MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 10304 Montgomery Avenue, Kensington Meeting Date: 6/12/2024

Resource: Primary Resource Report Date: 6/5/2024

Kensington Historic District

Applicant: Jeff and Gloria Capron **Public Notice:** 5/29/2024

(Luke Olson, Architect)

Review: Historic Area Work Permit Tax Credit: No

Permit Number: 1060765 REVISION **Staff:** Chris Berger

PROPOSAL: Enlarged areaway and fenestration alterations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) <u>approve with two conditions</u> the HAWP application with final review and approval of all details delegated to staff:

- 1. The applicant must provide specifications for all proposed features, including doors, railings, and windows.
- 2. The infill siding in the proposed door opening needs to be either salvaged from other cuts in the house or be new wood siding that matches the profile, material, and finish.

Note: The original HAWP approval from March 20, 2024, included five conditions, all of which are still outstanding.¹



Figure 1: The subject property at 10304 Montgomery Avenue (noted by the yellow star) is located mid-block on the west side of the Montgomery Avenue. The red line is the boundary of the Kensington Historic District.

Link to the March 20, 2024, HPC meeting audio/video transcript: https://montgomeryplanning.org/historic/commission/agendas/images/play_24.png
Link to the first staff report for HAWP #1060765: https://montgomery-Avenue-Kensington-1060765.pdf

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Primary Resource within the Kensington Historic District

STYLE: Colonial Revival Four Square

DATE: Ca. 1904-1911

The following information was prepared in 2023 for a Preliminary Consultation report.

The subject property is a Primary Resource in the Kensington Master Plan Historic District. The property features a Colonial Revival-styled Four Square dwelling constructed between 1904 and 1911. The date of construction is based on an analysis of available Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. The house is not depicted on the 1904 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map but is evident by 1911. The original 2.5-story, two-bay, two-pile, wood-frame house was clad in wood lap siding and capped with an asphalt shingle hipped roof. The roof featured overhanging eaves and centrally located hipped dormers on its eastern (front) and western (rear) slopes. A full-width, wood-frame, hipped roof porch supported by Tuscan wood columns adorned the façade. Fenestration primarily consisted of one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows and a Palladian window on the north elevation. In the late 1980s, the HPC approved a two-story rear addition and a one-story, flat roof addition to the north elevation.² In 2016, the HPC permitted the addition of the two hipped dormers on the rear addition. In 2021, the HPC approved the construction of the extant accessory dwelling unit located directly to the rear of the historic house.³



Figure 2: Views of the façade and rear elevation of the house ca. 1988, top row, and 2023, bottom row. The 1988 photograph shows the house in its original form with later additions removed prior to a substantial renovation.

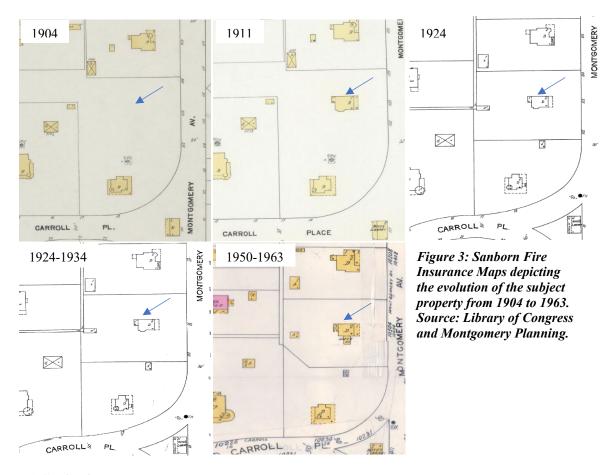
Source: Montgomery

Source: Montgomery Planning and applicant

² For more information, see

https://mcatlas.org/tiles/06_HistoricPreservation_PhotoArchives/Padlock/HAR60640005/Box038/31-6_Kensington%20Historic%20District_10304%20Montgomery%20Avenue_03-10-1988.pdf and https://mcatlas.org/tiles/06_HistoricPreservation_PhotoArchives/Padlock/HAR60640005/Box038/31-6_Kensington%20Historic%20District_10304%20Montgomery%20Avenue_12-18-1987.pdf.

³ For more information, see https://mcatlas.org/tiles/06 HistoricPreservation PhotoArchives/HAWP/5-26-2021/10304%20Montgomery%20Ave.,%20Kensington%20-%20Approval.pdf and https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/I.A-10304-Montgomery-Avenue-Kensington.pdf.



BACKGROUND

The HPC provided a preliminary consultation for the project at its September 6, 2023, meeting and was generally supportive.⁴

At the March 20, 2024, HPC meeting, the Commission heard a presentation for HAWP #1060765. The HAWP included fenestration alteration, new additions, hardscape alterations, and construction of new detached garage.

The HPC approved the application with the five staff recommended conditions:

- 1. Applicant shall provide specifications for all features, including the masonry and flagstone steps and stairs, doors on the addition; light fixtures; and patio pavers.
- 2. Applicant shall specify all the proposed materials on the plans.
- 3. Applicant shall revise plans to correct any incorrect dimensions and labels.
- 4. The front porch floor shall be replaced in-kind with wood that is painted and not a composite material.
- 5. The applicant shall provide a detail for the replacement materials on the side porch.

⁴ The staff report for the preliminary consultation report is available here: https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/II.B-10304-Montgomery-Avenue-Kensington.pdf
The minutes for the September 6, 2023, meeting are available here: https://mncppc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish id=18960b37-4d9f-11ee-ae13-0050569183fa

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes the following revisions to the application to the property (*Figures 4-10*):

- Enlarge the proposed basement areaway to provide an exterior entry door into the existing basement space.
- Switch from a group of four double-hung sash windows to two individual double-hung sash windows on the south side of the proposed family room addition to match the windows on the north side of the room.
- Remove the existing second floor window and install a new door that will open onto the second-floor roof deck.



Figure 4: The previously approved site plan shows the areaway clouded in red.



Figure 5: The revised site plan shows the expanded areaway clouded in red.

