COMBINDED APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT & A REGULATORY (DIMENSIONAL) VARIANCE

CITY OF NEWPORT, RI **ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW**

DATE:

June 12, 2023

ZBR

Board Members:

2023 - Jul - 015



The undersigned hereby petitions the Zoning Board of Review for a Special Use Permit and a Regulatory (Dimensional) Variance in the application of the provisions or regulations of the Zoning Ordinance affecting the following described premises in the manner and on the grounds hereinafter set forth.

Location of Premises

Street & No.: 275 Harrison Avenue

Tax Assessor's Plat: 44, Lot: 121

Petitioner Information

Applicants:

Sean M. Maloney &

Addresses:

c/o J. Russell Jackson, Esq.

Margaret Chai Maloney

Miller Scott Holbrook & Jackson

122 Touro Street Newport, RI 02840

Owner:

Same

Same

Leasee:

N/A

N/A

Property Characteristics

Dimensions of Lot: Frontage:

654.2 ft. +/-

Depth:

638.1 ft. +/-

Area:

391,889 sf. +/-

Zoning District in which premises is located:

R-160

How long have you owned above premises?

2.5 Years (December 2020)

Are there buildings on the premises at present?

Yes

Total square footage of the footprint of existing buildings:

9,631 sf. (2%)

Total square footage of the footprint of proposed buildings:

10,938 sf. (3%)

Present use of premise:

Single Family Residential

Proposed use of premises:

Single Family Residential

Give extent of proposed alterations: The Applicants propose to construct a three stall carriage house in the service court adjacent to Harrison Avenue on the east side of the historic Ker Arvor estate.

Zoning Characteristics Matrix

	Existing	Required/Allowed	Proposed
Lot Size (sq. ft)	391,889 sf.	160,000 sf.	391,889 sf.
Lot Coverage	2%	6 %	3 %
Dwelling Units	1	1	1
Parking (# of spaces)	3+	1	6+
Front Setback (ft.)	76'4" Residence	100°	76'4" Residence (No Change)
	N/A = Carriage House		16' Carriage House
Side Setbacks (ft.)	North = 247' +/- South = 287' +/- Residence South = 170' +/- Pool	50'	North = 247'+/- South = 287' +/- Residence South = 170' +/- Pool No Changes
Rear Setback (ft.)	412' +/-	50'	412'+/- (No Change)
Height (ft.)	≤35' Residence N/A Carriage House	35'	≤ 35' (Residence) No Change 22'3" +/- Carriage House

Project Summary:

The Applicants seek relief under:

Section 17.108.020 (Special Use Permits)

Section 17.108.010 (Variances)

Section 17.72.030 (Alteration to Nonconforming Development)

Section 17.48.040 (R-160 Front Setback Requirements)

The subject parcel is a legal conforming lot of record containing 391,889 sf +/- of land. However, the property is considered non-conforming development based on the location of the east wing of the residence, which sits almost entirely within the front setback along Harrison Avenue. Adjacent to the east wing is an area which has historically been used as a parking area and service court. This area has an independent curb cut and entrance from Harrison Avenue, separate and apart from the main entrance which sits approximately three hundred feet to the north along Harrison Avenue.

The Applicants are undertaking a number of significant upgrades to the estate. Part of the renovations focus on the east wing, which was historically the service wing, containing a service kitchen, pantry and three stall garage. The service kitchen and pantry are historic in nature, yet do not meet standards of modern living. Rather than remove the historic service kitchen and pantry, the Applicants expanded and modernized the interior living space by converting the three stall garage at the southern end of the east wing into a large modern eat-in kitchen. All modifications to the exterior which have accompanied these interior renovations have been approved by the Historic District Commission ("HDC").

