

A photograph of the Anan Wildlife Observatory, a wooden building with a viewing deck, situated in a lush forest. A stream flows through the foreground, and a large tree trunk is visible on the left. A tarp is draped over a structure in the middle ground. The scene is surrounded by dense greenery and tall trees.

# Anan Wildlife Observatory

Viewing Deck Replacement Project

# History





Undated Photo; Pre- 1987 (note tree)



Undated Photo, Pre 1989 – (Note Chain Link Fence)



Undated Photo – Pre 1989



Upper Deck Construction; 1989



Upper Deck Completed 1989



Viewing from Upper Deck  
Undated (1989-1992)



Looking Upstream  
Undated (1989-1992)





Original Benches (removed later)



Lower Deck Construction, 1993



Lower Deck, 1993

Stairway to Photo blind  
1999





Anan Wildlife Observatory  
Undated (early 2000's)



Anan Wildlife Observatory, Undated Photo  
(Pre Hazard tree removal)



Anan Wildlife Observatory  
Viewed from across Anan Creek  
(Pre hazard Tree Removal)

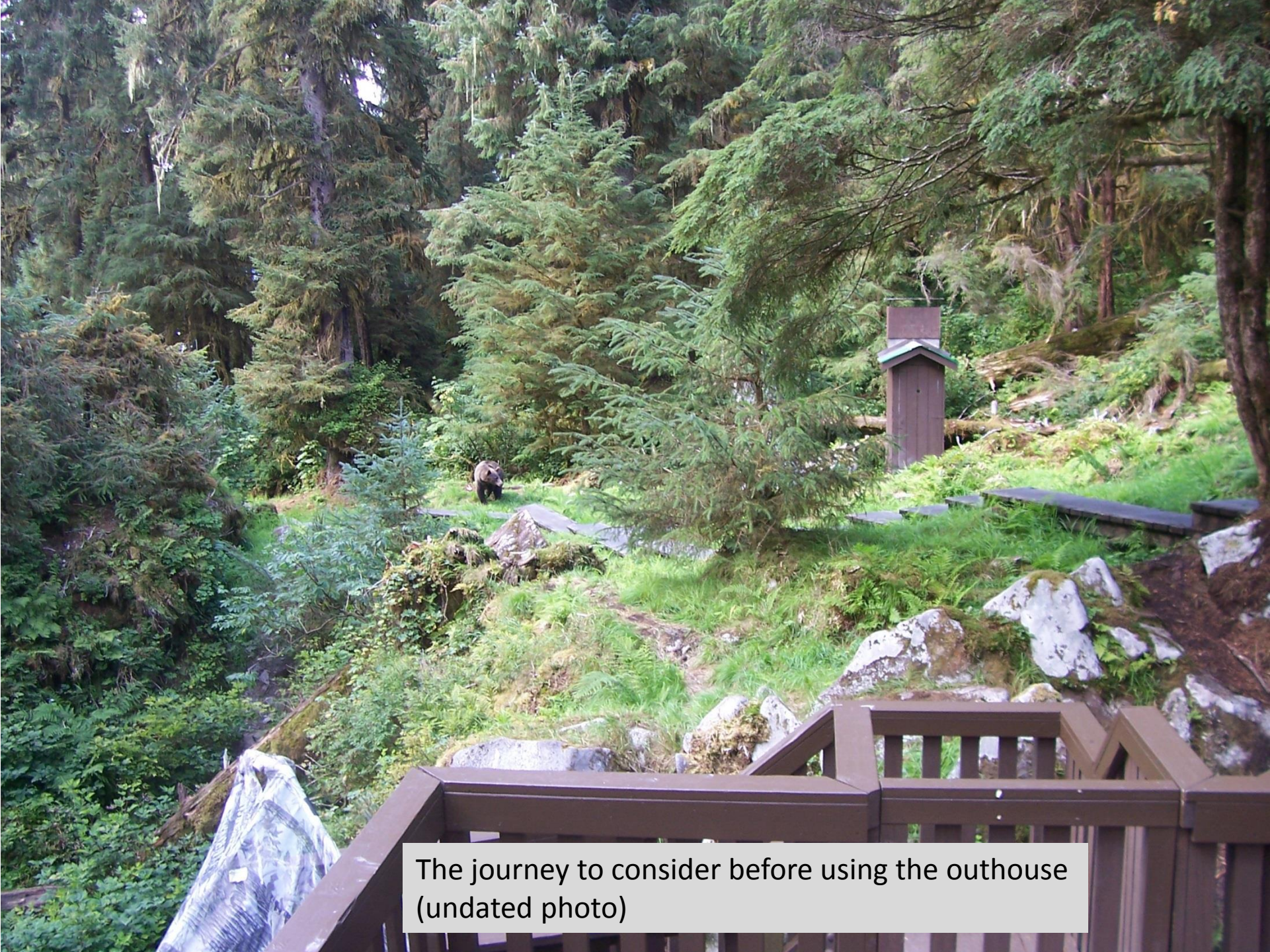


Hazard Tree  
(undated photo)





Undated Photo – (Post Hazard Tree Removal)



The journey to consider before using the outhouse  
(undated photo)



The journey back to the deck after using the outhouse...  
...is that a bear?

...just might be!





Anan Construction Contract  
2017



Entrance to upper level deck; constructed 2017

Toilet attached to deck  
(within railing)





How did we get here?



