Third Preliminary Consultation MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 20 Philadelphia Ave., Takoma Park Meeting Date: 12/2/2020

Resource: Contributing Resource **Report Date:** 11/25/2/2020

Takoma Park Historic District

Public Notice: 11/18/2020

Applicant: Marwan Hishmeh

(Alan Kinney, Agent) Tax Credit: N/A

Review: 3rd Preliminary Consultation **Staff:** Michael Kyne

Case Number: N/A

PROPOSAL: After-the-fact roof replacement, porch alterations, dormer additions, deck enclosure,

and new deck construction

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based upon the HPC's comments and return with a HAWP application.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource within the Takoma Park Historic District

STYLE: Craftsman, 2-Story

DATE: 1913



Fig. 1: Subject property, as marked by the blue star.

BACKGROUND

The applicant previously appeared before the Commission for preliminary consultations at the July 29, 2020 and September 9, 2020 HPC meetings.¹ At the September 9, 2020 preliminary consultation, the Commission expressed the following:

- Further information is required at the third preliminary consultation, including the following:
 - o Complete window/manufacturer specifications.
 - A complete window schedule, clearly showing where each proposed window will be installed.
 - o Full material specifications (siding, roofing, etc.) and an exterior finish schedule.
- Accurate drawings for the entire proposal (dormer, boarded up window, egress window, etc.).
- The Commission was generally supportive of the revised front porch design, and they indicated
 that it was going in right direction. However, some Commissioners recommended that the central
 porch steps be reconsidered, finding that steps aligned with the front door would be more
 appropriate and compatible with the streetscape.
- Some Commissioners continued to recommend that the slate roof be replaced in-kind.
- One Commissioner specifically noted that the chimney on the northwest (right) side is not depicted in the floor plans, but it would likely prevent a matching dormer on the northwest roof slope. The chimney needs to be depicted in the plans.
- The Commission stated that a third preliminary consultation is required for the proposal.

PROPOSAL

This is a retroactive application for work at 20 Philadelphia Avenue. Multiple Stop Work orders have been issued at this property since April 2020. The applicant is seeking retroactive approval for roof replacement, porch alterations, dormer additions, deck enclosure, and new deck construction. Additionally, the existing slate roof was removed and replaced with an asphalt shingle roof by the applicant; the applicant is seeking approval of this work after the fact.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Takoma Park Historic District several documents are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. These documents include the historic preservation review guidelines in the approved and adopted amendment for the *Takoma Park Historic District (Guidelines)*, *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.

Takoma Park Historic District 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 all visible from the public right-

 $\frac{\text{http://mncppc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=fc70ce7d-d290-11ea-b5c3-0050569183fa}{\text{Link to July 29, 2020 preliminary consultation staff report: } \frac{\text{https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/II.B-20-Philadelphia-Avenue-Takoma-Park.pdf}}$

Link to September 9, 2020 HPC meeting audio/video transcript:

http://mncppc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=e4693bc3-f463-11ea-b6a9-0050569183fa Link to September 9, 2020 preliminary consultation staff report: https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/III.C-20-Philadelphia-Avenue-Takoma-Park.pdf

¹ Link to July 29, 2020 HPC meeting audio/video transcript:

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 historic district.

A majority of structures in the Takoma Park Historic District have been assessed as being "Contributing Resources." While these structures may not have the same level of architectural or historical significance as Outstanding Resources or may have lost some degree of integrity, collectively, they are the basic building blocks of the Takoma Park district. However, they are more important to the overall character of the district and the streetscape due to their size, scale, and architectural character, rather than for their particular architectural features.

Contributing Resources should receive a more lenient level of design 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.

The Guidelines that pertain to this project are as follows:

- 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.
- 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 from 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-8

- (a) The commission shall instruct the director to deny a permit if it finds, based on the evidence and information presented to or before the commission that the alteration for which the permit is sought would be inappropriate, inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource within an historic district, and to the purposes of this chapter.
- (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 ensure 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
- (3) The proposal would enhance or aid in the protection, preservation and public or private utilization of the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district in a manner compatible with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value of the historic site or historic district in which an historic resource is located; or
- (4) The proposal is necessary in order that unsafe conditions or health hazards be remedied; or
- (5) The proposal is necessary in order that the owner of the subject property not be deprived of reasonable use of the property or suffer undue hardship; or
- (6) In balancing the interests of the public in preserving the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district, with the interests of the public from the use and benefit of the alternative proposal, the general public welfare is better served by granting the permit.
- (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

The Secretary of the Interior defines rehabilitation as "the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features, which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values." The *Standards* are as follows:

- 1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.
- 2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
- 3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
- 4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

- 5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a historic property shall be preserved.
- 6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.
- 7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
- 8. Significant archaeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.
- 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- 10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall 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 has returned for a third preliminary consultation with the following revisions:

- The applicant has provided window specifications, indicating that the proposed new windows will be vinyl single-hung, double-hung, and casement windows.
- The applicant has provided a window schedule, which is keyed to the proposed elevations.
- The proposed elevations have been revised and labled to indicate the proposed exterior finishes.
- The proposal for the restored front porch has been revised, and the steps are now aligned with the front door.

Staff seeks the Commission's guidance regarding the following:

Roof Replacement

Specifically, staff continues to seek the Commission's guidance regarding the proposed roof replacement. The issue for the Commission to consider is whether asphalt shingle roofing is an appropriate replacement for the slate roof, or should the slate roofing be replaced in-kind. Typically, a slate roof would be a character-defining feature of the resource. The *Guidelines* state that applicants "should preserve the predominant architectural features of the resource."

