HOEFLE, PHOENIX, GORMLEY & ROBERTS, PLLC

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February 26, 2020

HAND DELIVERED

David Rheaume, Chair Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment City Hall 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801

Re:

Linda Fitzgerald, Trustee, Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust

226 Park Street,

Tax Map 149, Lot 50,

GRA Zone

Dear Chairman Rheaume & Zoning Board Members:

On behalf Linda Fitzgerald, Trustee, Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust, we are pleased to submit the following documents in support of a request for zoning relief:

- Portsmouth Land Use Application (submitted 2/26/2020).
- Owner's Authorization.
- 2/25/2020 Memorandum and Exhibits in support of zoning relief (original and eleven (11) copies).

Also enclosed is our check in the amount of \$150.00 for this single-family residential application.

Very truly yours,

R. Timothy Phoenix Monica F. Kieser

Encl.

cc:

Linda Fitzgerald

Brian Murphy, Placework Alex Ross, Ross Engineering

Ben Auger, Auger Building Company, Inc.

To whom it may concern:

"I am a beneficiary/owner of the property located at 226 Park Street Portsmouth NH. I hereby authorize the following to act on behalf of all the owners before any and all departments, boards and commissions in the city of Portsmouth:

- Hoefle Phoenix Gormley and Roberts P.A.
- Ross Engineering
- Manypenny-Murphy Architects

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Sheekan, Beneficiary, Fitzgerald Family Trust

1-30-19

MEMORANDUM

TO: Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment ("ZBA")

FROM: R. Timothy Phoenix, Esquire

DATE: February 26, 2020

Re: Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust, Linda Fitzgerald, Trustee, Owner/Applicant

Property Location: 226 Park Street

Tax Map 149, Lot 50

Zoning District General Residence A ("GRA")

Dear Chairman Rheaume and Zoning Board Members:

On behalf of Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust ("Fitzgerald Trust"), Linda Fitzgerald, Trustee, Owner/Applicant ("Applicant"), we are pleased to submit this memorandum and attached exhibits in support of Zoning Relief to allow the expansion of a nonconforming detached garage at 226 Park Street, to be considered by the Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment ("ZBA") at its March 17, 2020 meeting.

I. EXHIBITS

- A. <u>Site Plan Set issued by Ross Engineering</u>.
 - Existing Conditions Plan
 - Proposed Conditions Plan
- B. <u>Site Photographs</u>.
- C. <u>Architectural Plans issued by Placework Studio</u>.
 - Existing
 - Proposed
- D. <u>Landscape Plan issued by Terra Firma Landscape Architecture</u>.
- E. <u>Photographs of Surrounding Accessory Buildings.</u>
- F. <u>Tax Map 149</u>.

II. PROPERTY/PROJECT

226 Park Street is an 8,736 s.f. lot with 47.69 ft. of frontage. Upon the lot is an old single-family bungalow home and a one-car, hipped-roof, 242 s.f. garage (the "Property"). The garage measures approximately 12 ft. 5 ½ in. by 21 ft. 2 ½ in.) including a small "bumpout" at the rear to achieve the 21 ft. 2 ½ in. length. The home is located 8.7 ft. from the front lot line and the garage is one foot from the right-side (north) property line. Applicant seeks to demolish the garage and rebuild a new, wider, one-story flat-roofed 315 s.f. garage measuring 15 ft. by 21 ft.

¹ The bumpout was added to accommodate a car hood so the entire car could fit in the garage.

with a compliant trellis on the left (south) side. The new accessory structure adds 73 s.f. of garage space primarily on the left (south) side. The new garage will be slightly shorter in height, and <u>less</u> setback nonconforming at 1.3 ft. from the right side (north) property line; it will also contain a channel drain directing rainwater away from the right side lot line. Relief is required only because the right side area by the rear "bumpout" within the setback will be filled-in and squared off. The surrounding area is entirely residential and contains several other properties which contain nonconforming accessory buildings. (**Exhibit E & F**). Applicant's proposal is therefore reasonable and consistent with other properties in the surrounding area.

February 26, 2020

III. RELIEF REQUIRED

Variance Section	Required	Existing	Proposed
PZO §10.321 Expansion of Nonconforming Structure	Conform		Fill-in area by rear bumpout 1.3' right >15' rear
PZO §10.573.20 Setback for Accessory Structure	9'2" right 9'2" rear	1' right >15' rear	

IV. VARIANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. The variances will not be contrary to the public interest.
- 2. The spirit of the ordinance is observed.

The first step in the ZBA's analysis is to determine whether granting the variances are not contrary to the public interest and are consistent with the spirit and intent of the ordinance, considered together pursuant to Malachy Glen Associates, Inc. v. Town of Chichester, 155 N.H. 102 (2007) and its progeny. Upon examination, it must be determined whether granting the variances "would unduly and to a marked degree conflict with the ordinance such that it violates the ordinance's basic zoning objectives." Id. "Mere conflict with the zoning ordinance is not enough." Id.

Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance ("PZO") Section 10.121 identifies the general purposes and intent of the ordinance "to promote the health, safety and general welfare of Portsmouth…in accordance with the…Master Plan" This is accomplished by regulating:

- 1. The use of land, buildings and structures for business, industrial, residential and other purposes The intended use of the property is and will remain residential. The requested relief will allow a slightly wider garage in a more conforming location.
- 2. The intensity of land use, including lot sizes, building coverage, building height and bulk, yards and open space The lot is comparable in size to others in the area and the intensity of use will not change, only a slightly larger garage is proposed.
- 3. The design of facilities for vehicular access, circulation, parking and loading The location of the garage will remain the same, ensuring a straight route to the street, eliminating the need for turning radius and additional impervious surfaces.
- 4. The impact on properties on of outdoor lighting, noise, vibration, stormwater runoff and flooding The proposal replaces an existing garage with a slightly larger one, moved slightly further from the right (north) side line. The nearly flat roof will contain a slight slope to permit rainwater to be collected and directed to the rear of the garage away from the right side abutter. Accordingly, granting the variances for an accessory building will not impact surrounding properties.
- 5. The preservation and enhancement of the visual environment The proposed garage is accompanied by landscaping which will provide visual screening and ensure the preservation and enhancement of the visual environment.
- 6. The preservation of historic districts and building and structures of historic architectural interest The Property is not in the Historic Overlay District.
- 7. The protection of natural resources, including groundwater, surface water, wetlands, wildlife habitat and air quality Building coverage remains compliant at 23.4% while the proposed open space is over twice what is required at 62.3%. Accordingly granting the variances will not negatively affect natural resources.

The intent of the GRA Zone is to "provide areas for single-family, two family and multifamily dwellings, with appropriate accessory uses, at moderate to high densities (ranging from approximately 5 to 12 dwelling units per acre), together with appropriate accessory uses and limited services." PZO §10.410 (emphasis added). The proposal meets the intent of the GRA Zone because it allows for a slightly enlarged accessory structure footprint with no associated increase in density. The Property, like many in the neighborhood, contains a home and accessory buildings which do not comply with rear and side setbacks. (Exhibit E & F). Proposed is a slightly wider garage than exists today with the rear bumpout "filled-in" to accommodate a car's length. The new garage is moved further from the right (north) side lot line and accompanied by a channel drain directing stormwater to the rear of the Property and landscaping which will provide screening on the south side. Given these factors, granting the requested variances will not conflict with the basic zoning objectives of the PZO.

In considering whether variances "in a marked degree conflict with the ordinance such that they violate the ordinance's basic zoning objectives," <u>Malachy Glen, supra</u>, also held:

One way to ascertain whether granting the variance would violate basic zoning objectives is to determine whether it would <u>alter the essential character of the locality</u>... . Another approach to [determine] whether granting the variance violates basic zoning objectives is to examine whether granting the variance would threaten the public health, safety or welfare. (emphasis added)

There are numerous other properties in the immediate area that are similarly sized and include an accessory structure encroaching on side or rear setbacks. The garage will remain in the same location and will be expanded primarily toward the left (south) side, away from the right abutter. Rainwater will be captured and directed away from the abutting lots. Given the number of accessory buildings on within side or rear setbacks, the proposal is in keeping with the surrounding area. Accordingly, granting the requested variances to permit the slight expansion presents no threat to public health, safety or welfare. Clearly, the variances neither alter the essential character of the locality nor threaten the public health safety or welfare. Accordingly, the variances for the slight expansion are not contrary to the public interest and observe the spirit of the ordinance.

3. Granting the variances will not diminish surrounding property values.

The proposed garage is about 2.5 ft. wider than the existing structure. Expansion beyond the footprint will be primarily toward the left (south) side with the "bumpout" filled in on the right (north) side. The proposal for a lower, flat-roofed garage includes landscaping elements that provide natural screening for the left (south) abutter, beautifies the area and directs stormwater from the roof of the proposed garage away from the right side abutter. Given the limited scope of the requests, the variances will not diminish surrounding property values.

4. Denial of the variances results in an unnecessary hardship.

a. <u>Special conditions distinguish the property from others in the area.</u>

The Property contains less than half of the required frontage; placement of the existing driveway and home determine placement of the proposed garage. These circumstances combine to create special conditions.

b. <u>No fair and substantial relationship exists between the general public purposes of the ordinance and its specific application in this instance.</u>

The purpose of setbacks and nonconforming expansions is to prevent overcrowding and overburdening of land, improve sightlines for pedestrians and motorists, ensure adequate light and air circulation, and provide sufficient area for stormwater treatment. None of these purposes are impaired by granting the requested variances. The existing garage encroaches on the right side setback; it will be rebuilt slightly further from the right (north) side abutter. The additional width will be primarily added to the left (south) side of the garage. The slightly larger garage is accompanied by a trellis for screening on the left (south) side and a channel drain on the right (north) side to capture stormwater and direct it to the rear of the Property. The proposed garage is lower than the existing garage and will contain a flat roof. These elements and the overall site improvements will improve conditions for the respective abutters. None of the purposes of the setbacks requirements are here violated. Accordingly, there is no fair and substantial relationship between the purposes of the ordinance and its application in this instance.

c. The proposed use is reasonable.

