

Base Closure as an Opportunity for Community Development

Adaptive Reuse of an Industrial Building at Fort

Monroe, Virginia

Leslie K. Leffke | Master of Architecture | Final Study | Spring 2009



- Construction begun in 1819, oldest moated stone fort in America
- Currently an active US. Army Base
- 570 acre National Historic Landmark District
- Located where Hampton Roads Harbor & Chesapeake Bay meet, > 1 mi from I-64
- Base Realignment and Closure Commission selected this base for closure by 2011
- The Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority is creating a redevelopment plan for the area



Redevelopment Area

Historically used for warehouses, surface parking and garages

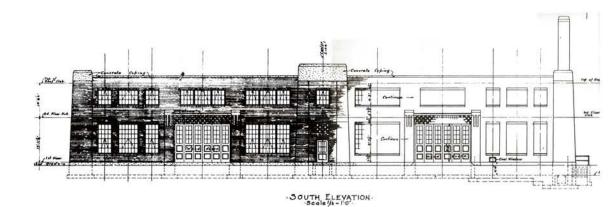
Area will have largest ratio of "historically compatible" new construction

Mixed-Use zone, to accomodate residential, commercial + civic uses.





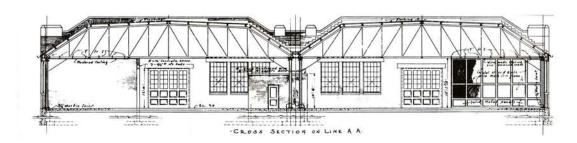
Two stories: 48,178 ft² | floor 1 : 43,747.5 ft² floor 2: 4,430.5 ft²



Built 1934

Art Deco/ Egyptian Revival

structure features a steel modified Howe Truss in both bays









Project Goals

Select a use for the building that is both appropriate to + distinguishable from its original use.

- 2 Create a program + site plan that responds to and complements the community setting immediately surrounding the building.
 - Integrate materials + forms that are sympathetic to and can be differentiated from the original structure.
- 4 Develop adaptive reuse schemes at different scales within the building.
- 5 Advocate preservation development as sustainable development through the reuse of existing materials, layouts and with respect to methods.

Building Use

Original Use - Motor Pool Building Repair and maintain surrounding Military community's vehicles

Currently is also used for office space, vehicle repair + as a conference location.

Proposed Use - Art + Entertainment Center Gallery | Entertainment Hall | Restaurant | Educational Facility

> Provide art and entertainment services to the proposed community

Also serves large amount of visitors to site, making it an economically sustainable use (supported by Fall 2008 Market Analysis research)







The targeted community composition based on Fort Monroe Reuse Plan: 47% empty nesters & retirees (Senior Citizens)

28% younger single + two person households

25% traditional and non-traditional families

These are currently the 4 largest demographic populations in Hampton:

Age	2000	2010	2020
15-19	11,242 (7.6%)	10,941 (7.6%)	10, 208 (7.0%)
20-24	13,013 (8.8%)	13,007 (9.0%)	11,042 (7.6%)
35-39	13,475 (9.2%)	9,362 (6.5%)	9,400 (6.4%)
55 +	26,883 (18.4%)	31,391 (21.7%)	38,829 (26.9%)
otal Population:	146,437	144,803	144,655

Examples:

Chamberlin Hotel renovation completed in June 2008 - 133 luxury independent living apartments

6 major Universities (3,000+ students) located within 30 mile radius:











Building Program





Restaurant: 10,132 ft² | Dining: 6,331 ft² | Kitchen: 1,170 Capacity: 300

Entertainment Hall: 7,364 ft² | Stage: 816 ft² | Capacity: 1,200



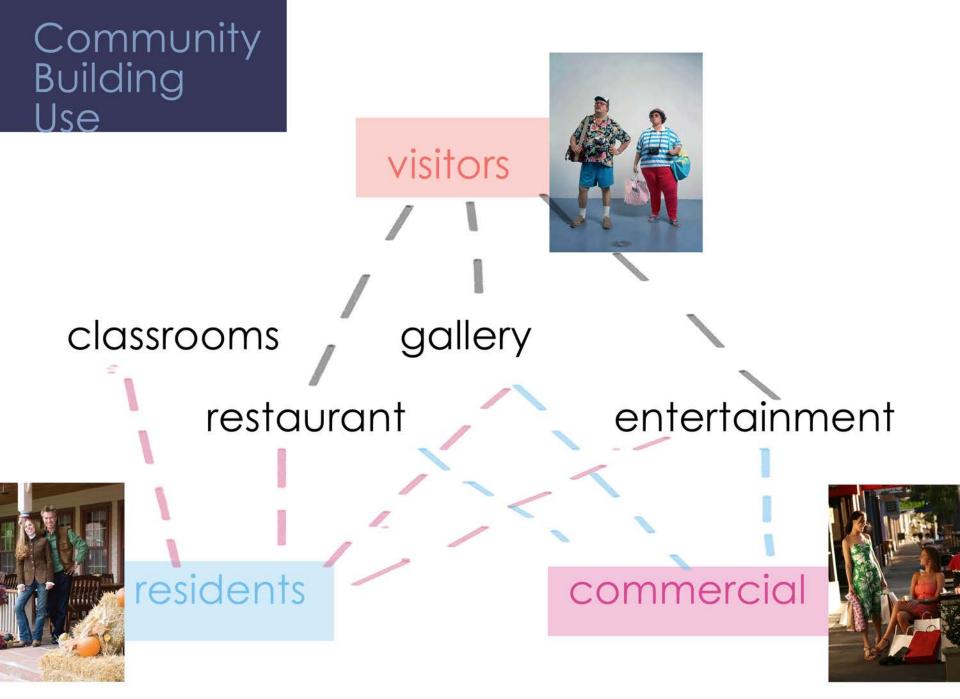
Art Center: 6,139 ft² | 6 Classrooms | 2 Practice Rooms



Gallery Space: 10,518 ft² | Gift Shop: 797 ft² | Capacity: 680



Circulation, Add'l Storage + Mechanical: 9,594 ft²



Visual vs Physical Movement

Visual movement

views through and into spaces

forms: windows, openings



Physical movement the circulation through spaces

forms: corridors, pathways



Historic Circulation

FORT MONROE

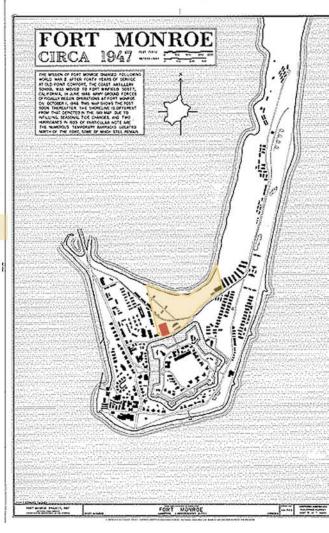
ander anter series

FORT MONROE



New construction prompted by two devestating hurricanes. Additional room for new buildings was obtained by infilling the Mill Creek shoreline.

0n infilled land, three masonry buildings are built in industrial vernacular with Art Deco ornament. Motor Pool Building is one of these buildings.



Northgate Road Orientation

Keep existing Northgate Road configuration

pros:

- brings visitors along scenic shore of Mill Creek
- maintain existing road network
- squares up road w/ motor pool building

cons:

- less direct traffic route for visitors
- heavier traffic along Mill Creek



Adjust Northgate Road

pros:

- realigns road with original configuration
- allows for greater infill development on currently paved areas

cons:

- Brings traffic closer to residential areas
- requires construction of whole new road
- cuts green space to N. of building.





Visitor Circulation

Enter through eastern bridge

Directs visitors to south along west shores and northern Mill Creek Pond

Pulls heavy traffic away from residential areas

Could be marketed as a scenic "heritage trail."



Resident Circulation

Enter through western bridge.

Also used by those employed in development.

Residents will remain near center of designated area, preventing conjestion with visitor traffic.

Western gate is the primary entrance for residents to access fort.



Commercial Circulation

Enter through western bridge.

Brings commercial visitors in along fort's northern circulation route.

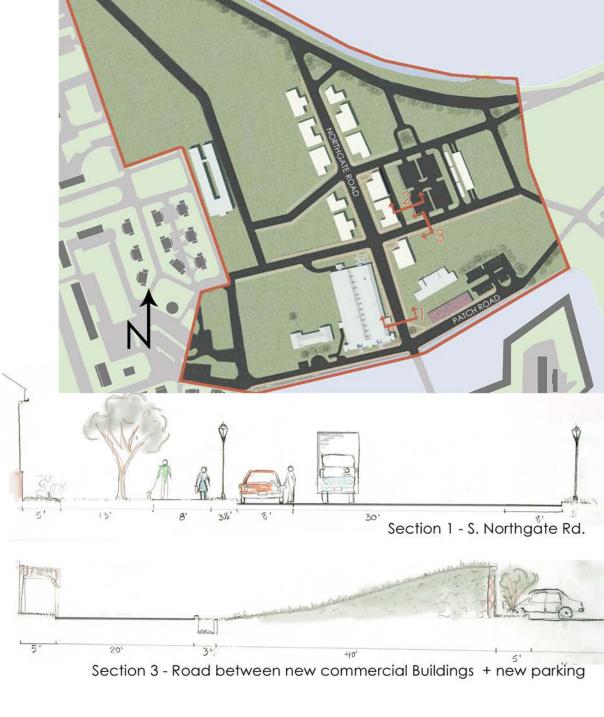
> Will bring traffic to Northgate zone supporting growth of commercial development

