MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 7309 Piney Branch Rd., Takoma Park Meeting Date: 2/12/2019

Resource: Contributing Resource **Report Date:** 2/6/2019

Takoma Park Historic District

Review: HAWP **Public Notice:** 1/30/2019

Case Number: 37/03-19D Tax Credit: Partial

Applicant: Natalie Hopkins **Staff:** Dan Bruechert

Proposal: Building Addition, Door Replacement, and Porch Modifications

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission **approve with one condition** the HAWP application:

1. The proposed vinyl clad wood windows are not an appropriate material. The approved windows in the addition need to be wood or aluminum clad wood windows. Detailed specifications for the windows need to be submitted to Staff for verification prior to permitting.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource to the Takoma Park Historic District

STYLE: Queen Anne DATE: c.1890-1905

The subject property is a two-and-a-half stories tall, four bays wide, Queen Anne-style dwelling with cedar shingle siding and a cross gable roof.

At the rear of the house there are two additions. The larger addition was constructed c. 1960, while the other addition was constructed in 2006.



Figure 1: 7309 Piney Branch Rd. is located near Eastern Ave. and the Washington D.C. border.

BACKGROUND

On January 9, 2019 the subject property was reviewed by the HPC as a Preliminary Consultation. The HPCs comments were overall supportive of the proposed changes but identified the form of the proposed roof dormer on the right elevation to be inappropriate and recommended revisions either by removing the dormer on this elevation or by bringing it in from the wall plane and moving toward the rear. The applicant responded that the HPC "recommendation of allowing the new addition gable roof to match the eave height of the existing roof provided design relief, but introduced constructability and cost challenges the were undesirable for this project. The previous iteration of the dormer has been outlined in all views for comparison with the current proposal." Design changes have been undertaken to reduce the impact of a dormer on the right side of the house.

The scope of work presented in the preliminary consultation included the removal of the non-historic shingle siding and restoration of the historic siding. The applicant has removed this work from the scope of work under consideration for this HAWP.

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to:

- Remove the Doric columns in the porch and install square columns and install a balustrade in the front porch;
- Construct an addition at the rear that extends the 2nd and 3rd floor above the existing addition;
- Install gutters and downspouts;
- Fenestration changes on the right elevation; and
- Other changes that are restorative or other repairs that do not require HPC review.

¹ The previous Staff Report can be found here: https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/II.B-7309-Piney-Branch-Road-Takoma-Park.pdf, with consideration of this item beginning at 35:15.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

When reviewing alterations and additions for new construction to Contributing Resources within the Takoma Park Historic District, decisions are guided by the Takoma Park Historic District Design Guidelines (Design Guidelines) and Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A), and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (the Standards).

Takoma Park Historic District Design Guidelines

There are two very general, broad planning and design concepts which apply to all categories. These are:

The design review emphasis will be restricted to changes that are at all visible from the public right-of-way, irrespective of landscaping or vegetation (it is expected that the majority of new additions will be reviewed for their impact on the overall district), and,

The importance of assuring that additions and other changes to existing structures act to reinforce and continue existing streetscape, landscape, and building patterns rather than to impair the character of the district.

Contributing Resources should receive a more lenient review than those structures that have been classified as Outstanding. This design review should emphasize the importance of the resource to the overall streetscape and its compatibility with existing patterns rather than focusing on a close scrutiny of architectural detailing. In general, however, changes to Contributing Resources should respect the predominant architectural style of the resource. As stated above, the design review emphasis will be restricted to changes that are *at all visible from the public right-of-way*, irrespective of landscaping or vegetation.

All exterior alterations, including those to architectural features and details, should be generally consistent with the predominant architectural style and period of the resource and should preserve the predominant architectural features of the resource; exact replication of existing details and features is, however, not required

Minor alterations to areas that do not directly front on a public right-of-way such as vents, metal stovepipes, air conditioners, fences, skylights, etc. — should be allowed as a matter of course; alterations to areas that do not directly front on a public way-of-way which involve the replacement of or damaged to original ornamental or architectural features are discouraged, but may be considered and approved on a case-by-case basis

Major additions should, where feasible, be placed to the rear of existing structures so that they are less visible from the public right-of-way; additions and alterations to the first floor at the front of a structure are discouraged but not automatically prohibited.

While additions should be compatible, they are not required to be replicative of earlier architectural styles.

Some non-original building materials may be acceptable on a case-by-case basis;

artificial siding on areas visible to the public right-of-way is discouraged where such materials would replace or damage original building materials that are in good condition

All changes and additions should respect existing environmental settings, landscaping, and patterns of open space.

Montgomery County Code, Chapter 24A Historic Resources Preservation

- (b) The commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to insure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:
 - (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
 - (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

- 2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, space and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportions, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
- 10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

STAFF DISCUSSION

The applicant proposes to undertake work in several areas of the house. Some of this work is eligible for the County's Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program and will be identified as such in this Staff Report.

Porch Alterations

The applicant proposes several modifications to the existing porch. First, the applicant proposes removing the exiting shed roof on the porch and installing a hipped roof. Second, the applicant proposes to remove the Doric columns and replace them with square columns. The applicant proposes to install a new wood baluster with a 2" (two inch) square pickets and a new set of front stairs with a handrail matching the balustrade.

The applicant indicates that the current porch was modified or significantly altered c.1960 and while there is no documentary evidence included with the application, Staff finds this to be a reasonable conclusion. The remainder of the house was significantly modified during that time. Staff cannot determine of the existing front porch is historic or a later replacement. Sanborn

maps show a full-width porch dating to at least 1927, but those records to not indicate porch roof type. However, Staff finds that a hipped roof would be period-appropriate. The house to the left has a full-width hipped roof porch and the house to the right has a full-width shed roofed porch. Staff finds that an alteration to this feature would be acceptable. Staff additionally finds that square columns would be a period-appropriate design. Wood columns are the appropriate material for this architectural feature.

The proposed front baluster is simply detailed and will not detract from the historic appearance of the house. Staff supports approval of this element.

The applicant proposes to remove the side loading steps, which do not appear to be historic, and to replace the front-loading steps with a new set that includes a railing. These features do not appear historic and their replacement with the simply detailed wood steps would be appropriate. Staff is uncertain if the rise of the proposed steps will be lower than the existing or if there will be an accompanying grade change as the proposal will add an additional stair. Staff finds the changes to the porch are compatible with the historic character of the house (Standard 5 and 24A-8(b)(1)) and supports approval of the porch alterations.

Rear Addition

The applicant proposes to construct an addition at the rear that will expand to the 2nd and 3rd floors above the footprint of the exiting rear additions. The addition will be clad in Hardi clapboard siding with wood corner trim. The proposed windows are vinyl clad wood, Andersen 200 Series in a two-over-two configuration throughout. The roof pitch of the rear addition will mirror the historic roof, with a ridgeline 4' 6" (four feet, six inches) lower than the historic gable ridge. To create more occupiable space, the applicant proposes to construct dormers to either side.

