

## The Community Library

Cobleskill, New York



architecture+ provided programming services and prepared a feasibility study for The Community Library in Cobleskill. We assisted the client in preparing grant applications to help finance the project. When the project was ready to move forward, we designed a total library renovation that improved space utilization of the existing building.

The existing library collection and activities were limited to the first floor because there was no visual connection to the second floor spaces. We created a large new opening in the main library space to connect the first and second floors. Connecting the floors with an opening allowed the library to expand its collection, computer areas, and active library space without sacrificing supervision. The new opening also brought a stronger sense of light and unity to the historic building.

The existing building also lacked an elevator and did not provide adequate bathroom facilities. We added an elevator to the building, provided new finishes, and established bathroom facilities on all of the floors. The designed renovation maintained unique existing details like built-in bookcases and provided detail in the new work in order to preserve the existing historic character of the building.