



**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**  
**1625 Fatherland Street**  
**November 19, 2014**

**Application:** New construction – addition; Setback determination  
**District:** Lockeland Springs-East End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay  
**Council District:** 06  
**Map and Parcel Number:** 08314011600  
**Applicant:** Thomas C. Smith, Owner  
**Project Lead:** Sean Alexander, sean.alexander@nashville.gov

**Description of Project:** The applicant proposed to enlarge a contributing house with a rear addition. The addition would match the width and height of the house with a matching roof form, using primarily matching materials. The project requires a four feet, four inches (4'-4") side setback determination, which matches existing conditions.

**Recommendation Summary:** Staff recommends approval of the proposed addition with conditions that:

- The addition sits in from the sides of the historic house by at least one foot (1') on each side;
- Original clapboard siding is not replaced with square batten siding; and,
- Staff approves the window and door selections, and the location of any new HVAC systems prior to issuing a permit.

Meeting those conditions, Staff finds that the proposed addition would meet the design guidelines for the Lockeland Springs-East End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.

**Attachments**  
**A:** Photographs  
**B:** Sanborn Map  
**C:** Site Plan  
**D:** Elevations

**Vicinity Map:**



**Aerial Map:**



## **Applicable Design Guidelines:**

### **II.B. New Construction**

#### **1. Height**

New buildings must be constructed to the same number of stories and to a height which is compatible with the height of adjacent buildings.

*The height of the foundation wall, porch roof, and main roofs should all be compatible with those of surrounding historic buildings.*

*Infill construction on the 1400 -1600 blocks of Boscobel Street may be up to two-stories.*

*For those lots located within the Five Points Subdistrict of the Five Points Redevelopment District new buildings shall not exceed 2 stories and 30' in height. A third story and 15' may be added provided that is for residential use only and is compatible with existing adjacent historic structures. The third story must be stepped back at least 10' from façade planes facing a residential subdistrict, an existing house (regardless of use), and public streets. All front and side building walls shall be a minimum of 20' in height. For multi-story buildings, the minimum first floor height shall be 14' from finished floor to finished floor. Exception: buildings with first floor residential use, minimum first floor height shall be 12'.*

*For those lots located within the Corner Commercial Subdistrict of the Five Points Redevelopment District new buildings shall not exceed 2 stories and 30' in height. An additional story may be added to a building provided that, where it is adjacent to a detached house or a residential subdistrict, it is set back a minimum of 25' from the building wall or 50' from the property line. Three story building height shall not exceed 45'. All front and side buildings walls shall be a minimum of 16' in height and at the build-to line. For multi-story buildings, the minimum first floor height shall be 14' from finished floor to finished floor.*

*For those lots located within the Residential Subdistrict of the Five Points Redevelopment District shall not exceed 3 stories .*

#### **2. Scale**

The size of a new building and its mass in relation to open spaces; and its windows, doors, openings, and porches should be visually compatible with surrounding historic buildings.

*Foundation lines should be visually distinct from the predominant exterior wall material. This is typically accomplished with a change in material.*

#### **3. Setback and Rhythm of Spacing**

4. Since construction in an historic district has usually taken place continuously from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a variety of building types and styles result which demonstrate the changes in building tastes and technology over the years. New buildings should continue this tradition while complementing and being compatible with other buildings in the area.

*In Lockeland Springs-East End, historic buildings were constructed between 1880 and 1950. New buildings should be compatible with surrounding houses from this period.*

5. Reconstruction may be appropriate when it reproduces facades of a building which no longer exists and which was located in the historic district if: (1) the building would have contributed to the historical and architectural character of the area; (2) if it will be compatible in terms of style, height, scale, massing, and materials with the buildings immediately surrounding the lot on which the reproduction will be built; and (3) if it is accurately based on pictorial documentation.

6. Because new buildings usually relate to an established pattern and rhythm of existing buildings, both on the same and opposite sides of a street, the dominance of that pattern and rhythm must be respected and not disrupted.
7. New construction should be consistent with existing buildings along a street in terms of height, scale, setback, and rhythm; relationship of materials, texture, details, and color; roof shape; orientation; and proportion and rhythm of openings.

The setback from front and side yard property lines established by adjacent historic buildings must be maintained. When a definite rhythm along a street is established by uniform lot and building width, infill new buildings should maintain that rhythm.

*The Commission has the ability to reduce building setbacks and extend height limitations of the required underlying base zoning for new construction, additions and accessory structures (ordinance no. 17.40.410).*

*Appropriate setback reductions will be determined based on:*

- *The existing setback of the contributing primary buildings and accessory structures found in the immediate vicinity;*
- *Setbacks of like structures historically found on the site as determined by historic maps, site plans or photographs;*
- *Shape of lot;*
- *Alley access or lack thereof;*
- *Proximity of adjoining structures; and*
- *Property lines.*

*Appropriate height limitations will be based on:*

- *Heights of historic buildings in the immediate vicinity*
- *Existing or planned slope and grade*

*Infill construction on the 1400 - 1600 blocks of Boscobel Street may have widths up to 40'.*

#### **4. Relationship of Materials, Textures, Details, and Material Colors**

The relationship and use of materials, textures, details, and material color of a new building's public facades shall be visually compatible with and similar to those of adjacent buildings, or shall not contrast conspicuously.