The proposed addition will be constructed above the footprint of the c.1960 and 2006 additions at the rear. These additions are inset by 13" (thirteen inches) from the right historic wall plane and are inset by several feet from the left wall. The view of the addition from the left is further obscured by the bay window on the left elevation. The gable roof of the addition will be 4' 6" (four feet, six inches) lower than the historic gable roof. The proposed addition will provide access to all three floors of living space. This will be accomplished in the 3rd floor by adding a large shed dormer to both sides of the dormer. At the preliminary consultation the HPC determined that the dormer on the left side of the house would not detract from the historic appearance of the house and would support approval of this element at the HAWP stage. In revising the proposal for the right side of the addition the applicant encountered feasibility and cost challenges with matching the eave height, so in order to reduce the visual impact of the dormer, the applicant took the following steps:

- Inset south wall of dormer 21" from the exterior walls below
- Reduced dormer width from 16'-0" to 14'-6"
- Reduced wall plate height and increased slope of south roof
- Shifted entire dormer to rear. Previous design was ± 4 '-9" from existing roof, current proposal is ± 6 '-9" from existing roof.

The changes to the design are best detailed in drawings 13 and 16 submitted with the application materials.

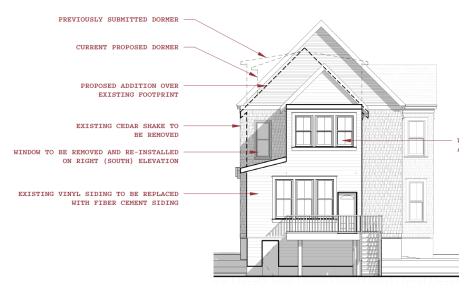


Figure 2: Rear elevation showing the outline of the previous and revision for the dormer.

The HPC's initial recommendation was to raise the eave line and increase the pitch of the roof. This would have provided significantly more clearance in the third floor. The other alternative recommended was to inset the dormer from the wall plane and to move it further to the rear. The applicant indicated that raising the eave was not feasible and instead raised the dormer roof pitch, brought the dormer in by 21" (twenty-one inches), and shifted the dormer to the rear by an additional 2' (two feet). Staff finds that this change significantly reduces the visual impact of the dormer from the previous proposal. The submission reviewed by the HPC at the prelim not only proposed a taller dormer that was closer to the right of way, but also created a four-story vertical wall plane which had the effect of increasing the massing of the rear addition. By reducing the size of the dormer and pulling it away from the wall plane, the impact the dormer has on the historic building and surrounding district is significantly reduced. Staff finds that dormer is compatible with the historic house in size, scale, and massing supports approval under 24A-8(b)(2).

The windows proposed for the new addition are all two-over-two Andersen 200 series vinyl-clad wood windows. This configuration is found throughout the historic house and Staff finds the lite pattern to be compatible. Staff, however, does not find the material to be appropriate for the Takoma Park Historic District, as the HPC has not approve vinyl clad wood windows on additions to contributing buildings. Staff recommends the HPC approve the proposed window locations and configuration, but include the condition for approval that the windows be wood or aluminum clad wood windows. The exterior of vinyl windows is too flat to be compatible and especially when coupled with Hardi siding - does not provide adequate shadow lines or depth on new construction to be compatible with the historic. Staff and the HPC have consistently determined that wood or aluminum clad wood windows have sufficient depth to be compatible on additions to contributing buildings in the Takoma Park Historic District.

Staff recommends the HPC approve the addition with the added condition for approval that the windows be either wood or aluminum clad wood windows. Detailed specifications need to be submitted to Staff for verification prior to permitting.

Gutters and Downspouts

The applicant proposes to install aluminum gutters and downspouts. The applicant proposes to install an aluminum, K-style gutter. Staff finds that this design is appropriate for the house and will not detract from the historic character of the house or surrounding district. Staff supports approval of this element under 24A-8(b)(1) and (2).

Fenestration Alterations to the Right Elevation

The window placement on the right elevation has been significantly altered. There are two non-historic fixed windows on the first floor on the right elevation. The applicant proposes removing these two windows and installing a window on this elevation. This window introduced on this elevation will be a historic wood window, removed from the rear of the house, and installed directly under a second-floor window. Staff finds that this change will enhance the historic character of the house by removing the non-historic windows and stacking the windows on this elevation. Staff recommends approval of the window removal and relocation.

Other Changes Not Subject to HPC Review

The applicant proposes to replace the existing non-historic front door with the original front door, which has been stored in the basement. There is a historical basis for this and it is an original feature which should not be subject to HPC review and approval. This work is eligible for the County historic preservation tax credit. Additionally, the applicant proposes to repair the window in the north-facing gable. As this is an exterior repair it does not require review and approval from the HPC and is also eligible for the County historic preservation tax credit. The applicant proposes to undertake several other changes to the basement; however, these changes are on the interior and will not have a visual impact on the exterior of the house or on the right-of-way and are not subject to review.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Commission approve with one condition the HAWP application;

1. The proposed vinyl clad wood windows are not an appropriate material. The approved windows in the addition need to be wood or aluminum clad wood windows. Detailed specifications for the windows need to be submitted to Staff for verification prior to permitting.

and with the general condition applicable to all Historic Area Work Permits that **the applicant** will present <u>3 permit sets</u> of drawings to HPC staff for review and stamping prior to submission for permits (if applicable). After issuance of the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) permit, the applicant will arrange for a field inspection by calling the DPS Field Services Office at 240-777-6370 prior to commencement of work <u>and</u> not more than two weeks following completion of work.



861373

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

	Contact Person: BEN NORKIN
Contact Email: BEN@BENNORKINARCHI	Daytime Phone No.: 202-578-7094
ax Account No.: 01071423	
	Daytime Phone No.: 202-997-1489
ddress: 7309 PINEY BRANCH RD TAI	
Street Number	City Start Zip Code
ontractor: TBD	Phone No.:
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igent for Owner:	Daytime Phone No.:
ACAMAN AP BUILDING WAPPANES	
OCATION OF BUILDING PREMISE	DINEY BRANCH PR
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own/City: TAKOMA PARK	
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ZONDO APRICA DI MARIO MARIO EN PORTE DE LA CONTRACTORIO DE LA CONTRACT	
A. CHECK ALL APPLICABLE:	CHECK ALL APPLICABLE:
X Construct	☐ A/C ☐ Slab
☐ Move ☐ Install ☐ Wreck/Raza	☐ Solar ☐ Fireplace ☐ Woodburning Stove ☐ Single Family
. ☐ Revision X Repair ☐ Revocable.	
B. Construction cost estimate: \$\$160,000	
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ART TWO: COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AN	ID EXTEND/ADDITIONS
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B. Type of water supply: 01 💢 WSSC	02
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1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

a. Description of existing structure and environmental setting, incluing historical features and significance

This three story, gable-roofed, cedar wood shingled Victorian house with original details in the interior was constructed in 1896. It features 30 original double hung two-over-two sash windows, including 8 double hung two-over-two windows in the two story bay window on the northern side of the house. It also has wood fish scale shingles at the dormer/third floor level. The front of the house faces west. There is a wooden porch with Doric columns in the front of the house and a modern kitchen addition with vinyl siding and deck in the rear of the house. It is located in the Takoma Park historic district and sits between similar houses on the odd side of the street. The house to the south (7307) was constructed in 1884 and the house to the north (7311) was constructed in 1902.

b. General description of project and its effect on the historic resource, the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district.

