

Master Plan Executive Summary

Ontario Museum of History & Art

City of Ontario CA | March 2019



Architectural
Resources Group



Executive Summary

The Ontario Museum of History & Art (OMHA) is the custodian of Ontario's local history and an educational and cultural resource for its community. The museum's piecemeal adaptation of spaces in the 1937 City Hall over the past forty years has led to a less-than-optimal situation. In addition, upgrades for life safety, code, and curatorial standards are called for.

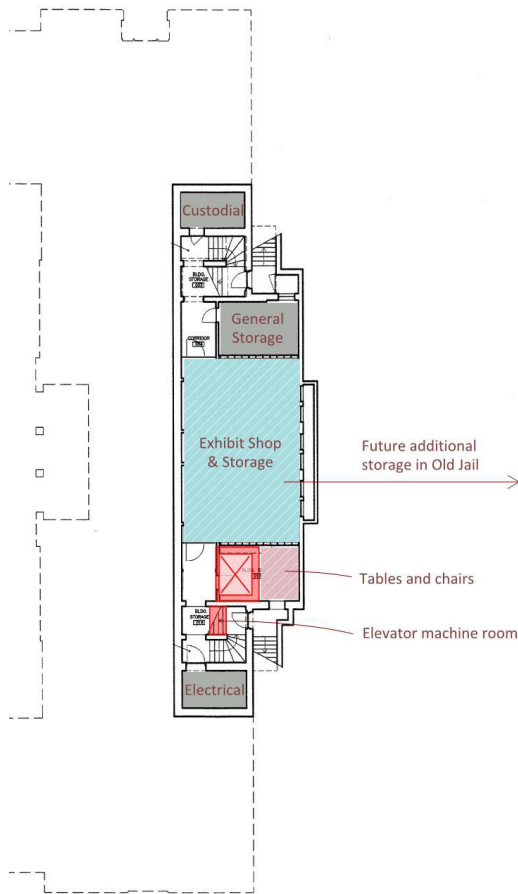
OMHA's primary goals in addressing these concerns are:

- Enhance the museum's value to its constituent communities
- Meet contemporary expectations for collections stewardship
- Obtain accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums

This report lays out current facilities conditions in Section 2 and, where appropriate, makes preliminary recommendations for remediation. These recommendations are then assessed for cost and potential work sequence. This analysis provides a framework for OMHA's decision making, both near- and long-term.

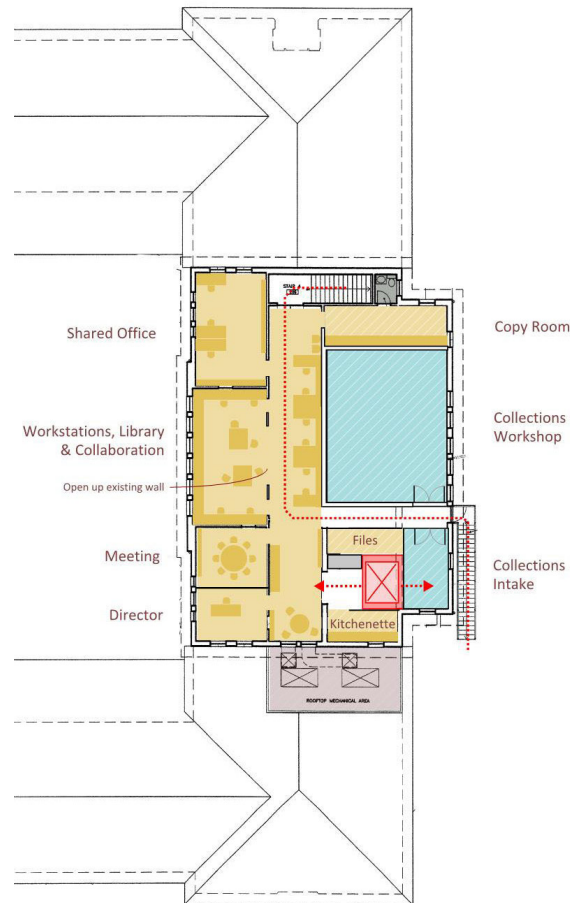
The core recommendations in Section 3 are for optimization of the museum's layout, shown in the plan diagrams on the next pages.

Executive Summary



basement

- Enlarge and consolidate Exhibit Fabrication Shop and storage
- Create Elevator access



second floor

- Open up and rationalize Office areas
- Create Elevator access
- Provide direct access to exterior emergency stair
- Store collections off site and optimize Collections Intake and Workshop

Code and Accessibility

Section 4 assesses the Museum building's compliance with applicable codes and regulations, especially fire safety and barrier-free access.

Major considerations include:

- Installation of a sprinkler system. This is not code-required in the case of OMHA's existing building and will require the museum to make a decision that balances benefits against costs.
- Provision of accessible restroom facilities.
- Installation of an elevator serving all building floors.

Building Systems

Section 5 reviews the museum building's existing structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and proposes upgrades as appropriate.

Particular attention is given to the mechanical systems (or HVAC: Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning). Maintaining gallery environments at appropriate, consistent temperature and humidity levels is a critical part of collection stewardship and will be a major factor in obtaining American Alliance of Museums accreditation.

The museum's need for data and security systems is also addressed in this section.

Building Condition and Treatment

Section 6 details existing exterior conditions of the OMHA building, including deterioration and damage. Section 7 provides a corresponding rundown of recommended maintenance, repairs, and restoration measures.

Cost Projections

The overall project cost for the improvements recommended by this master plan has been estimated **\$8,946,000**. This can be broken out into three general areas:

“Overall” — building-wide systems work	\$2,083,800
“Area by Area” — focused interior upgrades	\$5,819,400
“Exterior” — envelope maintenance and preservation	\$1,042,800

See Section 8 and Appendix C.1 for more detail on this estimate. Appendix C.2 provides a concept budget for the upcoming "Built On Water" exhibit.

The sequence in which work is done will depend on future availability of various kinds of funding. While the specifics here cannot be predicted, Section 9 provides an overview of phasing and implementation considerations that apply in most scenarios.

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