



## **BZA Number: 170726**

# **BZA Application Form**

# **General Information**

The undersigned hereby petitions the Board of Zoning Appeal for the following:

Special Permit: \_\_\_\_\_

Variance: X

Appeal: \_\_\_\_\_

PETITIONER: Joan Wheelis C/O Deborah P. Fawcett, Esq.

PETITIONER'S ADDRESS: 35 Norris Street, Cambridge, MA 02140

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 10 Hazel St, Cambridge, MA

TYPE OF OCCUPANCY: single family dwelling

**ZONING DISTRICT:** Residence B Zone

# REASON FOR PETITION:

/New Structure/

# **DESCRIPTION OF PETITIONER'S PROPOSAL:**

New construction: exceeding F.A.R., and projections into required side yard setbacks

# SECTIONS OF ZONING ORDINANCE CITED:

Article: 5.000 Section: 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements), Section: 10.30 (Variance). Article: 10.000

> Original Signature(s):

Delora

(Petitioner (s) / Owner)

Address: Tel. No. E-Mail Address:

CAMBRIDGE 617-694-5056 deborahpfawcett@gmail.com

NORRIS ST.

Date: 29 April 2022

**BZA Application Form** 

### BZA APPLICATION FORM - OWNERSHIP INFORMATION

To be completed by OWNER, signed before a notary and returned to The Secretary of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

	I/WE JOAN WHEELIS (OWNER)
	Address: 218 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138
	State that I/We own the property located at <u>IO HAZELS</u> , <u>MA &amp;</u> which is the subject of this zoning application.
	The record title of this property is in the name of
1	*Pursuant to a deed of duly recorded in the date, Middlesex South County Registry of Deeds at Book, Page; or
	Middlesex Registry District of Land Court, Certificate No. $249151$ Book $1402$ Page $81$ .
	SIGNATURE BY LAND OWNER OR AUTHORIZED TRUSTEE, OFFICER OR AGENT* *Written evidence of Agent's standing to represent petitioner may be requested.
	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, County of <u>Middle Sex</u> The above-name <u>Joan wheelis</u> personally appeared before me,
	this $4^{\prime h}$ of April, 2022, and made oath that the above statement is true.

• If ownership is not shown in recorded deed, e.g. if by court order, recent deed, or inheritance, please include documentation.

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# **BZA Application Form**

### SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR A VARIANCE

### EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR A VARIANCE MUST BE ESTABLISHED AND SET FORTH IN COMPLETE DETAIL BY THE APPLICANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL 40A, SECTION 10.

A) A literal enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance would involve a substantial hardship, financial or otherwise, to the petitioner or appellant for the following reasons:

The owner of the property, Joan Wheelis, is a longtime resident of Cambridge. She has been living and working in this neighborhood since 1989 and now lives around the corner from 10 Hazel Street, at 218 Garden Street. Joan has owned 10 Hazel Street since 2011 and has been renting it to tenants. It is a small, modest one-story house, which was built in 1961. It has four rooms and 956 square feet of living space. Although it is more than fifty years old, the house is not historically or architecturally significant. Charles Sullivan, Chair of the Cambridge Historical Commission, made this determination on a preliminary basis in June 2021.

218 Garden is a lovely modern house, but at this point in her life, Joan needs a home with some features 218 Garden doesn't have. Like many of us with bad knees, Joan needs her house to have an elevator, so she can avoid the pain of going up and down stairs. She also needs a basement level garage with direct entry into her house, so she no longer has to struggle shoveling snow to access her car. Joan needs her home to include space for her to continue her psychotherapy practice, which is a home occupation permitted as of right under the Zoning Ordinance; and she needs ample space for overnight guests and comfortable accommodation for her son to live with her and help her out in the years to come. Joan also needs to be free of the basement flooding and other water intrusion problems she has often experienced at 218 Garden. The ground level slopes downward along Hazel Street from its intersection with Fayerweather to its intersection with Garden Street, which has been referred to as the "Great Swamp Way."

Joan understands the existential threat climate change poses to our planet, and she is committed to living in a house that is sustainable and energy-efficient, as "green" as reasonably and affordably possible. Joan is passionately interested in trees and gardens and wants to surround her house with them and have ample outdoor space to enjoy them on her property.

The proposed design accomplishes all of these objectives. It has an elevator, a basement level garage, three bedrooms as well as office space, and a variety of spaces for gardening and spending time outdoors, including a green patio wall facing south. The project will include a system of French drains and a cistern for collecting rainwater and preventing downhill runoff.

Importantly, the design includes many elements to make the property "green," including triple pane windows, green building materials and finishes, and shading to prevent overheating. The building's layout is designed to follow the sun, so that each room will have daylight when needed. The building will have roof and wall insulation that exceeds code requirements, as well as exterior insulation at the basement level; and it will

combine geo-thermal and solar energy sources with heat pumps to make the building energy efficient. As designed, the project will meet Joan's objective of having a sustainable home, as "green" as reasonably and affordably possible.

Before coming up with the current design, Joan and her architect carefully examined the existing building at 10 Hazel Street to see if it could be modified to meet the needs they had identified. They found that doing so would be infeasible. The ceilings in the living space of the existing house are very low, and so low in the basement that it is unusable as living and/or office space. The size and the shape of the rooms are not at all in keeping with the design objectives. The existing structure is not strong enough itself to bear the load of the spaces to be added; the existing foundation would make it extremely difficult or impossible. Joan and her architect concluded that it is necessary to demolish the existing building and construct the newly designed home in its place.

As discussed in more detail in the section that follows, the proposed design meets the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance with four small exceptions, all of them stemming from the pre-existing nonconforming characteristics of the lot, which was laid out on a plan long before the current dimensional requirements were adopted.

Because the lot area is less than the required 5,000 square feet, the design's floor area ratio is slightly above the maximum 0.5. It is 0.52, only 97 square feet in gross floor area above the maximum for the size of the lot, which is 4,756 square feet. Because the lot is 41 feet wide, rather than the required minimum 50 feet, the design intrudes into the required side yard in three small ways. A small canopy above the side entrance to the building, which provides a means of ingress and egress for the basement level, will extend 3 feet into the side yard on the north (left) side of the building. The bedroom on the second floor will project 1 foot 9 inches into the side yard on the south (right) side of the building. This baylike projection, which provides needed space in the bedroom, will be about 8 feet high and 11 feet wide. Exterior insulation to improve the building's energy efficiency, in keeping with a goal of the Zoning Ordinance, will extend into the side yards by 4 inches on the basement level of the building.

The hardship is owing to the following circumstances relating to the soil conditions, shape or topography of such land or structures and especially affecting such land or structures by not affecting generally the zoning district in which it is located for the following reasons:

The lot itself, which was laid out on a Plan recorded long before the current dimensional requirements were imposed by the Zoning Ordinance, is less than the required minimum area (5,000 square feet required; actual area is 4,756 sq. ft.) and less than the required minimum width (50 feet required; actual width is 41 feet). As such, the lot is a lawful pre-existing nonconforming lot, and its deficiencies in lot area and width do not *per se* prevent the lot from being built upon lawfully. Zoning Ordinance § 5.21.1.

Any building constructed on the lot is still subject to the other dimensional requirements imposed by the Zoning Ordinance, however, including the maximum floor area ratio of 0.5 and the minimum side yard requirement of 7 feet 6 inches. Zoning Ordinance §§ 5.21.1 and 5.31 and Table 5-1. These two dimensions are directly related to the lot's pre-existing nonconforming lot area and width deficiencies. And it is with respect to

these two dimensional requirements--FAR and side yard--that we are seeking approval for minimal variance from the standard requirements.

Because the lot area itself is less than the prescribed 5,000 square foot minimum, the project's floor area ratio is 0.52 rather than the prescribed maximum of 0.5. The gross floor area of the proposed house is 2,475 square feet. If the lot were in fact 5,000 square feet, the design would be well within the maximum FAR. As it is, it is only 97 square feet more than would be necessary to meet the FAR requirement exactly.

The other variances we are seeking, for minimal intrusions into the required 7 feet 6 inch side yards, are directly related to the lot's pre-existing nonconforming deficiency in lot width.

The design provides a small canopy above the basement level entrance on the north (left) side of the building. The canopy is designed to be 3 feet wide and extend 3 feet into the required side yard. If the lot were in fact 50 feet wide (as required) rather than 41 feet wide, the canopy would be well within the buildable lot area and would not extend at all into the side yard. Ranjit Sangayagama has said the canopy might also be considered to be a "projection" permitted to extend into the side yard under Zoning Ordinance § 5.24.2: "Projecting eaves, chimneys, bay windows, balconies, open fire escapes and like projections which do not project more than three and one-half (3 ½) feet and which are part of a building not more than thirty-five (35) feet in height . . . may extend beyond the minimum yard regulations otherwise provided for the district in which the structure is built." This interpretation is reasonable, but to be cautious and complete, we have nevertheless applied for a variance for the canopy.

Like the canopy, the second floor bedroom's projection from the exterior wall just 1 foot 9 inches into the side yard setback on the south (right) side of the building should also fit within the scope of § 5.24.2 of the Zoning Ordinance. The bedroom's projection is akin to a bay. Like the other projections covered by § 5.24.2, the bedroom projection is not an extension occupying the full height of the building from ground to roof, but rather a projection just 8 feet tall and only on the second floor of the building. And like the other extensions into the side yard setback, the bedroom projection would be well within the prescribed setbacks, if the lot met the 50 foot minimum width requirement.

The design's other intrusion into the side yards is a mere 4 inches, to accommodate exterior insulation on the basement level. Again, if the lot were the required 50 feet wide, the insulation would be well within the buildable lot area and would not extend at all into the side yards. It is worth noting that the Zoning Ordinance excludes space used for exterior insulation from the calculation of gross floor area. Zoning Ordinance § 22.43.1. Although the Ordinance does not also expressly exempt exterior insulation from the minimum side yard requirement for new construction, it does so for existing buildings under Zoning Ordinance § 5.24.2.1. Granting a variance for the exterior insulation's minimal intrusion into the side yards in this case would serve the stated purpose of the Zoning Ordinance: "The purpose of this Section is to remove potential impediments to the construction of exterior walls with additional insulation or wall-based mechanical systems that can improve the energy-efficiency of a building." Zoning Ordinance § 22.41.

### C) DESIRABLE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT EITHER:

1) Desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good for the following reasons:

The proposed design will not be detrimental to the public good; it will in fact be a significant improvement to the neighborhood. The design will replace a small, one story house of no historical or architectural significance with an attractive new home and gardens of modern, innovative design. The project will contribute to Cambridge's commitment to the environment by replacing an older energy inefficient building with a new sustainable, energy efficient, modern green building. The project includes a plan of French drains and a cistern to collect rainwater, which will relieve the neighborhood of difficulties it has had with downhill runoff and basement flooding. The design includes substantially more than the required amount of open space, which will be attractively planted and add beauty to the neighborhood. Joan's new home will not only improve the value of the 10 Hazel Street property, but will also conserve and likely increase the value of neighboring properties.

2) Desirable relief may be granted without nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of this Ordinance for the following reasons:

The new single family dwelling design will not increase density of development in the neighborhood, nor will it increase traffic. The Zoning Ordinance permits a two-family dwelling in this district, but the new building will house only a single family dwelling. The design provides for parking in the basement level garage, eliminating the need for on-street parking. The newly designed building will be substantially more energy efficient than the building it will replace, and it will not generate additional noise from heat pump condensers, pumps, fans and furnaces that could disrupt neighbors. The new home will be consistent in scale and front setback with the rest of the neighborhood, and the slight intrusion into the required side yard setback is not incompatible with the neighboring properties, many of which do not meet minimum side yard requirements. The substantial amount of open space will be attractively planted with trees and gardens, adding beauty to the neighborhood.

\*If you have any questions as to whether you can establish all of the applicable legal requirements, you should consult with an attorney.

### **DIMENSIONAL INFORMATION**

Applicant:	Joan Wheelis
Location:	<u>10 Hazel St, Cambridge, MA</u>
Phone:	617-694-5056

Present Use/Occupancy: single family dwelling Zone: Residence B Zone Requested Use/Occupancy: single family dwelling

		Existing Conditions	Requested Conditions	<u>Ordinance</u> Requirements	
TOTAL GROSS FLOOR AREA:		956	2475	2378	(max.)
LOT AREA:		4756	4756	5000	(min.)
RATIO OF GROSS FLOOR AREA TO LOT AREA: <sup>2</sup>		0.2	0.52	0.5	
LOT AREA OF EACH DWELLING UNIT		4756	4756	2500	
SIZE OF LOT:	WIDTH	41	41	50	
	DEPTH	116	116	n/a	
SETBACKS IN FEET:	FRONT	22.9	15	15	
	REAR	46.1	25.5	25	
	LEFT SIDE	7.7	7.5 (2 minor projections , 4" and 3', into setback)	7.5	
	RIGHT SIDE	8.7	7.5 (2 minor projections, 4" and 1'9" into setback)	7.5	
SIZE OF BUILDING:	HEIGHT	17	35	35	
	WIDTH	n/a	n/a	n/a	
RATIO OF USABLE OPEN SPACE TO LOT AREA:		67.91	56.24	40	
NO. OF DWELLING UNITS:		1	1	1-2	
<u>NO. OF PARKING</u> SPACES:		n/a	0	n/a	
NO. OF LOADING AREAS:		n/a	n/a	n/a	
DISTANCE TO NEAREST BLDG. ON SAME LOT		n/a	n/a	n/a	

Describe where applicable, other occupancies on the same lot, the size of adjacent buildings on same lot, and type of construction proposed, e.g; wood frame, concrete, brick, steel, etc.:

Concrete foundation, wood frame construction, metal roof with solar panels. Only one building on lot.

