

# RAINIER BEACH URBAN FARM AND WETLANDS DESIGN ABSTRACT

OCTOBER 30, 2013

Set to the east of the existing path, the classroom design nestles into the gaps between the old nursery tree groves and the hillside to maintain the maximum arable land and reduce its visual impact.

We drew inspiration from the structures on site--both the greenhouses and the sheds. The classroom design takes cues from both.

From our block diagrams and programming discussions, we developed a series of boxes akin to the shed, which contain the important infrastructure and support facilities for the classroom and the farm. These 'boxes' are spaced apart between the trees to create a courtyard and a natural place for the classroom structure.

Spanning over the functional 'boxes,' we have designed a canopy, very similar to the greenhouses. From the outside it is a simple translucent volume, but on the inside, visitors will enjoy the vaulted space, filtered sunlight and the expressive structure. The canopy extends over the path to act as a front porch, vestibule, overflow seating, and refuge from the weather.

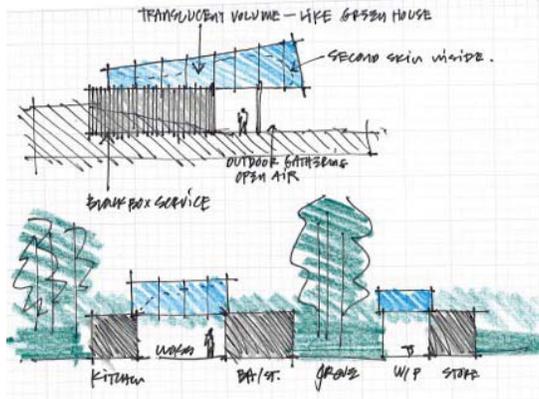
The combination of the boxes and the translucent canopy makes a building that is both similar to the other structures on site, but with its own striking character.



