MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT			
Address:	3994 Baltimore Street, Kensington	Meeting Date:	3/11/2020
<b>Resource:</b>	Primary Resource Kensington Historic District	Report Date:	3/4/2020
Applicant:	Meredith Sharp	Public Notice:	2/26/2020
<b>Review:</b>	Preliminary Review	Staff:	Dan Bruechert
Proposal:	Building Addition		

## Proliminary Consultation

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the applicant revise their design based on the feedback provided by the HPC and return for a Historic Area Work Permit.

#### **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

SIGNIFICANCE:	Primary Resource to the Kensington Historic District
STYLE:	Colonial Revival/Queen Anne
DATE:	c. 1898



Figure 1: The property at 3944 Baltimore St. is a wedge-shaped lot..

#### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant proposes to construct an addition to the rear and side of the house and to expand the rear deck.

#### APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

#### Kensington Historic District Guidelines

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Kensington Historic District several documents are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. These documents include the *Approved & Adopted Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation: Kensington Historic District, Atlas #31/6 (Amendment), Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan (Vision), Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A), and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards).* The pertinent information in these documents is outlined below.

#### Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan

The HPC formally adopted the planning study, *Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan*, and is directed by the Executive Regulations, which were approved by the County Council, to use this plan when considering changes and alterations to the Kensington Historic District. The goal of this preservation plan "was to establish a sound database of information from, which to produce a document that would serve the HPC, M-NCPPC, their staff and the community in wrestling with the protection of historic districts amidst the pressures of life in the 21st century." (page 1). The plan provides a specific physical description of the district as it is; an analysis of character-defining features of the district; a discussion of the challenges facing the district; and a discussion of proposed strategies for maintaining the character of the district while allowing for appropriate growth and change.

The *Vision* identifies the following, as those features that help define the character of Kensington's built environment:

- Building Setbacks: Residential and Commercial Patterns
- Rhythm of Spacing between Buildings
- Geographic and Landscape Features
- Scale and Building Height
- Directional Expression of Building
- Roof Forms and Material
- Porches
- Dominant Building Material
- Outbuildings
- Integrity of Form, Building Condition, and Threats
- Architectural Style

#### The Amendment notes that:

The district is architecturally significant as a collection of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century houses exhibit a variety of architectural styles popular during the Victorian period including Queen Anne, Shingle, Eastlake, and Colonial Revival. The houses share a uniformity of scale, setbacks, and construction materials that contribute to the cohesiveness of the district's streetscapes. This uniformity, coupled with the dominant design inherent in Warner's original plan of subdivision, conveys a strong sense of both time and place, that of a Victorian garden suburb.

#### 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;

(c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any 1 period or architectural style.

(d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord. No. 9-4, § 1; Ord. No. 11-59.)

#### 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 construct a rear addition to the house at 3994 Baltimore St. On the first floor, the additions consist of a mudroom/pantry in the southwest corner of the house and an extension of the rear wall. The rear/side deck will also be expanded. On the second floor, the applicant proposes installing a new bathroom in the southwest corner. A third-floor exterior wall will be relocated and an alteration to the roofline. All work will occur to the rear/rear corner of the house and will only have a minimal impact on the surrounding streetscape.

Staff's research demonstrates that the current configuration of the house has been altered from its historic configuration, as shown in the Sanborn map (below). The rear of the house was given a three-story rear addition. The large side/rear porch was also constructed in the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

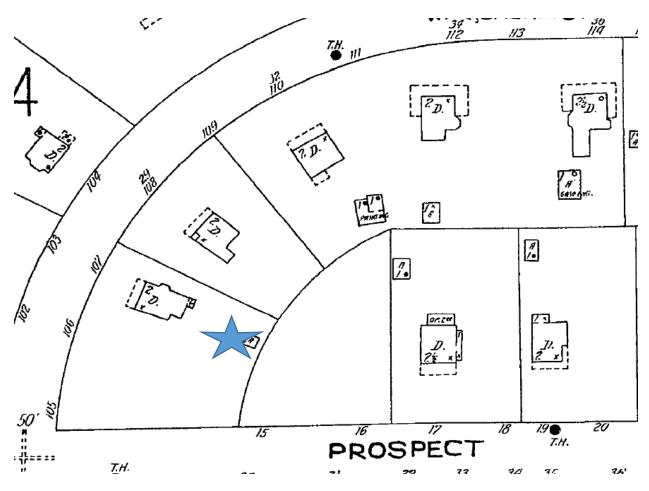


Figure 2: 1924 Sanborn map showing a rectangular house shape that has been altered by a rear non-historic additions.

#### **First Floor Alterations**

On the first floor, the applicant proposes to expand the house to the rear and to construct a new mudroom/pantry in the southwest corner. All of this work will be at the rear of the house and will not be visible from the public right-of-way due to the right (south) projecting L. The proposed change that will be visible from the right-of-way is the expansion of the side porch. The existing porch is co-planer with the right side-L. The expanded porch will project approximately 3' (three feet) beyond the existing wall plane, though this will be mitigated by the chimney at the end of the side-L.

Staff finds that the proposed rear addition will not impact the historic character of the house or the surrounding district, but requests the HPC's feedback regarding the appropriateness of extending the porch and railing beyond the existing wall plane. Staff additionally would like clarification regarding the materials proposed for the rear addition, and deck, railing, and additional materials.

