



# METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
Telephone: (615) 862-7970  
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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION 3814 Richland Avenue November 19, 2014

**Application:** New construction-addition  
**District:** Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay  
**Council District:** 24  
**Map and Parcel Number:** 10409004100  
**Applicant:** Manuel Zeitlin Architects  
**Project Lead:** Paul Hoffman, [paul.hoffman@nashville.gov](mailto:paul.hoffman@nashville.gov)

**Description of Project:** The application is for addition of a two-story screened porch and deck to the rear and side of the house; the addition will extend beyond the side wall of the house.

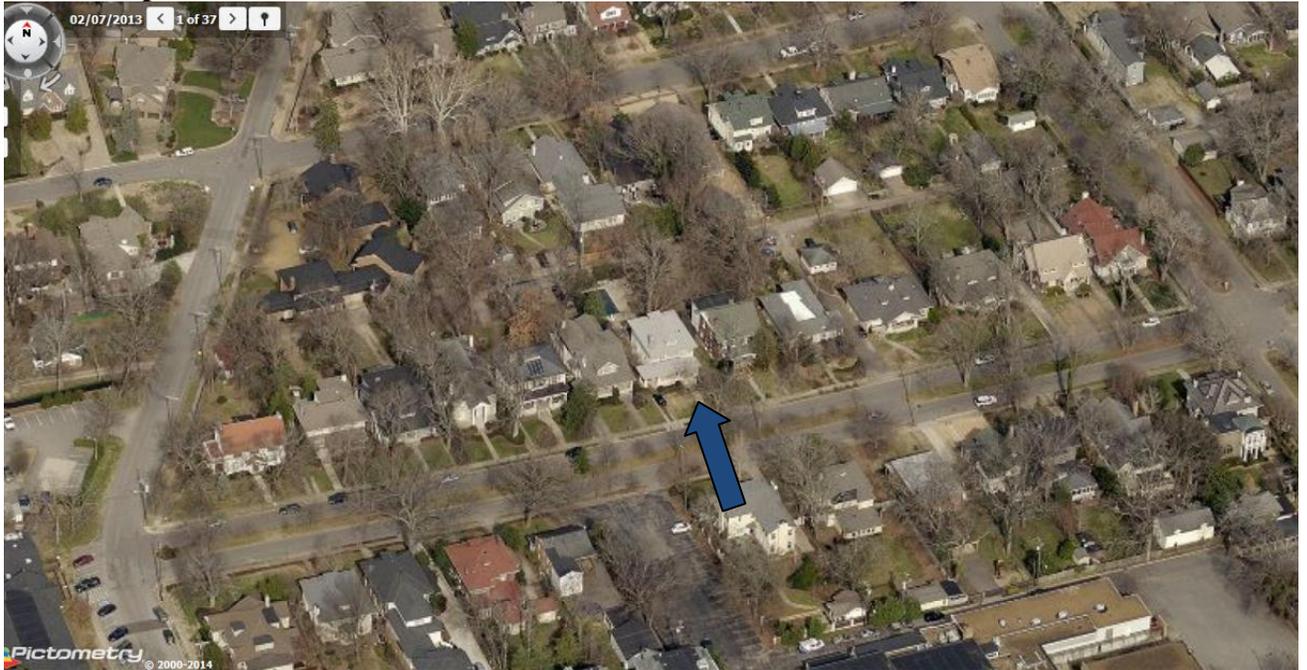
**Recommendation Summary:** Staff recommends approval of the addition as submitted, finding that the application meets the design guidelines for the Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.

**Attachments**  
**A:** Photographs  
**B:** Site Plan  
**C:** Elevations

**Vicinity Map:**



**Aerial Map:**



## **Applicable Design Guidelines:**

### **II.B.1 New Construction**

#### **a. Height**

The height of the foundation wall, porch roof(s), and main roof(s) of a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with those of surrounding historic buildings.

#### **b. Scale**

The size of a new building and its mass in relation to open spaces shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, 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.*

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

The setback from front and side yard property lines established by adjacent historic buildings should be maintained. Generally, a dominant rhythm along a street is established by uniform lot and building width. Infill buildings should maintain that rhythm.

*The Commission has the ability to determine appropriate 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 setbacks 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*

*In most cases, an infill duplex should be one building, as seen historically in order to maintain the rhythm of the street. Detached infill duplexes may be appropriate in the following instances:*

- There is not enough square footage to legally subdivide the lot but there is enough frontage and width to the lot to accommodate two single-family dwellings in a manner that meets the design guidelines;*
- The second unit follows the requirements of a Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit; or*
- An existing non-historic building sits so far back on the lot that a building may be constructed in front of it in a manner that meets the rhythm of the street and the established setbacks.*

#### **d. Materials, Texture, Details, and Material Color**

The materials, texture, details, and material color of a new building's public facades shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings. Vinyl and aluminum siding

are not appropriate.

*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.*

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

#### **e. Roof Shape**

The roof(s) of a new building shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the roof shape, orientation, and pitch of surrounding historic 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.*

#### **f. Orientation**

The orientation of a new building's front facade shall be visually consistent with surrounding historic buildings.

