

# »» a new face for “America’s Automotive Library”

AACA and its Library & Research Center: Together We Can Make it Happen.

There are so many things I could say about the importance of our capital campaign and those whose generosity will be substantial and crucial to our mission to fully fund and properly build out AACAs library and headquarters. For someone who’s not usually at a loss for words, the burden of finding the right ones is heavy.

I could point out the perfect location of our new building, the need for more space, the fact that we are soon to receive one of the most important automotive archive collections in the world, or any of dozens of important reasons for a new library and headquarters. However, this is the most important undertaking since the founding of our club and it will establish AACA as “THE” permanent safe harbor for the preservation of worldwide automobile history and all that goes with serving the passion we share. More importantly, it’s about people and the continuance of our AACA family.

Automotive history is so important. In the collective sense, the automobile capped off the industrial revolution. With it, sweeping social change occurred, especially in America where the car opened a new world to people who had never ventured further than a few miles from their birthplace. It raised wages and built the industrial engine that would propel the allies to victory in WWII, but on a personal level it meant much more. It was freedom, a family vacation, a symbol of success, a source of entertainment, and an inextricable part of our lives and memories. It became part of our family.

We in AACA are blessed to experience a confluence of vehicles and people ... the result of which is tens of thousands of friendships, family outings and projects, charitable successes, and so much more that we take for granted. It’s hard to fathom all that comes to us and the automotive hobby through AACA. It’s harder still to think of where we would be without this club and what would be missing in our lives.

Now is the time to make a difference for the present and the future. There has never been a worthier project or a better opportunity for us. A world-class library deserves a world-class facility, something of which members can be very proud. Many of you saw the letter and pledge

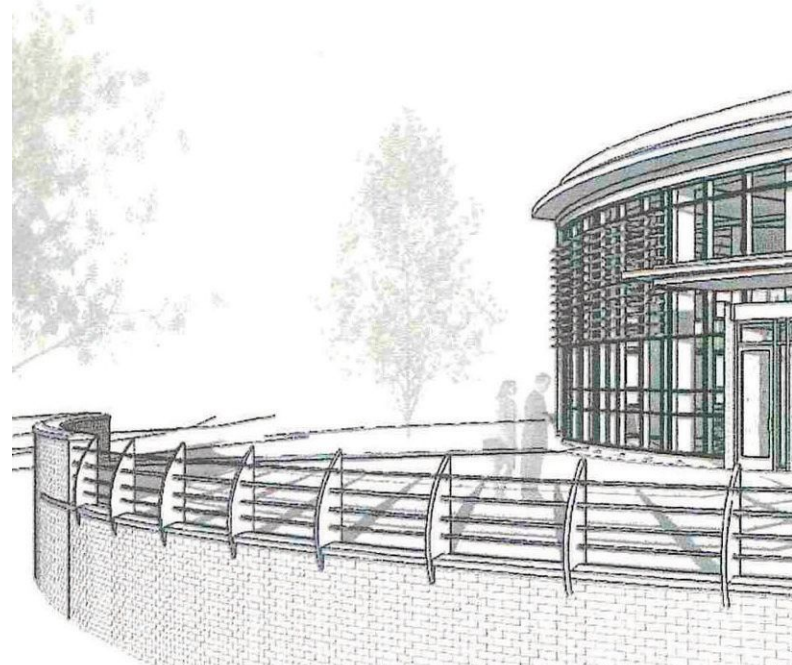
envelope enclosed in the November/December issue of the magazine. The club received a lot of support and some that is generous beyond comprehension, but we need assistance from everyone in order to do what is needed. Let’s not kid ourselves. We cannot assume someone else is going to make this happen. Every one of us must do our part, so that our automotive family not only grows, but prospers. It is an easy job if we all share the burden just a little.

Time is of the essence. Please think about making a contribution to ensure AACA and its Library & Research Center will be the world’s greatest automotive resource facility.

#### Donation options:

Mail check to 501 W. Governor Road, Hershey PA 17033 (marked Building Fund)

Call 717-534-1910 to donate by credit card, or via PayPal at the [aaca.org](http://aaca.org) home page.



