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

CITY OF NEWPORT, RI ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW

DATE:

January 25, 2021

Board Members:

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.: 37 Powell Avenue

Tax Assessor's Plat: 11, Lot: 56

Petitioner Information

Applicants: Eric M. Picard Addresses:

c/o J. Russell Jackson, Esq.

Miller Scott Holbrook & Jackson

122 Touro Street Newport, RI 02840

Rove!

Owner: Leasee: Same

N/A

Same

N/A

Property Characteristics

Dimensions of Lot: Frontage:

48 ft. +/-

Depth:

144 ft. +/-

Area:

6,534 sq. ft. +/-

Zoning District in which premises is located:

R-10

How long have you owned above premises?

2.5 Years (Purchased 6/29/2018)

Are there buildings on the premises at present?

Yes

Total square footage of the footprint of existing buildings:

2,403 sq. ft. (37%)

Total square footage of the footprint of proposed buildings:

2,403 sq. ft. (37%)

Present use of premise:

Mixed: Two Residential Dwellings and a Professional Office Unit

Proposed use of premises:

Two Family Residential with one dwelling unit being used as a

Guest House

Give extent of proposed alterations: The Applicant's property suffered a devastating fire in 2018. The structure is being rebuilt with the same footprint with no zoning relief required. The will be alterations to the interior. The structure previously consisted of three units. One unit was a professional/medical office and the other two units were dwellings. The mixed use is being abandoned and the Applicant proposes a two family structure with a small one bedroom unit on the third floor and a larger five bedroom unit on the first two floors. The owner proposes to operate the larger unit as a guest house and live in the third floor dwelling unit.

Zoning Characteristics Matrix

	Existing	Required/Allowed	Proposed			
Lot Size (sq. ft)	6,534 sq. ft.	10,000 sq. ft.	6,534 sq. ft.			
Lot Coverage	37 %	20 %	37 % (No Change)			
Dwelling Units	2 Dwellings + 1 Professional Office	2	2			
Parking (# of spaces)	5	7 Spaces with Guest House Use	5			
Front Setback (ft.)	17 ft. +/-	15 ft.	17 ft. +/- (No Change)			
Side Setbacks (ft.)	West = 13 ft. East = 3 ft. 2 inches Garage West = 1 ft. 1 inch	10 ft.	West = 13 ft. East = 3 ft. 2 inches Garage West = 1 ft. 1 inch (No Changes)			
Rear Setback (ft.)	40 ft. +/ Garage 1 ft. 2 inches	20 ft.	40 ft. +/- Garage 1 ft. 2 inches (No Changes)			
Height (ft.)	36 ft. 3 inches	30 ft.	36 ft. 3 inches (No Change)			

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 17.104.020 (Parking Space Standards)

The Applicant is completing renovations to this multi-unit structure. The Applicant proposes to abandon the professional office/mixed use of the property and redevelop the structure as a two family. The Applicant proposes to use the larger dwelling unit as a Guest House. The Applicant will live on site and occupy the third floor dwelling as his primary residence. The Applicant and his wife will operate the Guest House. The Applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit for the Guest House use and a Regulatory Variance for parking. The proposed use requires seven (7) on-site parking spaces. The Applicant can provide five (5) on-site parking spaces.

The existing parcel is a legal non-conforming lot of record containing only 6,534 square feet of land. The property is in the R-10 Zone. The parcel is substandard in width. The existing structure already encroaches into the east side setback and the existing garage encroaches into the west side and rear setbacks. None of the dimensional non conformities will be changed or intensified. All setbacks, lot coverage and building height will remain the same. The conversion of this property from a multi-unit mixed use development to a two family is allowed by right, however, the use of one of the dwelling units as a Guest House requires a Special Use Permit. The property is not in the Newport Historic District. This property is adjacent to the Newport Hospital complex as well as other non-residential uses on the western portion of Powell Avenue. The plan proposed by the Applicants will not be injurious to, or inconsistent with, the surrounding neighborhood or the purpose and intent of the R-10 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.

Policy LU-1.7 The City shall protect the existing character of residential neighborhoods while encouraging local neighborhood business.

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.
- Goal H-3: To reduce the percentage of seasonally vacant homes and increase neighborhood stability and vitality.