##### *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.*

## **g. 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.*

### **i. 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.*

### **j. Public Spaces**

*Landscaping, sidewalks, signage, lighting, street furniture and other work undertaken in public spaces by any individual, group or agency shall be presented to the MHZC for review of compatibility with the character of the district.*

*Generally, mailboxes should be attached to the front wall of the house or a porch post. In most cases, street-side mailboxes are inappropriate.*

## **2. ADDITIONS**

- a. Generally, an addition should be situated at the rear of a building in such a way that it will not disturb either front or side 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.*

*When an addition ties into the existing roof, the addition should be at least 6" below the existing ridge. In order to assure that an addition has achieved proper scale, the addition should:*

- No matter its use, an addition should not be larger than the existing house, not including non-historic additions, in order to achieve compatibility in scale. This will allow for the retention of small and medium size homes in the neighborhood. The diversity of housing type and size is a character defining feature of the historic districts.*
- Additions which are essentially a house-behind-a-house with a long narrow connector are not appropriate, as the form does not exist historically. Short or minimal connections that do not require the removal of the entire back wall of a historic building are preferred.*
- Additions 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.*

### *Ridge raises*

*Ridge raises are most appropriate for one-story, side-gable buildings, (without clipped gables) and that require more finished height in the attic. The purpose of a ridge raise is to allow for conditioned space in the attic and to discourage large rear or side additions. The raised portion must sit in a minimum of 2' from each side wall and can be raised no more than 2' of total vertical height within the same plane as the front roof slope.*

### *Sunrooms*

*Metal framed sunrooms, as a modern interpretation of early green houses, are appropriate if they are mostly glass or use appropriate cladding material for the district, are located at the rear in a*

*minimally visible location, are minimally attached to the existing structure, and follow all other design guidelines for additions.*

#### *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).*

#### *Rear & Side Dormers*

*Dormer additions are appropriate for some historic buildings as they are a traditional way of adding ventilation and light to upper stories.*

*The addition of a dormer that would require the removal of historic features such as an existing dormer, chimneys, cupolas or decorative feature is not appropriate.*

*Rear dormers should be inset from the side walls of the building by a minimum of two feet. The top of a rear dormer may attach just below the ridge of the main roof or lower.*

*Side dormers should be compatible with the scale and design of the building. Generally, this can be accomplished with the following:*

- New dormers should be similar in design and scale to an existing dormer on the building.*
- New dormers should be similar in design and scale to an existing dormer on another historic building that is similar in style and massing.*
- The number of dormers and their location and size should be appropriate to the style and design of the building. Sometimes dormer locations relate to the openings below. The symmetry or lack of symmetry within a building design should be used as a guide when placing dormers.*
- Dormers should not be added to secondary roof planes.*
- Eave depth on a dormer should not exceed the eave depth on the main roof.*
- The roof form of the dormer should match the roof form of the building or be appropriate for the style.*
- The roof pitch of the dormer should generally match the roof pitch of the building.*
- The ridge of a side dormer should be at least 2' below the ridge of the existing building; the cheeks should be inset at least 2' from the wall below or adjacent valley; and the front wall of the gable should setback a minimum of 2' from the wall below. (These minimum insets will likely be greater than 2' when following the guidelines for appropriate scale.)*
- Dormers should generally be fully glazed and aprons below the window should be minimal.*
- The exterior material cladding of side dormers should match the primary or secondary material of the main 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.*

b. The creation of an addition through enclosure of a front porch is not appropriate.

*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.*

c. 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. 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.

e. Additions should follow the guidelines for new construction.

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

**Background:** 3814 Richland Avenue is a four-square home built circa 1915, and is a contributing building to the Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.



Figure 1. 3814 Richland Avenue

**Analysis and Findings:** The applicant proposes to add a two-story screened porch to the rear and side of the house, and a roof terrace over the existing family room.

**Height & Scale:** The addition will add eleven feet, nine inches (11'9") from the right rear corner of the enclosed porch and will add eight feet, five inches (8'5") to the left side of the house. The foundation height of the addition will match the foundation height of the house. The addition's ridge height will be approximately six feet (6') below the ridge height of the house.

The project meets section II.B.2.e and II.B.1.a. and b.



Figure 2. Rear corner of house, proposed location of the addition

Location & Removability: The addition's location at the rear is in accordance with the design guidelines. It will be built to the rear of the existing enclosed rear porch, the enclosure of which is not original to the house. The side wall will be approximately one foot (1') inward of the existing porte-cochere at the front of the house. In addition, the house is shifted to the side of the lot; therefore, Staff finds the addition going wider than the house is appropriate. The rear corners of the house will remain extant; if the addition were to be removed in the future, the original form would be intact. The project meets section II.B.2.a and d.

Design: The addition is appropriately subordinate to the house. It will be distinguished from the historic building primarily by its use of different materials. Staff finds it to be compatible with the historic house and does not contrast greatly with the context. The project meets section II.B.2.a and c.

Setback & Rhythm of Spacing: The addition will be six feet (6') from the side property line and eighty-four feet (84') from the rear line, meeting setback requirement of five feet (5') and twenty feet (20'). The proposal meets sections II.B.2.a and II.B.1.c.

Materials: The addition consists of wood trim, railing and screen. The foundation veneer will be wood or fiber cement siding with a four inch (4") reveal. The application includes no changes to the materials of the historic house. The roof will be shingles in a material and color to match the existing roof. Staff finds that the project meets sections II.B.2.e and II.B.1.d.

Roof form: The addition will have a hipped roof with 8/12 pitch, tying into the existing roof just under the hip rafter. The form and pitch are appropriate. Staff's review is that the roof form is compatible with the context. The project meets section II.B.1.e.

Orientation: The addition will not change the orientation of the house. The project meets section II.B.1.f.