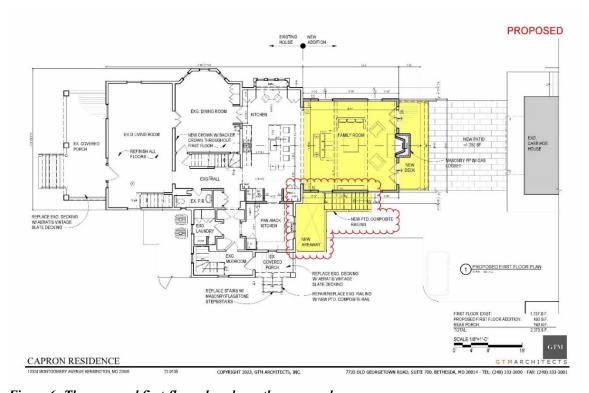


Figure 6: The proposed first-floor plan shows the proposed areaway.

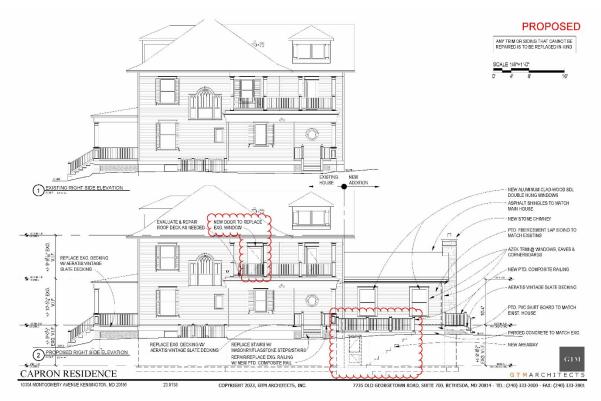


Figure 7: The revised right-side elevation shows the existing, top, and proposed areaway and window converted into a door on the second floor clouded in red.



Figure 8: The revised rear elevation shows the existing, top, and proposed areaway clouded in red.

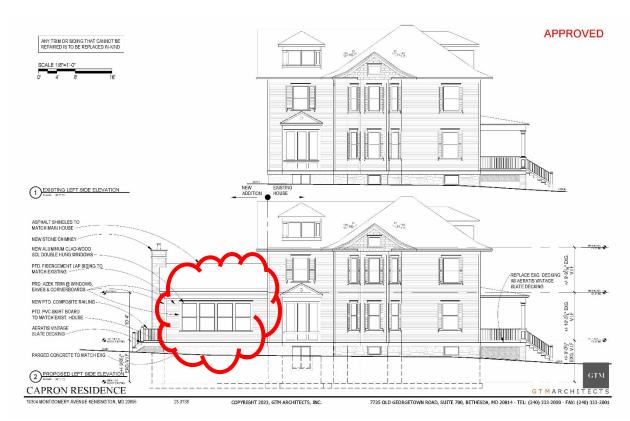


Figure 9: The previously approved right-side elevation shows the four windows proposed for the addition.



Figure 10: The revised left-side elevation shows the proposed window pattern on the addition clouded in red.

APPLICABLE 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.

Approved & Adopted Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation: Kensington Historic District, Atlas #31/6

The Amendment notes:

The district is architecturally significant as a collection of late 19th and early 20th Century houses exhibiting 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, set backs 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.

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 as noted on Page 1 "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." 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.

Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A-8

- (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
- (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 read are as follows:

- 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.
- 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

Enlarge the Proposed Basement Areaway

Staff supports the proposal to enlarge the proposed areaway and recommends approval. The applicants' architect said the areaway needs to be enlarged to provide access to the existing basement in case the applicants cannot enlarge the basement as was previously planned. An existing window well will be replaced with a door, and the areaway will be enlarged approximately 60 square feet. The areaway will be surrounded by a composite guardrail to match the rail previously approved by the HPC. Staff recommends a condition that specifications are provided for the areaway door and railing.

The work meets both Kensington's Master Plan *Amendment* and *Vision*. In accordance with Chapter 24A-8(b), the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic resource within an historic district, and the work is compatible in character with the historic district because the areaway will be built on the back of a 1980s addition and will not be visible from the right of way. Per Chapter 24A-8(d), the HPC is to be lenient in its judgement for plans involving new construction unless they would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of the surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the district. Staff finds the expanded areaway will not affect the value and character of the district. It also conforms with the *Standards*, because the historic character of the property will be retained and preserved; the expanded areaway will not destroy the historic materials that characterize a property; and the form and integrity of the property will be unimpaired if the addition is removed in the future.

Window Alteration on Addition

Staff supports the proposed window reconfiguration on the left-side elevation of the proposed addition and recommends approval. The HPC previously approved a bank of four windows, and the number of windows will be reduced to two, single windows. The windows will be aluminum clad wood—the same as what was previously approved. Staff recommends a condition that specifications are provided for the windows.

The work meets both Kensington's Master Plan *Amendment* and *Vision*. In accordance with Chapter 24A-8(b), the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic resource within an historic district, and the work is compatible in character with the historic district where accessory structures in the

rear yard are common. Per Chapter 24A-8(d), the HPC is to be lenient in its judgement for plans involving new construction unless they would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of the surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the district. Staff finds the window change will not affect the value and character of the district. It also conforms with the *Standards*, because the historic character of the property will be retained and preserved; the window alteration will not destroy the historic materials that characterize a property; and the form and integrity of the property will be unimpaired by the change.

Convert Window Opening to Door

Staff supports the conversion of the second-floor window opening on the right-side elevation to a door and recommends approval. According to the applicant, the previously approved floor plan showed a door in that location, but the elevation instead showed a window. The new door opening will be shifted over from the window opening, and a portion of the existing window opening will be infilled with siding to match the existing. Staff encourages the applicant to retain the removed window and store it on site for potential reinstallation on the building. Staff recommends a condition that the new siding that will be installed to the left of the door should be salvaged from other locations on the house and/or it should match the material and profile of the existing siding exactly.

The work meets both Kensington's Master Plan *Amendment* and *Vision*. In accordance with Chapter 24A-8(b), the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic resource within an historic district, and the work is compatible in character with the historic district. The window is on a side elevation approximately 100 feet from the right of way, so it is not readily visible to passers-by. The window to door conversion also conforms with the *Standards*, because the historic character of the property will be retained and preserved; the window alteration will not destroy the historic materials that characterize a property; and the form and integrity of the property will be unimpaired by the change.

