Preliminary Consultation MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 4722 Cumberland Ave., Chevy Chase Meeting Date: 8/14/2024

Resource: Post-1916 Resource **Report Date:** 8/7/2024

Somerset Historic District

Applicant: Agnes Holland & Matthew Grohowski **Public Notice:** 7/31/2024

Tahani Share, Architect

Review: Preliminary Consultation Staff: Dan Bruechert

Proposal: Building Addition, Porch Construction, and Rear Deck Construction

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the applicant make any revisions recommended by the HPC and return for a HAWP.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Post-1916 Resource to the Somerset Historic District

STYLE: Colonial Revival

DATE: c.1960



Figure 1: The subject property is shown with a yellow star located near the intersection of Cumberland Ave. and Surrey St.

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to construct a front porch, modify an existing addition, construct a rear addition, and build a rear deck.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Somerset Historic District several documents are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. These documents include the Somerset Historic District Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation (Designation), Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A), and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards). Additionally, as a deck is proposed as part of this work, the proposed deck should adhere to Policy No. 24-01 - ADOPTED POLICY FOR THE APPROPRIATENESS OF SUBSTITUTE MATERIALS FOR PORCH AND DECK FLOORING.

• A Map of the boundaries of the Somerset Historic District is included at the end of this amendment. Important contributing resources built before 1915 are noted on this map. The later structures in the district are mainly mid-20th Century architectural styles – many are Colonial Revival – although some very recent house[s] have replicated the Victorian styles of the original buildings. As specified in the Historic Preservation Ordinance, applications for new construction in the district for work on structures in the district which are of little historical or design significance shall be judged leniently, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the district.

Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8

(b)

- (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.
- (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 applicable Standards are as follows:

- 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 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.

Policy No. 24-01 - ADOPTED POLICY FOR THE APPROPRIATENESS OF SUBSTITUTE MATERIALS FOR PORCH AND DECK FLOORING

- 5. Non-Contributing Resources/Secondary/Spatial These were constructed after the district's period of significance or have been so heavily modified that they no longer contribute to the historic district's character. These resources do not need to use traditional materials. New porch flooring/decking materials for these resources need to satisfy the criteria for compatible substitute material.
- 6. Compatible substitute materials for replacement porch flooring/decking On buildings where a substitute material is acceptable under this policy, the material must satisfy the following criteria:
 - It must match the dimensions and installation method (i.e.) of the existing material or a historically appropriate porch flooring, (e.g., boards must run perpendicular to the house for porches);
 - It must be millable;
 - It can be painted without voiding the product warranty; or,
 - o Has a uniform appearance consistent with painted wood;
 - It has a minimal (or no) stamped or embossed texture on the surface; and,
 - It has a finished edge that appears as a cut solid board.

STAFF DISCUSSION

The subject property is a two-story side gable brick Colonial Revival house with a one-bay attached garage. Above the garage is a gambrel roof addition. A review of Staff's files identified no previous HAWPs at the subject property.

The applicant proposes work in several areas:

- Constructing a porch at the front entrance;
- Modifying the 2nd-story addition above the garage;
- Constructing an addition at the rear; and
- Constructing a new rear deck.

Staff requests feedback from the HPC regarding the proposed work before the applicant returns for a HAWP.



Figure 2: Google StreetView image of the subject property.

Front Porch

Above the front door, there is an applied decorative broken pediment. The applicant proposes to remove the pediment and construct a front-gable porch with an architectural shingle roof, supported by columns (see *Figure 3*, below). Drawings of the proposed columns and railings are not detailed enough to provide much additional information, however, the columns appear to be square and the notes on the drawings indicate the proposed railings will be constructed out of Trex.

Staff finds the proposed porch is appropriately scaled for the house and finds it will not disrupt any of the existing window openings. Staff additionally finds that either round or square columns would be compatible with the design of the house and recommends the columns be constructed out of wood. Staff recommends a simply detailed railing for the front porch and finds a wood railing would be more appropriate than the proposed Trex.

Staff requests feedback from the HPC on the appropriateness of the proposed porch and its materials.



Figure 3: Proposed changes visible from the front including the front porch (circled in yellow) and the 2nd-story garage modification (circled in green).

Modifying the 2nd-story Addition Over the Garage

Originally, the roof over the garage was a low-sloped side gable. Sometime later, the current gambrel-roofed addition was added. The applicant proposes to remove the existing roof and construct a side gable addition (see *Figure 3*, above). The 2nd floor will be sided in fiber cement clapboards and will have a multi-light aluminum-clad wood window with shutters. The left (east) elevation will have a single six-light casement window. On the rear elevation, the addition will have a single six-light casement window and the applicant proposes to install two skylights.

Because detailed specifications for the windows were not included in the application materials, Staff recommends the windows have permanently affixed interior and exterior grilles with a spacer bar between the glass. Additionally, no information about the proposed shutters was included in the application materials. Staff recommends the shutters installed in the 2nd-story addition match the existing front

elevation shutters in size, materials, and installation. Specifications of the existing shutters need to be submitted with the HAWP application to ensure the new shutters match.