- 1. SEE CAMBRIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 5.000, SECTION 5.30 (DISTRICT OF DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS).
- 2. TOTAL GROSS FLOOR AREA (INCLUDING BASEMENT 7'-0" IN HEIGHT AND ATTIC AREAS GREATER THAN 5') **DIVIDED BY LOT AREA.**
- 3. OPEN SPACE SHALL NOT INCLUDE PARKING AREAS, WALKWAYS OR DRIVEWAYS AND SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM **DIMENSION OF 15'.**



# Joan Wheelis Residence 10 Hazel Street, Cambridge, MA 02474

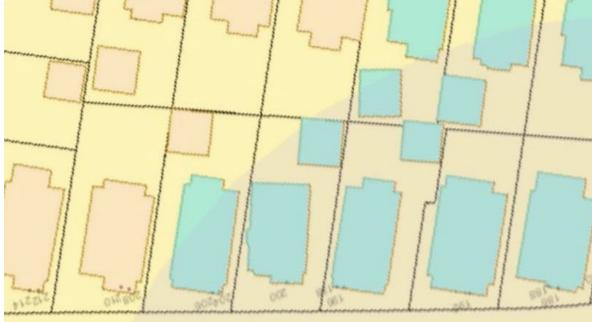
Joan Wheelis OWNER:

ARCHITECT:

InkStone Architects, LLC 18 Main Street, 3b Concord, MA 01742 **Brigitte Steines** 650-814-8542 brigitte@inkstonearchitects.com

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T1	Title
A0	Site
EX1	Exist
EX2	Neig
R1	FAR
R2	Opei
R3	Opei
A1	Base
A2	First
A3	Loft
A4	Seco
A5	East
A6	Sout
A7	Nort
	11 5
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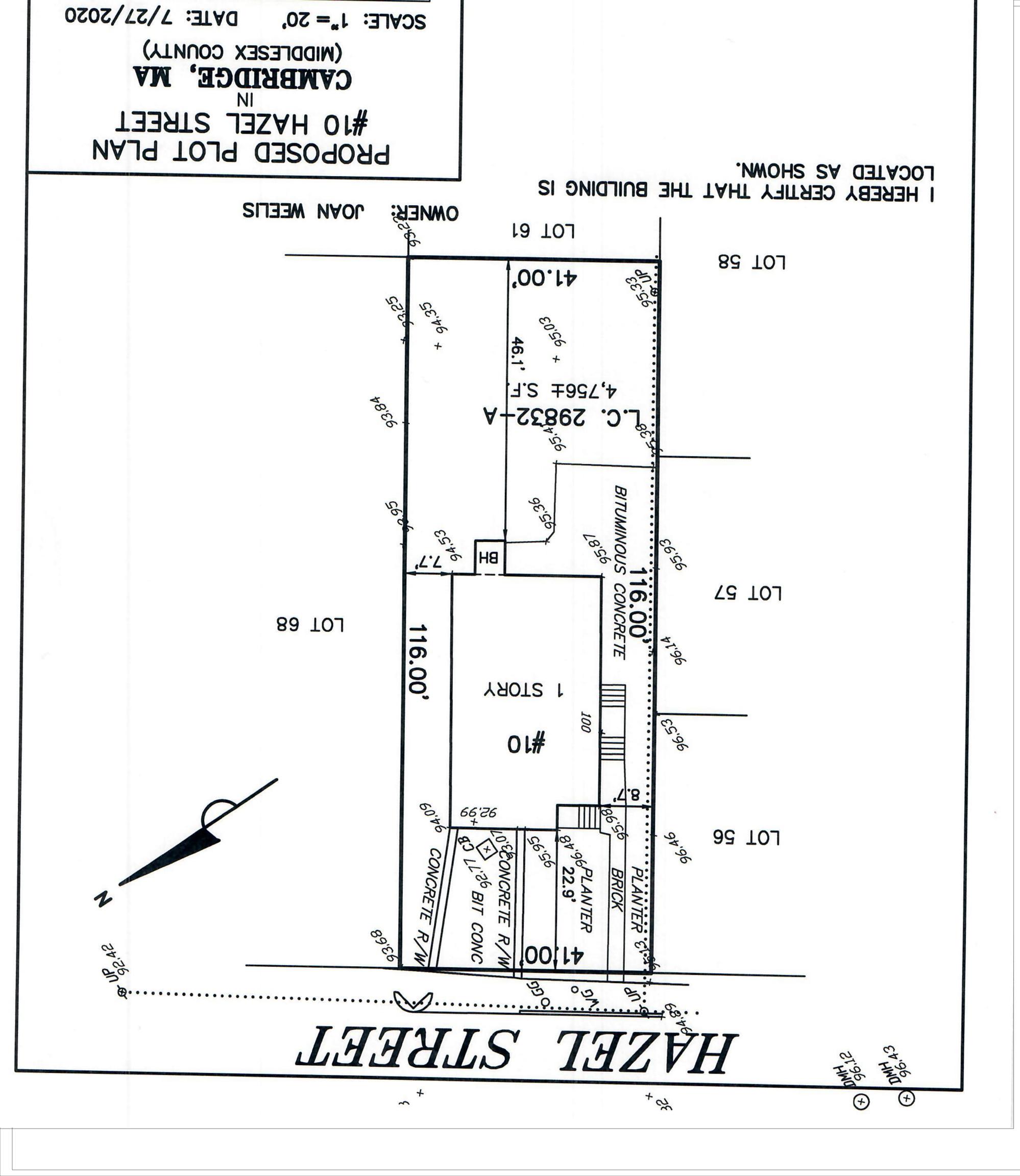


Fayerweather St





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**10 HAZEL - EXISTING HOUSE** 



**EXISTING FRONT FACADE** 



EXISTING REAR FACADE

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> InkStone Architects, LLC Brigitte Steines, principal 18 Main Sreet, Ste. 3b Concord, MA 01742 ph: 650.814 8542

rigitte@inkstonearchitects.con



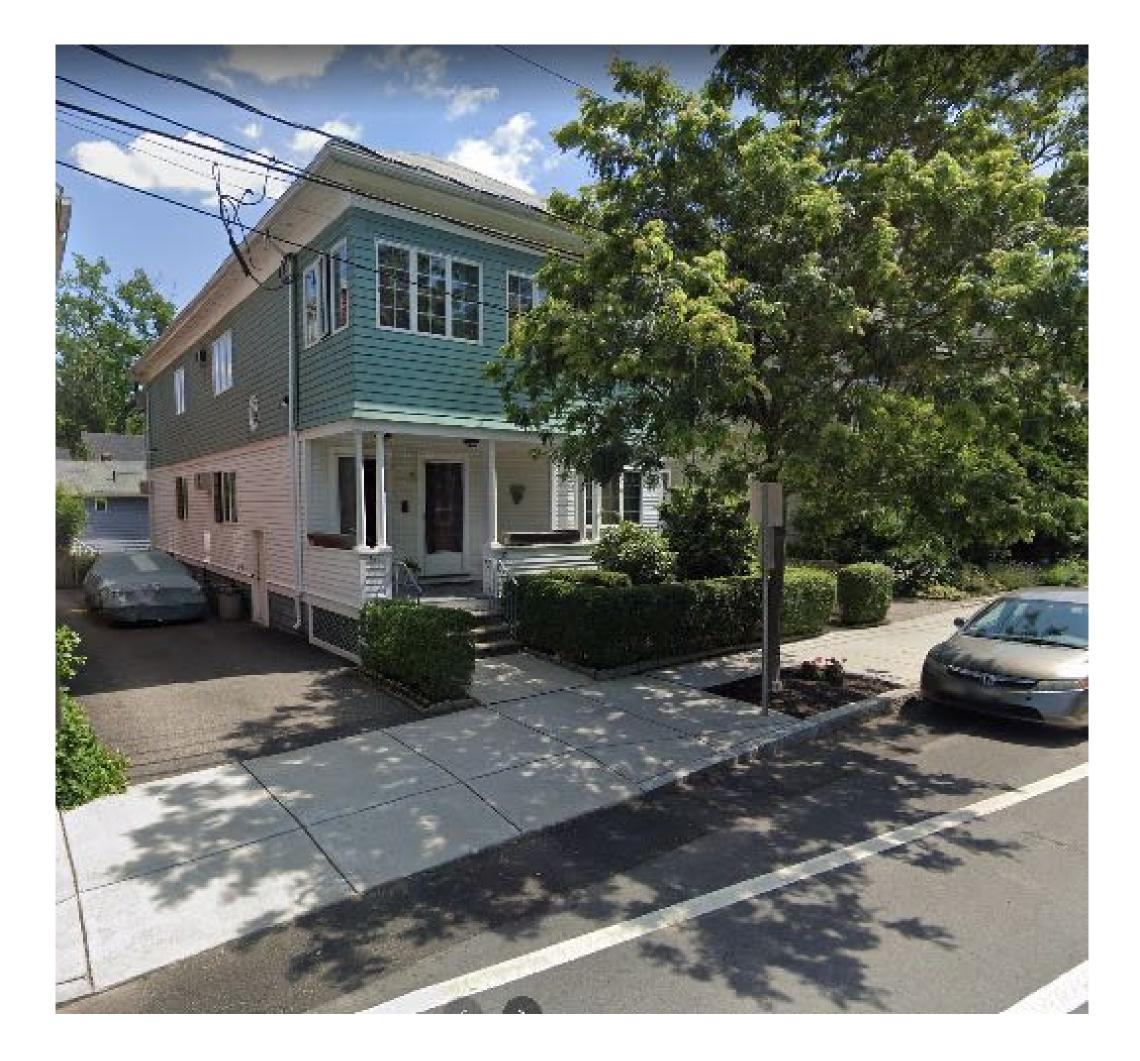
10 Hazel Street Cambridge, MA 02474 'heelis Joan W

and Building Variance Application Site Existing 4/29/22

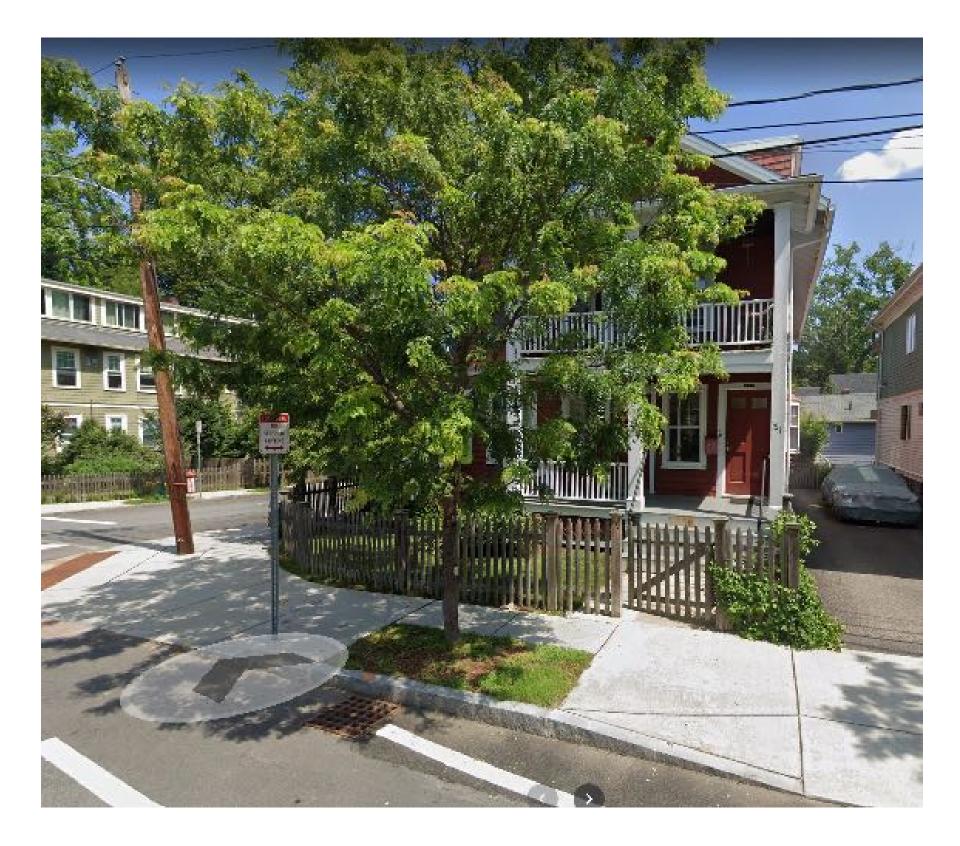
SHEET NUMBER:



# **10 HAZEL - NEIGHBORING HOUSES**

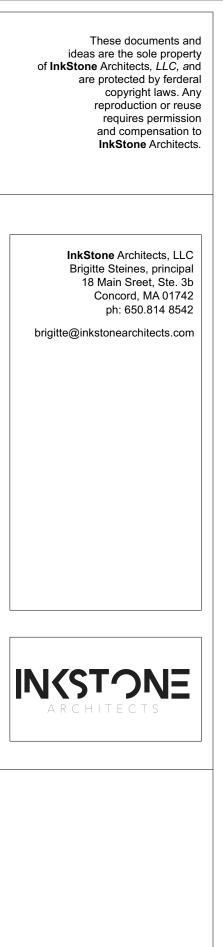












02474 10 Hazel Street Cambridge, MA 0

heelis

Joan Wł

Neighbors

Variance Application

4/29/22

SHEET NUMBER:



# **10 HAZEL STREET**

# FAR ANALYSIS



The max. allowable floor area for 10 Hazel Street is 2,378 sf



# The lot of 10 Hazel Street is located in District B

ARTICLE 5.000 - Development Standards 5.3 District Dimensional Regulations

Required	Existing	Proposed	Comment
0.5	0.2	0.52	
5,000 sf	4,756	4,756	non-conforming lot
2,500 sf	4,756	4,756	
50 ft.	41ft	41	non-conforming lot
15 ft.	22.9 ft.	15'-0"	
7.5 ft.	8.7' & 7.7'	7'-6" *	
25 ft.	46.1 ft	26'-2"	to line of exterior insulation of Basement wall
35 ft.	17 ft	35 ft.	
40%	67.89%	56.3%	
	0.5 5,000 sf 2,500 sf 50 ft. 15 ft. 7.5 ft. 25 ft. 35 ft.	0.5       0.2         5,000 sf       4,756         2,500 sf       4,756         50 ft.       41ft         15 ft.       22.9 ft.         7.5 ft.       8.7' & 7.7'         25 ft.       46.1 ft         35 ft.       17 ft	0.5       0.2       0.52         5,000 sf       4,756       4,756         2,500 sf       4,756       4,756         50 ft.       41ft       41         15 ft.       22.9 ft.       15'-0"         7.5 ft.       8.7' & 7.7'       7'-6" *         25 ft.       46.1 ft       26'-2"         35 ft.       17 ft       35 ft.