If the use is permitted, it is deemed reasonable. <u>Vigeant v. Hudson</u>, 151 N.H. 747 (2005). Residential use is permitted in the GRA Zone and includes accessory buildings incidental to the permitted use. The modest garage proposed is reasonably sized and results in a more functional space for a car and additional storage.

5. <u>Substantial justice will be done by granting the variances.</u>

If "there is no benefit to the public that would outweigh the hardship to the applicant" this factor is satisfied. Harborside Associates, L.P. v. Parade Residence Hotel, LLC, 162 N.H. 508 (2011). That is, "any loss to the [applicant] that is not outweighed by a gain to the general public is an injustice." Malachy Glen, supra at 109. The requested variances allow for a slightly larger, lower garage to be placed further from the right side lot line where a taller garage closer to the lot line exists today. The proposal directs runoff away from the right side abutter and offers landscaping elements improving existing conditions. Thus, the Applicant will be greatly harmed by denial of any of the variances because she will be unable to have a more functional garage but

Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust

there will be no gain to the general public by denial. Without question, substantial justice will be done by granting the variances while a substantial injustice will be done by denying it.

VI. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

For all of the reasons stated, Linda Fitzgerald respectfully requests that the Portsmouth Zoning Board of Adjustment grant the requested variances.

Respectfully submitted,

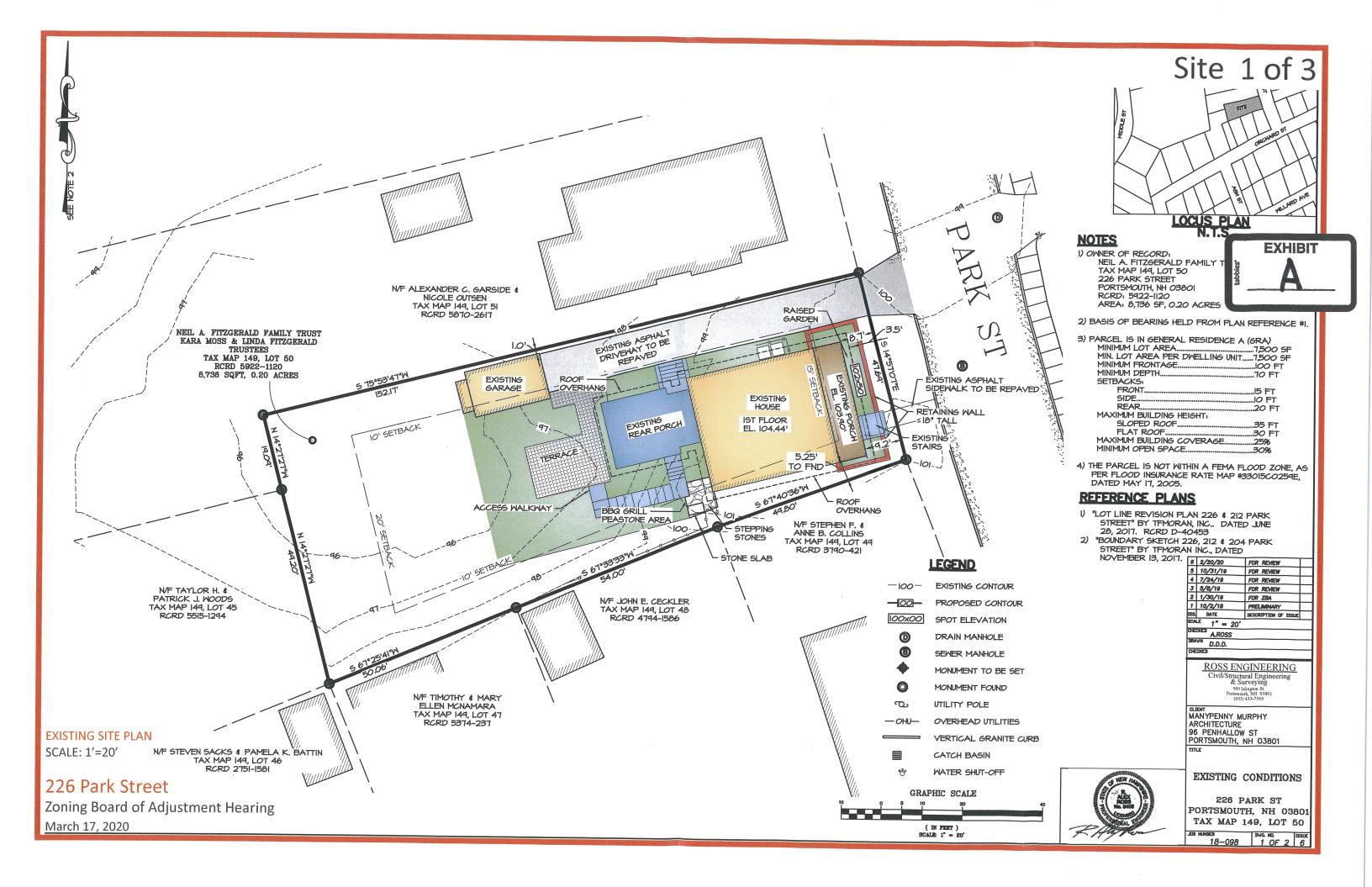
The Neil A. Fitzgerald Family Trust Linda Fitzgerald, Trustee