Transportation & Circulation:

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

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 existing parcel is a legal non-conforming lot of record containing 6,534 square feet of land. The lot is substandard in width and area for the R-10 Zone. The structure was devastated by fire in 2018 and is being rebuilt. The interior is being modified to reduce the number of units. The existing house and garage already encroach into the setbacks. None of that will change. The Applicant proposes a Guest House use for the property. He and his wife will live on site and operate the Guest House. Because the lot is significantly substandard, the Applicant can provide only five (5) of the seven (7) required on-site parking spaces. As a result a parking variance is required.

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 Applicant proposes to reduce the number of units on site and eliminate the professional office use. The renovated structure will consist of two dwelling units. The subject property is located on the western portion of Powell Avenue. It is adjacent to the Newport Hospital complex and other professional and medical offices. This property is surrounded by a number of abutting parcels that are substandard in size with dimensional nonconformities and with a number of non-residential uses. The literal interpretation of the zoning code, resulting in the denial of the relief requested, would unreasonably deny this Applicant the ability to operate a Guest House. The proposed use of this property with five (5) on-site parking spaces is appropriate and not inconsistent with the surrounding neighborhood, and the rights enjoyed by other property owners in this area of the R-10 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 operate a Guest House in one dwelling unit as he lives in the second dwelling unit on site. The only variance needed is a parking variance. The Applicant can provide a majority of the spaces on site and requires only a variance for two (2) spaces. The Applicant has taken great care to develop a renovation plan which reduces the total number of units and allows for a Guest House use. The hardship is driven by the substandard lot.

Granting the request for dimensional relief in the form of a parking variance will allow the reasonable use of the property. Accordingly, the proposed use of the property and the relief sought by the Applicant will not be injurious to, or create a burden or hardship for abutting property owners, will be harmonious with the neighborhood, and will be an appropriate use for this mixed use area.

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, Esq.

122 Touro Street

Newport, RI 02840 Tel: 401-847-7500

Fax: 401-848-5854

<u>jrjackson@millerscott.com</u>

Setbacks Parking Spaces Lot Line 23 P2 P4 ₽5 Wall Eave 13' - 0" Powel Avenue

Lot Size ot 6,534 SF 056 \Rightarrow Proposed Lot Coverage Allowed Lot Coverage Existing Lot Coverage 2,403 SF 37% 1,307 SF 20% 2,403 SF 37% Historic District O Side Setback Rear Setback Front Setback 10' 20'



1" = 20'-0"

S1.0

Project Date 01.2019 01.21.2021 Drawn by KMS Revision

Site Plan NEW

1" = 20'-0"

37 Powel Avenue

Eric Picard 37 Powel Avenue Newport, RI 02871



37 Powel Avenue Renovation

East Elevation NEW	East Elevation EX	North Elevation NEW	North Elevation EX	West Elevation NEW	West Elevation EX	South Elevation NEW	South Elevation EX	Roof Plan NEW	Roof Plan EX	Floor 3 Plan NEW	Floor 3 Plan EX	Floor 2 Plan NEW	Floor 2 Plan EX	Floor 1 Plan NEW	Floor 1 Plan EX
A8.1	A8.0	A7.1	A7.0	A6.1	A6.0	A5.1	A5.0	A4.1	A4.0	A3.1	A3.0	A2.1	A2.0	A1.1	A1.0
	F3 Views	F2 Views	3K EL W NEW	3K EL S NEW	3K EL E NEW	3K EL N NEW	3K Plan NEW	1K EL ISL NEW	1K EL E NEW	1K EL N NEW	1K Plan NEW	N/S Section E NEW	N/S Section W NEW	E/W Section N NEW 2	E/W Section N NEW 1
	A23.0	A22.0	A13.4	A13.3	A13.2	A13.1	A13.0	A11.5	A11.2	A11.1	A11.0	A10.1	A10.0	A9.1	A9.0