\* variance sought for minimal intrusions

# **Neighborhood Comparison**

	Property class	Land area	# of stories	Gross Floor Area	FAR
10 Hazel Street existing	single fam-res	4,756	1	956	0.2
10 Hazel Street proposed	single fam-res	4,756	2	2,457	0.52
16-18 Hazel Street, Unit 16	condo	5,116	2	1347	0.5
16-18 Hazel Street, Unit 18	condo	5,116	2	1300	0.5
339 Concord Ave	2-fam-res	5,315	2.5	2,675	0.5
187 Fayerweather Street, Unit 1	condo	3,780	1	1,096	0.9
187 Fayerweather Street, Unit 2	condo	3,780	1	1,079	0.9
187 Fayerweather Street, Unit 3	condo	3,780	1	1,165	0.9
154 Fayerweather Street	2-fam-res	4,999	2.5	3,324	0.66
218 Garden Street	single fam-res	3570	2.5	2366	0.66

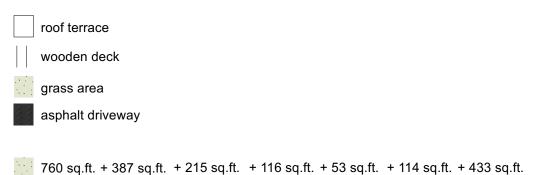
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	Joan Wheelis	10 Hazel Street	Cambridge, MA 02474	
SHEET TITLE:	FAR Analysis		DESIGN SET:	Variance Application
4/25	9/22			
		eet nume	BER:	

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# TOTAL LOT AREA: 4,756 sq.ft.

Required Open Space min 40%. = 1,903 sq.ft.

Required Open Permiable Space min 50% of open space = 952 sq.ft.



506 sq.ft. (driveway)

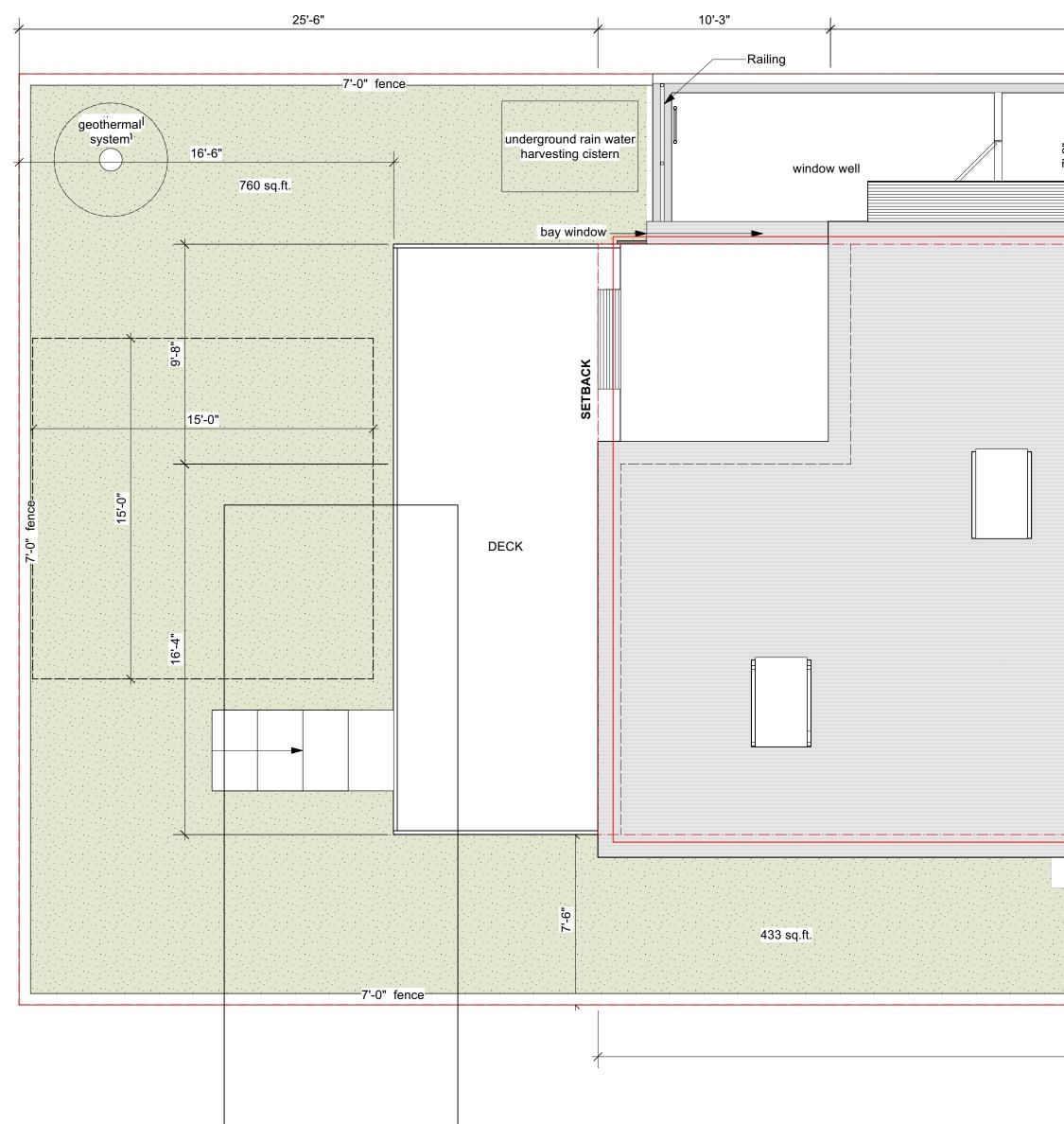
260 sq.ft. deck

80 sq.ft. + 257 sq.ft = 337 sq.ft. roof terrace

TOTAL OPEN SPACE: 2,675 sq.ft.

TOTAL LOT AREA: 4,756 sq.ft. PROVIDED Open Space = 2,675 sq.ft. PROVIDED Open Permiable Space = 2,078 sq.ft.

TOTAL PERMEABLE OPEN SPACE: 2,078 sq.ft.



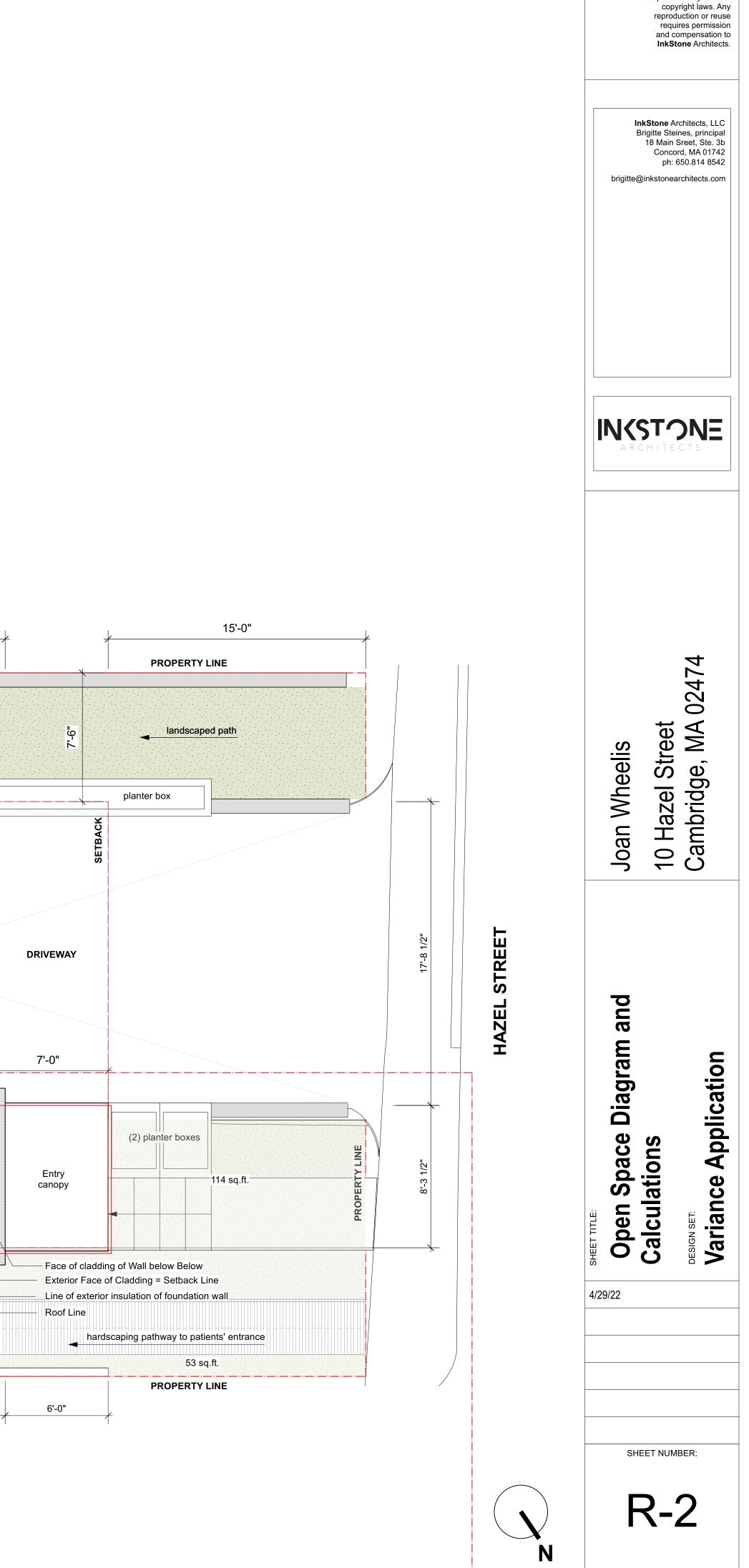
Site Plan Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

	NING DIMENSIONAL	ANALYSIS				
Zoning District: Res. B	Map / Lot: 262-31					
BZO Art.V Table 5.01 Actual						
Min. Lot Size	5,000 sf	4,756 sf				
Min. Lot Width	50 ft	41 ft				
FAR .5 for first 5000 sf and .35 fo	r additional area above 500	0 sf = <b>2,378 sf Al</b>	lowable GFA			
	Allowable	Proposed	Ordinance Reference			
GFA	2,378 sf	2,475 sf	Table 5-1			
# of Units	1	1	Table 4.30			
Front Yard Setback	15 ft	15 ft	Table 5-1			
Side Yard Setback - North	7.5 ft sum of 20	7.5 ft	Table 5-1			
Side Yard Setback - South	7.5 ft sum of 20	7.5 ft	Table 5-1			
Rear Yard Setback	25 ft	25.5 ft	Table 5-1			
Maximum Height	35 ft	26.27 ft	Table 5-1			
Off Street Parking	1 per D.U.	1	Table 6.36.1			
Min. Ratio of Private Open Space	40% min of Lot Area	56.3%	Table 5-1			
Private Open Space Area	1,903 ft	2,675 ft	Table 5-1			
Permeable Open Space	952 ft	2,078 ft	5.22.3			
Private Open Space Compliant (15'x15')		760 sf	5.22.1			
LOFT AREA= SECOND FLOOR GFA=	1,502 sf 353 sf 620 sf 2,475 sf					
L	12'-4"	Ļ	14'-6"			
Railing —						
	387 sq.ft.	ine of exterior insula	7'-0" fence			
		Line of exterior insula				

26'-2"

7'-0"

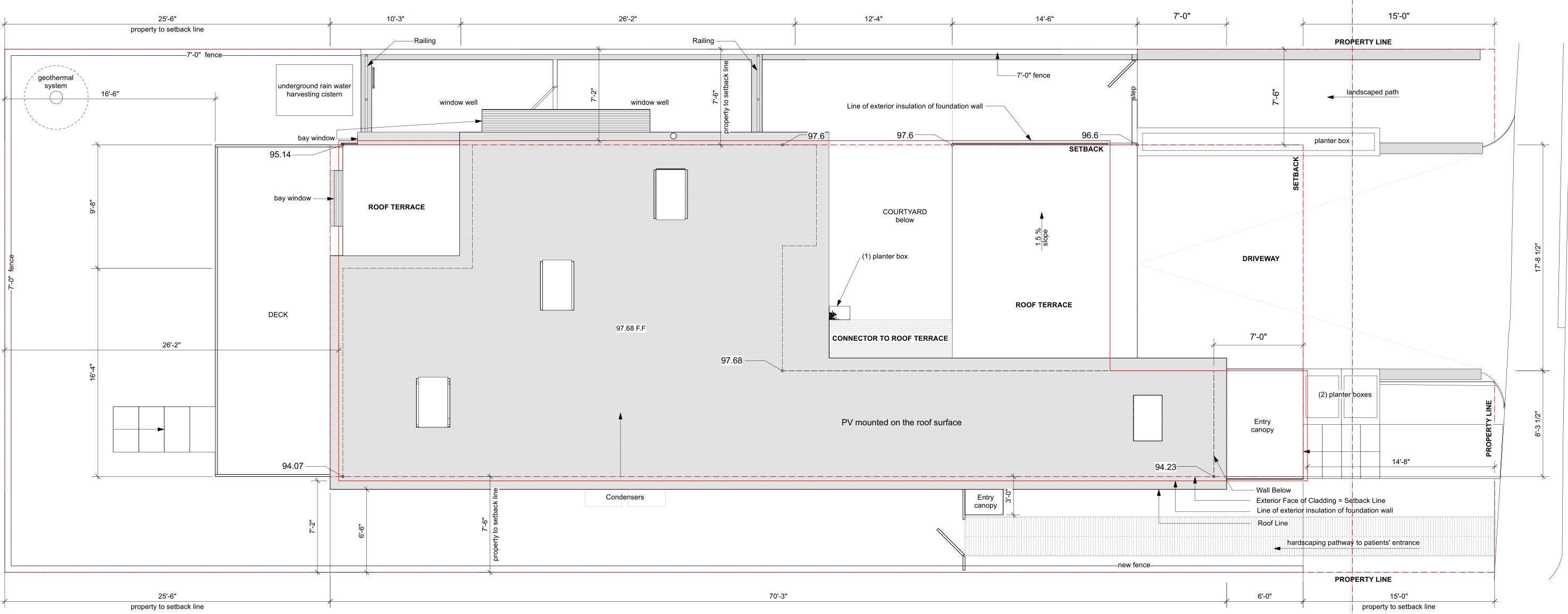
window well			
	387 sq.ft.		215 sq.ft.
	Lin (1996) - Lin (1997) - Lin (	e of exterior insulation of foundation wall	
	SETBACK		
	COURTYAR below (1) planter box	s S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	E
Condensers		Entry canopy 116 s	q.ft.
			new fence
	70'-3"		
			4