Staff requests feedback from the HPC on the appropriateness of the proposed 2nd-story addition modification and the materials proposed.

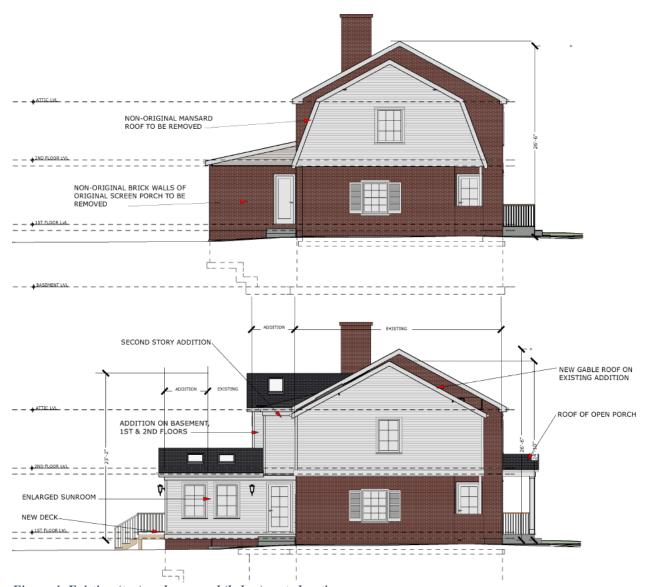


Figure 4: Existing (top) and proposed (below) east elevations.

Rear Addition

At the rear, the original screened in-porch was enclosed in brick to create what is now identified as the 'sunroom.' Behind the sunroom, there is a large stone patio approximately 30' × 30' (thirty feet by thirty feet). The applicant proposes to enlarge the sunroom by 6' (six feet) towards the rear on the first floor. Above the sunroom, the applicant proposes to construct an addition to the full width of the sunroom that projects 4' 6" (four feet, six inches) from the existing rear wall plane. To the west of the existing sunroom, the applicant proposes to construct a two-story, plus basement, addition measuring 16' 7" × 6' (sixteen feet, seven inches wide by six feet deep). The rear additions will be sided in fiber cement siding, with asphalt shingle roofing. The windows will be multi-light aluminum-clad wood, and appear to be casements, however, the drawings do not detail their operation. The rear door from the sunroom will be

an aluminum-clad set of French Doors with sidelights. Several skylights are proposed including four proposed over the enlarged sunroom and one proposed for the two-story addition.



Figure 5: Existing rear elevation (top) and proposed (below).

As with the 2nd-story modification, discussed above, Staff finds the proposed materials are all appropriate for building additions and new construction to buildings in the Somerset Historic District. Staff finds the size of the proposed additions is modest and will not overwhelm the existing house or the surrounding district. Staff finds the proposed addition will be minimally visible from the right (west) when viewed in the absence of vegetation. Most of the rear construction will be obscured by the side-projecting garage and only a small portion; and will likely not be at all visible from the left (east). Staff finds the proposed rear additions are appropriately scaled to the house and requests feedback from the HPC on the appropriateness of the addition's design, materials, and placement.

Staff additionally recommends the HPC request an arborist report to ensure no trees will be damaged or removed by the proposed construction. Staff notes, there is a 32" (thirty-two inch) d.b.h. Oak tree approximately 12 feet from the proposed rear addition.

Rear Deck

To the rear of the enlarged sunroom, the applicant proposes to construct a deck. The deck will be 4' (four

feet) deep and will run the full width of the sunroom. It will have a Trex railing and a centrally located staircase.

Staff finds the size and placement of the deck are appropriate and will not detract from the character of the site or surrounding district. However, Staff does not find that the proposed Trex is a compatible material as defined in the HPC's adopted policy on the appropriateness of substitute for porch and deck flooring. Trex is not paintable without voiding the warranty and typically has a mottled color that does not adequately replicate the appearance of wood. Staff recommends the applicant use wood for the deck construction or the applicant consult with Staff to find a material that satisfies the requirements of the HPC's policy.

Staff requests feedback from the HPC on the appropriateness of the proposed deck and Staff's recommendation for an appropriate material.

Staff requests feedback from the HPC regarding:

- The appropriateness of the front porch construction;
- The appropriateness of the design and materials of the proposed 2nd-story modification;
- The compatibility of the proposed rear additions;
- The need for a tree survey to provide additional information regarding trees on site; and
- The appropriateness of the proposed deck

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the applicant make any recommended revisions and return for a HAWP.



