

ADDRESS: 6333 MALVERN AVE

Proposal: Demolish non-historic buildings; construct dining hall, guard house, and drop-off area

Review Requested: Final Approval

Owner: Overbrook School for the Blind

Applicant: Joseph Horan, Kimmel Architecture

History: 1900; PA Institute for the Instruction of the Blind; Cope & Stewardson, architects

Individual Designation: 5/26/1970

District Designation: None

Staff Contact: Allyson.Mehley@phila.gov

BACKGROUND:

This application seeks final approval to construct a Dining Hall and vehicular drop off area at the Overbrook School for the Blind. The original school was designed by the renowned firm Cope & Stewardson in 1897-1900. Today, the school's campus includes approximately 17 buildings constructed between 1897 and 2008. The proposed scope includes the full demolition of Wynnewood Hall (1960) and the Garage (1960) and partial demolition of the Food Services Building (1975), Lions Hall (1954), and the Main Building (1899). Modifications to the facades of these buildings are intended to facilitate connections to the new Dining Hall building. In addition, the project includes the construction of a new Guard House near the northeast vehicular gate to better control traffic flow into the campus and the widening of the east pedestrian gate into a vehicular gate to improve traffic flow. Owing to the historic wall that surrounds the Overbrook School for the Blind campus, there will be limited visibility of these changes from the public right-of-way. The new Dining Hall and Gate House will be clad in stucco with a standing seam metal roof. The proposed colors of the exterior materials will be similar to the historic Main Building.

SCOPE OF WORK:

- Demolish two non-contributing buildings and existing parking area.
- Partially demolish two non-contributing buildings.
- Construct one-story Dining Hall building and "connector" to Main Building.
- Widen historic perimeter wall and construct Guard House.
- Construct vehicular drop off loop and parking lot.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW:

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Guidelines include:

- *Standard 9: New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.*
 - The majority of the proposed changes impact non-historic buildings constructed between 1954 and 1975. The proposed demolition of Wynnewood Hall, the Garage, Food Service Building, and Lions Hall do not alter the historic integrity of the property's historic buildings; and therefore, meets Standard 9.
 - The proposed construction of a new parking area, Guard House, and vehicular loop does not alter the historic integrity of the property and its environment; and therefore, meets Standard 9.
 - The proposed new construction of the Dining Hall is compatible in massing, size, scale, and materials with the historic buildings on campus; and therefore, meets Standard 9.

- *Standard 10: New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment will be unimpaired.*
 - The proposed alterations to the Main Building's east elevation include changes to existing openings. If the school decides in the future to remove the connection between the new Dining Hall building and the historic Main Building, the exterior wall could be successfully restored to its historic appearance; therefore, this application could meet Standard 10.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends approval, pursuant to Standards 9 and 10.

IMAGES



Figure 1: The Overbrook School for the Blind campus. View looking north. The yellow line is the approximate location of the new Dining Hall and connector to Main Building. The green areas indicate the non-contributing buildings to be demolished.



Figure 2: Streetview of the vehicular entrance along Wynnewood Rd. This view looks south into the school campus where the new drop off area would be located.



Martin D. Kimmel, AIA, NCARB
Joseph Horan, RA, NCARB, LEED AP
Matthew McQuaide, RA, NCARB

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Philadelphia Historical Commission
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

November 10, 2025

Overbrook School for the Blind
6333 Malvern Ave, Philadelphia PA 19151
Campus Experience Improvements & New Dining Hall

Dear Members of the Commission,

Attached please find documents outlining the proposed campus improvements at Overbrook School for the Blind (OSB). Since its founding in 1832, the School's mission has been to provide opportunities for children who were blind or visually impaired. Over the years, the student population has grown to include many with complex medical conditions, who utilize wheelchairs and mobility devices, ventilators, and are often accompanied by full-time nurses and caretakers, in addition to blindness and visual impairments. In the late 1990's there was one student who used a wheelchair, now approximately half the population are mobility device users and rising.

Considering the evolving student body population, as well as its general educational philosophy, OSB has a strong focus on creating a safer and more accessible campus for students with varying disabilities. On a typical day, 75 buses and vans pick up and drop off students. Due to students' varying physical conditions each drop off can take between 10 and 15 minutes, with the limited amount of space in the loading/unloading area, the whole process can take up to two hours, cutting significantly into the students' instructional time. Vehicular access to the current bus loading and unloading area is through the rear service drive, off Wynnewood Avenue, and is located between the kitchen, loading dock, and garage. As a result, students must contend with the sights, sounds, and smells of the dumpsters, trash compactors, fleet vehicles, and fueling stations as the first part of their daily experience.

One of the goals of this project is to provide the students with a dignified, streamlined, and accessible pickup and drop off experience that both increases the number of vehicles that can be loaded or unloaded at once, while creating a more supportive environment for those experiences. An additional goal of the project is to maintain or extend covered or enclosed paths to the greatest extent possible between the bus loop and the various buildings on campus, due to the significant challenges faced by students with mobility issues traversing uncovered exterior paths in inclement weather. The last aspect of the project is to create a new dining hall and safe harbor area for students in the event of emergency. The new dining hall

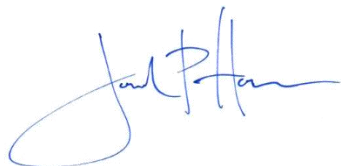
and connector will allow students to get out of the weather and indoors quickly while being a safe and secure gathering area when needed. To accomplish these goals on the tight urban site, and with an eye toward respecting the historic character of the campus, we have prepared the attached plan for campus improvements.

To provide a sufficiently large and appropriately sited bus loop, this project proposes the full demolition of 2 existing structures: Wynnewood Hall (Constructed 1960) and the Garage (built 1960). Partial demolition of the Food Services Building (Built 1975) is also proposed. Programmatically, the functions of the Food Services Building will be taken up in a new proposed Dining Hall, which will also connect the existing Lions Hall building (Built 1954) with the School's Main Building (Built 1899). To accomplish this new work, the Project includes modifications to portions of the facades of these buildings, to facilitate connection to the new Dining Hall building. Other portions of the project include the construction of a new Guard House near the Northeast vehicular gate to better control traffic flow into the campus and widening of the East pedestrian gate into a vehicular gate to complete the bus loop and improve traffic flow. Interior renovations to Lions Hall are also planned, to provide a home for other elements of the School's educational mission.

The proposed Dining Hall will provide a link between the Main Building and Lions Hall, as well as a welcoming and supportive environment for dining. The new building will include 2 elevators, for improved accessibility. One will be within the new Dining Hall Building. The other will be enclosed in a stair tower which was added to the Main Building significantly after its original construction. In 1997, the Historical Commission approved the addition of an elevator tower to the West side of the Main Building. In a style matching that elevator tower, we propose extending the height of the stair tower's walls with stucco-clad CMU walls, and providing a new roof, matching the shape of the Main Building roofs.

In all aspects of this project, we have made every effort to honor the historic context of the Overbrook School for the Blind campus while improving both the quality and quantity of the students' educational time, particularly in the areas of transportation, dining and therapies. Each aspect of the project has been designed with therapy in mind, so that students can continue to improve their activities of daily living even while outside the classroom. We appreciate the input of the Architectural Committee and the Historical Commission in this regard and look forward to a productive conversation that will result in a successful project on all fronts.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joseph P. Horan RA, NCARB, LEED AP

KIMMEL ARCHITECTURE

Architectural Committee of the Philadelphia Historical Commission

11.25.2025



OVERBROOK
SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

OVERBROOK SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

KIMMEL
ARCHITECTURE

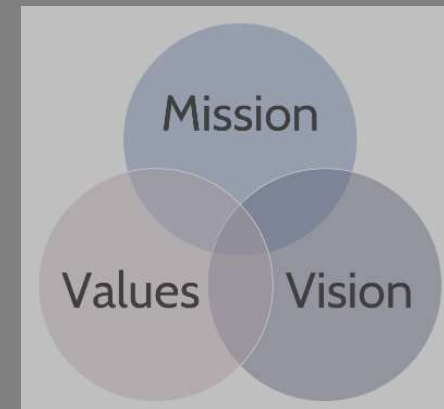


“Transform the dining experience into a welcoming, safe, and inclusive space that prioritizes dignity, comfort, and accessibility. The new Dining Hall will not just be a place to eat, but a place that values the students that will dine there by shedding its institutional feel in favor of a flexible environment that is emotionally and socially supportive where students can connect with their peers, build friendships, and feel a sense of community in a bright, sound controlled and inclusive environment.”

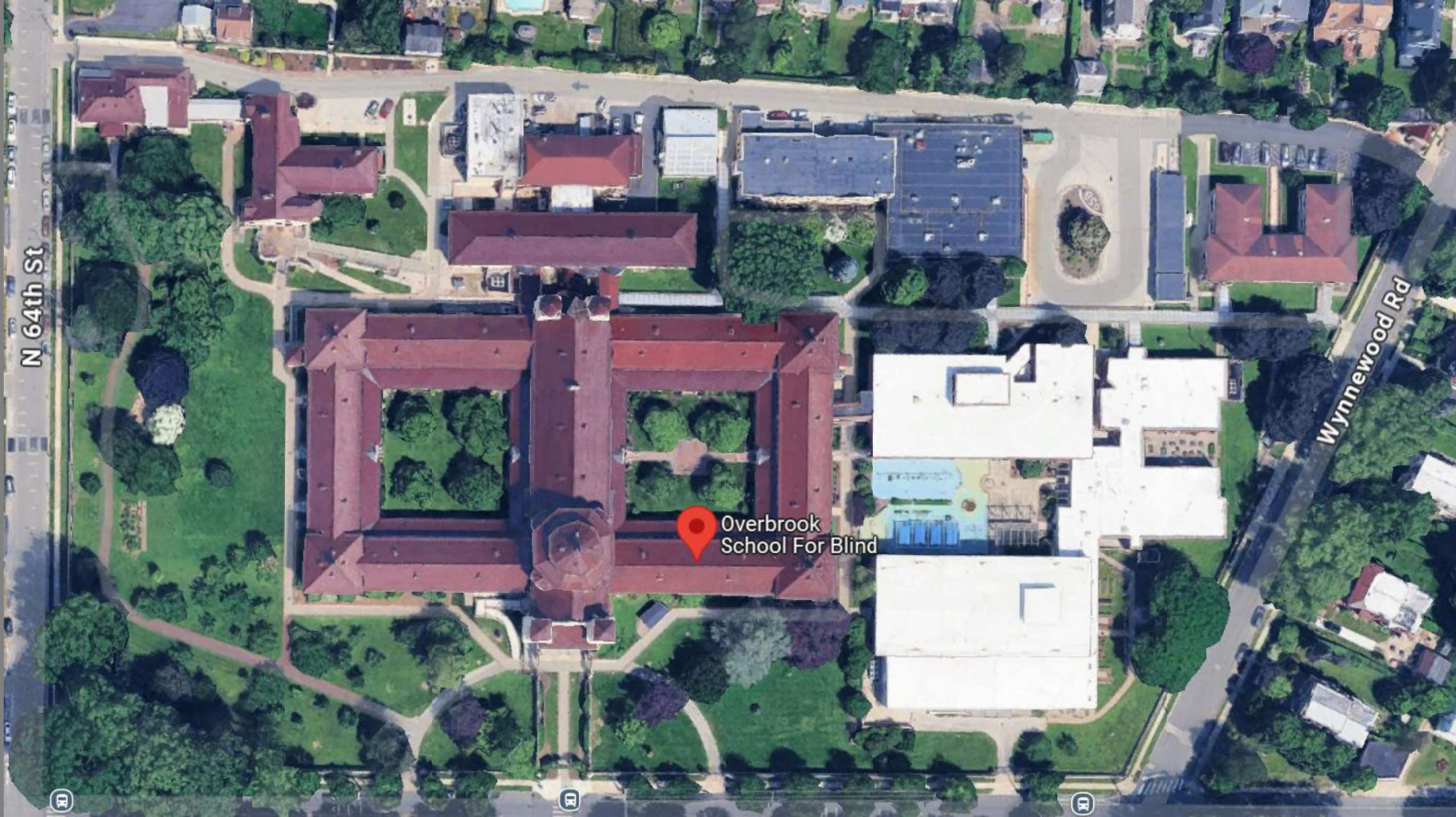
“The driveway and site changes will improve the pickup and drop off experience of all students, especially students with mobility issues. We will create an elegant accessible entrance rather than a door by the loading dock and dumpsters, while also covering, substantially enlarging, and improving the accessible bus loading areas to reduce the time students spend waiting for transportation and allow more time to be spent on instruction.”

Core Values:

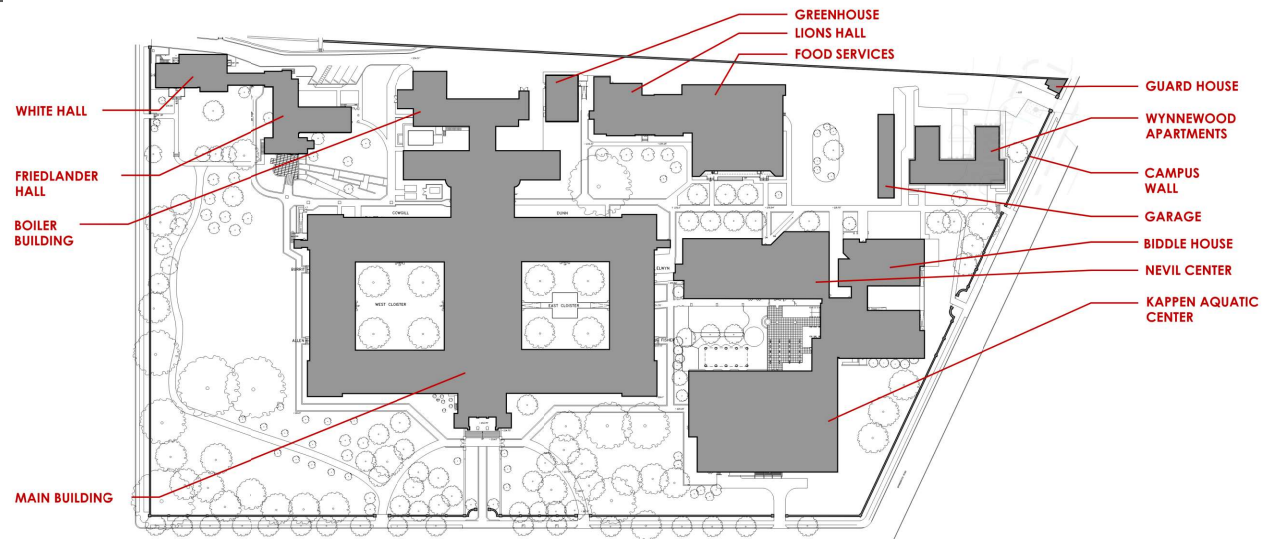
1. Independence
2. Flexibility
3. Dignity
4. Inclusion
5. Innovation
6. Fiscal Responsibility



