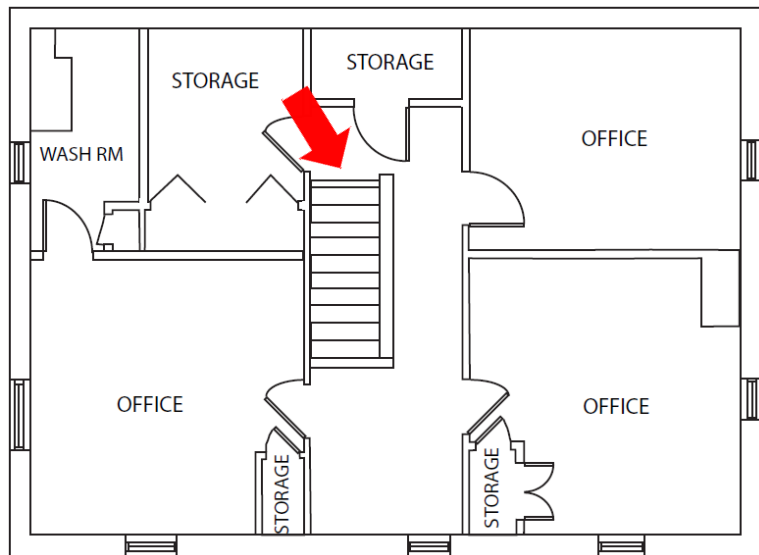


SECOND FLOOR

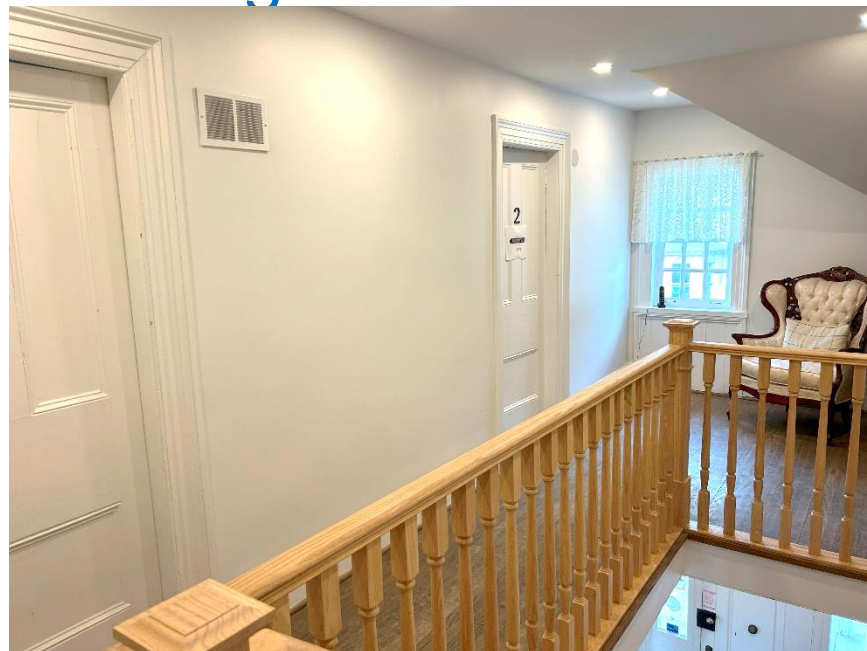




Second floor: Landing

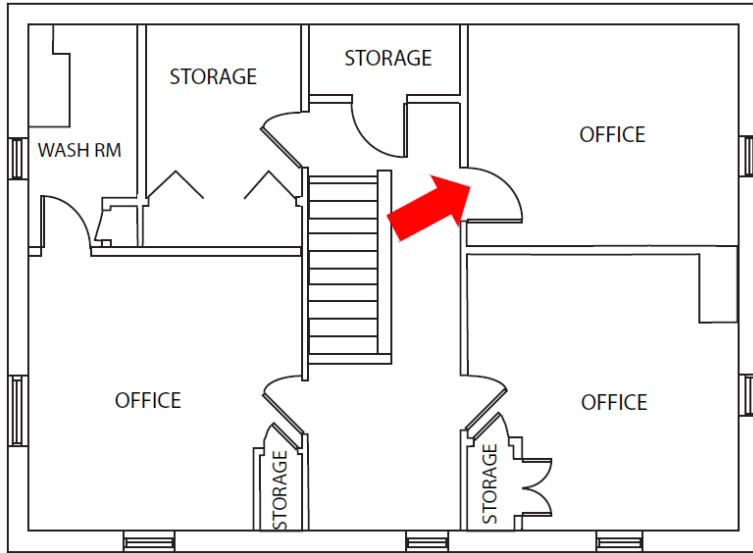


SECOND FLOOR