Restore original Fish Scale shingles on the third floor front exterior.

Project will also replace rotting porch boards and replace existing Doric style columns with style appropriate columns and add a row of balusters to provide a more classic Victorian porch appearance. New wooden steps with railings will be added. Porch footprint to remain the same.

Restore original third floor dormer bay window facing west. Replace front door with original front door currently in storage.

Extend 2nd floor and 3rd floor at rear to occupy space above existing 1st floor. No new footprint will be added to the site.

Install gutters and downspouts at inside corners to improve drainage.

UPDATE:

Removal of non-original cedar shake siding and repair of original clapboards has been removed from the current scope of work. Finishing of existing cellar has been added, with no requirement for exterior work.

Per guidance from Staff and the Board, the south-facing shed dormer has been changed to provide a less obtrusive physical form. The following changes have been made:

- Inset south wall of dormer 21" from the exterior walls below
- Reduced dormer width from 16'-0" to 14'-6"
- Reduced wall plate height and increased slope of south roof
- Shifted entire dormer to rear. Previous design was ± 4 '-9" from existing roof, current proposal is ± 6 '-9" from existing roof.

Board recommendation of allowing the new addition gable roof to match the eave height of the existing roof provided design relief, but introduced constructability and cost challenges the were undesirable for this project. The previous iteration of the dormer has been outlined in all views for comparison with the current proposal.

MAILING ADDRESSES FOR HAWP APPLICATION NOTIFICATION

OWNER'S MAILING ADDRESS

Natalie Hopkins 7309 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912

OWNER'S AGENT'S MAILING ADDRESS

Ben Norkin Ben Norkin Architecture 7204 Trescott Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912

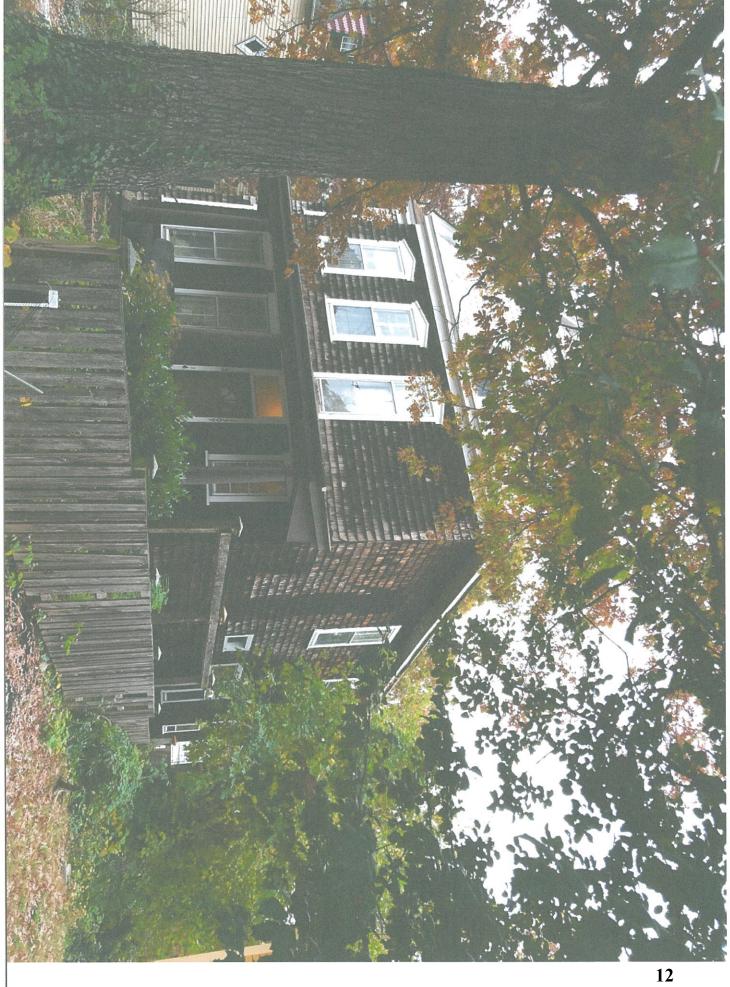
ADJACENT AND CONFRONTING PROPERTY OWNERS MAILING ADDRESSES

Chris and Shivani Sutton 7307 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912 John and Lindsey Simpson 7310 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912

Constance Mayer 7311 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912 Jodie Steiner and Federico Mini 7312 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912

Paula Kowalczuk and Peter Kovar 7112 Holly Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912

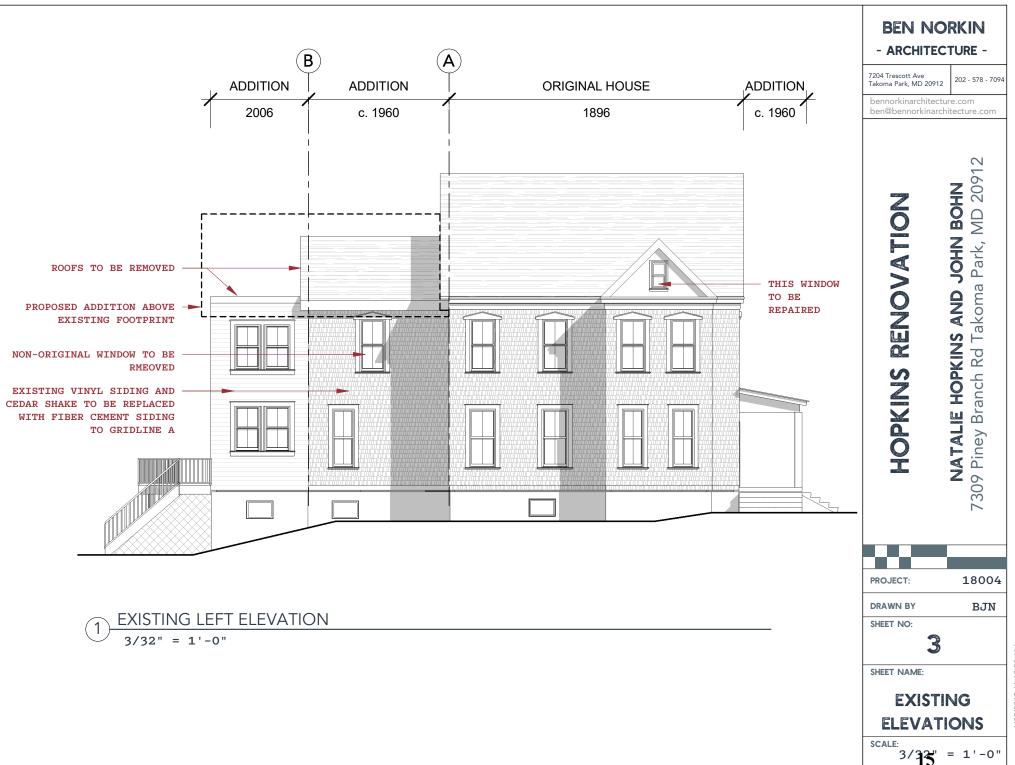












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7204 Trescott Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912

