

Capacity Expansion for Artisan Use Floyd Community Center for the Arts, Inc. Photos of Existing Infrastructure & Safety Issues



Our natural environment is critical to our creative process as a community. From this deck can be seen one of the most famous, inspiring, and historically significant landmarks in our region: Buffalo Mountain at nearly 4000 feet of elevation.

This deck, which also holds a lunch/gathering area and several ceramics kilns, is original to the 1940s era barn and is deteriorating badly. Where it wraps around the Pottery Studio, it also infringes on our primary access to our largest parking area, creating unsafe conditions for all campus users. But the problems of the porch deck are especially dire for our pottery students and professional teachers.



In the original building renovation (2001-2003), not quite enough money was acquired to renovate this annex building (fondly referred to as the “Western Room”) and the adjoined silo.

Today, the useful space of this annex is deteriorating, and the silo’s roof is in danger of blowing off and damaging facilities. Its “attached” nature allows the current configuration to act as a chimney, making heating the Western Room a severe challenge and drain of resources.

Our plan is to maintain the “icon” of the silo yet still remove the height which makes it so difficult to use and to renovate, creating a partially-circular room with natural air and light, a manageable roof configuration, and both inside and outside access (see elevation drawings).



The Western Room's interior is currently used for storage. At the left of the photo you can see the rounded side of the silo, where the connectivity problems arise. That rounded side will be flattened and incorporated more logically into two useful working spaces for artists and gathering spaces for community users.



These views show the newly-built Kiln Shed from the Pottery Studio's deck. The fit here is too tight for convenient use or task-flow, and the stairs accessing the Kiln Shed from the Studio are rotting and a safety issue for users.



In this view, it is easy to see the wrap-around porch/deck and the narrow driveway to our major parking area. The Pottery Studio was the dairy's "creamery" where the milking machinery was kept. It was partially renovated, fully equipped, and opened as a working ceramics studio in 2005. At the time, there was not enough money to completely renovate the porch/deck, although with the help of many donations of materials and volunteer work days, we've managed to keep the porch marginally functional. At this time, however, it is no longer fix-able (see deck detail below, left) and requires full renovation, especially to support the aggressive use our tenant and teaching artists require of it, as well as to hold the smaller, more accessible kilns for wider community usage.

Below right is the view of the side of the Pottery Studio with the Kiln Shed at the left. This is the view from the Western Room and silo, and would become part of the workflow of the artists and students working and learning on the campus as we expand our capacity to address the unique needs of professional working artists and the wider community of occasional users.

