



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
3516 Richland Avenue
August 19, 2015

Application: New construction - addition
District: Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay
Council District: 24
Map and Parcel Number: 10405039500
Applicant: Zach Provonchee, Architect
Project Lead: Sean Alexander, sean.alexander@nashville.gov

<p>Description of Project: The applicant proposes to enlarge the house with a rear addition that includes a basement level, rear garage.</p> <p>Recommendation Summary: Staff recommends approval of the proposed addition with the conditions that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The roof is stepped in from existing roof's side slopes and down from the ridge, and <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. step in the addition from both sides of the existing house without stepping back out; and/or b. reduce the depth of the addition to be less than that of the historic house. 2. The selections of windows and doors are approved by Staff prior to installation and purchase. <p>Meeting those conditions, Staff finds that the proposed addition would meet the design guidelines for the Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.</p>	<p>Attachments A: Photographs B: Site Plan C: Elevations</p>
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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.

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.

h. Outbuildings

(Although the MHZC does not review use itself there are additional ordinance requirements for buildings that are or have a Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (DADU) required by ordinance 17.16.030 that are reviewed by the MHZC. This information is provided for informational purposes only and does not replace ordinance 17.16.030.)

1) A new garage or storage building should reflect the character of the period of the house to which the outbuilding will be related. The outbuilding should be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic outbuildings in terms of height, scale, roof shape, materials, texture, and details.

Outbuildings: Height & Scale

· On lots less than 10,000 square feet, the footprint of a DADU or outbuilding shall not exceed seven hundred fifty square feet or fifty percent of the first floor area of the principal structure, whichever is less.

· On lots 10,000 square feet or greater, the footprint of a DADU or outbuilding shall not exceed one thousand square feet.

· The DADU or outbuilding shall maintain a proportional mass, size, and height to ensure it is not taller or wider than the principal structure on the lot. The DADU or outbuilding height shall not exceed the height of the principal structure, with a maximum eave height of 10' for one-story DADU's or outbuildings and 17' for two-story DADUs or outbuildings. The roof ridge height of the DADU or outbuilding must be less than the principal building and shall not exceed 25' feet in height.

Outbuildings: Character, Materials and Details

· Historically, outbuildings were either very utilitarian in character, or (particularly with more extravagant houses) they repeated the roof forms and architectural details of the houses to which they related.

Generally, either approach is appropriate for new outbuildings. DADUs or out buildings located on corner lots should have similar architectural characteristics, including roof form and pitch, to the existing principal structure.

· DADUs or outbuildings with a second story shall enclose the stairs interior to the structure and properly fire rate them per the applicable life safety standards found in the code editions adopted by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville.

Outbuildings: Roof

- *Roof slopes on simple, utilitarian buildings do not have to match the roof slopes of the main structure, but generally should maintain at least a 4/12 pitch.*
- *The DADU or outbuilding may have dormers that relate to the style and proportion of windows on the DADU and shall be subordinate to the roof slope by covering no more than fifty percent of the roof plane and should sit back from the exterior wall by 2'.*

Outbuildings: Windows and Doors

- *Publicly visible windows should be appropriate to the style of the house.*
- *Double-hung windows are generally twice as tall as they are wide and of the single-light sash variety.*
- *Publicly visible pedestrian doors must either be appropriate for the style of house to which the outbuilding relates or be flat with no panels.*
- *Metal overhead doors are acceptable on garages when they are simple and devoid of overly decorative elements typical on high-style wooden doors. Decorative raised panels on publicly visible garage doors are generally not appropriate.*
- *For street-facing facades, garages with more than one-bay should have multiple single doors rather than one large door to accommodate more than one bay.*

Outbuildings: Siding and Trim

- *Brick, weatherboard, and board-and-batten are typical siding materials.*
 - *Exterior siding may match the existing contributing building's original siding; otherwise, siding should be wood or smooth cement-fiberboard lap siding with a maximum exposure of five inches (5"), wood or smooth cement-fiberboard board-and-batten or masonry.*
 - *Four inch (4" nominal) corner-boards are required at the face of each exposed corner.*
 - *Stud wall lumber and embossed wood grain are prohibited.*
 - *Four inch (4" nominal) casings are required around doors, windows, and vents within clapboard walls. 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 clad buildings.*

2) Outbuildings should be situated on a lot as is historically typical for surrounding historic buildings.

Generally new garages should be placed close to the alley, at the rear of the lot, or in the original location of an historic accessory structure.