Second Floor: Studio space

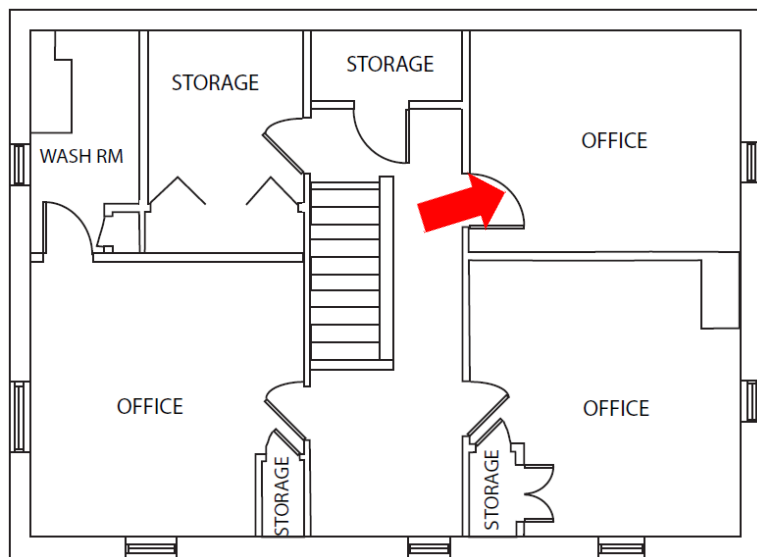


SECOND FLOOR





Second Floor: Studio Space

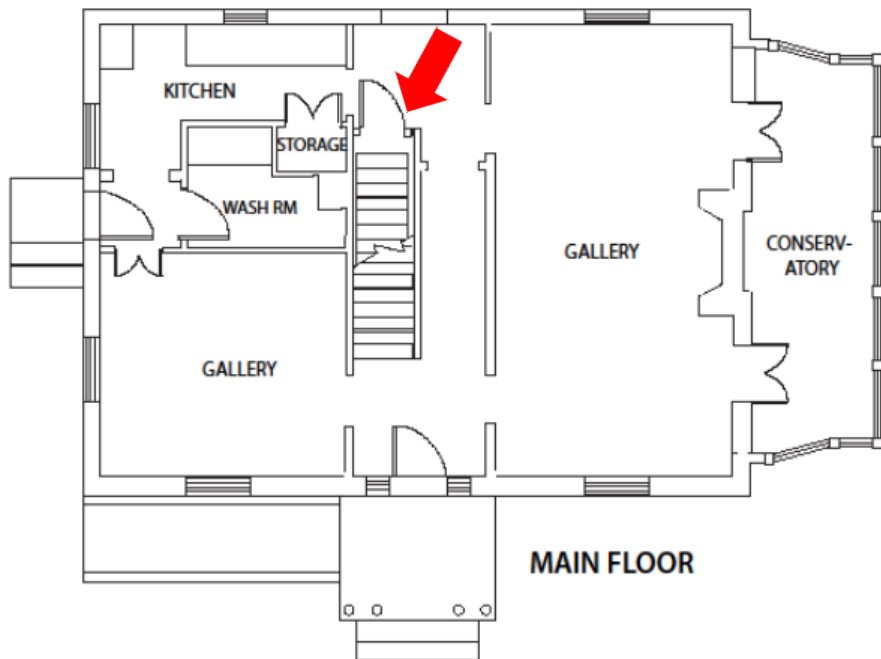


SECOND FLOOR