DATE ASSIGNED____ **APPLICATION FOR** HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

301.563.3400

APPLICANT:

PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION

FOR STAFF ONLY:

HAWP#_

Name:	E-mail:			
Address:	City: Zip:			
Daytime Phone:	Tax Account No.:			
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):				
Name:	E-mail:			
Address:	City: Zip:			
Daytime Phone:	Contractor Registration No.:			
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of His	toric Property			
Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmap of the easement, and documentation from the Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approx (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES supplemental information.	vals / Reviews Required as part of this Application? 5, include information on these reviews as			
Building Number: Street:				
Town/City: Nearest (Cross Street:			
Lot: Block: Subdivision	on: Parcel:			
	lication. Incomplete Applications will not Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure Solar Tree removal/planting Indscape Window/Door Other: Die foregoing application, that the application is correct with plans reviewed and approved by all necessary			

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 Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses

Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures landscape features, or other significant features of the property:
Description of Work Proposed: Please give an overview of the work to be undertaken:

Work Item 1:	
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:
Work Item 2:	
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:
Work Item 3:	
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:

HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

	Required Attachments						
Proposed Work	I. Written Description	2. Site Plan	3. Plans/ Elevations	4. Material Specifications	5. Photographs	6. Tree Survey	7. Property Owner Addresses
New Construction	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Additions/ Alterations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Demolition	*	*	*		*		*
Deck/Porch	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fence/Wall	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Driveway/ Parking Area	*	*		*	*	*	*
Grading/Exc avation/Land scaing	*	*		*	*	*	*
Tree Removal	*	*		*	*	*	*
Siding/ Roof Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Window/ Door Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Masonry Repair/ Repoint	*	*	*	*	*		*
Signs	*	*	*	*	*		*



4722 CUMBERLAND AVE CHEVY CHASE, MD

INDEX OF DRAWINGS

- 1 COVE SHEET
- 2 SITE PLAN
- 3 PHOTOS OF EXISTING HOUSE
- 4 ORIGINAL 1960 ARCHITECTURAL PLANS
- 5 BASEMENT PLAN
- 6 1ST FLOOR PLAN
- 7 2ND FLOOR PLAN
- 8 ROOF PLAN
- 9 FRONT ELEVATION
- 10 WEST SIDE ELEVATION
- 11 REAR ELEVATION
- 12 EAST SIDE ELEVATION
- 13 3D VIEWS
- 14 3D VIEWS

SCOPE OF WORK

- 1- ADD FRONT OPEN PORCH ON EXISTING LANDING.
- 2- REPLACE ROOF OF EXISTING ADDITION AT THE EAST SIDE W/ A GABLE ROOF.
- 3- ENLARGE SUNROOM AT THE REAR.
- 4- ADD NEW DECK AT THE REAR.
- 5- ADD A SECOND STORY AT THE REAR
- 6- ADD A TWO STORY ADDITION W/ BASEMENT AT THE REAR
- 7- REPAIR EXISTING WINDOWS
- 8- REPLACE EXISTING BROKEN SMALL WINDOW AT THE FRONT.
- 9- VARIOUS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

BUILDING DATA SUMMARY

PHYSICAL ADDRESS : 4722 CUMBERLAND AVE.