Lots without rear alleys may have garages located closer to the primary structure. The appropriate location is one that matches the neighborhood or can be documented by historic maps.

Generally, attached garages are not appropriate; however, instances where they may be are:

- *Where they are a typical feature of the neighborhood; or*
- *When the location of the attached garage is in the general location of an historic accessory building, the new garage is located in the basement level, and the vehicular access is on the rear elevation.*

Setbacks & Site Requirements.

- *To reflect the character of historic outbuildings, new outbuildings for duplexes should not exceed the requirements for outbuildings for the entire lot and should not be doubled. The most appropriate configurations would be two 1-bay buildings with or without parking pads for additional spaces or one 2-bay building.*
- *A DADU or outbuilding may only be located behind the principal structure in the established rear yard. The DADU or outbuilding is to be subordinate to the principal structure and therefore should be placed to the rear of the lot.*
- *There should be a minimum separation of 20' between the principal structure and the DADU or outbuilding.*
- *At least one side setback for a DADU or outbuilding on an interior lot, should generally be similar to the principle dwelling but no closer than 3' from each property line. The rear setback may be up to 3' from the rear property line. For corner lots, the DADU or outbuilding should match the context of homes on the street. If there is no context, the street setback should be a minimum of 10'.*

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.

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. 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:

The structure at 3516 Richland Avenue is a one-story brick house with a hipped primary roof with smaller projecting gables on the front. Although the house is primarily of the Craftsman architectural style, it has Victorian era and Neo-Classical features as well. The house was constructed circa 1915, and today contributes to the historic character of the neighborhood because of its age and architectural significance.

Analysis and Findings:

The applicant proposes to enlarge the house with a rear addition.

Location & Removability: The addition will be located behind the existing building, setting in from the side walls of the historic house by one foot (1') on each side. The roof of the addition will tie into the rear hip-ridges of the existing roof with no inset. Typically, additions are required to be distinguished from an historic building by maintaining the rear corners, eaves, and rafters. By stepping in from the sides and the roof, the addition would not directly impact the integrity and form of the original

structure. With a condition that the roof be inset from the existing roof slopes, Staff finds that the project would meet sections II.B.2.a and II.B.2.d of the design guidelines.

Design: The addition will be compatible with the historic building in its character and proportions, matching the existing eave height and window sizes and by using materials compatible with those of the house. Staff finds that the project meets sections II.B.2.a and II.B.2.e of the design guidelines.

Height & Scale: The walls of the addition will sit in from the sides of the house by one foot (1') on each side, then extend back four feet, six inches (4'-6") before stepping back out to match the width of the house. The addition will then extend back another forty-two feet (42'). Together, the primary component of the addition and the connector will be forty-seven feet (47') deep front-to-back, seven feet (7') greater than the original house. The roof of the addition will tie in directly to the existing roof, flush with the side slopes and matching the existing ridge and eave height.

While the alcove separating the walls of the new construction from the existing help to identify where the addition begins, Staff finds that the scale of the addition is not subordinate to the historic house. By matching the height and not stepping in the roof, stepping the walls back out to match the width, and because the addition is deeper front-to-back than the existing structure, the resulting structure would be more new construction than historic. Staff recommends that the addition be more physically distinguished from the historic house and that the scale be reduced by stepping the roof in from existing roof's side slopes and down from the ridge and either Stepping the side walls of the addition in from the sides of the existing house without stepping back out or reducing the depth of the addition to be less than that of the historic house.

Because the grade drops significantly to the rear, the addition will gain a full story at the rear below the existing first floor level. Although below grade of the lot at the front, the additional level matching the width of the existing structure but exceeding its depth contribute to the scale of the addition and reinforce Staff's conclusion that the addition is not subordinate to the house. Staff finds that the scale of the addition is not subordinate to the historic house, and that the project proposed does not meet sections II.B.1.a and II.B.1.b of the design guidelines.

Materials: No changes to the historic house's materials were indicated on the drawings. The addition will primarily be clad in smooth-faced cement fiberboard with a reveal of five inches (5") on both the main floor level and the additional level below gained by the drop in grade. An eight inch (8") wide trim band between the levels will define the level of the main floor. The trim will also be cement-fiberboard. The foundation will be concrete block with a parge-coat finish, and the roof will be architectural fiberglass shingles in a color to match the existing roof. The windows and doors are not known at this time, so staff asks to approve their selections prior to purchase and installation. With the staff's final approval of the windows and doors, staff finds that the known materials meet section II.B.1.d of the design guidelines.

