

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL 831 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge MA 02139 617-349-6100

# **BZA Application Form**

BZA Number: 154869

Date: 12/15/21

General	Information
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		General	Information		
The undersigned	hereby petitions the E	Board of Zoning A	ppeal for the	following:	
Special Permit: _		Variance: X	_	Appea	ıl:
PETITIONER: D	an Sterner & Elizabetl	h Clark Libert C/C	Sam Kachr	nar Architects	
PETITIONER'S A	DDRESS: 43 Reserv	oir St., Cambridg	e, MA 02138		
LOCATION OF P	ROPERTY: 43 Reser	voir St , Cambri	<u>dge, MA</u>		
TYPE OF OCCU	PANCY: Residential		ZONING D	ISTRICT: Resi	dence A-1 Zone
REASON FOR PI	ETITION:				
/New Structure/					
DESCRIPTION	OF PETITIONER'S	PROPOSAL:			
To build an accessory apartm		l 5 feet from prop	erty line with	in the side yard	d setback to be used as an
SECTIONS OF Z	ONING ORDINANCE	CITED:			
Article: 5.000 Article: 8.000	Section: 5.31 (Table Section: 8.22.3 (Non			).	
		ginal nature(s):		(Petitioner	(s) / Owner)
				SAMUEL (Print	Name)
	Tel.		357 78-270-8441	HURAN com	AVE, CAMPRIGE MO, CRIPS

# 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. Address: State that I/We own the property located at 43 which is the subject of this zoning application. The record title of this property is in the name of \*Pursuant to a deed of duly recorded in the date 6 27 2016, Middlesex South County Registry of Deeds at Book 67511, Page 50 Middlesex Registry District of Land Court, Certificate No. Book \_\_\_\_\_ Page SIGNATURE BY LAND OWNER OR AUTHORIZED TRUSTEE, OFFICER OR AGENT\* \*Written evidence of Agent's standing to represent petitioner may be requested. The above-name Tallol Soener of Elizabeth Liberpersonally appeared before me, this 56 of Nov, 202(, and made oath that the above statement is true. MICHELLE DERN Notary Public COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS My commission expires 7/20/2023 (Notary Seal).

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

My Commission Expires July 20, 2023

MICHELLE DEEN
Notes Proposed to the Commission of the Proposed to the Proposed

 $\mathcal{L}(H^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{2}), \mathbb{R}^{2}) = \mathbb{R}^{2} + \mathbb{R}^{2}$ 

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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:

A literal enforcement of the provision would force the applicant to cut down aditional trees and reduce the urban canopy, as well and move the current carraige house closer to the main house.

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 Soil conditions create a condition that does not warrant a basement level at the carraige house

### 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 relief can be granted without substantial detriment to the public because the new structure is far enough and hardly seen from the public good

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

-Relief can be granted without nullifyinf the ordinance as this home was built well before zoning ordinances existed, and does not impinge on any abutting neighbors

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

# **BZA Application Form**

#### **DIMENSIONAL INFORMATION**

Applicant: Location:

Phone:

Dan Sterner & Elizabeth Clark Libert

43 Reservoir St., Cambridge, MA

978-270-8441

Present Use/Occupancy: Residential

Zone: Residence A-1 Zone

Requested Use/Occupancy: Residential

		Existing Conditions	Requested Conditions	<u>Ordinance</u> <u>Requirements</u>	
TOTAL GROSS FLOOR AREA:		5,487	5,744	13,110	(max.)
LOT AREA:		26220	26220	26220	(min.)
RATIO OF GROSS FLOOR AREA TO LOT AREA: <sup>2</sup>		0.20	0.25	0.50	
LOT AREA OF EACH DWELLING UNIT		26220	26220	26220	
SIZE OF LOT:	WIDTH	122.00	122.00	122.00	
	DEPTH	225.15	225.15	225.15	
SETBACKS IN FEET:	FRONT	111.23'	133.00'	25.00'	
	REAR	88.31'	62.15'	25.00'	
	LEFT SIDE	87.00'	72.00'	15.00'	
	RIGHT SIDE	5.8'	5.8'	15.00'	
SIZE OF BUILDING:	HEIGHT	15.45'	19.00'	35.00'	
	WIDTH	13.83'	30.00'	92.00'	
RATIO OF USABLE OPEN SPACE TO LOT AREA:		83%	77%	50%	
NO. OF DWELLING UNITS:		1	1	1	
NO. OF PARKING SPACES:		3	3	n/a	
NO. OF LOADING AREAS:		0	0	0	
DISTANCE TO NEAREST BLDG. ON SAME LOT		43.27'	65.00'	10'	

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.:

-there is a main house on the lot. Stucco construction with wood frame.

- 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'.