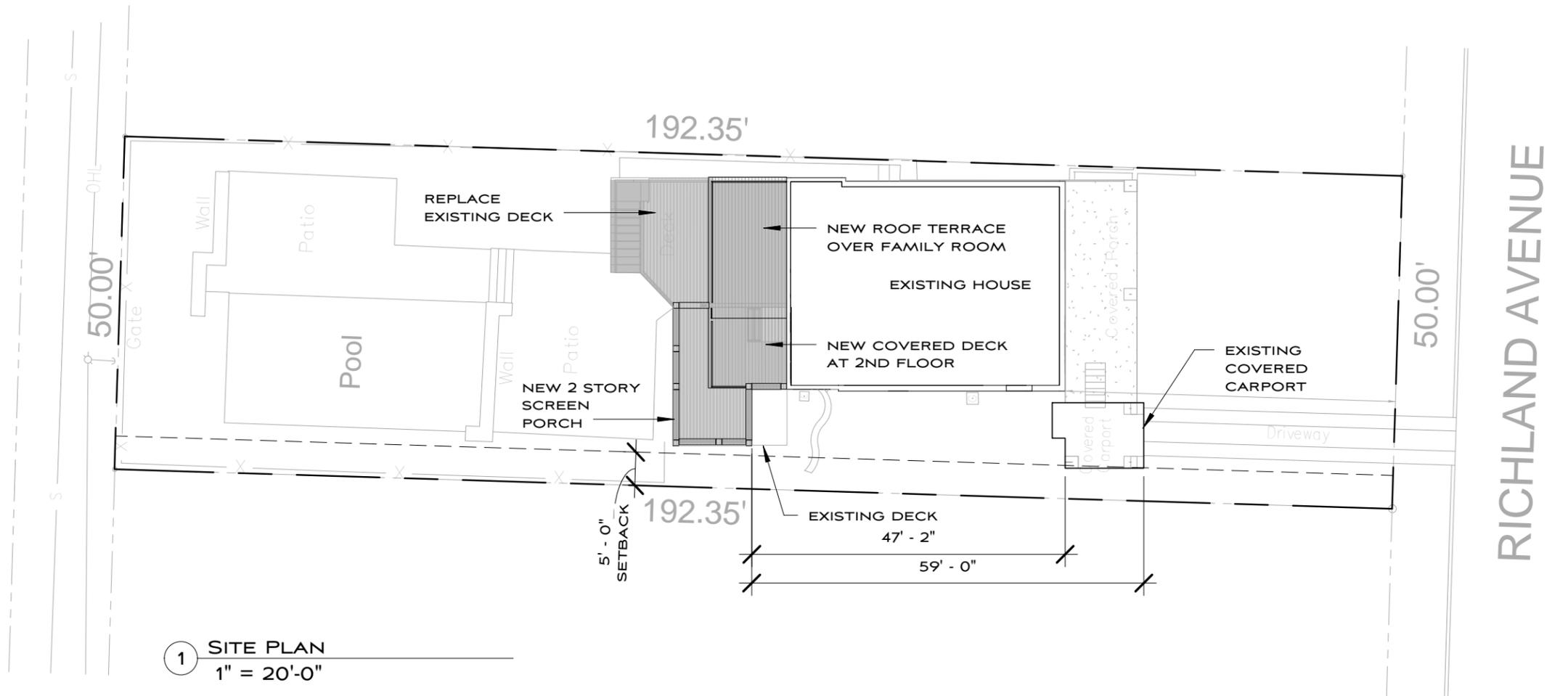
Proportion and Rhythm of Openings: Several window openings inside the proposed porch area will be replaced with framing and new doors opening into the screened porch. As these windows are in a rear porch enclosed at an unknown date, staff finds the proposed proportion and rhythm of openings to meet Section II.B.1.g.

**Recommendation Summary:**

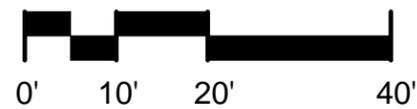
Staff recommends approval of the addition as submitted, finding that the application meets the design guidelines for the Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.

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1 SITE PLAN  
1" = 20'-0"



**CONTACT/ARCHITECT:**

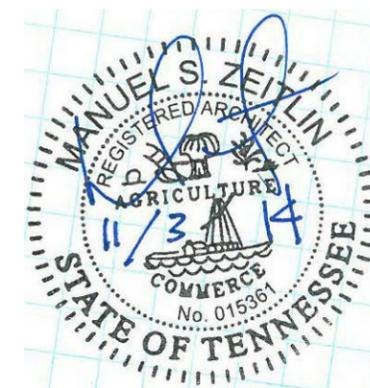
MANUEL ZEITLIN  
MANUEL ZEITLIN ARCHITECTS  
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**OWNER :**

REBECCA & DAVID KLEMENTS  
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**3814 RICHLAND AVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37205**