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# NOTE:

Elevation markers refer to proposed grade

# INKSTONE 'heelis Joan Wł

TREE<sup>-</sup>

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HAZEI

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10 Hazel Street Cambridge, MA 02474

brigitte@inkstonearchitects.com

ph: 650.814 8542

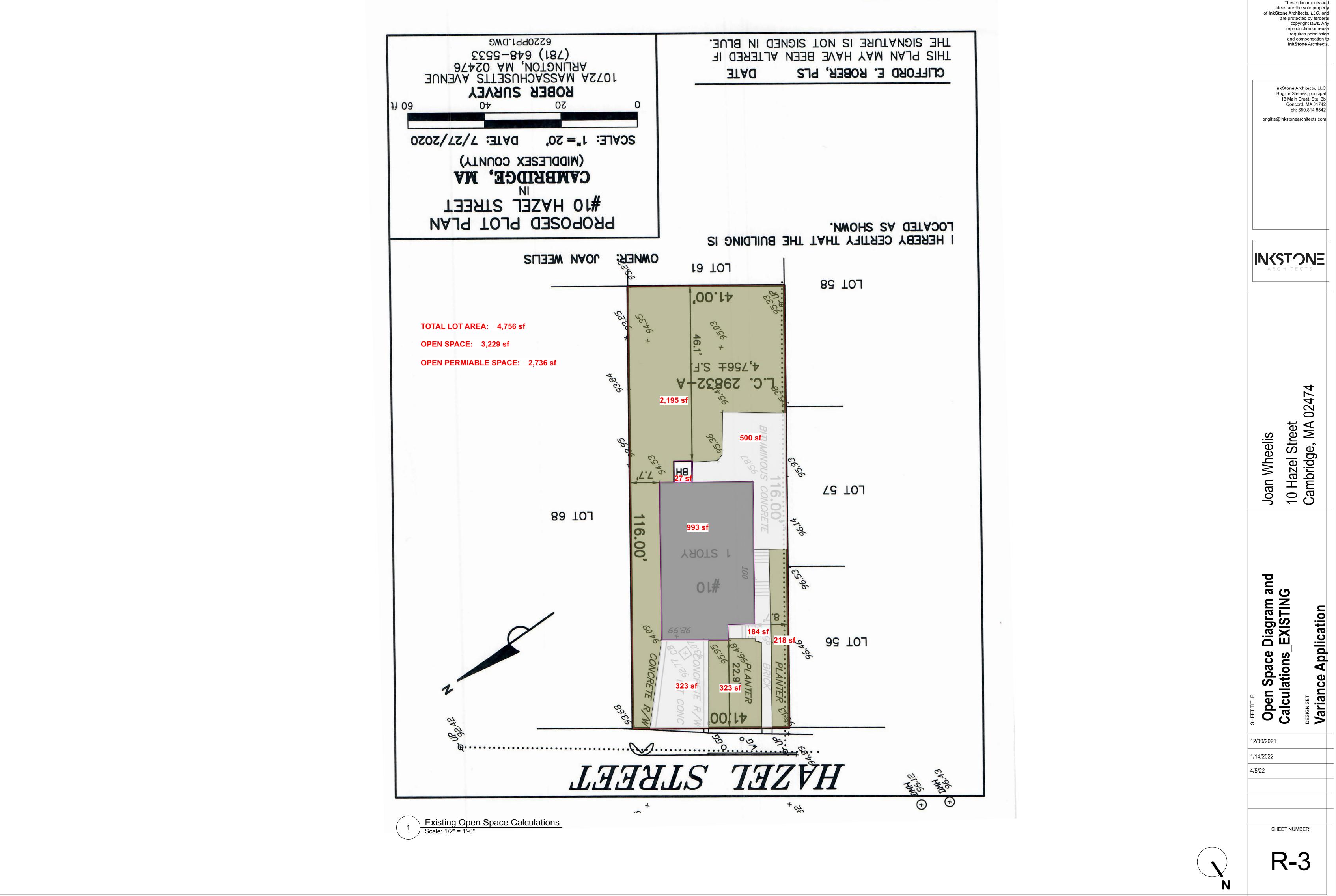


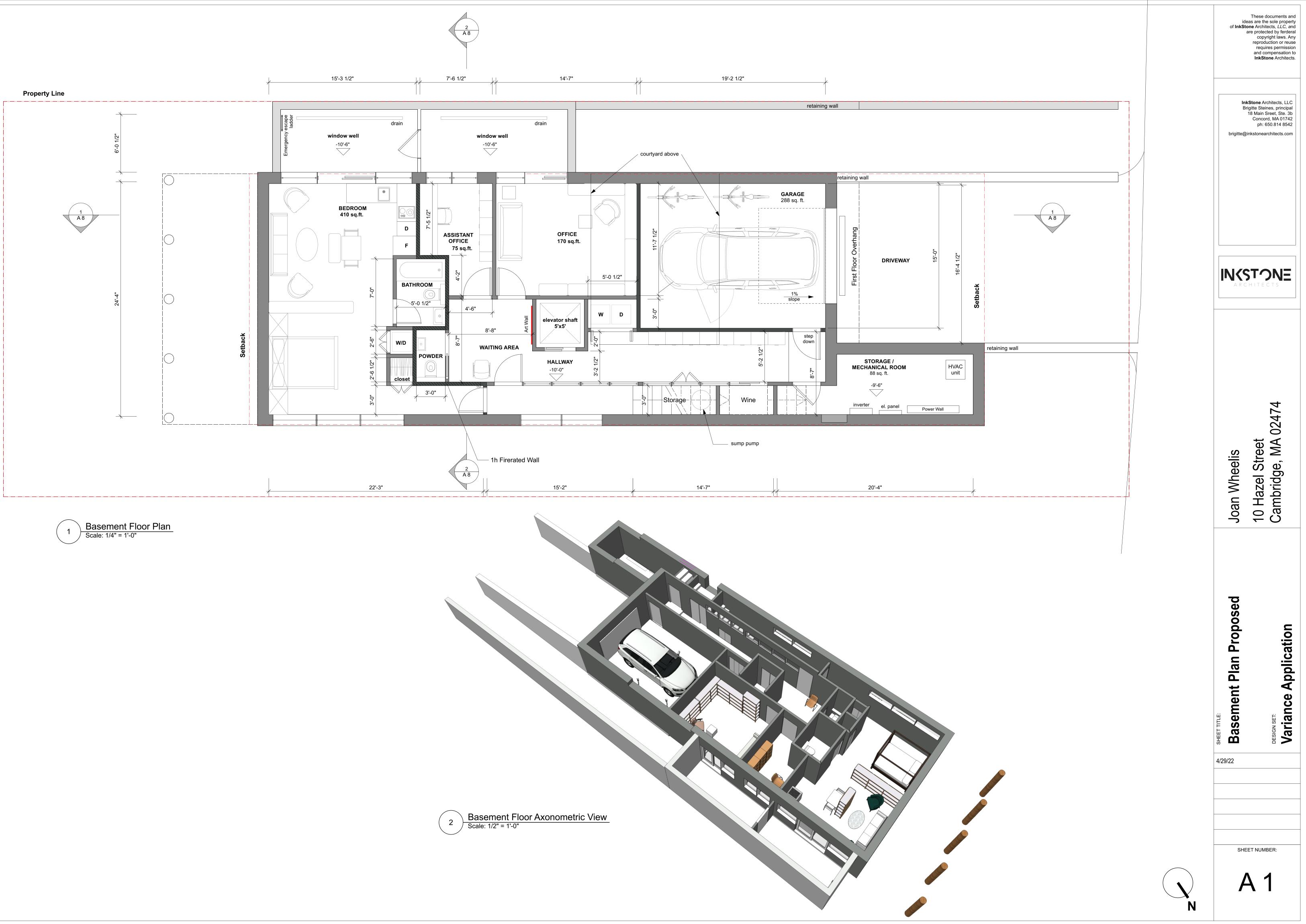
Site Plan

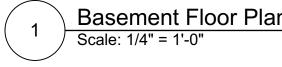
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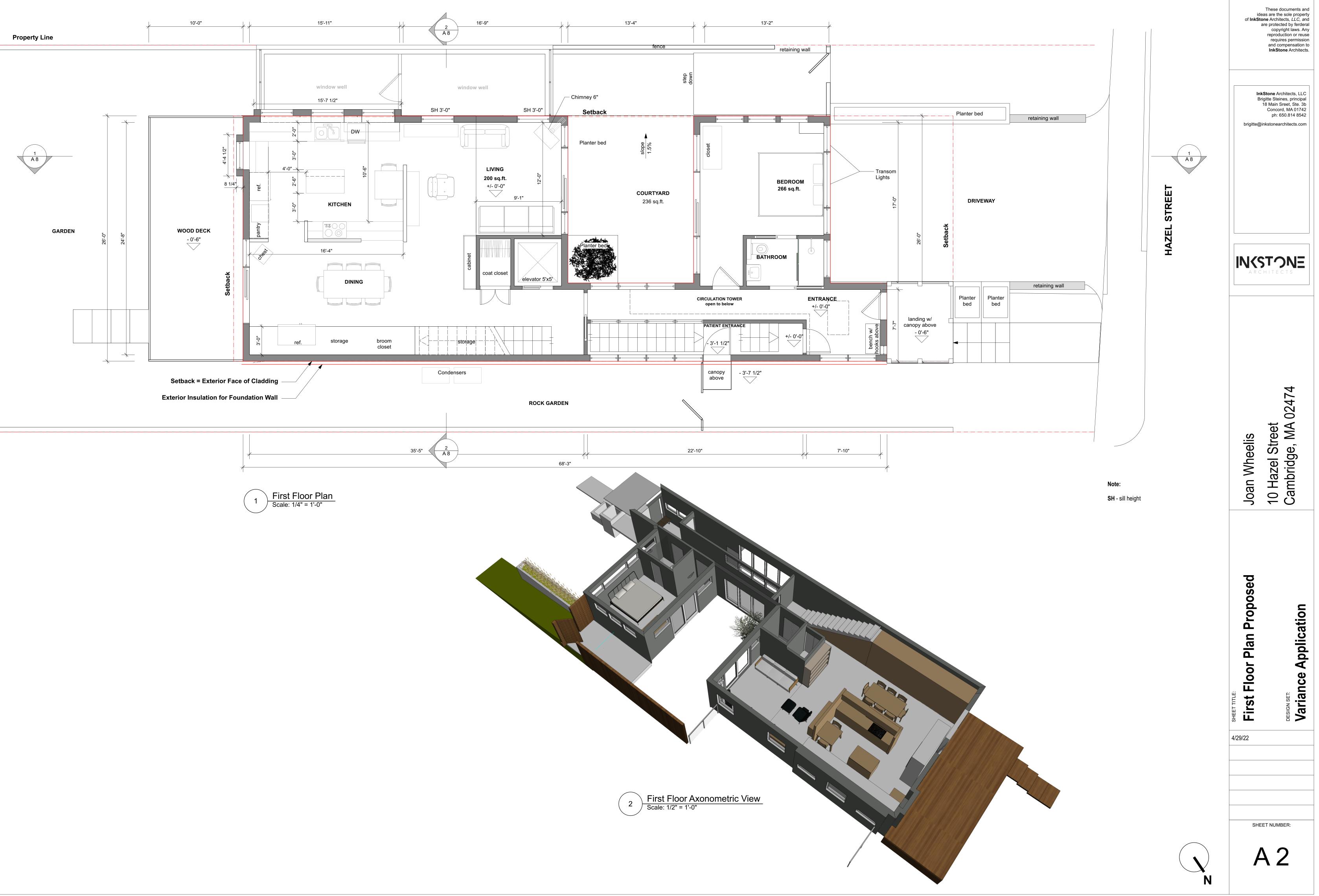
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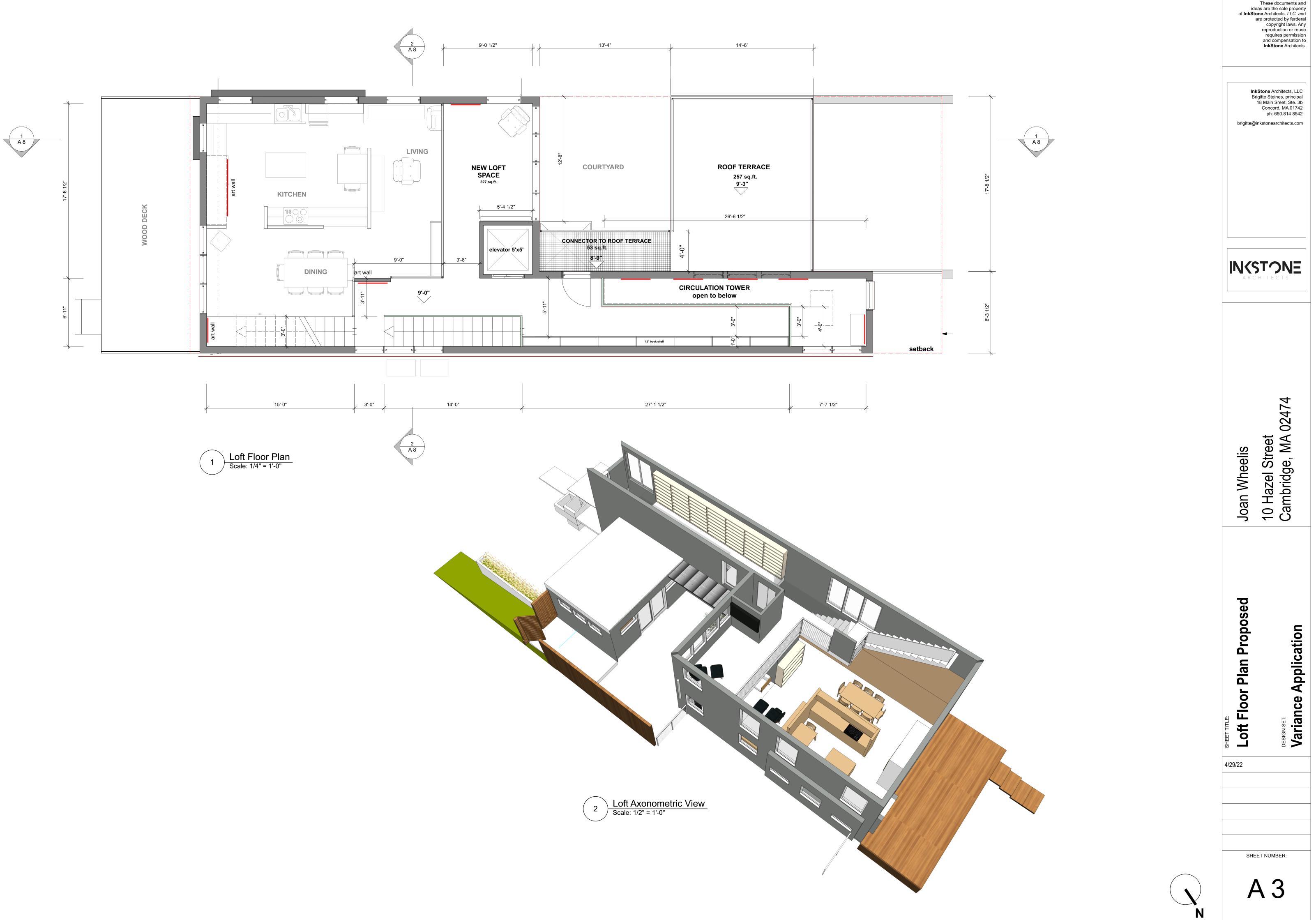
Variance Application