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309 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 2091

bennorkinarchitecture.com ben@bennorkinarchitecture.com

HOPKINS RENOVATION

18004 PROJECT:

DRAWN BY

SHEET NO:

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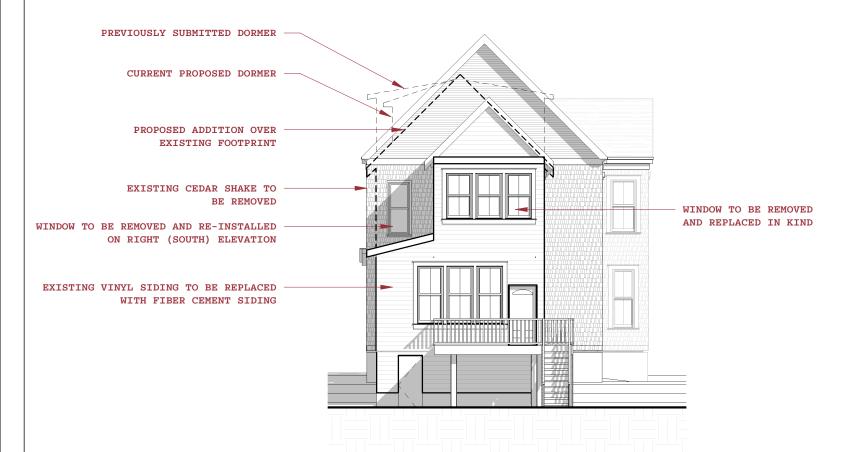
EXISTING ELEVATIONS

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3/16' = 1'-0"

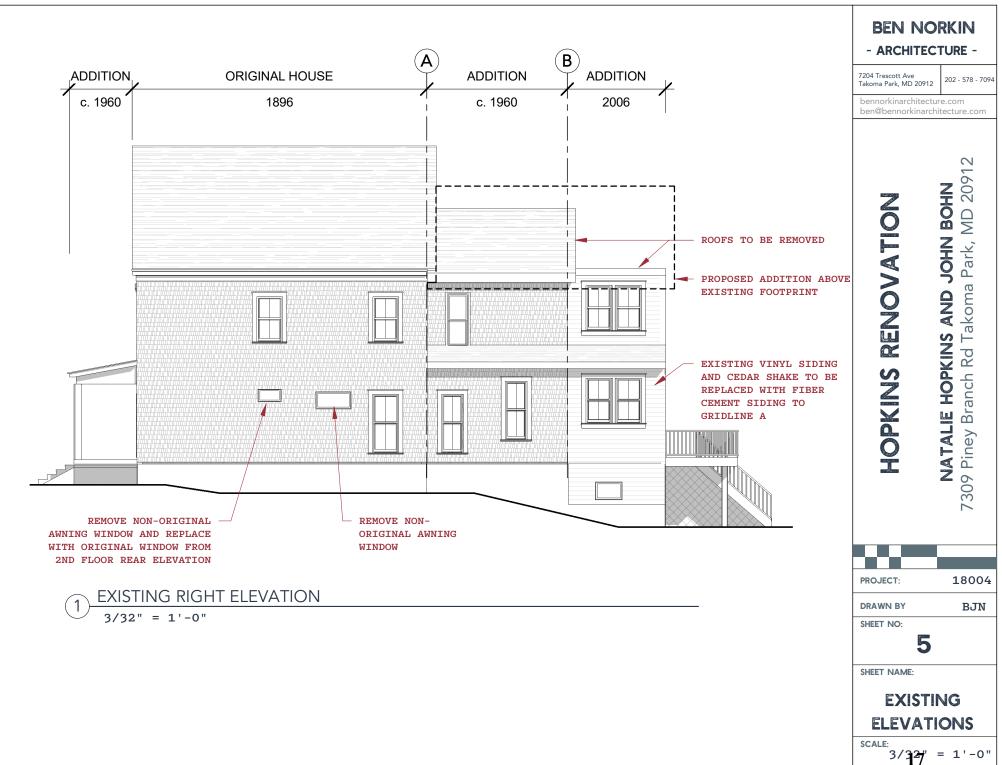
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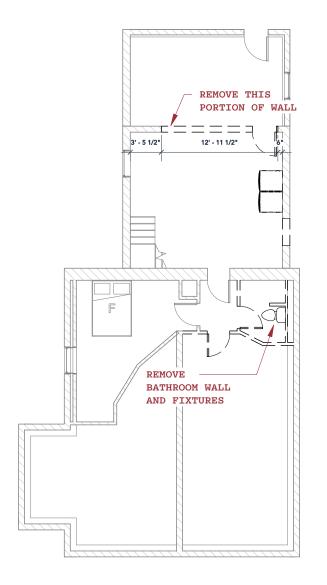


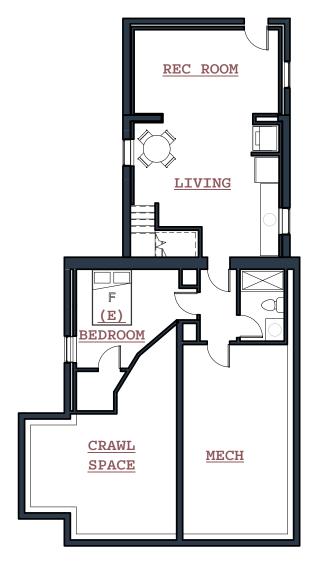
EXISTING REAR ELEVATION 3/32" = 1'-0"

NATALIE HOPKINS AND JOHN BOHN



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CELLAR PLAN
PROPOSED

3/32" = 1'-0"

HOPKINS RENOVATION

PROJECT:

BEN NORKIN
- ARCHITECTURE -

7204 Trescott Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912

bennorkinarchitecture.com

ben@bennorkinarchitecture.com

NATALIE HOPKINS AND JOHN BOHN
7309 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912