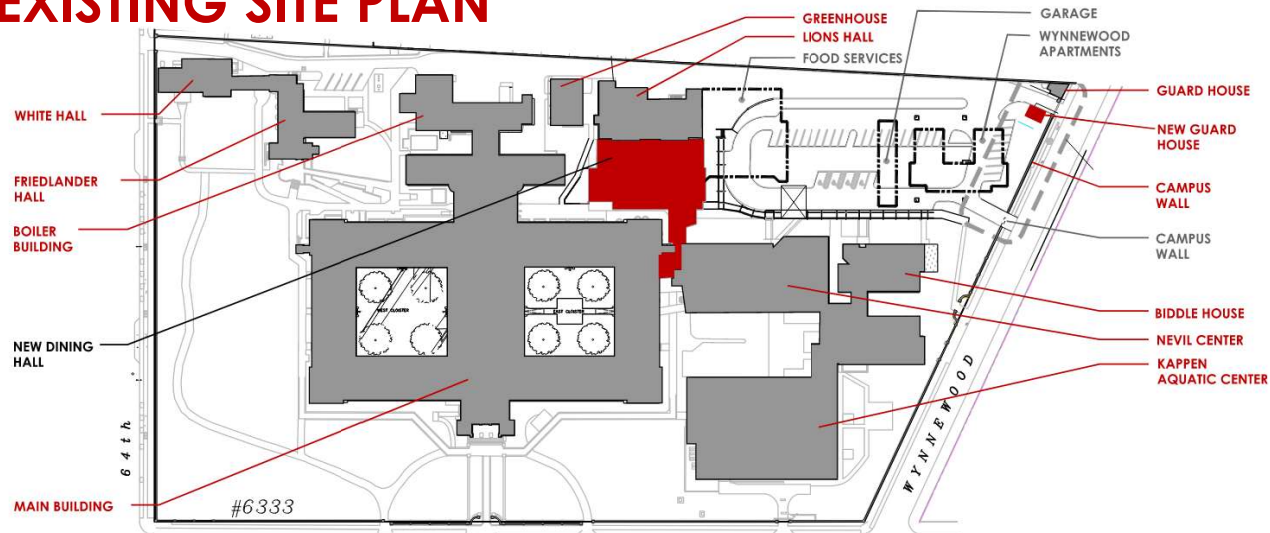
THE MISSION



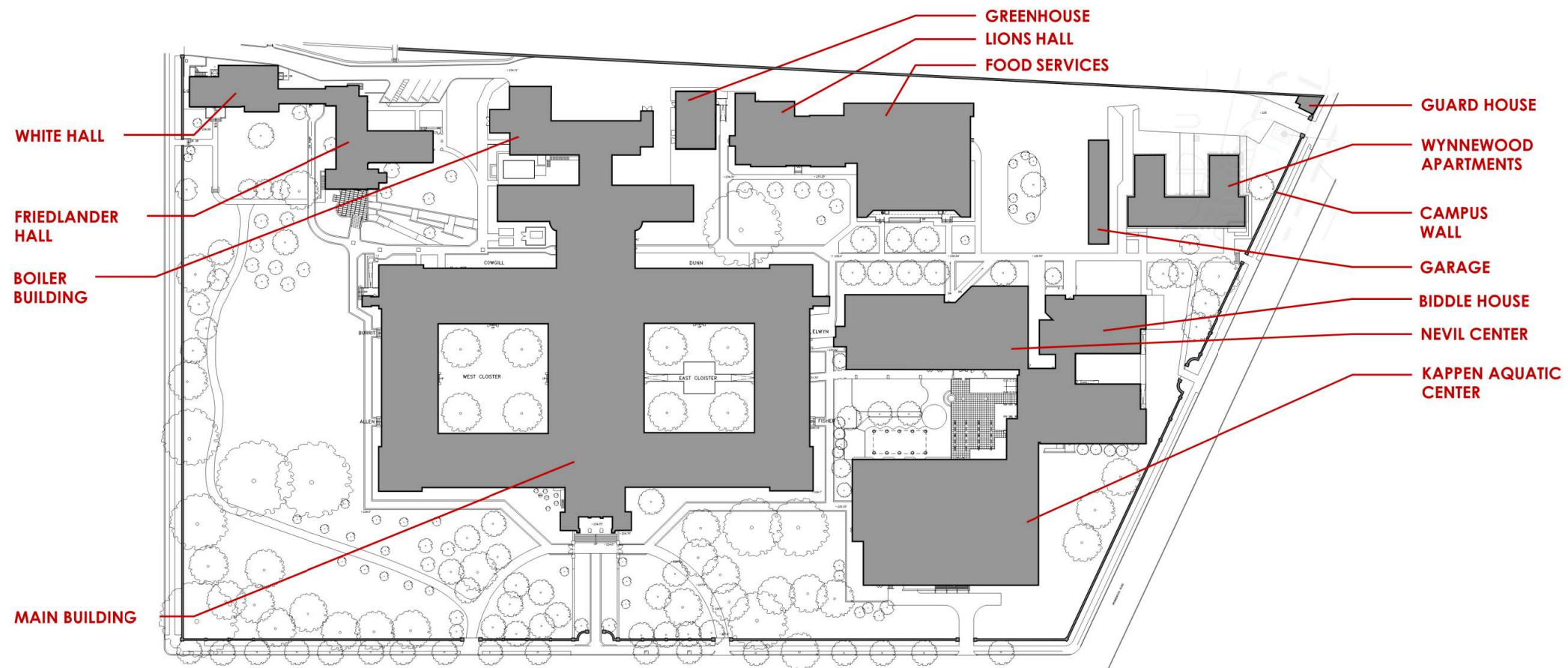
EXISTING SITE



EXISTING SITE PLAN



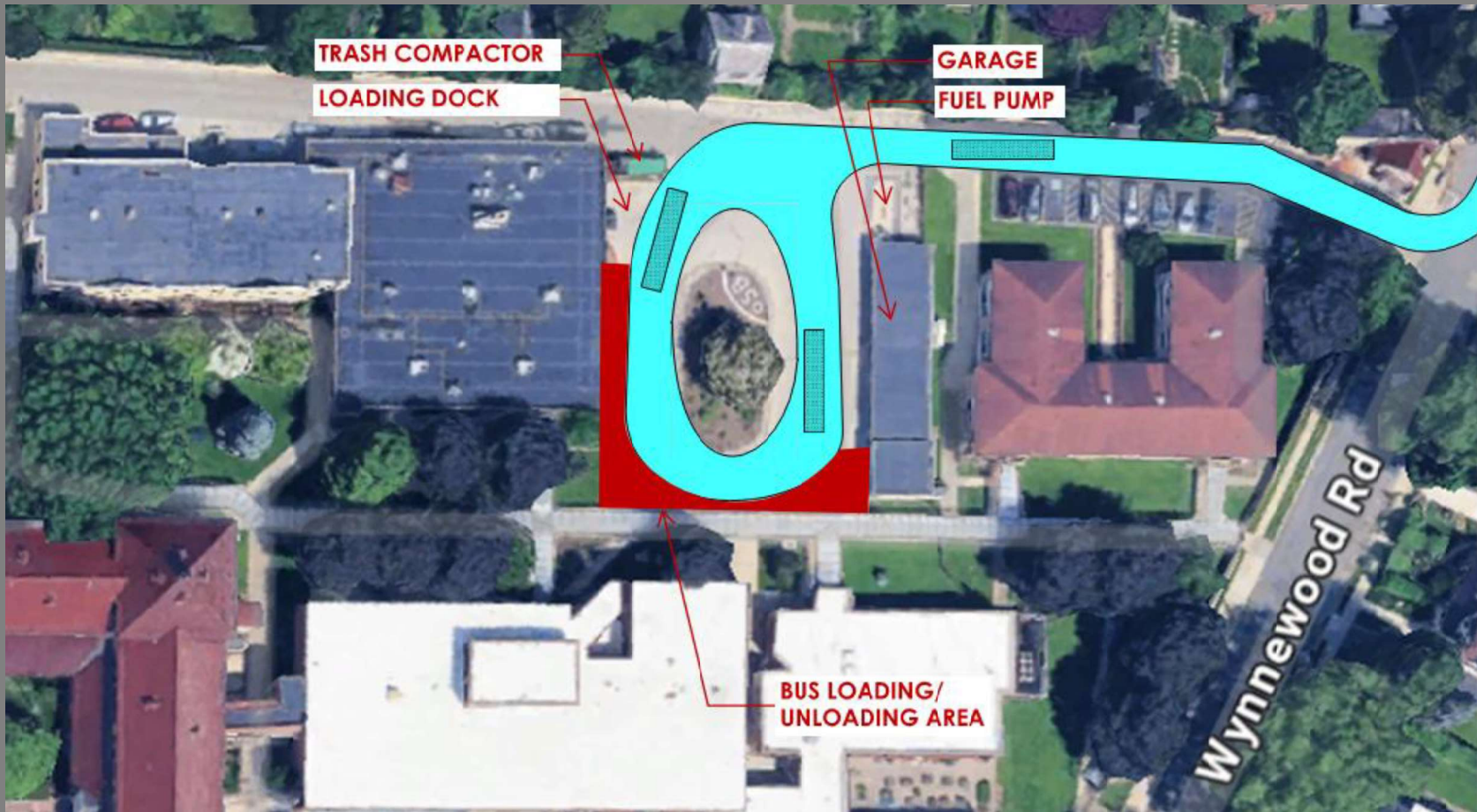
PROPOSED SITE PLAN



EXISTING SITE PLAN

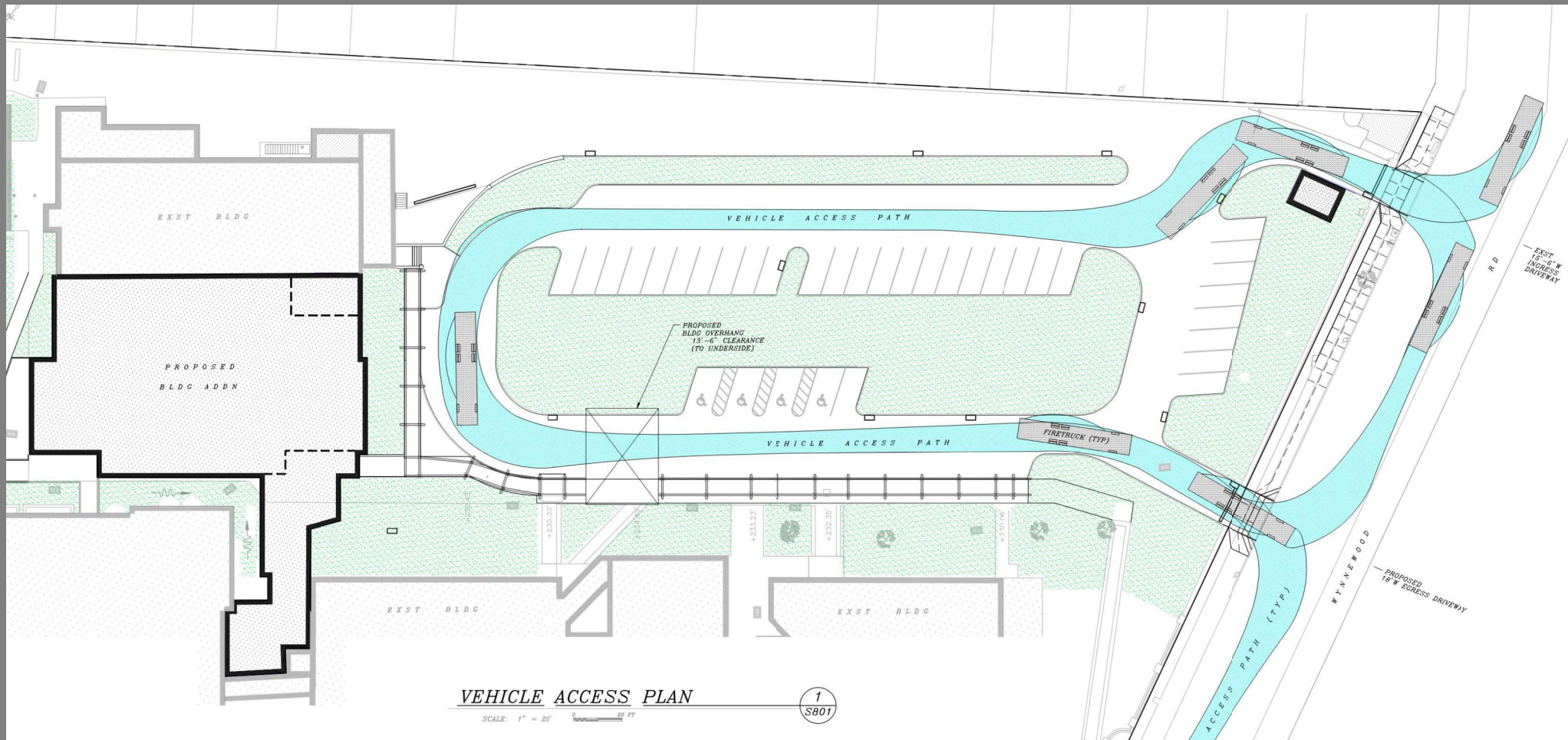


#6333



CURRENT BUS LOOP





PROPOSED BUS LOOP

**Wynnewood
Apartments
Built 1960**

12,520 SF

**Two Stories
with
Basement
CMU Walls
with Brick
Facade**

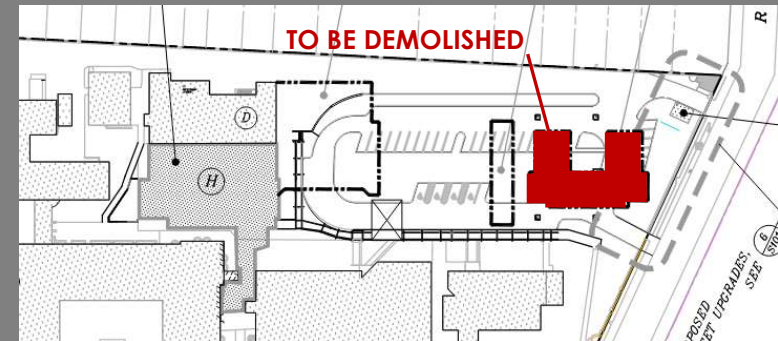


North and East Facades



North Facade

PROPOSED COMPLETE DEMOLITION



Garage

Built 1960

2,100 SF

1 Story Slab
on Grade

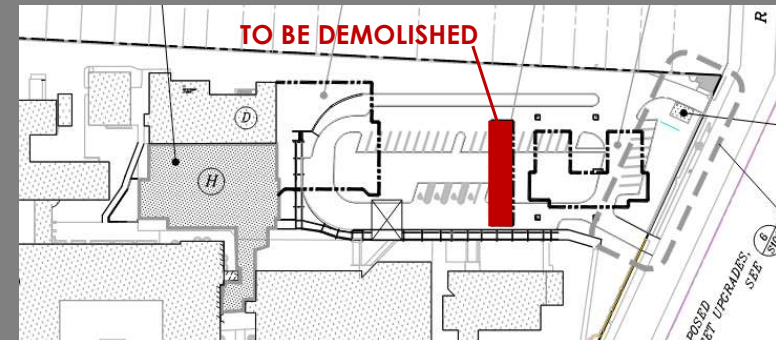


East and North Facades



North and West Facades

PROPOSED COMPLETE DEMOLITION



Food Services Building

Built 1975

13,962 SF

1 Story Steel
Frame and
CMU Walls with
Brick Facade



Garage, Bus Drop-Off Area, and East Facade

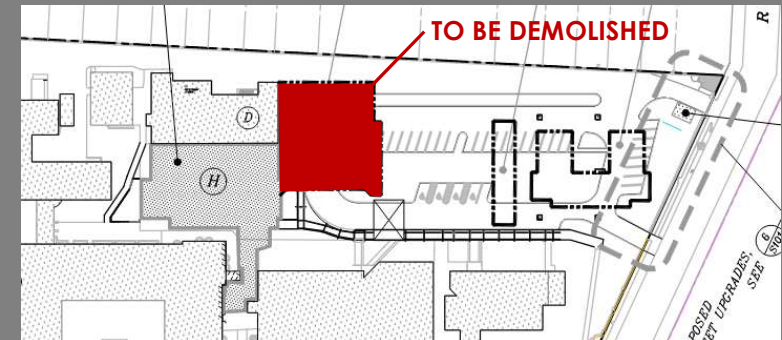


East Facade, Loading Dock and Trash Compactor



North Facade and Trash Compactor

PROPOSED PARTIAL DEMOLITION



Lions Hall

Built 1954

22,500 SF

**Stucco on
Masonry
and Frame
with Flat
Roof**



South Facade



Northwest Corner

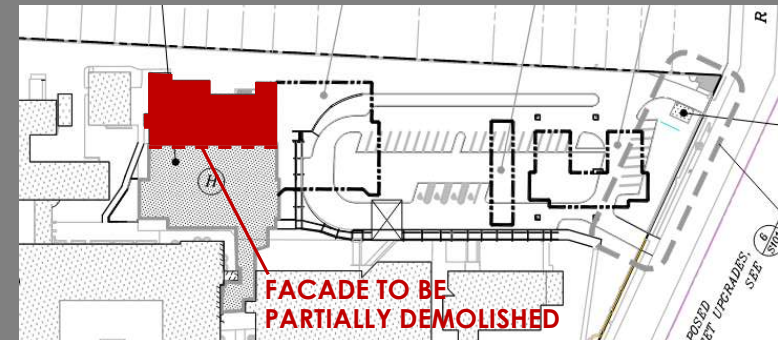


South Facade



Southwest Corner

PROPOSED RENOVATION/PARTIAL FACADE DEMOLITION



**Main
Building**

Built 1899

169,514 SF

**Stone with
Stucco,
Wood
Frame
Roof with
Glazed
Clay Tile
Shingles**



East Facade



East Facade



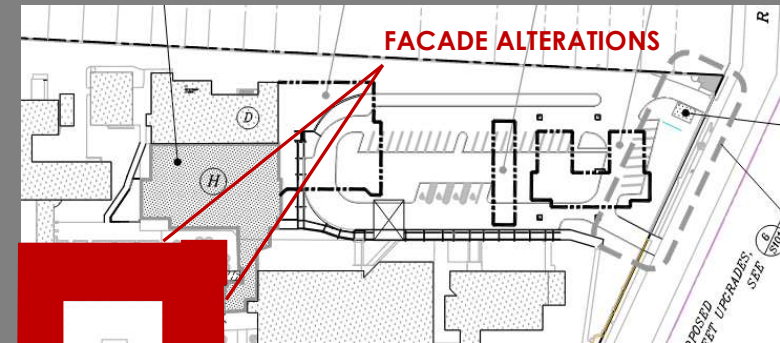
Northeast Corner



North Facade



East Facade Looking North



PROPOSED CONNECTION TO NEW BLDG

**Stair
Addition**

**Built: Post-
1958**

154 SF

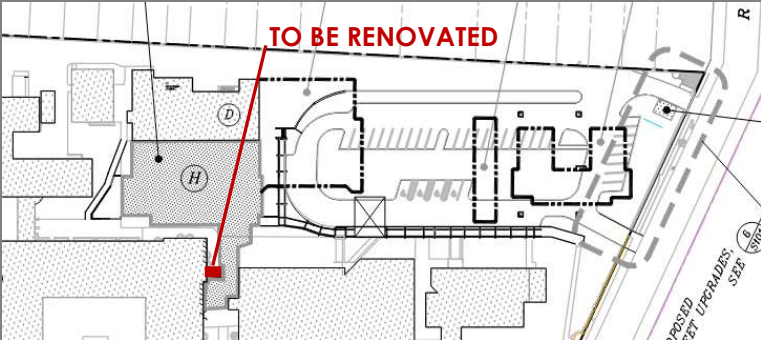
**CMU with
Stucco,
Metal Roof**



South Facade



North Facade



PROPOSED RENOVATION

Campus
Wall

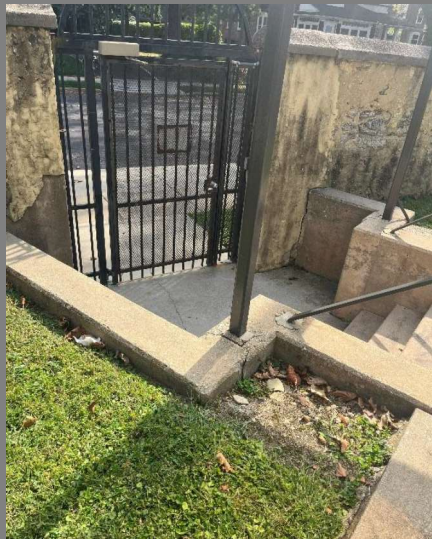
Built 1899

3,700
Linear Feet

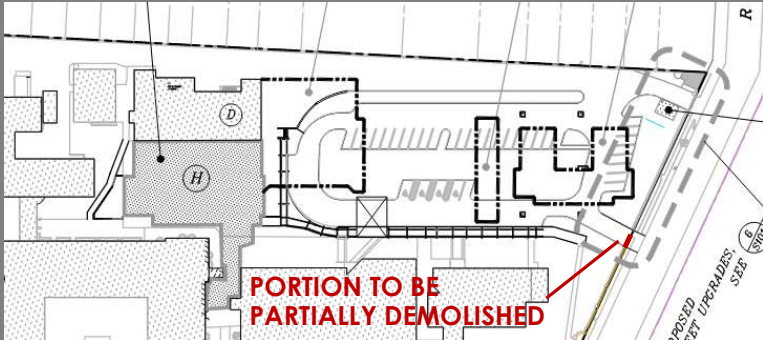
Masonry,
Stucco,
Wrought
Iron and
Stone Caps
and Finials