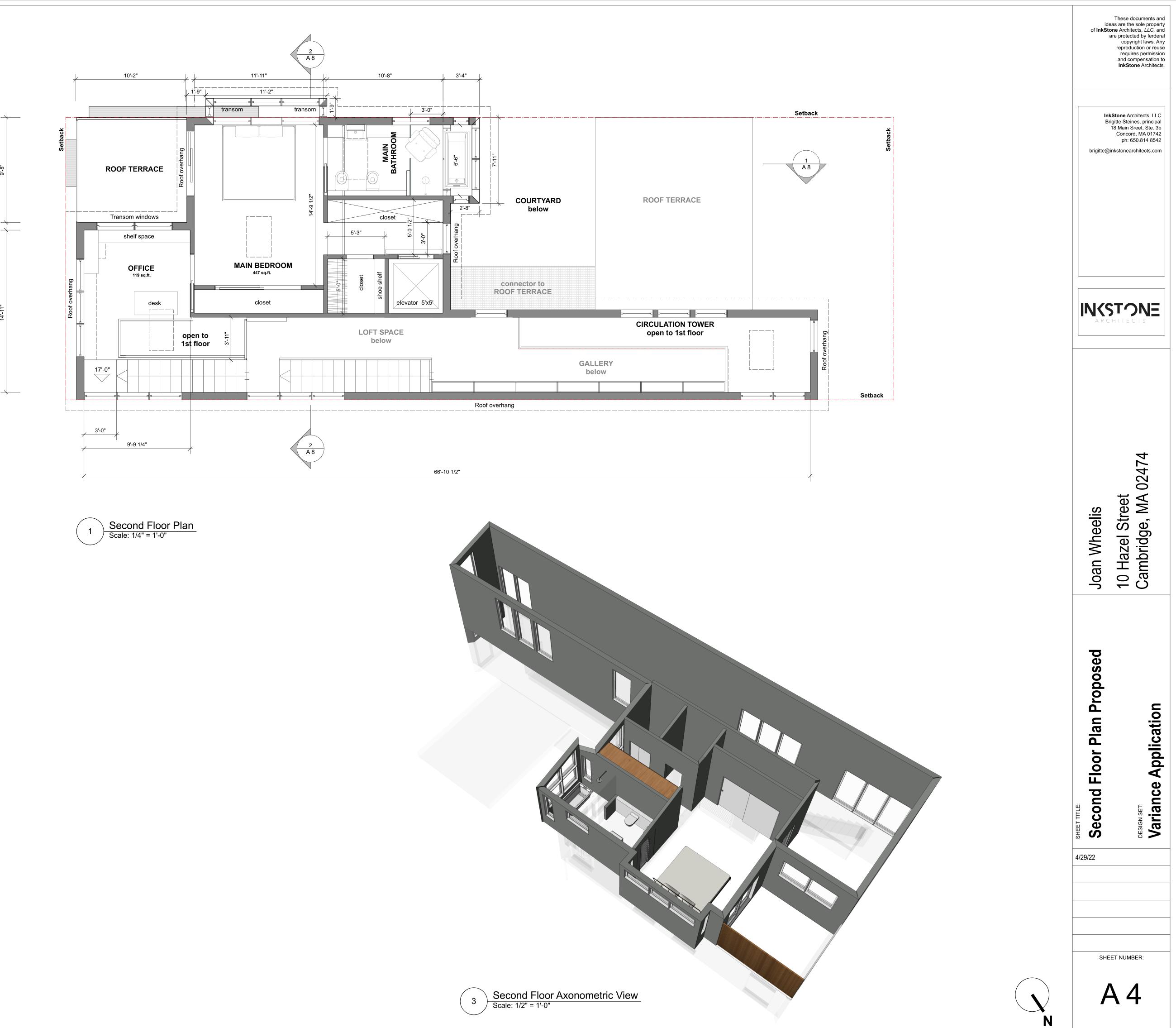




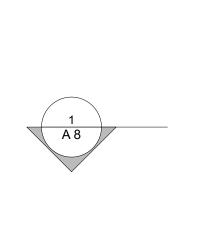


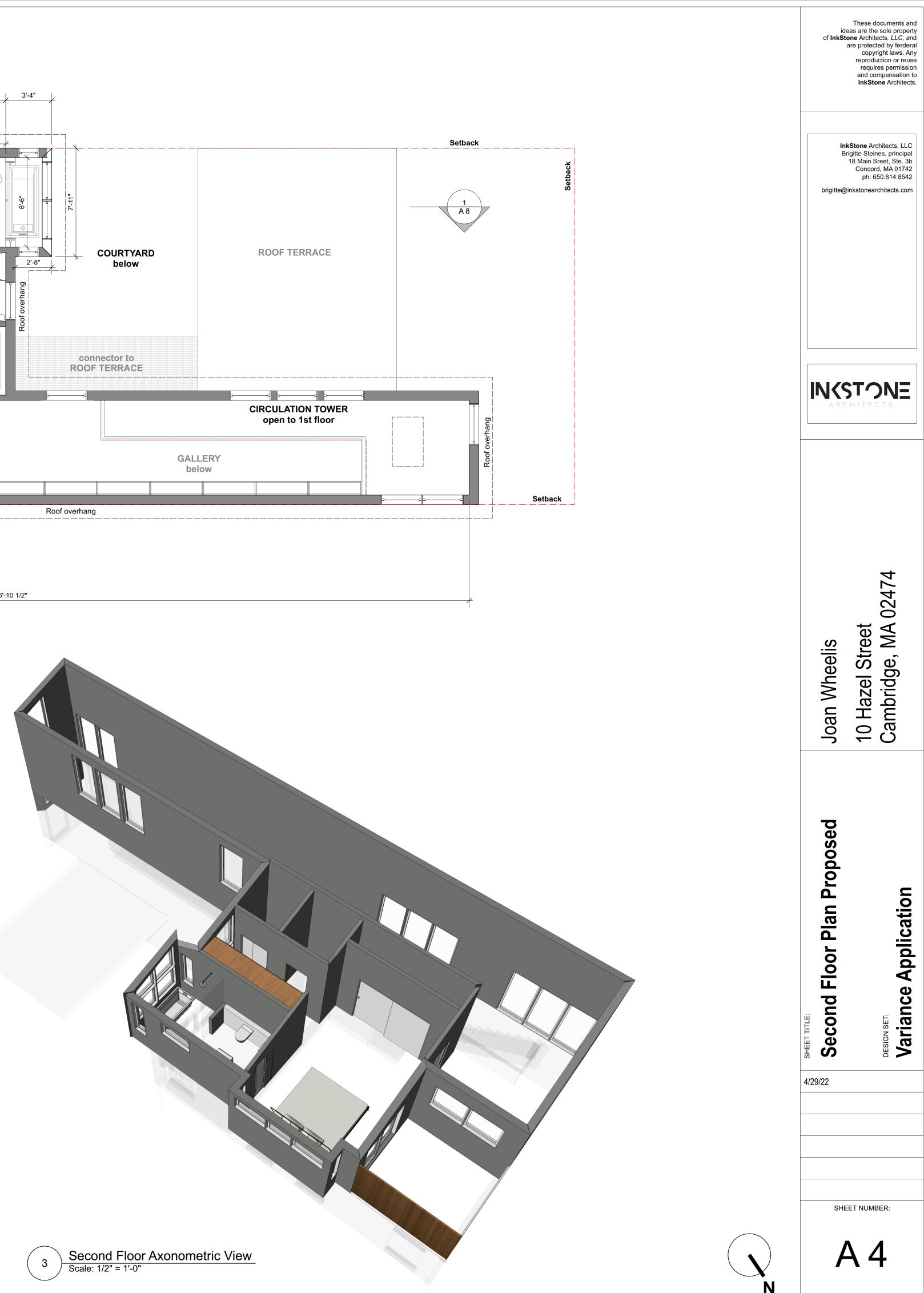










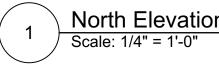




measured	from average ex	isting grade to hi	ghest point in	this plan	e
Second Reserve and the	feet	inch			
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1	20	9			
2	20	9			
3	34	11			
4	34	11			
5	34	11			
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7	13	0			
East Faca	ade				
8	13	0			
9	13	0			
10	33	6			
North Fac	cade				
11	34	11			
12	34	11			
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14	34	11			
15	34	11			
16	34	11			
17	34	11			
West Fac	ade				
18	34	10			
19	32	8			
20	20	10			
20	551	162	564.5	:	3
	Average height i	s 26 feet			



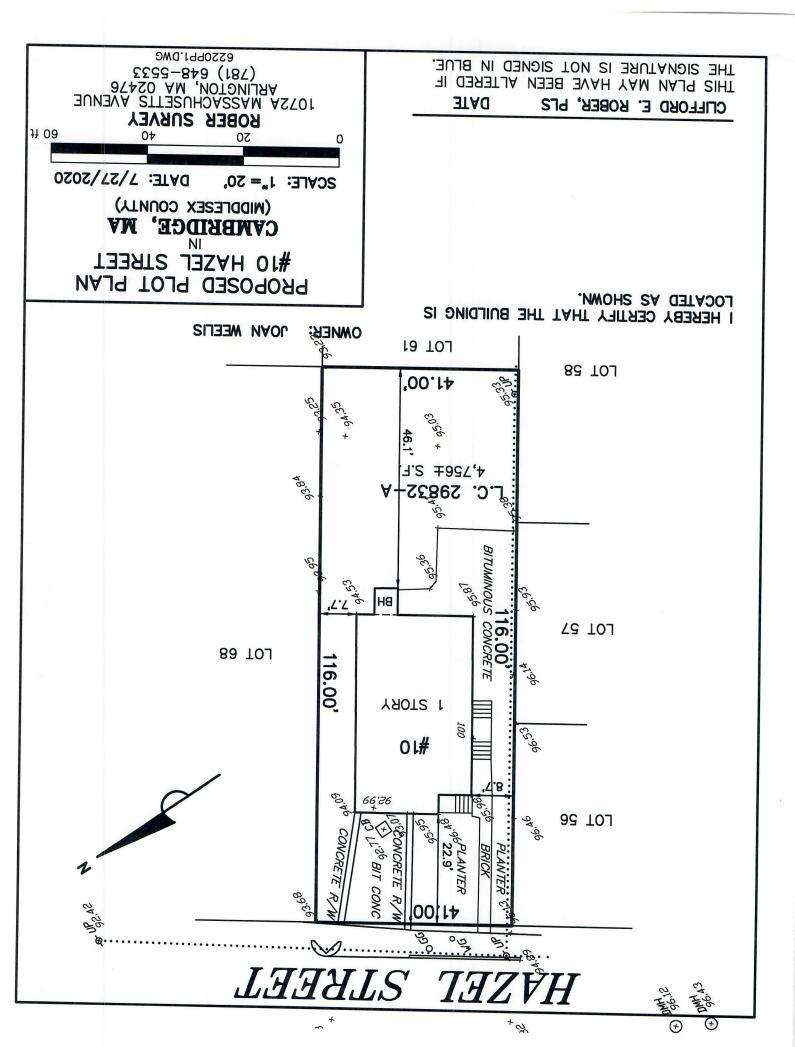




4/29/22

SHEET NUMBER:





Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: 10 Hazel Street, Cambridge Variance application by Joan Wheelis

Dear Board of Zoning Appeal,

I am a neighbor of Joan Wheelis and 10 Hazel Street in Cambridge.