## Anan Wildlife Observatory Recreation Site Master Plan

In 2015, the Wrangell Ranger District prepared the Anan Wildlife Observatory Recreation Site Master Plan.

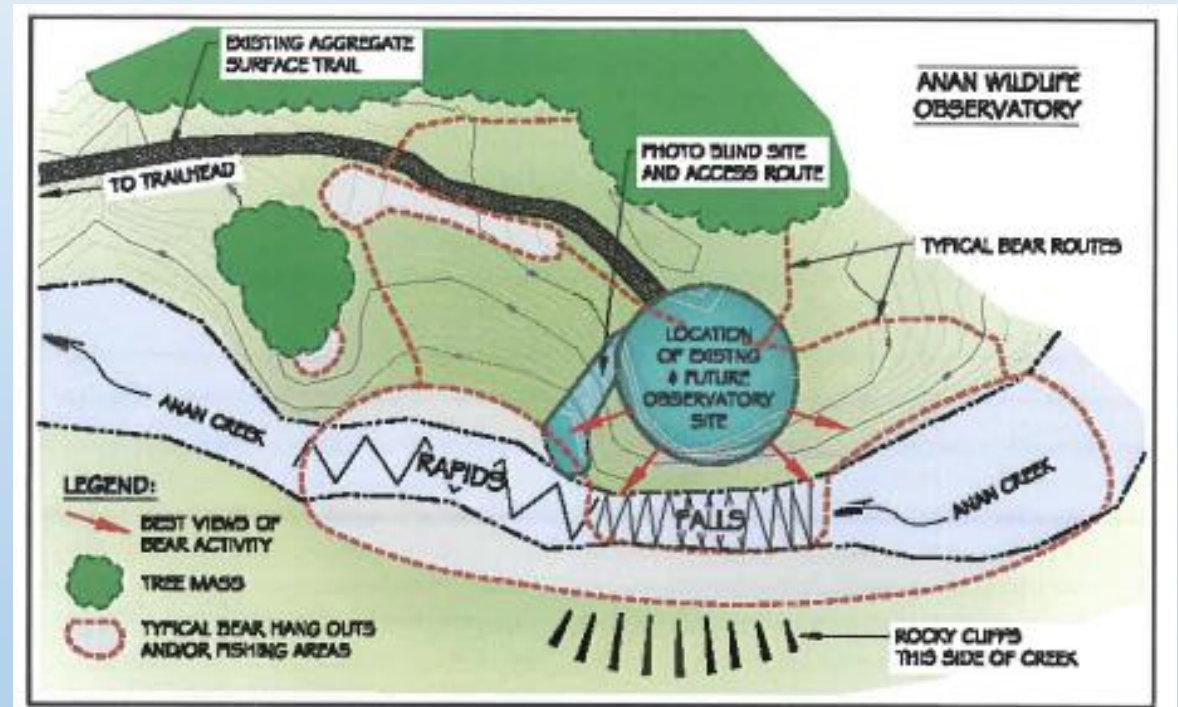
Originally planned for 5-10 years out, the 2017 construction contract revealed further structural issues indicating replacement may need to occur within 5 years.



In the Spring of 2017, the Wrangell District prepared the Design Narrative for replacing the Anan Wildlife Observatory. The document identified the detailed design criteria used to move forward with planning.



Photograph of the aging Anan Wildlife Observatory structure.



Site Analysis and Conceptual Site Plan (may be refined during design development)

# Design Criteria

- ❖ Overall design to minimize the structure and thereby emphasize the natural environment. Use traditional forms that match with other Anan structures and the surrounding natural environment.
- ❖ Maximize bear circulation around structure to encourage 360 degree viewing opportunities
- ❖ Use materials that minimize annual maintenance needs and also reduce the potential to attract chewing by bears
- ❖ Locate toilet to minimize its visibility and maximize privacy when entering/leaving the toilet building
- ❖ Rebuild foundation for lower viewing area (photo blind) to reduce maintenance while maintaining fish passage (working with ADFG to coordinate).
- ❖ Move existing observatory shelter to the trailhead?

Technology  
(not a consideration  
in existing structure)





Existing Photo Blind Stairway  
(obstruction of viewing opportunities)



Anan Shelter  
(Solid walls taking up prime viewing area)