Front Porch

At the previous preliminary consultations, the Commission recommended that the front porch be fully restored, taking visual cues from neighboring properties. At the July 29, 2020 preliminary consultation, the applicant only proposed porch columns and railings on the existing concrete and flagstone slab, with no raised porch floor. At the September 9, 2020 preliminary consultation, the applicant presented revisions to the proposed front porch, including a raised porch floor, but the steps were centered and not

5

aligned with the front door. The Commission was generally supportive of the revised porch proposal but recommended that the steps be aligned with the front door to be consistent with the adjacent and confronting properties on Philadelphia Avenue. The applicant has since revised their front porch proposal, algingin the steps with front door, per the Commission's recommendation. Staff supports the revised proposal, finding it consistent with the Commission's recommendations and with the surrounding streetscape.

Window Replacements and New Windows

The Commission typically does not approve vinyl windows at historic sites or within historic districts. The Commission's position has been that vinyl windows are incompatible with historic buildings and historic district streetscapes, because they do not share visual characteristics with traditional materials, both when installed and as they weather and age. In the past, the Commission has approved aluminum-clad wood windows with wood or fiber cement trim on new additions, and they have ensured that any proposed muntins are permanently-affixed to the interior and exterior with internal spacer bars.

Staff seeks the Commission's guidance regarding the proposed vinyl windows within the new structure/enclosed rear deck. Due to the location of the new structure at the rear of the historic house and its general lack of visibility from the public right-of-way, staff supports the proposed vinyl windows within the new structure. However, due to its visibility from the public right-of-way and its location within the historic house, staff finds that the proposed replacement window on the first-floor, south (left, as viewed from the public right-of-way of Philadelphia Avenue) elevation of the historic house should be wood or aluminum-clad, ensuring compatibility with the traditional, character-defining features of the historic house and surrounding streetscape.

Staff notes that the Commission typically exercises greater leniency when reviewing alterations to basement-level fenestration on historic buildings. For example, at the January 22, 2020 HPC meeting, the Commission approved the replacement of three original six-over-six wood basement-level windows (including one highly visible window on the front elevation) with Fibrex (wood and thermoplastic composite) windows at 308 Lincoln Avenue, Takoma Park, an Outstanding Resource within the Takoma Park Historic District. Accordingly, staff supports the proposed vinyl replacement window at the basement-level on the north (right) elevation of the historic house, finding that it will not remove or alter character-defining of the subject property, per *Standards #2* and *#91*.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based upon the HPC's comments and return with a HAWP application.

20 PHILADELPHIA AVE.

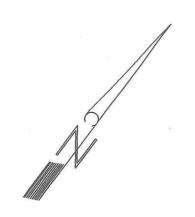
LOT: 10

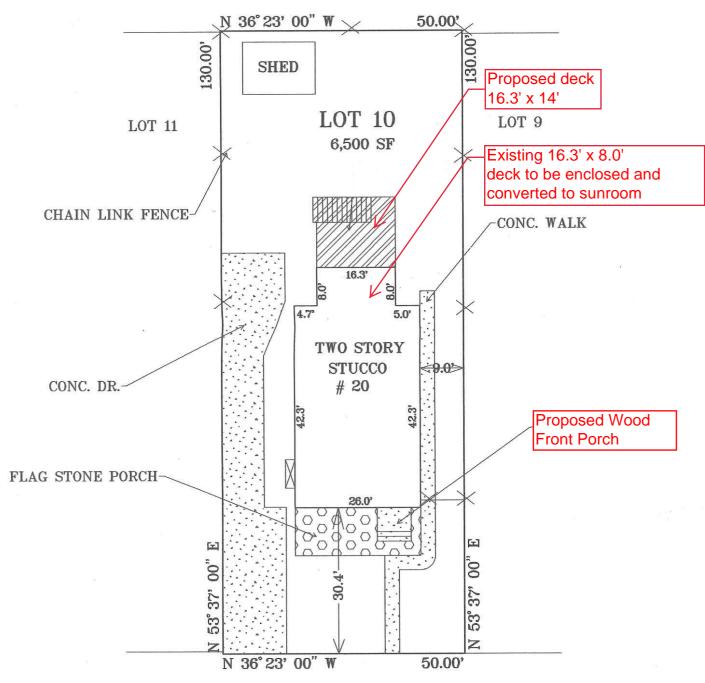
BLOCK: 3

HILL CREST

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

MARYLAND





PHILADELPHIA AVE.

NOTE: LICENSE NO. 574 EXPIRATION DATE Ø3/21/21

SITE SURVEY

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SURVEY IS TO OBTAIN A BUILDING PERMIT.

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PROPERTY DELINEATED HEREON IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLAT OF SUBDIVISION AND DEED OF RECORD AND THAT THE IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN WERE LOCATED BY ACCEPTED FIELD PRACTICES. THIS SITE SURVEY IS NOT FOR THE DETERMINING PROPERTY LINES, AND NO TITLE REPORT WAS FURNISHED TO THIS SURVEYOR, AND LOT CORNERS HAVE NOT BEEN SET BY THIS SURVEY.