Pulls heavy traffic away from residential areas



Site Plan





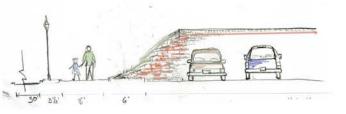
Site Plan

focus on development of Northgate Area

parking hidden behind buildings + bermed land

use of grass pave for parking

creation of a trolley station for visitors to the other areas of Fort.



Section 2 - new parking for trolley

Building Use Zoning



Feature Inspiration

To be used to inspire new building forms

Battered columns

existing



Existing structures w/in building

existing



Wood dividing wall existing



integration

- "battered" walls in plan
- creates sense of motion when paired w/ a straight wall
- acoustically appropriate entertainment space





integration

- new spaces defined by
- box-like envelopes
- materials will be sympathetic
 - yet distinguishable from the existing building.

0

integration

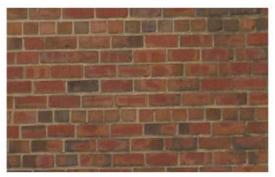
- will be removed to allow flow between bays
- reused as wood flooring for classrooms + rest.





Features to Preserve

As defined by the Reuse Plan



Five course American Brick Bond masonry walls



Garage doors w/ concrete capped pylons + Checkerboard Brickwork



Cast concrete capping ornamentation

Other identified features to be preserved



casement windows



steel truss structural system

Materials

original uses: - structure - mullions

new uses:

- -slatting
- raised floor frame
- skylight structure
- gallery entrance
- outdoor bar
- fire stair structure

original uses:

- windows
- some box partitions

new uses:

- restaurant partition
- clearstories (channel)
- dance room walls (channel)
- office/ art room partitions
- fire stair glazing
- skylights

original uses:

- floors
- large box partitions
- cappings

new uses:

- entertainment hall partition
- class room partitions



original uses: - wall material

New Uses: - loading dock enclosures - restaurant partitions

glass

concrete

steel

Design Guidelines

Maintain Hierarchy of Spaces

- primary > secondary > supporting
- guides the height, visibility + setback of spaces

Visibility + Accessibility

- should be able to view or access all spaces from one another

"Boxes"

- space envelopes should be defined by a version of this form

Point of Entrance

- exterior entrances should reflect sense of new use within building.
- different uses should maintain different entrances and sense of arrival
- should maintain sense of entering or exiting the building

Differentiation

- All new additions should be able to be differentiated from the original building

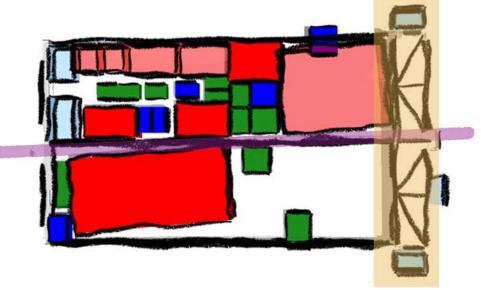
Space Planning

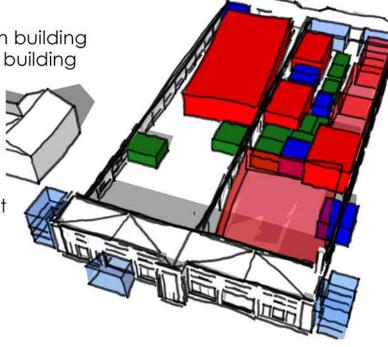
BOXES

- Inspired by forms defining existing uses within building
- movement of spaces within and into/out of building
- Head building:
 - Traditionally houses all office uses
 - -- proposed office location

Treat building as a site plan

- Main street
- hierarchy of spaces displayed by box height
- each use its own "neighborhood."