The Applicants also worked on plans to develop a new accessory structure for garage and utility space. They explored various locations on the grounds, however, a number of these options were rejected by the HDC. Both the building and the grounds of Ker Arvor are considered contributing elements to the historic character of the estate. As such, the HDC did not want to see alteration to essential elements of the estate such as the front arrival through the main gate. This has limited the areas where an additional accessory structure can be placed. Ultimately, the current proposal, with the carriage house generally located at the southern side of the service court was determined to be most appropriate and was approved by the HDC.

The property is in the R-160 Zone. It conforms to all dimensional requirements other than the front setback. The entire estate was developed on the eastern side of the property, in close proximity to Harrison Avenue. This, in part, is due to the fact that the western portion of the grounds were historically a pasture and are now designated by DEM as wetlands. Upon the adoption of the current zoning code, the property became non-conforming with the entire east wing of the residence located within the front setback. The proposed carriage house will encroach into the front setback and be located sixteen feet (16') from the east property line along Harrison Avenue. Lot coverage will increase to 3%, but will still remain well below the 6% limit. No building height relief will be needed. Overall, the requested relief is modest considering the limitations on locating a new accessory structure, including the wetland features of the site, together with the contributing historic nature of the grounds, main entrance and arrival. The plan proposed by the Applicants will be harmonious with the surrounding neighborhood and will not create dimensional non-conformities which are injurious to neighbors or inconsistent with the purpose and intent of the R-160 Zone.

What provisions of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan are the applicable to this project?

The Applicants state that the proposed development is consistent with many provisions of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, including, but not limited to the following:

Land Use:

Goal LU-1: To provide a balanced City consisting of residential, commercial, and employment

uses consistent with the character, environmental resources and vision of the

community.

Housing:

Goal H-1: To preserve and protect existing housing resources in the community.

Policy H-1.3 The City shall continue to promote the repair, revitalization or rehabilitation of

residential structures and neighborhoods.

Policy H-1.4 The City shall encourage resident involvement in identifying and addressing the maintenance of housing in their neighborhood.

Transportation & Circulation:

Goal T-5: To provide sufficient and suitably located parking, designed to eliminate, mitigate or reduce impacts.

Historical & Cultural Resources:

Goal HC-1: To identify, protect, and enhance the City's cultural and historical resources.

What special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land, structure or building involved, which are not applicable to other lands, structures or buildings in the same district?

The frontage for the subject parcel runs along Harrison Avenue, however the estate is orientated such that the front door and historic long driveway and arrival face north. The east side of the residence faces Harrison Avenue. The entire east wing of the building already encroaches into the front setback. The east wing is the portion of the building with the kitchen and service areas. There is an existing service court with a curb cut and service gate on Harrison Avenue which provides direct access to the east wing. This is the area which is most appropriate from both a practical and historic perspective. Because of the way the estate was developed, this entire area now sits in the front setback. Based on the unique historic layout of the estate, any reasonable improvements, additions or modifications to the east wing of the building or in the area of the service court will require dimensional relief. As a result of the conditions and circumstances that are peculiar to this non-conforming development, the proposed improvements will require a dimensional variance.

Explain how the literal interpretation of the provisions of this zoning code deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other property owners in the same district under the provisions of this zoning code?

The Applicants propose to continue the single family residential use of the property and will be seeking relief for a dimensional variance and a special use permit for the alteration of a non-conforming development for permission to construct a three stall carriage house on the south side of the existing service court, within the front setback. The subject property is located on the west side of Harrison Avenue, across from the Newport Country Club. The neighborhood is essentially fully

developed and characterized by larger estates. Other properties in this area have accessory structures sitting within setbacks. The literal interpretation of the zoning code, resulting in the denial of the relief requested, would unreasonably deny these Applicants the ability to make the requested improvements for the full use and enjoyment of their property. The proposed location of the new carriage house respects the historic nature of the estate grounds and main arrival, and appropriately utilizes the existing service court. The proposed improvements will be appropriate and harmonious with the surrounding neighborhood, and the rights enjoyed by other property owners in this area of the R-160 Zone.