Anan Deck Replacement  
Preliminary Conceptual Designs  
January 2018



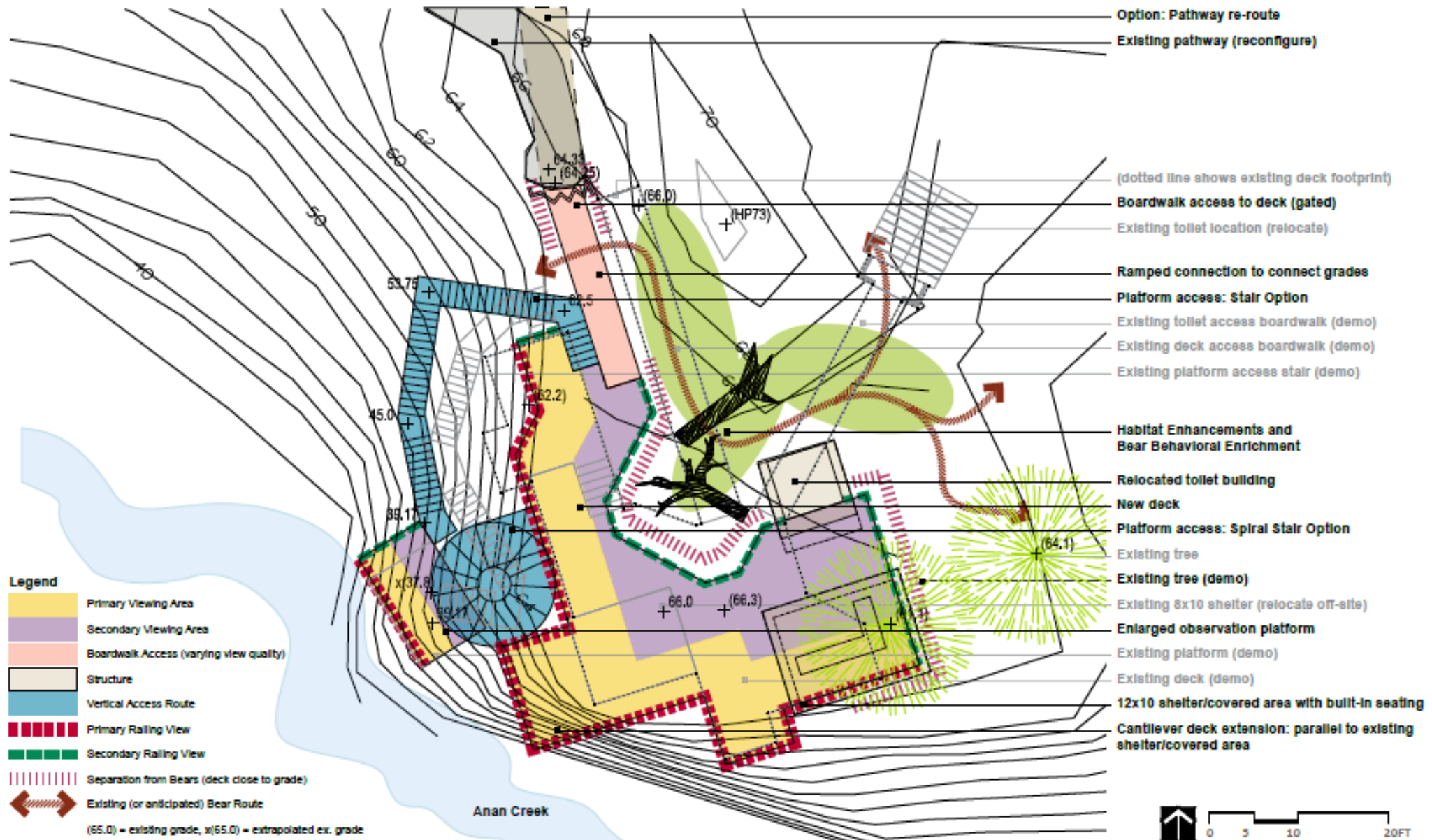
# Anan Wildlife Observatory Conceptual Design

## Site Plan - Existing Conditions



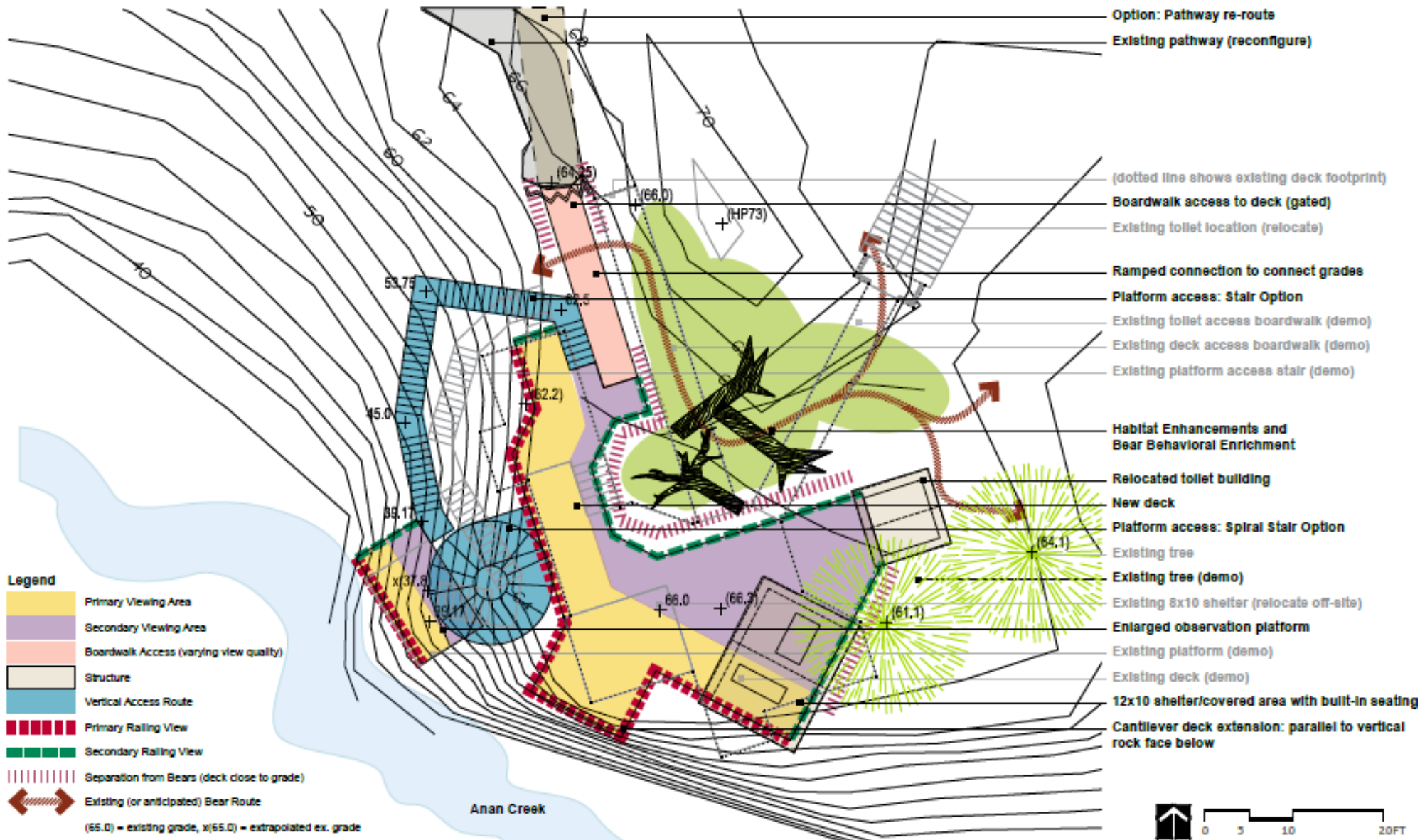
# Anan Wildlife Observatory Conceptual Design