#### **Second Floor Alterations**

The applicant proposes to construct a bathroom in the southwest corner of the second floor. The bathroom will have two small casement windows in the south and west elevations. Due to the shape of the house and placement of this room, this change will only be visible from Prospect Street through the neighboring property. Staff finds that this change will have have a significant impact on the size and scale of the house and is generally appropriate. Materials and specifications for this proposed addition were not provided with the HAWP and should be

discussed during the Preliminary Consultation hearing.

#### **Third Floor Alteration**

On the third floor, the applicant proposes to reconfigure a closet in the southwest corner, which will require an alteration to the roofline in this corner. No windows are proposed for this reconfiguration and only roof shingles will cover this new structure. Staff finds that this work will not impact the character of the house and will only have a minimal impact on the massing of this section.

Staff finds that, overall, the project does not overwhelm the historic house and is compatible in size and design and requests HPC feedback on the appropriateness of the projection of the porch and railing beyond the existing wall plane, the design of the rear of the first-floor application, and proposed materials.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends that the applicant revise their design based on the feedback provided by the HPC and return for a HAWP.

	For Staff only: HAWP#
APPLICA	DATE ACCURATE
HISTORIC AREA HISTORIC PRESERV 301.56	ATION COMMISSION
APPLICANT:	
Name: Meredith Sharp Address: 3944 Baltimore Street	E-mail:
Address: 3944 Baltimore Street	<sub>City:</sub> Kensington <sub>zip:</sub> 20895
Daytime Phone: 202.669.2374	E-mail: <u>meredith.sharp@me.com</u> City: <u>Kensington</u> <sub>Zip:</sub> 20895 Tax Account No.: <u>13-02697555</u>
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):	
Name: Thomas Manion, AIA	E-mail:
Address: 7307 MacArthur Blvd, Ste 216 Daytime Phone: 301.229.7000	E-mail:
Daytime Phone: 301.229.7000	Contractor Registration No.:
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of H	
Is the Property Located within an Historic District	Yes/District Name No/Individual Site Name
Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Envir map of the easement, and documentation from t	ronmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a
Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner App (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If Y supplemental information.	rovals /Reviews Required as part of this Application? ES, include information on these reviews as
Building Number: 3944 Street:	Baltimore Street
Town/City: Kensington Neares	t Cross Street: Prospect Street
17 11	sion: Parcel:
TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist	on Page 4 to verify that all supporting items
for proposed work are submitted with this ap be accepted for review. Check all that apply:	
New Construction Deck/Porch	Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure
Addition 🗌 Fence	Tree removal/planting
Demolition Hardscape/I	
Grading/Excavation Roof	Other:
I nerepy certify that I have the authority to make	the foregoing application, that the application is correct
agencies and hereby acknowledge and accept the	ly with plans reviewed and approved by all necessary is to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.
- That we want the decept the	
Signature of owner or authorized age	

Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

Historic/Victorian colonial style residence. Basement and 2 stories on original house plus attic. Rear 2 story addition on crawl space was added.

Description of Work Proposed: Please give an overview of the work to be undertaken:

Expand rear addition and house for larger kitchen and eating area. Create mudroom/pantry. Extend deck to rear. Upgrade bathrooms and rework closets in bedrooms for extra storage. Work Item 1: FIRST FLOOR

Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:
REAR ESTING AREA + KITCHEN	EXTEND EXTING AREA AND KITCHENS
WITH ACCESS TO DECK IS	INTO DECK AREA, ADD NEWS
PART OF & PREVIOUS KADITIONS	MUDROW & PANTORY IN REAR SE
	CORNER. W/ DOXR FACING DETACHED
	GARAGE, READ DEAL STEPS.

Work Item 2: SECOND FLOOR

IN PREVIOUS MODITIONS
-----------------------

Work Item 3: ATTIC /320 France	
Description of Current Condition: EXISTILS BETTROM + LOSE IN PREVIOUS ADDITION + 2NO BETR 3 LARGE BEDROOM IN DRIGINAL KTOLC FREED	Proposed Work: REDETSICH BRTHROOMS & CLOSETS IN REAR ADDITIONS SPAce ALL VELORIC WITHIN EXISTING ROOF.

### HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

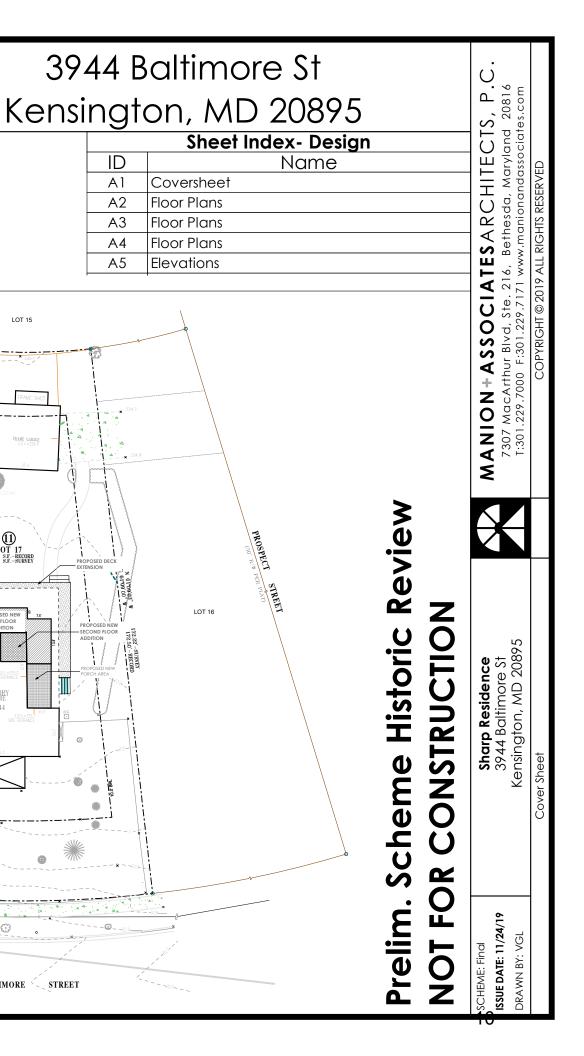
Owner's mailing address	Owner's Agent's mailing address
Meredith & Jess Sharp	Manion + Assoc. Architects
3944 Baltimore Street	7307 MacArthur Blud, HZIG
Kensinston, MD Z0395	Bethesda, MD ZOBIG
Adjacent and confronting	Property Owners mailing addresses
Nathan i Kristine Oleson	Alan Spealman
394B Baltimore St.	3940 Baltimere St.
Kensington, MD 20895	Kensinsten, MD 20895
(right side)	(Icff side)
Peter Cappadona	Michael & Brett Bagshaw
3929 Prospect St.	3947 Baltimore St.
Kensington, MID ZOBAS	Konsinston, MD 20895
(rear)	(front)-across sl)
Joseph Mesmer	
3941 Baltimore St.	
Kensinston, MD Zossis	
(front - right)	