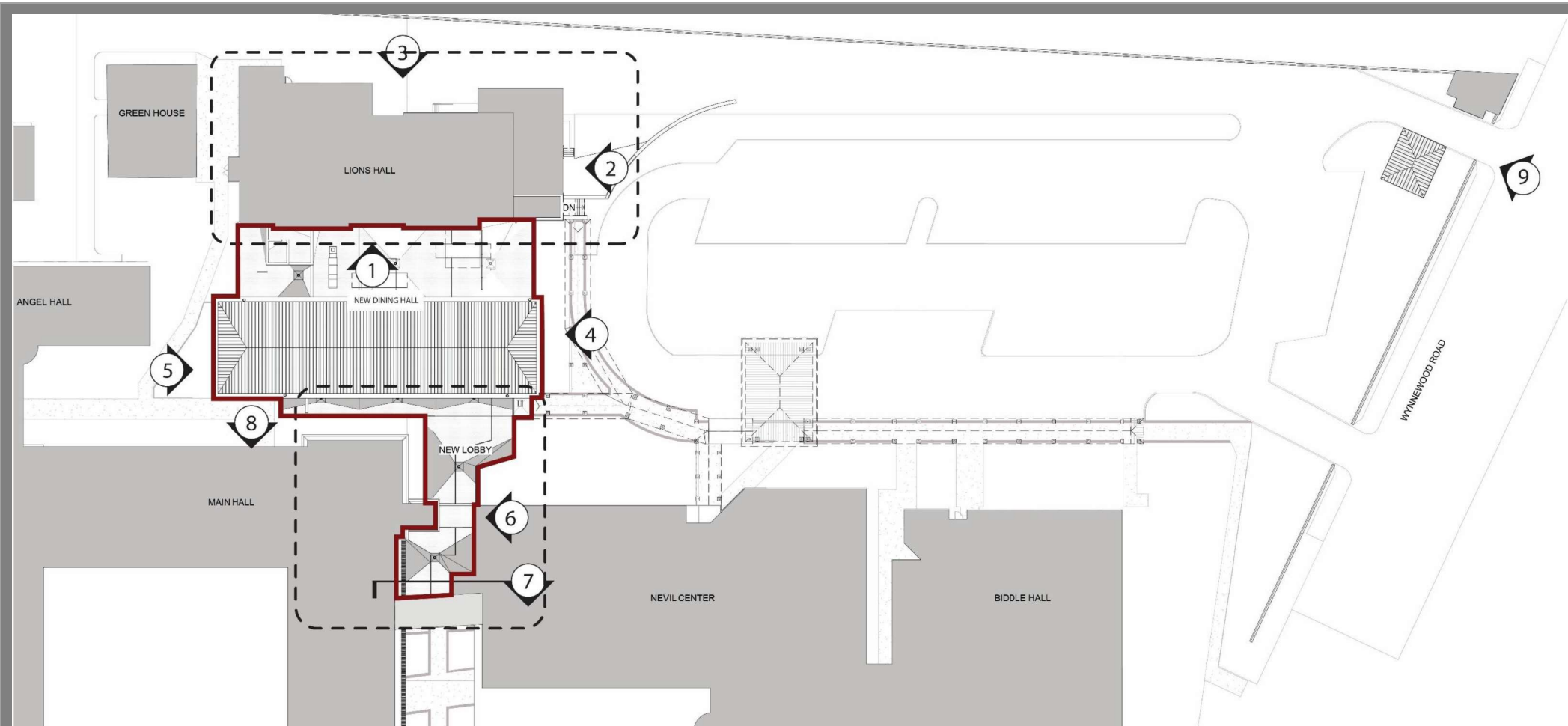
East Pedestrian Gate



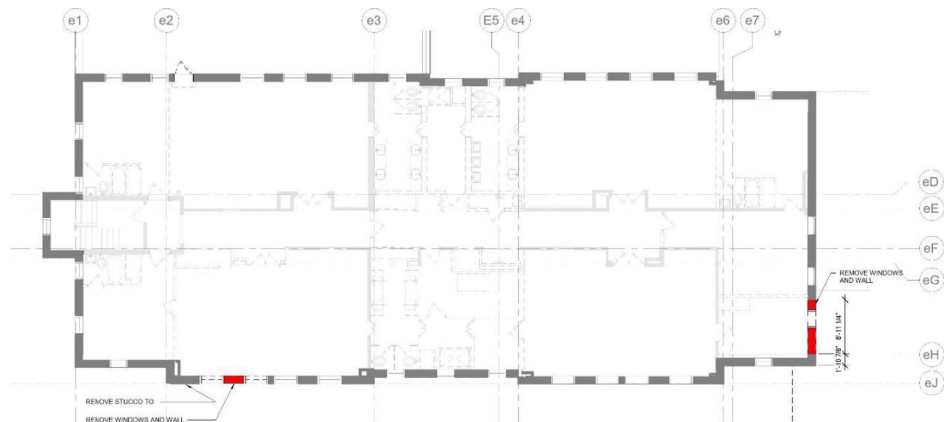
Northeast Vehicular Gate



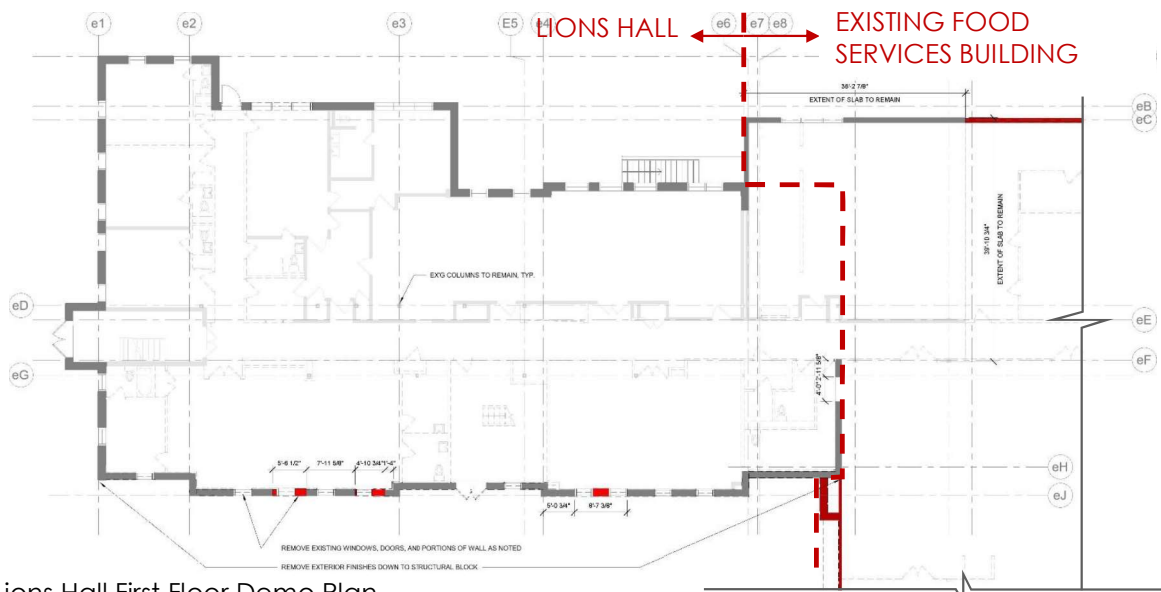
PROPOSED PARTIAL DEMOLITION



PLAN/ELEVATION KEY PLAN

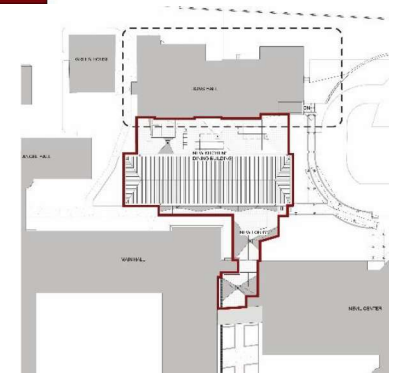


Lions Hall Second Floor Demo Plan

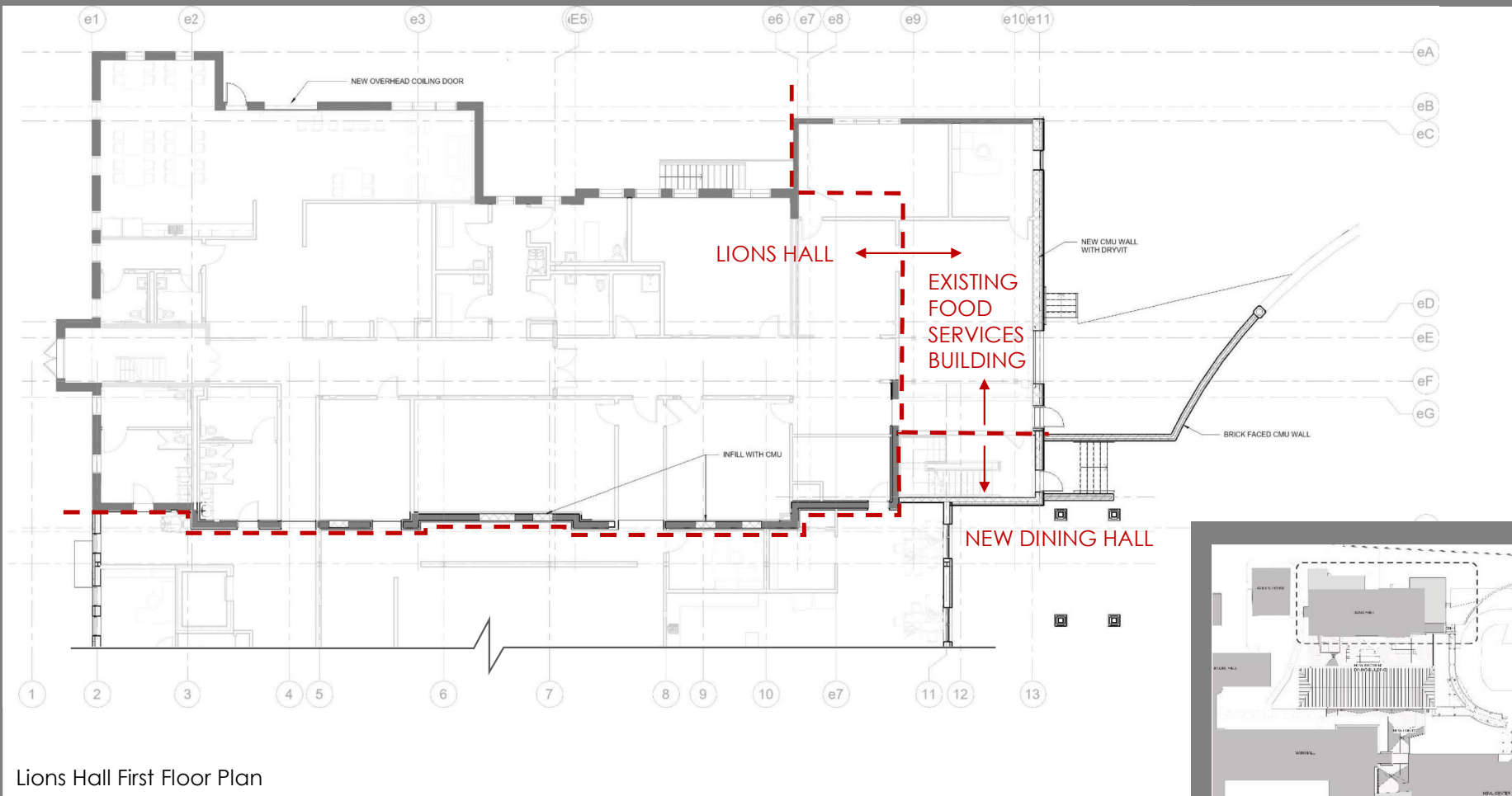


Lions Hall First Floor Demo Plan

- REMOVE STUCCO FROM THIS AREA
- DEMO WALL IN THIS AREA
- DEMO BUILDING IN THIS AREA

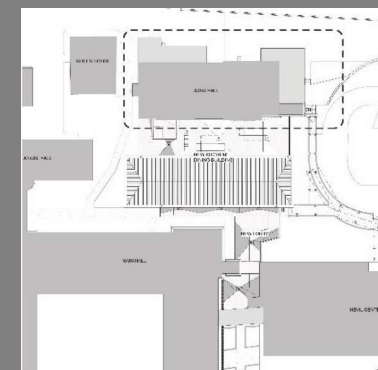