A GREENHOUSE AT NIGHT



GREENHOUSE AS GATHERING SPACE



CONCEPTUAL SKETCHES



GREENHOUSE IN THE LANDSCAPE

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LOOKING NORTH TOWARD CLASSROOM, FIELDS AND GREENHOUSES



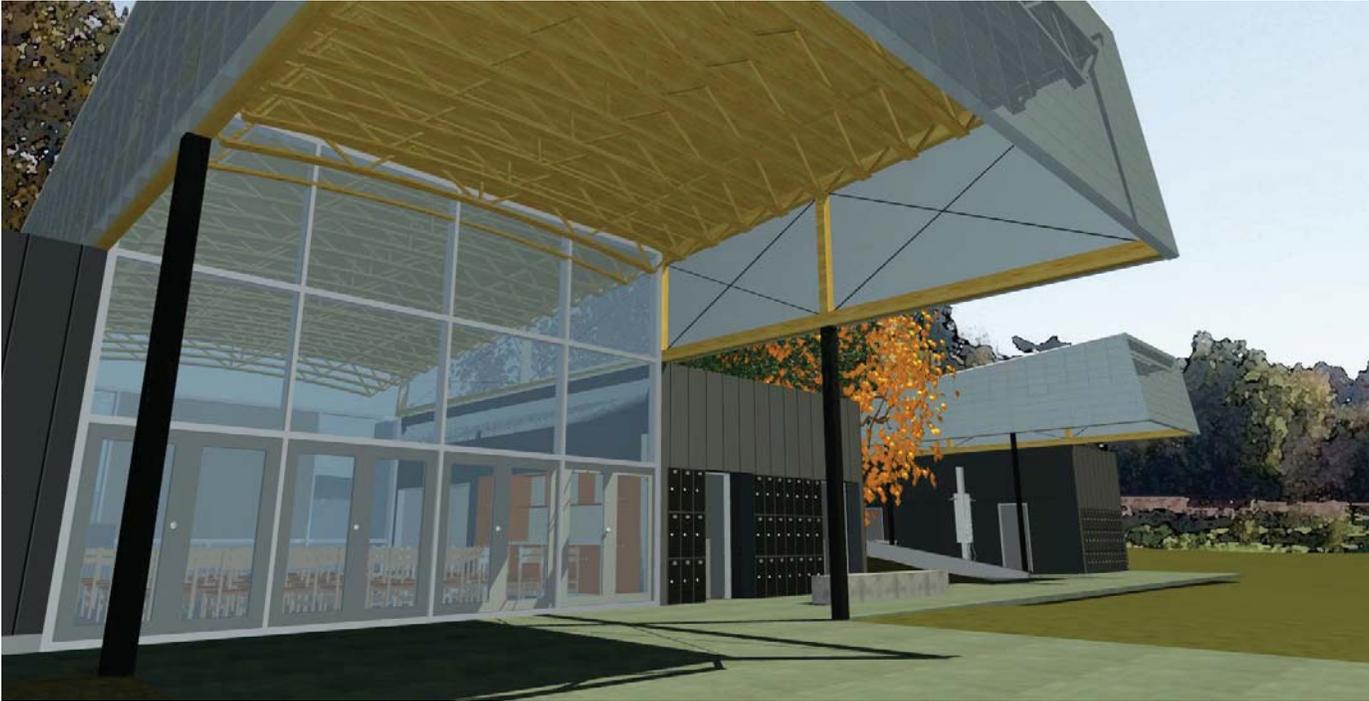
INTERIOR OF THE CLASSROOM, WITH ADJACENT KITCHEN AND UTILITY SPACE

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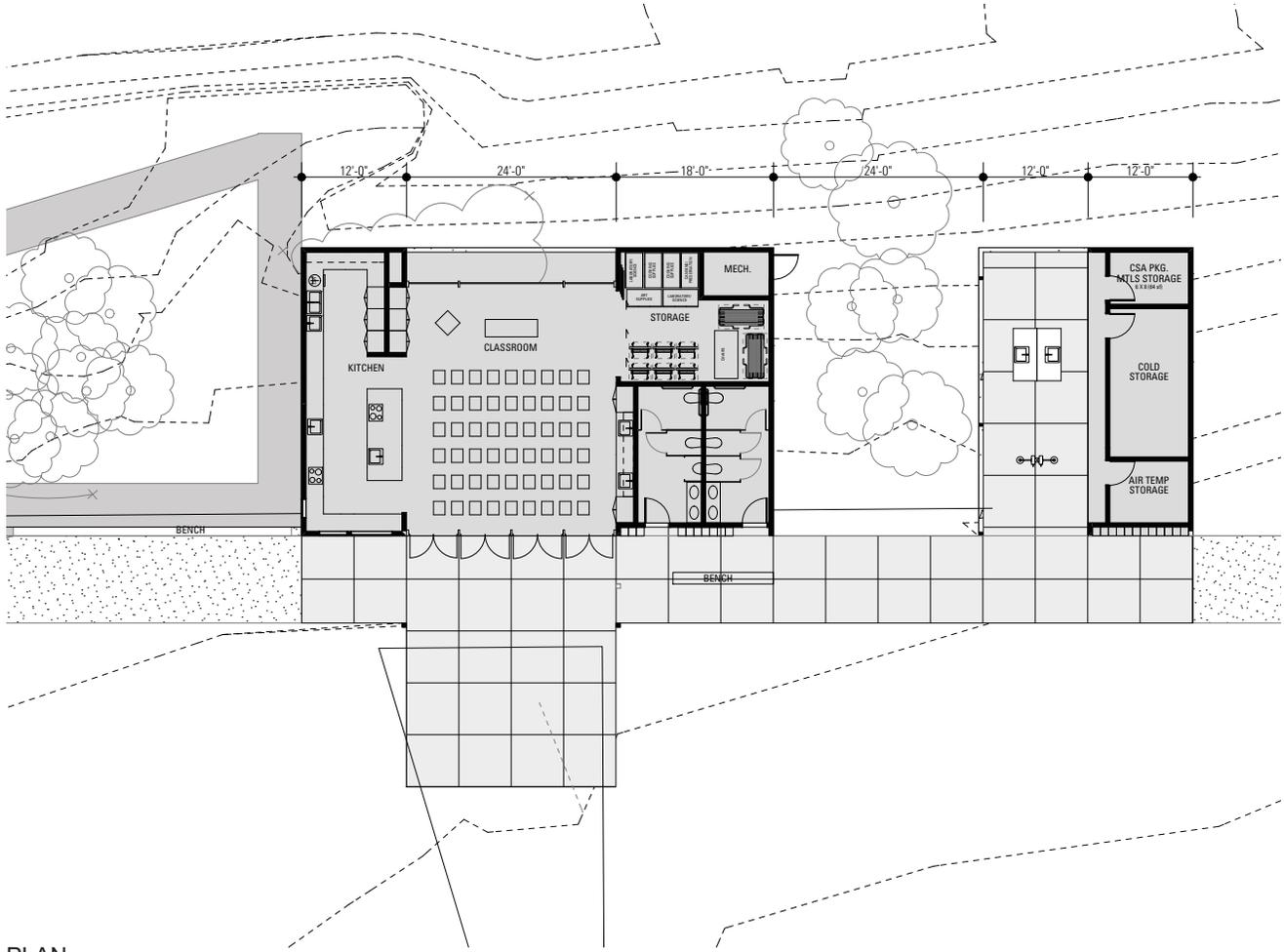
NORTHERN APPROACH



OUTDOOR GATHERING SPACE UNDER THE CANOPY

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