9

# Sharp Residence

## Preliminary Historic Application

HISTORIC SITE: KENSINGTON DISTRICT MASTER PLAN: KENSINGTON SECTOR PLAN 2010 LIBER: 7542 **FOLIO: 348** LOT:17 BLOCK:11 ZONING: R-60 MAX. LOT COVERAGE: 35% ACTUAL SITE AREA: 11,685 SQ. FT. MAX. BUILDING HEIGHT: 35'



LOT 15

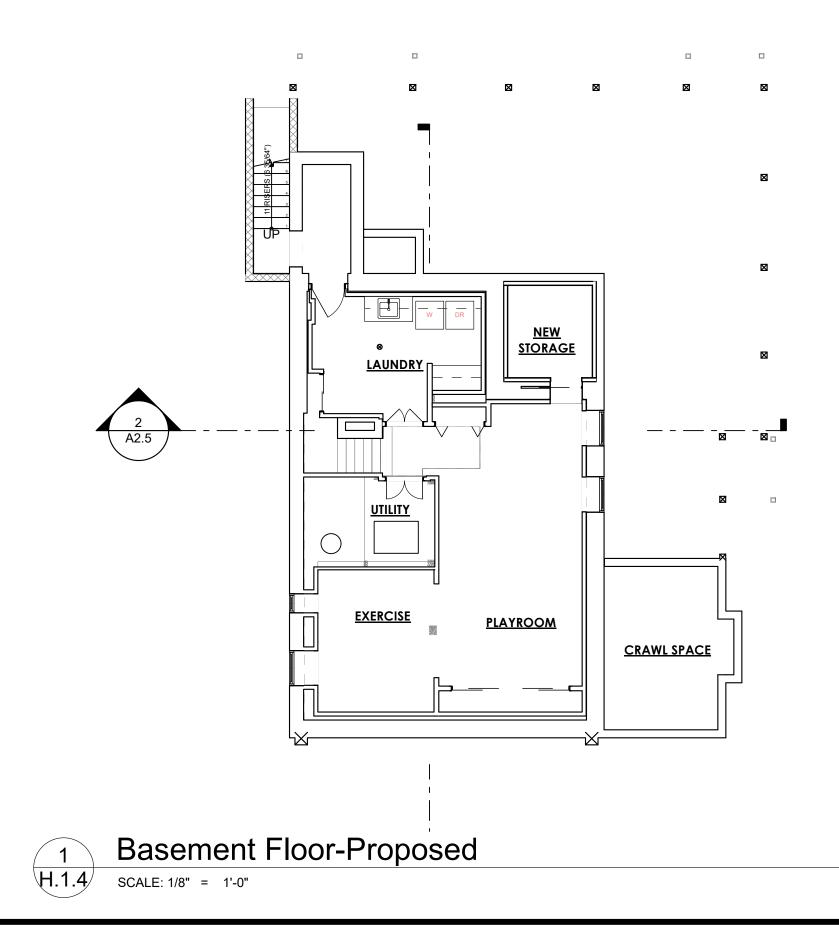