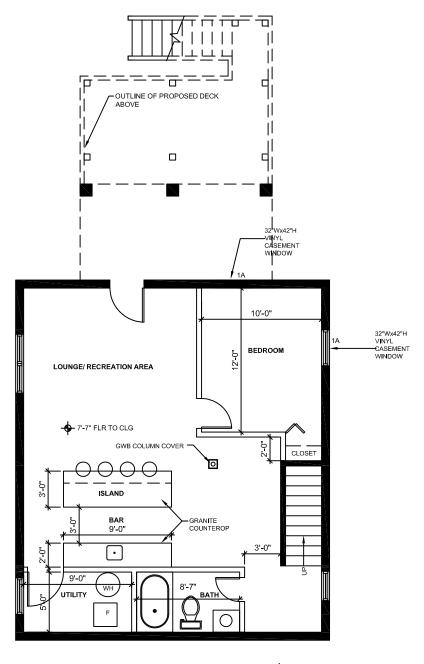


MARYLAND LAND SURVEYING

CONSULTING LAND SURVEYORS AND PLANNERS
9890 LYON AVENUE
LAUREL, MARYLAND 20723

(301) 206-2258

4.5	(301) 200 220	0
SCALE 0 1"= 20"	DWG. BY G.E.L.	CASE No.
LIBER 3710 FOLIO 612	ELECTION DISTRICT 13	COUNTY MONTGOMERY
PLAT BOOK 2 PLAT NO. 140		DATE 05/01/20



DRAWING INDEX

A-101 - BASEMENT PLAN A-102 - FIRST FLOOR PLAN A-103 - SECOND FLOOR PLAN A-104 - ATTIC FLOOR PLAN A-105 - ROOF PLAN A-106 - EXISTING WEST ELEVATION A-107 - PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION A-108 - EXISTING SOUTH ELEVATION A-109 - PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION A-110 - EXISTING NORTH ELEVATION A-111 - PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION

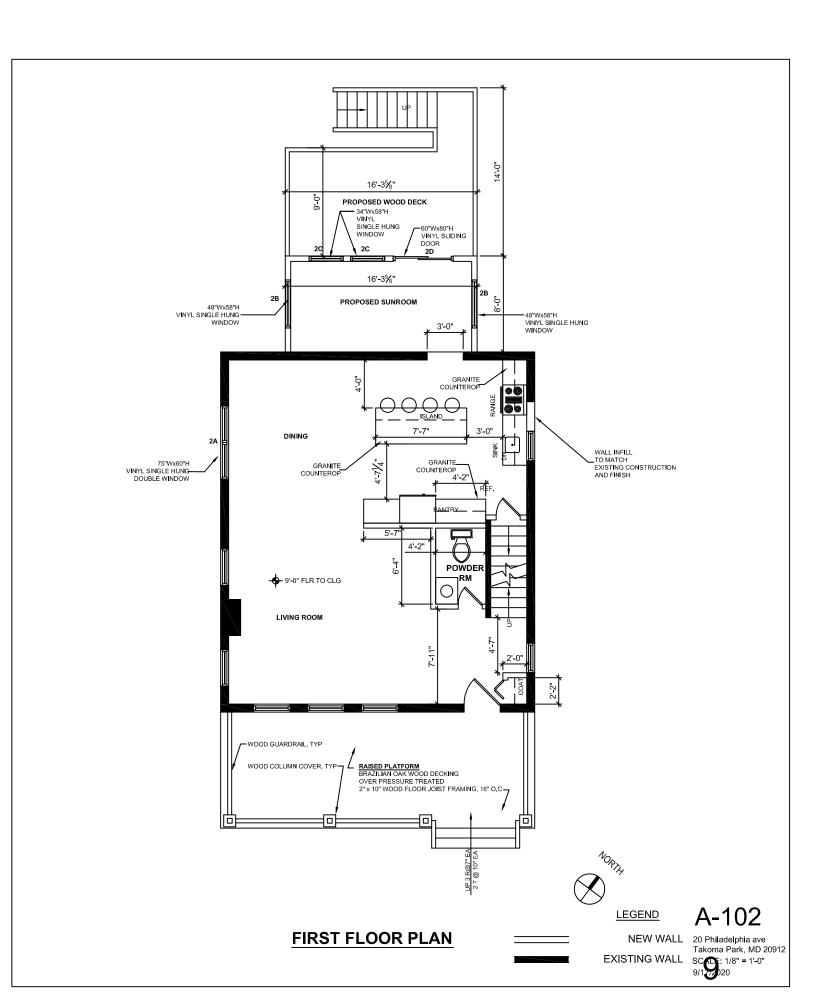
A-112 - EXISTING EAST ELEVATION A-113 - PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION

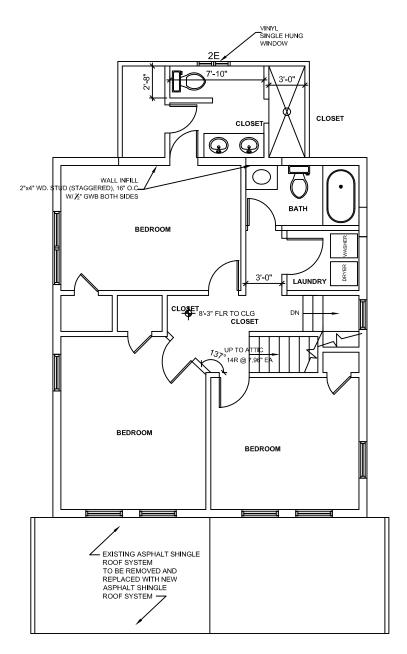


LEGEND

A-101

NEW WALL 20 Philadelphia ave Takoma Park, MD 20912 EXISTING WALL SC 1:48" = 1'-0" 9/1 2/20