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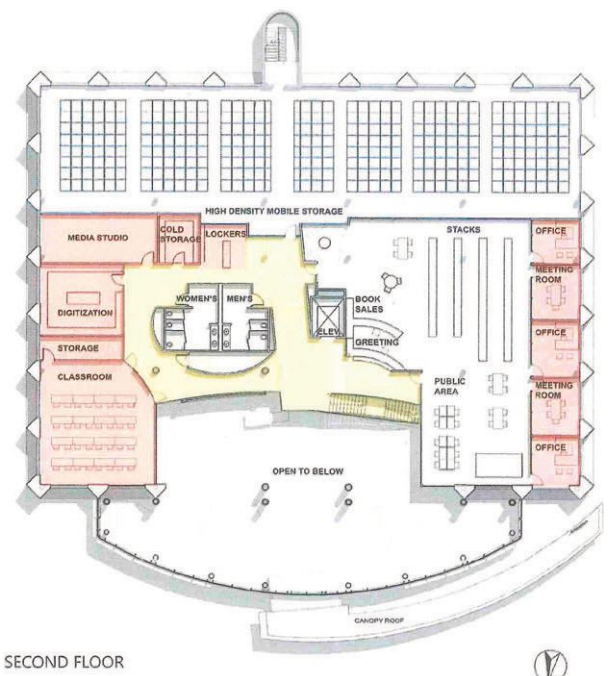
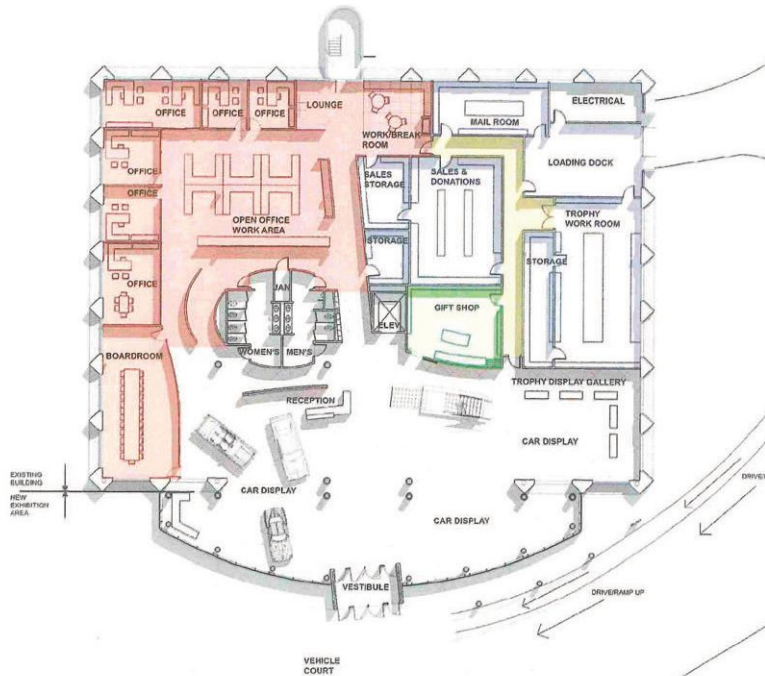
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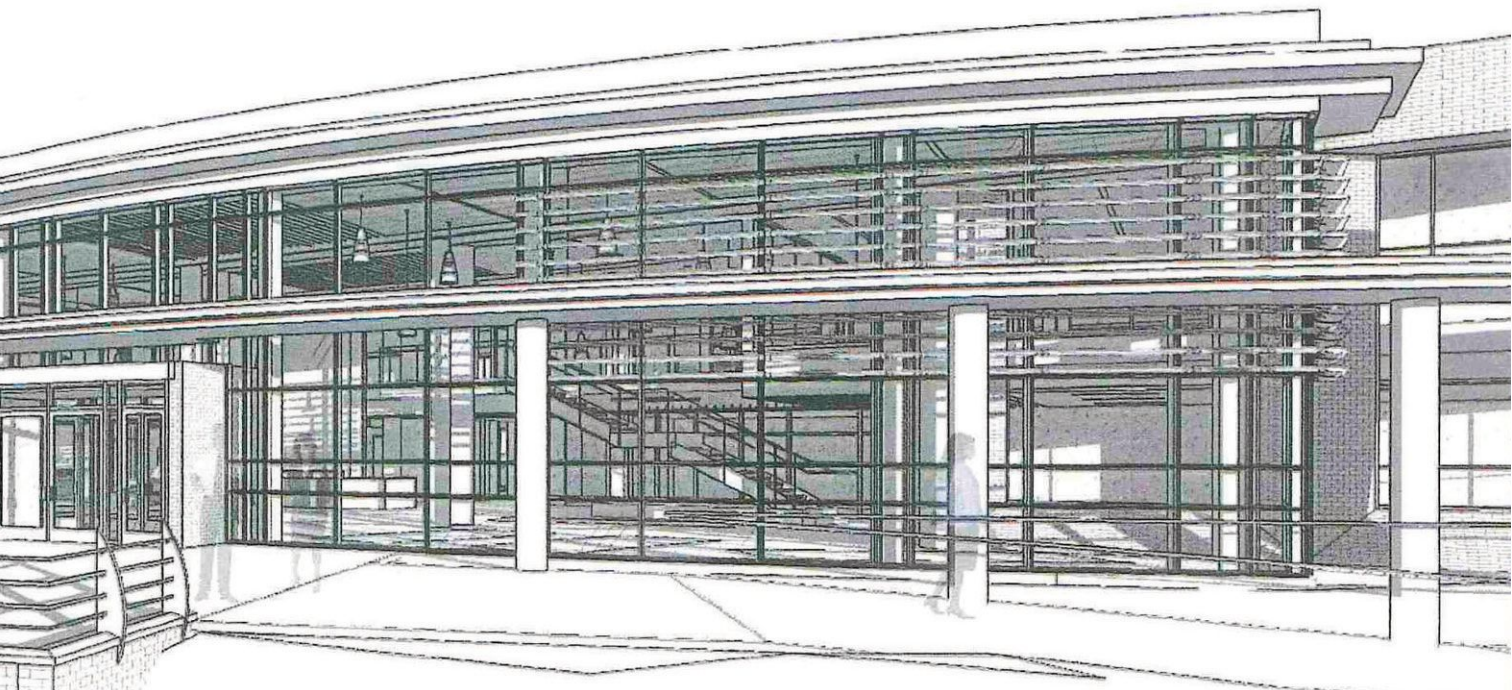
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SECOND FLOOR