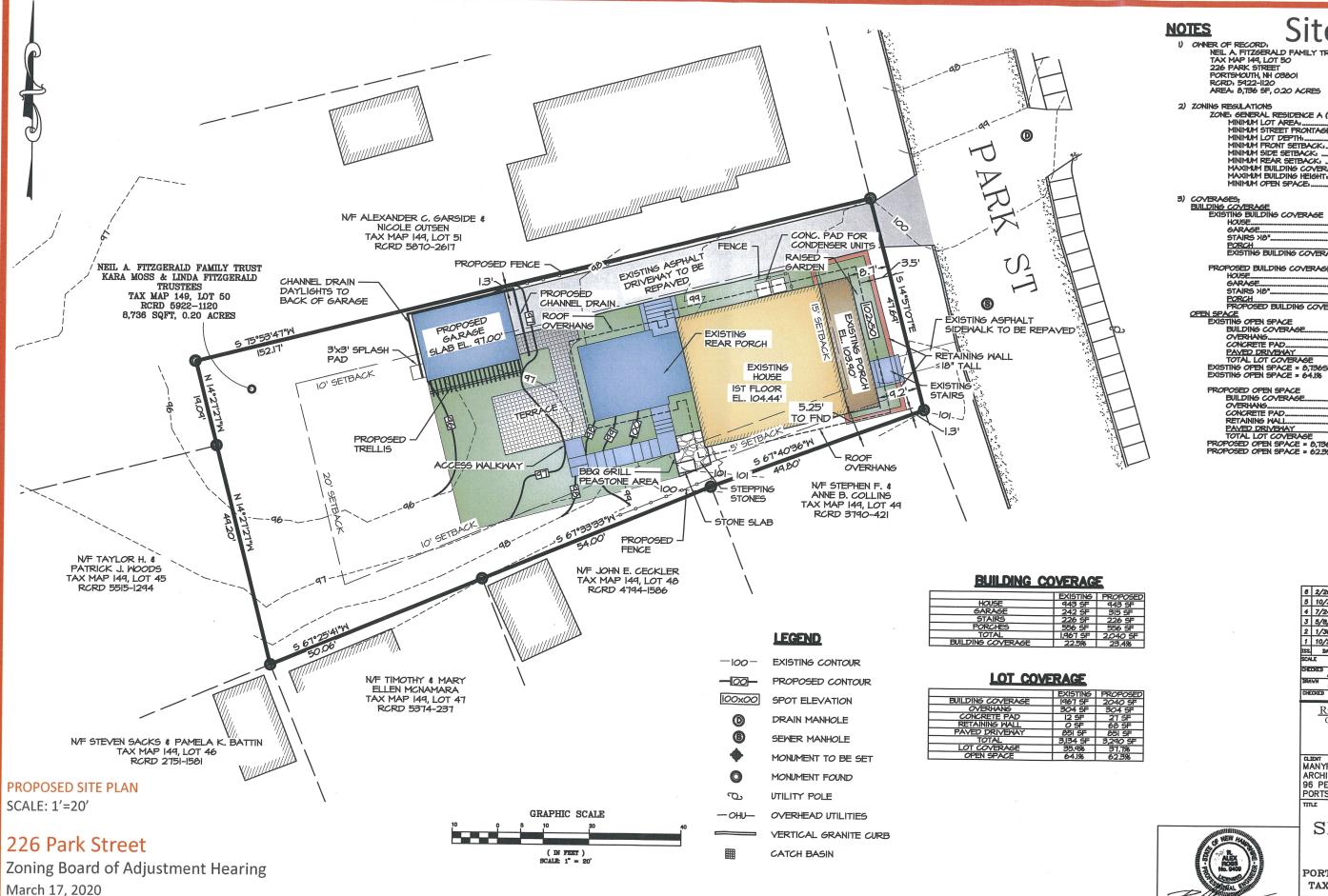
By: R. Timothy Phoenix Monica F. Kieser

Hoefle, Phoenix, Gormley & Roberts, PLLC.