Explain why this is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure:

The Applicants are before the Board for permission to construct a new three stall carriage house within the front setback. The existing residence already significantly encroaches into the front setback along Harrison Avenue. There already exists an independent service gate and service court which has historically been used to access the east wing of the residence. Although the carriage house will be in the front setback, it will remain sixteen feet (16') from the property line. This location was approved by the HDC, as it respects the historic nature of the grounds and places a utilitarian structure in an area that has always been used for such purposes. Other locations were considered, however given the layout of the estate, the proposed location made the most sense. No other dimensional relief is needed. Upon completion of carriage house, lot coverage will be at 3%, well below the 6% limit. No other setbacks will change, and no building height relief is required. The construction of the proposed carriage house is consistent with similar uses and structures for a number of properties in this general estate area. The improvements will allow for efficient use of the service court without disrupting the historic grounds. The proposed carriage house will provide much needed vehicle storage, and storage space. The Applicants have taken great care to develop a proposed improvement plan which meets their reasonable needs and is appropriate in scope, scale and size for this historic estate. The hardship is driven by the western portion of the estate being occupied by wetlands; the limitations for such a structure at other locations given the historic character of the grounds; and the fact that the east wing of the residence and existing service court all sit within the front setback. Granting the request for a dimensional variance relating to the front setback, given the totality of circumstances relative to this unique estate is the minimum relief necessary to allow the reasonable use and enjoyment of the property. Accordingly, the proposed use of the property and the relief sought by the Applicants will not be injurious to, or create a burden for abutting property owners, will be harmonious with the neighborhood, and will be an appropriate use for this area of the R-160 Zoning District.

The Zoning Boards Role

Special use permits shall be granted only where the zoning board of review finds that the proposed use or the proposed extension or alteration of an existing use is in accord with the public convenience and welfare, after taking into account, where appropriate:

- 1. The nature of the proposed site, including its size and shape and the proposed size, shape and arrangement of the structure;
- 2. The resulting traffic patterns and adequacy of proposed off-street parking and loading;
- 3. The nature of the surrounding area and the extent to which the proposed use or feature will be in harmony with the surrounding area;
- 4. The proximity of dwellings, churches, schools, public buildings and other places of public gathering;
- 5. The fire hazard resulting from the nature of the proposed buildings and uses and the proximity of existing buildings and uses;
- 6. All standards contained in this zoning code;
- 7. The comprehensive plan for the city.

The burden of proof in a special-use permit application is on the applicant. This means that if the applicant fails to present adequate competent evidence to prove the applicable standard for issuing a special-use permit has been met, the board must deny the application.

In granting a variance, the zoning board of review shall require that evidence of the following standards be entered into the record of the proceedings:

- a) That the reasons set forth in the application justify the granting of the variance and that the variance, if granted, is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure;
- b) That the variance will not be injurious to the neighborhood or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare, and will not impair the intent or purpose of the zoning code or the comprehensive plan upon which this zoning code is based;
- c) That the hardship from which the applicant seeks relief is due to the unique characteristics of the subject land or structure and not due to the general characteristics of the surrounding are; and is not due to a physical or economic disability of the applicant; and
- d) That the hardship is not the result of any prior action of the applicant and does not result primarily from the desire of the applicant to realize greater financial gain;
- e) That the hardship that will be suffered by the owner of the subject property if the dimensional variance is not granted shall amount to more than a mere inconvenience. The fact that a use may be more profitable or that a structure may be more valuable after the relief is granted shall not be grounds for relief.

By signing below, I hereby attest that the information provided is accurate and truthful. I also attest that I have read the section entitled "The Zoning Board's Role".