## Site Plan - Option 1: Deck Extension Parallel to Existing



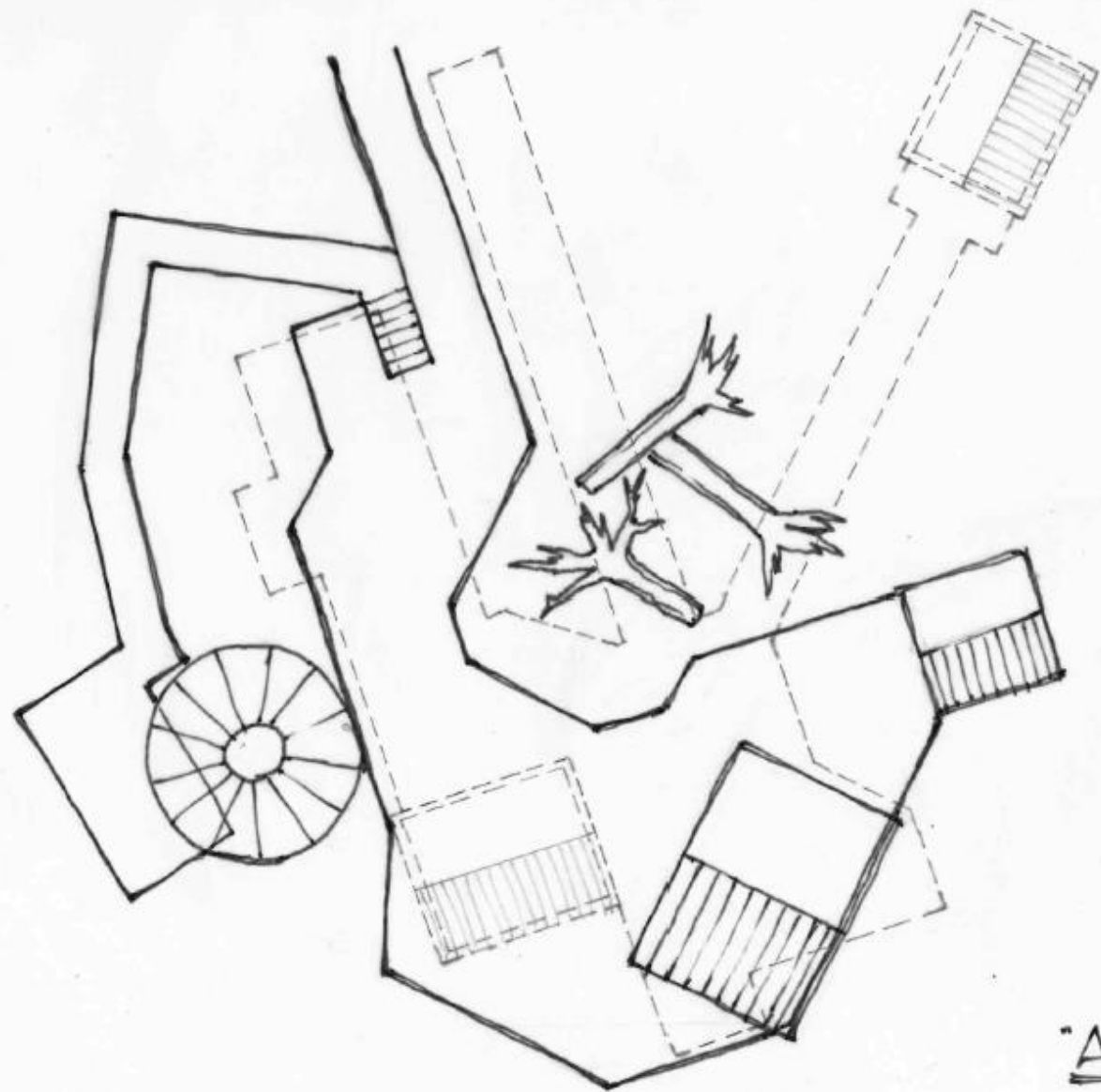
# Anan Wildlife Observatory Conceptual Design