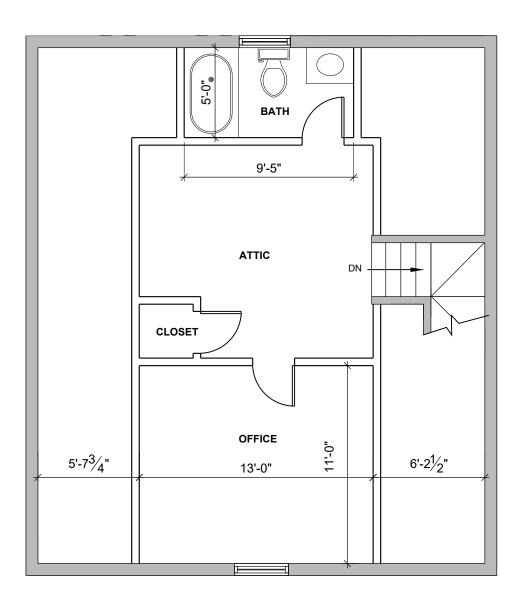




NEW WALL

EXISTING WALL

A-103
20 Philadelphia ave
Takoma Park, MD 20912
TCAS: 1/8" = 1'-0"
1/1/2/20



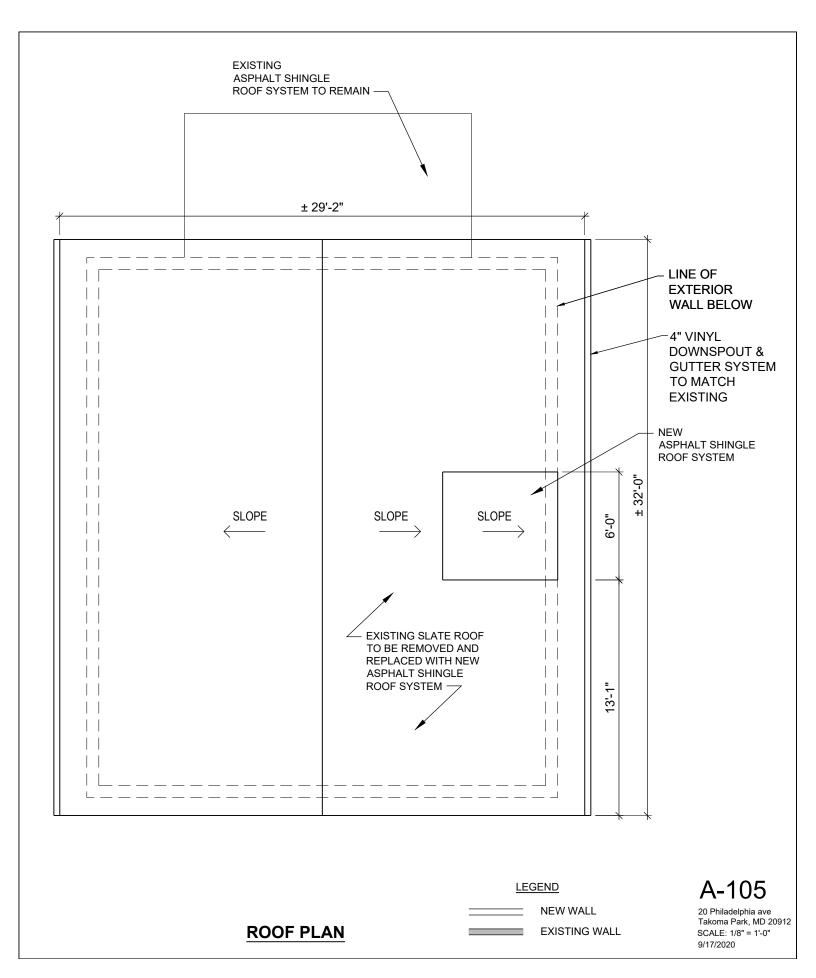


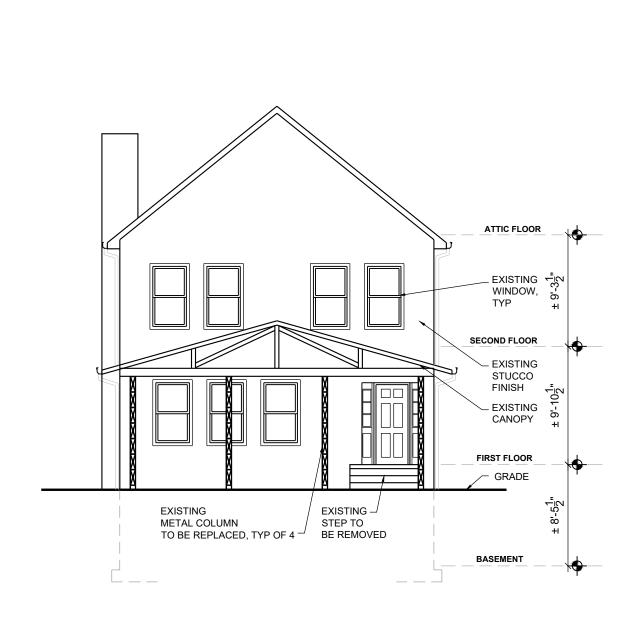
LEGEND

ATTIC FLOOR PLAN

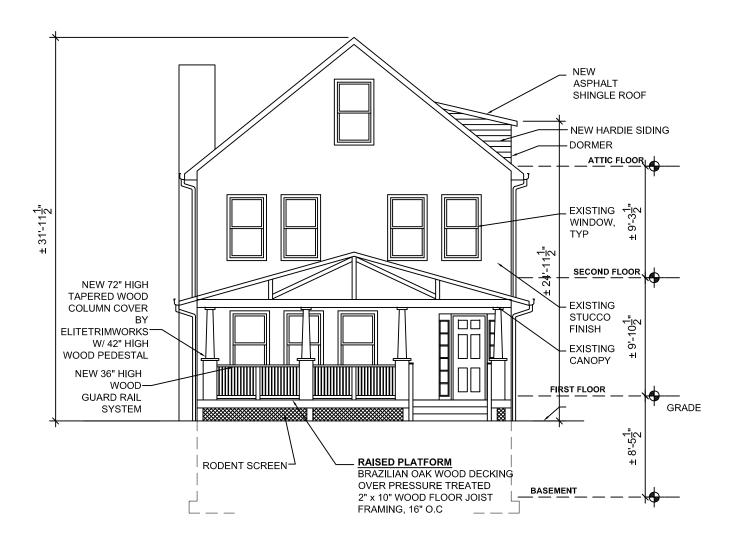
NEW WALL
EXISTING WALL

A-104

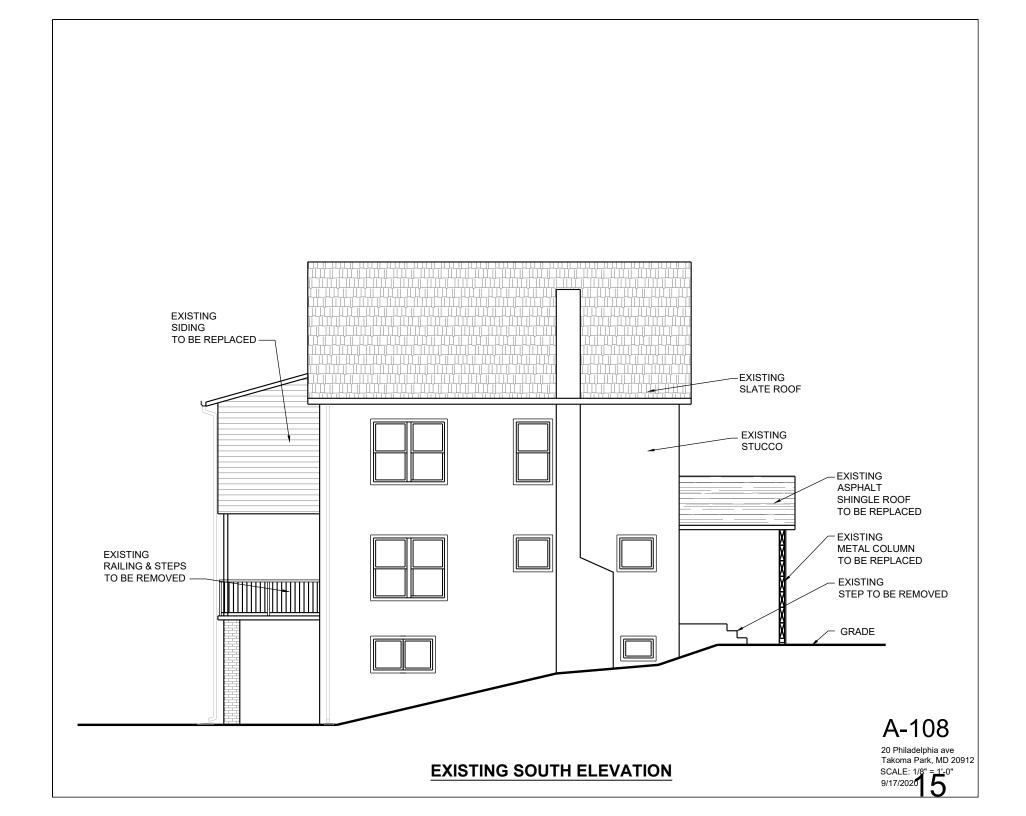


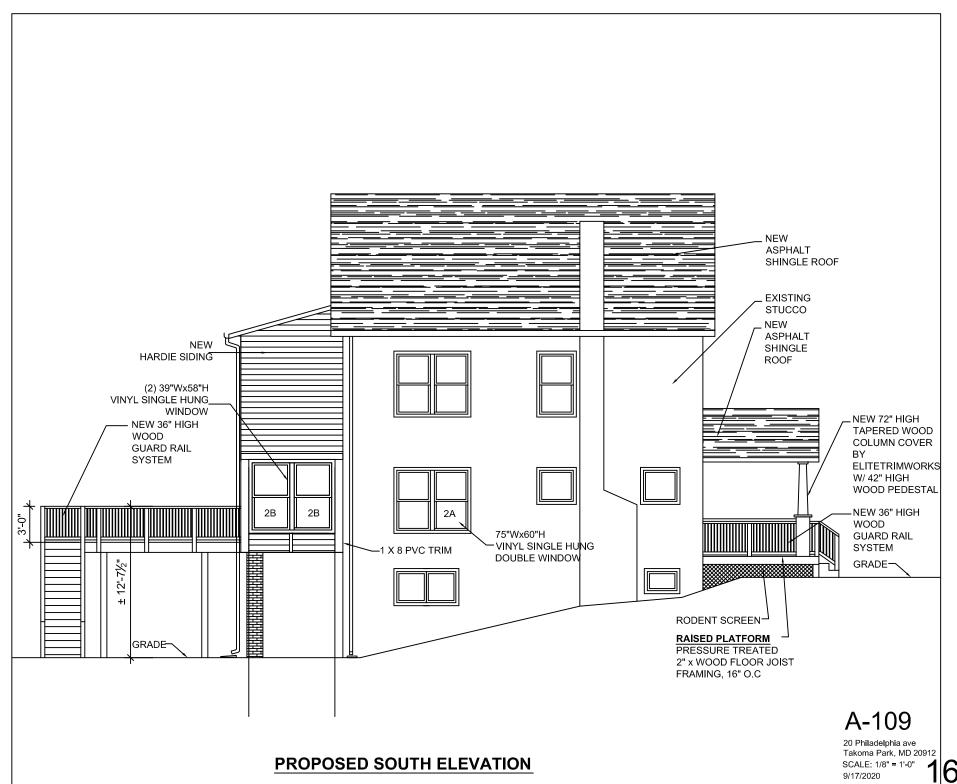


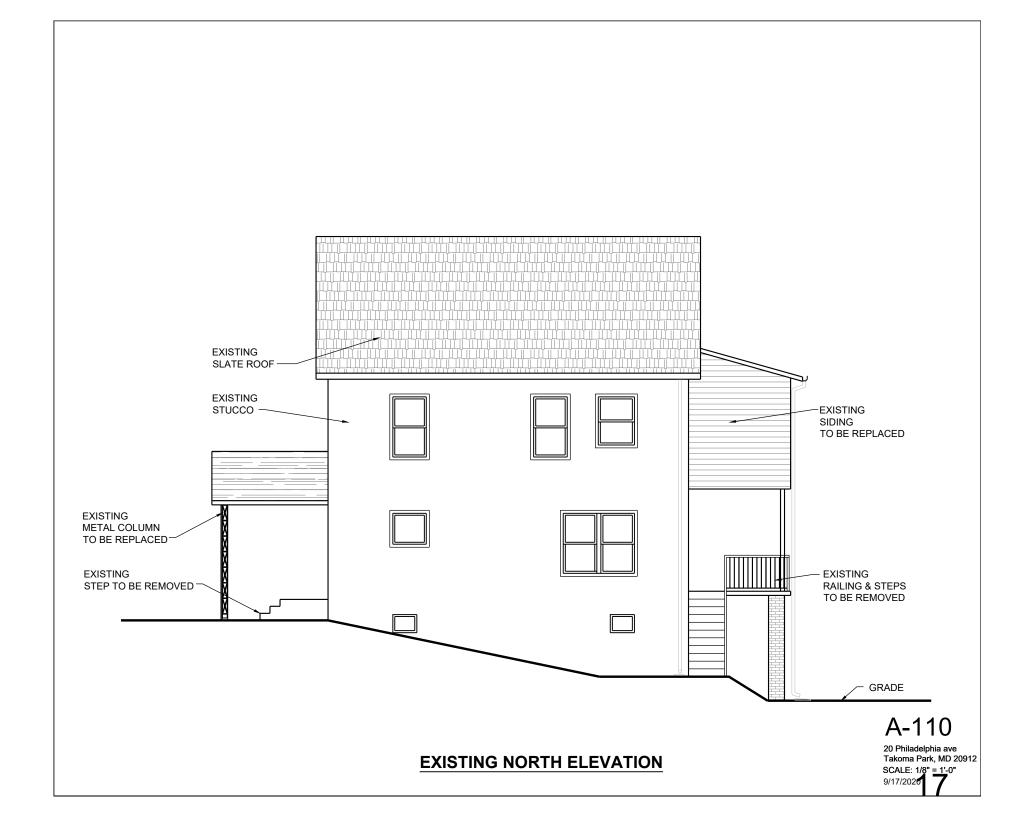
A-106
20 Philadelphia ave

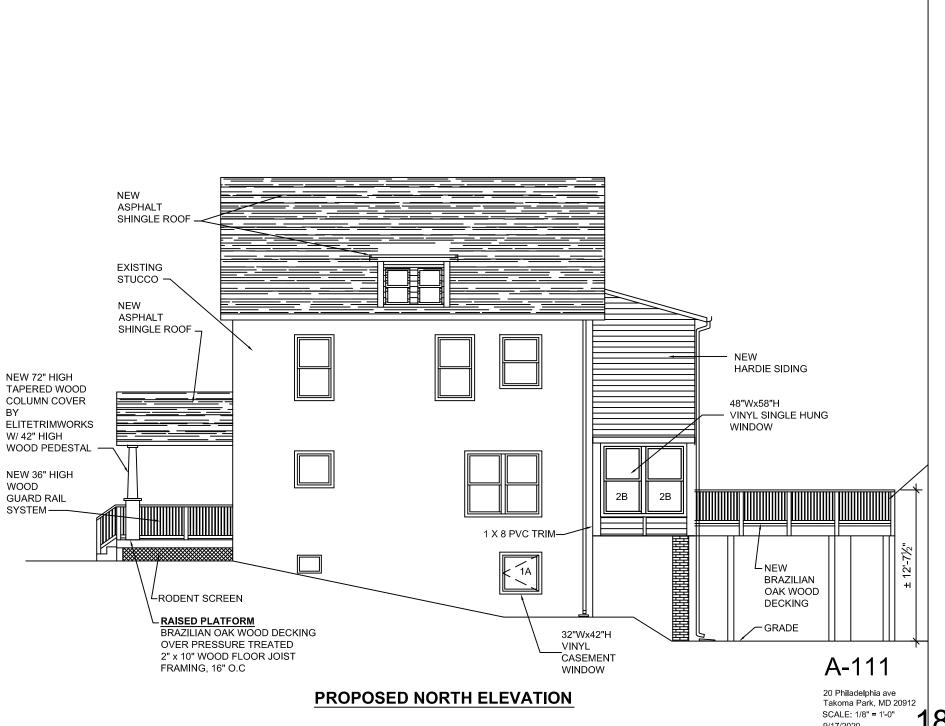


A-107

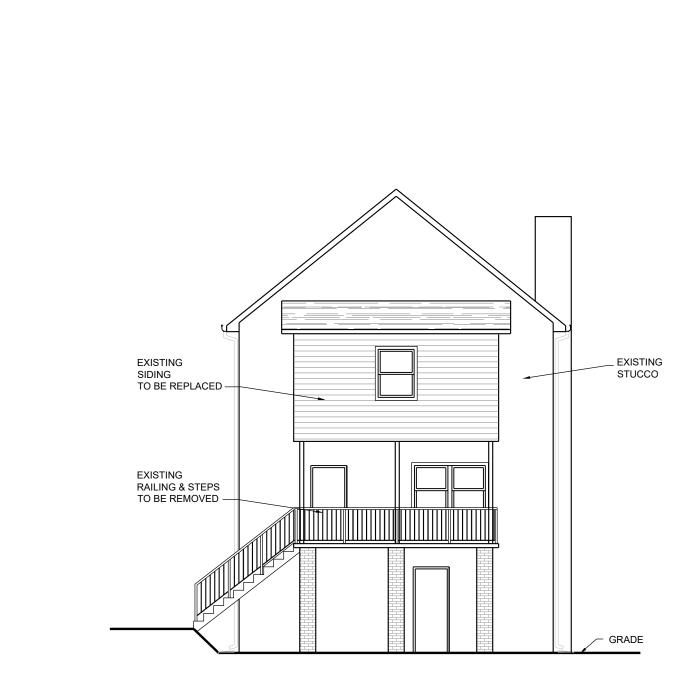






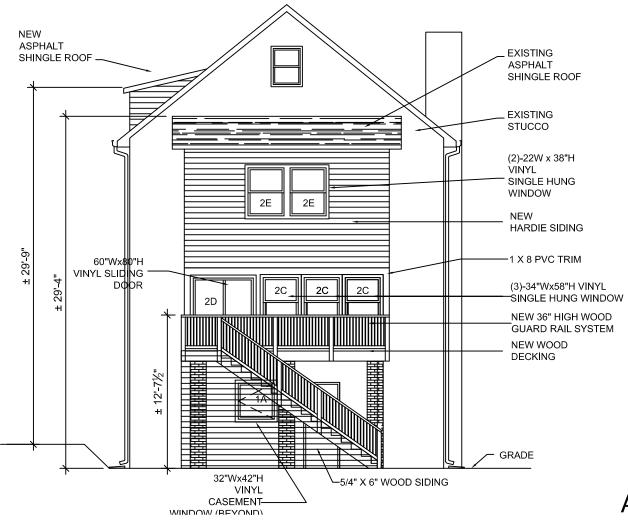


9/17/2020



EXISTING EAST ELEVATION

A-112



PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION

A-113

20 Philadelphia ave
Takoma Park, MD 20912

11 12 20

20 Philadelphia Ave Takoma Park, MD.

WINDOW AND DOOR SCHEDULE

ITEM#	LOCATION	QUANTITY	TYPE	SIZE	MATERIAL
1A	BASEMENT	2	CASEMENT	32W X 42H	VINYL
2A	1 ST FLOOR	1	DOUBLE HUNG	75W X 60H	VINYL
2B	1 ST FLOOR	2	SINGLE HUNG	48W X 58H	VINYL
2C	1 ST FLOOR	2	SINGLE HUNG	34W X 58H	VINYL
2D	1 ST FLOOR	1	SLIDING DOOR	60W X 80H	VINYL
2E	2 ND FLOOR	2	SINGLE HUNG	22W X 38H	VINYL

MATERIALS LIST

EXTERIOR- STUCCO PAINTED WHITE

NEW DORMER AND REAR ADDITION- HARDIBACKER CEMENT SIDING PAINTED WHITE.

ROOF- ASPHALT SHINGLES





Standard Width = CX1XX - RO: 32" |

UNIT: 31 1/2"

Standard Height = XX35 - RO: 41 3/8"

| UNIT: 40 13/16" Frame Width = 31 1/2

Frame Height = 40 13/16

Catalog Version 156

Line Number	Item Summary	Was Price	Now Price	Quantity	Total Savings	Total Price
300-1	400 Series Casement, Left, 31.5 x 40.8125, White w/White Sash / Frame:Pine Unfinished Panel:Pine	\$370.56	\$370.56	1	\$0.00	\$370.56
300-2	Hardware: PSC Traditional Folding White PN:1361560 Version:07/15/2020	\$11.59	\$11.59	1	\$0.00	\$11.59
300-3	Insect Screen 1: 400 Series Casement, CX135 Full Screen TruScene White PN:1344167 Version:07/15/2020	\$99.80	\$99.80	1	\$0.00	\$99.80
	Unit 300 Total:	\$481.95	\$481.95		\$0.00	\$481.95

Begin Line 300 Descriptions

---- Line 300-1 ----

400 Series Casement Overall Rough Opening = 32" x 41 5/16" Overall Unit = 31 1/2" x 40 13/16" Installation Zip Code = 20904 U.S. ENERGY STAR® Climate Zone = North Central Search by Unit Code = No Standard Width = CX1XX - RO: 32" | UNIT: 31 1/2" Standard Height = XX35 - RO: 41 3/8" | UNIT: 40 13/16" Frame Width = 31 1/2 Frame Height = 40 13/16 Unit Code = CX135 Frame Option = Installation Flange Venting / Handing = Left Hinge Style = Hinge for Widest Clear Opening Exterior Frame Color = White Exterior Sash / Panel Color = White Interior Frame Wood Species = Pine Interior Frame Finish Color = Unfinished Interior Sash / Panel Wood Species = Pine