Roof form: The roof will tie into the existing hipped roof, flush with the side slopes and matching the original roof ridge height. The new roof will extend back forty-seven feet (47') to the rear with a hip matching the existing 7:12 pitch. Staff finds that the new roof, without separation or distinction from the original hipped roof, would inappropriately alter the form of the original roof and impair its historic integrity. Staff finds that the project proposed does not meet section II.B.1.e of the design guidelines.

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, compatible with the proportions of openings on the historic building. 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.1.g.

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.1. i.

Outbuildings: The proposed addition will include a garage in the basement level gained by the drop in grade. Although attached garages would generally not be appropriate, in locations where they are below street-grade, are accessed from the rear, and are in the location of other historic garages nearby, the Commission has found them to be appropriate. This garage meets these criteria. Staff finds that the project meets section II.B.1.h of the design guidelines.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed addition with the conditions that:

1. The roof is stepped in from existing roof's side slopes and down from the ridge, and
 - a. step in the addition from both sides of the existing house without stepping back out; and/or
 - b. reduce the depth of the addition to be less than that of the historic house.
2. The selections of windows and doors are approved by Staff prior to installation and purchase.

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



3516 Richland Avenue, front.



3516 Richland Avenue, front-left.

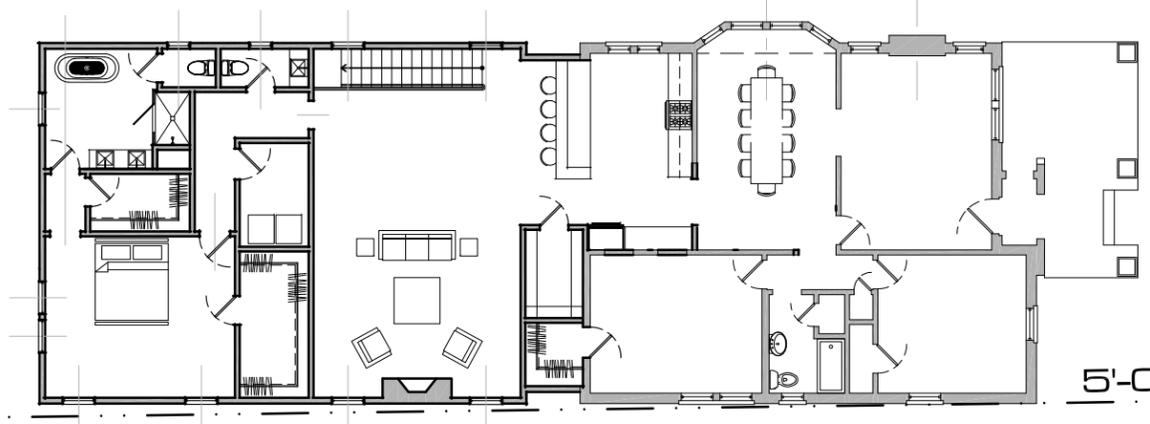
ALLEY

PROPERTY LINE

20'-0" REAR
SETBACK

PROPERTY LINE

5'-0" SIDE SETBACK



5'-0" SIDE SETBACK

PROPERTY LINE

RICHLAND AVENUE

PROPERTY LINE



1

site plan 3516 Richland Ave

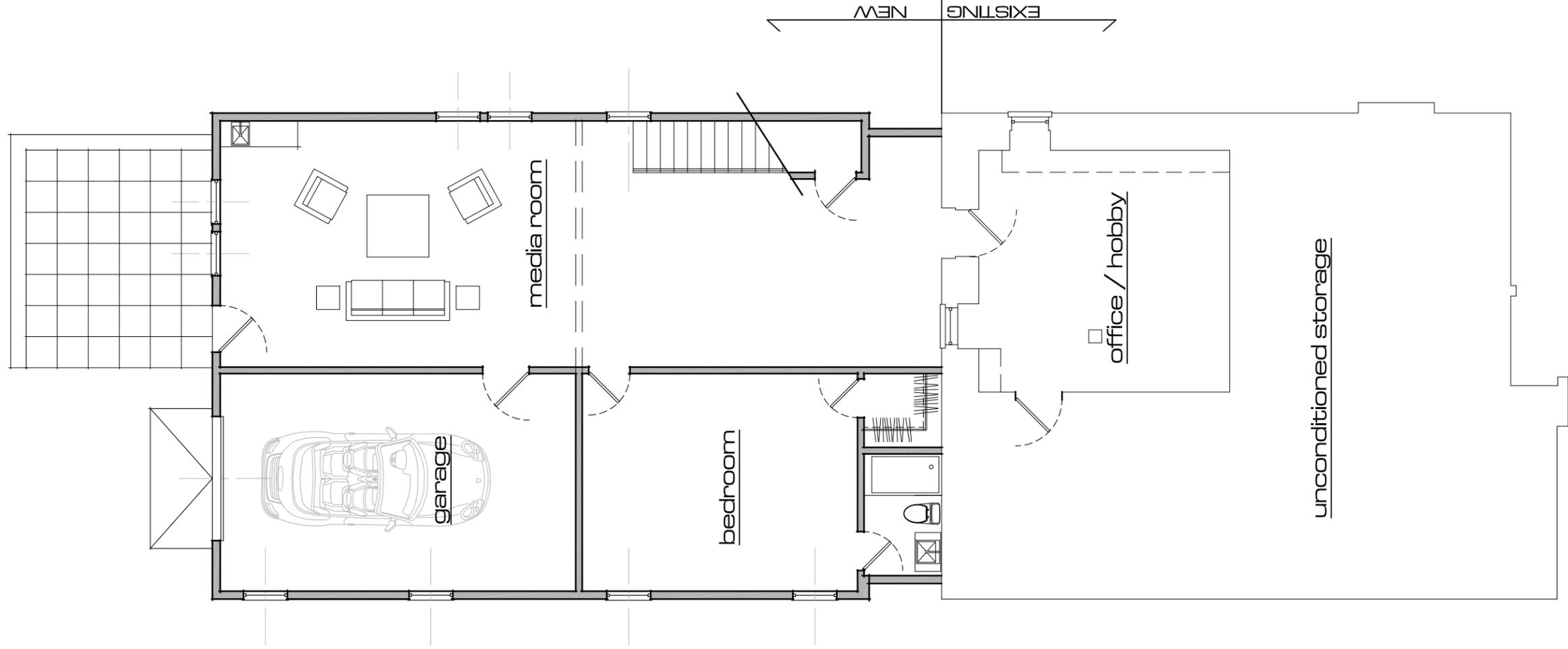


ZINC ARCHITECTURE

615.837.4092
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3516 RICHLAND AVE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

05 AUGUST 2015



Lower Level

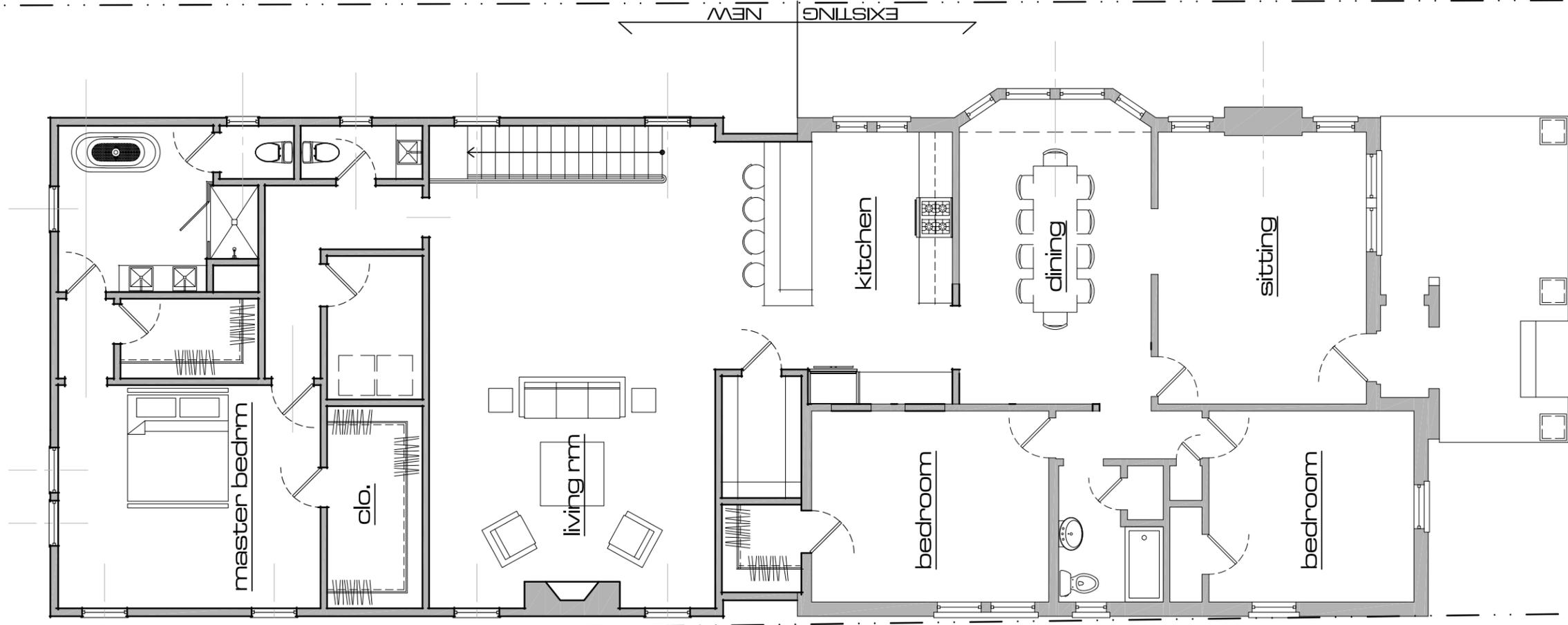
Existing sq ft (conditioned): 252 net sq ft