*T-1-11- type building panels, "permastone", E.F.I.S. and other artificial siding materials are generally not appropriate. However, pre-cast stone and cement fiberboard siding are approvable cladding materials for new construction; but pre-cast stone should be of a compatible color and texture to existing historic stone clad structures in the district; and cement fiberboard siding, when used for lapped siding, should be smooth and not stamped or embossed and have a maximum of a 5" reveal.*

*Shingle siding should exhibit a straight-line course pattern and exhibit a maximum exposure of seven inches (7").*

*Four inch (4") nominal corner boards are required at the face of each exposed corner.*

*Stud wall lumber and embossed wood grain are prohibited.*

*Belt courses or a change in materials from one story to another are often encouraged for large two-story buildings to break up the massing.*

*When different materials are used, it is most appropriate to have the change happen at floor lines.*

*Clapboard sided chimneys are generally not appropriate. Masonry or stucco is appropriate.*

*Texture and tooling of mortar on new construction should be similar to historic examples.*

*Asphalt shingle is an appropriate roof material for most buildings. Generally, roofing should not have strong simulated shadows in the granule colors which results in a rough, pitted appearance; faux shadow lines; strongly variegated colors; colors that are too light (e.g.: tan, white, light green); wavy*

*or deep color/texture used to simulate split shake shingles or slate; excessive flared form in the shingle tabs; uneven or sculpted bottom edges that emphasize tab width or edges, unless matching the original roof.*

*Primary entrances should be 1/2 to full-light doors. Faux leaded glass is inappropriate. Generally front doors should be 1/2 to full-light. Faux leaded glass is inappropriate.*

## **5. Roof Shape**

The roofs of new buildings shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the roof shape and orientation of surrounding buildings.

*Roof pitches should be similar to the pitches found in the district. Historic roofs are generally between 6/12 and 12/12.*

*Roof pitches for porch roofs are typically less steep, approximately in the 3-4/12 range.*

*Generally, two-story residential buildings have hipped roofs.*

*Generally, dormers should be located on the roof. Wall dormers are not typical in the historic context and accentuate height so they should be used minimally and generally only on secondary facades. When they are appropriate they should be no wider than the typical window openings and should not project beyond the main wall.*

*Infill construction on the 1400 -1600 blocks of Boscobel Street may have flat roofs or roofs with a minimal slope.*

## **6. Orientation**

The site orientation of new buildings shall be consistent with that of adjacent buildings and shall be visually compatible. Directional expression shall be compatible with surrounding buildings, whether that expression is vertical, horizontal, or non-directional.

### *Porches*

*New buildings should incorporate at least one front street-related porch that is accessible from the front street.*

*Side porches or porte cocheres may also be appropriate as a secondary entrance, but the primary entrance should address the front.*

*Front porches generally should be a minimum of 6' deep, have porch racks that are 1'-3' tall and have posts that include bases and capitals.*

### *Parking areas and Driveways*

*Generally, curb cuts should not be added.*

*Where a new driveway is appropriate it should be two concrete strips with a central grassy median.*

*Shared driveways should be a single lane, not just two driveways next to each other. Sometimes this may be accomplished with a single lane curb cut that widens to a double lane deeper into the lot.*

### *Duplexes*

*Infill duplexes shall have one or two doors facing the street, as seen on historic duplexes. In the case of corner lots, an entrance facing the side street is possible as long as it is designed to look like a secondary entrance.*

*In the case of duplexes, vehicular access for both units should be from the alley, where an alley exists. A new shared curb cut may be added, if no alley and no driveway exists, but the driveway should be no more than 12' wide from the street to the rear of the home. Driveways should use concrete strips where they are typical of the historic context. Front yard parking or driveways which end at the front of the house are not consistent with the character of the historic neighborhoods.*

### *Multi-unit Developments*

*For multi-unit developments, interior dwellings should be subordinate to those that front the street. Subordinate generally means the width and height of the buildings are less than the primary building(s) that faces the street.*

*For multi-unit developments, direct pedestrian connections should be made between the street and any interior units. The entrances to those pedestrian connections generally should be wider than the typical spacing between buildings along the street.*

## **7. Proportion and Rhythm of Openings**

The relationship of width to height of windows and doors, and the rhythm of solids (*walls*) to voids (*door and window openings*) in a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding *historic buildings*.

*Window openings on the primary street-related or front façade of new construction should be representative of the window patterns of similarly massed historic structures within the district. In most cases, every 8-13 horizontal feet of flat wall surface should have an opening (window or door) of at least 4 square feet. More leniencies can be given to minimally visible side or rear walls. Double-hung windows should exhibit a height to width ratio of at least 2:1. Windows on upper floors should not be taller than windows on the main floor since historically first floors have higher ceilings than upper floors and so windows were typically taller on the first floor. Single-light sashes are appropriate for new construction. If using multi-light sashes, muntins should be fully simulated and bonded to the glass, and exhibit an interior bar, exterior bar, as well as a spacer between glass panes. Four inch (nominal) casings are required around doors, windows and vents on non-masonry buildings. Trim should be thick enough to extend beyond the clapboard. Double or triple windows should have a 4" to 6" mullion in between. Brick molding is required around doors, windows and vents within masonry walls but is not appropriate on non-masonry buildings.*

## **9. Appurtenances**

Appurtenances related to new buildings, including driveways, sidewalks, lighting, fences, and walls, shall be visually compatible with the environment of the existing buildings and sites to which they relate.

### ***Utilities***

*Utility connections such as gas meters, electric meters, phone, cable, and HVAC condenser units should be located so as to minimize their visibility from the street. Generally, utility connections should be placed no closer to the street than the mid point of the structure. Power lines should be placed underground if they are carried from the street and not from the rear or an alley.*

## **10. Additions to Existing Buildings**

a. New additions to existing buildings should be kept to a minimum and should be compatible in scale, materials, and texture; additions should not be visually jarring or contrasting.