CHEVY CHASE, MD BLOCK 3, LOT 14

OWNERS : AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI

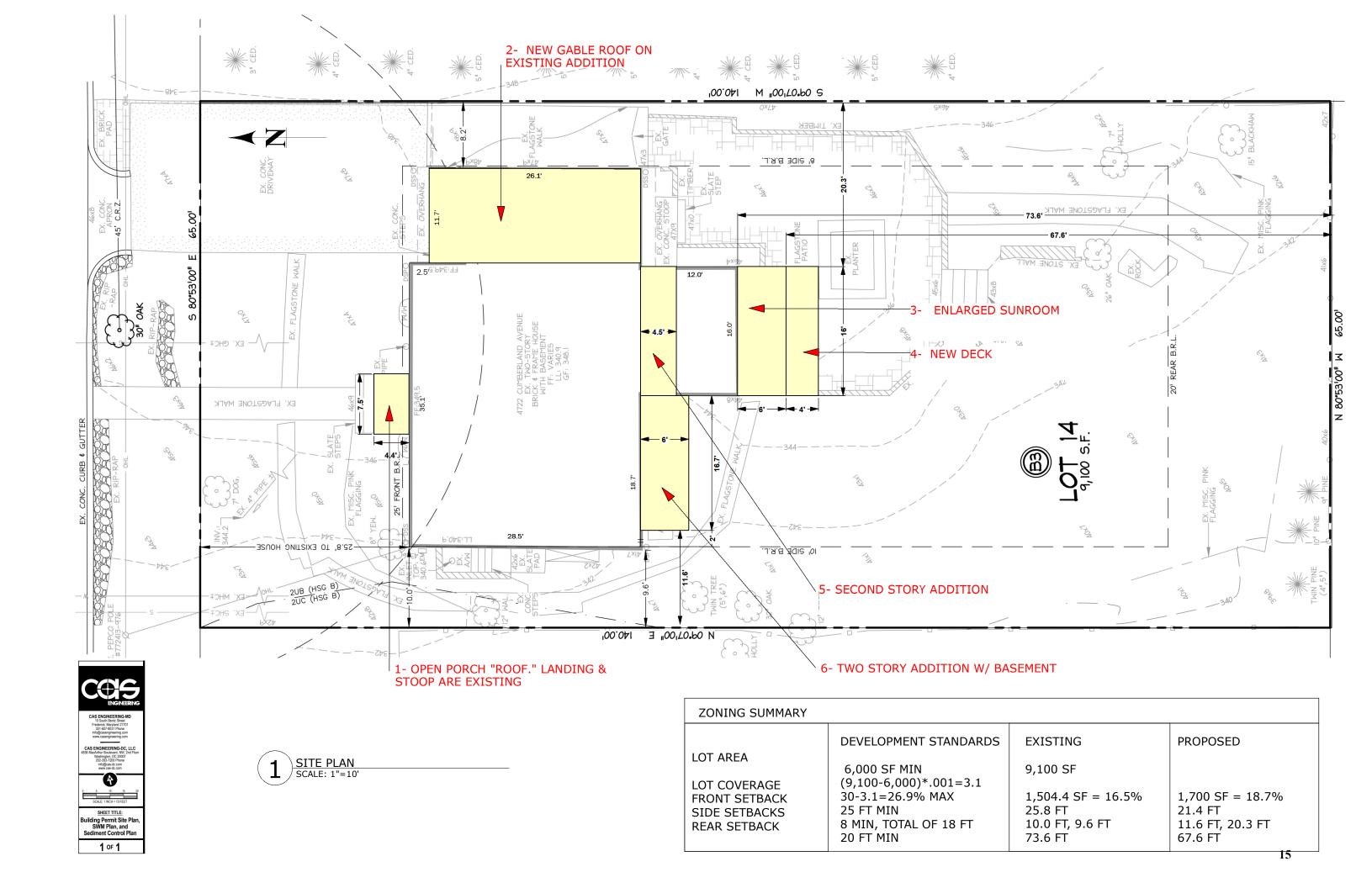
BUILDING TYPE : RESIDENTIAL

PROPOSED USE : NO CHANGE

CONTACT INFO : TAHANI SHARE

TSHARE@YAHOO.COM

202-779-7739









VIEWS OF THE HOUSE AS SEEN FROM CUMBERLAND AVE





VIEWS OF THE HOUSE AS SEEN FROM THE BACKYARD



LANDIS
ARCHITECTS | BUILDERS
7059 Blair Rd. NW S. 300
Washington, DC 20012
Phone: 202-726-3777
Fax: 202-882-9703

AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI HOMEOWNERS

4722 CUMBERLAND AVE, CHEVY CHASE, MD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PHOTOS OF EXISTING HOUSE SHEET TITLE

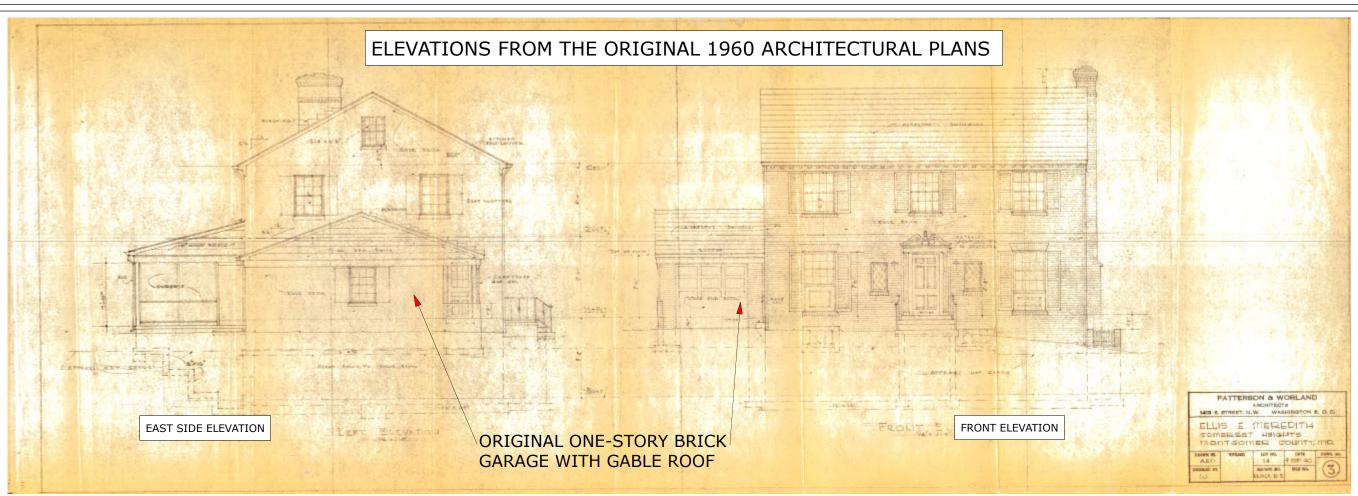
> SCALE =1'-0"