I have had an opportunity to review Joan's plans to demolish the existing house on the property and to build a new house in its place, which Joan intends to make her home.

I understand that, because the lot itself is somewhat smaller and narrower than the standard, the plans will require the Board of Zoning Appeals to grant variances:

- to exceed the maximum floor area ratio by about 0.2% (97 sq. ft.);
- to install exterior insulation that will extend 4 inches into the side yards;
- to build a 3 foot wide canopy that will extend 3 feet into the left side yard; and
- for the second floor bedroom to project about 1' 9" from the facade on the right side of the building.

I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: 4/14/2022

Minus Ristivojenic

# Address: 15 HAZEL STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

cc: Joan Wheelis: <u>JWheelisMD@qmail.com</u>

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: 10 Hazel Street, Cambridge Variance application by Joan Wheelis

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I understand that, because the lot itself is somewhat smaller and narrower than the standard, the plans will require the Board of Zoning Appeals to grant variances:

- to exceed the maximum floor area ratio by about 0.2% (85 sq. ft.);
- to install exterior insulation that will extend 4 inches into the side yards;
- to build a 3 foot wide canopy that will extend 3 feet into the left side yard; and
- for the second floor bedroom to project about 1' 9" from the facade on the right side of the building, (South)

I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: <u>4/12/202</u>	2	(signature)	~
	6 Hazel St Camb	(signature)	12(38

cc: Joan Wheelis: <u>JWheelisMD@umail.com</u>

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I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: 4-10-2

ie of Low (signature)

Address: 18 Hazel St

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Address: 210 Garden St, Cambridge, MA 02138

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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(signeture)

Der St. Combridge 1402138

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**Board of Zoning Appeal** 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: 4/20/22 Bonnie G. Mun (signature) Address: 185 Mayerweather St., Cambridge

cc: joan Wheelis: <u>JWheelisMD@gmail.com</u>

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 4/27/22 <u>(signature)</u> Address: 1 + 1 A Field ST.

Campeidge

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

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Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 4/27/22 (signature)

Address:

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I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: <u>4/29/2022</u> <u>Huln</u> (signature)

Address: 214 Gade ST Carling Ma 02138

cc: Joan Wheelis: <u>JWheelisMD@qmall.com</u>

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 5/6/22 haurenee R. Smith (signature)

Address: 175 Fayenveather St

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 5/14/2022 \_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: 187 Fayerweather St #1

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I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support

I have no object. Joan's plans for her new nome. Date: <u>S/11/2022</u> <u>Little Varce (Marce (Marcee (Marce (Marce (Marce (Marce (Marcee (Marce (Marce (Marce (Ma</u>

cc: Joan Wheelis: <u>JWheelisMD@gmail.com</u>

BY U.S. MAIL to the address below OR BY EMAIL to: mpacheco@cambridgema.gov

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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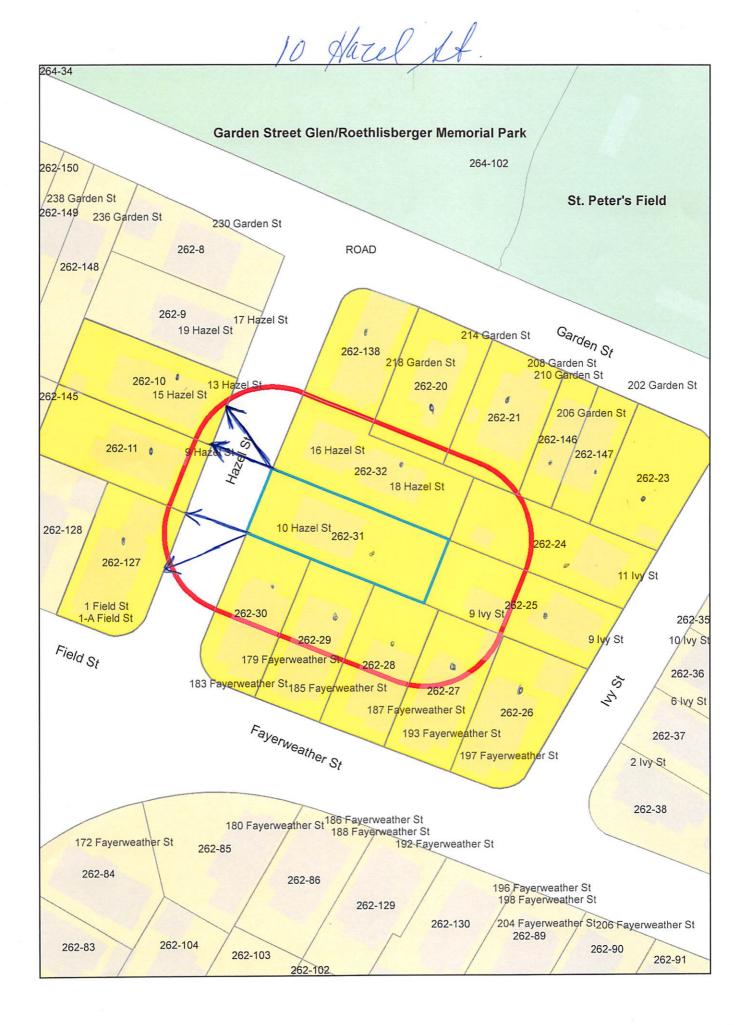
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I have no objection to the Board granting these variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home.

Date: 5/14/22

Address: 172 Fager Weath

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com



262-20 MAZER, KATHLEEN R. 214 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-23 REYBURN, ERIC N. 204 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-30 MCCORMICK, DANNY & SHELLEY EVANS 179-181 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-1202

262-138 WHEELIS, JOAN 218 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

262-28 COPPS, KYLE D. & JILL R. CRITTENDEN 187 FAYERWEATHER ST 1 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

262-29 GARRITY, THOMAS F. & LYNETTE SYKES GARRITY 183-185 FAYERWEATHER ST., UNIT #2 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-26 KOYTIGER GRIGORIY 197 FAYERWEATHER ST UNIT 1 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-10 RISTIVOJEVIC MIRKO & NATASA 15 HAZEL ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 262-27 GORGIEVSKI, LILLIE 32 LONGMEADOW RD ARLINGTON , MA 02474

262-24 REYBURN, ERIC N. TRUSTEE OF IVY STREET REALTY TRUST 204 GARDEN STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

Narel St.

262-146 REYBURN, ERIC N. TRUSTEE OF 206 GARDEN STREET REALTY TR. 206 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-1258

262-25 WIESNER, ELIZA CONANT 9 IVY STREET. CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-28 MITCHELL, CYNTHIA 187 FAYERWEATHER ST., UNIT #2 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

262-29 OKUN, BONNIE E., TRUSTEE BONNIE E. OKUN TRUST 183-185 FAYERWEATHER ST., #1 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-32 LARABEE, KYLE. F & LENA M. KOZLOSKI, TRUSTEES 16-18 HAZEL ST. UNIT 16 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-11 YAO YURONG & XIAOXIAO TANG 21 HOLMES RD LEXINGTON, MA 02420

DEBORAH P. FAWCETT, ESQ.

35 NORRIS STREET CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140

262-31 WHEELIS, JOAN 10 HAZEL ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-127 ALDRICH, ELLEN HOLBROOK, TRS THE ELLEN HOLBROOK ALDRICH 2010 TRUST 1 FIELD ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-147 REYBURN, ERIC N. TR. OF 204 GARDEN STREET REALTY TRUST 204 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-1258

262-28 JIANG, LEI 187 FAYERWEATHER ST., #3 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

262-32 BROWN, JANICE S. 16-18 HAZEL ST., #18 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-26 BALLOU JEFFEREY & JEOUNGLAN LEE TRS THE BALLOU-LEE FAMILY LIVING TR 197 FAYERWEATHER ST - UNIT #2 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

262-21 MCNULTY, JAMES & SIRI C. STEINLE 210 GARDEN ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 BY U.S. MAIL to the address below OR BY EMAIL to: <u>mpacheco@cambridgema.gov</u>

Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 5/15/22

*Aefavalis* Enmanuel

Address: 21 FIELD ST. CAMMUDGE 02138

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

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Date: 5 7 22

Address: 204, 206, 202 GARDEN \*

cc: Joan Wheells: JWheelisMD@qmail.com

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Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

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Date: 5/22

(signature)

197 Fayerbeather St. Unit 2, Cambridge MA 02138 Address:

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com

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Date: 5/22/2020

(signature)

197 FAYER WEATHER ST # 3 Address:

cc: Joan Wheelis: JWheelisMD@gmail.com



City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL

831 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA. (617) 349-6100

# BZA

# **POSTING NOTICE – PICK UP SHEET**

The undersigned picked up the notice board for the Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing.

Name:	RAQUEL DARGENIO (Print)	Date: 05 23 22
Address:	10 Narel St.	

Case No. D7A - 170776Hearing Date: 6/9/32

Thank you, **Bza Members** 



March 21 - 7am

June 21 - 7am



June 21 - 10am

Dec 21 - 10am

March 21 - 10am





### **Request for Extension of Variance**

July 20, 2023

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK CAMERIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Project: 10 Hazel Street, BZA-170726

Maria –

We are requesting the extension of the Variance for 10 Hazel Street which expires on August 5. There was no extension filed before.

Thank you, Brigitte Steines

Brigitte Steines, AIA LEED AP Principal

InkStone Architects, LLC 18 Main Street Concord, MA 01742 650.814 8542 inkstonearchitects.com

June 9, 2022

Page 147

1.1	
1	* * * *
2	(8:50 p.m.)
3	Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Andrea
4	Hickey, Jason Marshall, and Matina
5	Williams
6	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Thank you. The Board will hear
7	Case No. 170726 10 Hazel Street.
8	[Pause]
9	10 Hazel Street?
10	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Oh, there I am up on the upper
11	left.
12	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Hi.
13	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Good evening. My name is
14	Deborah Fawcett. I'm the attorney representing the owner of
15	the property in question, Joan Wheelis. Joan's also
16	participating in this Zoom hearing, as is Brigitte Steins,
17	who's the architect for the project.
18	Joan has lived in Cambridge a long time, and has
19	lived and worked in this particular neighborhood since 1989.
20	She's owned 10 Hazel Street for since 2011, and she is
21	currently renting at a tenant's. She lives two doors down
22	around the corner at 218 Garden Street.

1	10 Hazel Street is a small, one-story house. It
2	has 956 square feet of living space. It was built in 1961,
3	but the Historic Commission has determined that it doesn't
4	meet their criteria requiring a hearing.
5	I'm here before you now because at this point in
6	her life, Joan wants a house that has some features at 218
7	Garden Street does not. Like many of us certainly myself
8	Joan has problems with sore knees, and she wants an
9	elevator in the house. She also doesn't want to struggle to
10	shovel snow off her car anymore, because she parks on the
11	street.
12	She is a psychotherapist and wants to have space
13	in the house to continue that practice, which of course is a
14	home occupation permitted as-of-right.
15	She wants to have ample space for overnight
16	guests, and in particular to accommodate comfortably her
17	son, who she anticipates may come to live with her and to
18	and to help her out as time goes on.
19	Joan tells me that this part of Garden Street is
20	sometimes called, "Great Swamp Way" because there's a lot of
21	runoff coming downhill. And she's experienced basement
22	flooding as a result and some related problems. And she

1	doesn't want to experience that anymore, either.
2	Maybe most importantly, Joan really appreciates
3	the existential threat that climate change poses to all of
4	us. And she wants to have a sustainable, energy efficient
5	home that's as green as she can reasonably afford.
6	So the proposed design accomplishes all of these
7	objectives. And there are many elements to make the house
8	great, including triple-pane windows, green building
9	materials and finishes, shading to prevent overheating.
10	It's designed to follow the sun, providing natural
11	daylight to indoor rooms, roof and wall insulation that will
12	exceed code requirements.
13	She also wants to put exterior insulation at the
14	basement of the house, and it's going to be a combination of
15	geothermal and solar energy with heat pumps that will be
16	energy-efficient, but will not make a lot of noise to
17	disturb neighbors.
18	Unfortunately, it's not feasible to convert to
19	make this happen in 10 Hazel Street. It's just too small,
20	ceilings are too low and so forth. So Joan and her
21	architect examined the building carefully, and they just
22	decided that that was not feasible.

1	This lot, like others in the immediate
2	neighborhood, which were laid out in plan I think 1911 is
3	preexisting, nonconforming. The lot size is 4756 square
4	feet, which is somewhat less than the required minimum of
5	5000. And it's 41 feet wide, as opposed to 50, which is the
6	requirement.
7	And it's because of these deficiencies in area and
8	width of the lot that we're here asking for some minimal, we
9	think, variances from the requirements.
10	The floor area ratio, the requirement is 0.5. We
11	are the design includes 97 square feet more than the
12	maximum would be allowed because of the lot being
13	undersized. So the floor area ratio we would end up with is
14	0.52. Then there are two small intrusions into the side
15	yards, the small canopy on the north or left side of the
16	building if you're standing in the street, which would be
17	three feet by three feet.
18	And on the other side on the right side or south
19	side of the property, we would like to include a small kind
20	of bump out, a bay-like projection on the second floor only
21	of the bedroom. And that would project one foot nine inches
22	into that side yard on the right side.