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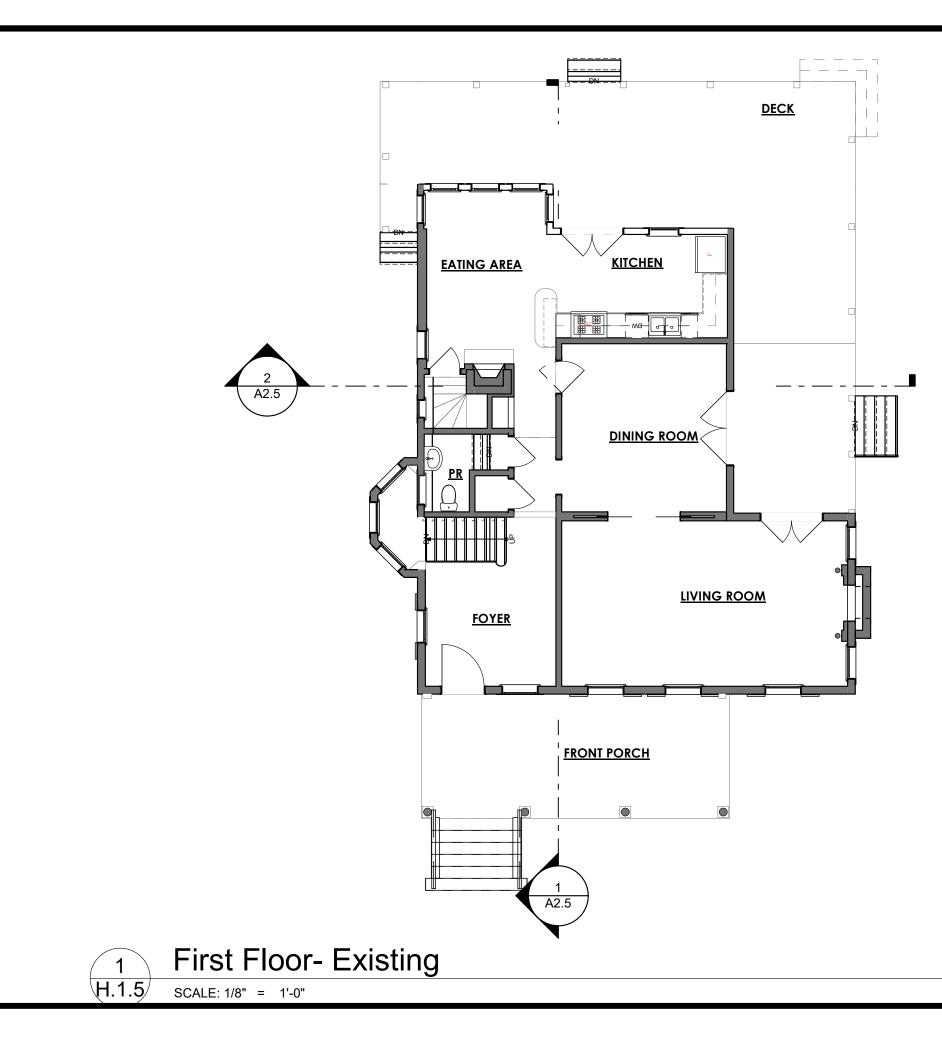
	MANION + ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, P.C. 7307 MacArthur Blvd, Ste. 216, Bethesda, Maryland 20816 7:301.229.7000 F:301.229.7171 www.manionandassociates.com COPYRIGHT © 2019 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