When visitors enter the AACA headquarters they will immediately see an interesting sampling of up to 10 antique vehicles on display. Beyond that, visitors can learn about the history of our hobby and AACA through interactive displays and historical memorabilia. Staff will be on hand to greet visitors and direct them to other areas within the building, including a large gift shop. Headquarters will be housed on the first floor and offices will be laid out in a logical pattern for work flow. Trophy engraving, assembly and processing will be near the loading dock. Membership processing will be in the opposite corner of the building. Guests may use the elevator or grand staircase to access the Library & Research Center on the upper level.

“America’s Automotive Library” and its more than 2-million-piece archive will be housed on the second floor featuring a balcony overlooking the lower display area. Several seating areas will be available, depending on each guest’s reading or research needs. Automotive reference books will be available for open browsing but the main library collection will be housed in a separate climate-controlled area consuming more than 1/3 of the upper floor and visible through glass walls. The library will also feature a classroom for public and private programs, a media production studio, and a state-of-the-art digitization room for scanning, preserving and sharing library holdings with users across the globe.



The front of the AACA Headquarters and Library & Research Center will be visible from Hershey Park Drive, with some eight million vehicles passing by every year. As visitors enter our 185-space parking lot they will be greeted with up-close views of the glass façade and catch a glimpse of the vehicles on display in the lobby area. Visitors will enter the building via a ramp that leads to the main entry doors. The horizontal metal slats in front of the windows will not only block out afternoon sun, but subtly pay homage to an automobile grille.