127 Parrott Avenue Portsmouth, NH 03801

(603) 436-0666







I) OWNER OF RECORD;
NEIL A. FITZSERALD FAMILY TRUST
TAX MAP 144, LOT 50
226 PARK STREET
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
RCRD, 5822-1120
AREA: 8,136 SF, 0.20 ACRES

2) ZONING REGULATIONS

ONE: GENERAL RESIDENCE A (GRA)
MINIMUM LOT AREA: 7,500 SF
MINIMUM STREET FRONTAGE
MINIMUM LOT DEPTH:
MINIMUM FRONT SETBACK:
MINIMUM SIDE SETBACK:
MINIMUM REAR SETBACK
MAXIMUM BUILDING COVERAGE.
MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT:
MINIMUM OPEN SPACE:

HOUSE	***************	. 943	SF
GARAGE	***************************************	242	SF
STAIRS >18"	**************	226	SF
PORCH		_556	SE
EXISTING BUILDING COVERAGE	1467 CE	- 22	2504

PROPOSED BUILDING COVERAGE,

HOUSE		****************	943	SF
GARAGE			315	SF
STAIRS XIS	00000000000000000000000000000000000000		226	SF.
PORCH			556	GE
PROPOSED	BUILDING COVERAGE	2040 SF	= 23	496

OPEN SPACE

XISTING OPEN SPACE		
BUILDING COVERAGE	1967	SF
OVERHANG	304	SF
CONCRETE PAD	12	SF
PAVED DRIVENAY	851	
TOTAL LOT COVERAGE	3,134	SF
XISTING OPEN SPACE = 8.736SF - 3.134 SF	5602	

EXISTING OPEN SPACE = 64.1%

O DED OF EN SIMOL		
BUILDING COVERAGE	2040	SF
OVERHANG	304	SF
CONCRETE PAD	27	SF
RETAINING WALL	68	SF
PAVED DRIVEWAY	851	SF
TOTAL LOT COVERAGE	3,290	SF

PROPOSED OPEN SPACE = 8,1365F-3,240 SF 5,446 SF PROPOSED OPEN SPACE = 62.3%

6	2/20/20	FOR REVIEW	ı
5	10/31/19	FOR REVIEW	Γ
4	7/24/19	FOR REVIEW	ľ
3	5/8/19	FOR REVIEW	ľ
2	1/30/19	FOR ZBA	r
1	10/2/18	PRELIMINARY	r
221	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE	ľ
ec.	JF		-

CHECKED A.ROSS D.D.D.

ROSS ENGINEERING

Civil/Structural Engineering & Surveying

CLEENT
MANYPENNY MURPHY
ARCHITECTURE
96 PENHALLOW ST PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801

SITE PLAN



226 PARK ST PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801 TAX MAP 149, LOT 50

MBER DVG. ND. ISSUE 2 OF 2 6

Photos 1 of 1







EXHIBIT Sapples.

WEST FACADE

EAST FACADE

SOUTH FACADE / REVERSE SIM. AT NORTH FACADE







SOUTHEAST VIEW

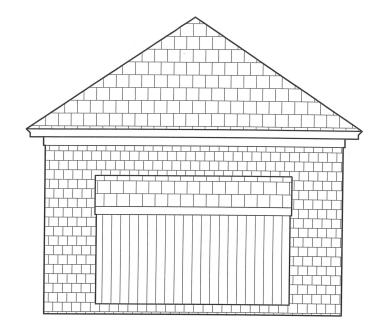
VIEWS OF EXISTING HOUSE

226 Park StreetZoning Board of Adjustment Hearing

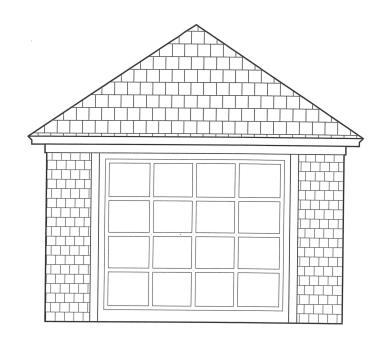
March 17, 2020

Placework

Existing 1 of 1



EXISTING WEST ELEVATION



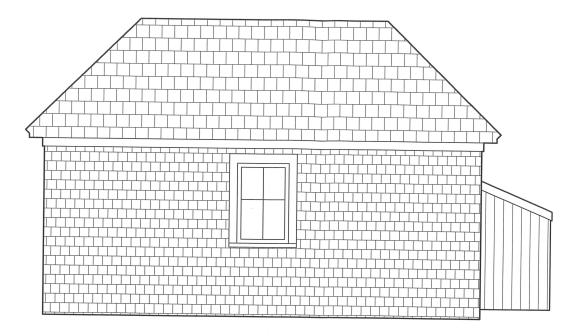
EXISTING EAST ELEVATION

EXISTING GARAGE PLAN AND ELEVATIONS

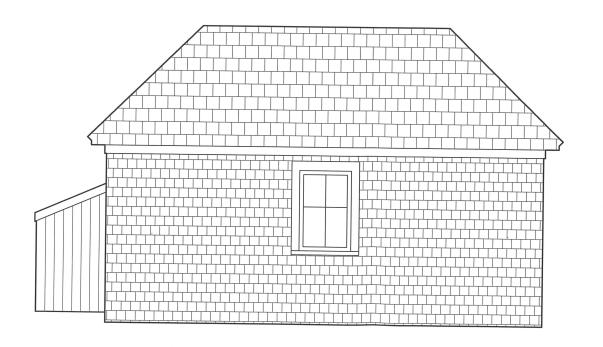
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226 Park Street