Applicants & Owners, By Their Attorneys, Miller Scott Holbrook & Jackson

J. Russell Jackson, Esg.

122 Touro Street Newport, RI 02840

Tel: 401-847-7500 Fax: 401-848-5854

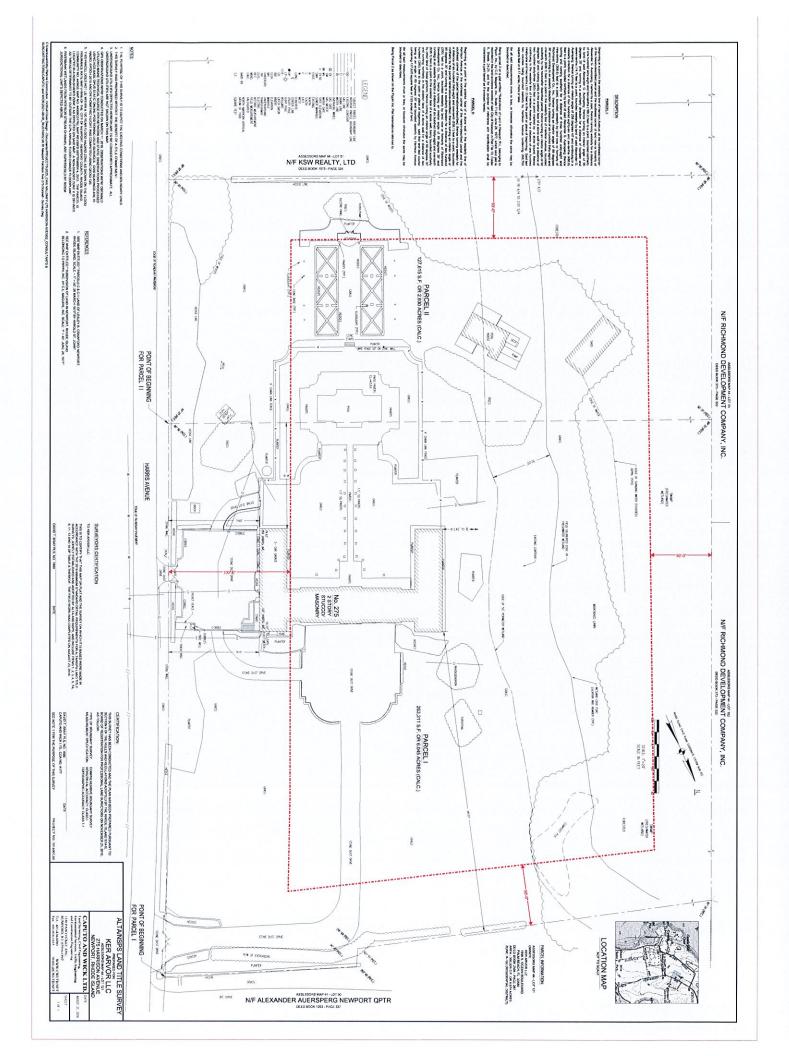
jrjackson@millerscott.com

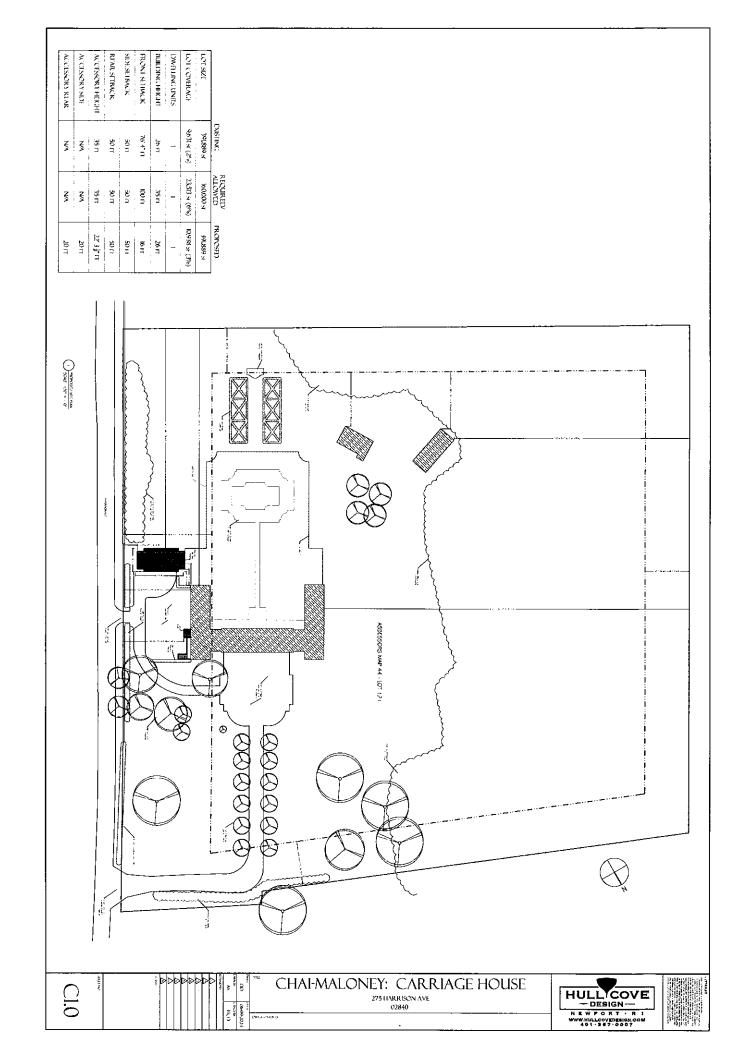
KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE NEW CONSTRUCTION 275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840