18004

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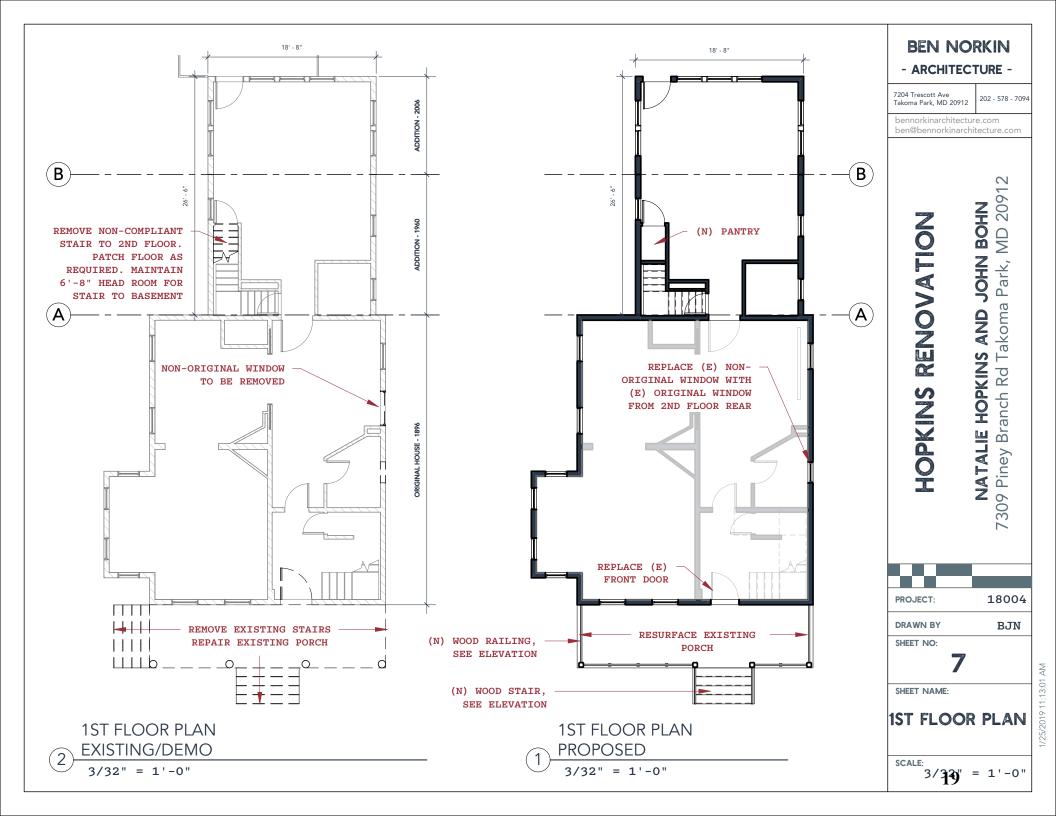
CELLAR FLOOR
PLAN

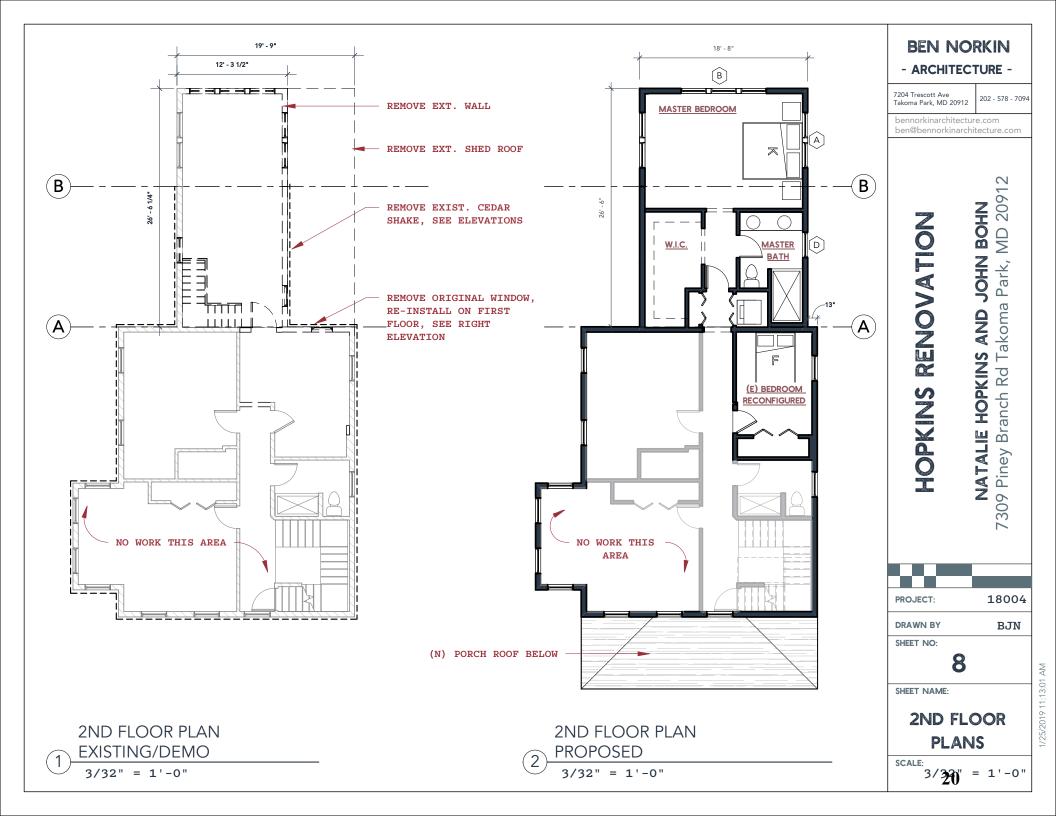
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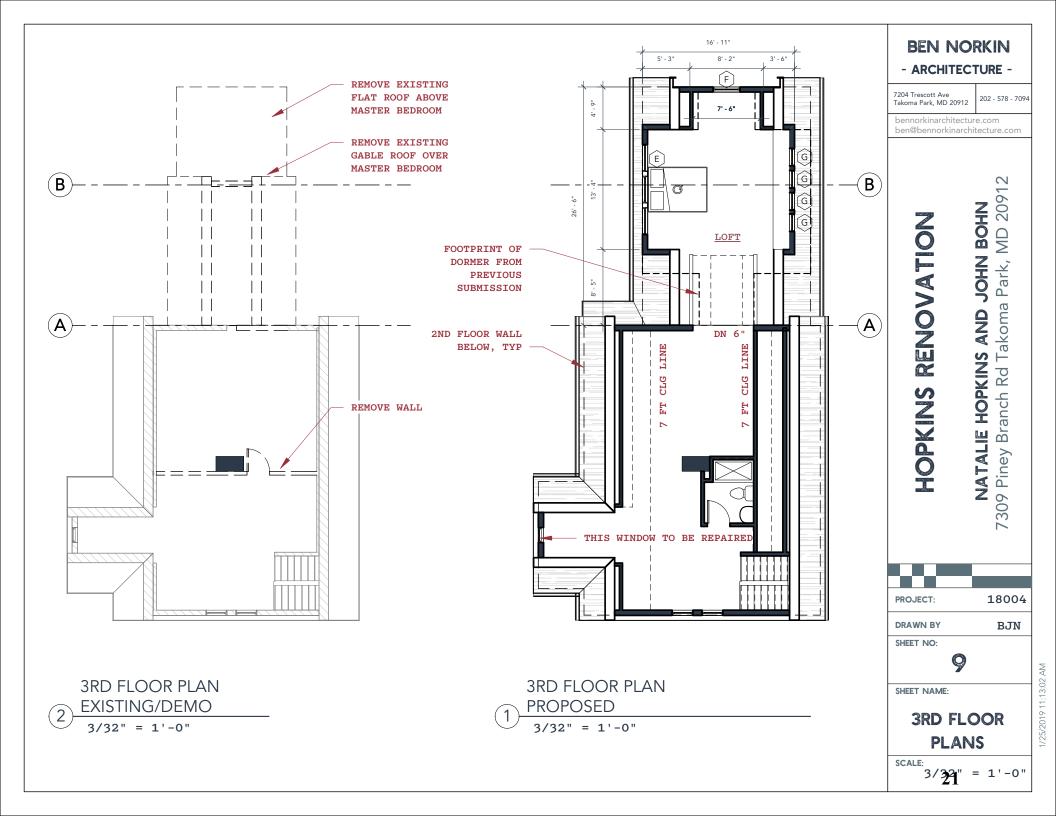
CELLAR PLAN