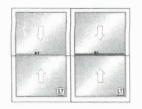
Glass Construction Type = Dual Pane Glass Option = Low-E4 High Altitude Breather Tubes = No Glass Strength = Standard Glass Tint = No Tint Specialty Glass = None Gas Fill = Argon Art Glass Series = None None DP/PG Upgrade = No Hardware Style = Traditional Folding Hardware Color/Finish = White Corrosion Resistant Hardware = None Window Opening Control Device = No Security Sensor Type = None Insect Screen Type = Full Screen Insect Screen Material = TruScene Insect Screen Color = White Exterior Trim Style = None

Extension Jamb Type = None Installation Material Options = No Re-Order Item = No Room Location = Unit U-Factor = 0.28 Unit Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) = 0.32 Unit CPD Number = AND-N-1-01590-00001 U.S. ENERGY STAR Certified = Yes Clear Opening Width = 25.691 Clear Opening Height = 35.961 Clear Opening Area = 6.4158 Unit Part Number = 1321105 Hardware Part Number = 1361560 Insect Screen 1 Part Number = 1344167 SKU = 289185 Vendor Name = S/O ANDERSEN LOGISTICS Vendor Number = 60509030 Customer Service = (888) 888-7020 Catalog Version Date = 07/15/2020

---- Lines 300-2 to 300-3 have the same description as line 300-1 ----

End Line 300 Descriptions





Sash Width = 37 1/2 Sash Height = 60

Catalog Version 156

Line Number	Item Summary	Was Price	Now Price	Quantity	Total Savings	Total Price
200-1	400 Series Double-Hung-Insert Equal Sash, AA, 37.5 x 60, White w/White Sash / Frame:Pine Unfinished Panel:Pine Unfinished	\$660.04	\$660.04	1	\$0.00	\$660.04
200-2	400 Series Double-Hung-Insert Equal Sash, AA, 37.5 x 60, White w/White Sash / Frame:Pine Unfinished Panel:Pine Unfinished	\$660.04	\$660.04	1	\$0.00	\$660.04
200-3	Optional Lock Hardware 1: TWI Traditional White PN:9069433 Version:07/15/2020	\$11.37	\$11.37	1	\$0.00	\$11.37
200-4	Insect Screen 1: 400 Series Double-Hung-Insert, TWI 37.5 x 60 0 Degrees - Flat Full Screen TruScene White Version:07/15/2020	\$186.42	\$186.42	1	\$0.00	\$186.42
200-5	Optional Lock Hardware 1: TWI Traditional White PN:9069433 Version:07/15/2020	\$11.37	\$11.37	1	\$0.00	\$11.37
200-6	Insect Screen 1: 400 Series Double-Hung-Insert, TWI 37.5 x 60 0 Degrees - Flat Full Screen TruScene White Version:07/15/2020	\$186.42	\$186.42	1	\$0.00	\$186.42
200-7	WWINSERT, JOINING KIT, WW INSERT PN:0102022	\$10.00	\$10.00	1	\$0.00	\$10.00
200-8	84IN, EXT TRIM, WHITE MULL PN:0112052	\$13.26	\$13.26	1	\$0.00	\$13.26
200-9	TW62, CASING, IS WOOD PN:1611557	\$10.61	\$10.61	1	\$0.00	\$10.61
200-10	12FTWWINSERT, COVER, WHITE EXTERIOR STOP PN:0112072	\$17.43	\$17.43	1	\$0.00	\$17.43
	Unit 200 Total:	\$1,766.96	\$1,766.96		\$0.00	\$1,766.96

Begin Line 200 Descriptions

---- Line 200-1 ----

400 Series Double-Hung-Insert Overall Joined Rough Opening = 75 3/8" x 60 1/4" Overall Joined Unit = 75" x 60" Installation Zip Code = 20904 U.S. ENERGY STAR® Climate Zone = North Central Search by Unit Code = No Sash Width = $37 \frac{1}{2}$ Sash Height = 60 Unit Sill Angle = 0 Degrees - Flat Venting / Handing = AA Exterior Frame Color = White Exterior Sash / Panel Color = White Interior Frame Wood Species = Pine Interior Frame Finish Color = Unfinished Interior Sash / Panel Wood Species = Pine Interior Sash / Panel Finish Color = Unfinished Jamb Liner Color = White Glass Construction Type = Dual Pane

High Altitude Breather Tubes = No Glass Strength = Standard Glass Tint = No Tint Specialty Glass = None Gas Fill = Argon None DP/PG Upgrade = No Sash Lift Type = None Lock Hardware Style = Traditional Number of Sash Locks = 1 Lock Hardware Color/Finish = White Window Opening Control Device = No Security Sensor Type = None Insect Screen Type = Full Screen Insect Screen Material = TruScene Insect Screen Color = White Exterior Stop Cover = Yes Installation Material Options = No

Room Location =
Unit U-Factor = 0.3
Unit Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) = 0.32
Unit CPD Number = AND-N-132-01022-00001
U.S. ENERGY STAR Certified = Yes
Clear Opening Width = 33.702
Clear Opening Height = 25.744
Clear Opening Area = 6.0252
Optional Lock Hardware 1 Part Number =
9069433
Vertical
Field
0" thick, 60" length
SKU = 289185

Re-Order Item = No

Vendor Name = S/O ANDERSEN LOGISTICS Vendor Number = 60509030 Customer Service = (888) 888-7020 Catalog Version Date = 07/15/2020

---- Lines 200-2 to 200-10 have the same description as line 200-1 ----

End Line 200 Descriptions

Glass Option = Low-E4