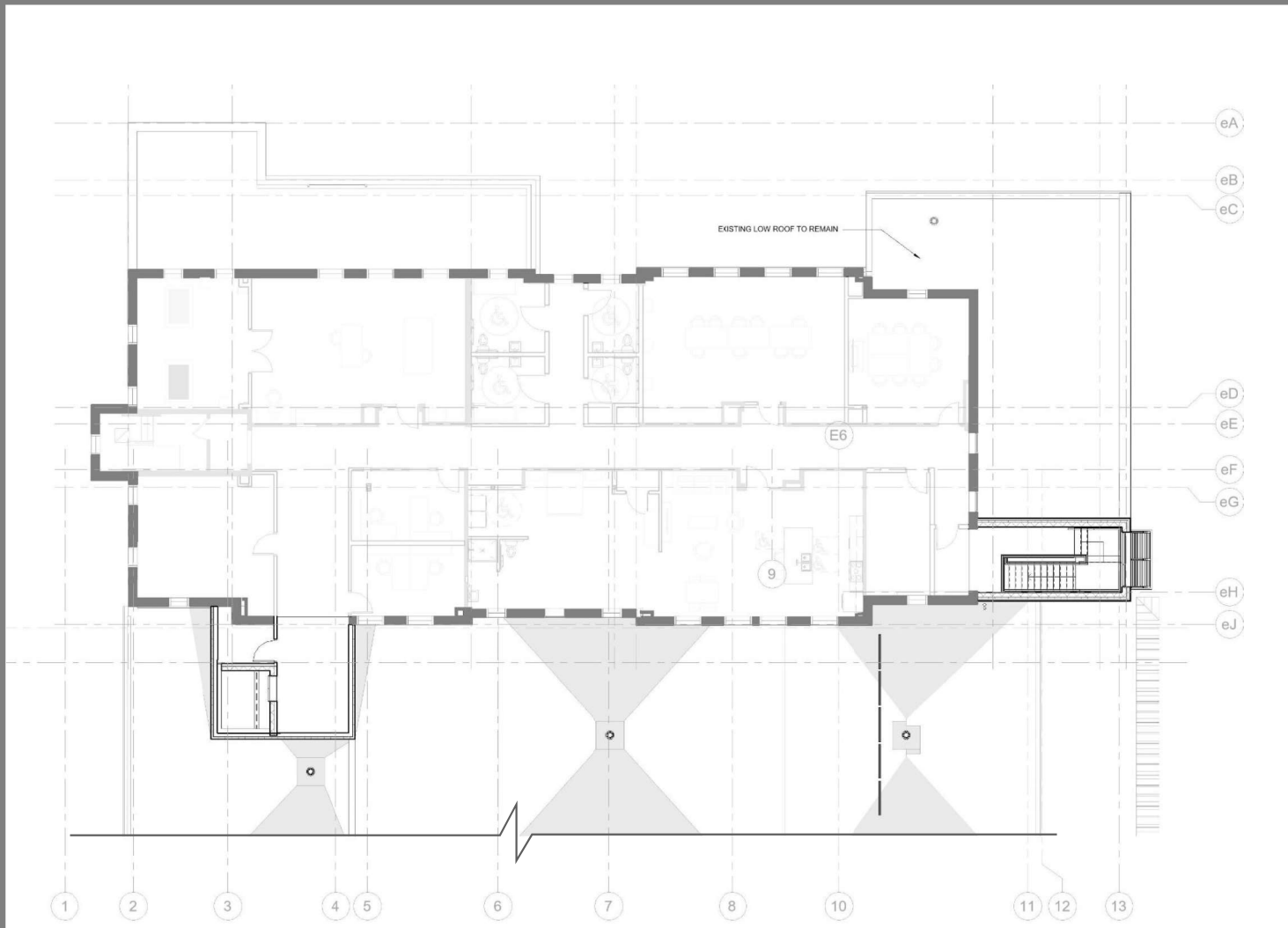


LIONS HALL / FOOD SERVICES BUILDING DEMO PLANS

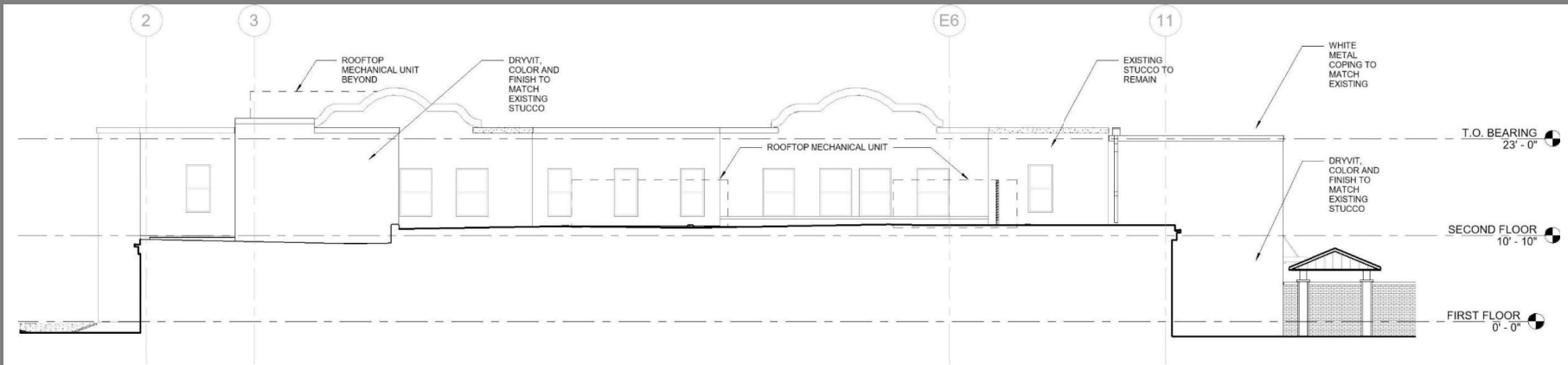


Lions Hall First Floor Plan

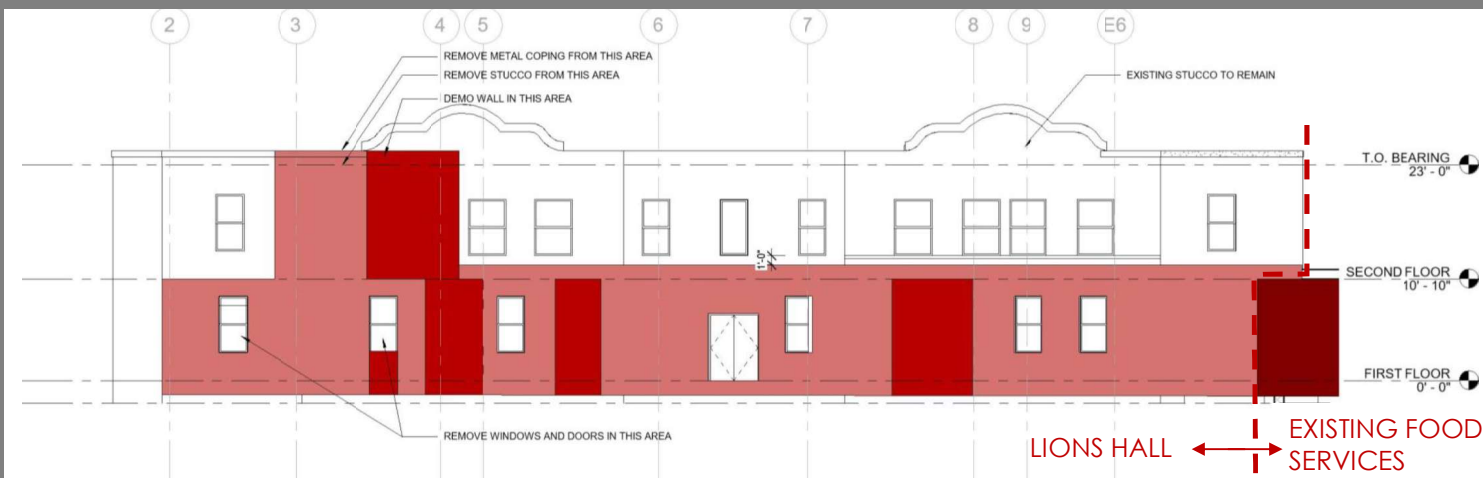
LIONS HALL NEW CONSTRUCTION PLAN



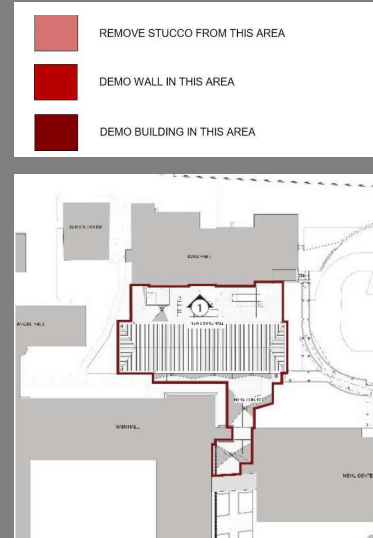
LIONS HALL NEW CONSTRUCTION PLAN



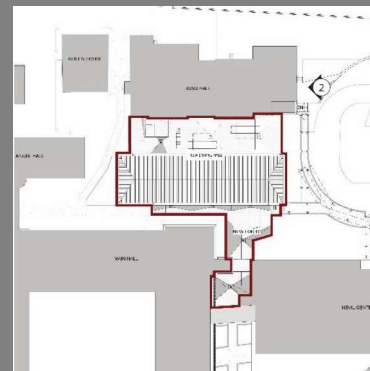
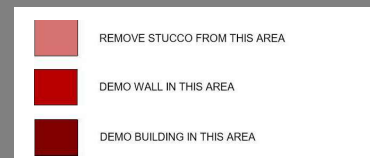
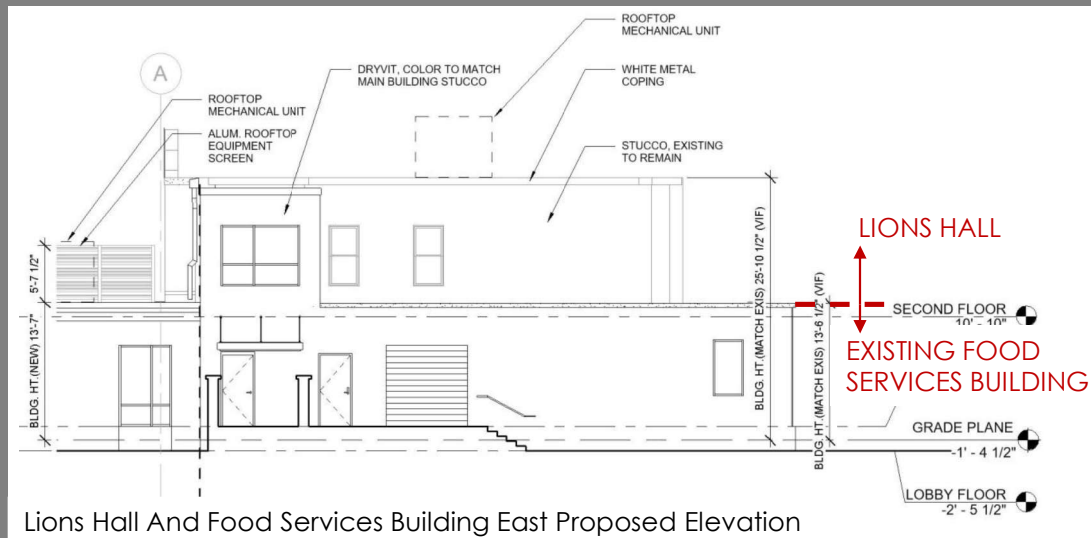
Lions Hall South Proposed Elevation