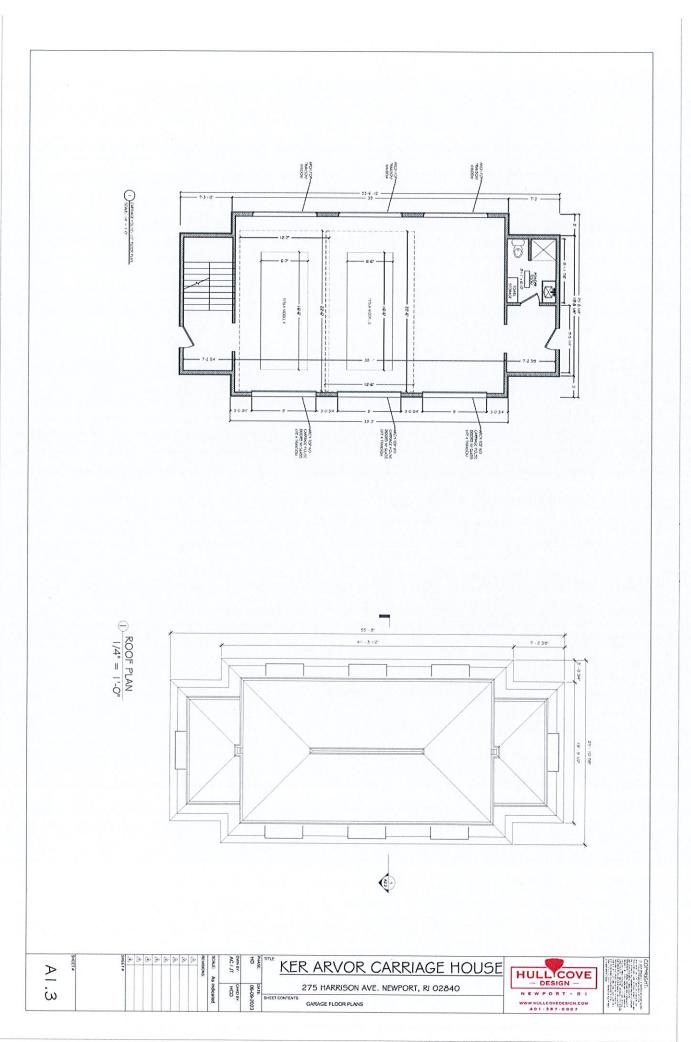
2023-06-09

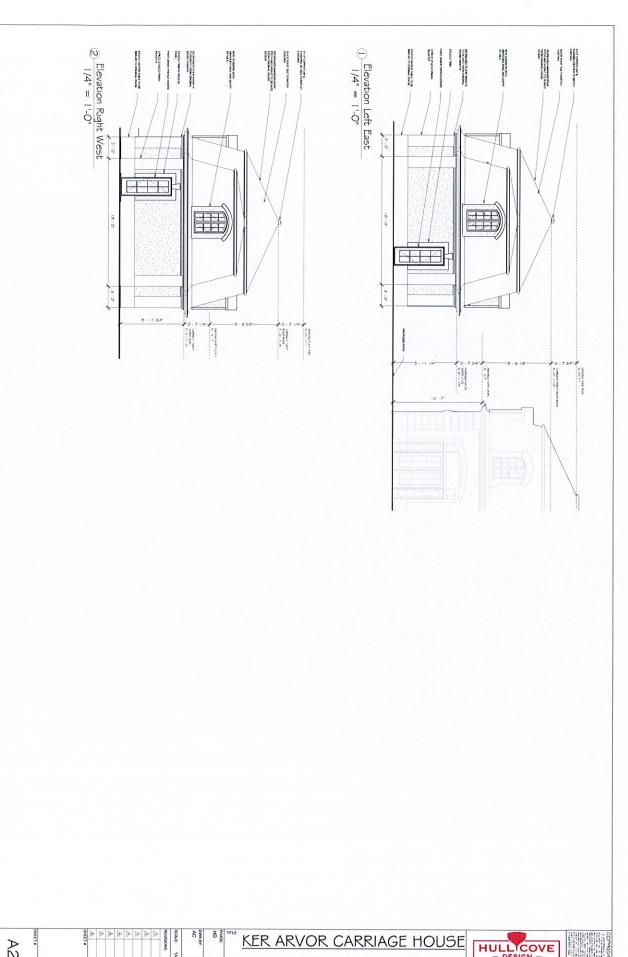


KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE HULLICOVE - DESIGN -000 275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840 HCD BY WWW.HULLCOVEDESIGN.COM