SITE PLAN  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

11-03-14

**A1**

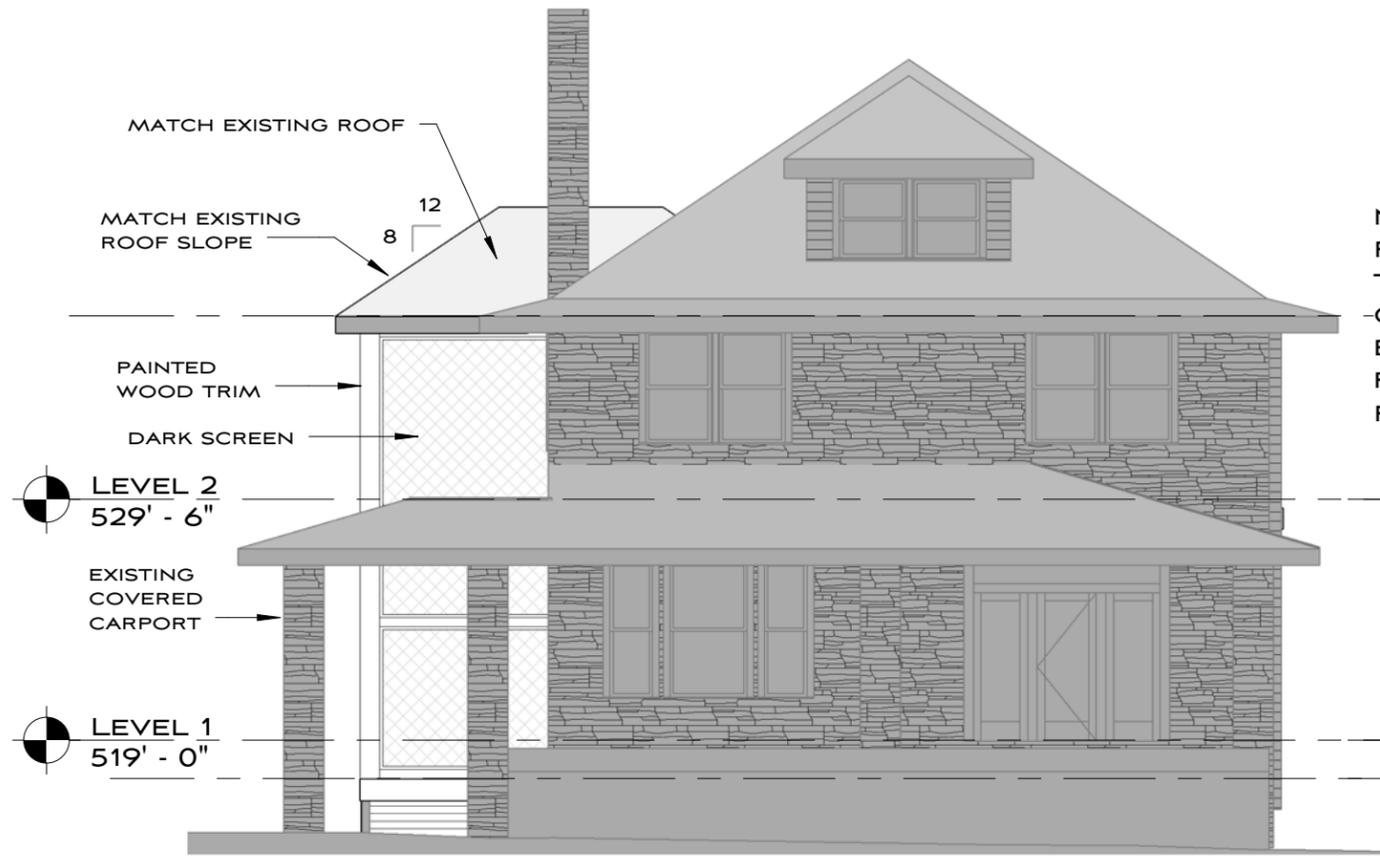
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**MANUEL ZEITLIN ARCHITECTS**

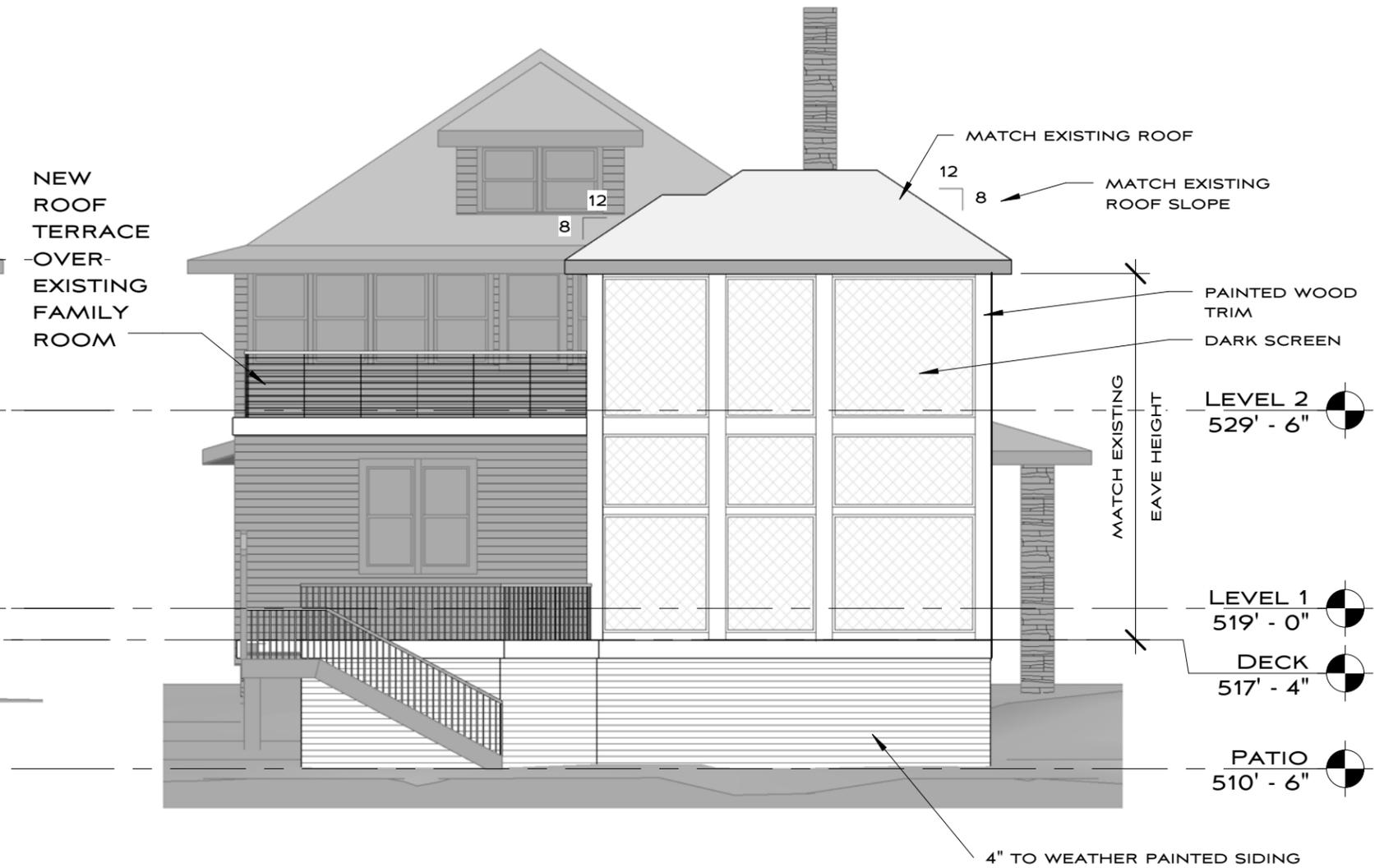


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1 FRONT SOUTH ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