Lions Hall South Demo Elevation

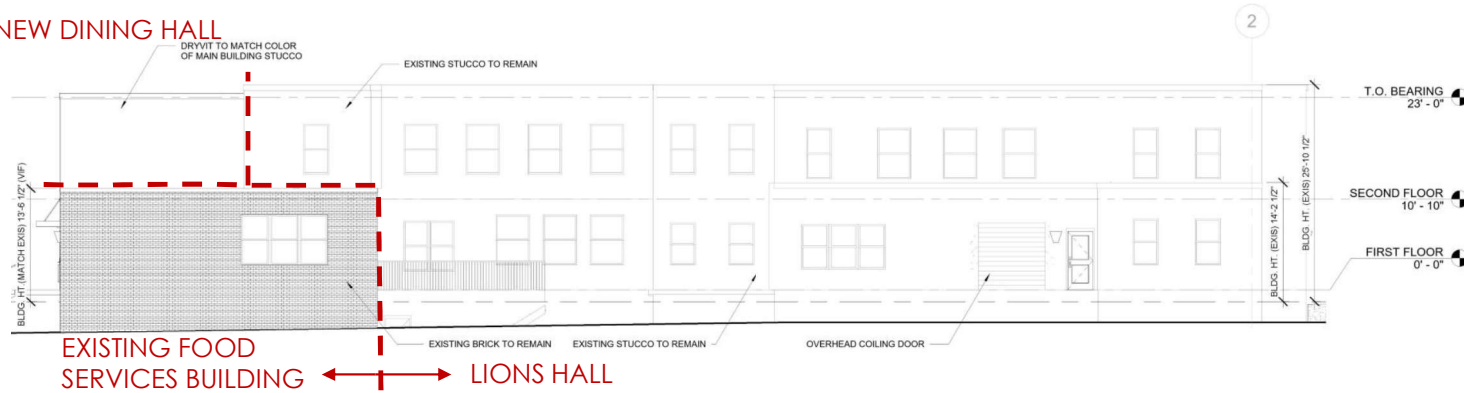


1: LIONS HALL SOUTH FACADE

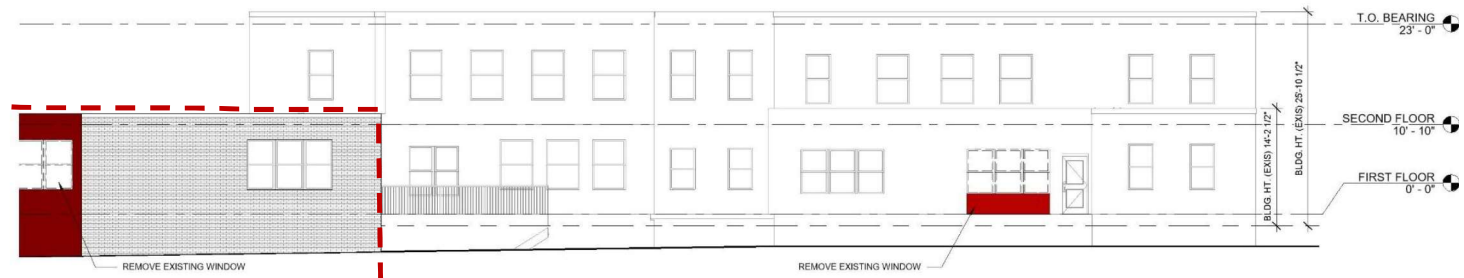


2: LIONS HALL AND FOOD SERVICES EAST FACADE

NEW DINING HALL

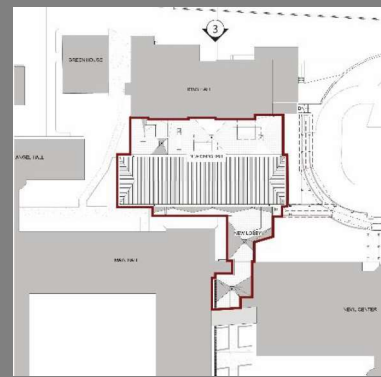


Lions Hall and Existing Food Services Building North Proposed Elevation



Lions Hall and Existing Food Services Building North Demo Elevation

- REMOVE STUCCO FROM THIS AREA
- DEMO WALL IN THIS AREA
- DEMO BUILDING IN THIS AREA



3: LIONS HALL AND FOOD SERVICES BUILDING NORTH FACADE

MAIN BUILDING

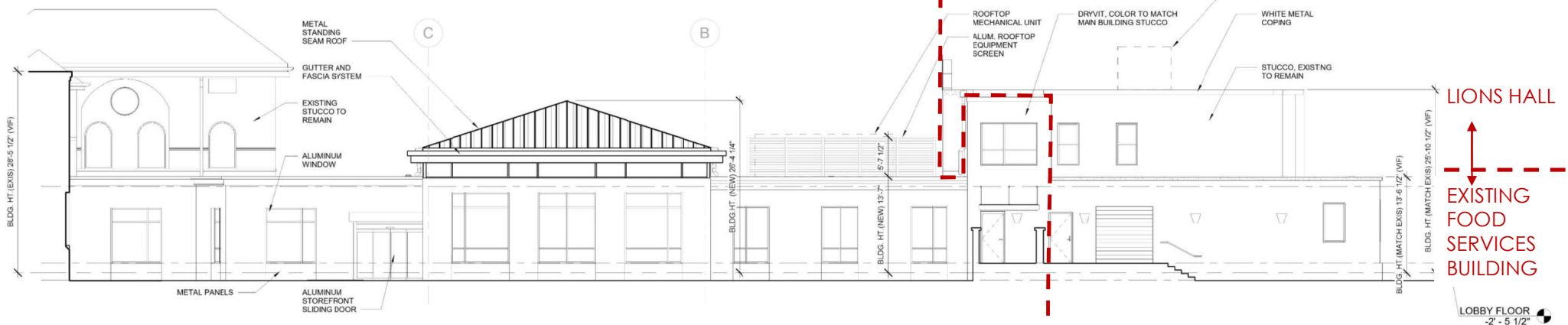
NEW DINING HALL

LIONS HALL

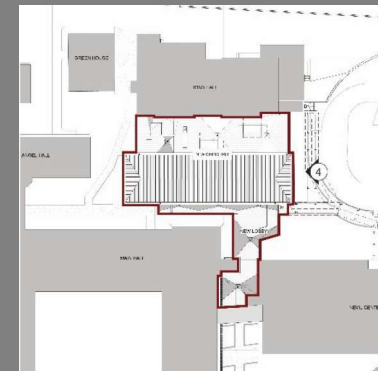
LIONS HALL

EXISTING FOOD SERVICES BUILDING

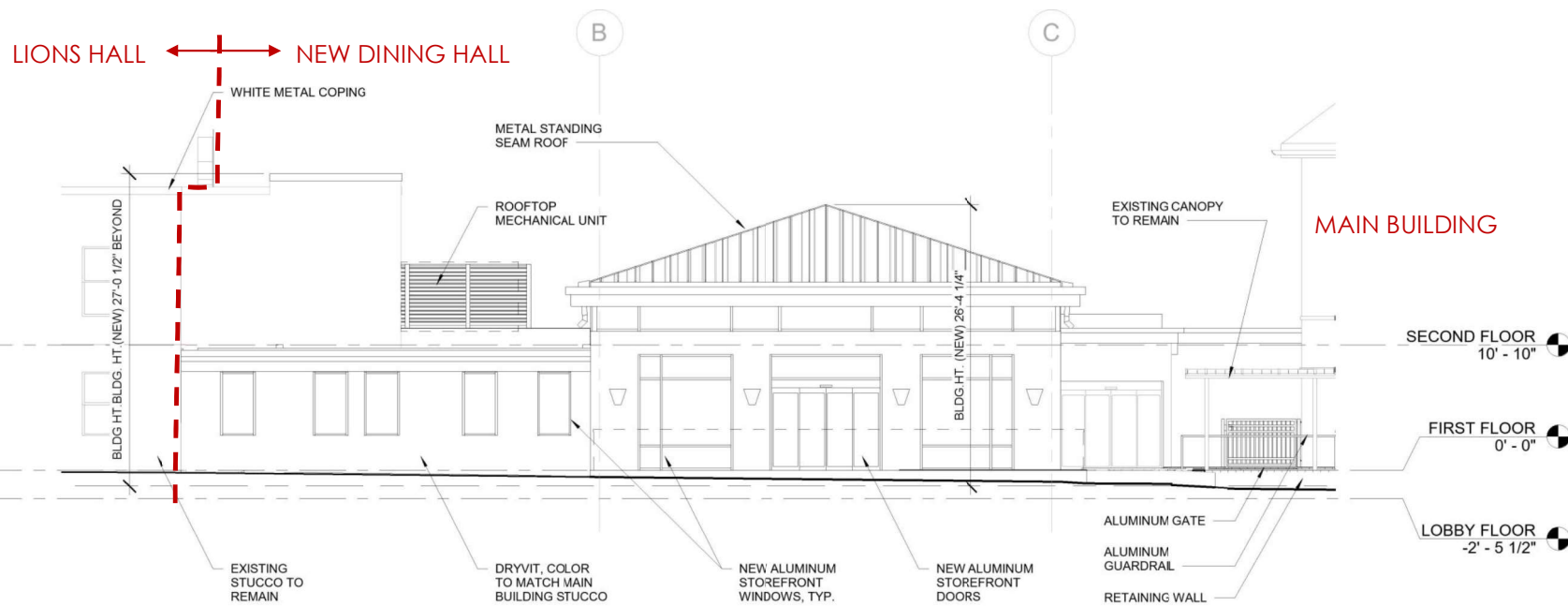
LOBBY FLOOR
-2' - 5 1/2"



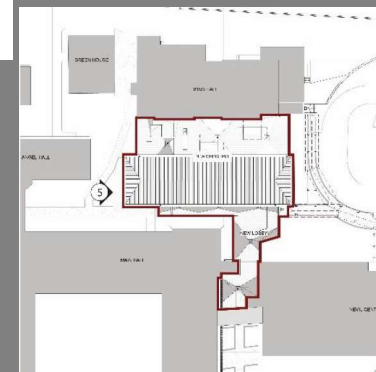
New Dining Hall East Proposed Facade



4: NEW DINING HALL EAST FACADE



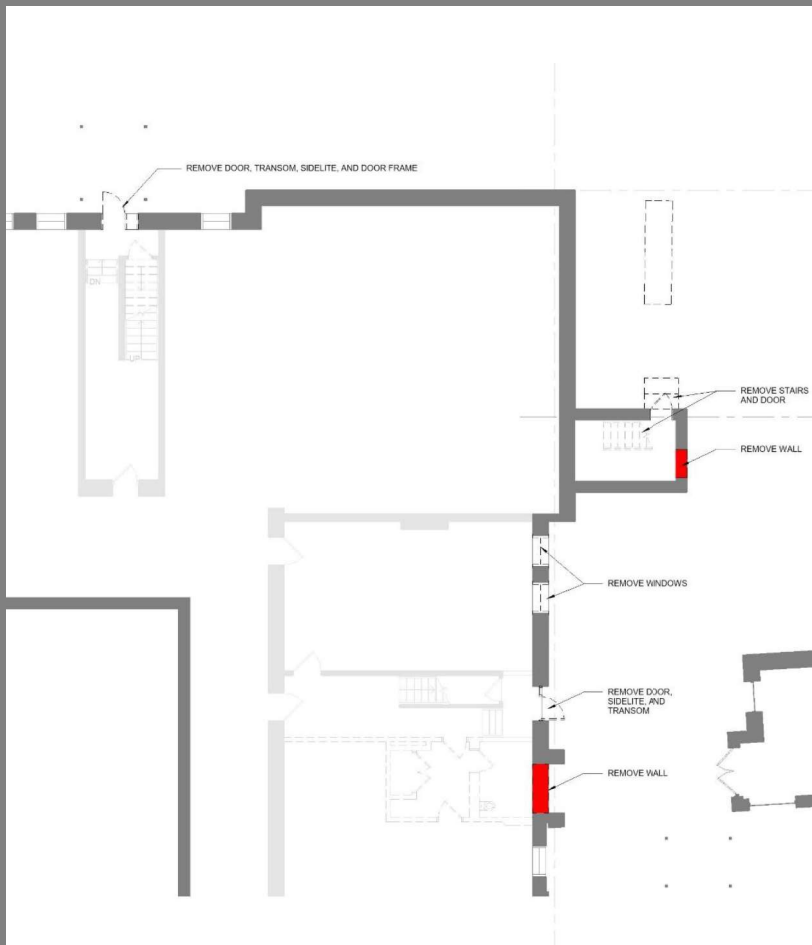
New Dining Hall West Proposed Facade



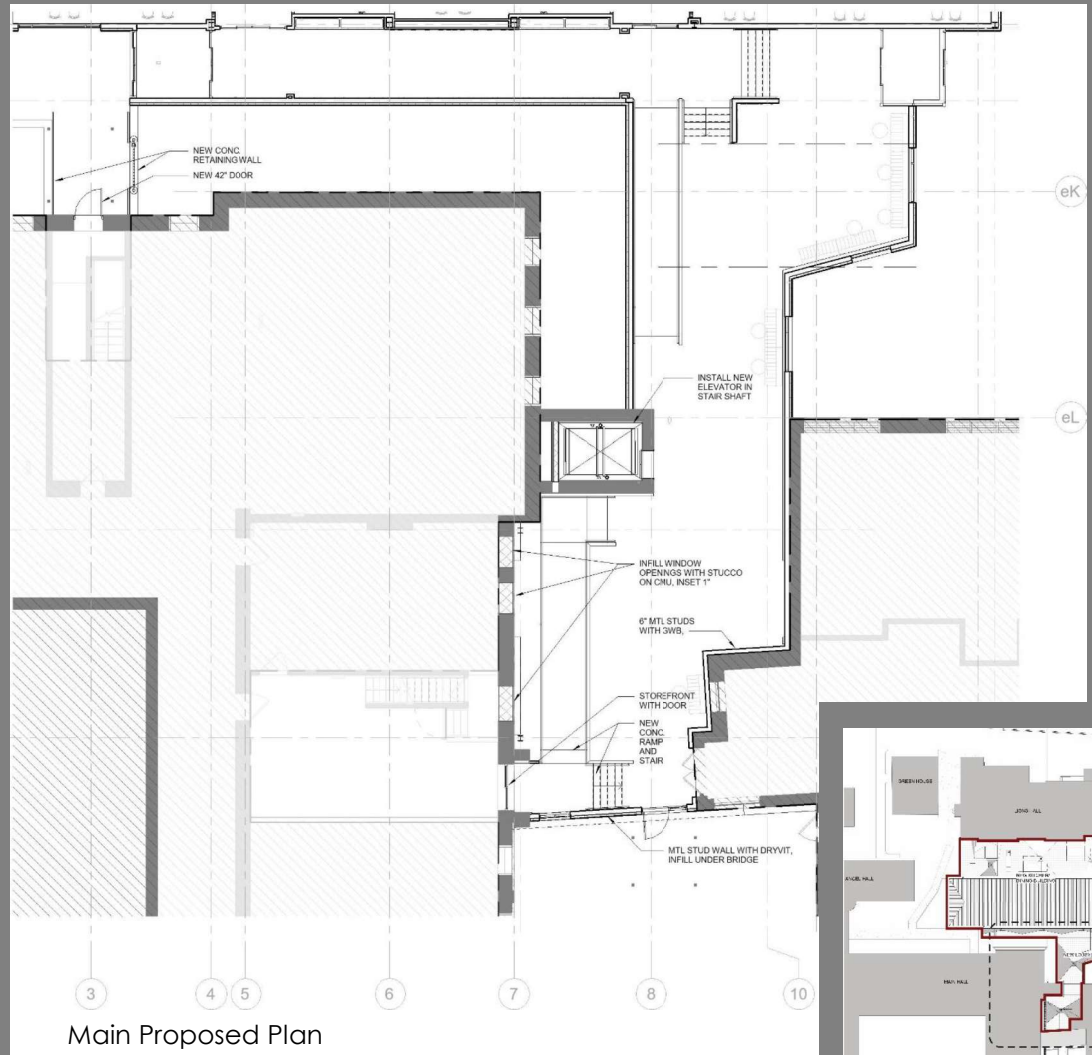
5: NEW DINING HALL WEST FACADE



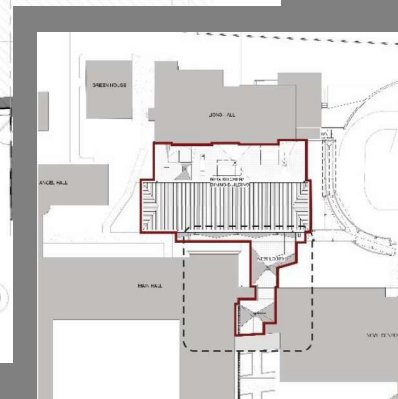
BEFORE AND AFTER: VIEW FROM BUS LOOP



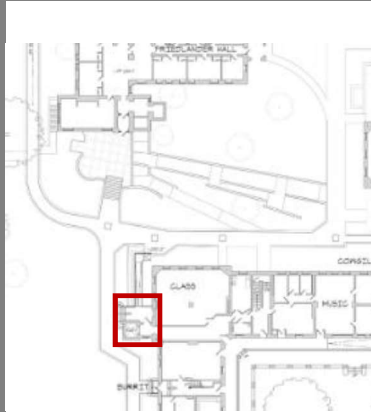
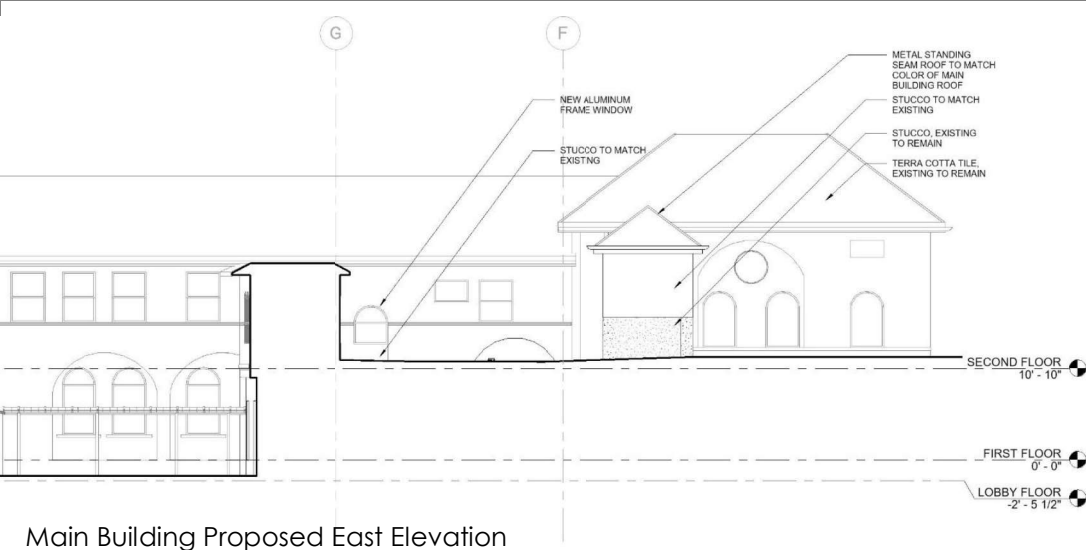
Main Demo Plan