Space Hierarchy

- Primary uses



- secondary uses



- supporting uses



- 2. entertainer lounge
- 3. lobby
- 4. event director office
 - 9. dark room 10. kiln
 - 11. director's office

8. art classroom

- 14. bar
- 15. private dining room
 16. wait lounge
 17. outdoor dining
 18. restaurant director office

19. gallery exhibit area 20. box office 21. gift shop 22. curator's office

25. mechanical

27. lounge 28. conference room

29. assistant office

26. elevator



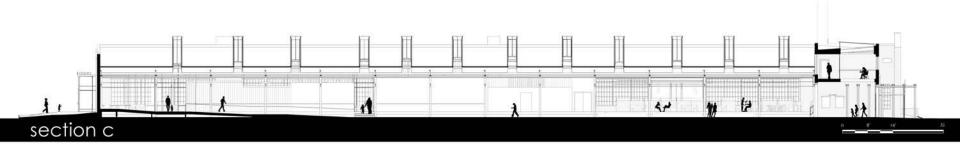


section a



8' 16'

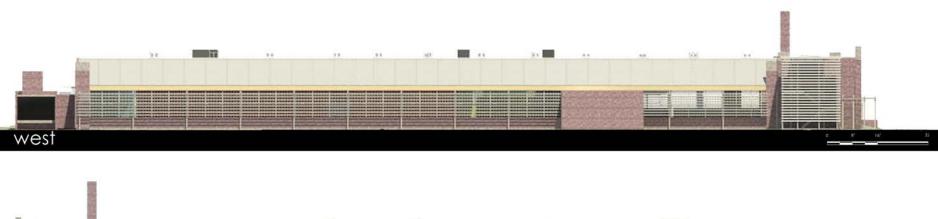
section b

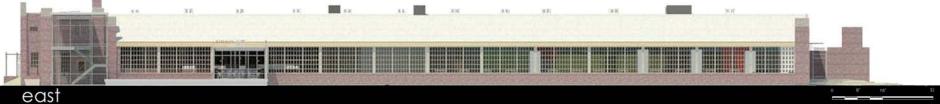




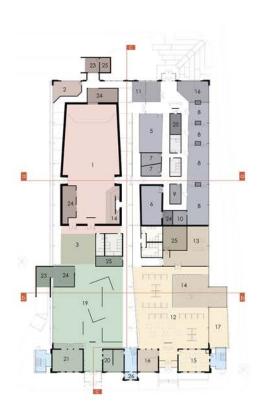


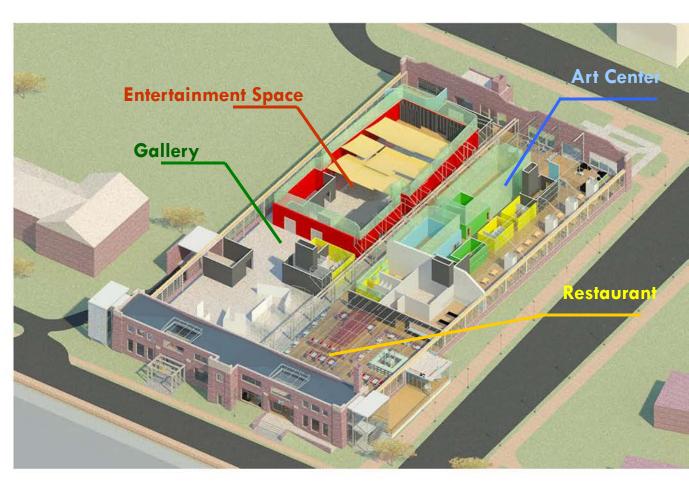






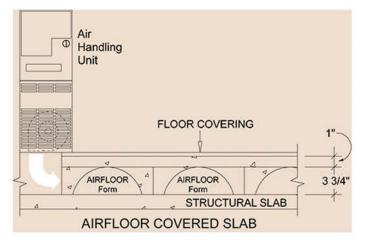


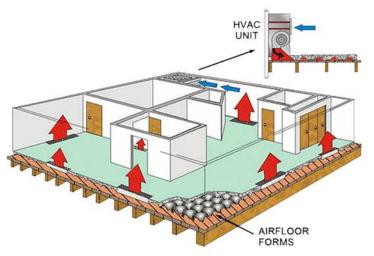






use of Airfloor System to provide HVAC + heating in raised floor areas (class rooms, restaurant + portion of entertainment hall)