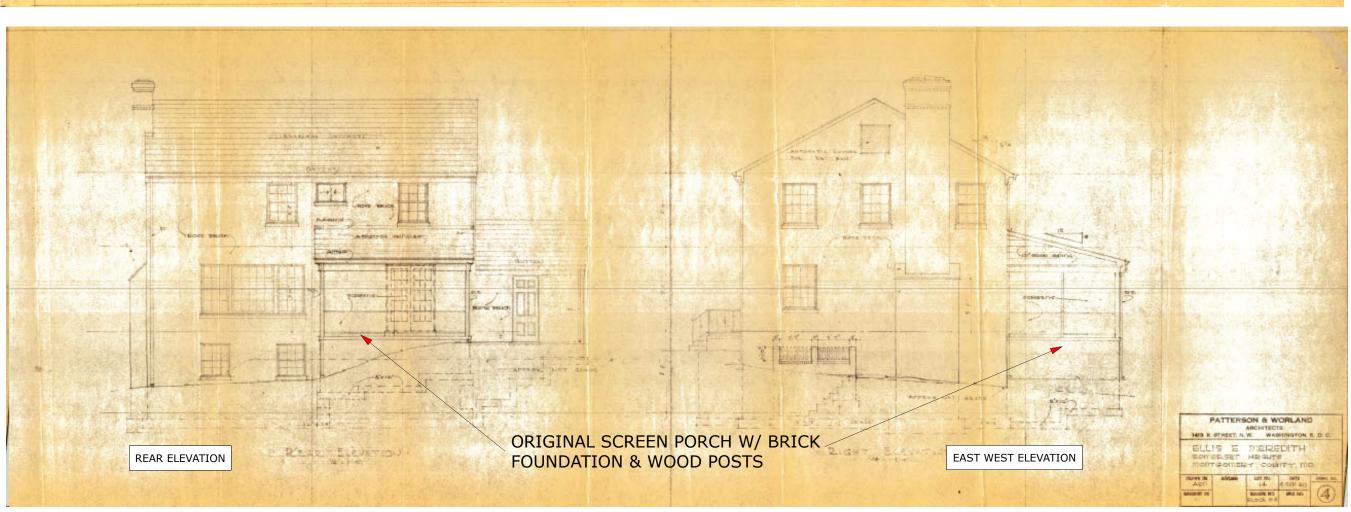
DATE

7/14/2024

A-3

16







Washington, DC 20012 Phone: 202-726-3777 Fax: 202-882-9703

AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI

4722 CUMBERLAND AVE, CHEVY CHASE, MD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

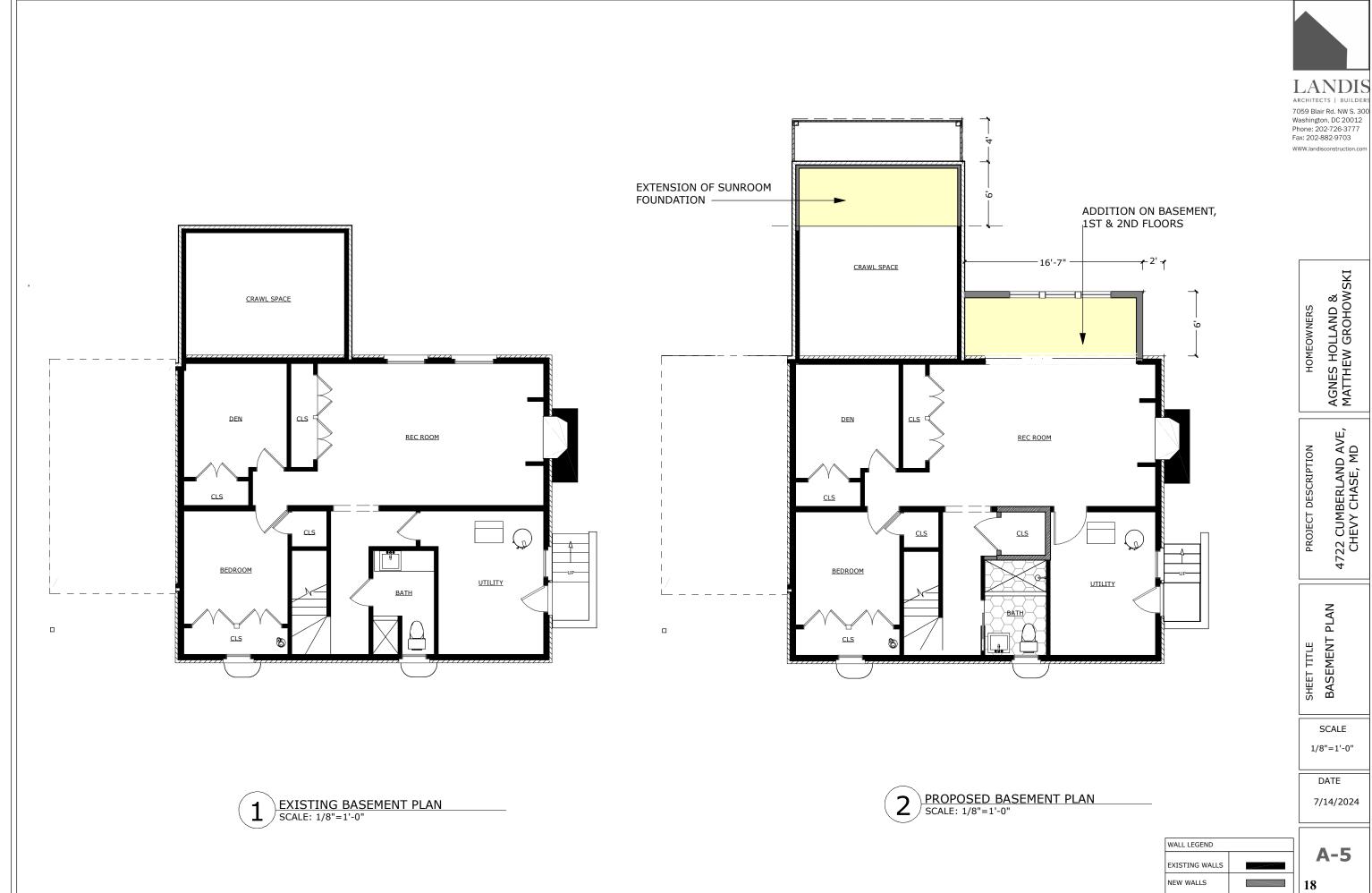
ORIGINAL 1960 ARCHITECTURAL PLANS

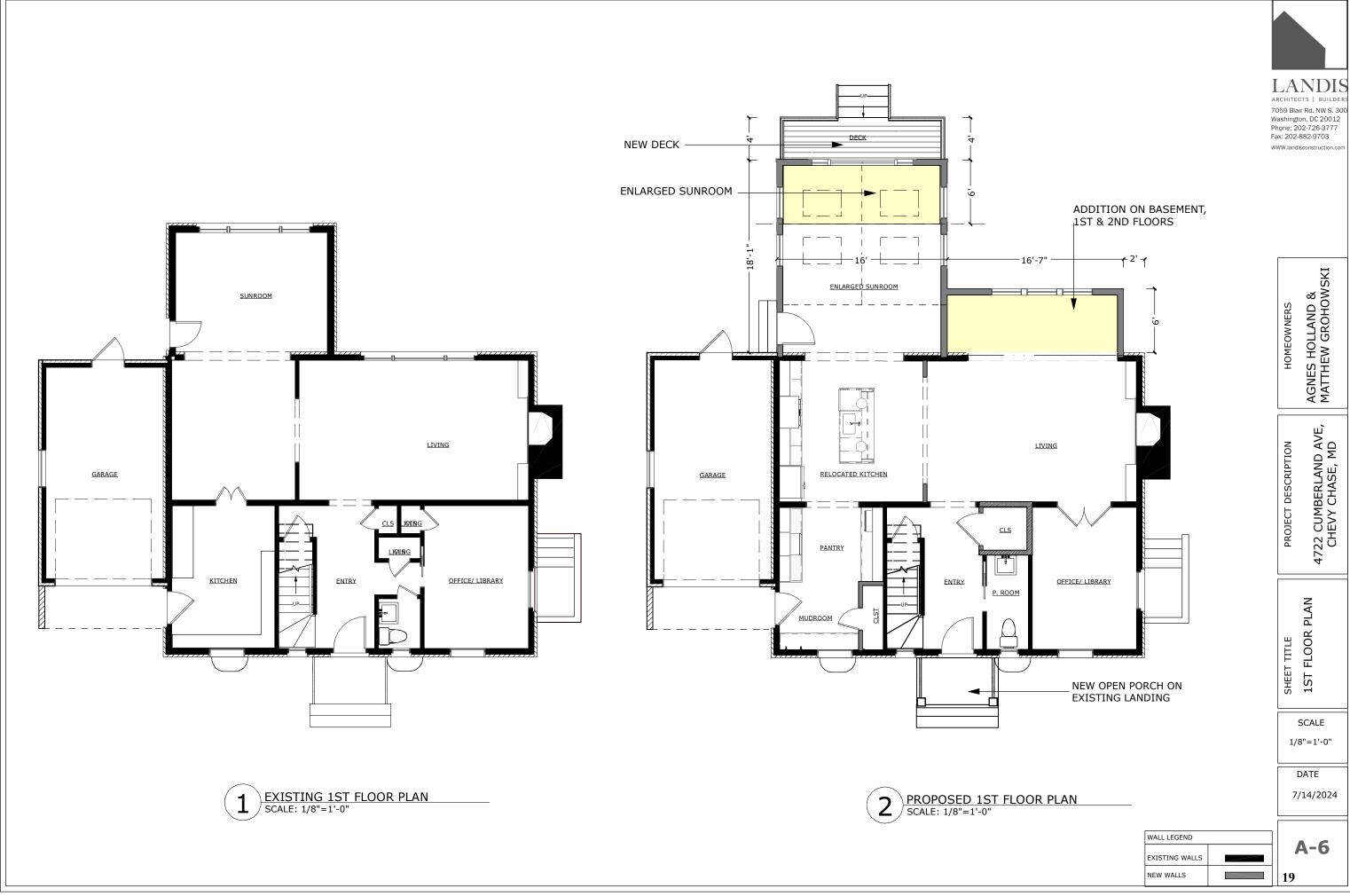
SCALE =1'-0"