Main Proposed Plan

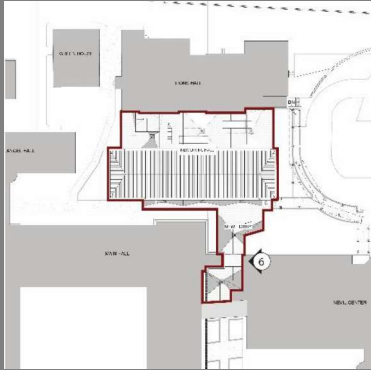


MAIN BUILDING PLANS

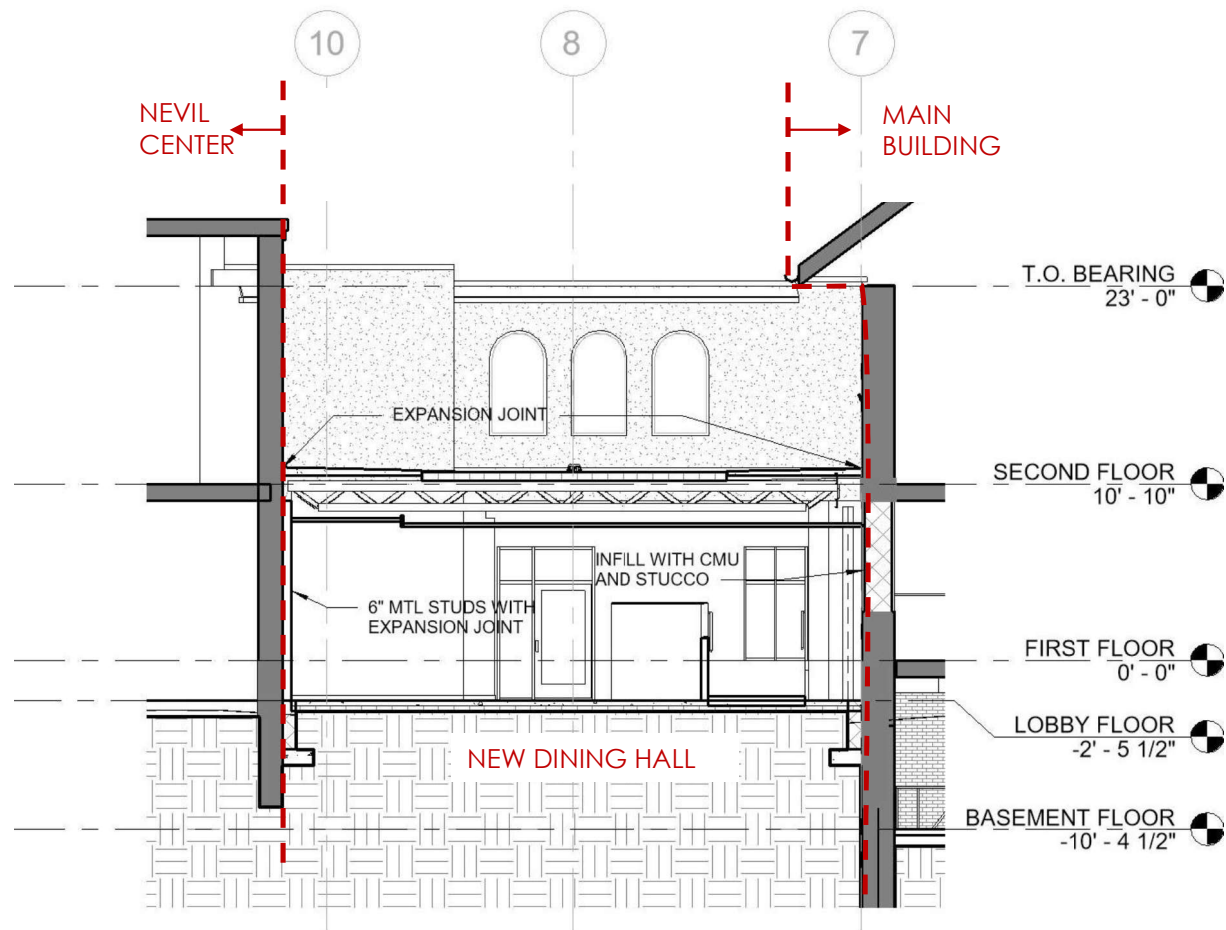


Existing Precedent Elevator Location (W Side)

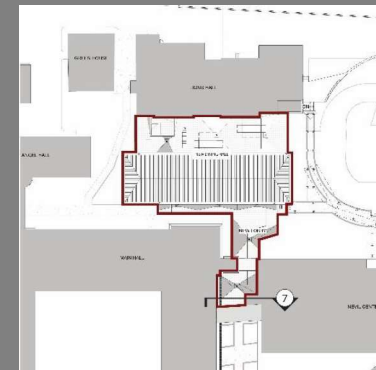
- REMOVE STUCCO FROM THIS AREA
- DEMO WALL IN THIS AREA
- DEMO BUILDING IN THIS AREA



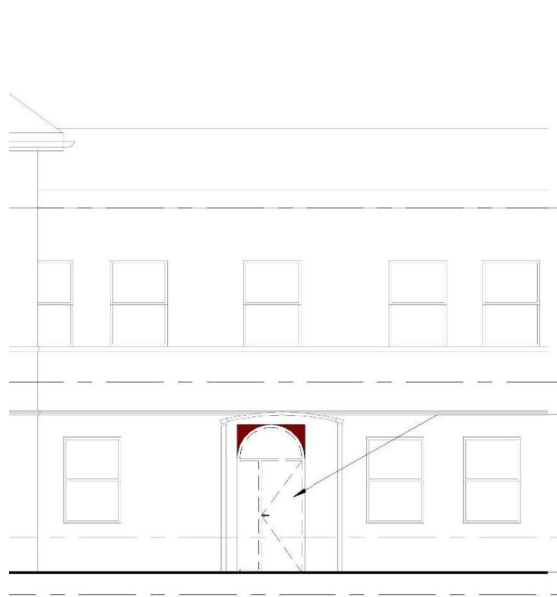
6: MAIN BUILDING EAST FACADE



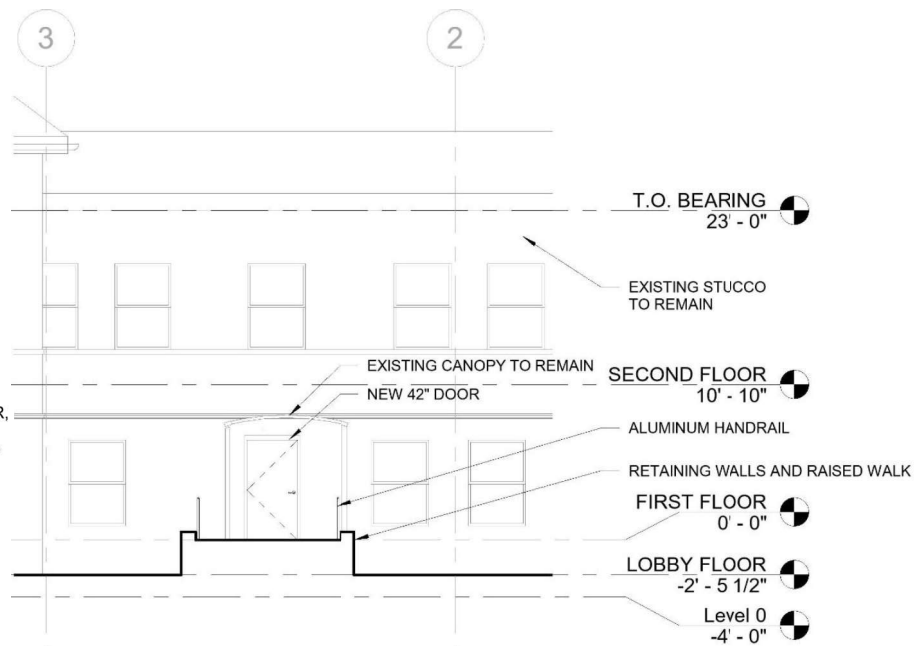
Proposed Section of Portion of New Dining Hall Between Nevil Center and Main Building



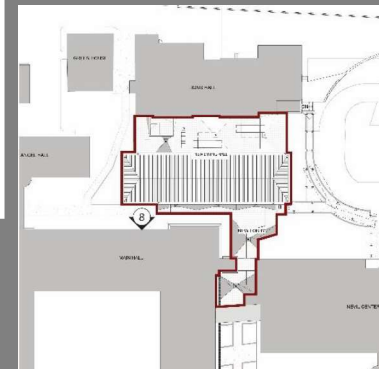
7: MAIN BUILDING/NEW DINING HALL SECTION



Main Building Demo North Elevation



Main Building Proposed North Elevation



8: MAIN BUILDING NORTH ELEVATION



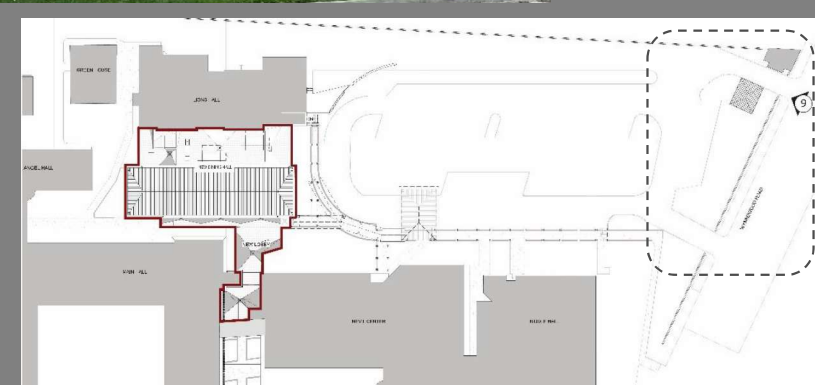
BEFORE AND AFTER: MAIN BUILDING



BEFORE AND AFTER: MAIN BUILDING AT BRIDGE



WALL TO BE PARTIALLY
DEMOLISHED



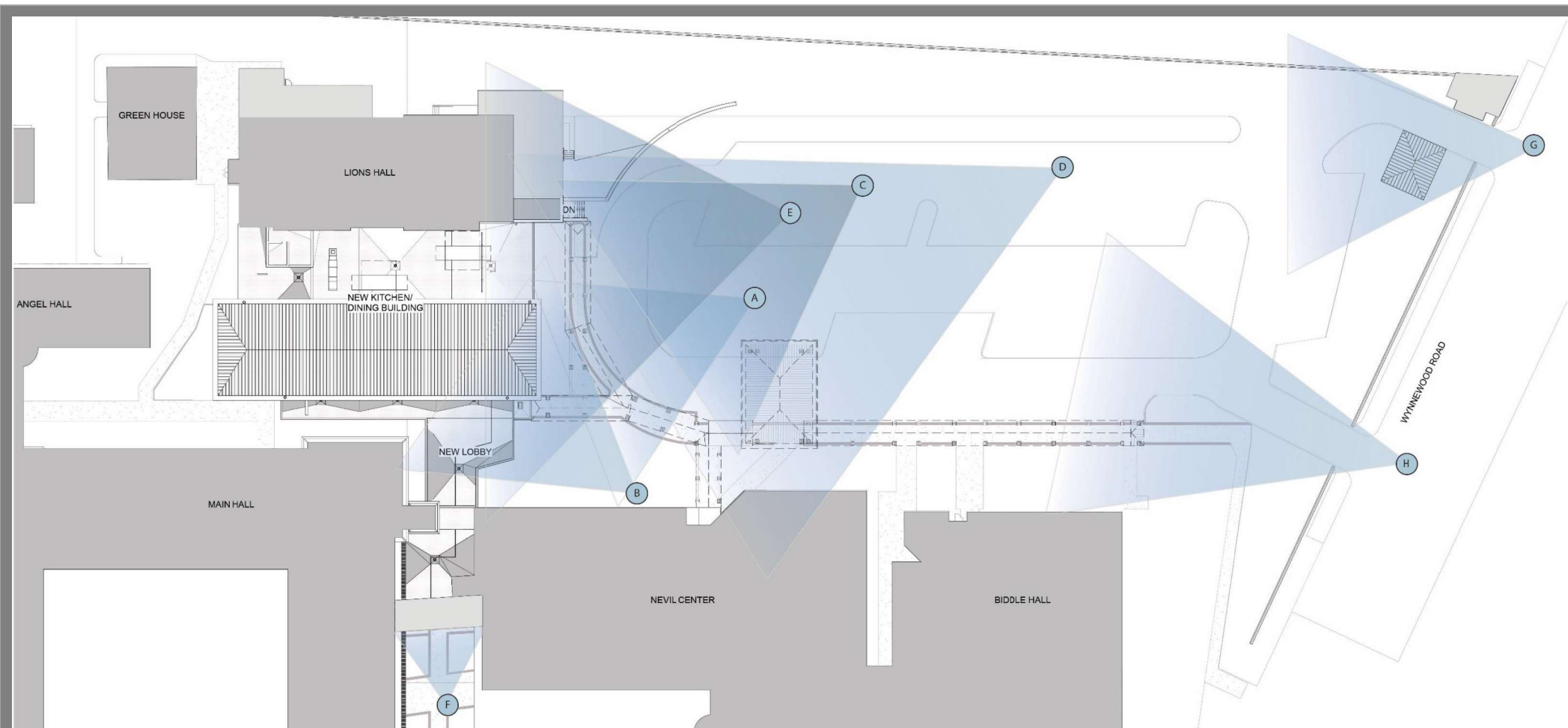
9: CAMPUS WALL



BEFORE AND AFTER: WEST PEDESTRIAN GATE



BEFORE AND AFTER: NORTHWEST VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



RENDERING KEY PLAN

RENDERINGS

















EXISTING
STUCCO AT
NEVIL BRIDGE



EXISTING
STUCCO AT
MAIN BUILDING



EXISTING
STUCCO AT
LIONS HALL

DRYVIT TEXTURE TO
CONTRAST WITH EXISTING
BUILDING TEXTURES
(SANDBLAST)



DRYVIT STANDARD OR
CUSTOM COLOR TO
MATCH MAIN BUILDING
COLOR



811
Maple Walnut

TYPICAL EXTERIOR INSULATION AND FINISH SYSTEM:

- DRYVIT FINISH
- 3 1/2" EPS INSULATION BOARD (R-13 MIN.)
- 5/8" FIBERGLASS MAT GYPSUM SHEATHING
- 6" COLD FORMED METAL FRAMING
- FIBERGLASS BATT INSULATION (R-13 MIN)
- 4" COLD FORMED METAL FRAMING
- 5/8" TYPE X GWB



EXTERIOR MATERIALS

EXISTING ROOF OF MAIN HALL



TERRA COTTA ROOF TILES

PROPOSED ROOF FOR NEW BUILDING



TUFF-RIB METAL PANELS
TERRA COTTA RED
BEST BUY METALS



EXTERIOR MATERIALS

THANK YOU!