2 REAR NORTH ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3814 RICHLAND AVE  
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ELEVATIONS  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

11-03-14

1485

A2

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① DRIVEWAY SIDE WEST ELEVATION  
 1/8" = 1'-0"

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ELEVATIONS  
 HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

11-03-14

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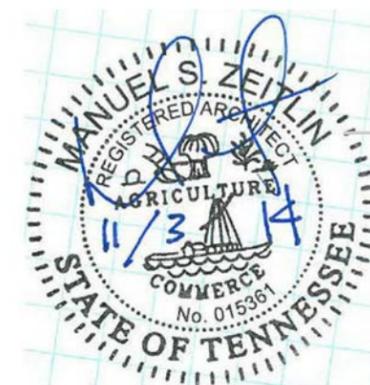
**A3**

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① SIDE EAST ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3814 RICHLAND AVE  
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ELEVATIONS  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

11-03-14

1485

**A4**

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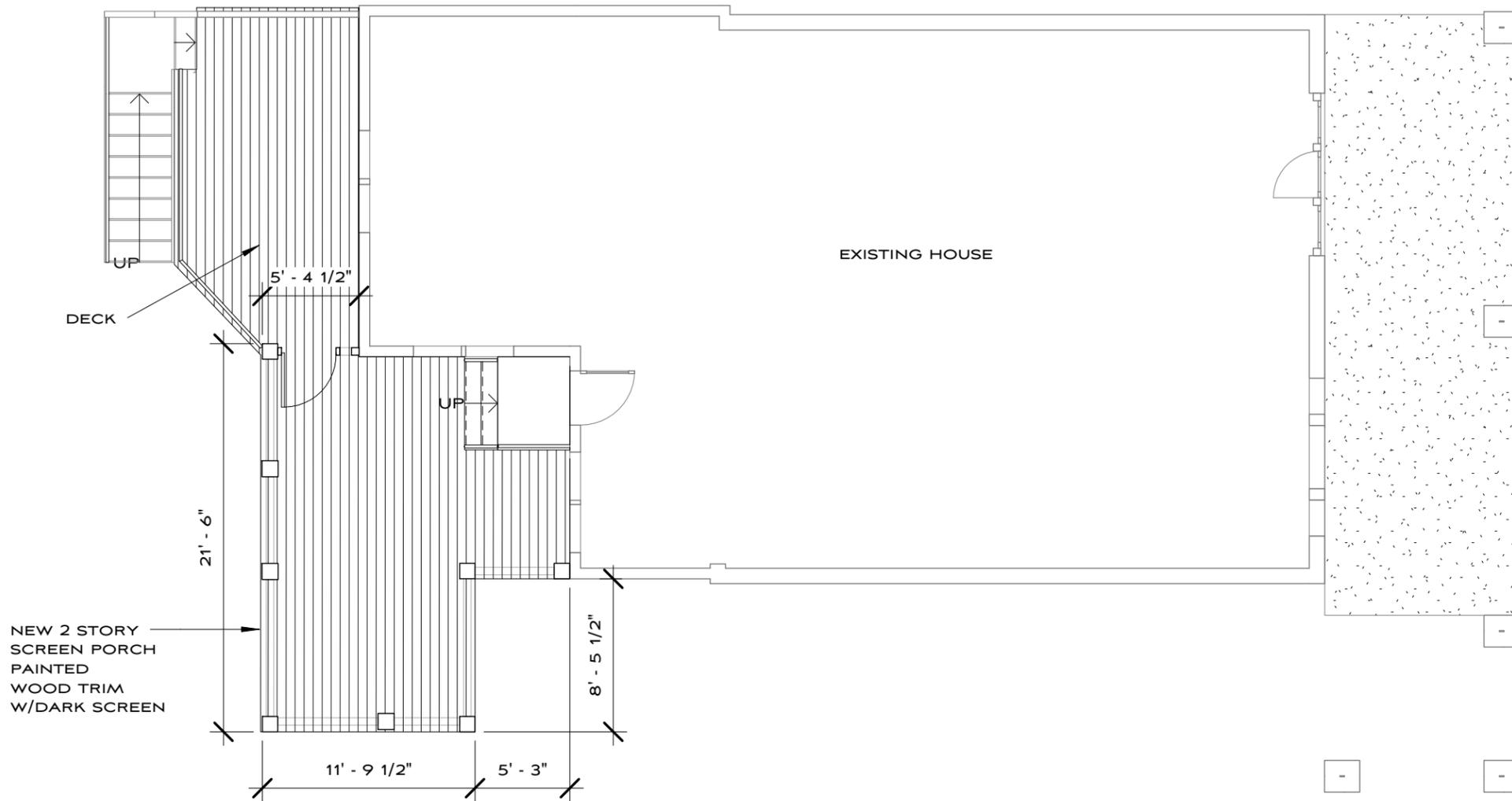


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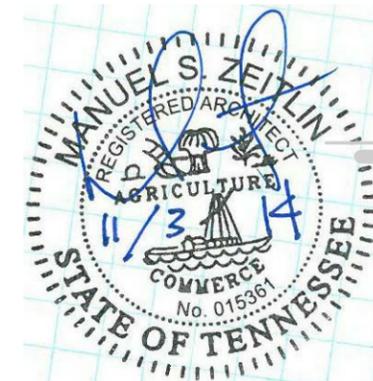
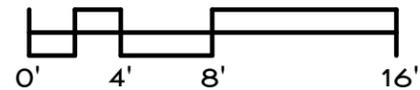
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2



1  
A2

1  
A3

1 LEVEL 1 - PROPOSED  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3814 RICHLAND AVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37205