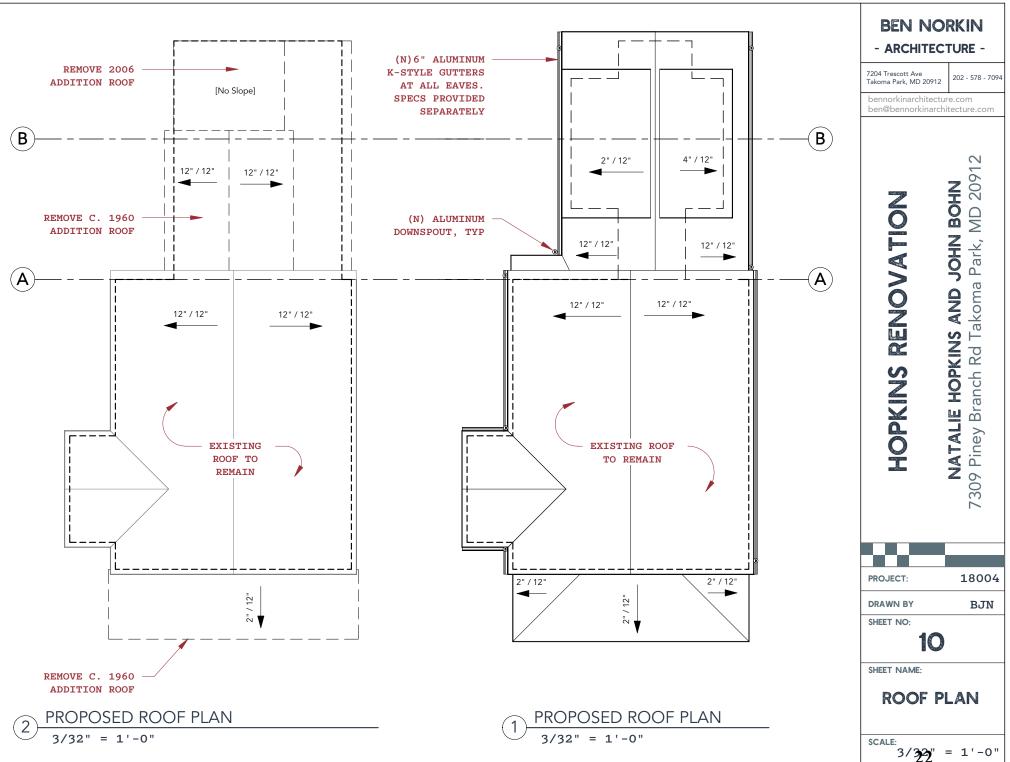
EXISTING/DEMO

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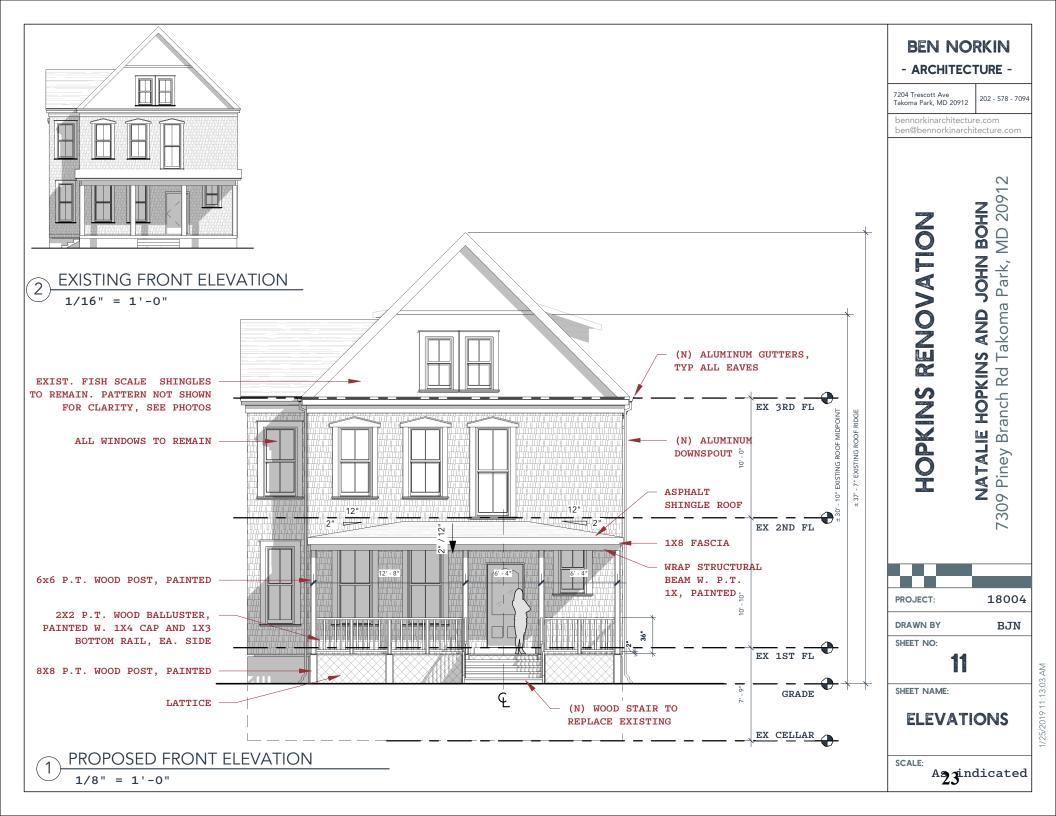