KIMMEL
ARCHITECTURE



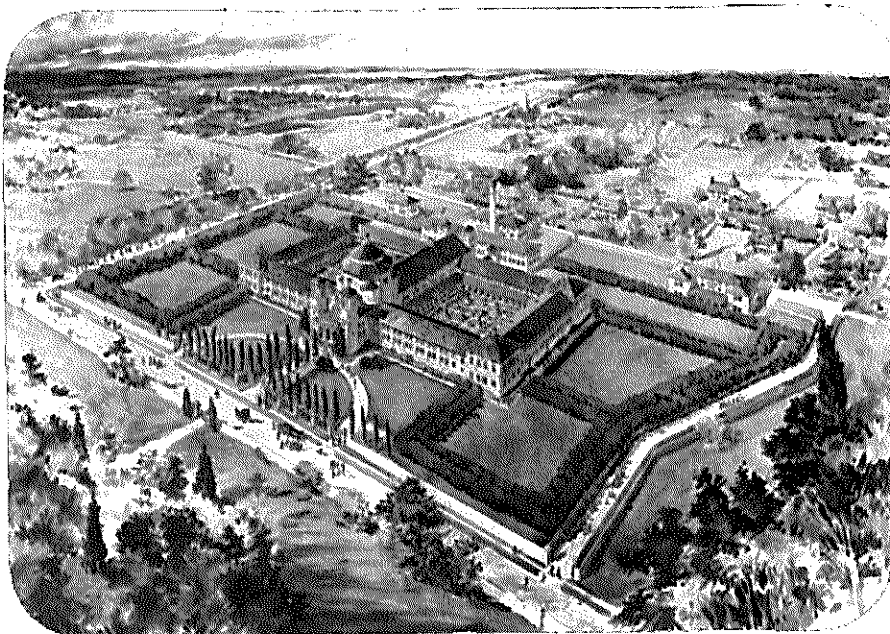
Supplementary information:
Inventory of campus buildings prepared in 2013
for the Historical Commission

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission



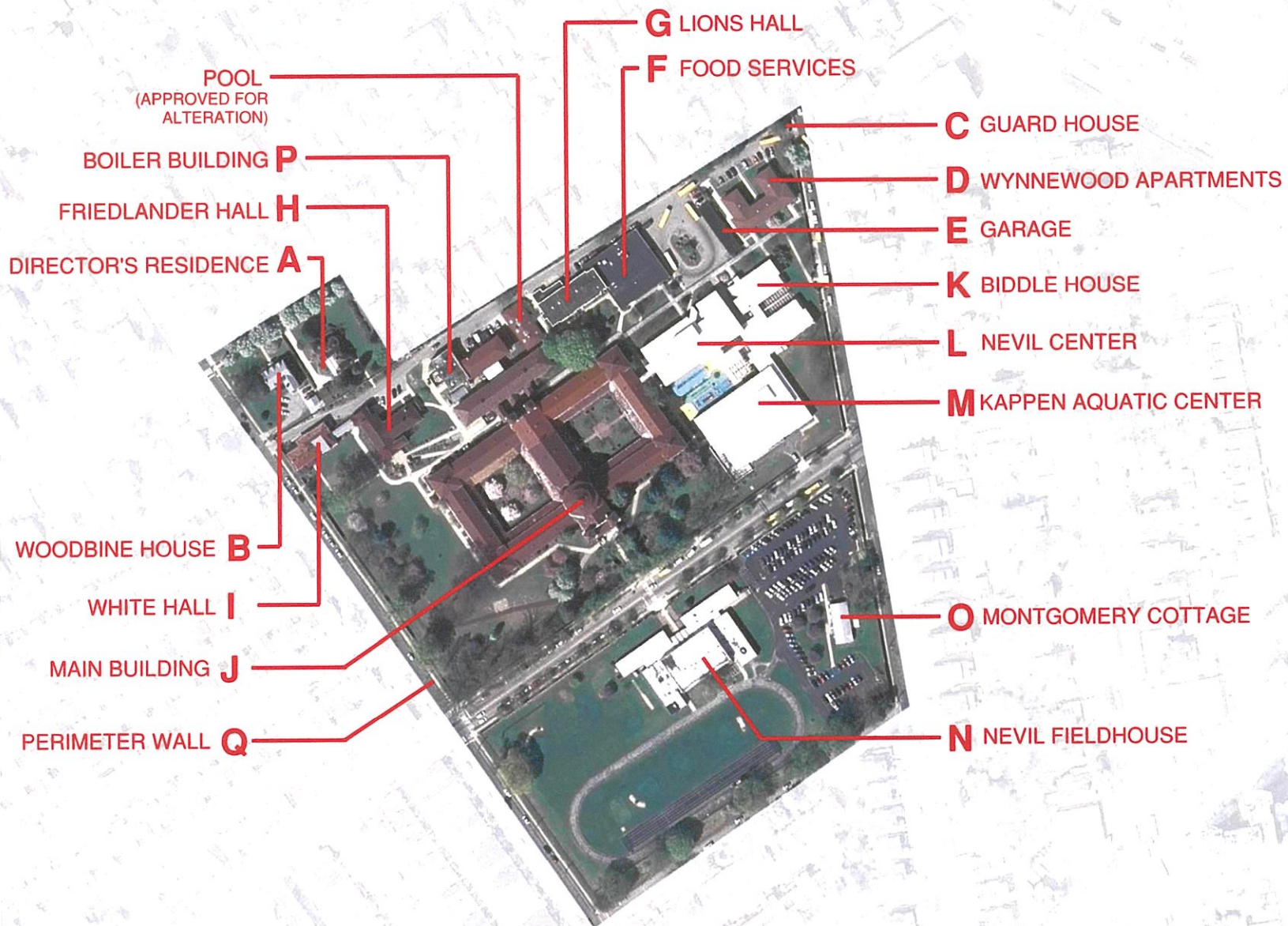
INTENT OF THIS BOOKLET

At the request of the Historical Commission we have assembled information about each of the structures on the Overbrook School for the Blind. The intent, as we understand it, is to enable the Historical Commission to determine on a building-by-building basis, rather than the current campus wide basis, which buildings would need Historical Commission review when their exteriors are altered.

The information provided includes the building name, address, date built, the architect (if known), square footage, the basic construction method and if applicable a brief description of the building's evolution on campus.

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**OVERBROOK SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
BUILDING KEY**



Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "A"

Director's Residence

6392 Woodbine Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1900

Number of Stories:

Three floors plus basement. Detached two car garage with dormered second floor.

Square Feet:

6,467

Additions & renovations:

Yes (no date). Frame and stucco rear addition.

Construction:

Stone and wood frame, asphalt shingles, stucco and aluminum siding.

Garage is stone and frame with slab on grade and asphalt shingles.

Director's Residence – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Garage

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"B"**

Woodbine House

6398 Woodbine Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1900

Number of Stories:

Three floors plus basement. Detached one car garage.

Square Feet:

5,084

Renovations:

No additions

Construction:

Stone and wood frame, asphalt shingles.

Garage is stucco on masonry with slab on grade and asphalt shingles.

Woodbine House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Garage

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"C"**

Guard House

Wynnewood Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899, architect: Cope and Stewardson

Number of Stories:

One

Square Feet:

355

Additions:

No

Construction:

Stucco on masonry, glazed clay tile shingles.

Guard House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Campus side



Street side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"D"**

Wynnewood Apartments

1900 Wynnewood Road
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1960

Number of Stories:

Two floors, plus a basement.

Square Feet:

12,520

Renovations:

Yes, 1986 – Lambert Brothers

Construction:

Exterior walls brick on concrete masonry units. Steel frame with asphalt shingles and single membrane roofing.

Wynnewood Apartments – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "E"

Garage

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1960

Number of Stories:

One story slab on grade

Square Feet:

2,100

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Stucco on masonry and wood frame roof with single membrane roofing.

Garage – Overbrook School for the Blind



Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"F"**

Food Services Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1975 architect: Chappelle & Crothers

Number of Stories:

One floor plus a small mechanical basement and slab on grade.

Square Feet:

13,962

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame and brick over block exterior walls and cmu interior.

Food Services Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"G"**

Lions Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1954 architect: Norman Hulme

Number of Stories:

Two floors and a partial basement and crawl spaces

Square Feet:

22,500

Additions & renovations:

Original building was demolished and the new building constructed in 1953.

Construction:

The 1953 addition is stucco on masonry and frame with a flat roof.

Lions Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "H"

Friedlander Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 original construction, architect: Cope and Stewardson

2001 addition and renovation, architect: Daley + Jalboot Architects

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus a finished basement with an at grade entry.

Square Feet:

Renovation 15,110, addition 240

Additions & renovations:

Yes 2001.

Construction:

Stone and covered with stucco, glazed clay tile shingles.

History:

Originally this building was used as the infirmary. At some point it was converted to offices, dorms and a kitchen in the basement. In 2001 it was converted to a dormitory with housekeeping and mechanical on the lowest level. Reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission in 2000.

Friedlander Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "I"

White Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 architect: Cope and Stewardson

2006 additions and renovations: architect, Daley + Jalboot Architects

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus basement and mechanical loft.

Square Feet:

Total 8,965 (renovation 6,075 , addition 2,890)

Additions & renovations:

Yes 2006.

Construction:

Original building is stone covered with stucco exterior wall with framing and gwb. Main building has glazed clay tile roof and the connecting corridor with Friedlander has a metal roof.

History:

The building was originally the Principal's residence. At some point it was converted to offices and storage. In 2006 it was renovated into dorms on the first floor and independent living apartments on the second floor. Reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission in 2006.

White Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "J"

Main Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 architect: Cope and Stewardson

Date unknown: boiler house addition

1994 Bridge addition to Nevil Building, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

1997 Elevator addition to Burritt Cottage, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus a partial third in the Rotunda and a basement.

Square Feet:

169,514

Additions & renovations:

Yes.

Construction:

The original building is stone with stucco, wood frame roof with glazed clay tile shingles.

Basement has some areas of concrete floor but most are dirt.

History:

This building houses classrooms, dormitories, administration, library, auditorium, museum and student support spaces. Wings at the rear originally housed the kitchen, dining, laundry and oiler plant. The kitchen / dining, dormitories and gym now occupy separate buildings. The boiler plant expanded into a new boiler house (date unknown). The original fences and stucco and masonry walls remain.

The 1994 Bridge addition and the 1997 Burritt Cottage elevator addition both received the Historic Commission review and approval.

Main Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front entry



Side and bridge addition

Main Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Side



Cloister



Cloister

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "K"

Biddle House

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1972 architect: Francis, Cauffman, Wilkinson and Pepper Architects

Number of Stories:

One with a partial basement

Square Feet:

18,956

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame with brick veneer and flat roof

History:

Originally a dormitory, but at an unknown date Biddle was converted to classrooms

Biddle House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Side



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "L"

Nevil Center

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1972 architect: Francis, Cauffman, Wilkinson and Pepper Architects

1994 Bridge connection from Main Building, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

Number of Stories:

Two with a basement

Square Feet:

29,680

Additions & renovations:

Yes (minor) Bridge connection to Main Building

Construction:

Steel frame with brick veneer

History:

Nevil has always been a classroom building. The 1994 Bridge connection was reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission.

Nevil Center – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"M"**

Kappen Aquatic Center

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

2008 LEED Platinum – architect: Daley + Jalboot Architects, LLP

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

23,859

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Natatorium space is constructed with ICF's with a brick veneer and the rest is steel frame with cement siding. Roof is steel framed and flat. The Aquatic Center design was reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission.

History:

This aquatic center replaced the original pool building that no longer addressed the needs of the students and which presented a danger due to its age and condition. The Historic Commission granted approval to alter the old pool building. The new aquatic center occupies a previously undeveloped part of the campus.

Kappen Aquatic Center – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"N"**

Nevil Fieldhouse

6330 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1962 architect: Francis Cauffman Wilkinson & Pepper Architect

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

25,099

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame and precast panels.

Nevil Fieldhouse – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "O"

Montgomery Cottage

1860 Wynnewood Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1970

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

2,171

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Wood frame and brick veneer. Wood frame roof with asphalt shingles.

Montgomery Cottage – Overbrook School for the Blind



Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"P"**

Boiler Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1968 (+/-)

Number of Stories:

One, slab on grade

Square Feet:

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame with masonry exterior wall with stucco.

Boiler Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



NE corner



NW corner

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "Q"

Campus Wall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 (portion of the campus north of Malvern Avenue)

Number of Stories:

None

Approximate Linear Feet:

3,700

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Masonry, stucco, wrought iron and stone caps and finials.

Campus Wall – Overbrook School for the Blind



SE corner of Main Campus



Inside of Main Entry – looking at street



Section along 64th Street



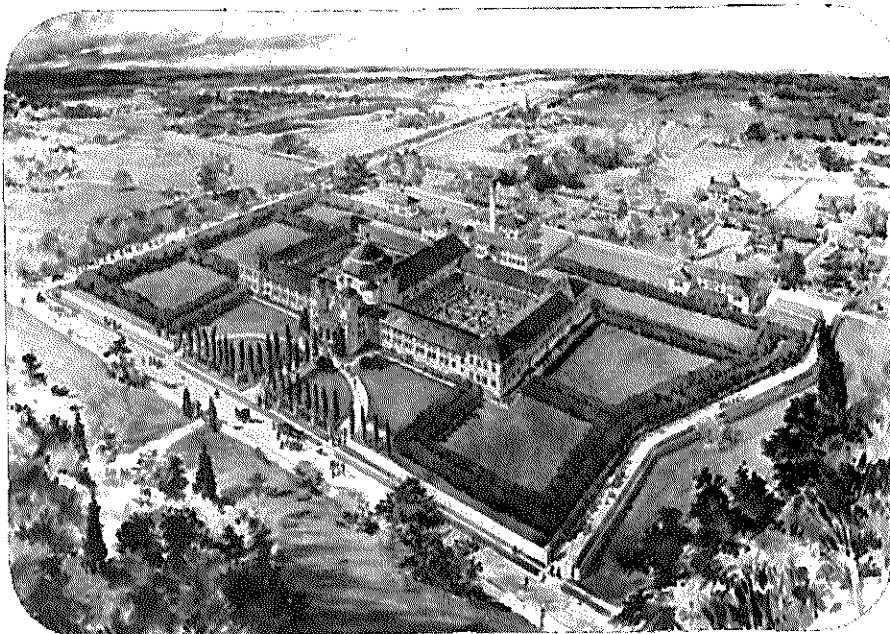
Inside of Main Entry – side wall detailing