0.0

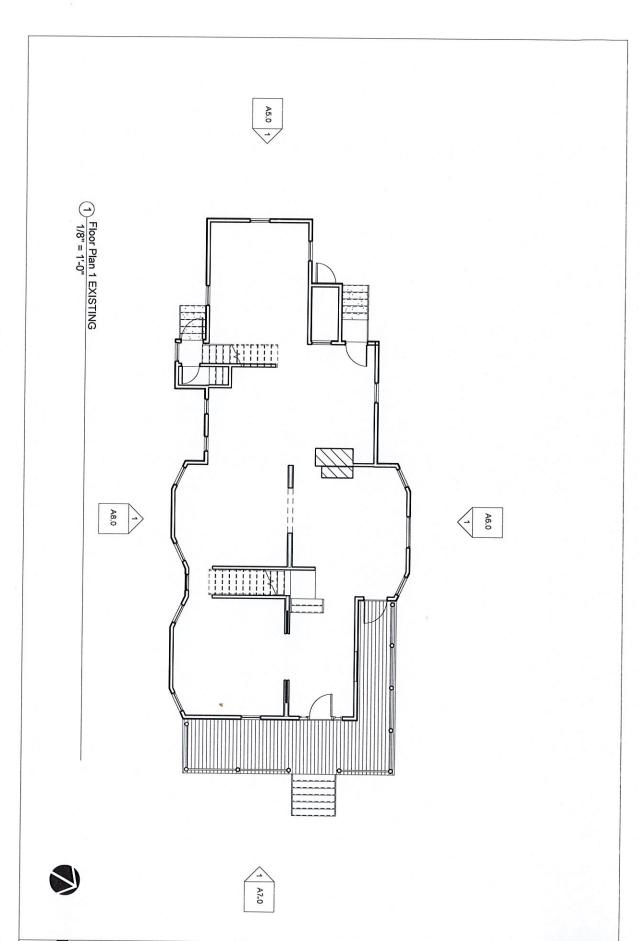
Project 01.2019 Date 12.12.2019 Drawn by KMS Revision

Cover

37 Powel Avenue

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Date 12.12.2019
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Floor 1 Plan EX

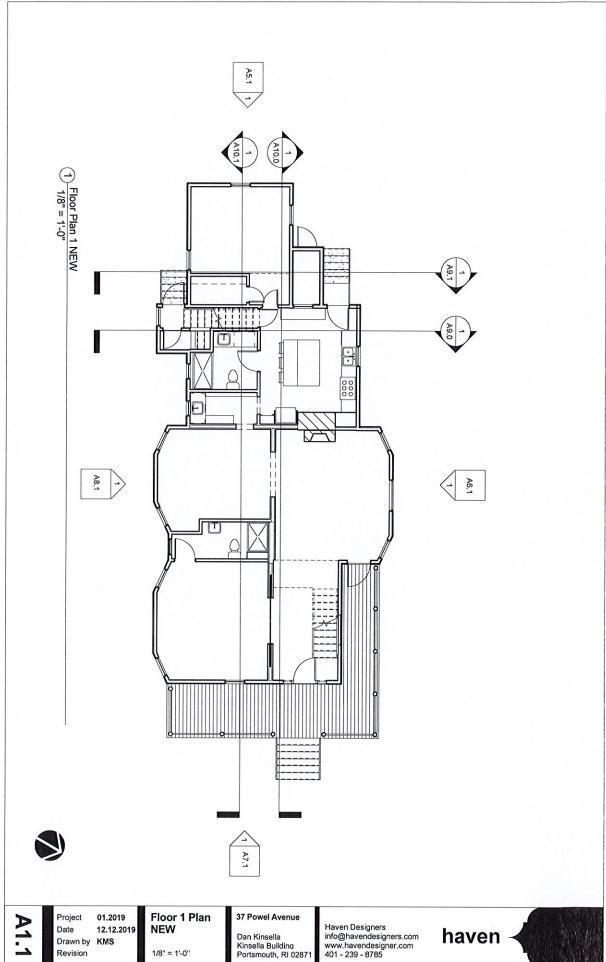
1/8" = 1'-0"