Proposed sq ft (conditioned): 1,387 gross sq ft

Garage: 340 gross sq ft

1

proposed lower level



First Floor

Existing sq ft (conditioned): 1,210 gross sq ft

Proposed sq ft (conditioned): 2,670 gross sq ft

1

proposed first floor





east elevation photo
not to scale



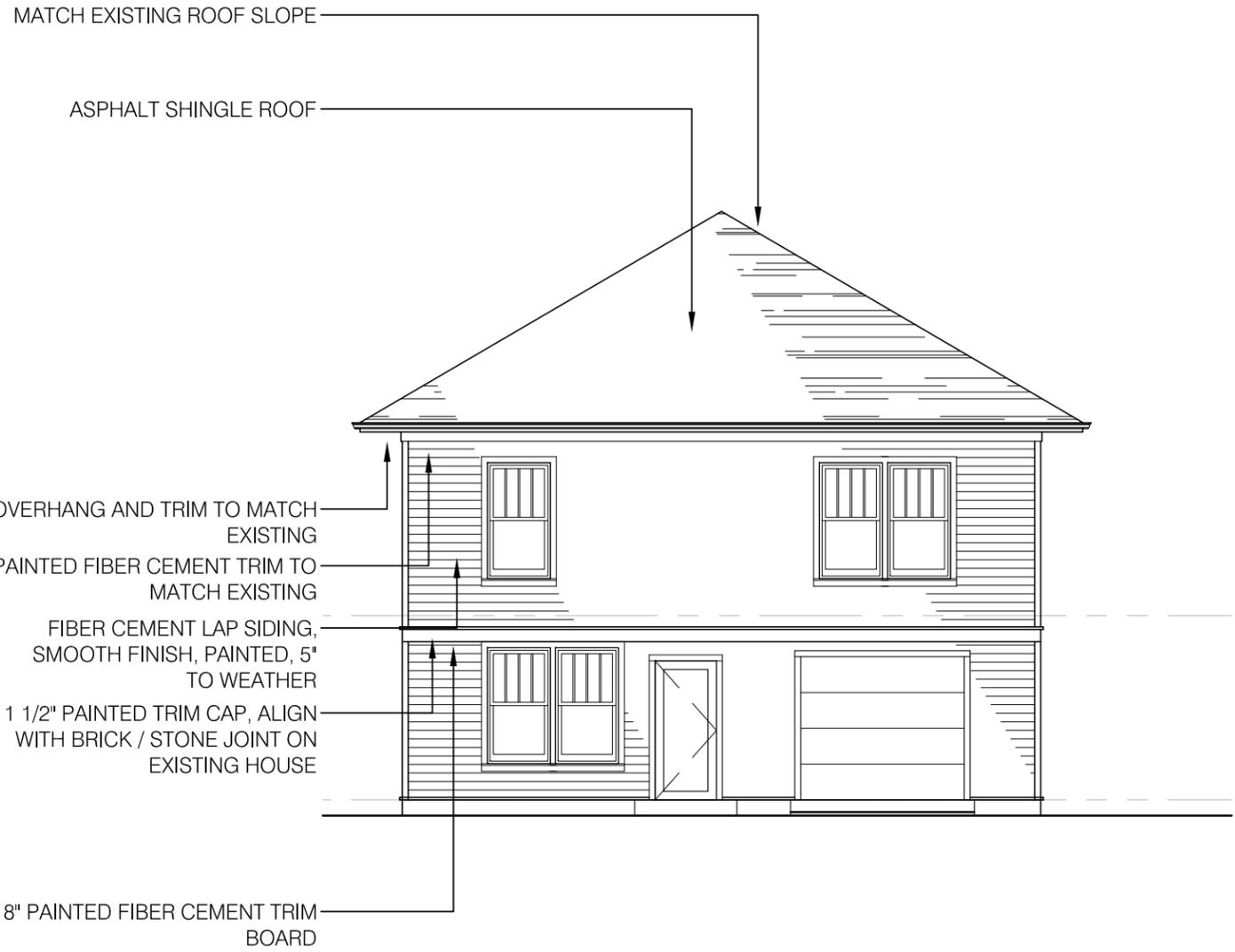
east elevation photo
not to scale

no work done to this elevation



proposed north elevation





proposed west elevation