## Site Plan - Option 2: Deck Extension Parallel to Rock Face Below

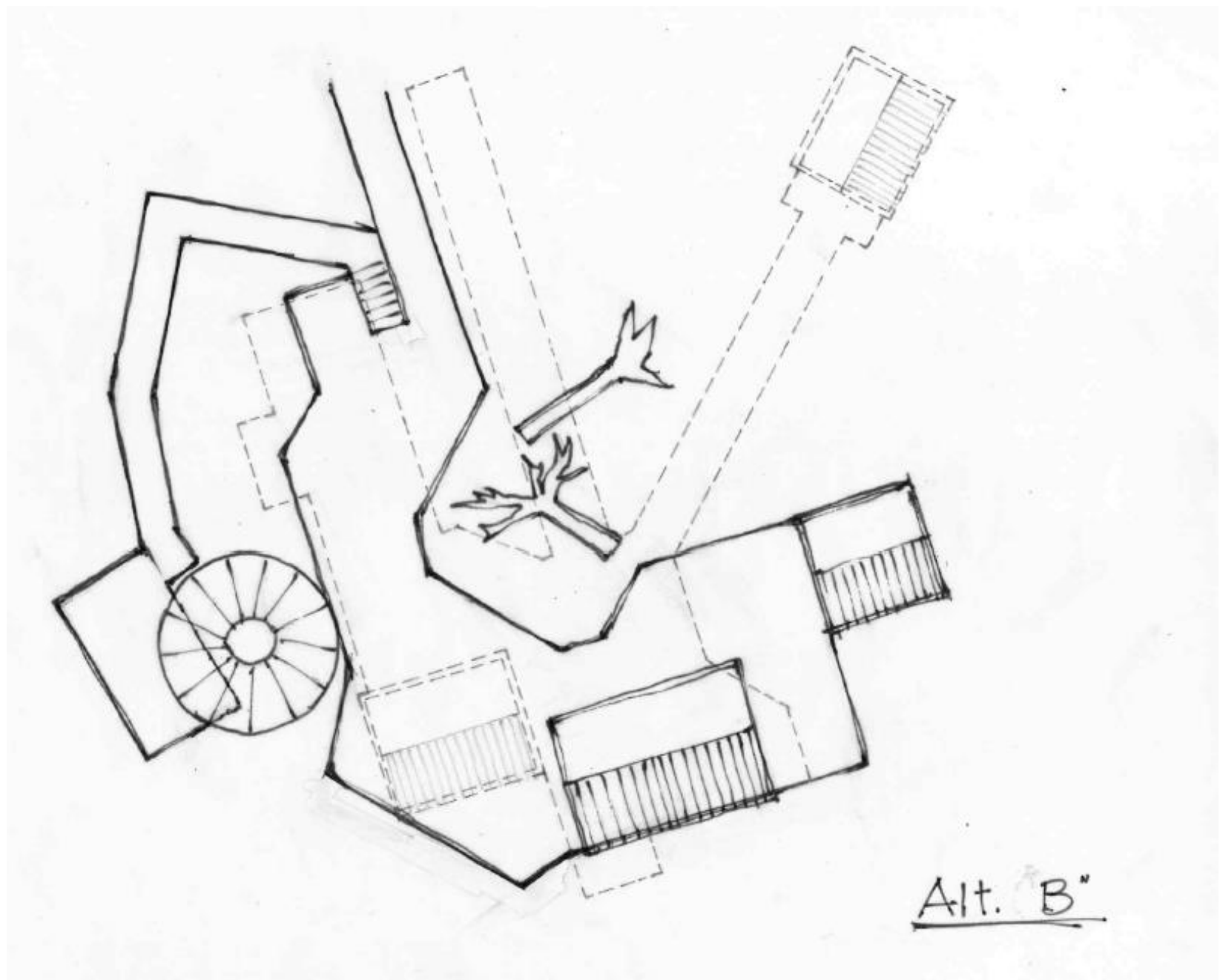


Anan Wildlife Observatory Conceptual Design  
 Site Plan - Option 3: Minor Expansion of Existing Footprint