Review N	
Prelim. Scheme Historic Rev NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	Sharp Residence 3944 Baltimore St Kensington, MD 20895 Basement Floor Plan (Existing)
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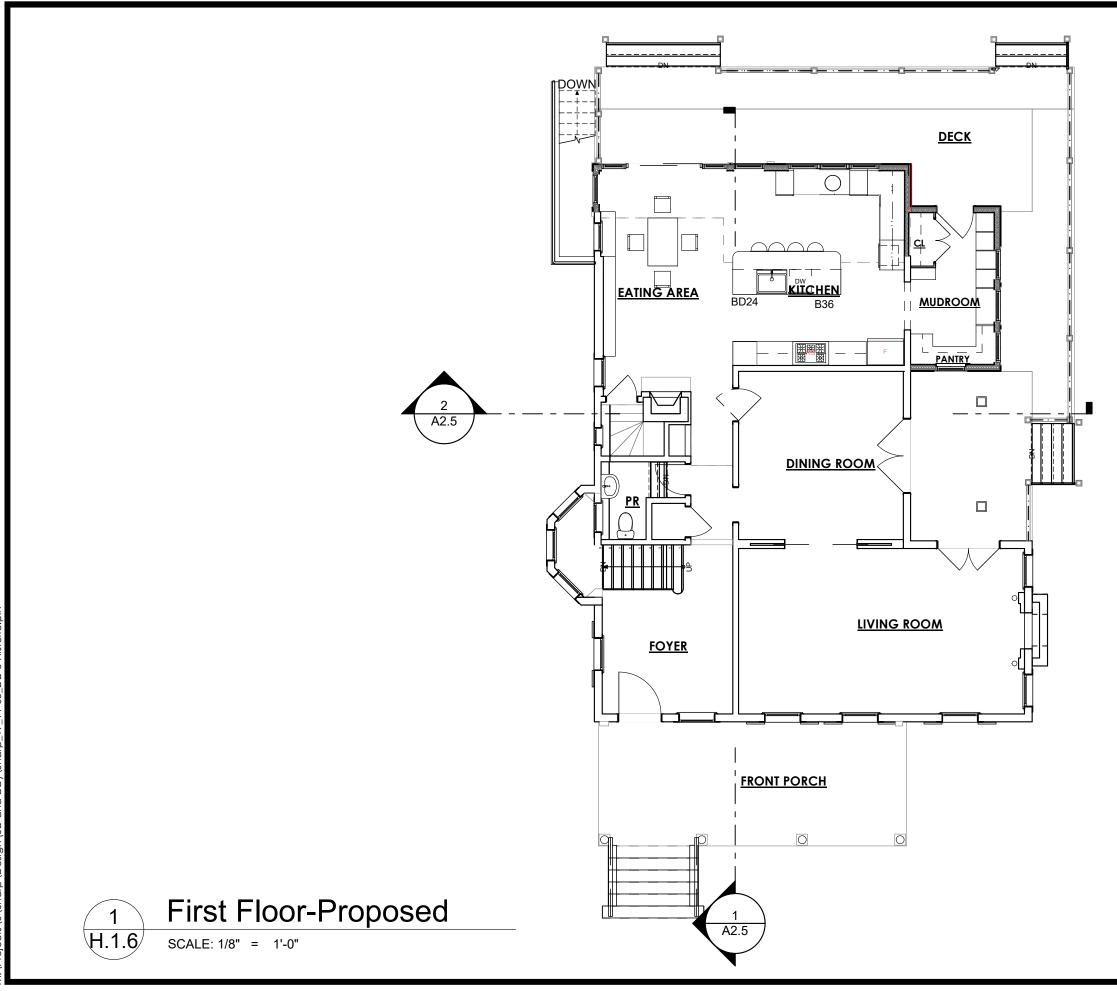