DATE

7/14/2024

A-4













Washington, DC 20012 Phone: 202-726-3777 Fax: 202-882-9703

AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI

4722 CUMBERLAND AVE, CHEVY CHASE, MD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FRONT ELEVATION SHEET TITLE

SCALE

1/8"=1'-0"

DATE

7/14/2024

A-9

PROPOSED MATERIALS

ROOF

ASPHALT SHINGLES TO MATCH EXIST ROOF EXTERIOR WALLS

EXISTING FRONT ELEVATION SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

HARDIE SIDING

HARIDE CORNER & BAND BOARDS

EXISTING WINDOWS

REPAIR EXISTING WINDOWS

REPLACE SMALL FRONT DAMAGED WINDOW TO MATCH EXIST

NEW WINDOWS

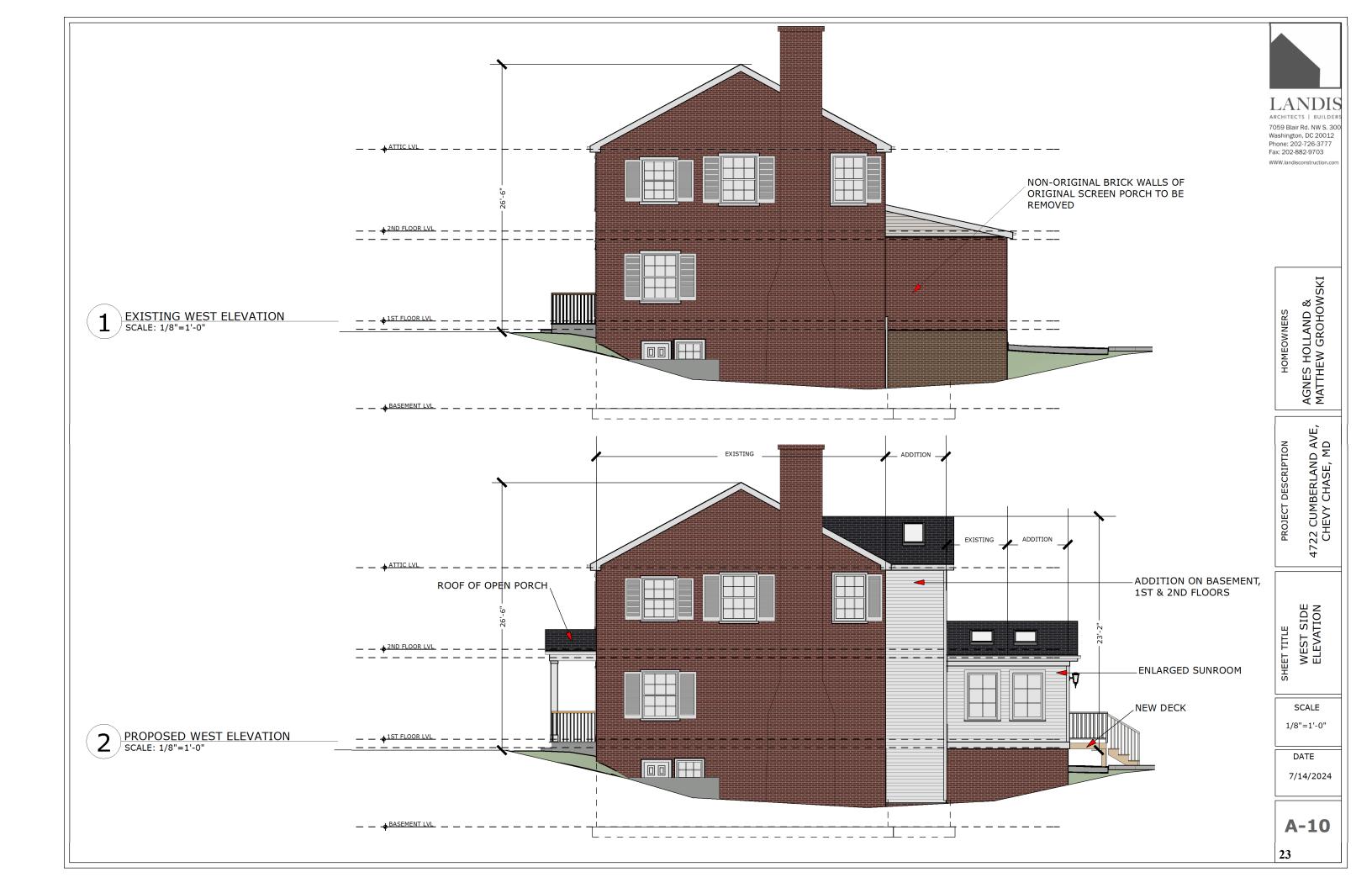
ALUMINUM CLAD WOOD WINDOWS

DECK

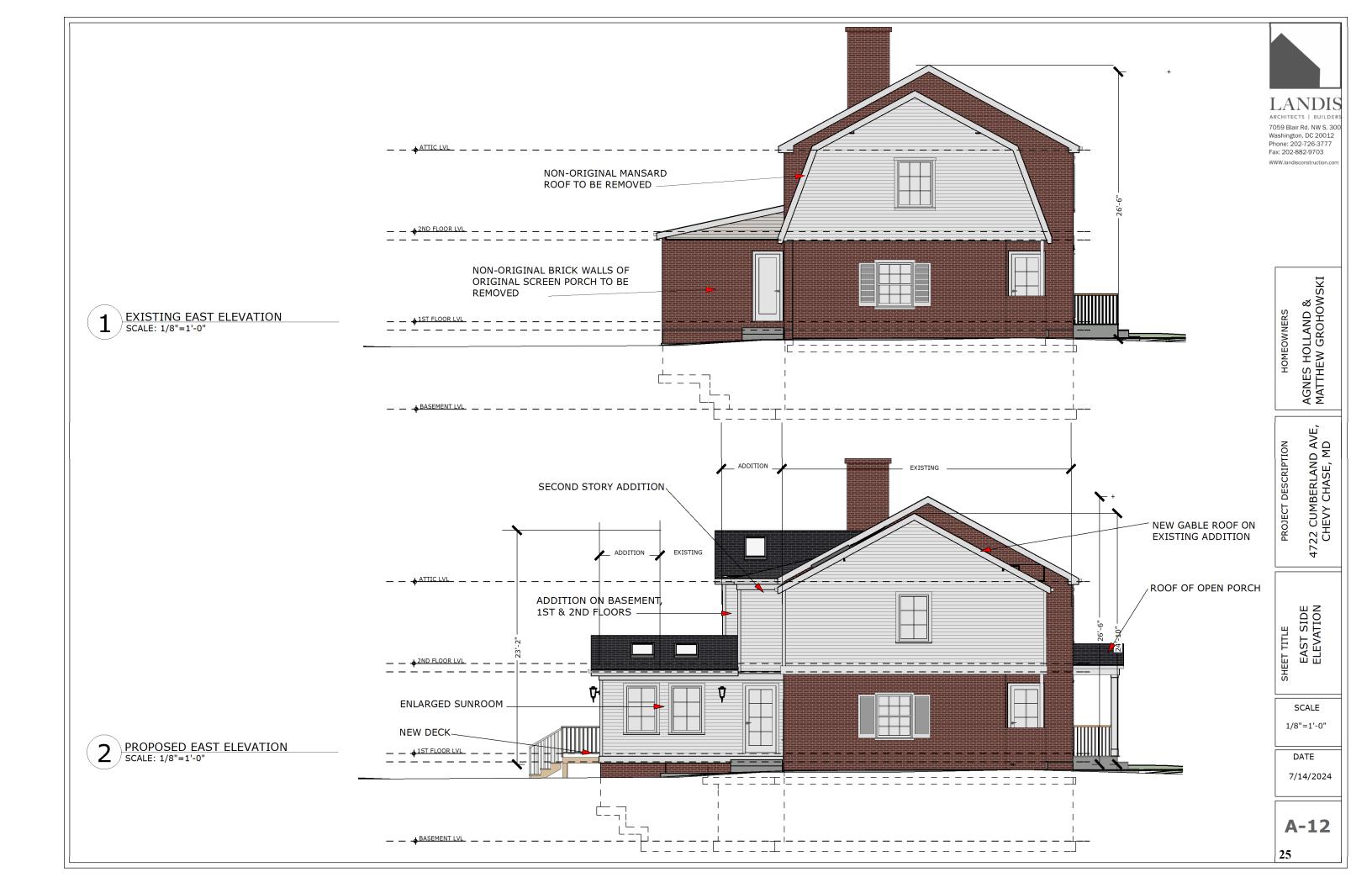
TREX DECKING & HANDRAILS















VIEWS OF THE HOUSE AS SEEN FROM CUMBERLAND AVE



7059 Blair Rd. NW S. 300 Washington, DC 20012 Phone: 202-726-3777 Fax: 202-882-9703

AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI

HOMEOWNERS

4722 CUMBERLAND AVE, CHEVY CHASE, MD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3D VIEWS SHEET TITLE

> SCALE =1'-0"

DATE

7/14/2024

A-13

26





LANDIS
ARCHITECTS | BUILDERS
7059 Blair Rd. NW S. 300
Washington, DC 20012
Phone: 202-726-3777
Fax: 202-882-9703

AGNES HOLLAND & MATTHEW GROHOWSKI

4722 CUMBERLAND AVE, CHEVY CHASE, MD PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3D VIEWS SHEET TITLE

> SCALE =1'-0"

DATE

7/14/2024

A-14

27

NEW GABLE ROOF ON **EXISTING ADDITION**

SECOND- STORY ADDITION



TWO-STORY ADDITION W/ BASEMENT

ENLARGED SUNROOM W/ NEW DECK

VIEWS OF THE HOUSE AS SEEN FROM THE BACKYARD