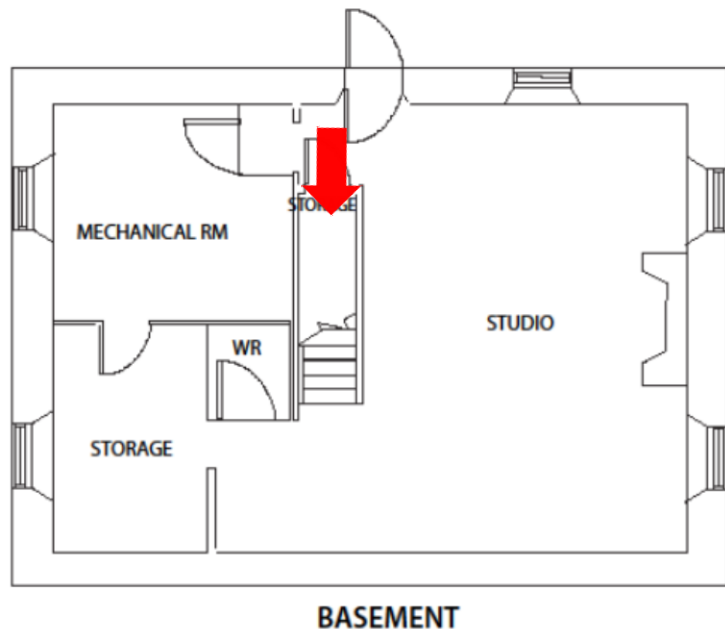


Basement: Door from Main Floor



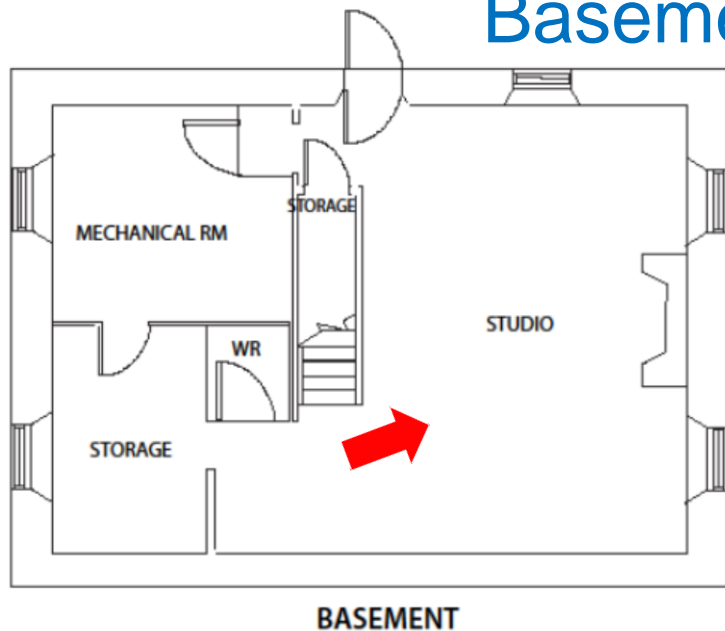


Basement: Stairs down



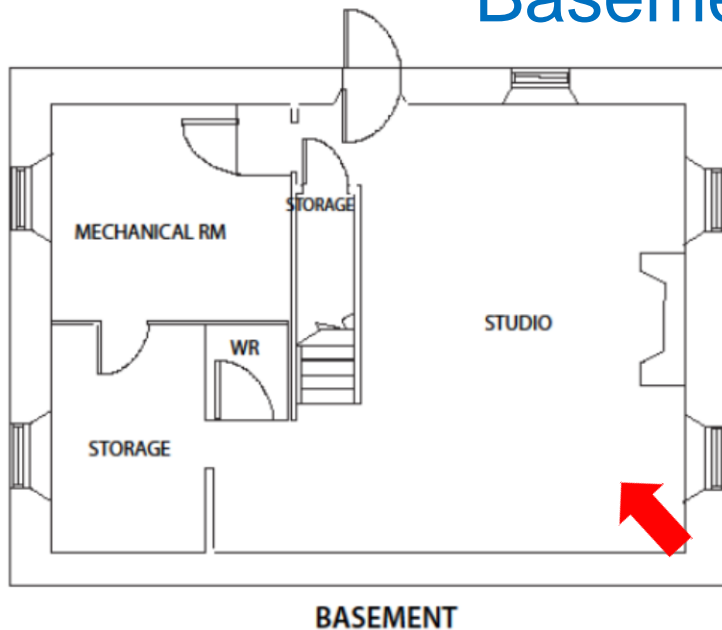