*A new addition should be constructed in such a manner that if the addition were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the original structure would be unimpaired. Connections should, as much as possible, use existing window and door openings rather than remove significant amounts of rear wall material. Generally rear additions should inset one foot, for each story, from the side wall. Additions should be physically distinguished from the historic building and generally fit within the shadow line of the existing building. Additions that tie into the existing roof should be at least 6" below the existing ridge.*

*In order to assure that an addition has achieved proper scale, the addition should generally be shorter and thinner than the existing building. Exceptions may be made when unusual constraints make these parameters unreasonable, such as:*

- An extreme grade change*
- Atypical lot parcel shape or size*

*In these cases, an addition may rise above or extend wider than the existing building; however, generally the addition should not higher and extend wider.*

*When an addition needs to be taller:*

*Whenever possible, additions should not be taller than the historic building; however, when a taller addition is the only option, additions to single story structures may rise as high as 4' above the shadow line of the existing building at a distance of 40' from the front edge of the existing building. In this instance, the side walls and roof of the addition must set in as is typical for all additions. The portion of the roof that can be seen should have a hipped, side gable or clipped gable roof to help decrease the visual mass of the addition.*

*When an addition needs to be wider:*

*Rear additions that are wider than an existing historic building may be appropriate when the building is narrower than 30' or shifted to one side of the lot. In these instances, a structural alcove or channel must separate the existing building from the new addition. The structural alcove should sit in a minimum of 1' and be at least twice as long as it is deep.*

*In addition, a rear addition that is wider should not wrap the rear corner.*

*Commercial buildings that desire a covered open-air side additions generally should not enclose the area with plastic sides. Such applications may be appropriate if: the addition is located on the ground level off a secondary facade, is not located on a street facing side of a building, has a permanent glass wall on the portion of the addition which faces the street, and the front sits back a minimum of three (3') from the front or side wall, depending on placement of the addition.*

#### *Foundation*

*Foundation walls should set in from the existing foundation at the back edge of the existing structure by one foot for each story or half story. Exception: When an addition is a small one-room deep (12' deep or less) addition that spans the width of the structure, and the existing structure is masonry with the addition to be wood (or appropriate substitute siding). The change in material from masonry to wood allows for a minimum of a four inch (4") inset.*

*Foundation height should match or be lower than the existing structure.*

*Foundation lines should be visually distinct from the predominant exterior wall material. This is generally accomplished with a change in materials.*

#### *Roof*

*The height of the addition's roof and eaves must be less than or equal to the existing structure.*

*Visually evident roof slopes should match the roof slopes of the existing structure, and roof planes should set in accordingly for rear additions.*

*Skylights should not be located on the front-facing slope of the roof. Skylights should be flat (no bubble lenses) with a low profile (no more than six inches tall) and only be installed behind the midpoint of the building).*

- b. Additions should not be made to the public facades of existing buildings. Additions may be located to the rear of existing buildings in ways which do not disturb the public facades.

#### *Placement*

*Additions should be located at the rear of an existing structure.*

*Connections to additions should, as much as possible, use existing window and door openings rather than remove significant amounts of rear wall material.*

*Generally, one-story rear additions should inset one foot, for each story, from the side wall.*

*Additions should be physically distinguished from the historic building and generally fit within the*

*shadow line of the existing building.*

*Side Additions*

*When a lot width exceeds 60' or the standard lot width on the block, it may be appropriate to add a side addition to a historic structure. The addition should set back from the face of the historic structure (at or beyond the midpoint of the building) and should be subservient in height, width and massing to the historic structure.*

*Side additions should be narrower than half of the historic building width and exhibit a height of at least 2' shorter than the historic building.*

*To deemphasize a side addition, the roofing form should generally be a hip or side-gable roof form.*

*Commercial buildings that desire a covered open-air side additions generally should not enclose the area with plastic sides. Such applications may be appropriate if: the addition is located on the ground level off a secondary facade, is not located on a street facing side of a building, has a permanent glass wall on the portion of the addition which faces the street, and the front sits back a minimum of three (3') from the front or side wall, depending on placement of the addition.*

c. Additions must not imitate earlier styles of periods of architecture.

*The addition should set back from the face of the historic structure (at or beyond the midpoint of the building) and should be subservient in height, width and massing to the historic structure.*

*Side additions should be narrower than half of the historic building width and exhibit a height of at least 2' shorter than the historic building.*

*To deemphasize a side addition, the roofing form should generally be a hip or side-gable roof form.*

*Contemporary designs for additions to existing properties are not discouraged when such additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural, or cultural material; and when such design is compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.*

*Side porch additions may be appropriate for corner building lots or lots more than 60' wide.*

d. The creation of an addition through the enclosure of a front facade porch is inappropriate and should be avoided.

*Additions should follow all New Construction guidelines.*

**Background:** 1625 Fatherland Street is a Transitional Victorian house, constructed circa 1900. The house has a steeply pitched pyramidal roof with gabled projections on the front, rear, and both sides, with a wrap-around porch on the front-right corner. The house may have had a rear porch on the right side as well, although it appears to have been enclosed prior to 1914. A small rear addition on the left side of the house was also constructed by that time.



**Analysis and Findings:**

The applicant proposes to enlarge the building with an addition at the rear.

Height & Scale: The new addition will match the width of the historic house at thirty-five feet (35') wide, and will have a hipped roof matching the height of the existing roof at twenty-four feet, six inches (24'-6") tall, measured from the finished floor level. The addition will extend thirty-six feet (36') toward the rear, whereas the depth of the existing structure is forty-four feet (44') from front-to-back. Although a sizable addition, Staff finds that the proportions of the addition are compatible with those of the historic house without overwhelming it. The project meets section II.B.1.and 2.