After full and fair consideration of the applicant's submission, staff finds the proposal consistent with the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b)(1) and (2) and Chapter 24A-8(d), having found the proposal is consistent with the *Amendment*, *Vision of Kensington*, and *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* #2, 9, and 10.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission **approve with two conditions** the HAWP application:

- 1. The applicant must provide specifications for all proposed features, including doors, railings, and windows.
- 2. The infill siding in the proposed door opening needs to be either salvaged from other cuts in the house or be new wood siding that matches the profile, material, and finish.

under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b), (1), (2), and (d), having found that the proposal, is consistent with the *Vision of Kensington*, and therefore will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource and is compatible in character with the district and the purposes of Chapter 24A;

Note: The original HAWP approval from March 20, 2024, included five conditions, all of which are still outstanding.

and with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2, 9, and 10.

and with the general condition that the applicant shall present an electronic set of drawings, if applicable, to Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff for review and stamping prior to submission for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permits;

and with the general condition that final project design details, not specifically delineated by the Commission, shall be approved by HPC staff or brought back to the Commission as a revised HAWP application at staff's discretion;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall notify the Historic Preservation staff if they propose to make any alterations to the approved plans. Once the work is completed the applicant will contact the staff person assigned to this application at 301-495-4571 or chris.berger@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.



APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301.563.3400

DATE ASSIGNED____

FOR STAFF ONLY:

HAWP#__

AP	P	LI	C	41	T	:
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APPLICANT:	gcidesign@gloriacapron.com
Name:	E-mail: jeffcapron5504@gmail.com
Address:10304 Montgomery Ave	City: Kensington Zip: 20895
Daytime Phone:	Tax Account No.: 01018853
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):	
Name: LUKE OLSON	E-mail: LOLSON@GTMARCHITECTS.COM
Address: 7735 OLD GEORGETOWN RD STE 700	City: BETHESDA zip: 20814
Daytime Phone:240-333-2021	Contractor Registration No.:
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Histori	c Property
Is the Property Located within an Historic District? X	Yes/District Name Kensington
 Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environme map of the easement, and documentation from the Ea	
Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES, in supplemental information.	
Building Number: 10304 Street: Mor	ntgomery Ave
Town/City: Kensington Nearest Cros	ss Street: Kensington Pkwy
Lot:12 Block:2 Subdivision:	
TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on P for proposed work are submitted with this applica	ation. Incomplete Applications will not
be accepted for review. Check all that apply: New Construction Deck/Porch	X Shed/Garage/Accessory StructureSolar
☐ New Construction ☒ Deck/Porch ☒ Fence	Tree removal/planting
Demolition X Hardscape/Lands	
Grading/Excavation Roof	Other: DRIVEWAY MODIFICATION
I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the fo	oregoing application, that the application is correct
and accurate and that the construction will comply wit	
agencies and her my acknowledge and accept this to l	he a condition for the issuance of this permit

HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING

[Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

Owner's maili	ng address
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JEFF & GLORIA CAPRON 10304 MONTGOMERY AVE KENSINGTON, MD 20895

Owner's Agent's mailing address

Luke Olson 7735 Old Georgetown Rd Ste 700 Bethesda, MD 20814

Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses

JAMES & CAROL SHARP 10226 CARROLL PL KENSINGTON MD 20895 MICHAEL & DEBRA MCCURRY 10313 FAWCETT ST KENSINGTON MD 20895

NICHOLAS & CARRIE STORER 10234 CARROLL PL KENSINGTON MD 20895 DENNIS & ANGELA KILCULLEN 10308 MONTGOMERY AVE KENSINGTON MD 20895

MACKIE BARCH & JACQUELINE FORTI 10303 MONTGOMERY AVE KENSINGTON MD 20895 JENNIFER BRUSH 10312 MONTGOMERY AVE KENSINGTON MD 20895 Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

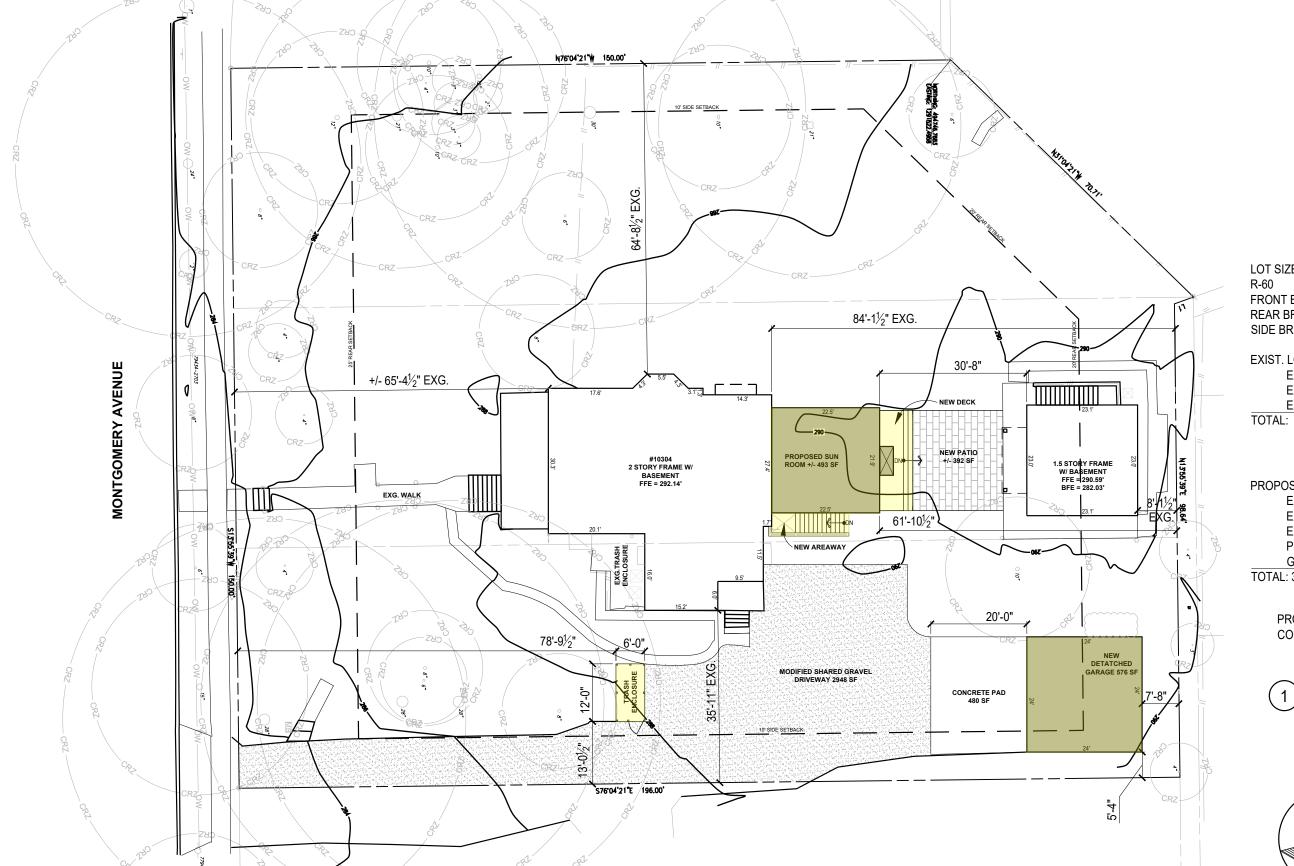
EXISTING 2-STORY COLONIAL REVIVAL HOUSE WITH CLAPBOARD SIDING AND ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOF CIRCA 1893 WITH 2-STORY DETACHED ACCESSORY STRUCTURE IN REAR YARD.