1	Both of those arguably fall within the provision
2	of Section 5.24.2, which I will just quote, "projecting
3	eves, chimneys, bay windows, balconies, open fire escapes,
4	and light projections, which do not project more than three
5	and a half feet" which these would not, " and are part
6	of a larger building no more than 35 feet high. This is
7	going to be the maximum, 35, but not over. May extend into
8	the minimum yard requirements."
9	When we met with Ranjit, or I spoke with him, he
10	was he suggested that these projections might fall within
11	that provision, which would exempt us from the requirement
12	of I mean we wouldn't need a variance, because the
13	intrusions would be okay. But we wanted to be cautious and
14	conservative, and that's why we're asking for variances for
15	those two projections as well.
16	Finally, we're hoping to get a variance to intrude
17	into the both side yards four inches at the basement level
18	to accommodate the application of exterior insulation, which
19	there's a provision in the ordinance that would allow this
20	if it were an existing building, but not for a new one. But
21	it does serve the purpose quoted in Section 2241 of the
22	ordinance to remove potential impediments to the

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1	construction of exterior walls with additional insulation.
2	So that's our proposal. I'm happy to answer any
3	questions. I think that, as I say, the building was not
4	deemed architecturally or historically significant enough to
5	warrant protection by the Historical Commission.
6	This new building would contribute to the City's
7	commitment to protecting the environment. It would be a
8	much more energy-efficient and sustainable building.
9	A new system for collecting rainwater should
10	diminish the downhill runoff. Hazel Street runs downhill
11	from Fayerweather to Garden, and there would be
12	substantially more open space than is required.
13	And Joan is an avid and skilled gardener, and I'm
14	sure will do a beautiful job making this property lovely.
15	And I think it would, far from being a detriment, I think it
16	will substantially enhance and probably improve the value of
17	the neighboring properties, as well as 10 Hazel Street.
18	It won't increase density of development or
19	traffic. It will be more energy efficient, and as I said
20	before, will not generate noise. It's in a scale of the
21	front setback is completely consistent with the surrounding
22	neighborhood.

1	As I said, many of these lots were laid out before
2	the Zoning Ordinance was adopted, and there are a lot of
3	houses in the neighborhood who don't have much of a side
4	yard at all.
5	I think oh, I also wanted to let you know that
6	Joan has spoken with and shared her plans with as many
7	people as she could contact in the neighborhood, and I think
8	there have been 15 letters of support that were submitted
9	along with her application. And that includes the two
10	properties on either side, the immediately abutting
11	properties as well as some properties across the street.
12	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. Good. Thanks.
13	Okay.
14	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Thank you.
15	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Let me open it up to members of
16	the Board. Jim Monteverde, any questions at this time?
17	JIM MONTEVERDE: No questions, thank you.
18	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason Marshall, any questions?
19	JASON MARSHALL: No questions at this time, thank
20	you.
21	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Andrea?
22	ANDREA HICKEY: Yes. I am having a bit of a hard

	the server the surrout
1	time sort of following the plan to compare the current
2	structure with what's proposed. Could I ask someone on the
3	presenter's side to bring us to one of the slides that will
4	clearly show sort of existing versus proposed?
5	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Actually, if you bring up slide
6	17, that shows the Dimensional Table.
7	ANDREA HICKEY: Right. I have that. So I'm
8	looking for something like a plot plan.
9	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Oh, sure.
10	ANDREA HICKEY: I'm not an architect, so I'm
11	trying to just visualize
12	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Sorry.
13	ANDREA HICKEY: What is the footprint now, versus
14	what is it what are you proposing in terms of the massing
15	on the lot? So
16	DEBORAH FAWCETT: This is the plot plan that shows
17	the existing
18	ANDREA HICKEY: Correct.
19	DEBORAH FAWCETT: conditions.
20	ANDREA HICKEY: Right. I understand that.
21	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Okay. And if you go down to
22	Slide 5 would probably be helpful. This is the floor area

1 ratio analysis. And I think if you -- over on the right side, 2 Olivia, you can see a neighborhood comparison. The first-3 floor plan, which is in slide 10, shows the canopy that 4 we're talking about. 5 And the -- and the purpose of that is to protect 6 people -- patients, although Joan doesn't have many patients 7 coming to her home office at this point, I think a lot of it 8 is over the phone at this point, but for those who do come, 9 the canopy would protect them from rain while they're 10 waiting to come in. And it's --11 JIM MONTEVERDE: Can I make -- sorry, this is Jim 12 Monteverde. Can I make one suggestion that might answer the 13 14 question that was asked? DEBORAH FAWCETT: Yes. 15 JIM MONTEVERDE: If you would go to -- what sheet 16 am I on, I'm on Sheet 16, I believe, it shows that there's a 17 photograph of the existing condition. No, wrong sheet, 18 19 sorry. DEBORAH FAWCETT: No, that's not it. 20 JIM MONTEVERDE: I'm on the one that has the 21 survey, and it has the photograph, front, and rear of the 22

current building. 1 DEBORAH FAWCETT: Oh. 2 ANDREA HICKEY: Jim, what page of the --3 DEBORAH FAWCETT: On page --4 ANDREA HICKEY: -- PDF, is that --5 DEBORAH FAWCETT: Slide 3. 6 JIM MONTEVERDE: This one. 7 DEBORAH FAWCETT: This is -- again, these are 8 existing conditions. But these are some photos of 10 Hazel 9 10 Street now. JIM MONTEVERDE: Agree. Yeah. So --11 DEBORAH FAWCETT: Right? 12 JIM MONTEVERDE: -- that gives you a sense --13 Andrea, that gives you a sense of what it's like, you know, 14 from the street? 15 ANDREA HICKEY: Right. I --16 JIM MONTEVERDE: Right? 17 ANDREA HICKEY: -- 100 percent have that. I'm 18 19 looking --JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. 20 ANDREA HICKEY: -- for something that -- I'm 21 looking for something just that simple for what's proposed. 22

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1	JIM MONTEVERDE: Right.
2	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Okay.
3	JIM MONTEVERDE: Well, if you
4	BRIGITTE STEINS: May
5	JIM MONTEVERDE: if you go to the next slide
6	BRIGITTE STEINS: May I introduce myself? My name
7	is Brigitte Steines, InkStone Architects. So I'm the
8	architect here. And we produced the drawings, so maybe I
9	can help out here.
10	So I think the best the best slide to go to to
11	compare besides the images and seeing the open space is also
12	the R2 drawing, which is I believe the third one on your
13	ANDREA HICKEY: I think it's Slide 6.
14	BRIGITTE STEINES: Or Slide 6. Yeah, the slides
15	are different. So this gives a very good overview of what
16	is if you're looking for that?
17	ANDREA HICKEY: Yeah. I'm looking for sort of
18	what exists versus what is proposed.
19	BRIGITTE STEINES: Right. So
20	ANDREA HICKEY: How the structure lies on the lot.
21	BRIGITTE STEINES: Of course. So there are two
22	ways to compare it. One is the footprint, and if you

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_	the with the evicting plat plan then you can be
1	compare it with the existing plot plan, then you can see
2	that our footprint got bigger. If you look at the open
3	space, there is still a whole lot of more open space than
4	other buildings in the neighborhood.
5	The other way to compare it is the floor area.
6	And then there is there the floor plan is probably more
7	helpful
8	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Slide 5.
9	BRIGITTE STEINES: than the plot plan. But
10	maybe the R2 plan we are looking at right now is not easy to
11	read, so maybe I can walk you through that, what the
12	footprint means.
13	I don't know, Olivia, if you can make the we
14	can see the full picture? At least in cannot, or can I see
15	that, really? Maybe a little smaller. Thank you so much.
16	So if you move it this is the back. Let's
17	start from the back side, since we see okay. So now
18	that's the front side. So on the right side you're going to
19	see Hazel Street with a driveway very similar to what it is
20	right now.
21	The first block rectangle where it says, "roof
22	terrace" is a one is a single-story structure. There is

a courtyard which is open. It's on grade of level. And 1 then everything that is gray is more two and a half stories 2 3 high. Then if you can move the plan going more to the 4 right, the roof terrace is not as high as the roof, so it's 5 about two stories high, and in the back is the wood deck. 6 So this is the footprint area, and on the top of 7 that where it says, "Window wells" these are window wells 8 coming out of the basement -- one out of a bedroom, and one 9 out of an office area. I don't know if that helped, that 10 explanation. If you were looking for the footprint? 11 ANDREA HICKEY: Yeah. Sometimes we see plans that 12 are on -- one plan will show the proposed and like a hashed 13 line for the existing, just to make it easy for those of us 14 who are not experts --15 BRIGITTE STEINES: Yeah. 16 ANDREA HICKEY: -- at reading a plan --17 JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. 18 ANDREA HICKEY: -- to kind of visualize. 19 JIM MONTEVERDE: I think --20 ANDREA HICKEY: I'm sorry, Jim. 21 JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah, I'm sorry. 22

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1	ANDREA HICKEY: Go ahead.
2	JIM MONTEVERDE: I think there is one on Sheet T1
3	the neighborhood plan.
4	BRIGITTE STEINES: Yes, the T1. It's very small.
5	JIM MONTEVERDE: Well, if you blow that up
6	BRIGITTE STEINES: Sorry, can I interrupt you?
7	JIM MONTEVERDE: No, that's okay.
8	BRIGITTE STEINES: Yeah.
9	JIM MONTEVERDE: Blow that up when you get there.
10	BRIGITTE STEINES: On the very top, it's very
11	small, but it's the high-level comparison. It's the T1 on
12	the very beginning, the very first
13	DEBORAH FAWCETT: I think it might be Slide 2,
14	Olivia.
15	BRIGITTE STEINES: Or maybe it's two. But verify.
16	Yes.
17	JIM MONTEVERDE: There we go. Yep.
18	BRIGITTE STEINES: This one. If you can zoom into
19	that plot plan exactly there where you are?
20	JIM MONTEVERDE: Right.
21	BRIGITTE STEINES: Exactly.
22	JIM MONTEVERDE: So

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1	BRIGITTE STEINES: So
2	JIM MONTEVERDE: If you see that ghosted in
3	rectangle?
4	ANDREA HICKEY: Yes.
5	JIM MONTEVERDE: That, I believe, is the existing.
6	BRIGITTE STEINES: This is correct.
7	JIM MONTEVERDE: And the balance in brown? I'm
8	color blind.
9	BRIGITTE STEINES: Correct.
10	JIM MONTEVERDE: But
11	ANDREA HICKEY: Yes.
12	JIM MONTEVERDE: is the proposed. How's that?
13	ANDREA HICKEY: That's good. It was buried in
14	there, unfortunately.
15	JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah.
16	BRIGITTE STEINES: It was really small; I have to
17	admit.
18	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Sorry.
19	ANDREA HICKEY: All right. My only other question
20	again, not being an architect so you're presenting
21	that the height of the building as proposed will not be
22	higher than 35 feet, correct?

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1	BRIGITTE STEINES: This is correct.
2	ANDREA HICKEY: And what is the lowest point from
3	which you're measuring that 35 feet?
4	BRIGITTE STEINES: We are measuring from the
5	existing grade. So what we did, Deborah and I, to be really
6	sure that we are doing the right thing, we actually met in
7	person with Ranjit, and also had a couple of phone
8	conversations.
9	So we took the existing average grade, what we got
10	from the certified surveyor, and measured from there the 35
11	feet up. And I think to see that best is going to the
12	elevation and to the front elevation, which is Sheet A
13	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Slides 13
14	BRIGITTE STEINES: Down, down
15	DEBORAH FAWCETT: and 15
16	BRIGITTE STEINES: down, down. Yes.
17	DEBORAH FAWCETT: How about the
18	BRIGITTE STEINES: This one looks good. Yes. So
19	there you see a green line. And that says, "existing
20	average grade." Can you see that?
21	ANDREA HICKEY: I do see that.
22	BRIGITTE STEINES: Yes.

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1	ANDREA HICKEY: So I'll ask my colleague, Mr.
2	Monteverde or anybody who might know the answer to this
3	question, is the existing average grade the proper place
4	from which to measure height, or wouldn't it be the lowest
5	point, like, the lower part of a window well or the lower
6	part of the
7	BRIGITTE STEINES: This yeah.
8	DEBORAH FAWCETT: specifically
9	BRIGITTE STEINES: Let me let me add that. So
10	the way we were got that explained, we did include the
11	window wells. So the window well depression is included.
12	The driveway is considered as an exception.
13	So where we are looking at at the front elevation,
14	this is measured from the average existing grade, while if
15	we would go to the next elevation to the next sheet where we
16	see the window wells, you will see there is a green line
17	there as well.
18	But you see the numbers?
19	DEBORAH FAWCETT: Mm-hm.
20	BRIGITTE STEINES: 1,2,3,4, and the number 2 3 and
21	4 are measuring, and you can see the you can see the
22	measurement in pink. And it's counted from the very bottom

1	of the window well up to the roof area.
2	ANDREA HICKEY: So the distance from the bottom of
3	the window well to the roof is
4	BRIGITTE STEINES: 34.10 at that side of the roof.
5	ANDREA HICKEY: Understood. Thank you very much.
6	That's much clearer to me.
7	BRIGITTE STEINES: Okay.
8	ANDREA HICKEY: That's all I have.
9	BRIGITTE STEINES: It is very tricky, the height
10	calculations.
11	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Andrea, it's that's the way
12	it's calculated by the department, anyhow. And it is the
13	same calculations, the same way you figure people coming in
14	for access and for window wells in basements.
15	And what triggers they may very well be at, say
16	34.9 or something now, they're adding window wells to allow
17	for fenestration and exit from a basement bedroom and
18	that window well basically increases the height, even though
19	the building hasn't changed at all. So
20	ANDREA HICKEY: Right. That was why I asked the
21	question
22	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yep.