Location & Removability: The addition would tie into the rear of the existing building in line with the side walls of the original structure. Typically, additions are required to sit in at least one foot from the sides of an historic house in order to distinguish the old construction from the new, in order to preserve and minimize the destruction of original features, and to make it possible for the addition to be removed without impairing the essential form and integrity of the historic house. Because the addition does not set in from the sides of the historic house, Staff finds that the project does not meet section II.B.2.

Design: The character of the addition would be nearly identical to the historic house, matching the roof form and pitch, window rhythm and proportion, and porch configuration. The addition would be compatible with the historic house and would meet section II.B.2.

Setback & Rhythm of Spacing: The addition would match the width of the historic house, and would maintain the rhythm of spacing established by the existing houses on the street. The existing house, however, does not meet today's five foot (5') minimum setback requirement on the left side. As such, the addition at four feet, four inches (4'-4") from the property line would not meet the standard setback either. Because it would maintain the setbacks and rhythm established by the historic house, staff finds the setbacks of the proposed addition to be appropriate. The project meets section II.B.3.

Materials: The exterior materials and colors of the addition will match those of the historic house: wood clapboard siding, wood trim and columns, fiberglass shingle roof, and concrete block foundation. At the point that the addition connects to the existing house, a portion of the original side walls of the house will be resided, replacing original clapboard with a square batten patterned siding. Staff finds that this siding treatment is not appropriate as it destroys original features and alters the character of an original portion of the building. Rear porch posts will be wood and the porch floor will be concrete.

No other major changes to the historic house's materials were indicated on the drawings. The material of the new windows and doors is not known, so staff asks to approve the final window and door selections prior to purchase and installation. With the conditions that the original siding is not replaced with square battens, and with staff's final approval of the windows and doors, staff finds that the materials would meet section II.B.4

Roof form: The roof of the addition will match the roof of the historic house, with a central hipped component with gable projections on all four sides, matching the 12:12 pitch of the existing roof. The addition will also have a corner porch at the rear, with a low sloped roof matching the porch on the front of the historic house. Staff finds these roofs to be compatible with the historic house. The project meets section II.B.5.

Proportion and Rhythm of Openings: No changes to the window and door openings on the existing house were indicated on the plans. The windows on the proposed addition are all generally twice as tall as they are wide, thereby meeting the historic proportions of openings. There are no large expanses of wall space without a window or door opening. Staff finds the project's proportion and rhythm of openings to meet Section II.B.7.

Appurtenances & Utilities: No changes to the site's appurtenances were indicated on the drawings. The location of the HVAC and other utilities was also not noted. Staff asks that the HVAC be located on the rear façade, or on a side façade beyond the midpoint of the house. The project meets section II.B.9.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends approval of the proposed addition with conditions that:

- The addition set in from the sides of the historic house by at least one foot (1') on each side;
- Original clapboard siding is not replaced with square batten siding; and,
- Staff approves the window and door selections, and the location of any new HVAC systems prior to issuing a permit.

Meeting those conditions, Staff finds that the proposed addition would meet the design guidelines for the Lockeland Springs-East End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.



1625 Fatherland Street, front.



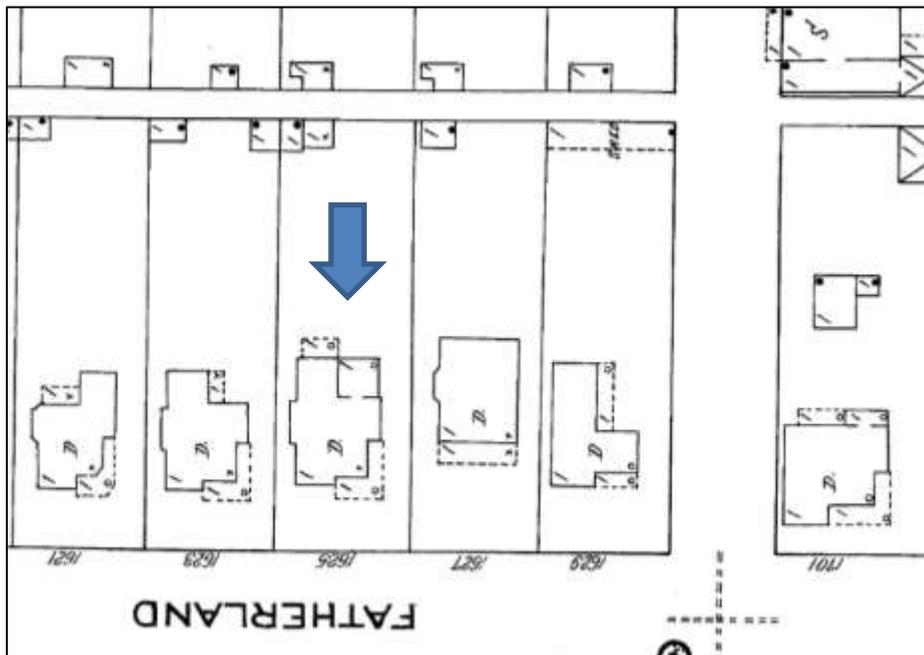
1625 Fatherland Street, right side showing early addition or enclosed rear porch.