Basement: Main Studio



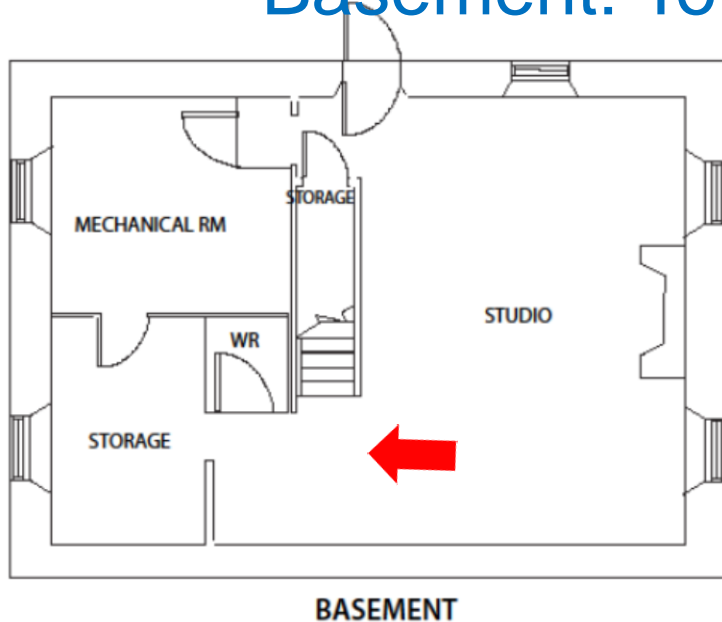


Basement: Main Studio



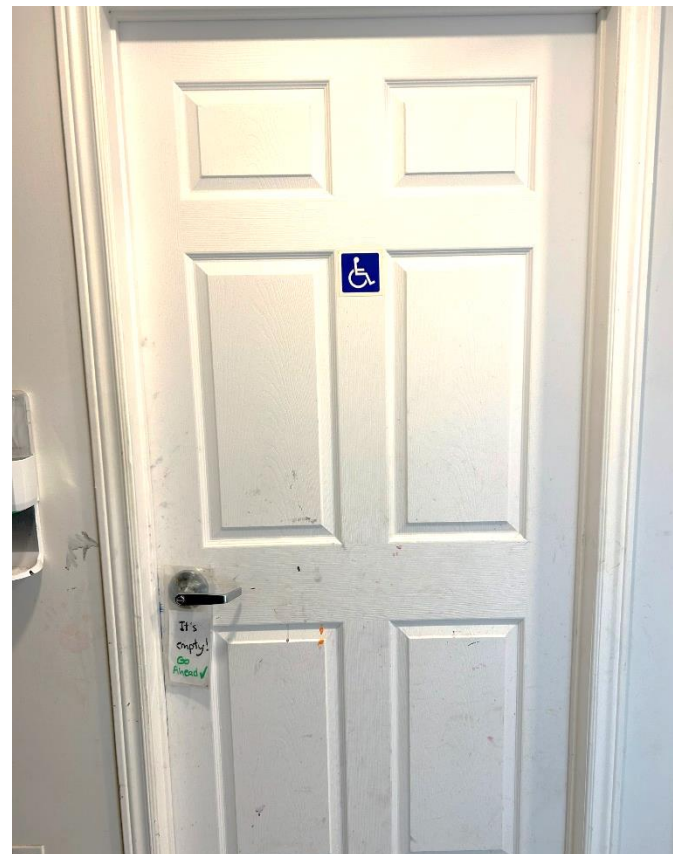
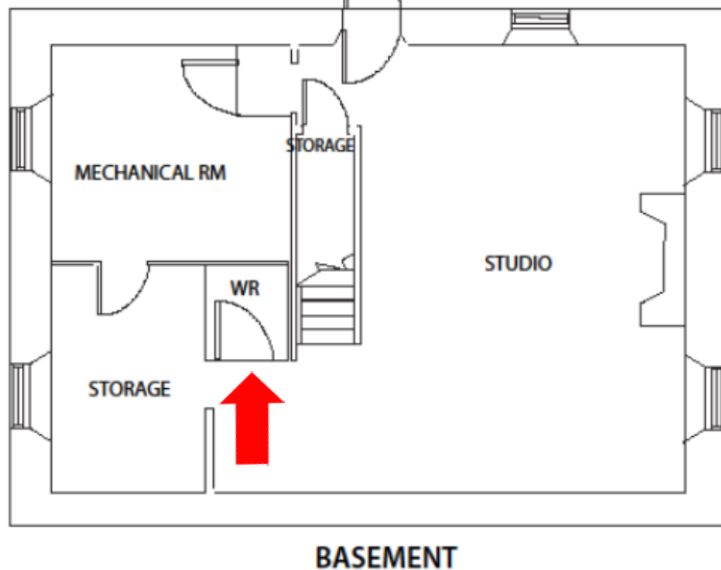