A2.0



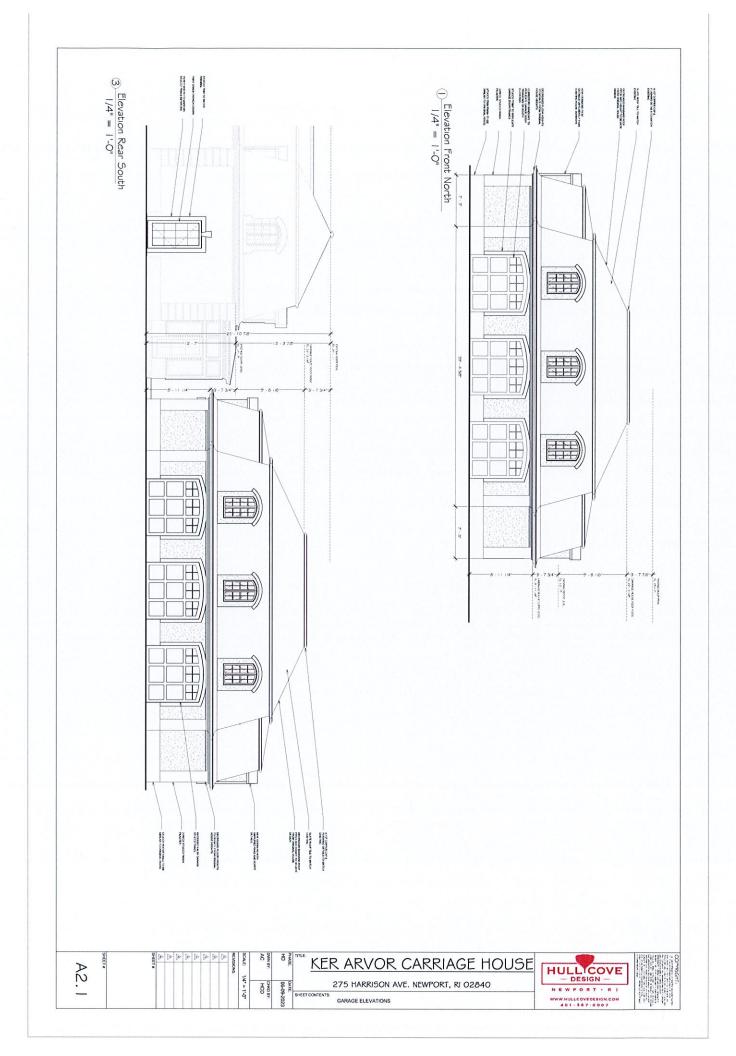




275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840 GARAGE ELEVATIONS







NOTE: REFER TO DRAWINGS BY STRUTUAL ENGINEER

NOTE:

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL STRUCTURAL
FRAMMING COMPONINTS, INCLIDINGS BUT NOT LIMITED TO LIVIL. AND STEEL DEAMS.
RETEXT TO SEPANAL TE MANUEER PROCET BY ENGINEER.
FOR ALL FRAMMING DETAILS.