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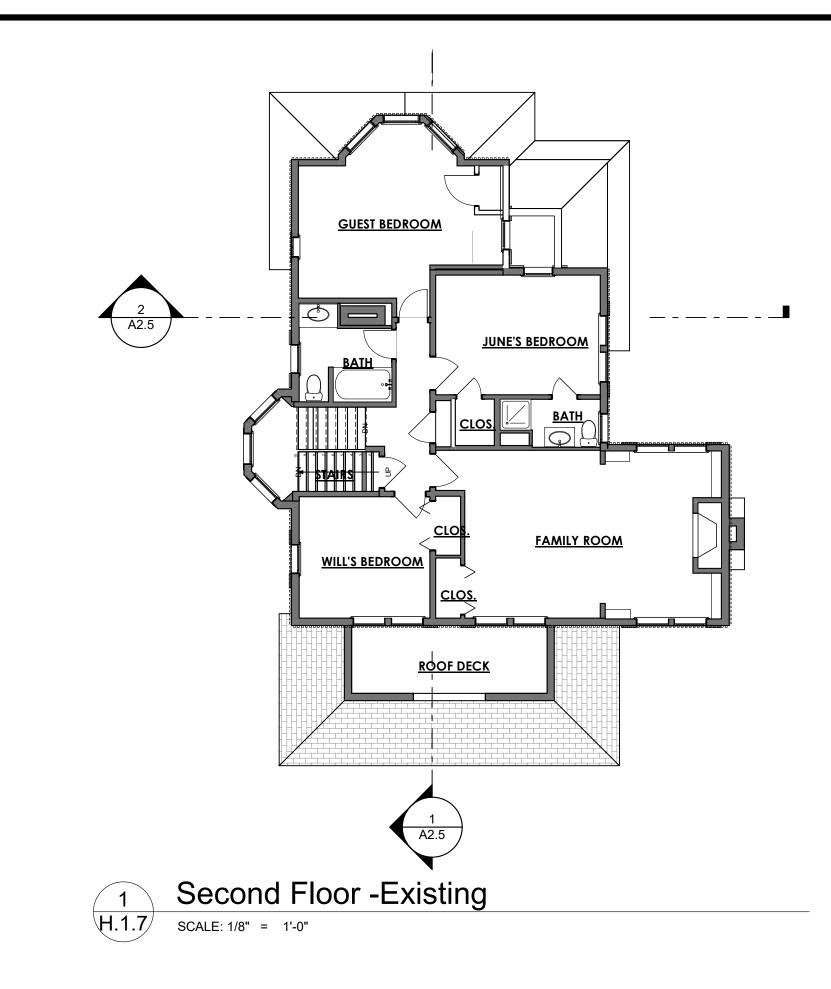
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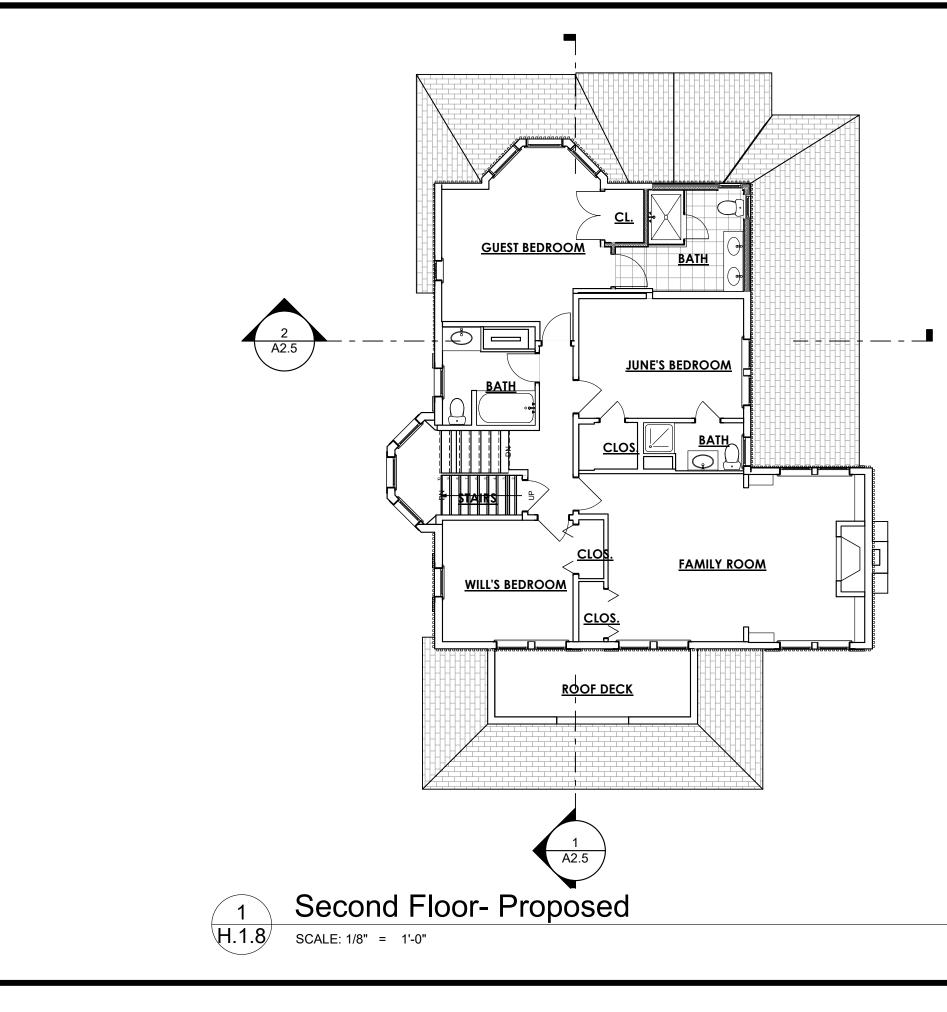
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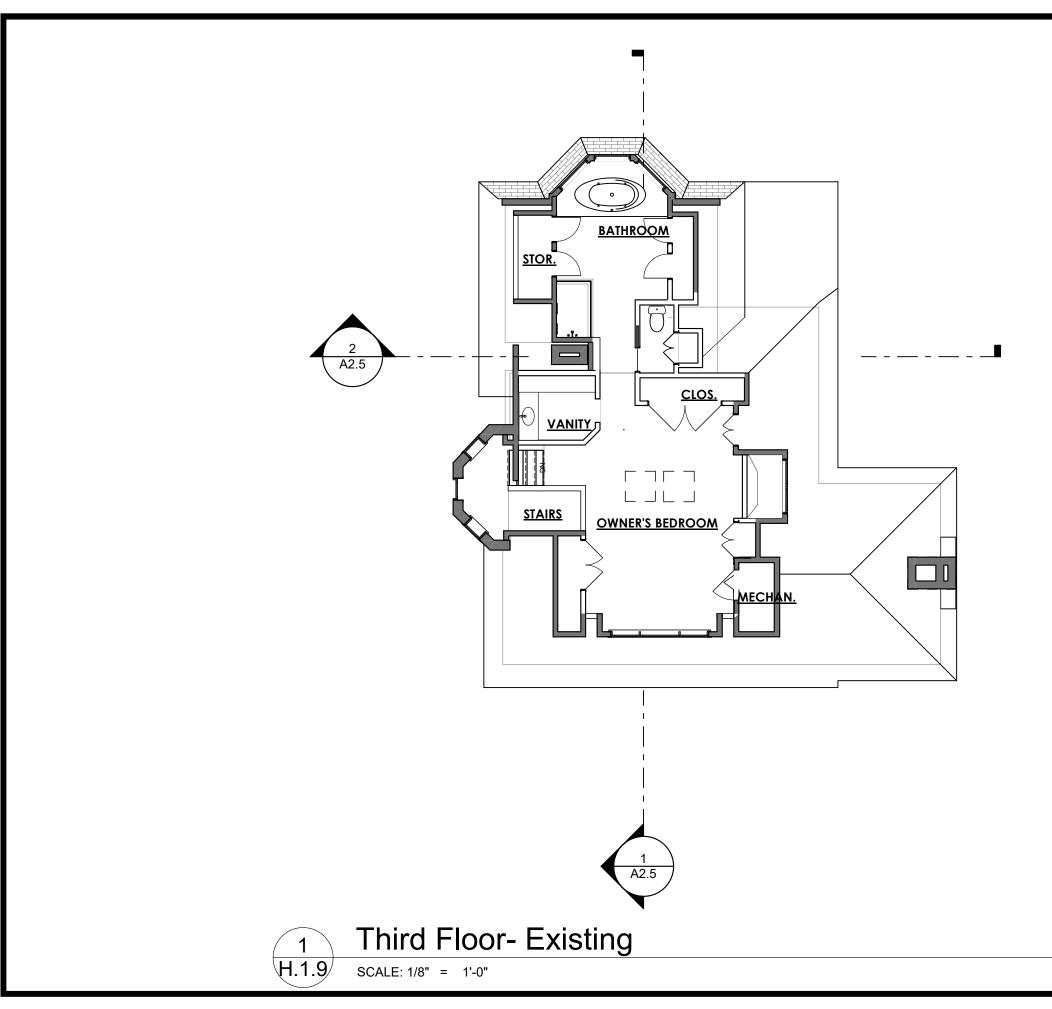
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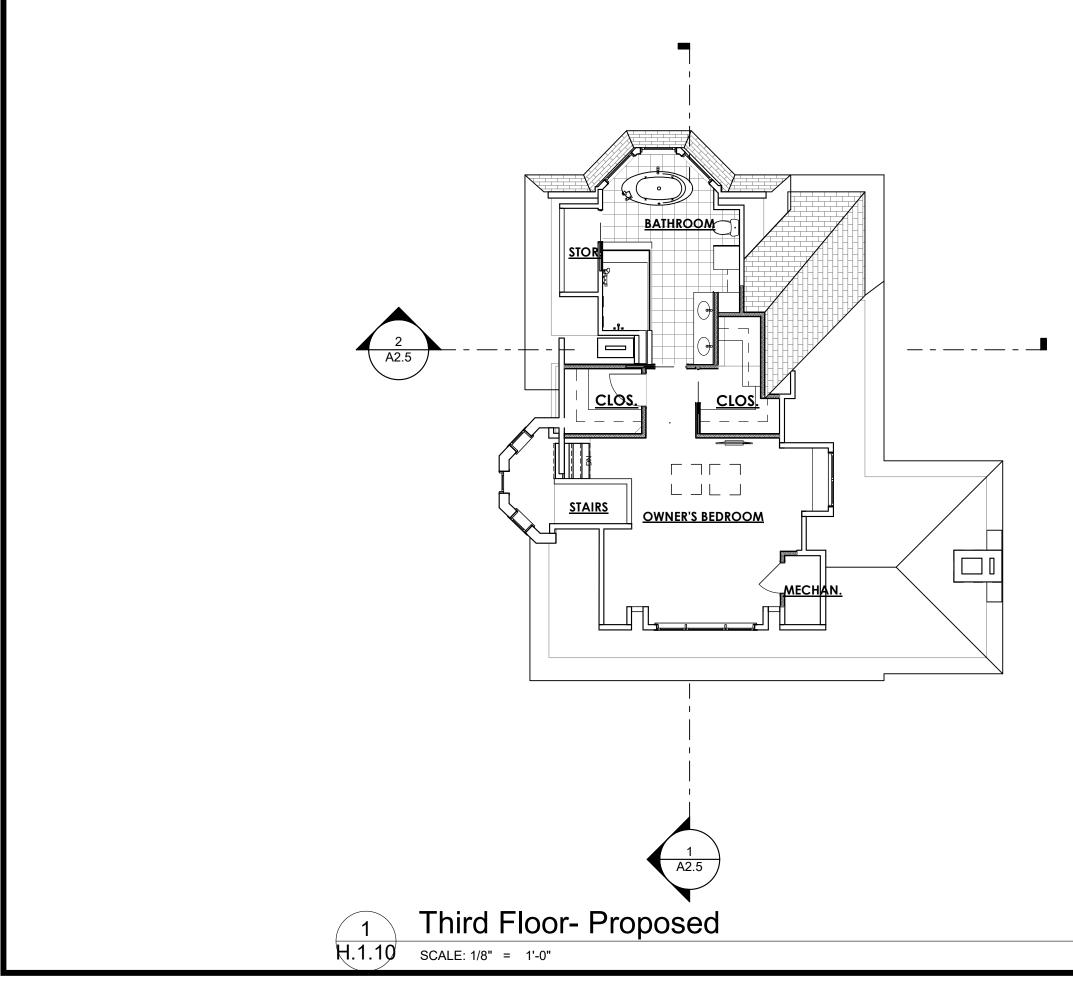