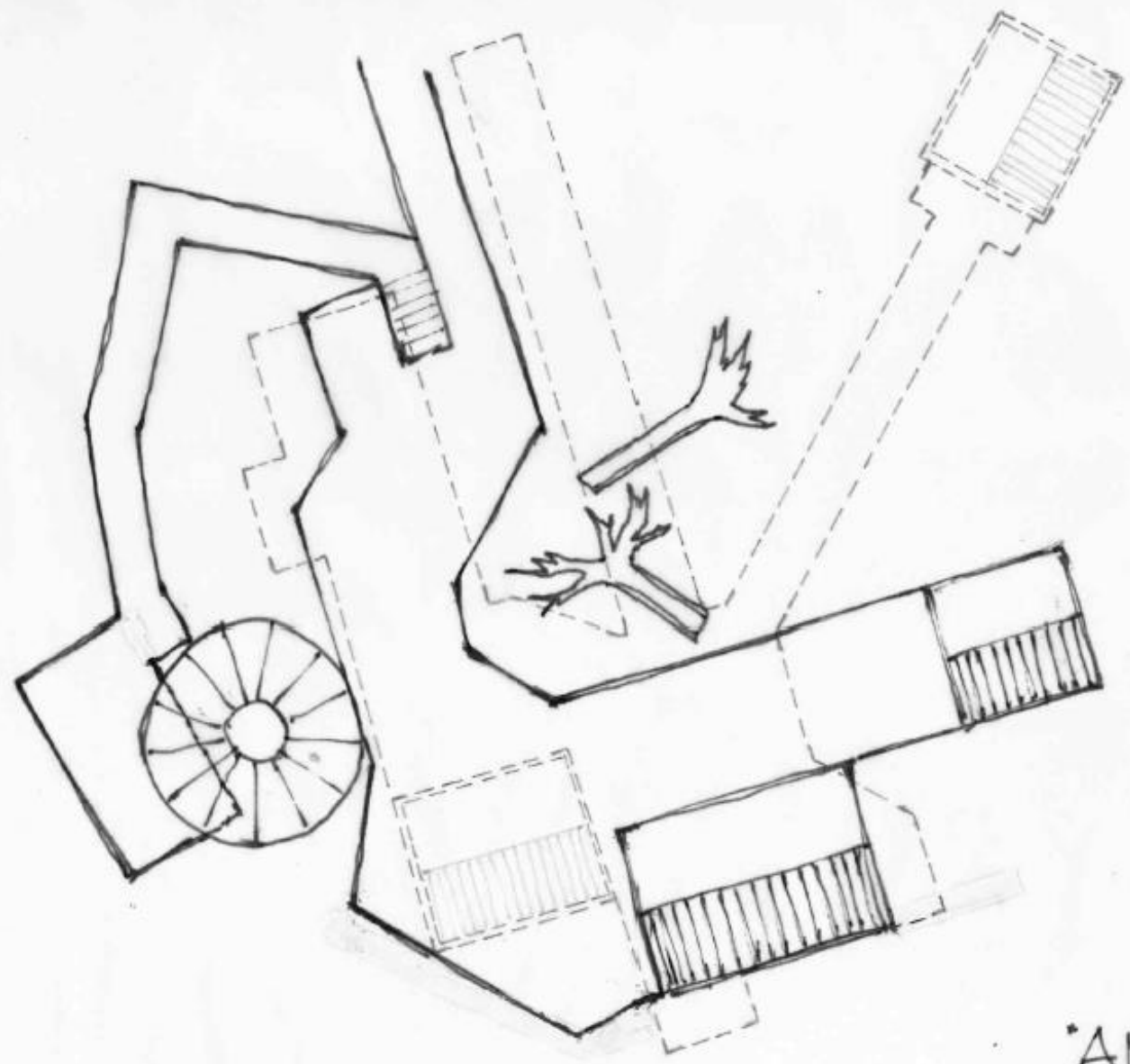




"Alt. A"



Alt. B"



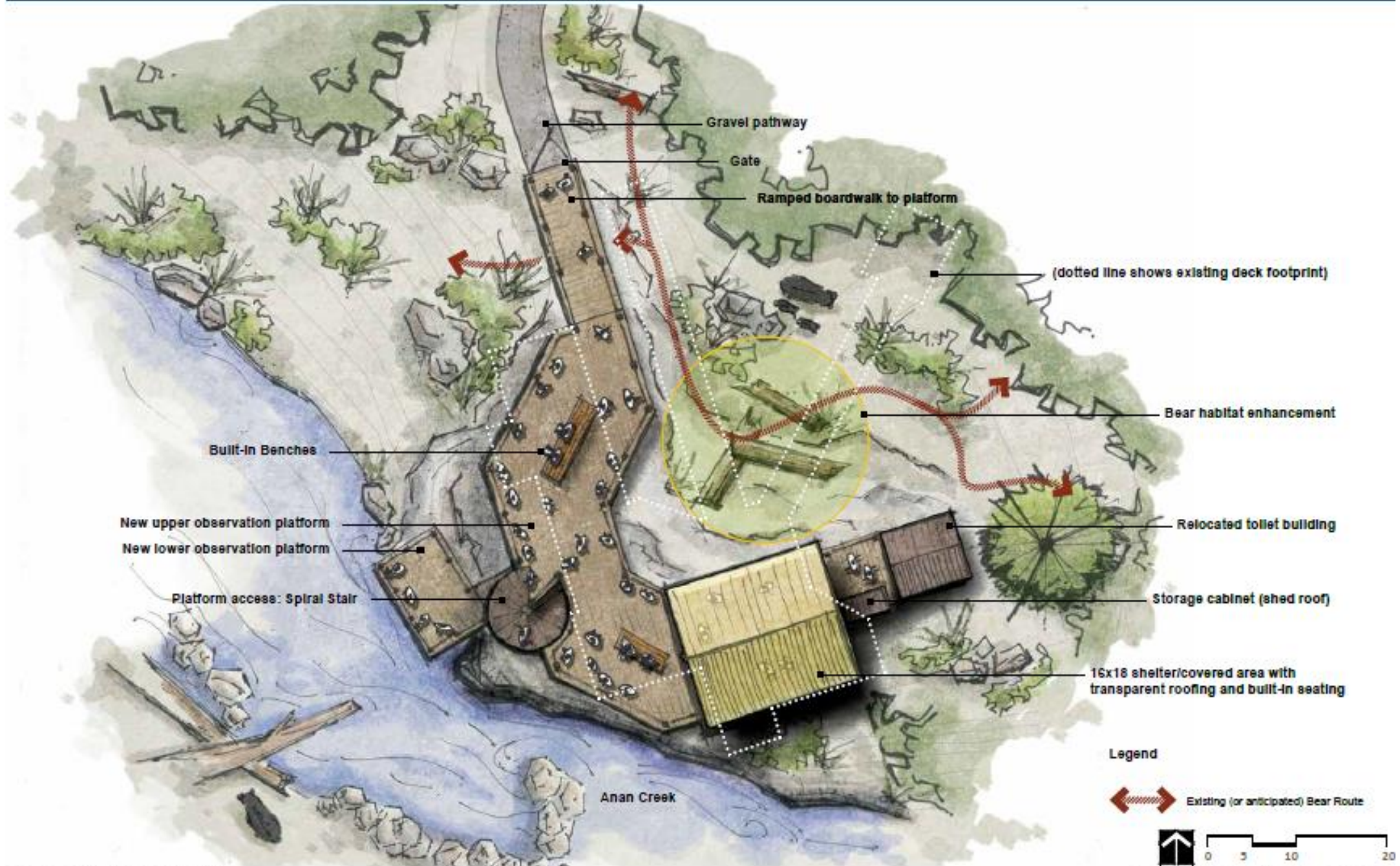
"Alt. C"