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

We'd like to revise our HAWP approval to make the following changes:

- -enlarge the proposed basement areaway to provide an exterior entry door into the existing basement space in case they need to remove the full basement below the addition due to budget constraints
- -switch from a group of 4 double hungs to two individual double hungs on the south side of the family room to match the windows on the north side of the family room
- -we noticed a discrepancy in our HAWP approval set in that we were showing a new door onto the 2nd floor roof deck in the approved 2nd floor plan but that wasn't reflected in the right-side elevation. We've provided an updated elevation for review.

APPROVED



LOT SIZE (12, 13, & 14): 28,353 S.F. FRONT BRL = 25'

REAR BRL = 20' SIDE BRL = 10'

EXIST. LOT COVERAGE:

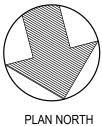
EXIST. HOUSE: 1,737 S.F. EXIST. FRONT PORCH: 254 S.F. EXIST. CARRIAGE HOUSE: 529 S.F. 2,520 S.F. (9 %)

PROPOSED LOT COVERAGE:

EXIST HOUSE: 1,737 S.F. EXIST. FRONT PORCH: 254 S.F. EXIST. CARRIAGE HOUSE: 529 S.F. PROPOSED ADDITION: 493 S.F. GARAGE 578 S.F. TOTAL: 3,591 S.F. (12.7%) < 69,923.55 S.F. (35% MAX.)

PROPOSED DRIVEWAY: 2,948 S.F. CONCRETE PAD 480 S.F.





GTM GTMARCHITECTS

CAPRON RESIDENCE

PROPOSED



LOT SIZE (12, 13, & 14): 28,353 S.F.

FRONT BRL = 25' REAR BRL = 20' SIDE BRL = 10'

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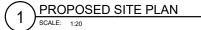
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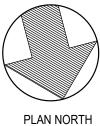
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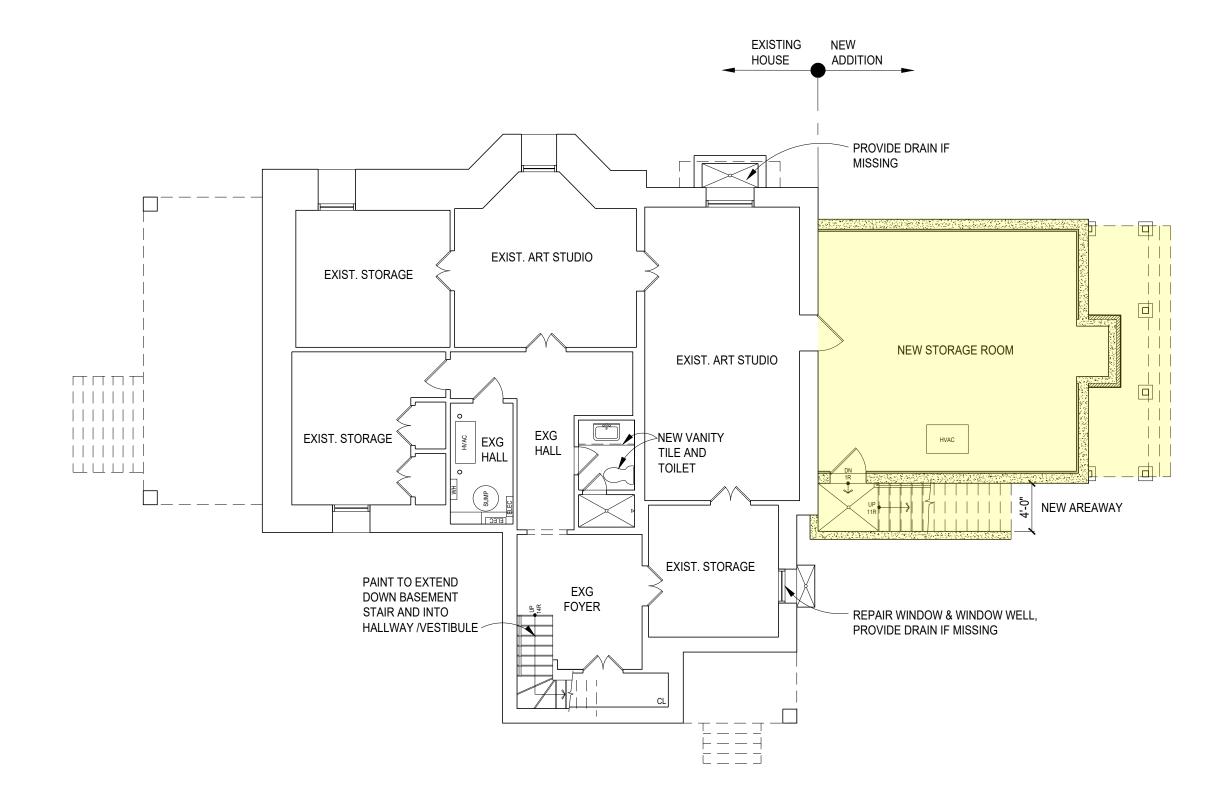