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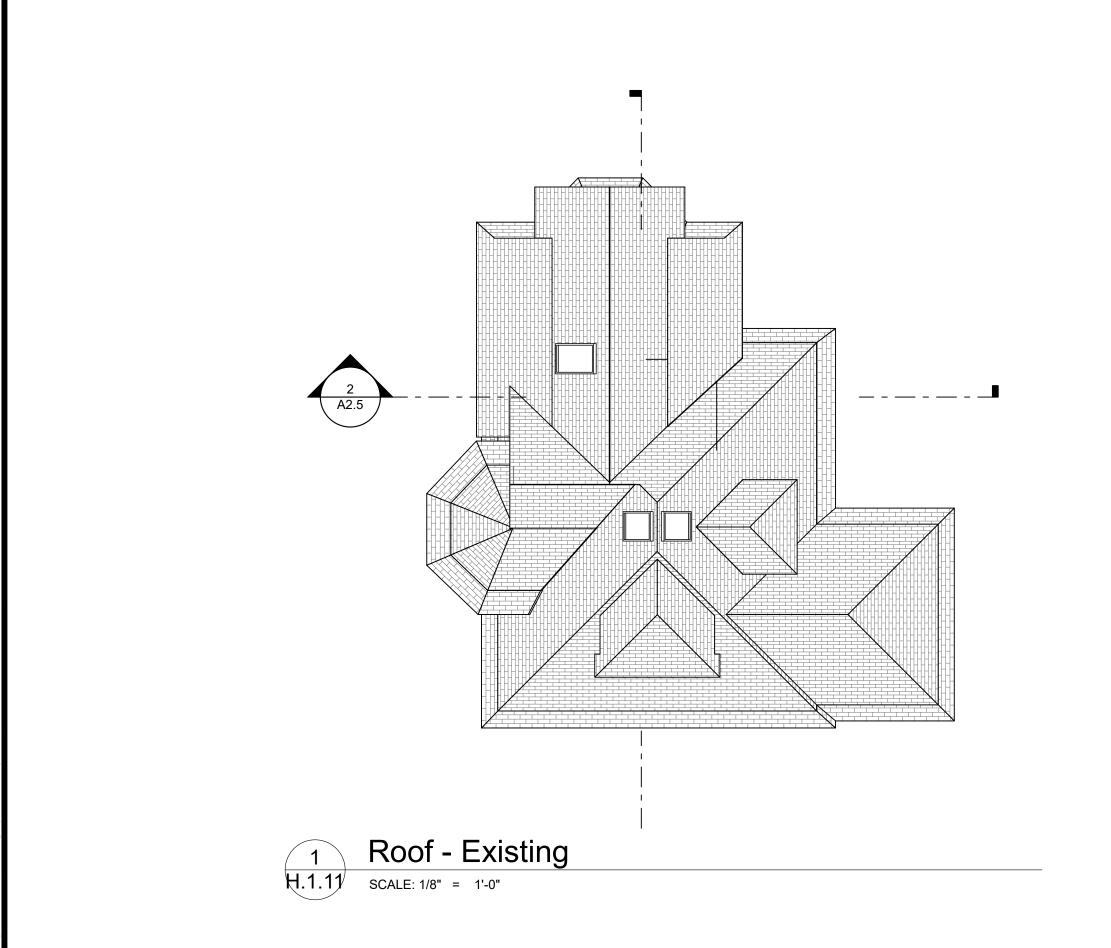
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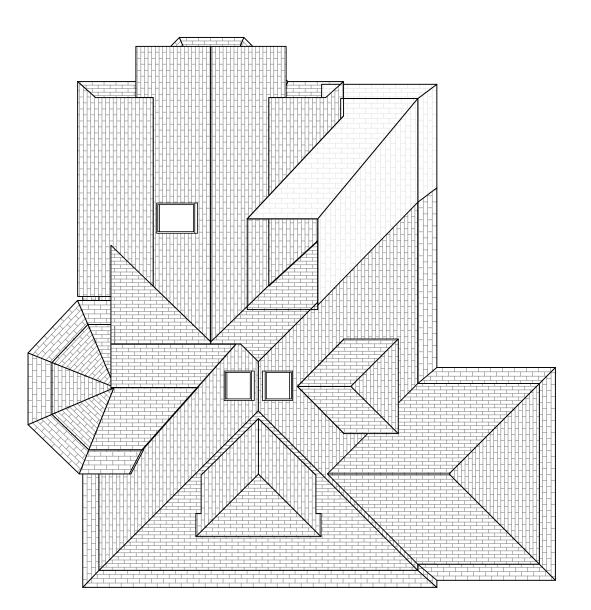
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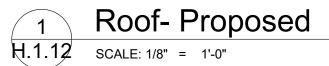