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37 Powel Avenue Haven



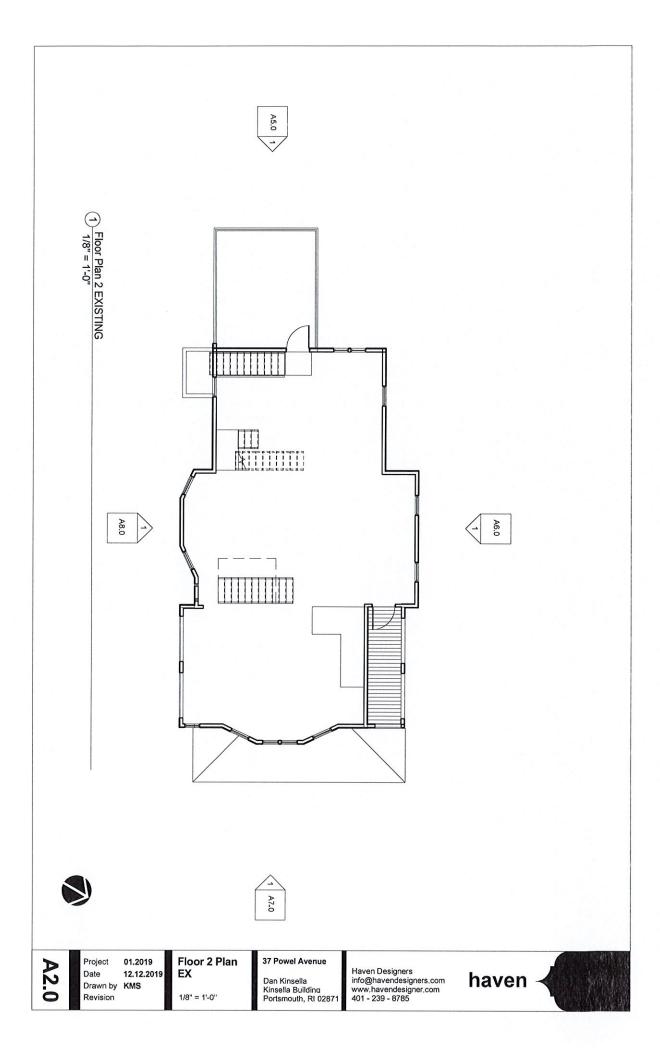


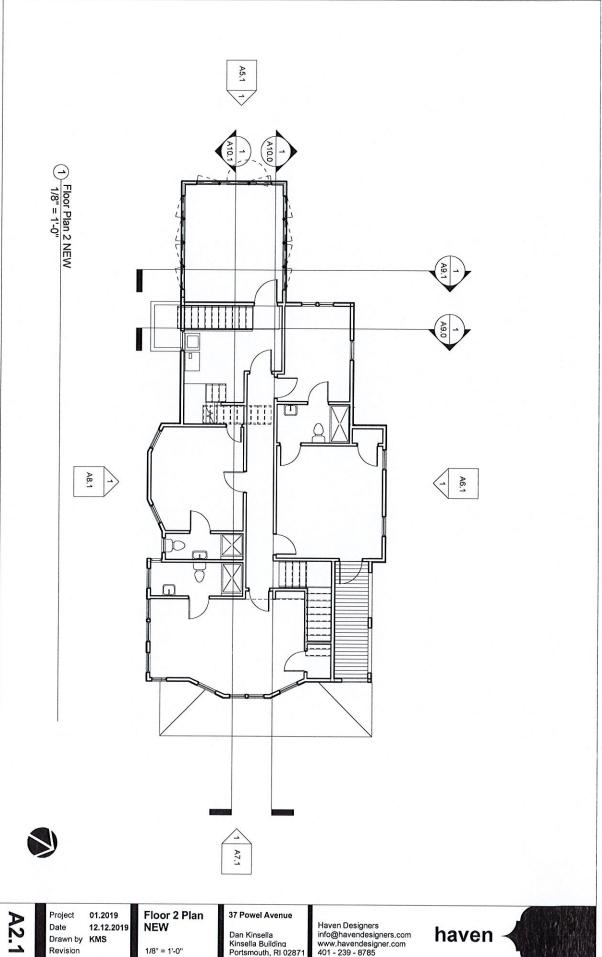


Drawn by KMS Revision

1/8" = 1'-0"