Basement: Towards Storage and WC



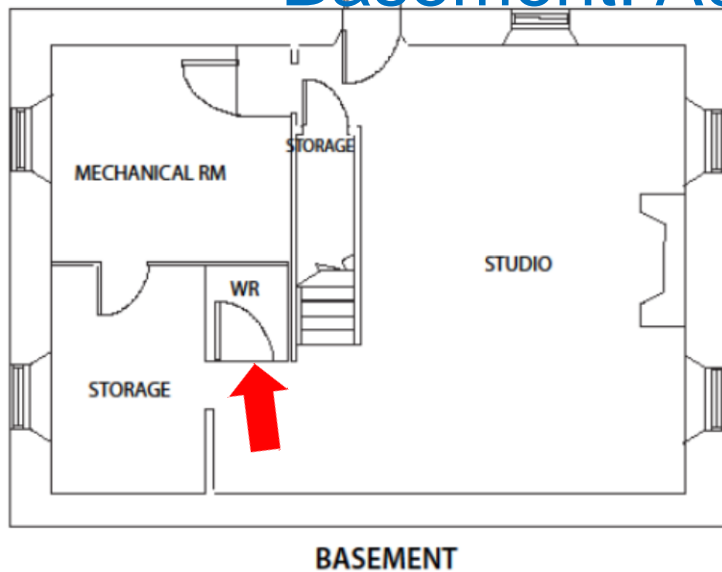


Basement: Accessibility Washroom



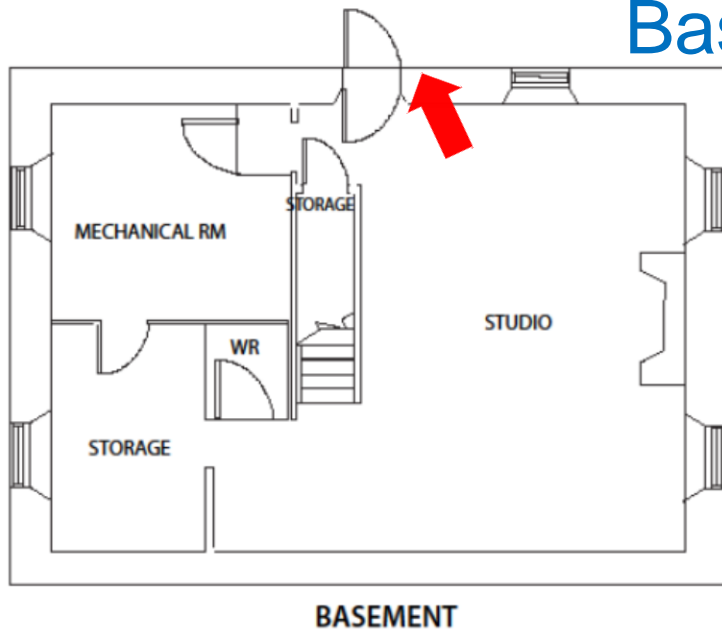


Basement: Accessibility Washroom





Basement: Exit





Garden



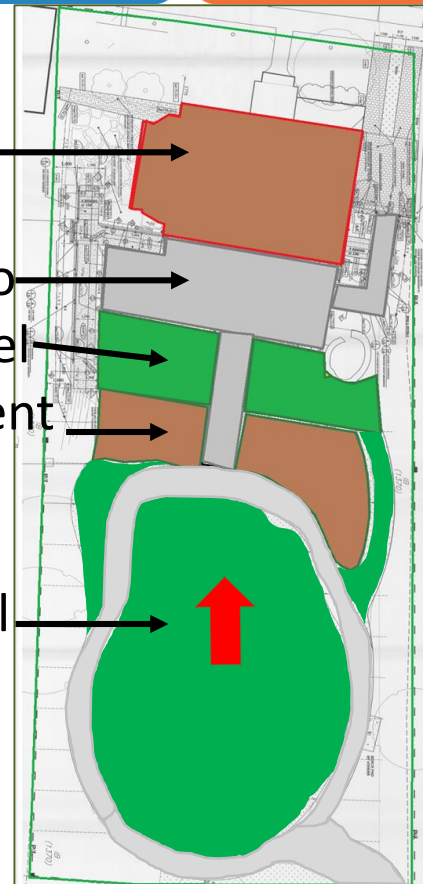