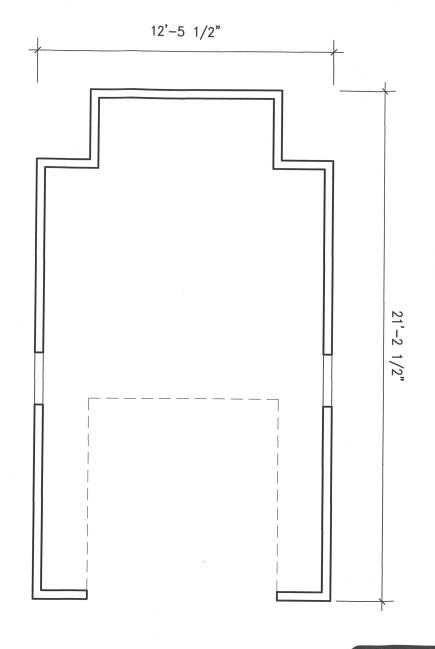
Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing March 17, 2020



EXISTING NORTH ELEVATION



EXISTING SOUTH ELEVATION

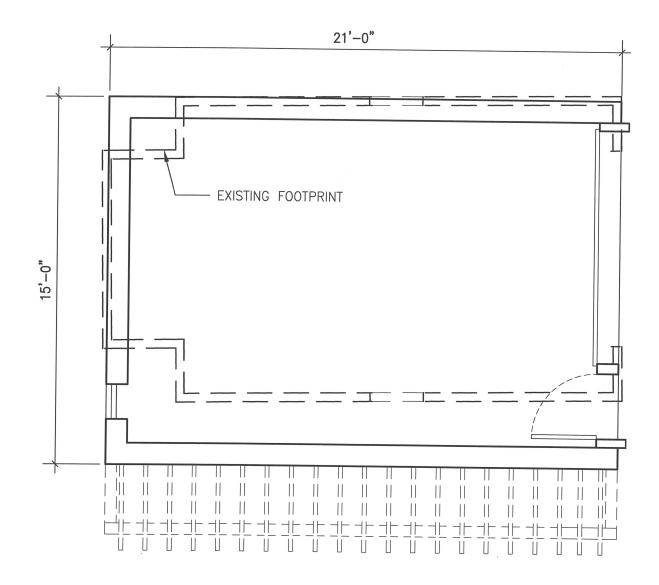


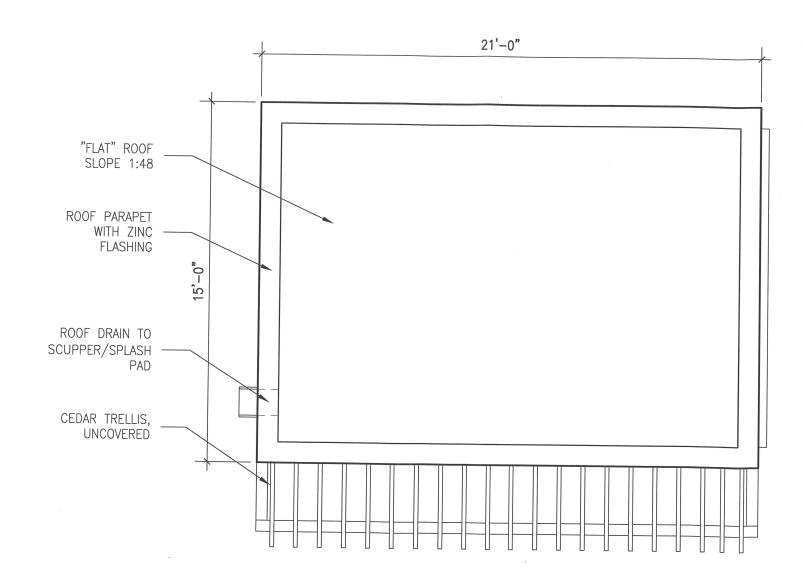
EXISTING PLAN





Proposed 1 of 3





PROPOSED PLAN

PROPOSED ROOF PLAN

PROPOSED GARAGE PLANS