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ANDREA HICKEY: So I had a firm understanding as 1 2 to whether --BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. 3 ANDREA HICKEY: That window well situation was 4 taken into consideration, and it looks like it's been 5 addressed. 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes. 7 ANDREA HICKEY: It looks like the Building 8 Department is fine with it, and I have no questions. I just 9 wanted to understand that. 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes. It is -- that depth if 11 you will, is calculated into the average grade around the 12 13 house. So. ANDREA HICKEY: I have nothing further. Thank 14 15 you. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Matina, any questions, 16 or comments at this time? 17 MATINA WILLIAMS: No. 18 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Let me open it to public 19 comment. Any members of the public who wish to speak should 20 now click the button that says, "Participants," and then 21 click the button that says, "Raise hand." 22

1	If you're calling in by phone, you can raise your
2	hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6. And
3	you'll have up to three minutes to comment.
4	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Edwardo Berlin?
5	EDUARDO BERLIN: Yes. I'm sorry, this is probably
6	not the right moment in this meeting to ask this. I just
7	wanted to confirm that 241 Grove Street is off the agenda,
8	because I have it on the agenda online, but I also have an
9	e-mail from the owner saying that it's not. Just wanted to
10	confirm that. I'm sorry for the intrusion.
11	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It is open?
12	OLIVIA RATAY: It was continued.
13	EDUARDO BERLIN: Can you hear me?
14	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: That was continued until June
15	30.
16	EDUARDO BERLIN: Thank you. That's all. Thanks
17	so much.
18	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yep. There was nobody calling
19	in. We are in receipt of correspondence. It's a form
20	letter.
21	"Dear Board of Zoning Appeal, I am a neighbor of
22	Joan Wheelis at 10 Hazel Street. I had an opportunity to

1	review Joan's plans to demolish the existing house on the
2	property and to build a new house in its place, which Joan
3	intends to make a home."
4	"I understand that because of the lot itself is
5	somewhat smaller and narrower than the standard, the plans
6	will require the Board of Zoning Appeal to grant variances
7	to exceed the maximum floor area ratio by about 0.2 percent,
8	97 square feet, to install exterior installation that will
9	extend four inches into the side yards to build three-foot
10	wide canopy that will extend three feet into the left side
11	yard and for the second-floor bedroom to project about one-
12	foot-nine from the façade on the right side of the building.
13	"I have no objection to the Board granting these
14	variances, and I support Joan's plans for her new home."
15	There are some 16,17 that I counted letters in
16	support. And that is the sum and substance of any
17	communication. I will close the public comment part.
18	Deborah, any further comments at this time?
19	DEBORAH FAWCETT: No. I think it's all been said.
20	I'm glad that you explained that it's the height is
21	measured from the existing average grade, which definitely
22	takes into account the window well.

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1	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Great. Okay, thank you.
2	All right. I'll close the presentation part of the meeting,
3	and by and the Board will discuss it among themselves. Jim
4	Monteverde, your thoughts. We're being requested to grant a
5	special variance.
6	JIM MONTEVERDE: I am fine with it. I'm
7	comfortable.
8	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Jason Marshall?
9	JASON MARSHALL: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I don't have
10	any feedback at this time.
11	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Andrea Hickey?
12	ANDREA HICKEY: No further questions. Thank you,
13	Mr. Chair.
14	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina Williams, any comments,
15	or questions? Ready for a vote?
16	MATINA WILLIAMS: No comments or questions at this
17	time.
18	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. Let me make a
19	motion, then, to grant the relief requested, as per the
20	drawings, supporting statements and dimensional forms,
21	drawings initialed by the Chair for the new construction,
22	which exceeds the FAR and also there is some side yard

requirement setback violations. 1

The Board finds that a literal enforcement of the 2 provisions of the ordinance would involve a substantial 3 hardship to the petitioner, because it would preclude the 4 petitioner from constructing a new building to replace an 5 outdated, inefficient, very small, relatively small for the 6 neighborhood, house on an existing lot. 7 The Board finds that the existing house predates 8 the ordinance, is encumbered by it by the size of the lot, 9 also the side yard requirements and also the FAR, so that 10 any addition or modification or improvement to the house, 11 which has to be an expansion of the house, would require 12 some relief from this Board. 13 The Board finds that desirable relief may be 14 granted without substantial detriment to the public good. 15 The Board finds that the proposed new structure will have 16 many economical and ecological benefits to the city, also to 17 18 the occupant of the structure. That the design will replace a very small, one-19 And the Board finds that the Historical story house. 20 Department has found it of no historical architectural

significance. 22

21

1	The Board finds that desirable relief may be
2	granted without substantial detriment to the public good, or
3	nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent and
4	purpose of the ordinance the intent and purpose of the
5	ordinance is to allow the petitioners, homeowners, to bring
6	their residences up to far more efficient standards with
7	today's modern technology.
8	The Board also notices the that there would not
9	be any increase in traffic. There would not be any increase
10	in the use of the property. It could be allowed to be a
11	two-family; this will be a single-family home, so that the
12	use and intensity will remain the same and have no impact on
13	adjoining properties.
14	The Board finds that there should be some more
15	findings desirable relief may be granted without
16	substantial detriment to the public good. In fact, the
17	proposed design will enhance the neighborhood with an
18	attractive design and far more efficient structure.
19	The Board finds that desirable relief may be
20	granted without nullifying or substantially derogating from
21	the intent and purpose of the ordinance, as previously
22	stated, to allow homeowners to improve their home to far

1	more energy efficiency, and also to make it more livable and
2	accommodating to modern standards.
3	On the motion, then, to grant the relief
4	requested, Jim Monteverde?
5	JIM MONTEVERDE: I vote in favor.
6	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason Marshall?
7	JASON MARSHALL: In favor.
8	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Andrea Hickey?
9	ANDREA HICKEY: Yes, in favor.
10	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina Williams?
11	MATINA WILLIAMS: Yes, in favor.
12	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan yes.
13	[All vote YES]
14	BRENDAN SULLIVAN: On the five affirmative votes,
15	the variance is granted. Good luck.
16	COLLECTIVE: Thank you so much. Thank you. Thank
17	you very much.
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# **CITY OF CAMBRIDGE**

Massachusetts BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL 831 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA. 617) 349-6100



CASE NO:	170726	
LOCATION:	10 Hazel Street Cambridge, MA	Residence B Zone
PETITIONER:	Joan Wheelis – C/o Deborah P. Fawe	cett, Esq.
PETITION:	Variance: New construction exceeding side yard setbacks.	ng F.A.R. and projections into required
VIOLATIONS:	Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dime Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.30 (Variance).	nsional Requirements).

DATE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: May 26, 2022 & June 2, 2022

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: June 9, 2022

170706

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

	-	. /
	BRENDAN SULLIVAN – CHAIR	V
	JIM MONTEVERDE – VICE-CHAIR	L
	CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER	
	ANDREA A. HICKEY	V
	LAURA WERNICK	
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:		
	SLATER W. ANDERSON	
	ALISON HAMMER	
	JASON MARSHALL	1
	MATINA WILLIAMS	1
	WENDY LEISERSON	

Members of the Board of Zoning Appeal heard testimony and viewed materials submitted regarding the above request for relief from the requirements of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance. The Board is familiar with the location of the petitioner's property, the layout, and other characteristics as well as the surrounding district.

Case No:	BZA-170726
Location:	10 Hazel Street
Petitioner:	Joan Wheelis – c/o Deborah P. Fawcett, Esq.

On June 9, 2022, Petitioner Joan Wheelis appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeal with her attorney Deborah Fawcett and her architect Brigitte Steins, InkStone Architects, requesting a variance in order to build new construction exceeding FAR and projecting into the required side yard setbacks. The Petitioner requested relief from Article 5, Section 5.31 and Article 10, Section 10.30 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance ("Ordinance"). The Petitioner submitted materials in support of the application including information about the project, plans, and photographs.

Attorney Fawcett stated that the property contained a small one-story house with 956 square feet of living space. She stated that the proposal was to replace the house with one of more livable dimensions. She stated that the existing house was determined to be not historic, and the proposed house would be energy efficient. She stated that the lot was undersized and narrow, creating FAR and side setback issues. She stated that modest FAR and setback variances were needed. She stated that the proposed structure would enhance the neighborhood.

The Chair asked if any members of the public wished to be heard on the matter, and no one wished to be heard. Neighbors submitted a form letter in favor of the proposal. The letter was read into the record.

After discussion, the Chair moved that the Board make the following findings based upon the application materials submitted and all evidence before the Board and that based upon the findings the Board grant the requested relief as described in the Petitioner's submitted materials and the evidence before the Board: that the Board find that a literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would involve a substantial hardship to the petitioner, because it would preclude the petitioner from constructing a new building to replace an outdated, inefficient, relatively small house on an existing lot; that the Board find that the existing house predated the Ordinance and was encumbered by it, including lot size, side yard, and FAR requirements, so that any addition, modification or improvement to the house would require some relief from the Board: that the Board find that desirable relief could be granted without substantial detriment to the public good; that the Board find that the proposed new structure would have many economical and ecological benefits to the city and to the occupant of the structure; that the Board find that the design would replace a very small, one-story house, which the Historical Commission had found was not historically or architecturally significant; that the Board find that desirable relief could be granted without substantial detriment to the public good, or nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent and purpose of the Ordinance to allow homeowners to bring their residences up to far more efficient standards with today's modern technology; that the Board find that there would not be any increase in traffic, there would not be any increase in the use of the property, and it would remain a single family house so that the use and intensity would remain the same and have no impact on adjoining properties; that the Board find that the proposed design would enhance the neighborhood with an attractive design and a far more efficient structure; that the Board find that desirable relief could be granted without nullifying or

substantially derogating from the intent and purpose of the Ordinance to allow homeowners to improve their home to a far more energy efficient state, and also to make it more livable and accommodating to modern standards.

The Chair further moved that the Board specifically find that based upon all the information presented, there are circumstances involving a substantial hardship relating to this property within the meaning of M.G.L. c. 40A § 10 and that the Board grant the variance for the requested relief on the condition that the work be as per the application, supporting statements, dimensional form, and drawings submitted, as initialed by the Chair at the June 9, 2022 hearing.

The five-member Board voted unanimously in favor of the findings and of granting the variance as conditioned (Sullivan, Monteverde, Hickey, Williams, and Marshall). Therefore, the variance is granted as conditioned.

The Board of Zoning Appeal is empowered to waive local zoning regulations only. This decision therefore does not relieve the petitioner in any way from the duty to comply with local ordinances and regulations of the other local agencies, including, but not limited to the Historical Commission, License Commission and/or compliance with requirements pursuant to the Building Code and other applicable codes.

Brendan Sullivan, Chair

Attest: A true and correct copy of decision filed with the offices of the City Clerk and Planning Board on <u>8-5-22</u> by <u>Nama Plane Clerk</u>.

Twenty days have elapsed since the filing of this decision.

No appeal has been filed \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Appeal has been filed and dismissed or denied.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk.

# Southern Middlesex - 20/20 Perfect Vision i2 Document Detail Report

Current datetime: 5/11/2023 10:40:43 AM						
Doc#	Document Type	Town	Book/Page	File Date	Consideration	
1922586	DECISION			09/07/2022		
Property-Str	eet Address and/or De	scription				_
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Grantors						1
CAMBRIDGE	CITY, WHEELIS JOA	N				
Grantees						
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### CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Massachusetts BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL 831 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA. 617) 349-6100



CASE NO: 170726

LOCATION: 10 Hazel Street Cambridge, MA Residence B Zone

PETITIONER: Joan Wheelis – C/o Deborah P. Fawcett, Esq.

PETITION: <u>Variance</u>: New construction exceeding F.A.R. and projections into required side yard setbacks.

VIOLATIONS:

Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements). \_\_\_\_\_\_ Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.30 (Variance).



DATE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: May 26, 2022 & June 2, 2022

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: June 9, 2022

249151

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

BRENDAN SULLIVAN – CHAIR JIM MONTEVERDE – VICE-CHAIR CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER ANDREA A. HICKEY LAURA WERNICK

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

SLATER W. ANDERSON ALISON HAMMER JASON MARSHALL MATINA WILLIAMS WENDY LEISERSON Bk: 01402 Pg: 81 Cert#: 249151 Doc: DECIS 09/07/2022 12:12 PM



V

Members of the Board of Zoning Appeal heard testimony and viewed materials submitted regarding the above request for relief from the requirements of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance. The Board is familiar with the location of the petitioner's property, the layout, and other characteristics as well as the surrounding district.

1402-81

1922586

i.

Case No:BZA-170726Location:10 Hazel StreetPetitioner:Joan Wheelis - c/o Deborah P. Fawcett, Esq.

On June 9, 2022, Petitioner Joan Wheelis appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeal with her attorney Deborah Fawcett and her architect Brigitte Steins, InkStone Architects, requesting a variance in order to build new construction exceeding FAR and projecting into the required side yard setbacks. The Petitioner requested relief from Article 5, Section 5.31 and Article 10, Section 10.30 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance ("Ordinance"). The Petitioner submitted materials in support of the application including information about the project, plans, and photographs.

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Brendan Sullivan, Chair

Attest: A true and correct copy of decision filed with the offices of the City Clerk and Planning Board on <u>8-5-22</u> by Maria Wacheed Clerk.

Twenty days have elapsed since the filing of this decision.

No appeal has been filed

Appeal has been filed and dismissed or denied.

Nino O. Killer Date: August 30, City Clerk.

1922586 • NOTED ON: CERT 249151 BK 01402 PG ALSO NOTED ON: Southern Hiddlesex LAND COURT Registry District Receipt Totals Document Fee Qn: Sep 07,2022 at 12:12P RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION F 23 015 ニーナート ļ 105.00 \$105.00 81 Dion Charles

# Memoranda Of Encumbrances

Cert No: 249151

Book/Page: 01402/81

Cert No	249151	
Document	1570894	
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Kind	MORTGAGE	
In Favor of		
Date of Instr	07/14/2011	
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Date of Reg	07/14/2011	
Time of Reg	14:52:12.743	
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