FOR ALL FRAMMING DETAILS.

FRAMERS IN SESPONSIBLE FOR ALL FOUNDATION AND
FORMERS IN SESPONSIBLE FOR ALL FOUNDATION AND
STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS AND ALL FOUNDATION INFORMATION.

22 - 3 Mg (22 - 3 Mg (

SHEET F

SHEET F

SHEET F

SHEET CONTENTS

MAIN

SHEET CONTENTS

SHEET CON

GARAGE SECTION

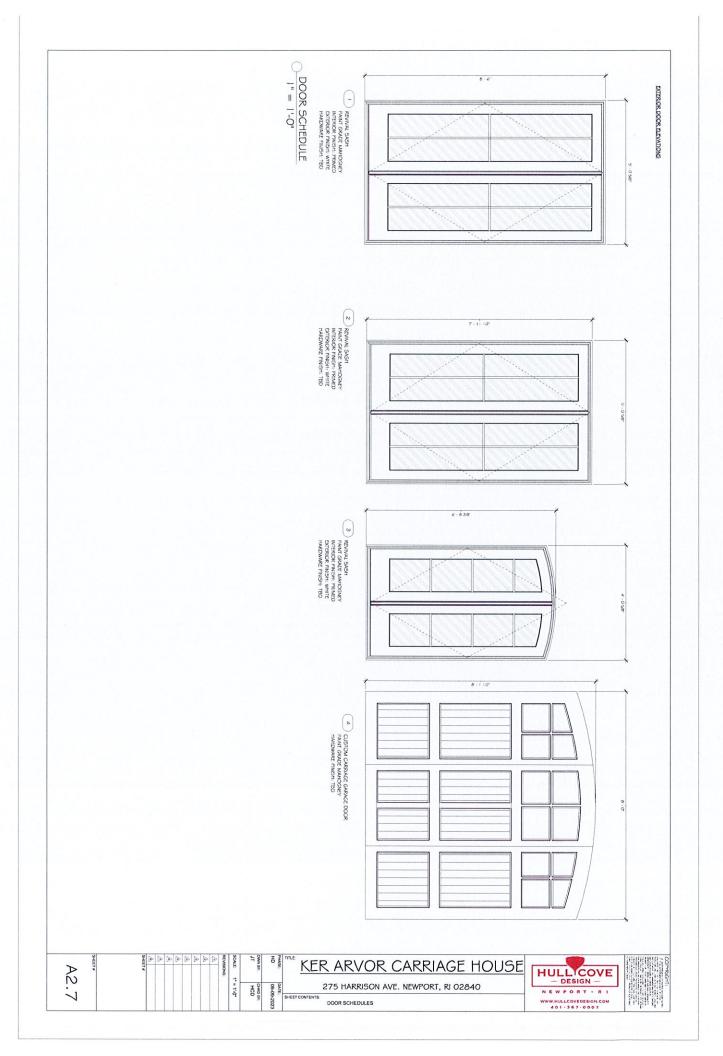
KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE

275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840





WINDOW SCHEDULE PROVIAL SASH
PHATI GRADE HANDOMEN DOUBLE CASEMENT
INTERIOR FRASH PRIMED
DOTEGOR FRASH WHITE
HARDWARE FINISH TBO MINDOW ELEVATIONS 2) PENNAL SASH
PANG GRADE HAMOGREY DOUBLE CASEMENT
NETBOG FINISH: PRIMED
DOTERIOS FINISH: NITE
HARDWARE FINISH: TBO 3 PETVINA SASH
PANT GRADE MANDGARY DOLDRE CASEMENT
INTEROR FINISH: PRIMED
DOTEROR FINISH: WHITE
PAKEMAKE PINISH: TBO A PEVIVAL SASH MINOCARY CASEMENT INFOOR MISH: PRIMED ENTEROR MISH: WHITE INACOMMET MISH: 180 HULLICOVE
- DESIGN
NEWPORT R I
WWW.HULLCOVEDSIGN.COM
401-387-0007 KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE A2.6 1" = 1'-0" DATE: 06-09-2023 275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840 HCD BY



VIEW FROM BACKYARD FACING N



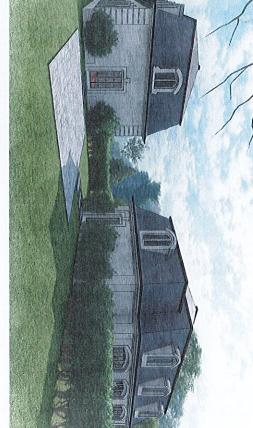
VIEW FROM DRIVEWAY FACING S





VIEW FROM BACKYARD FACING NE

A7. I



KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE

275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840

RENDERINGS







VIEW FROM DRIVEWAY FACING SW



VIEW FROM REAR PATIO FACING E







A7.2

KER ARVOR CARRIAGE HOUSE HCD BY

275 HARRISON AVE. NEWPORT, RI 02840 RENDERINGS





NORTHEAST REVALUATION GROUP LLC

Newport

(Summary Data - may not be Complete Representation of Property)



Parcel: 44-121 Account: 8416 Location: 275 HARRISON AVE User Acct: R08966

Owner: MALONEY MARGARET CHAI & MALONEY SEAN M

LUC: 08 - Estate Zoning: R160

Parcel Values

Total: \$6,889,800

Land: \$1,198,500

Land Area: 396,396 SF

Building: \$5,691,300

Assessed: \$6,889,800

Sales Information

Book and Page

Instrument Type

Date 12/23/2020 Price \$7,285,000

Grantor KER ARVOR LLC

2955-134 Warranty 2504-287

Exterior Wall:Stucco/Mason

Year Built: 1928

04/20/2015 Grade:B+ Condition: VG \$0

DONNELL MAUREEN NAHAS TRUST

Building Type: Estate Heat Fuel: Oil

Heat Type: Hot Water

% Air Conditioned: 100.00 Fireplaces:7 Roof Cover: Slate

of Units: 2

of Rooms: 21

Bsmnt Garage: 0 # of Bedrooms: 9

Full Bath: 9

Yard Item(s)			
Description	Quantity	Size	

1/2 Baths: 4

Value
\$2,800.00
\$200.00
\$400.00
\$21,900.00
\$300.00
\$6,100.00
\$17,100.00
\$400.00
\$8,200.00

Building Areas

Patio

Area Basement, Unfinished First Floor Garage

Upper Story, Finished

Net Area 5,859 SF 5,859 SF 782 SF

Finished Area 0 SF 5,859 SF 0 SF 966 SF 0 SF 6,641 SF 6,641 SF

Disclaimer: This information is for tax assessing purposes and is not warranted