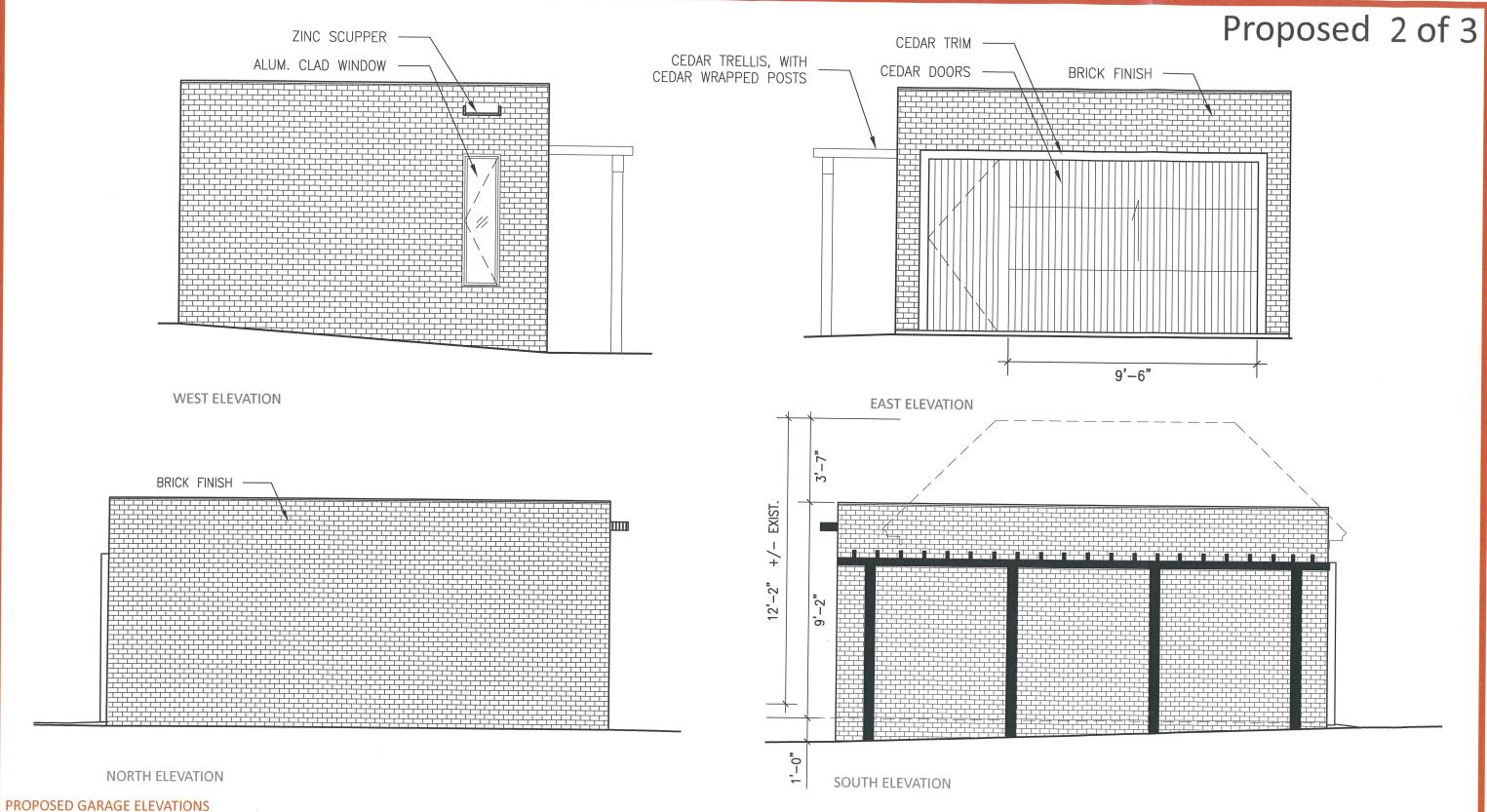
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

226 Park Street

Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing

March 17, 2020





PROPOSED GARAGE ELEVATIONS

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

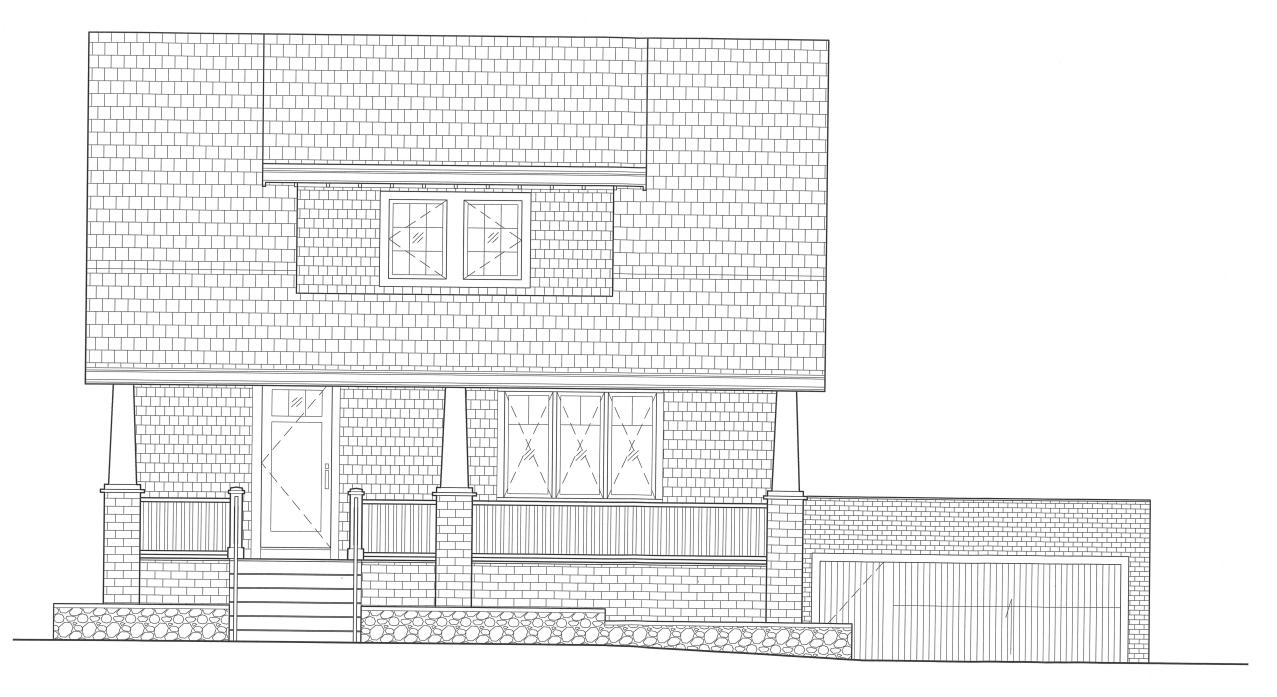
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226 Park Street

Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing March 17, 2020

Placework

Proposed 3 of 3



EAST ELEVATION FROM STREET

PROPOSED GARAGE ELEVATIONS

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

226 Park Street

Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing
March 17, 2020



Plant	List -	Trees + Shrubs		***************************************
D	Qty	Latin Name	Common Name	Scheduled Size
ARB	5	Acer rubrum 'Bowhall'	Bowhall Maple	2-2 1/2"
A	13	Clethra alnifolia '16 Candles'	Sweet Pepperbush	3 GAL
CFF	5	Carpinus betulus 'Frans Fontaine'	Frans Fontaine Hombeam	2 - 2 1/2"
ILW	8	Hydrangea macro. 'Lanarth White'	Lanarth White Hydrangea	10 GAL
IYP	8	Hypercum 'Hidcote'	St. Johnswort	5 Gal.
GS	7	Ilex glabra 'Shamrock'	Shamrock Inkberry	2-2 1/2'
Q	2	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper	2 QT
CHD	13	Rhododendron catawbiense 'Album'	Catawba Rhododendron	3-4
GG	2	Thuja plicata 'Excetsa'	Western Red Cedar	8-10' HT
DΔ	8	Viburraum dontatum 'Autumn tour'	A. A Lance Lance	

ID	Qty	Latin Name	Common Name	
ABI	and annual gares	Amsonia 'Blue Ice'	Blue Star Flower	Scheduled Size
ABV	-	Astilbe 'Bridal Veil'	The Later and the Committee of the Commi	2 QT
ACR	~~	Actaea racemosa	False Spirea Black Snakeroot	2 QT
AE		Astilbe 'Erika'		2 QT
AMH		Amsonia hubrichtii	Erika False Spirea Arkansas Blue Star	1 Gal.
AMT		Amsonia tabernaermontana	The second secon	2 QT
ANE		Anemone canadensis	Blue Star Flower	1 Gal.
ARU		Aruncus diocius	Canada Anemone	2 QT
ASD	-	Astilbe 'Deutschland'	Goat's Beard	1 Gal.
BAP		Baptisia australis	Early White Astilbe	
CID	Accessor and the second	Carex morrowii 'Ice Dance'	False Indigo	1 Gal.
CWB			Ice Dance Sedge	2 QT
DES		Chrysanthemum 'White Bomb'	White Bomb Mum	2 QT
FIL		Deschampsia cespitosa	Tussock Grass	1 Gal.
GMB		Filipendula rubra 'Venusta'	Queen of the Prairie	1 Gal.
**********		Geranium macrorrhizum 'Bevan's'	Cranesbill	2 QT
EV		Iris ensata Variegata	Japanese Iris	2 QT
MS	referencements	Iris sibirica 'Moon Silk'	Moon Silk Iris	2 QT
SR		Iris sibirica 'Summer Revels'	Summer Revels Iris	2 QT
LIR		Liriope spicata	Lily Turf	1 QT
VIT		Matteuccia struthiopteris	Ostrich Fern	2 QT
PA		Persicaria affinis	Fleece Flower	2 QT
PEO		Paeonia 'Krinkled White'	Krinkled White Peony	2 Gal.
PHL		Phlox paniculata 'Eva Cullum'	Garden Phiox	2 QT
90		Papaver orientalis	Oriental Poppy	2 OT
VS		Panicum virgatum 'Shenandoah'	Shenandoah Switch Gass	2 Gal.
X	29	Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	2 QT
H		Sporobolus heterolepsis	Prairie Dropseed	1 Gal.
THC	2	Thermopsis caroliniana	Carolina Thermopsis	201
VAL.	23	Waldsteinia ternata	Siberian Barren Strawberry	2 OT

Site 3 of 3

terra firma landscape architecture type controver portunous, no optono, box 400 400 lettermonghers freelenden con-





PROPOSED LANDSCAPE PLAN

SCALE 1/16"=1'-0"

226 Park Street

Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing March 17, 2020 Placework



212 Park St.



211 Park Street



201 Park-Street



204 +192 Park Street





171 & 181 Park Street



160 Park Street



151 Park St. / 588 Lincoln



144 Paulc/604 Lincoln



99 Overhard



from 192 Park Street



104 Menduncher



014 Munaum Ave.



To mershim Avi