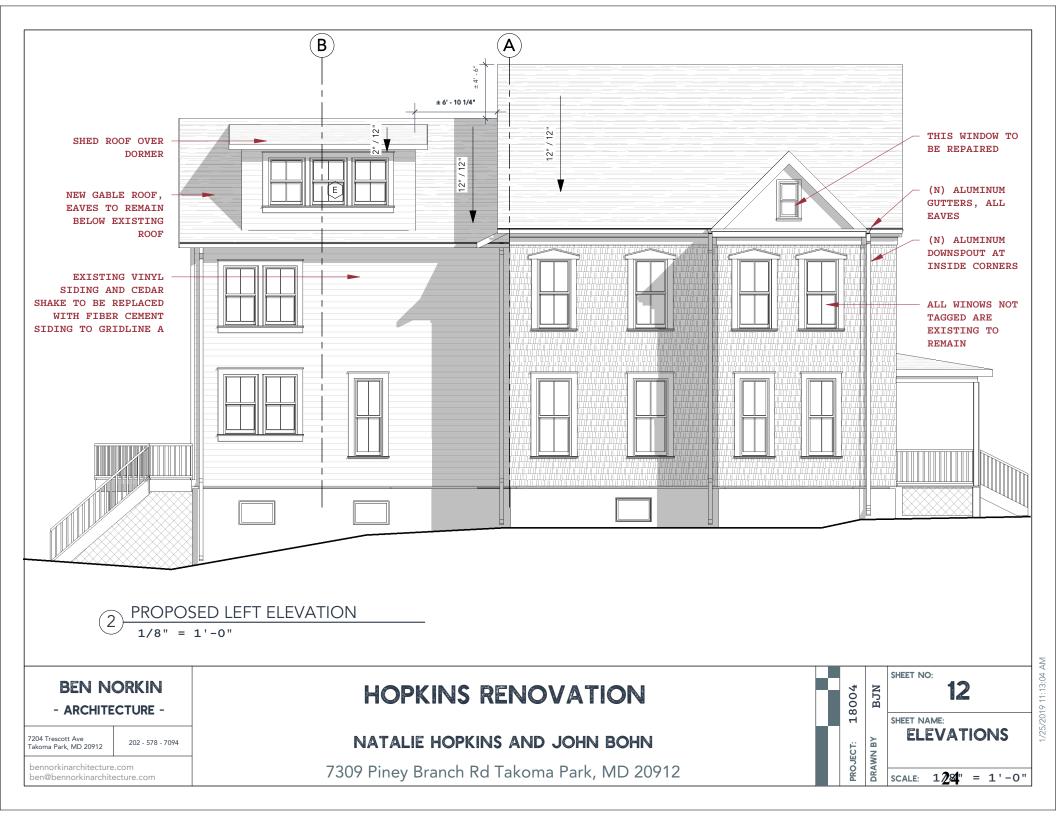


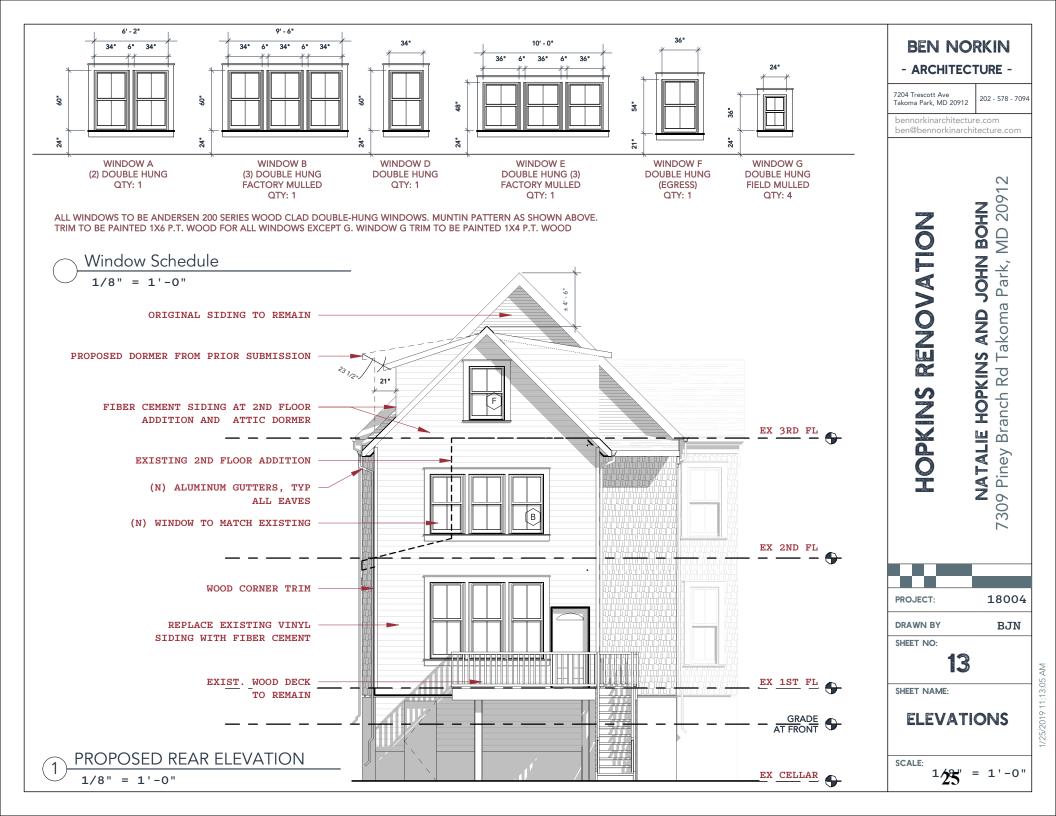


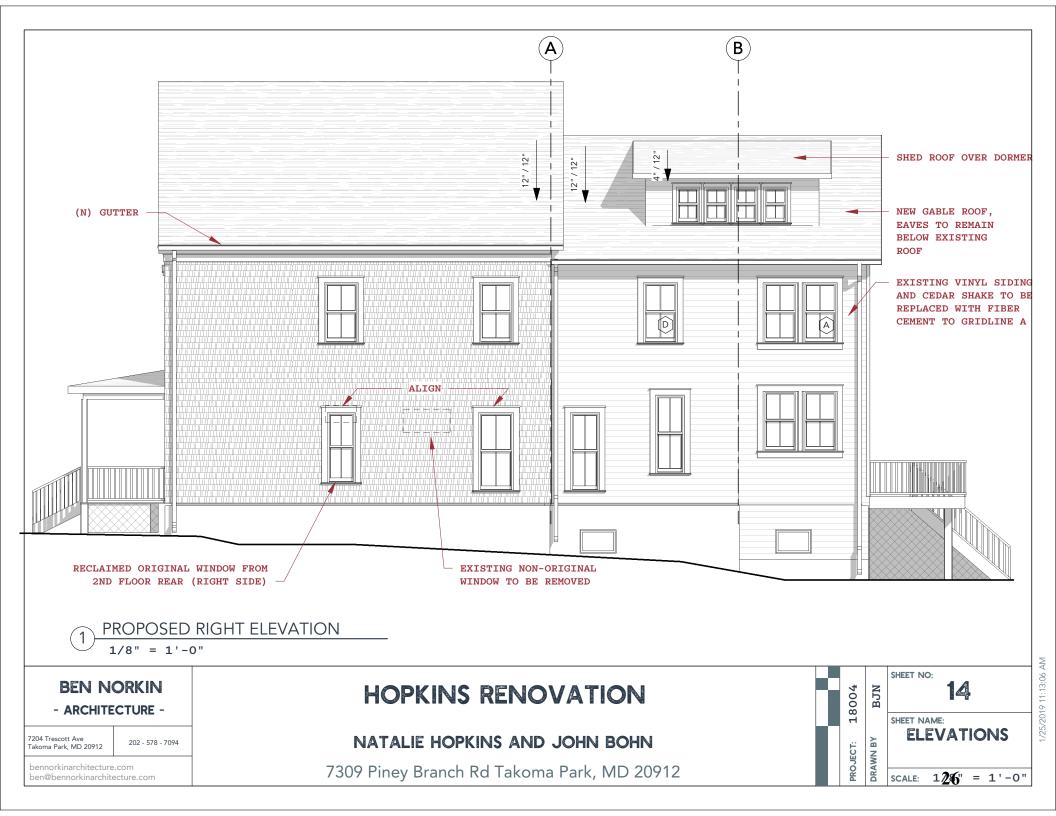


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BEN NORKIN - ARCHITECTURE -

7204 Trescott Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912

bennorkinarchitecture.com ben@bennorkinarchitecture.com

HOPKINS RENOVATION

7309 Piney Branch Rd Takoma Park, MD 20912 NATALIE HOPKINS AND JOHN BOHN 18004

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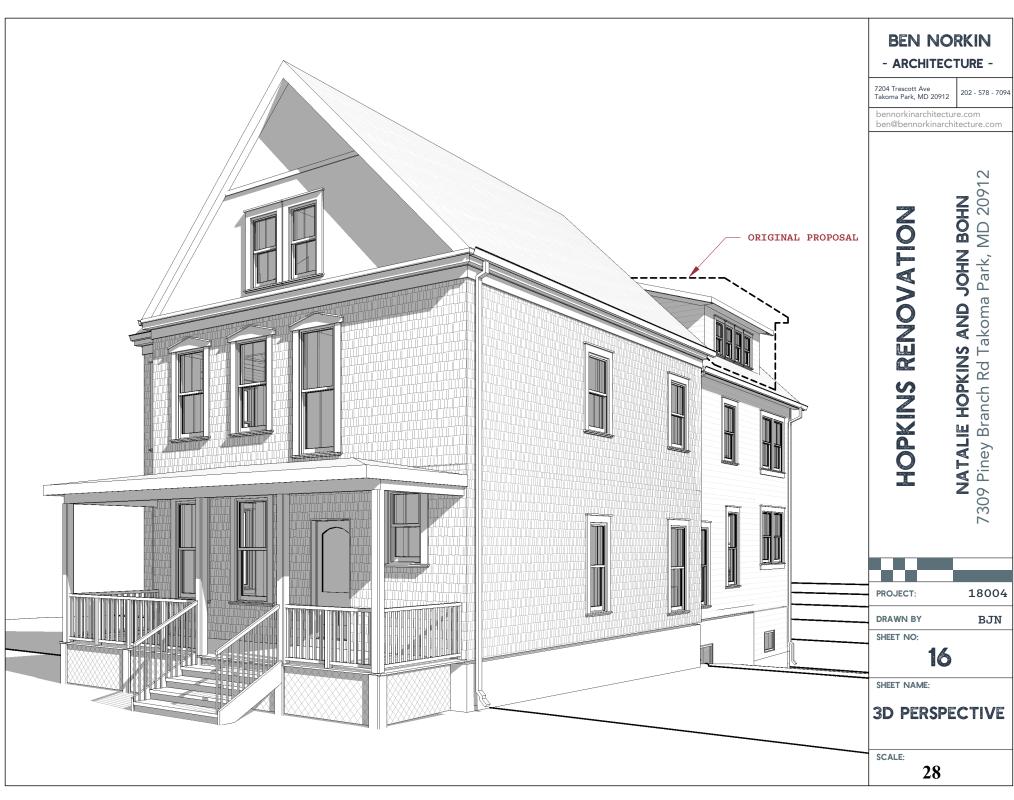
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3D PERSPECTIVE

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Building Materials / Roofing & Gutters / Gutter Systems / Gutters Home /

Similar Options to Consider





Amerimax Home Products 6 in. White Aluminum



Amerimax Home Products 6 in. Aluminum Right





Amerimax Home Products 6 in. x 10 ft. White (8)

\$15³⁴/each



Amerimax Home Products 6 in. End with 3 in. x 4 in.





Produ in. Alu

Model # 4600200192

Internet #205481981

Store SKU #1000710174



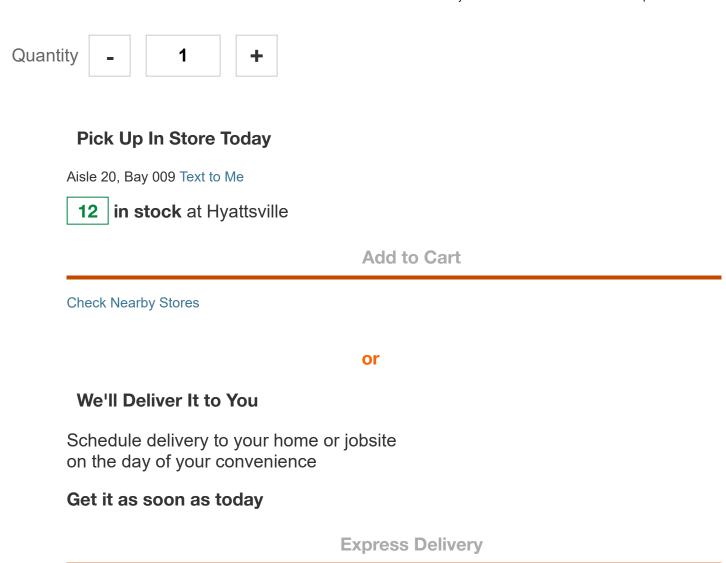
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Amerimax Home Products

6 in. x 16 ft. White Aluminum K-Style Gutter



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Sku #: 1000710174

Internet #: 205481981

The Amerimax 6 in. x 16 ft. White Aluminum Gutter has extra-long, heavy-weight aluminum construction. Featuring a baked-on white factory finish and a traditional K-style design, this durable gutter can be used to control run-off and help protect the walls and landscaping of your home or other structures. The 6 in. size is ideal for wide-roof areas, commercial buildings or in areas of heavy rainfall.

- · Heavy-weight, rust-free aluminum construction for durability
- · Baked-on white finish for low maintenance that can be spray painted if desired to match any decor
- Extra-long 16 ft. design requires fewer splices and connections
- K-style design to complement your home, business or other structure
- · 6 in. Gutter is ideal for wide-roof drainage or in areas of heavy rainfall
- Use with 3 in. x 4 in. for maximum run-off drainage

Info & Guides

· Instructions / Assembly