House

Paved patio

Middle level

Embankment

Lower level



Back garden looking towards the McKay Art Centre

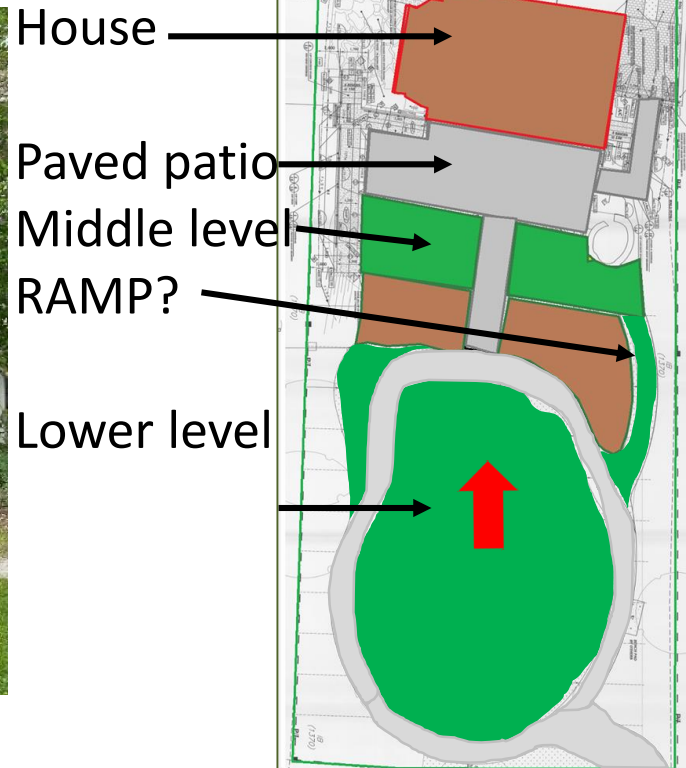


Garden: From the House



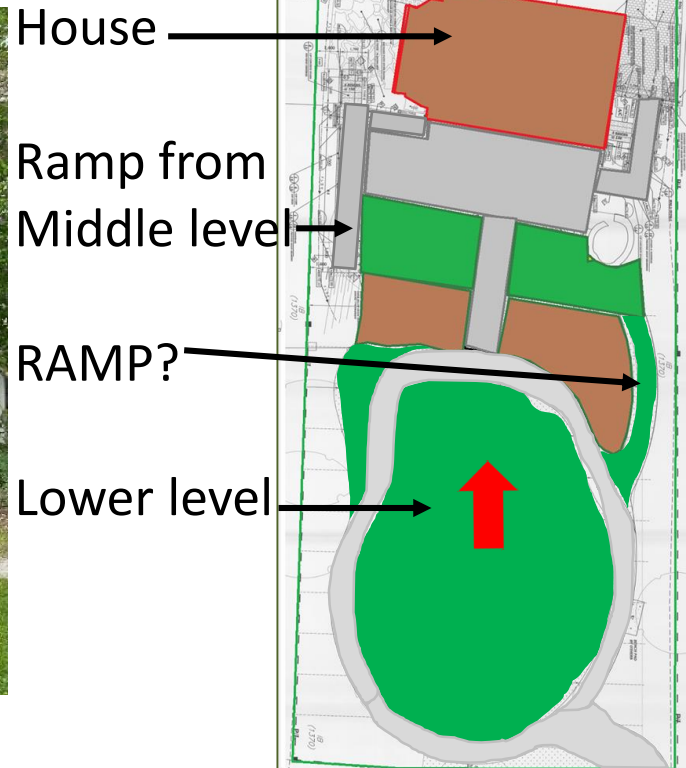


Garden