MAIN FLOOR PLAN  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

A5

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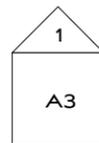
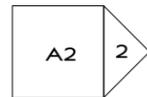
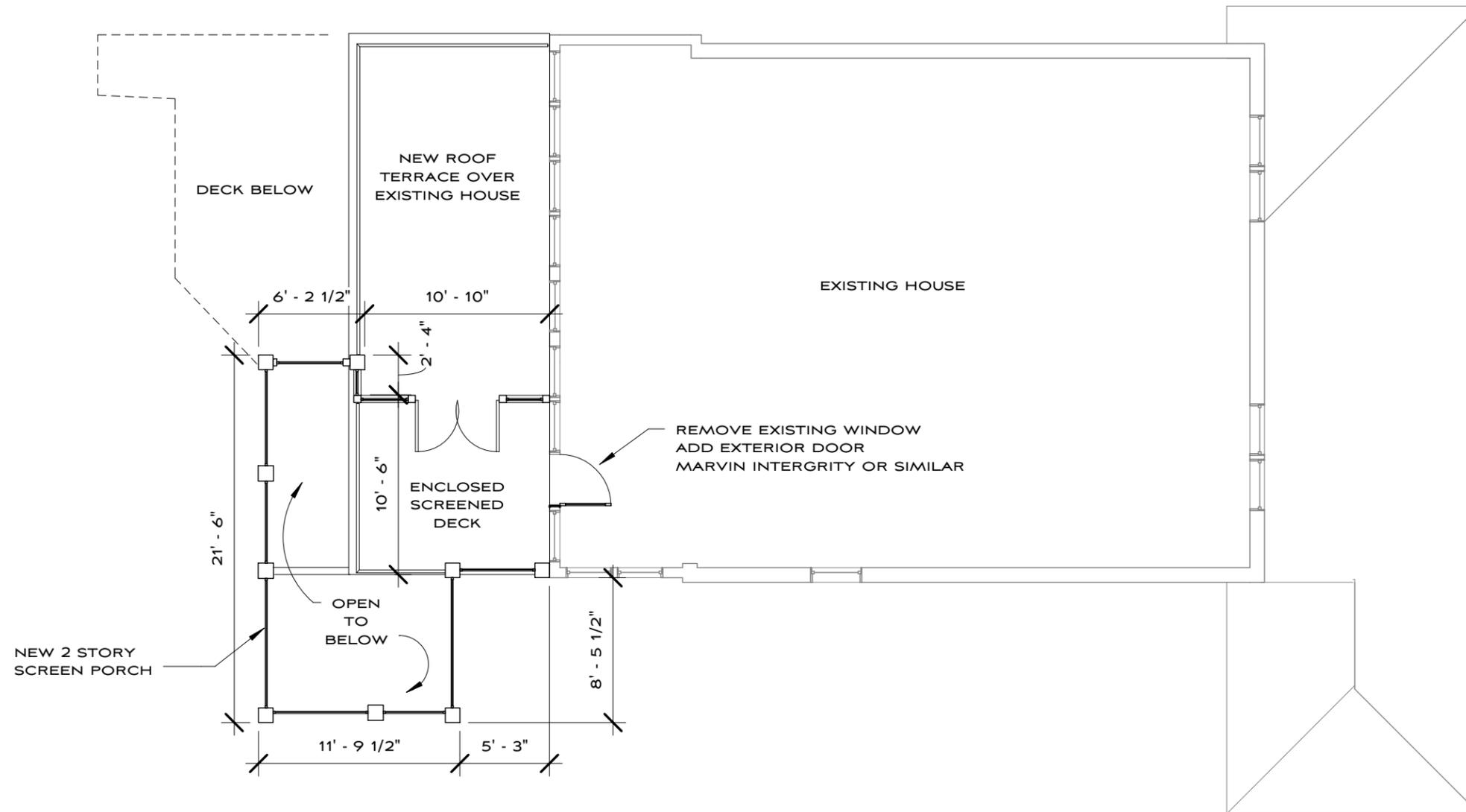
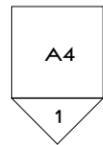
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MANUEL ZEITLIN ARCHITECTS

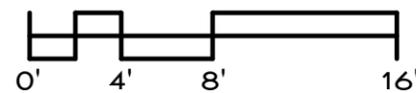


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① LEVEL 2 - PROPOSED  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3814 RICHLAND AVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37205

SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

**A6**

11-03-14

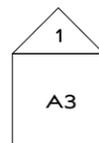
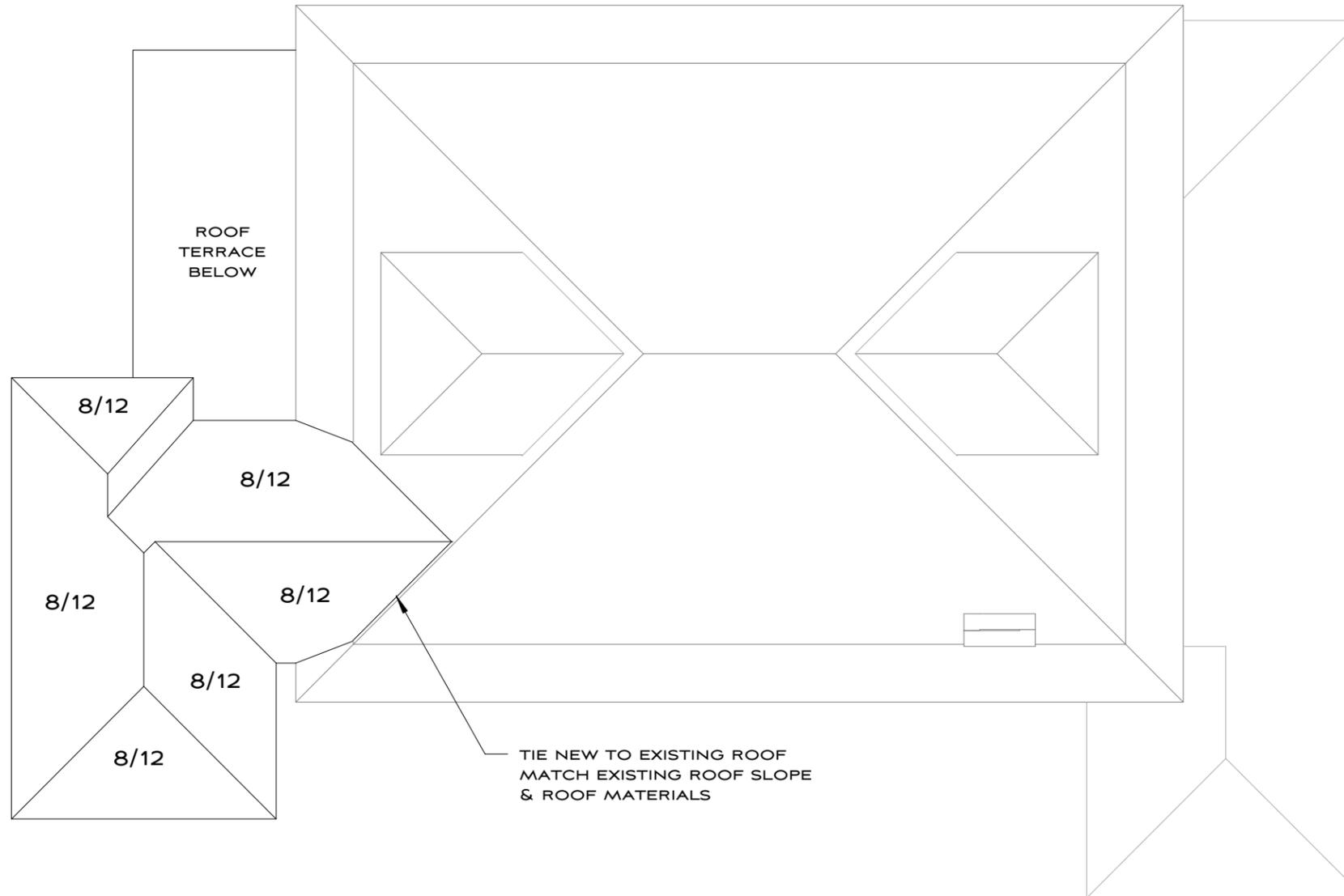
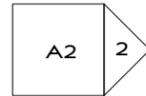
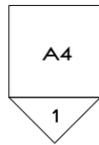
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MANUEL ZEITLIN ARCHITECTS

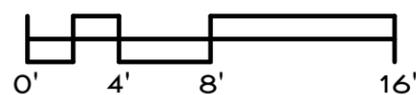


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1 ROOF - PROPOSED  
1/8" = 1'-0"



3814 RICHLAND AVE  
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ROOF PLAN  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

**A7**

11-03-14

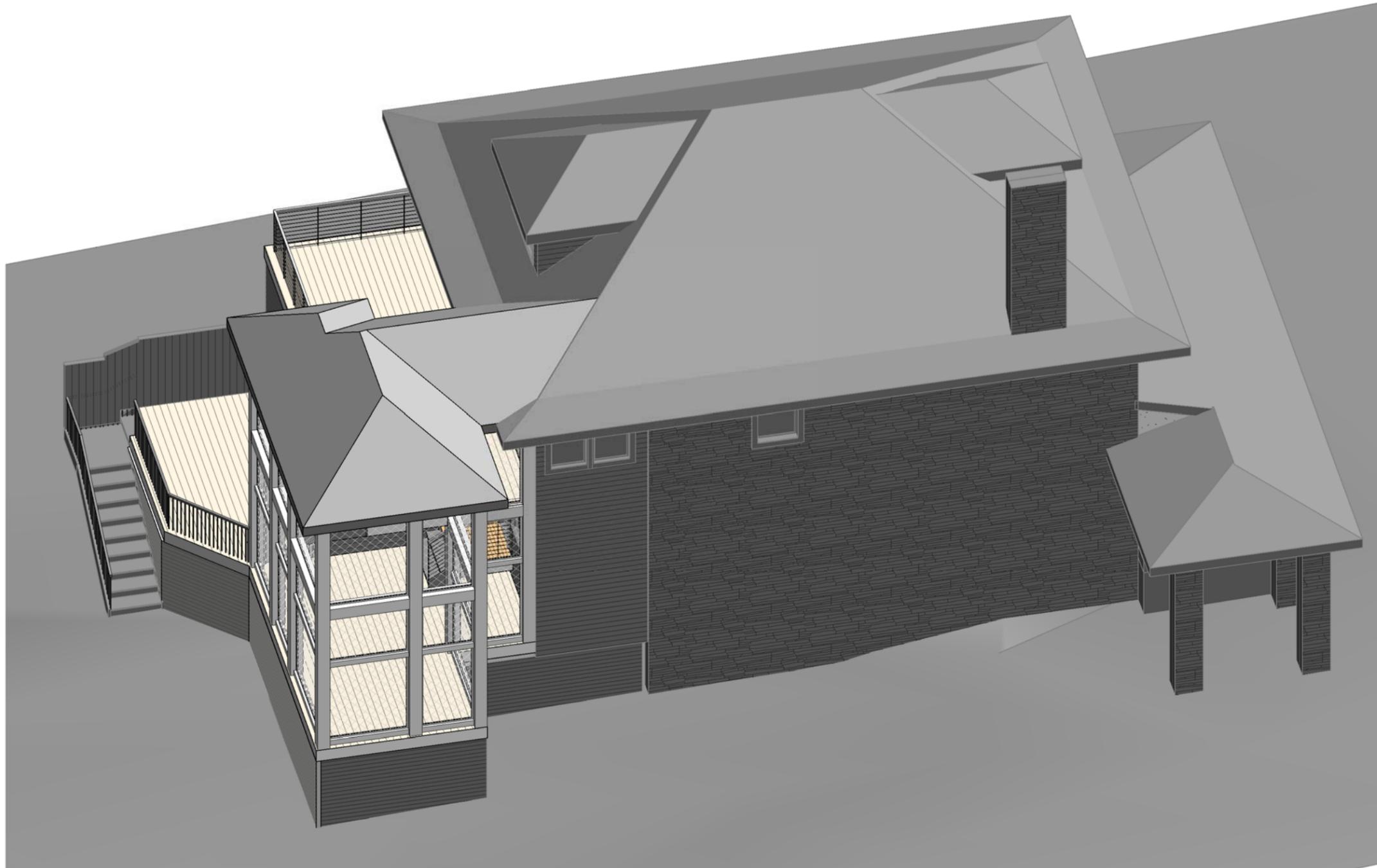
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MANUEL ZEITLIN ARCHITECTS