MATCH EXISTING ROOF SLOPE

ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOF

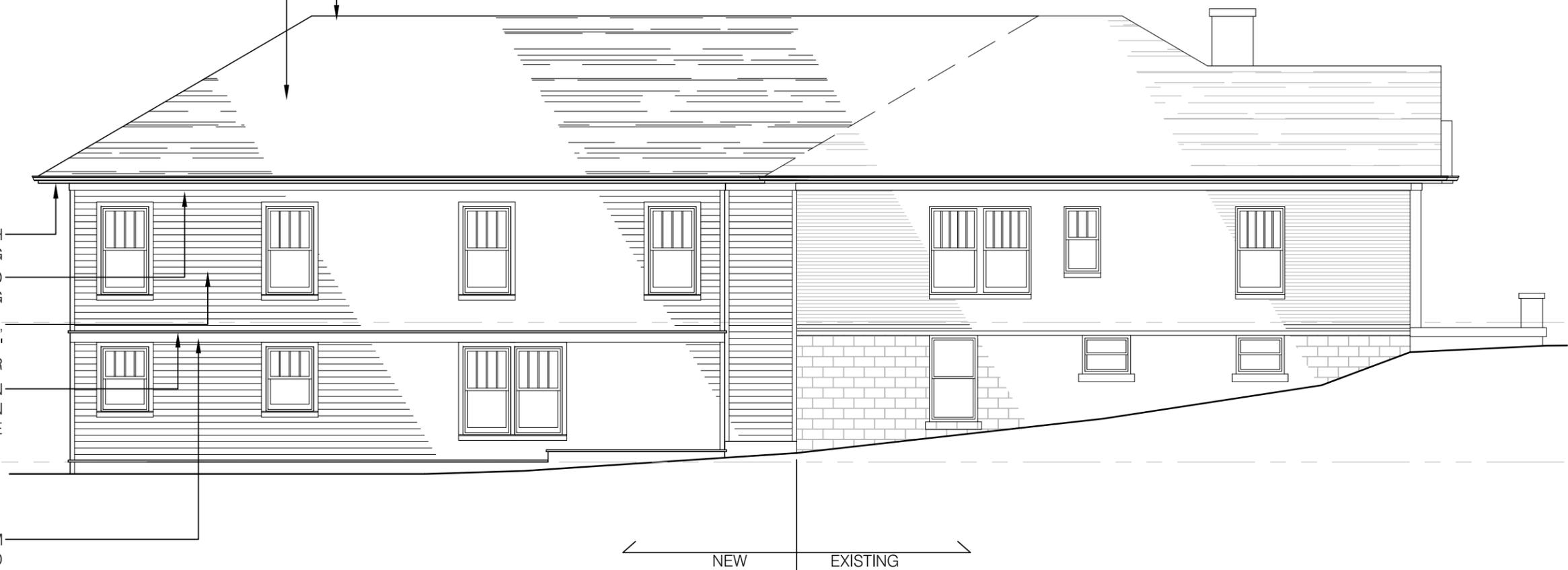
OVERHANG AND TRIM TO MATCH EXISTING

PAINTED FIBER CEMENT TRIM TO MATCH EXISTING

FIBER CEMENT LAP SIDING, SMOOTH FINISH, PAINTED, 5" TO WEATHER

1 1/2" PAINTED TRIM CAP, ALIGN WITH BRICK / STONE JOINT ON EXISTING HOUSE

8" PAINTED FIBER CEMENT TRIM BOARD



NEW EXISTING

proposed south elevation