GTM GTMARCHITECTS

CAPRON RESIDENCE

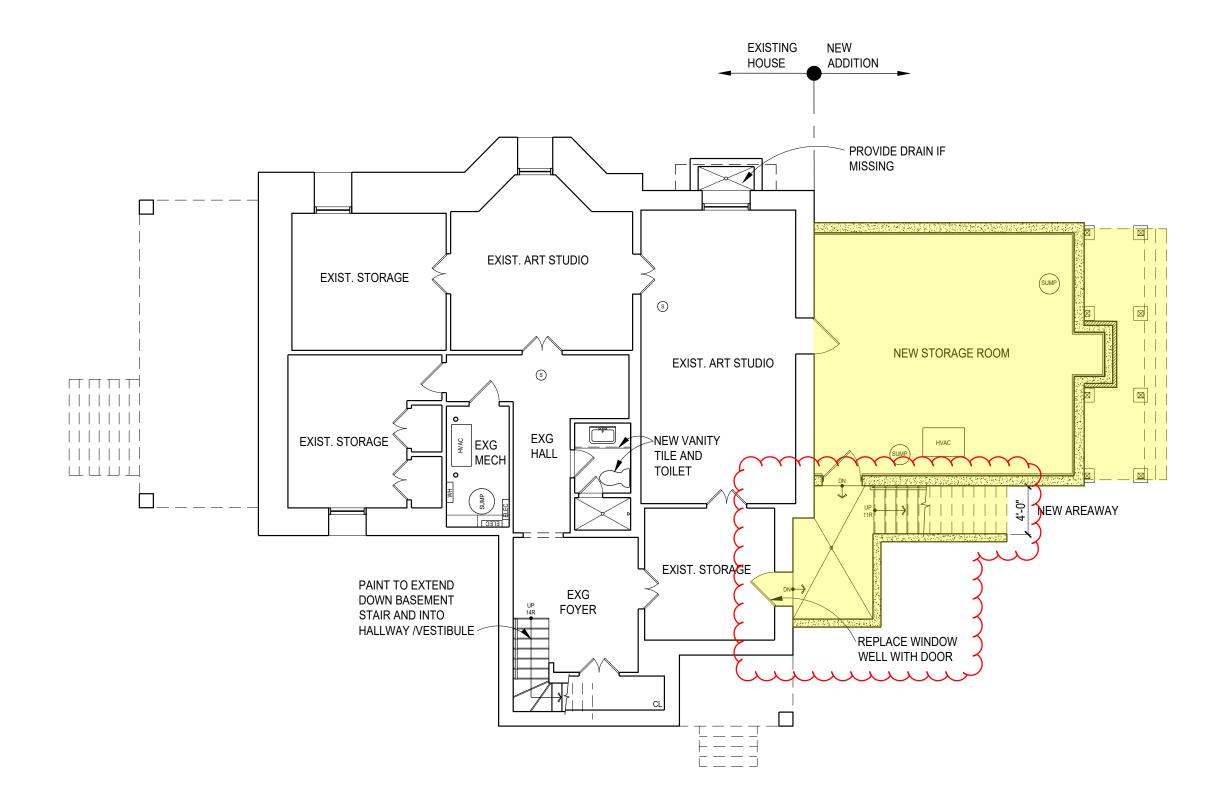
APPROVED





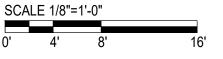
BASEMENT EXIST: 1,737 S.F. PROPOSED COND CRAWL 508 S.F. 2,245 S.F. TOTAL:

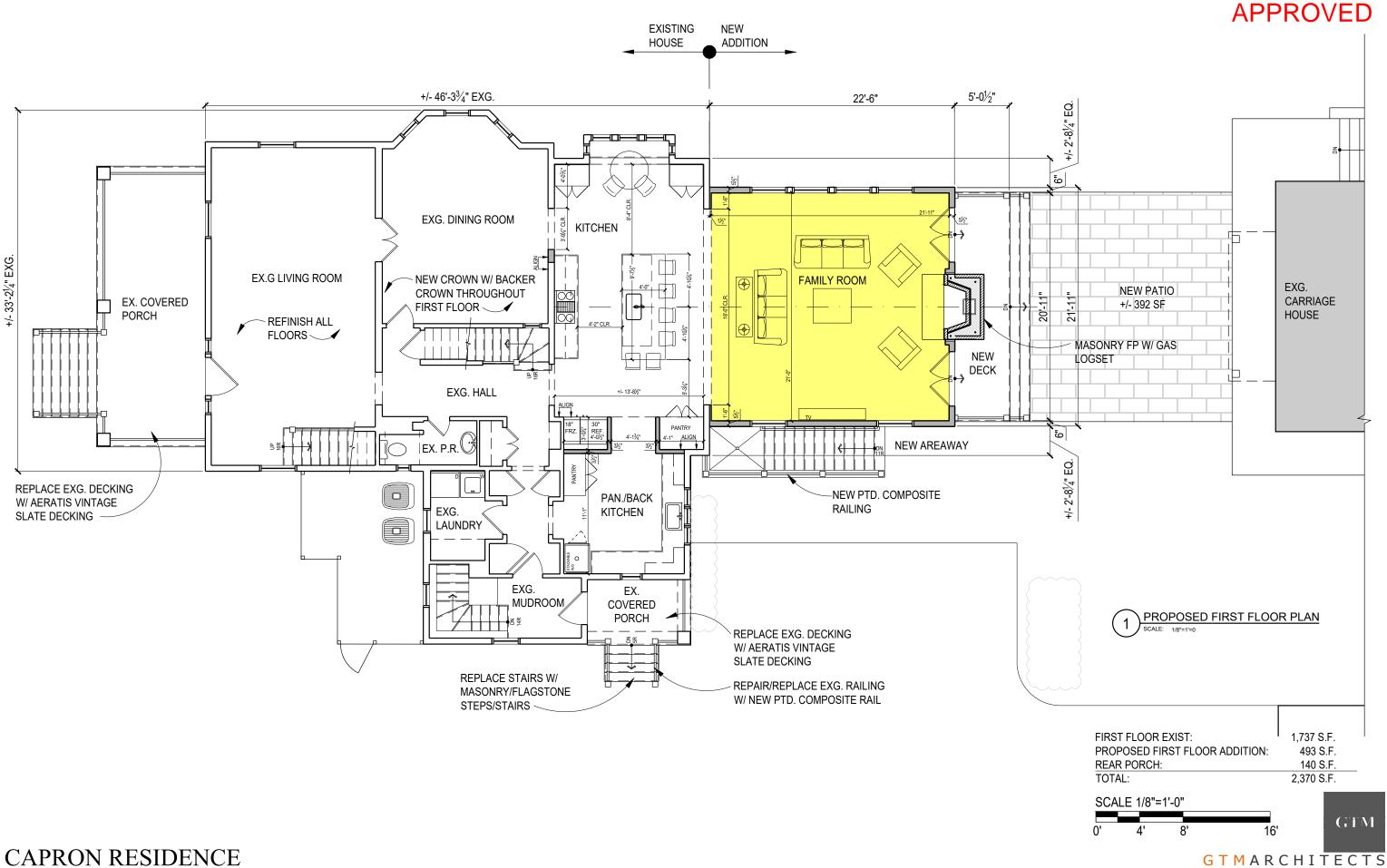




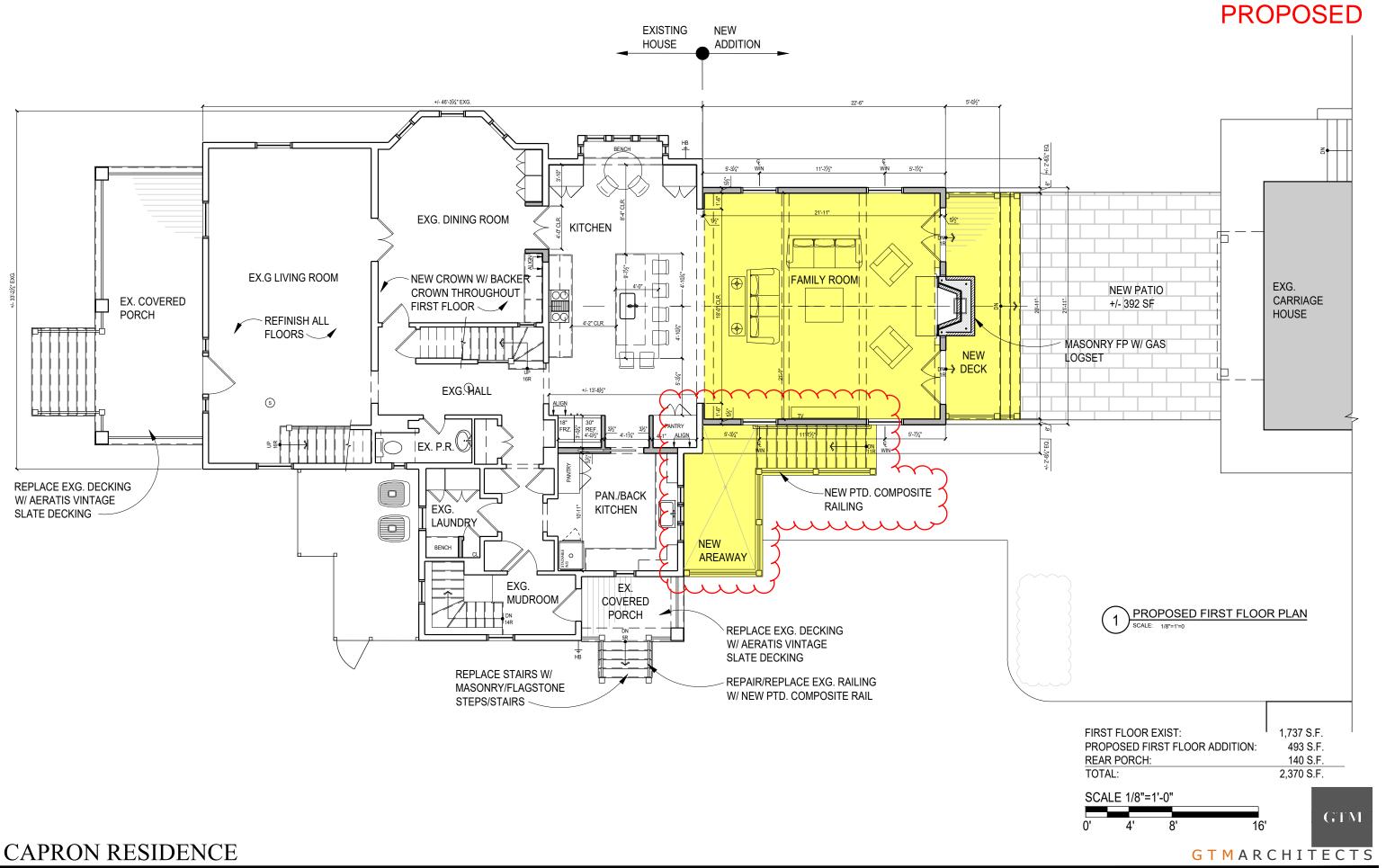


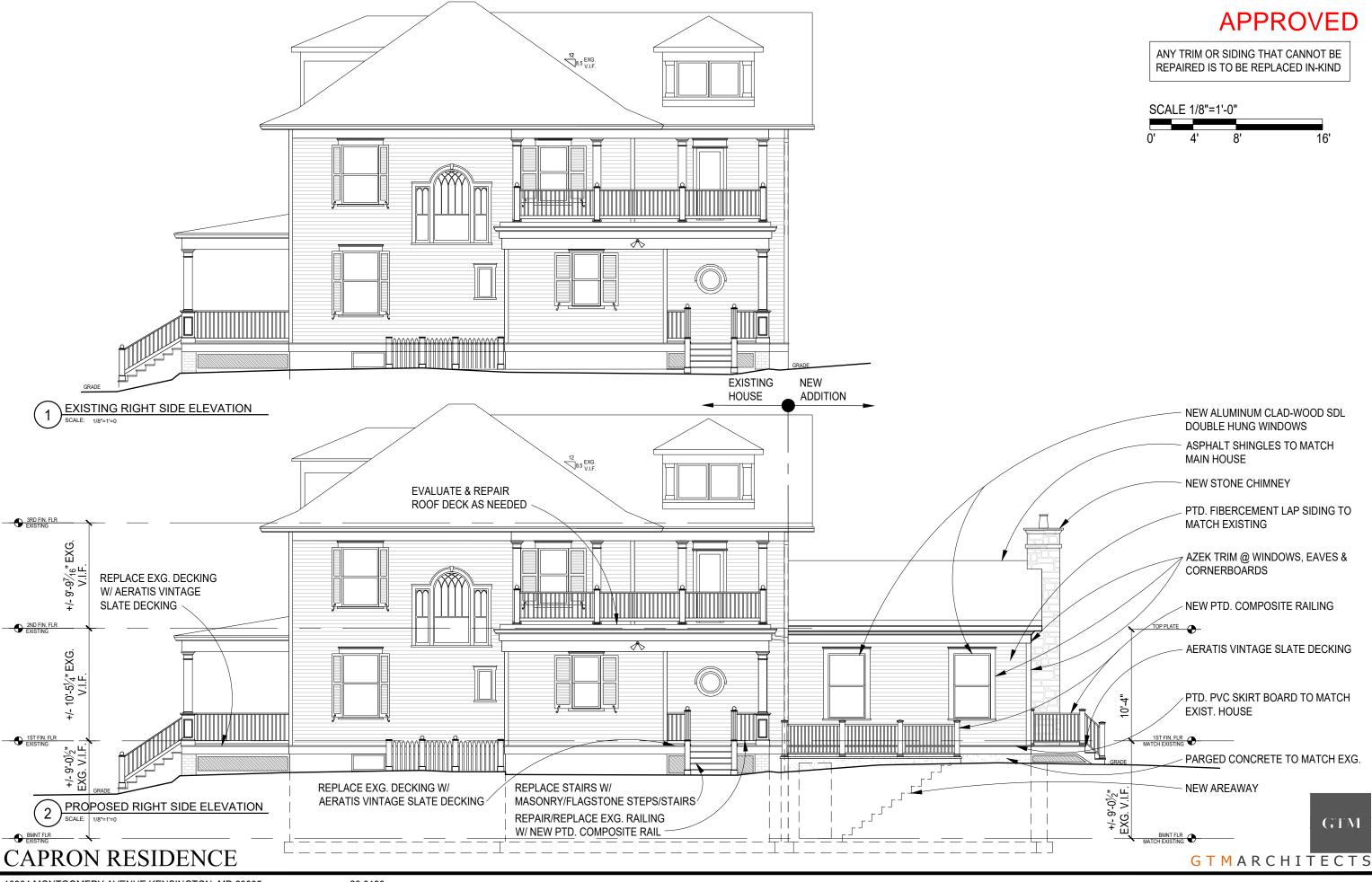