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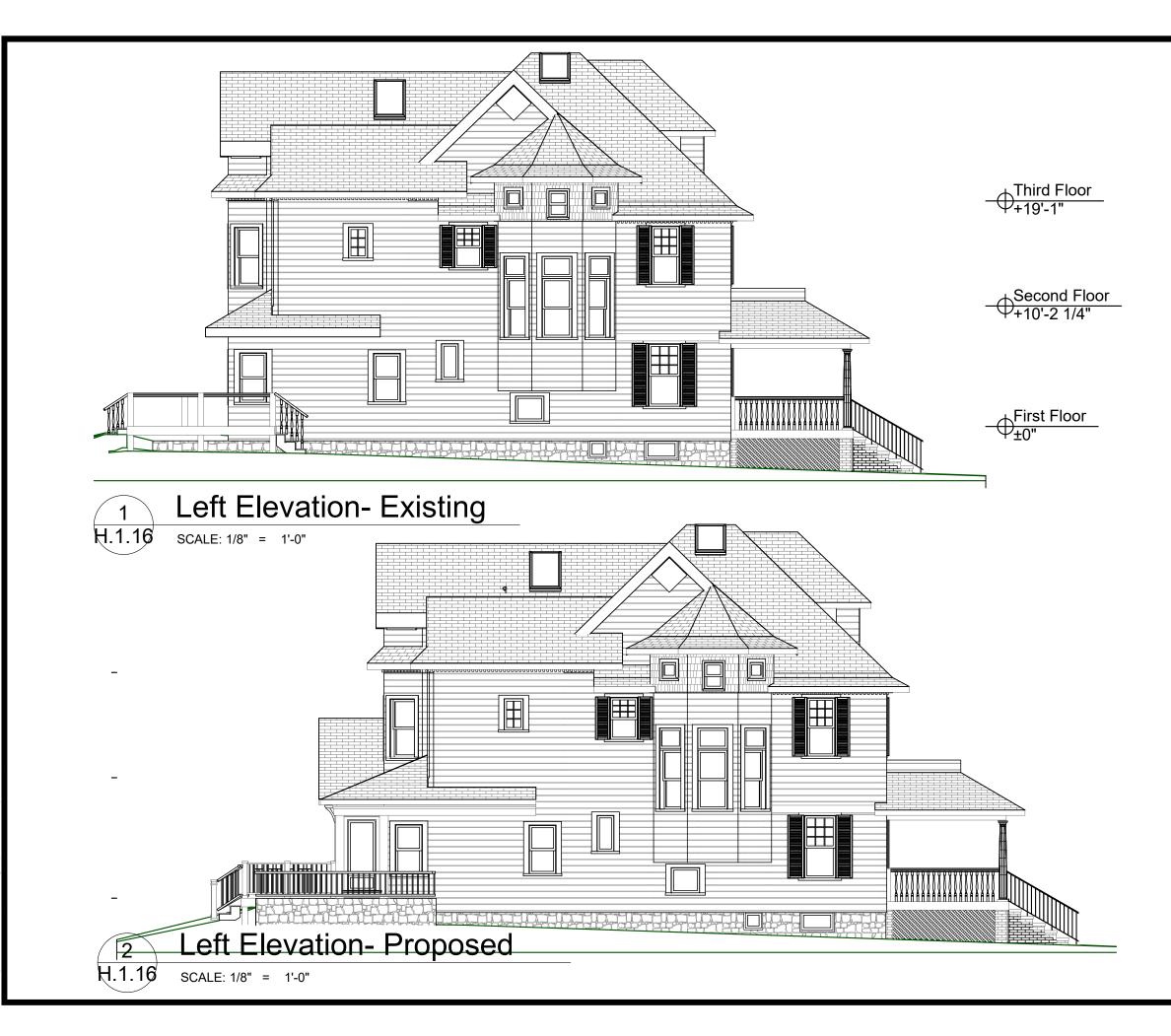
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Third Floor -19'-1"		MANION+ASSOCIATESARCHITECTS, P.C 7307 MacArthur Blvd, Ste. 216, Bethesda, Maryland 20816 T:301.229.7000 F:301.229.7171 www.manionandassociates.com COPYRIGHT © 2019 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED





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