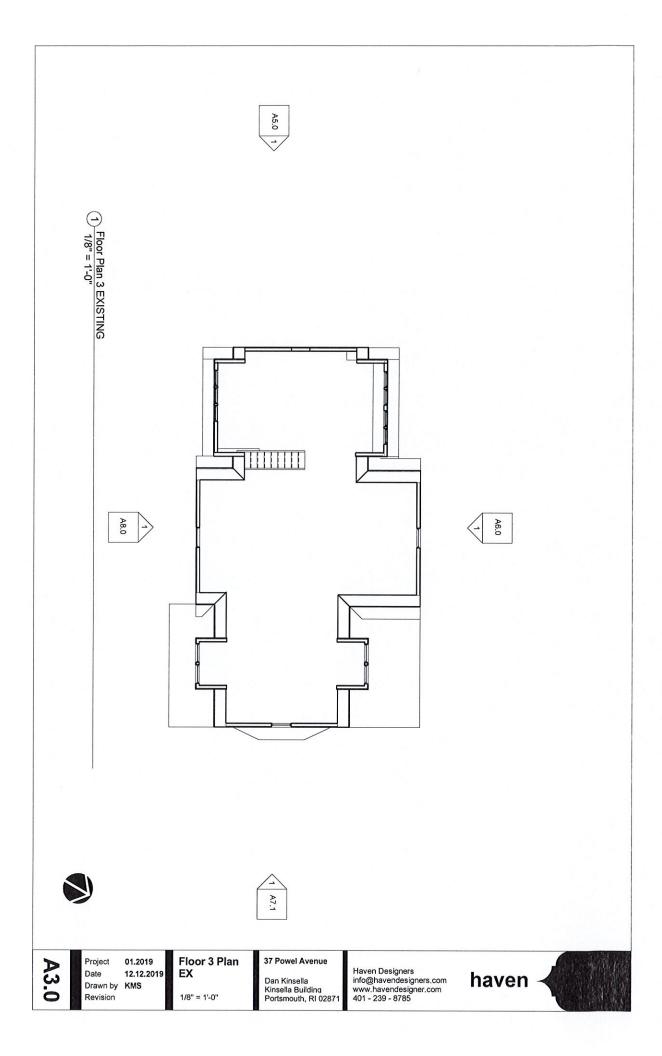


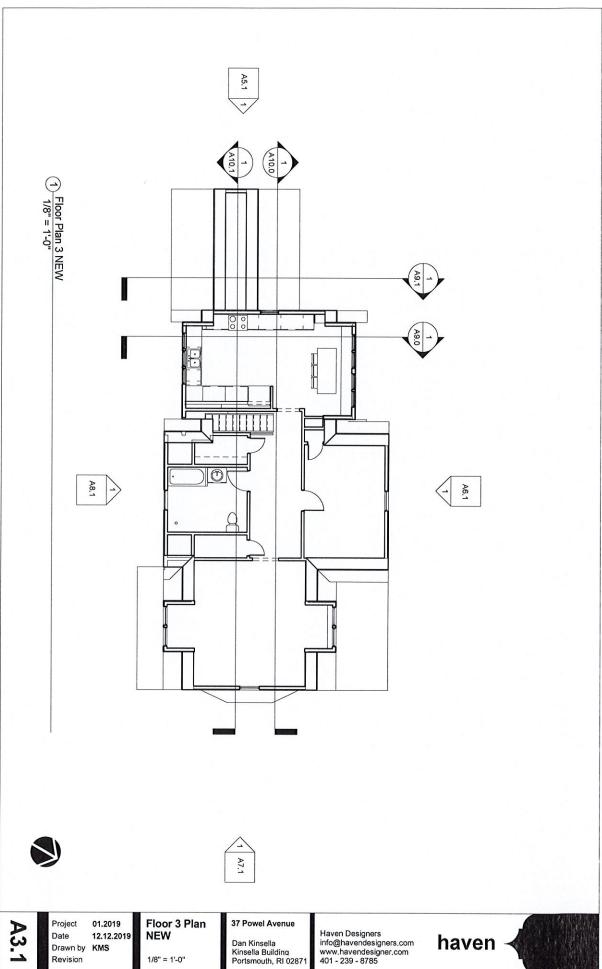


Revision

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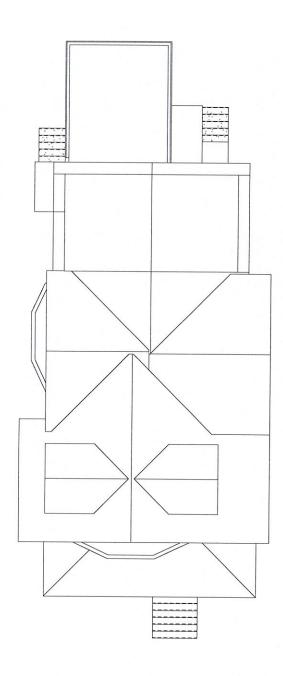


Revision

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1) Roof Plan EXISTING 1/8" = 1'-0"





A4.0

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Roof Plan EX

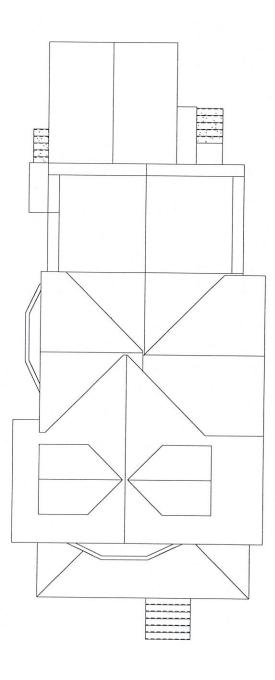
1/8" = 1'-0"