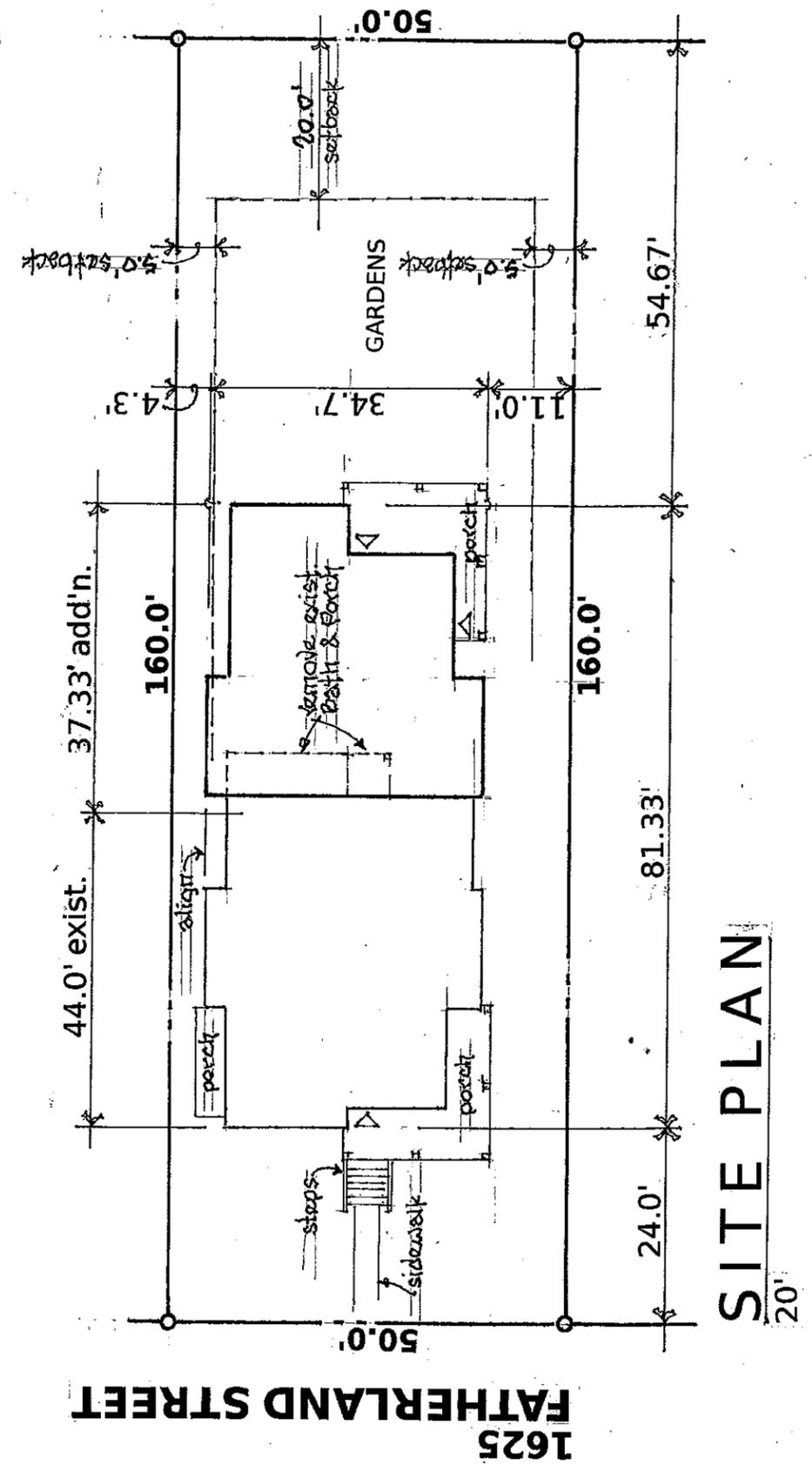
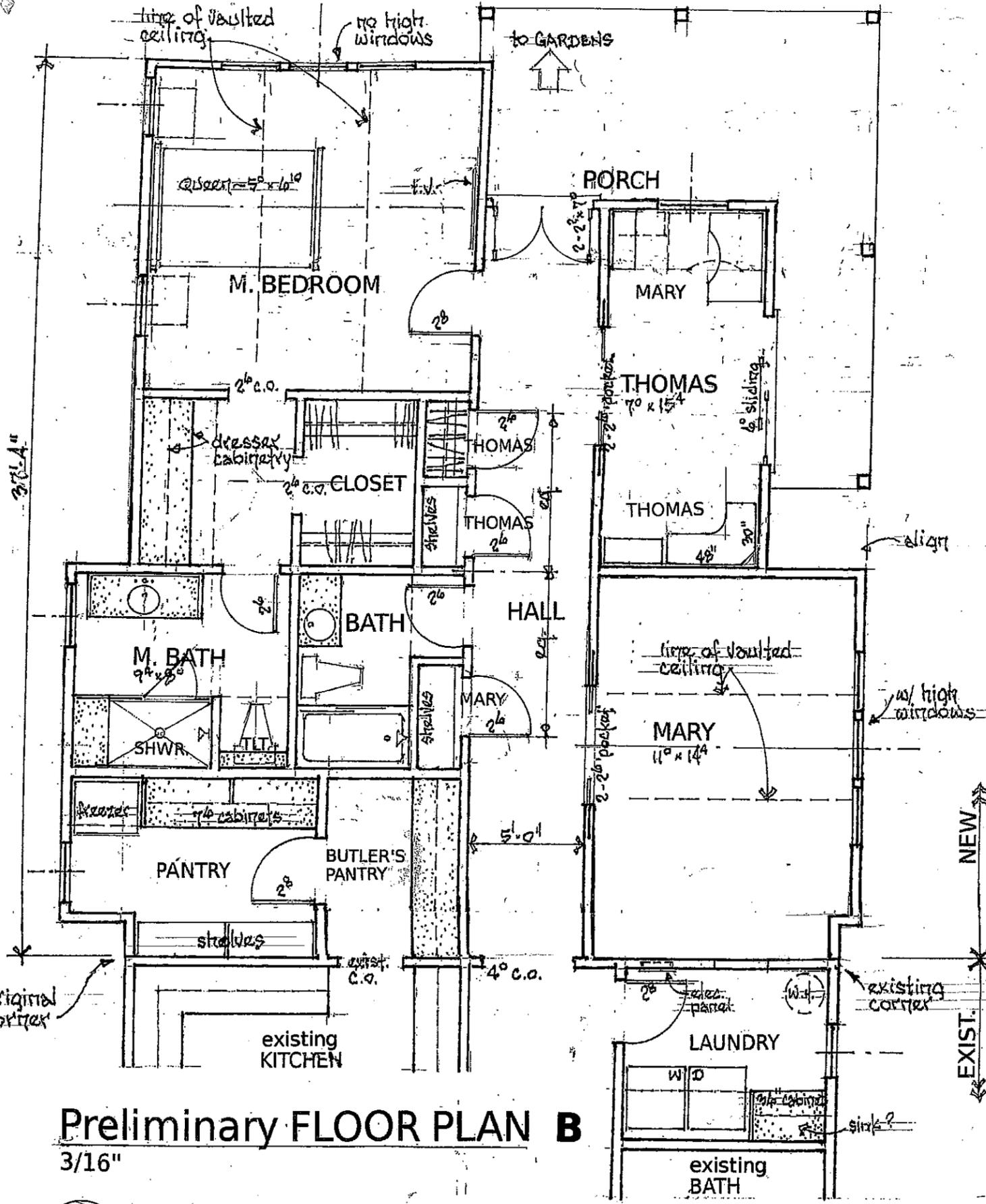
1625 Fatherland Street, left side showing early addition and wall of rear-projecting wing.