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission



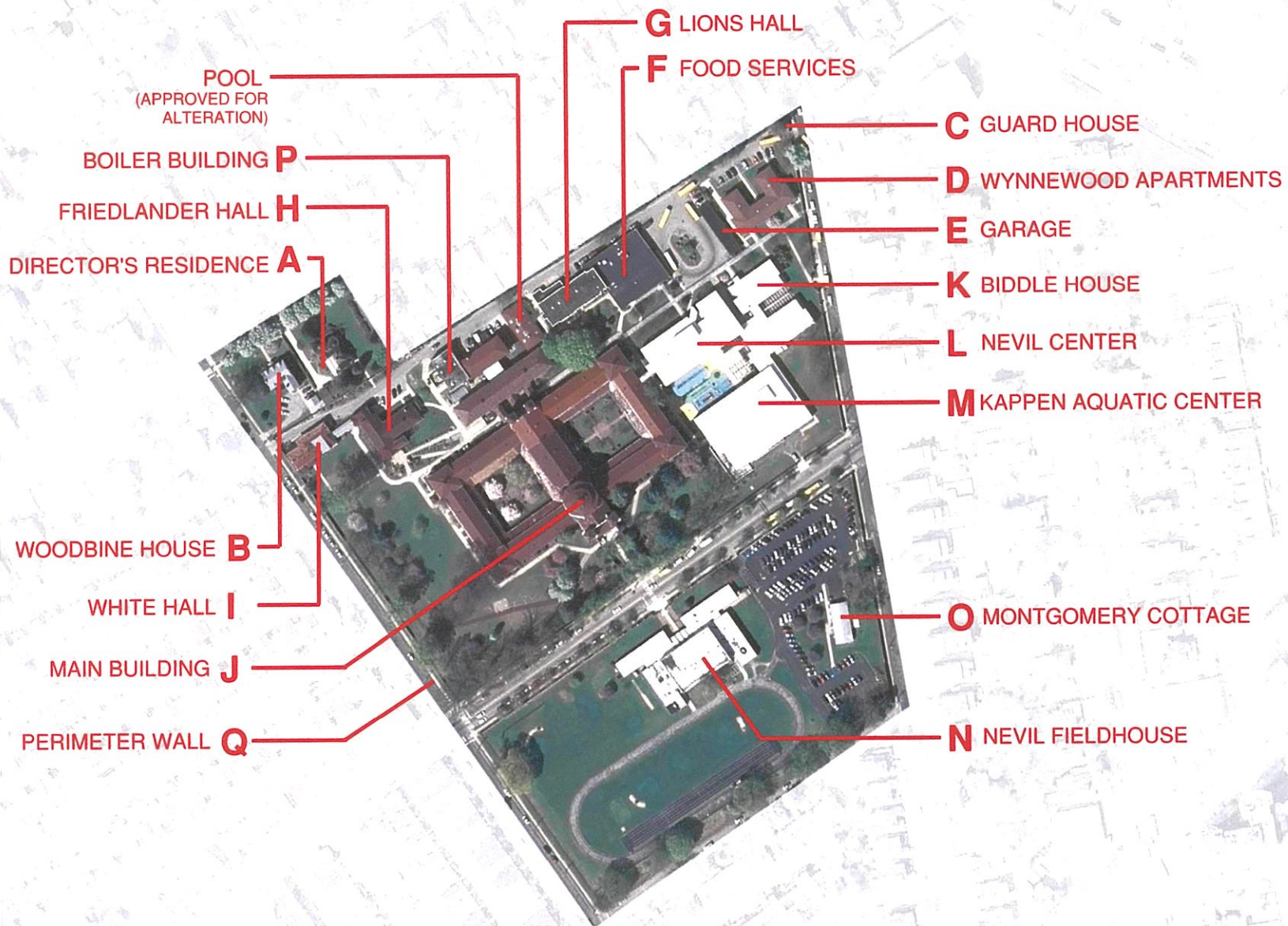
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At the request of the Historical Commission we have assembled information about each of the structures on the Overbrook School for the Blind. The intent, as we understand it, is to enable the Historical Commission to determine on a building-by-building basis, rather than the current campus wide basis, which buildings would need Historical Commission review when their exteriors are altered.

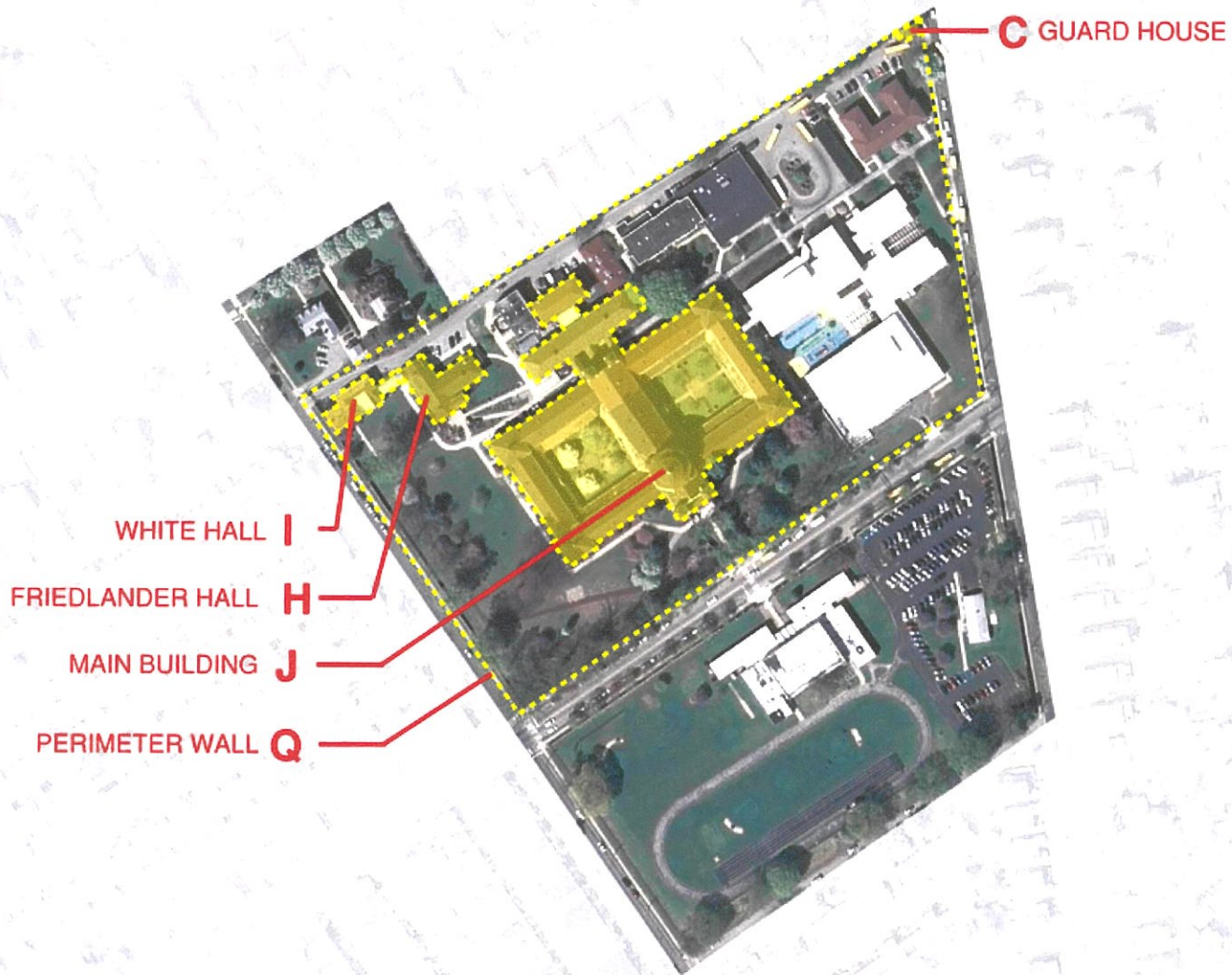
The information provided includes the building name, address, date built, the architect (if known), square footage, the basic construction method and if applicable a brief description of the building's evolution on campus.

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**OVERBROOK SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
BUILDING KEY**



COPE AND STEWARDSON ARCHITECTS
BUILDINGS AND WALL

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "A"

Director's Residence

6392 Woodbine Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1900

Number of Stories:

Three floors plus basement. Detached two car garage with dormered second floor.

Square Feet:

6,467

Additions & renovations:

Yes (no date). Frame and stucco rear addition.

Construction:

Stone and wood frame, asphalt shingles, stucco and aluminum siding.

Garage is stone and frame with slab on grade and asphalt shingles.

Director's Residence – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Garage

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"B"**

Woodbine House

6398 Woodbine Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1900

Number of Stories:

Three floors plus basement. Detached one car garage.

Square Feet:

5,084

Renovations:

No additions

Construction:

Stone and wood frame, asphalt shingles.

Garage is stucco on masonry with slab on grade and asphalt shingles.

Woodbine House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Garage

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"C"**

Guard House

Wynnewood Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899, architect: Cope and Stewardson

Number of Stories:

One

Square Feet:

355

Additions:

No

Construction:

Stucco on masonry, glazed clay tile shingles.

Guard House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Campus side



Street side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"D"**

Wynnewood Apartments

1900 Wynnewood Road
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1960

Number of Stories:

Two floors, plus a basement.

Square Feet:

12,520

Renovations:

Yes, 1986 – Lambert Brothers

Construction:

Exterior walls brick on concrete masonry units. Steel frame with asphalt shingles and single membrane roofing.

Wynnewood Apartments – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "E"

Garage

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1960

Number of Stories:

One story slab on grade

Square Feet:

2,100

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Stucco on masonry and wood frame roof with single membrane roofing.

Garage – Overbrook School for the Blind



Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"F"**

Food Services Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1975 architect: Chappelle & Crothers

Number of Stories:

One floor plus a small mechanical basement and slab on grade.

Square Feet:

13,962

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame and brick over block exterior walls and cmu interior.

Food Services Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"G"**

Lions Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1954 architect: Norman Hulme

Number of Stories:

Two floors and a partial basement and crawl spaces

Square Feet:

22,500

Additions & renovations:

Original building was demolished and the new building constructed in 1953.

Construction:

The 1953 addition is stucco on masonry and frame with a flat roof.

Lions Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "H"

Friedlander Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 original construction, architect: Cope and Stewardson

2001 addition and renovation, architect: Daley + Jalboot Architects

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus a finished basement with an at grade entry.

Square Feet:

Renovation 15,110, addition 240

Additions & renovations:

Yes 2001.

Construction:

Stone and covered with stucco, glazed clay tile shingles.

History:

Originally this building was used as the infirmary. At some point it was converted to offices, dorms and a kitchen in the basement. In 2001 it was converted to a dormitory with housekeeping and mechanical on the lowest level. Reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission in 2000.

Friedlander Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "I"

White Hall

6333 Malvern Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 architect: Cope and Stewardson

2006 additions and renovations: architect, Daley + Jalboot Architects

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus basement and mechanical loft.

Square Feet:

Total 8,965 (renovation 6,075 , addition 2,890)

Additions & renovations:

Yes 2006.

Construction:

Original building is stone covered with stucco exterior wall with framing and gwb. Main building has glazed clay tile roof and the connecting corridor with Friedlander has a metal roof.

History:

The building was originally the Principal's residence. At some point it was converted to offices and storage. In 2006 it was renovated into dorms on the first floor and independent living apartments on the second floor. Reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission in 2006.

White Hall – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "J"

Main Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 architect: Cope and Stewardson

Date unknown: boiler house addition

1994 Bridge addition to Nevil Building, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

1997 Elevator addition to Burritt Cottage, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

Number of Stories:

Two floors plus a partial third in the Rotunda and a basement.

Square Feet:

169,514

Additions & renovations:

Yes.

Construction:

The original building is stone with stucco, wood frame roof with glazed clay tile shingles.

Basement has some areas of concrete floor but most are dirt.

History:

This building houses classrooms, dormitories, administration, library, auditorium, museum and student support spaces. Wings at the rear originally housed the kitchen, dining, laundry and oiler plant. The kitchen / dining, dormitories and gym now occupy separate buildings. The boiler plant expanded into a new boiler house (date unknown). The original fences and stucco and masonry walls remain.

The 1994 Bridge addition and the 1997 Burritt Cottage elevator addition both received the Historic Commission review and approval.

Main Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front entry



Side and bridge addition

Main Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Side



Cloister



Cloister

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "K"

Biddle House

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1972 architect: Francis, Cauffman, Wilkinson and Pepper Architects

Number of Stories:

One with a partial basement

Square Feet:

18,956

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame with brick veneer and flat roof

History:

Originally a dormitory, but at an unknown date Biddle was converted to classrooms

Biddle House – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Side



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "L"

Nevil Center

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1972 architect: Francis, Cauffman, Wilkinson and Pepper Architects

1994 Bridge connection from Main Building, architect: Samuel Crothers Associates

Number of Stories:

Two with a basement

Square Feet:

29,680

Additions & renovations:

Yes (minor) Bridge connection to Main Building

Construction:

Steel frame with brick veneer

History:

Nevil has always been a classroom building. The 1994 Bridge connection was reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission.

Nevil Center – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"M"**

Kappen Aquatic Center

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

2008 LEED Platinum — architect: Daley + Jalboot Architects, LLP

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

23,859

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Natatorium space is constructed with ICF's with a brick veneer and the rest is steel frame with cement siding. Roof is steel framed and flat. The Aquatic Center design was reviewed and approved by the Historic Commission.

History:

This aquatic center replaced the original pool building that no longer addressed the needs of the students and which presented a danger due to its age and condition. The Historic Commission granted approval to alter the old pool building. The new aquatic center occupies a previously undeveloped part of the campus.

Kappen Aquatic Center – Overbrook School for the Blind



Rear



Front



Side

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"N"**

Nevil Fieldhouse

6330 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1962 architect: Francis Cauffman Wilkinson & Pepper Architect

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

25,099

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame and precast panels.

Nevil Fieldhouse – Overbrook School for the Blind



Front



Rear



Rear

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "O"

Montgomery Cottage

1860 Wynnewood Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1970

Number of Stories:

One, no basement

Square Feet:

2,171

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Wood frame and brick veneer. Wood frame roof with asphalt shingles.

Montgomery Cottage – Overbrook School for the Blind



Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building **"P"**

Boiler Building

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1968 (+/-)

Number of Stories:

One, slab on grade

Square Feet:

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Steel frame with masonry exterior wall with stucco.

Boiler Building – Overbrook School for the Blind



NE corner



NW corner

Overbrook School for the Blind

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

December 2013

Campus Building Documentation for the Philadelphia Historical Commission

Key Plan Location: Building "Q"

Campus Wall

6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Year Built:

1899 (portion of the campus north of Malvern Avenue)

Number of Stories:

None

Approximate Linear Feet:

3,700

Additions & renovations:

No

Construction:

Masonry, stucco, wrought iron and stone caps and finials.

Campus Wall – Overbrook School for the Blind



SE corner of Main Campus



Inside of Main Entry – looking at street



Section along 64th Street



Inside of Main Entry – side wall detailing



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

Room 576, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Tel: 215.686.7660
Fax: 215.686.7674

Sam Sherman, Jr.
Chair

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director

16 September 2013

Joseph Van Bernum, CFO
Overbrook School for the Blind
6333 Malvern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Re: 6333 MALVERN AVE; Remove/demolish pool wing

Dear Mr. Van Bernum:

On 13 September 2013, the Philadelphia Historical Commission reviewed your application for 6333 MALVERN AVE and its Architectural Committee's report and recommendation of 27 August 2013. At that time, the Historical Commission voted to find that the removal of the pool wing is an alteration as defined in Section 14-203(15) of the Philadelphia Code, not a demolition as defined in Section 14-203(88), and approve the removal, pursuant to Standard 2, provided the following documents are submitted as mitigation to the Historical Commission within one year of the Commission's action:

1. a recordation report with photographs and/or measured drawings documenting the history and features of the pool wing, and
2. an inventory of all buildings on the campus, keyed to a map, with photographs and information including dates of construction and alteration, architect, original and current uses, and a physical description to assist with the review of future applications for the historic resource.

To complete the processing of your application, please call the Commission's staff to schedule an appointment. For the processing, you must provide the staff with the double-sided building permit application and four sets of plans and/or specifications reflecting the proposal approved by the Commission. If the Commission's approval authorizes the staff to review details, you must present those details for review as well. Once the staff has verified that the documents reflect the Commission's approval and approved all details, it will place the approval stamp on the application and related plans and/or specifications. The Commission will retain a copy of the application and one set of the plans and/or specifications. You will then take the approved application and three sets of the approved plans and/or specifications to the Department of Licenses and Inspections, which will conduct its review before issuing a permit.

Pursuant to Section 14-1008 of the Philadelphia Code, you have the right to appeal the Commission's decision. The appeals section of the historic preservation ordinance reads:

Appeals. Any person aggrieved by the issuance or denial of any permit reviewed by the Commission may appeal such action to the Board of License and Inspection Review.

Such appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of receipt of notification of the Commission's action. The Board of License and Inspection Review shall give written notice of any such appeal to the Commission within three days of the filing of the appeal.

To file an appeal, contact the Board of License and Inspection Review at 215-686-2427.

If you have any questions regarding the review or appeal processes, please do not hesitate to contact the staff of the Philadelphia Historical Commission at 215-686-7660.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Farnham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director