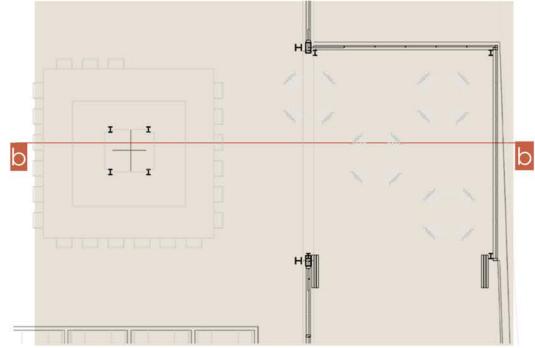




Bar Area



view of bar from south entrance

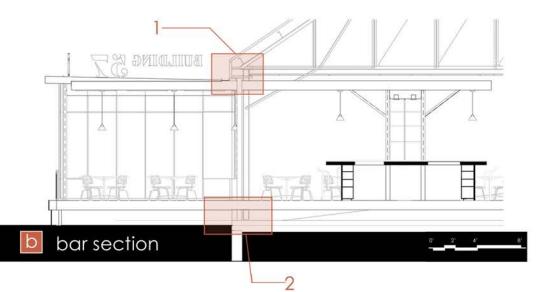


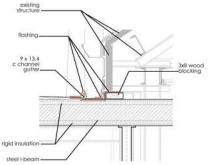
bar floor plan





Bar Detail

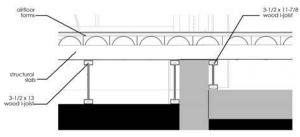




roof detail

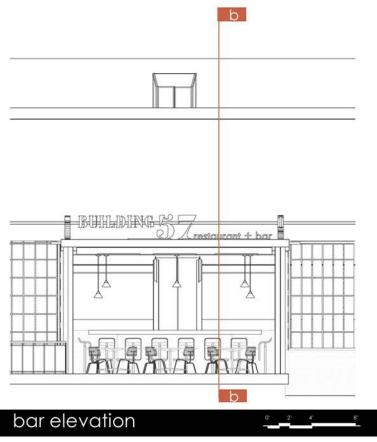
0' 1' 2'

2



floor detail

0'

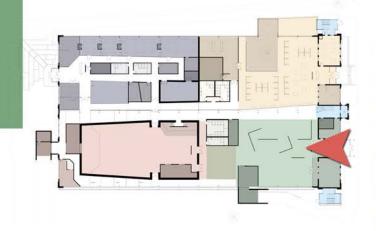


Gallery Entry





Gallery Space







Gallery Panels





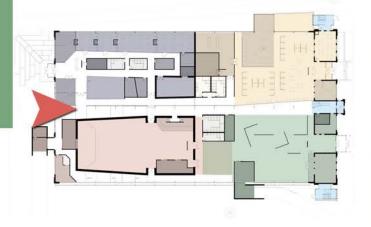




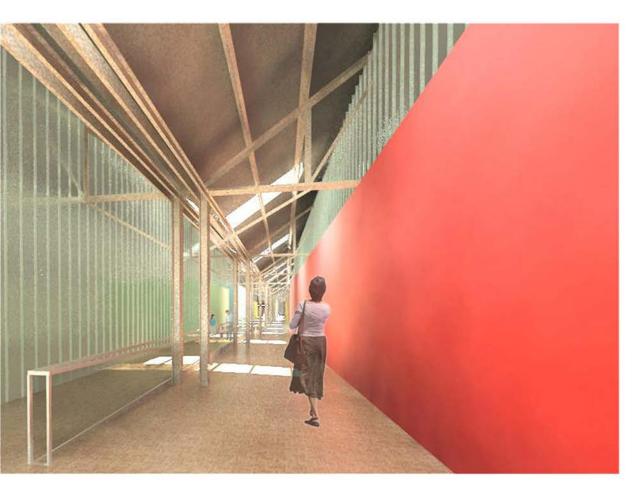


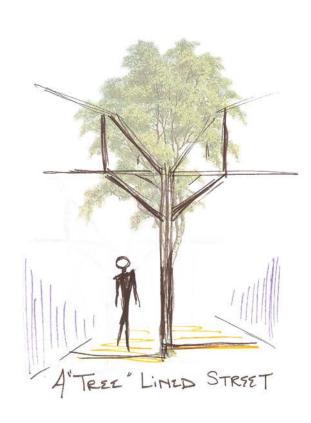


Main Corridor

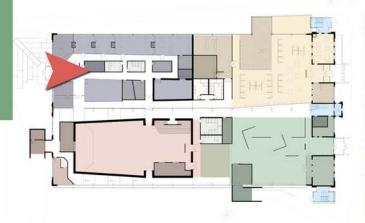








Art Center











Art Center Entrance





View from Southeast





View from Northeast