1625 Fatherland Street, rear.



Detail image from 1914 Sanborn Map, Volume 3, p. 334.

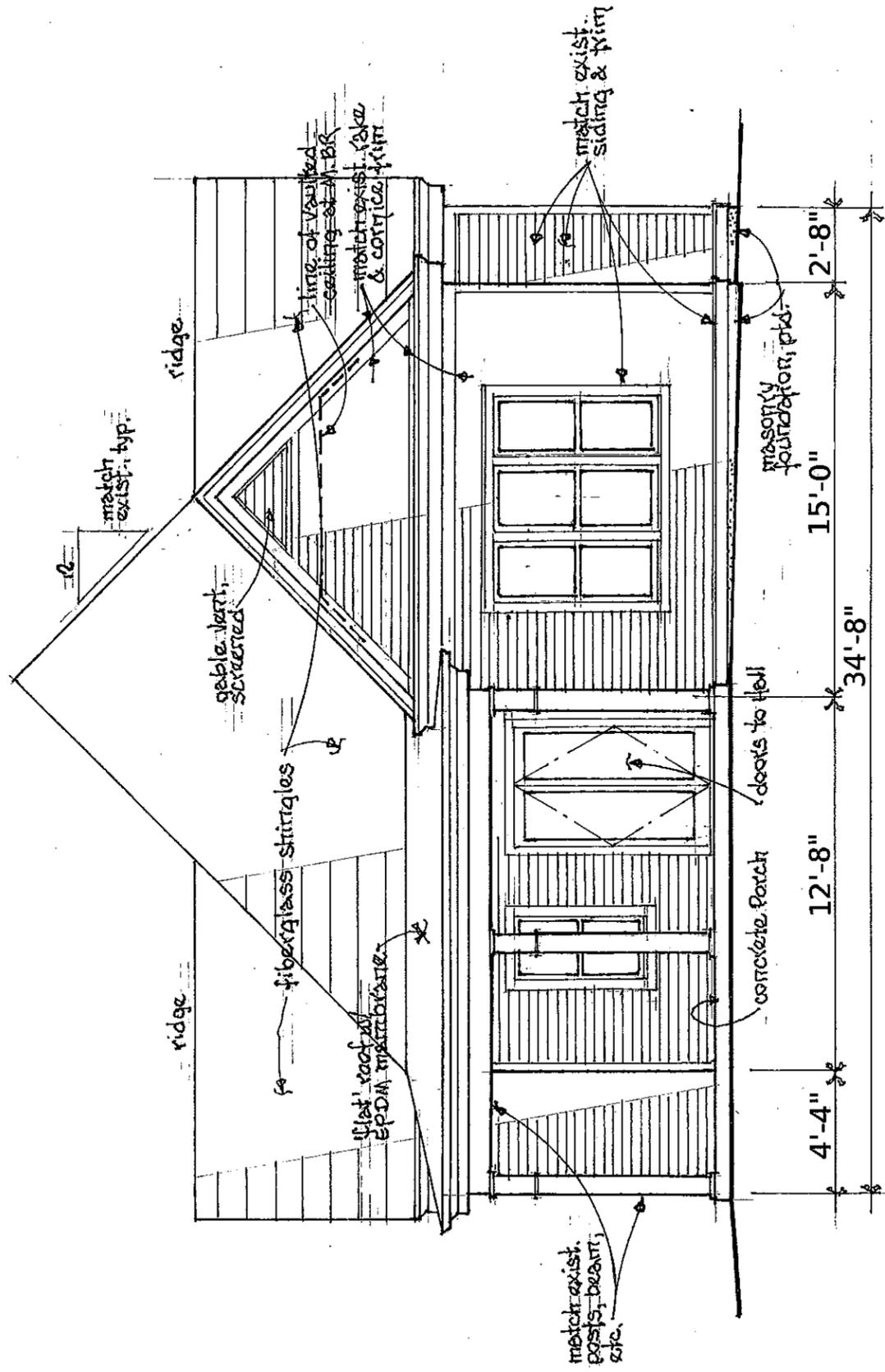


**Preliminary FLOOR PLAN B**

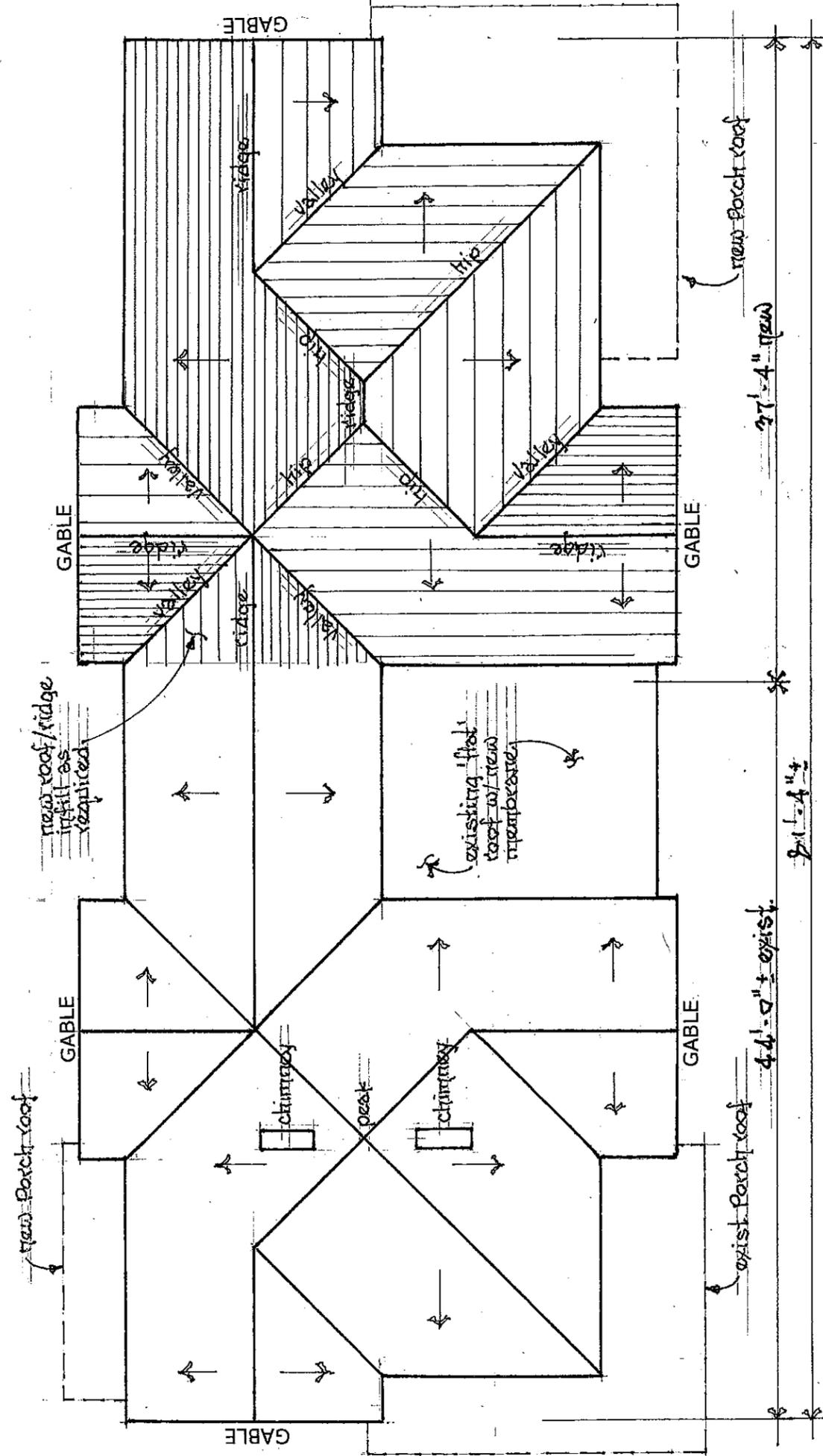
3/16"

