

Capital Improvement Task Force Update June 12, 2011

The Capital Improvement Task Force suggests that the way forward most likely to find approval with the Meeting is a building plan with the following features:

1. A two or three-story building addition in the space between the Meeting House and Carriage House, containing an elevator and connecting our buildings to provide ADA accessibility to the Meeting House, Carriage House, and Quaker House.
2. The addition would provide a new and obvious main entrance on Decatur Place, serving all three buildings. An entrance lobby and stairwell in the addition would also serve both sides of the campus. Office space would be configured to provide easy and direct monitoring and welcoming of visitors.

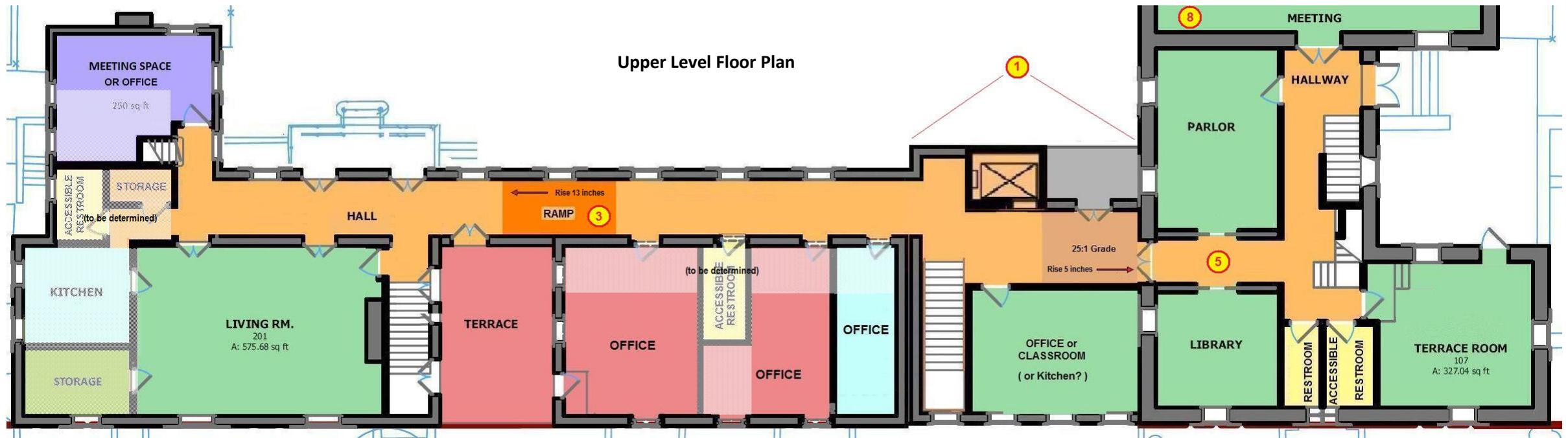
3. The addition would include a hallway extending on both levels across the back of Carriage House and Quaker House to provide internal connectivity to those buildings, with ramps to accommodate the various floor levels and make both floors wheelchair accessible.
4. The front of the addition would be fairly close to the existing building line, but not exactly flush with the current buildings. There should be some shelter from the rain for those standing outside the door.
5. On the upper floor, the connection to the Meeting House hallway would be through the Library, preserving the present Parlor, if possible. The south portion of the Library would be preserved, with a new wall and pocket doors facing the existing Parlor pocket doors.

6. The present Decatur Place entrance would be retained as a secondary entrance.
7. A door in the rear of the addition would provide direct access to the garden (as will the existing Assembly Room and Kitchen garden doors).
8. No changes to the Meeting Room are contemplated.

The floor plans shown below (sketched by a task force member) should be taken as illustrating broad concepts, rather than detailed designs. The details are likely to change a lot as we go through the review process.

Ignore the reconfiguration of Quaker House and Carriage House spaces and any other illustrated changes not discussed above, as those changes are entirely speculative at this point.





The above concepts represent our current thinking and have not been reviewed by architects. We intend to get rough cost information and obtain preliminary historic preservation and building code review before we present a plan to the Meeting for review and approval. We do not anticipate spending significant sums on architectural services until we have that approval.

Many details remain to be worked out, including the configuration of the connection to the first floor of the Meeting House and the question of whether the addition should have a third floor to provide additional program space and ADA access to the existing Meeting House third-floor rooms.

In addition to the elevator addition, the Task Force plans to discuss other capital spending possibilities, such as security and fire detection and suppression systems, needed building repairs and upgrades, and drainage and landscaping changes such as those outlined in the Quinn Evans recommendations.

This being a secular matter of architectural taste and judgment, we do not expect the Meeting to find unity on a plan that all will agree is the very best design.

Indeed, there are members of the Task Force who would gladly change aspects of the proposed design, but who agree that their concerns are not broadly shared. For

example, one of us very much wishes we would include the large north lobbies and new Meeting Room door featured in the 2010 Quinn Evans plan.

In the end, we may all be standing aside on details, but in unity on the way forward.

We hope that Meeting Friends will be able to lay aside individual preferences as necessary to focus on finding a plan that best reflects the wishes of the Meeting as a whole.

We greatly welcome your thoughts and concerns. You can write to us at:

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