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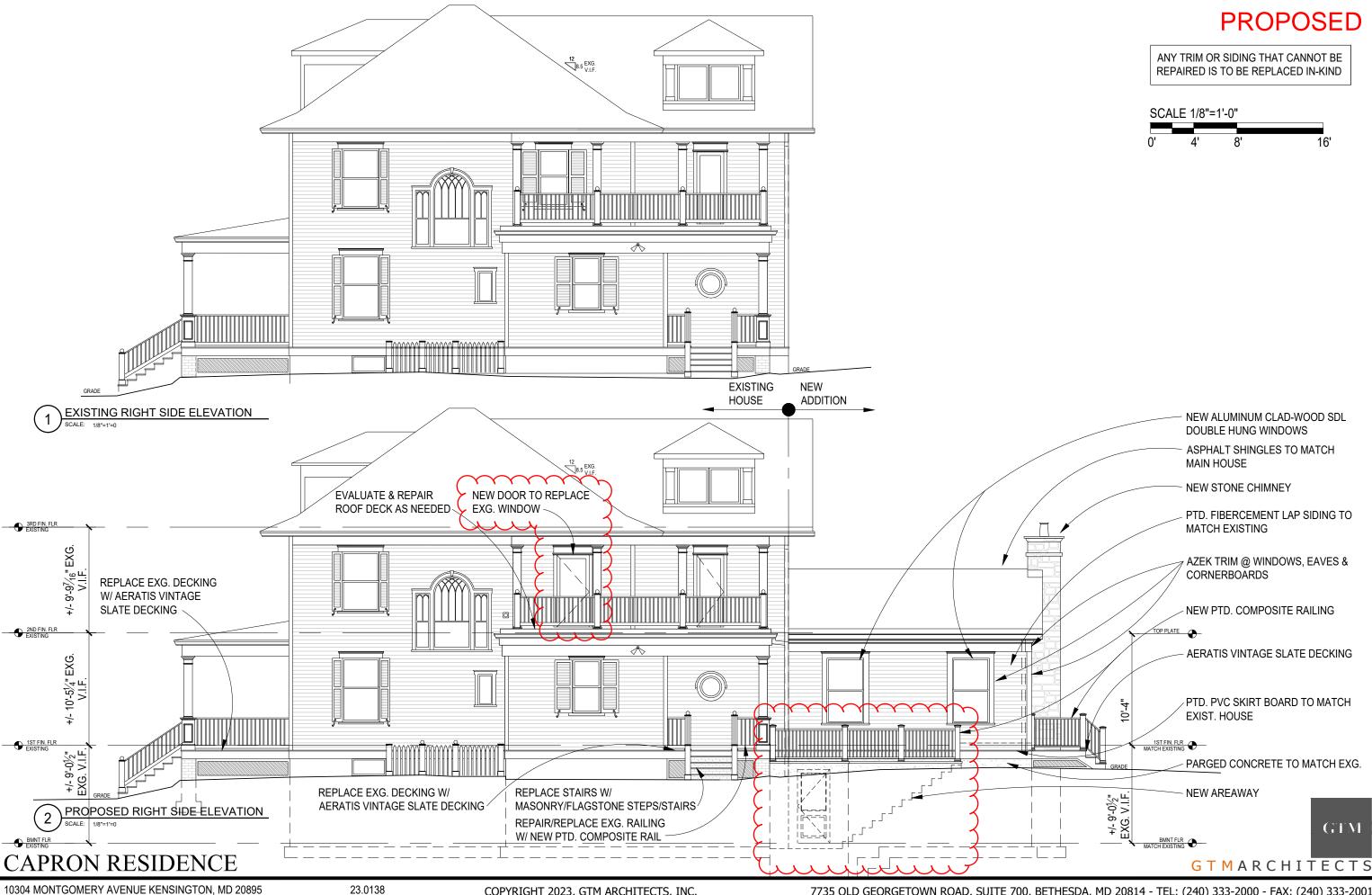