**1 SMITH**

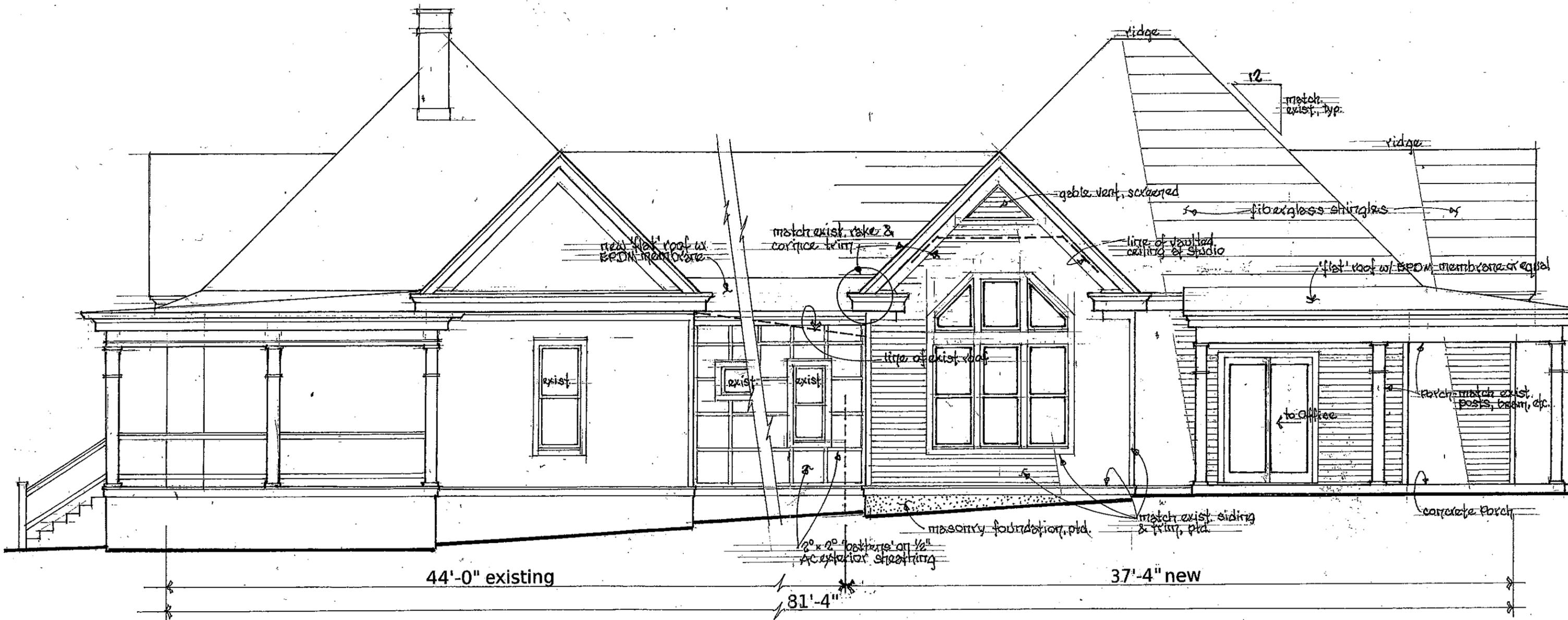
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**REAR ELEVATION**  
3/16"



**Preliminary ROOF PLAN**  
1/8"

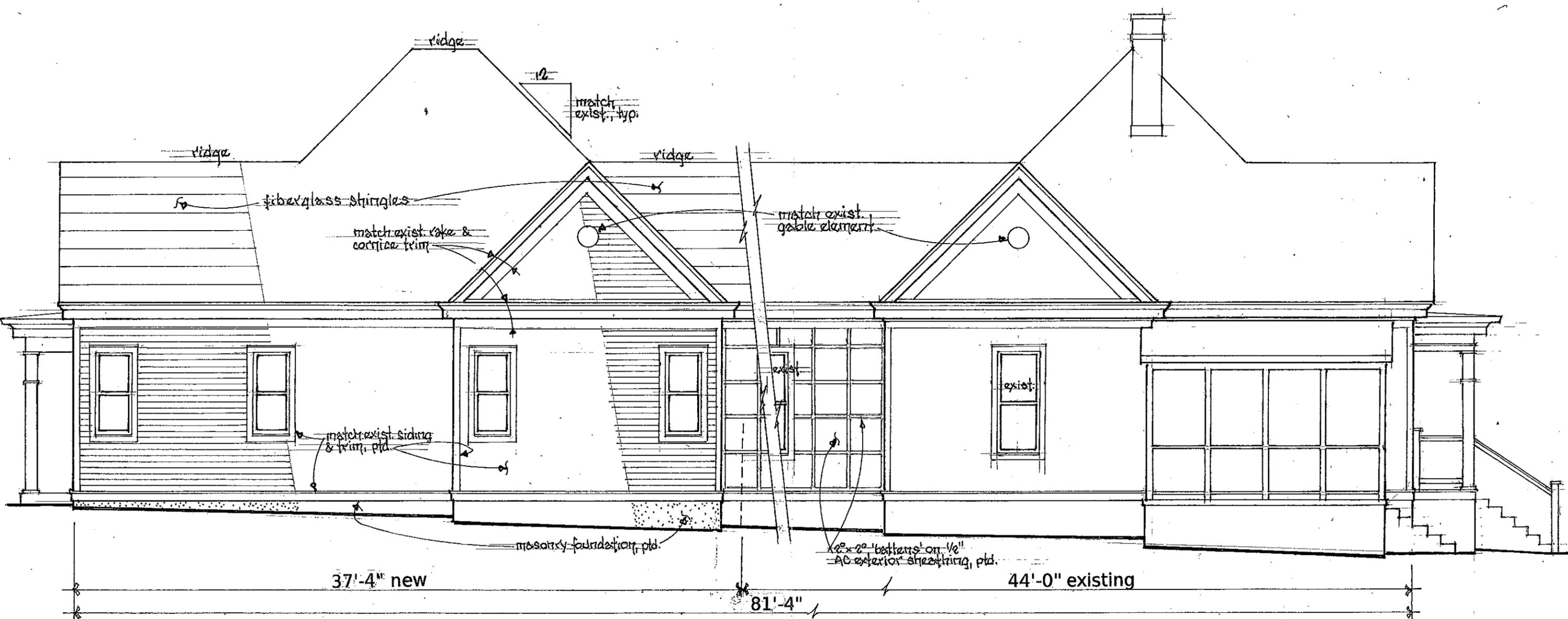


# RIGHT ELEVATION

3/16"

3

SMITH 30 OCT 2014



# LEFT ELEVATION

3/16"

4

SMITH 30 OCT 2014