Anan Observatory  
Replacement

Conceptual Design  
March 2018









## What we've heard so far.....|

### Outhouse

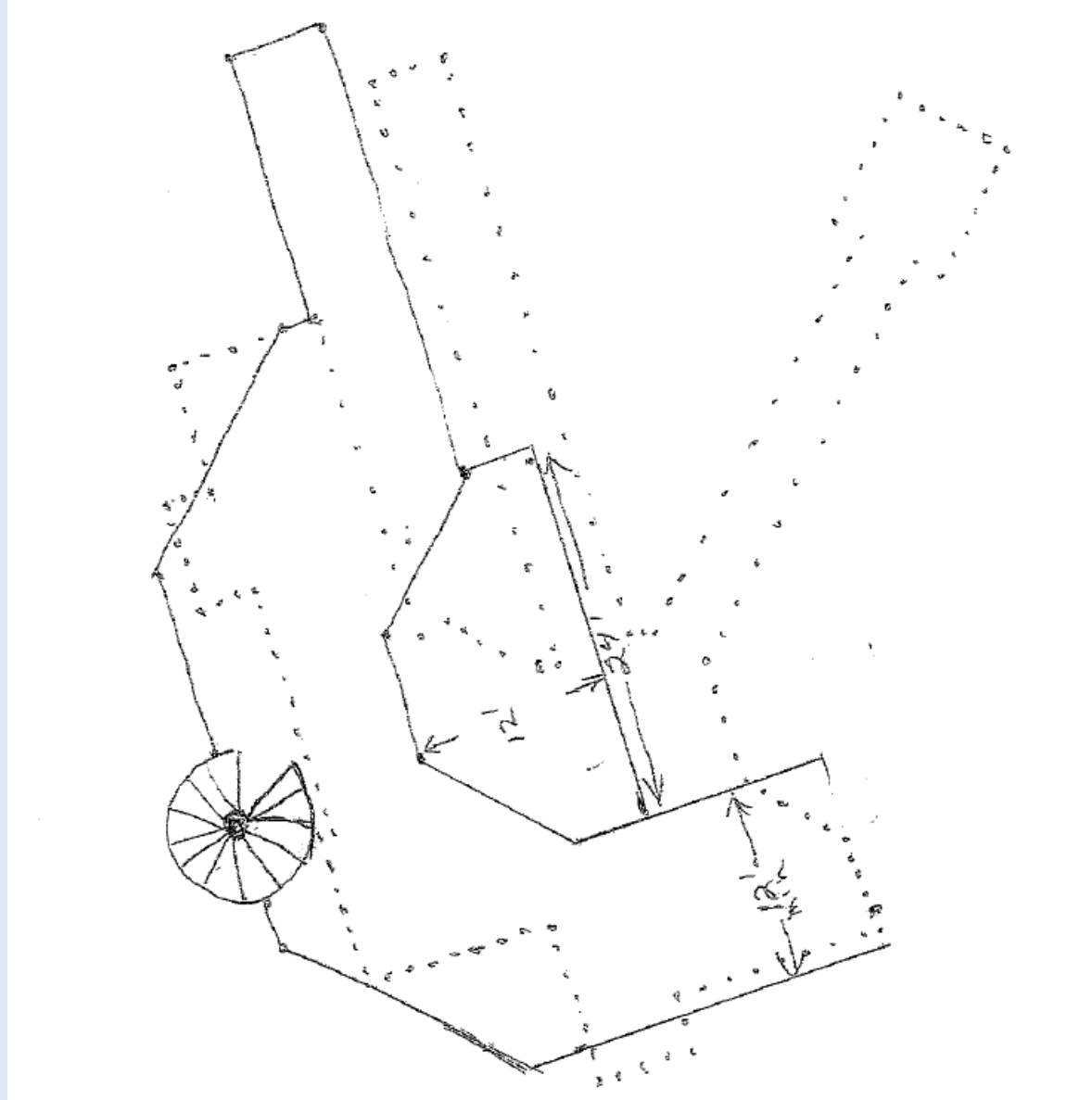
- ❖ I'm concerned that the new outhouse location will block the trail frequently used by bears coming up the slope from the back eddy fishing location...Bears coming up or down provide some great photographic opportunities.