37 Powel Avenue

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1) Roof Plan NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"





A4.1

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Roof Plan NEW

1/8" = 1'-0"

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haven -



ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

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South **Elevation EX**

1/8" = 1'-0"

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ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

A5.1

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South Elevation NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

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Floor 2 EXISTING 14'-11"

1) West Elevation EXISTING 1/8" = 1'-0"

ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

A6.0

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West Elevation EX

1/8" = 1'-0"

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Floor 2 EXISTING 14'-11" Floor Plan 1
EXISTING
4'-5"

ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

A6.1

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1) West Elevation NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

> West Elevation NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

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ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

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North **Elevation EX**

1/8" = 1'-0"

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ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

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North Elevation NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

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Floor 2 EXISTING 14'-11" Floor Plan 1
EXISTING
4'-5" Floor Plan 3 EXISTING 24' - 8"

ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

A8.0

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1) East Elevation EXISTING 1/8" = 1'-0"

East Elevation EX

1/8" = 1'-0"

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Floor 2 EXISTING 14'-11" Floor Plan 3
EXISTING
24'-8"

ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

A8.1

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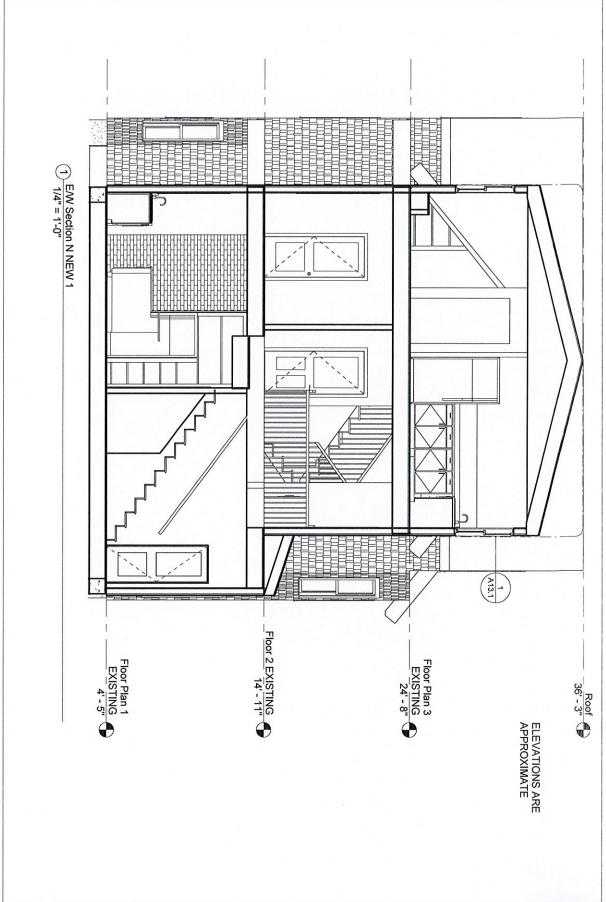
1) East Elevation NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

East Elevation NEW

1/8" = 1'-0"

37 Powel Avenue Dan Kinsella Kinsella Building Portsmouth, RI 02871





A9.0

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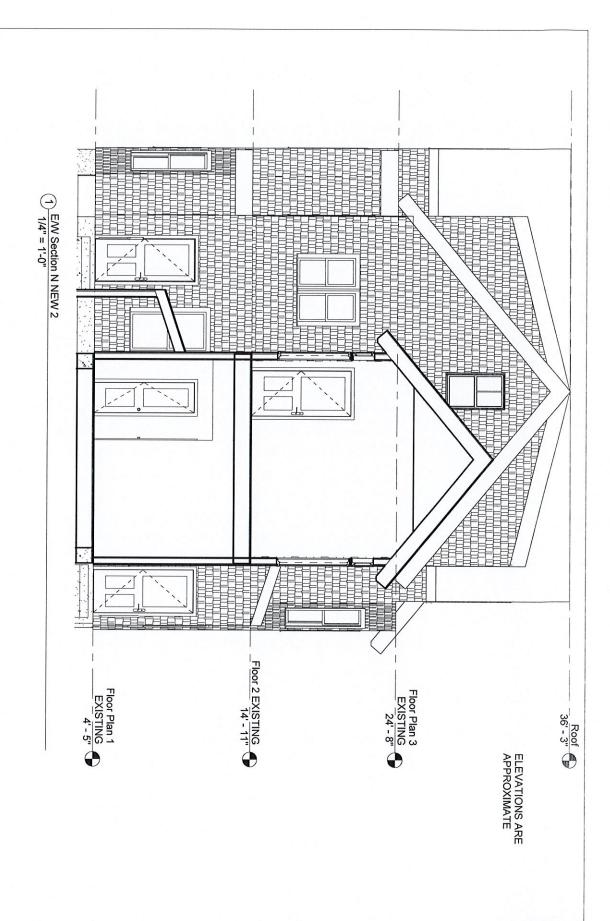
E/W Section N NEW 1