TEL 615 256.2880  
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516 HAGAN ST. STE 100, NASHVILLE, TN 37203



1 ROOF VIEW

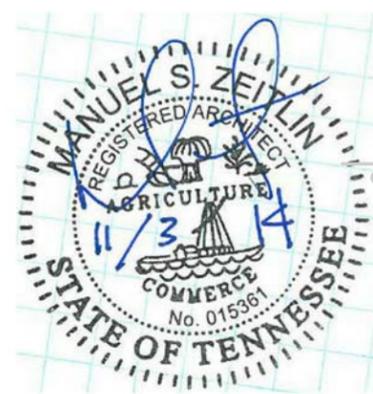
3814 RICHLAND AVE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37205

ROOF VIEW  
HISTORIC SUBMITTAL

11-03-14

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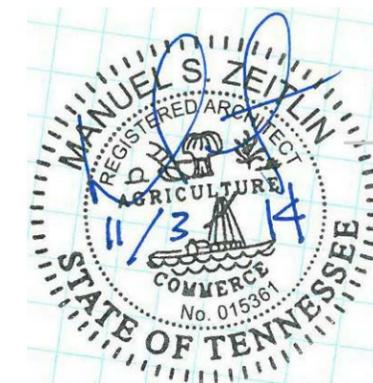
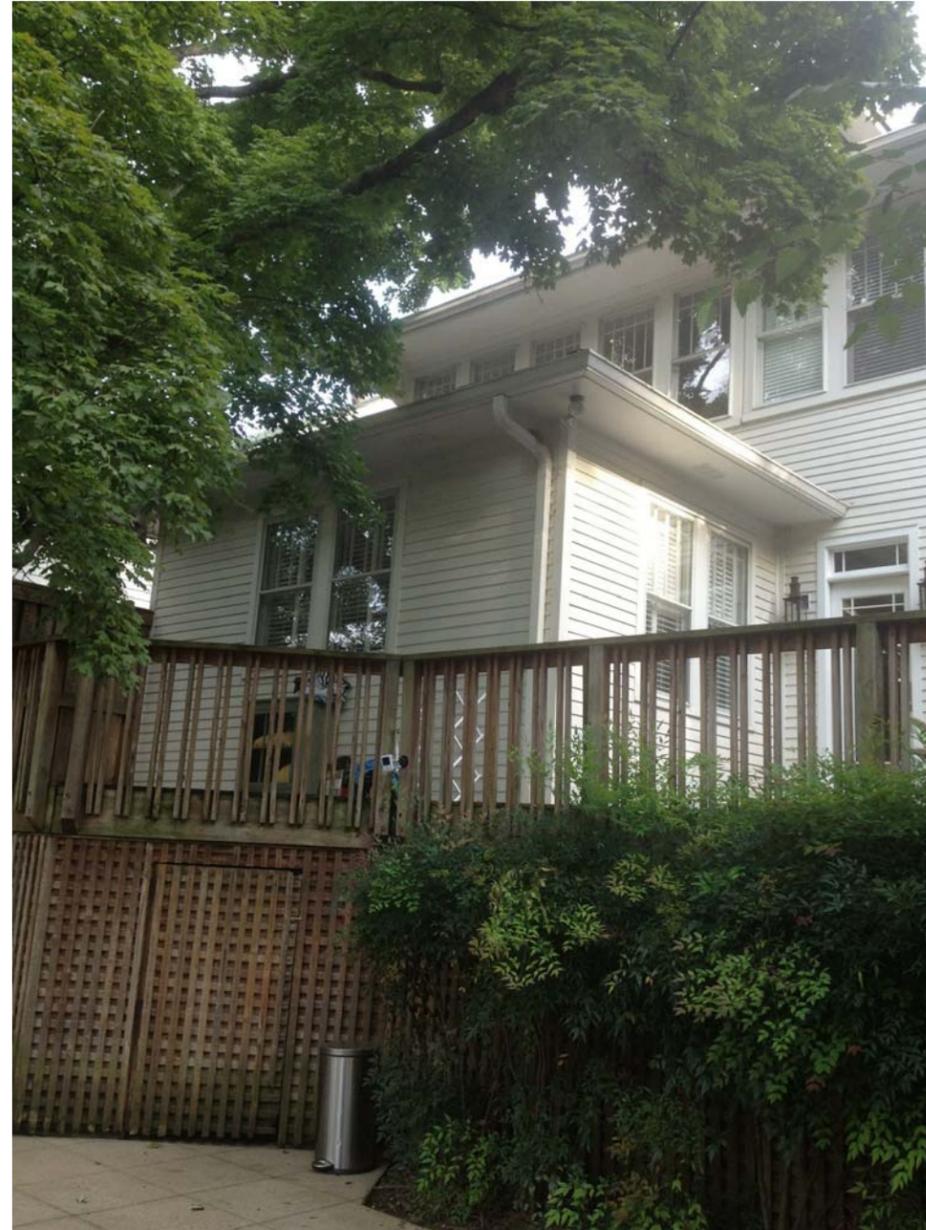


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PHOTOS  
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