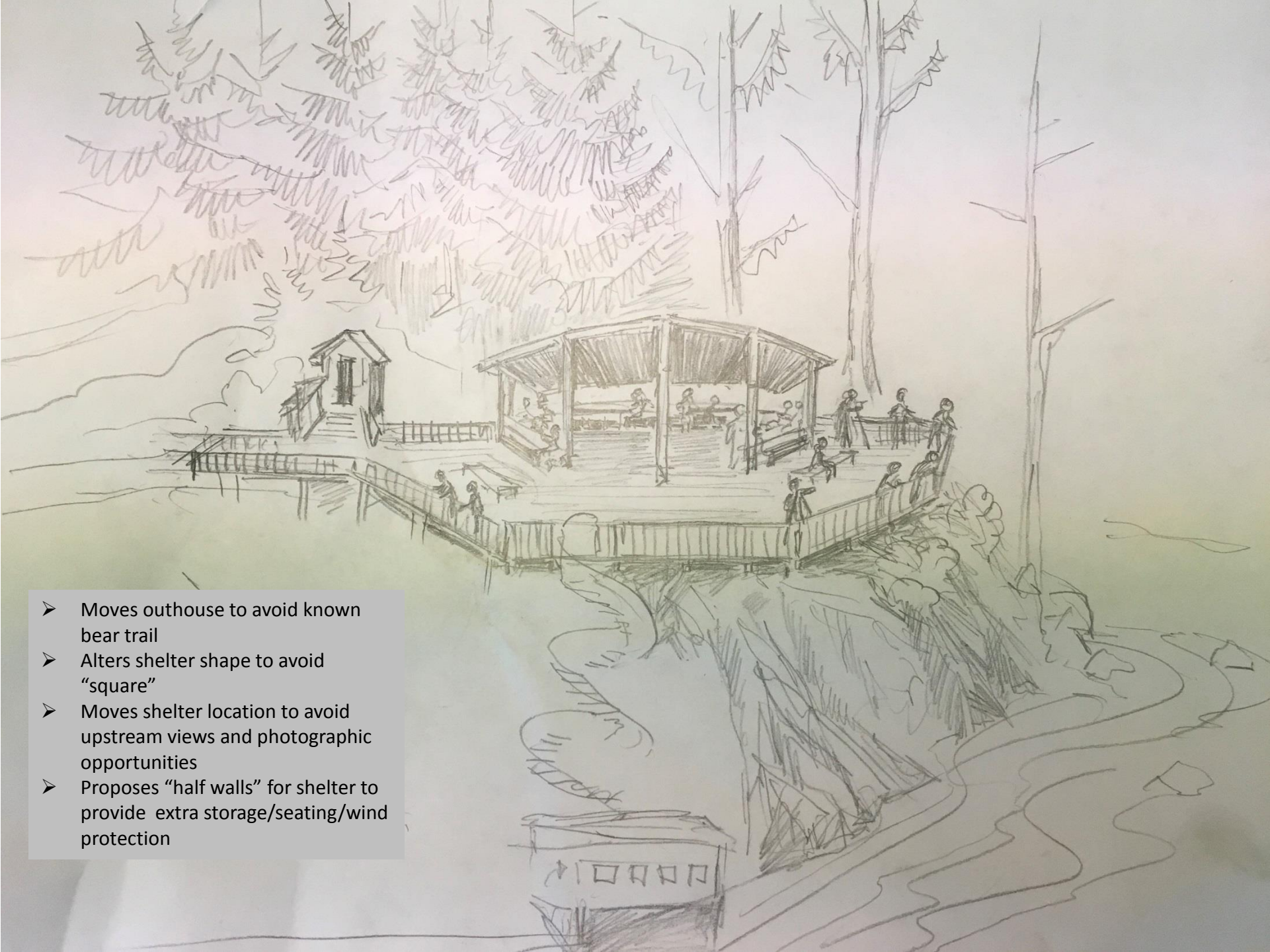
### Shelter:

- ❖ An open shelter is great, except for those 50 degree days with wind and rain
- ❖ The shelter location may block upstream views, can it be located away from the prime viewing rails?
- ❖ I don't have a problem with the shelter taking up some viewing rail if pointed upstream – I find that people do like to sit and contemplate and the upstream view is very conducive to that.

### Design Details:

- ❖ How will the design accommodate interpretive displays (panels? Signs? Any?)
- ❖ The mesh wire will give it more of an open feel.
- ❖ The sketches show the stairway and photo blind open without screening. Will they be screened?





- Moves outhouse to avoid known bear trail
- Alters shelter shape to avoid “square”
- Moves shelter location to avoid upstream views and photographic opportunities
- Proposes “half walls” for shelter to provide extra storage/seating/wind protection

A photograph of a forest scene. A crow is perched on a mossy tree branch on the left, looking towards the right. In the background, a black bear cub is partially visible behind a tree trunk on the right. The forest is dense with moss-covered branches and green foliage.

**Don't be shy....**

**Please tell us what you think!**