10304 MONTGOMERY AVENUE KENSINGTON, MD 20895





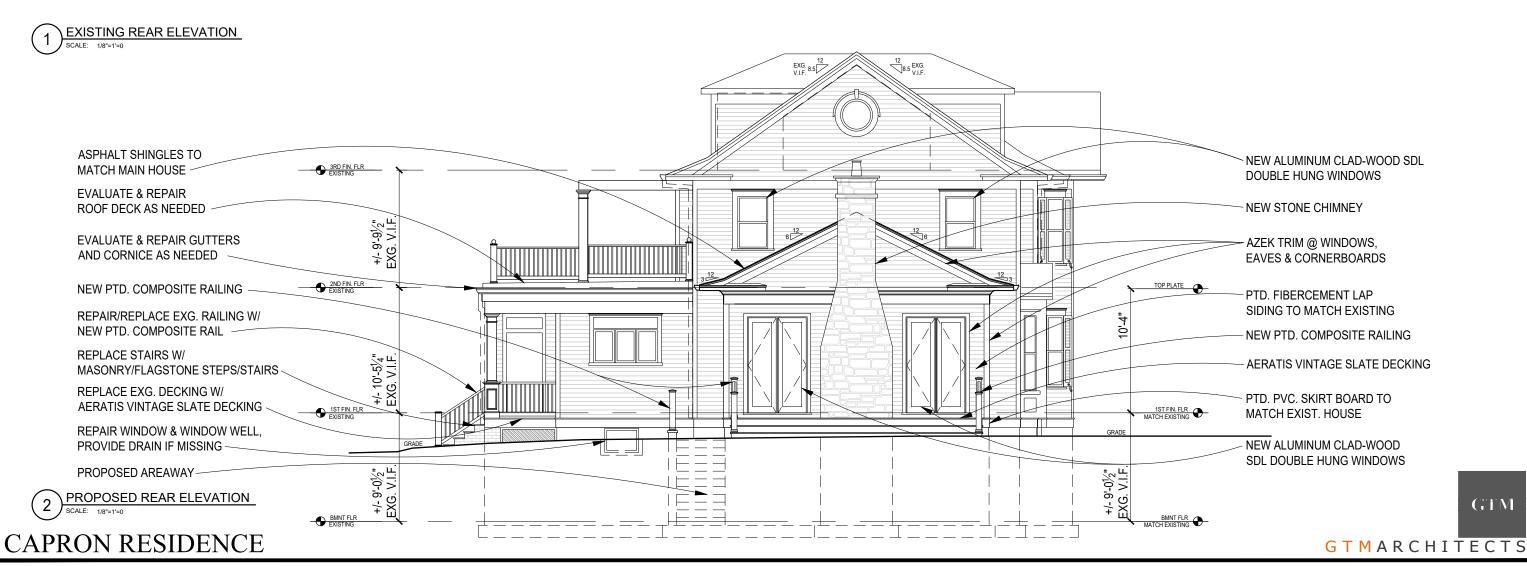




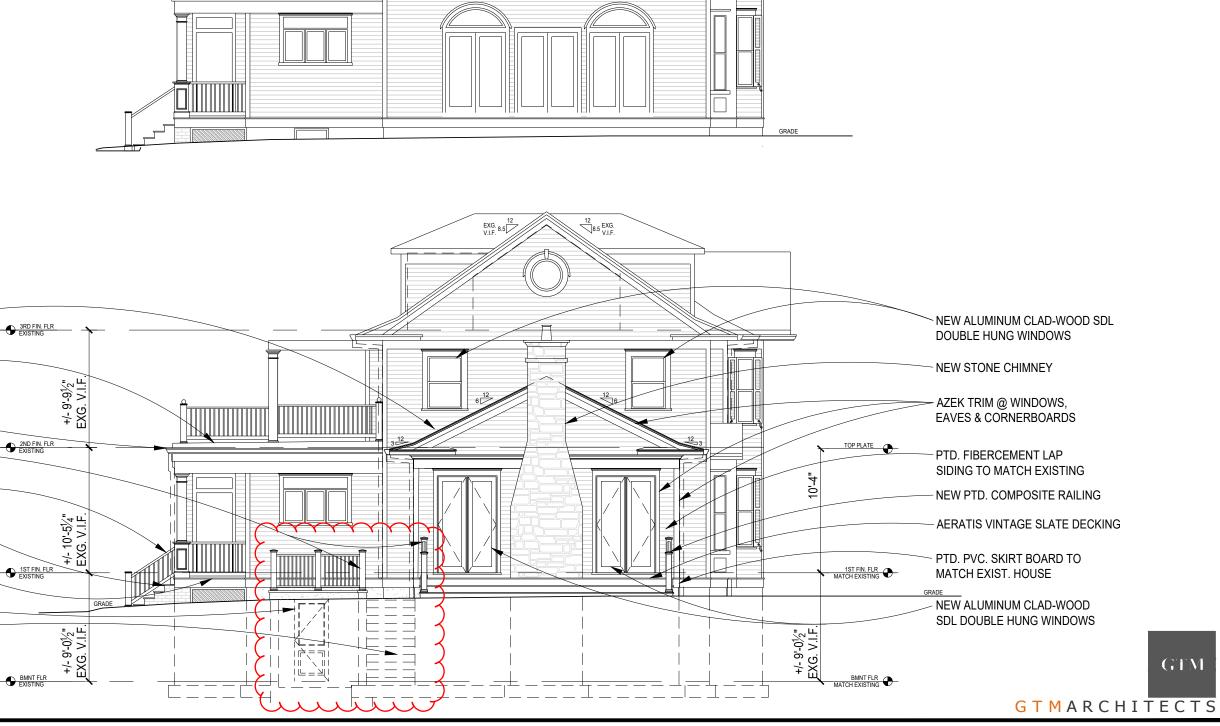
APPROVED

ANY TRIM OR SIDING THAT CANNOT BE REPAIRED IS TO BE REPLACED IN-KIND









EXISTING REAR ELEVATION

ASPHALT SHINGLES TO

ROOF DECK AS NEEDED

EVALUATE & REPAIR GUTTERS

NEW PTD. COMPOSITE RAILING

REPAIR/REPLACE EXG. RAILING W/ NEW PTD. COMPOSITE RAIL

MASONRY/FLAGSTONE STEPS/STAIRS

AERATIS VINTAGE SLATE DECKING

NEW DOOR TO REPLACE WINDOW WELL IN PROPOSED AREAWAY —

PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION

AND CORNICE AS NEEDED

MATCH MAIN HOUSE

EVALUATE & REPAIR

REPLACE STAIRS W/

REPLACE EXG. DECKING W/

PROPOSED AREAWAY-

CAPRON RESIDENCE

PROPOSED

16'

ANY TRIM OR SIDING THAT CANNOT BE REPAIRED IS TO BE REPLACED IN-KIND

SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"