1/4" = 1'-0"

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37 Powel Avenue





A9.1

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E/W Section N NEW 2

1/4" = 1'-0"

37 Powel Avenue

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1) N/S Section W NEW 1/8" = 1'-0" ELEVATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE Floor 2 EXISTING 14'-11" Floor Plan 1
EXISTING
4'-5" 37 Powel Avenue

A10.0

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N/S Section W NEW

1/8" = 1'-0"

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1) N/S Section E NEW 1/8" = 1'-0"

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N/S Section E NEW

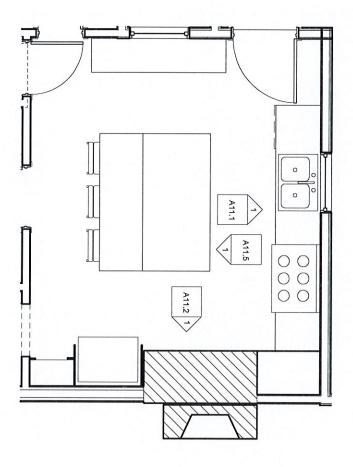
1/8" = 1'-0"

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1 1K Plan NEW 3/8" = 1'-0"





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1K Plan NEW

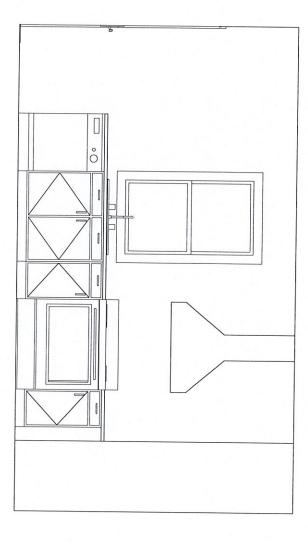
3/8" = 1'-0"

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1 1F Kitchen EL N NEW 1/2" = 1'-0"



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1K EL N NEW

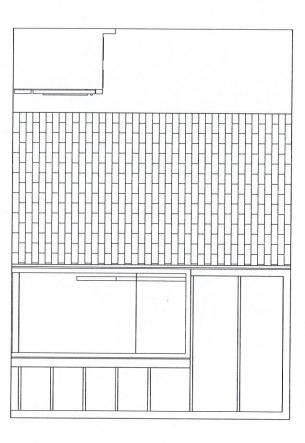
1/2" = 1'-0"

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1 1F Kitchen EL E NEW 1/2" = 1'-0"



A11.2

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1K EL E NEW

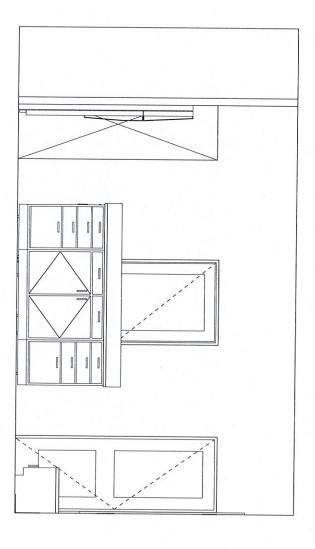
1/2" = 1'-0"

37 Powel Avenue

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1 1F Kitchen EL ISL NEW 1/2" = 1'-0"