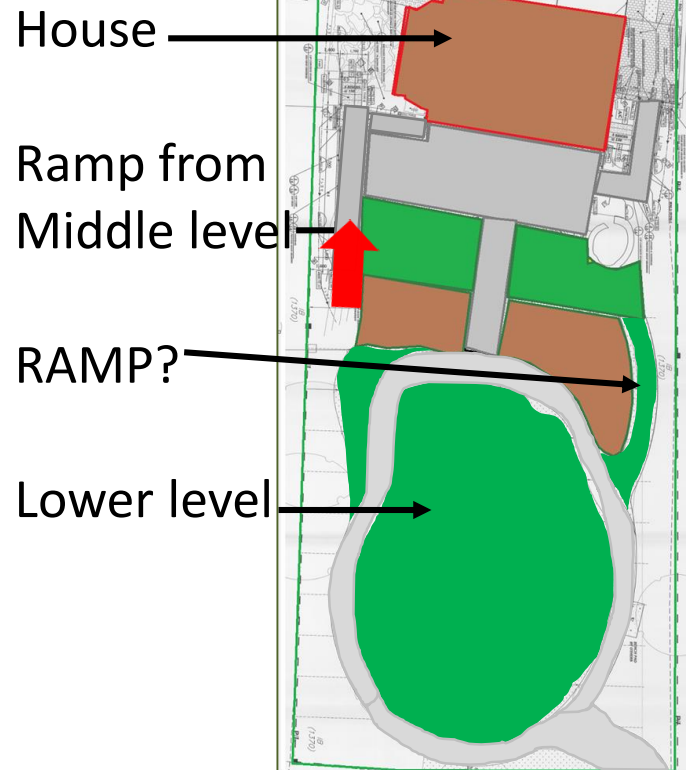


Garden



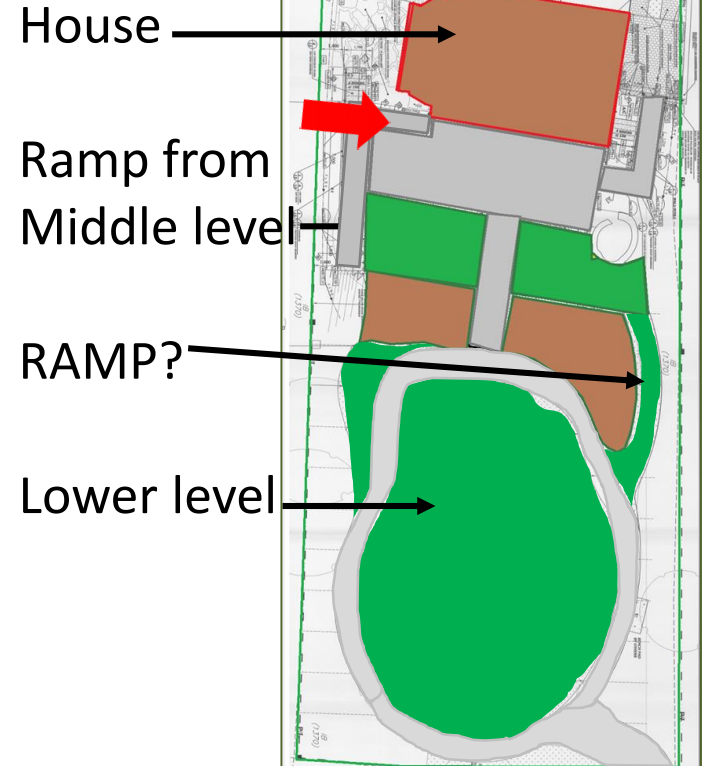


Garden





Garden





Garden: Ramp From Mid Level to Patio





Garden: Basement Door





Garden: Basement Door





4. Committee's Feedback

We want
to hear from you