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1K EL ISL NEW

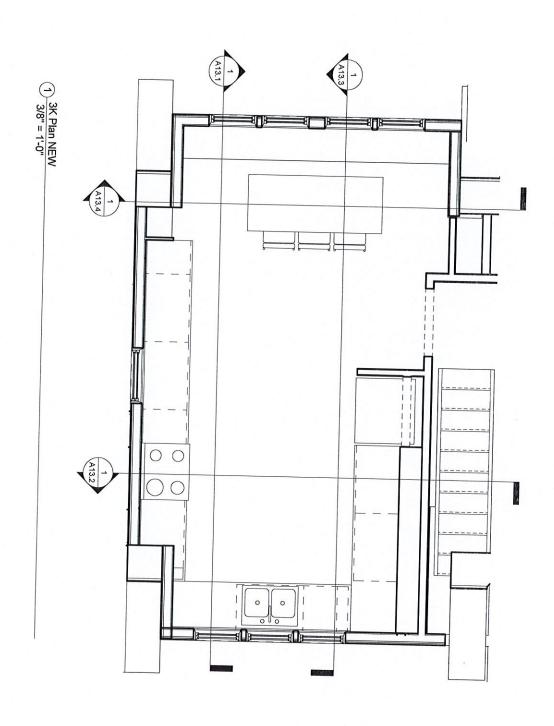
1/2" = 1'-0"

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3K Plan NEW

3/8" = 1'-0"

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1/2" = 1'-0"

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01.2019 12.12.2019 3K EL N NEW

1/2" = 1'-0"

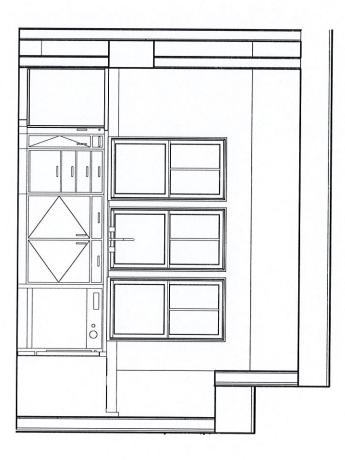
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1) 3F Kitchen EL E 1/2" = 1'-0"



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3K EL E NEW

1/2" = 1'-0"

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1) 3F Kitchen EL S 1/2" = 1'-0"



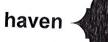
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3K EL S NEW

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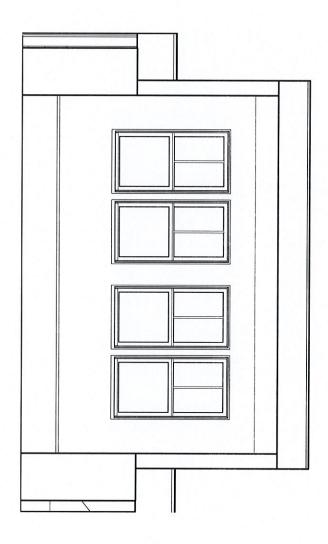
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1/2" = 1'-0"



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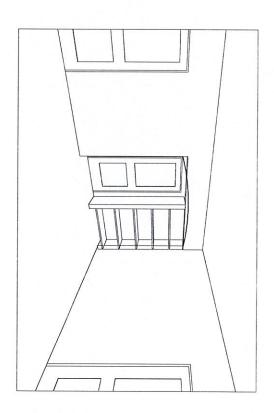
3K EL W NEW

1/2" = 1'-0"

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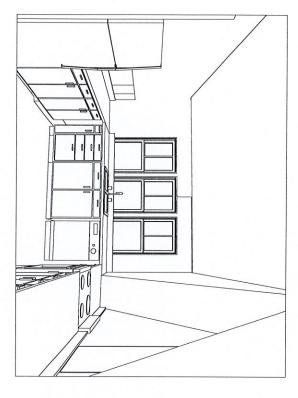
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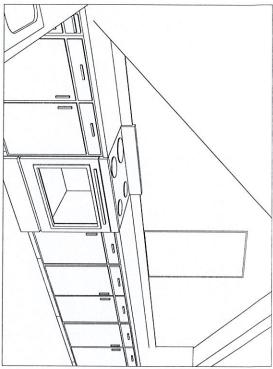
F2 Views

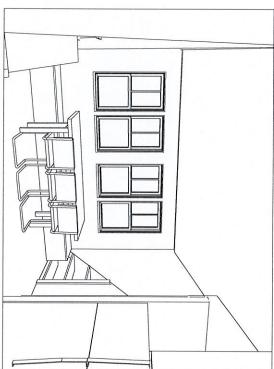
37 Powel Avenue

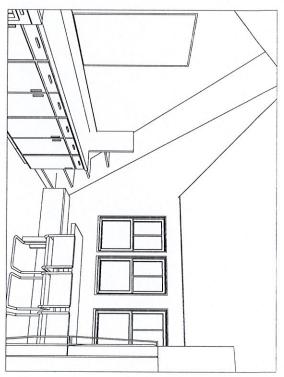
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A23.0

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F3 Views

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