#### To whom it may concern:

My name is Jeffrey Libert, and I live at 11 Garden Terrace. My wife, Mardee, and I would like to state our support for our daughter and son-in-law, Elizabeth Libert and Dan Sterner, in their application for a variance / special permit for their home at 43 Reservoir Street.

We love having Dan and Elizabeth in the neighborhood because we get to frequently see them and our grandsons, Calvin (8) and George (6). They have put down roots in this community and have invested a lot of effort in personalizing their home while respecting its historic character.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Libert and Mardee Brown Cambridge residents since 2004 Maggie Currier 207 Lakeview Ave Cambridge, MA 02138

January 24, 2022

RE: 43 Reservoir Case # 154869

To whom it may concern:

My name is Maggie Currier, and I live at 207 Lakeview Avenue. I would like to state my support for my friends, Dan Sterner and Elizabeth Libert, in their application for a variance / special permit for their home at 43 Reservoir Street. Dan and Elizabeth care deeply about their community and the historical nature of the neighborhood.

When Dan and Elizabeth undertook the first phase of their home project in 2016, they took great care to preserve the home's historical elements. They restored the original windows and doors and had custom wood storm windows produced for the home. They also removed the asphalt shingle roof and replaced it with a slate roof to recreate the home's original exterior appearance. In 2017 they won a Historical Preservation award for their efforts.

I have no doubt that Dan and Elizabeth will take great care to balance their personal needs with an aesthetic that will add to our community. As a result, I wholeheartedly support their efforts.

Sincerely,

Maggie Currier

207 Lakeview Avenue

Cambridge resident since 1984



# 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: Tan Masturs (Print)	Date: 01-05 - 2022
Address: 43 Reservoir St.	•
Case No. BZA - 15-4869	
Hearing Date:	

Thank you, Bza Members





1 (8:39 p.m.)2 Sitting Members: Constantine Alexander, Brendan Sullivan, 3 Jim Monteverde, Laura Wernick and Jason 4 Marshall 5 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Who's presenting it? 6 7 Sam? SAM KACHMAR: Mr. Chairman, my name is Sam 8 Kachmar. I'm from SKA. I'll be presenting the case. I'm 9 here with our clients, Dan and Elizabeth Sterner. 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. It's yours. 11 SAM KACHMAR: Okay. I'd like to let Dan and 12 Elizabeth introduce themselves, and then I'll run us through 13 the drawings. 14 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sorry, yep. 15 DANIEL STERNER: Hey, everyone. We're -- I'm Dan 16 Sterner. This is my wife, Elizabeth Libert. We're the 17 owners of 43 Reservoir Street. Elizabeth has been a 18 Cambridge resident off and on since 2007. I've lived here 19 since 2011. We purchased this house in 2016, and we've been 20 kind of slowly renovating it, trying to be sensitive to the 21 historical nature of the neighborhood. 22

And we're proposing to put a garage in the side yard setback, and that's the project before you this evening. And I'm going to turn it over to Sam Kachmar to speak about the project.

SAM KACHMAR: Thanks, Dan. Olivia, could you bring up the drawings? Thank you very much. My name is Sam Kachmar. I'm a Principal here at SKA. I'm here with Mike Fields, Axel Ramirez and Steven Hoheb from our studio representing Dan and Elizabeth. Thank you, Members of the Board, for your time. We'll take you through our request.

Here on the first slide, on the left you can see the photograph of the existing conditions of the house.

Then on the right you can see a render of the main house with the proposed carriage house pushed further down and back into the site.

Next slide, please?

On this slide, you can see an existing axonometric of Reservoir Street, with the carriage house set in the driveway.

Next slide, please?

And on this sheet, you can see the proposed carriage house to replace the existing carriage house, set

further into the property and moving further back from the adjacent properties on Reservoir Street, and keeping it on the same plane as the existing nonconforming carriage house.

Next slide, please?

On this sheet, you can see the existing streetscape photo on the top, and the proposed streetscape render on the bottom -- not really much changed from the front from the street side.

Next slide, please?

And on this sheet, you can see the existing zoning calculations for the property. The existing FAR for the house is 0.2. We're raising it to 0.25, approximately half of the allowable FAR of 0.5 in the A-1 District.

The existing open space on this lot is 83 percent, and we're reducing the open space to 77 percent, still well above the 50 percent requirement in the A-1 District.

Next slide, please?

On this sheet, you can see our shadow studies for the property. By pushing the carriage house further back into the property, we move the shadows cast into the neighbors' property further into their back yard, bringing additional light into the immediate back yard.

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1 Next slide, please? 2 On this slide, you can see the significant site 3 plan for the house. Next slide, please? 4 5 And on this slide, you can see the proposed site The existing carriage house is outlined in blue. 6 7 the proposed carriage house, in the same plane, showing how 8 we're pushing the structure further back into the property 9 in the yard. 10 The site plan also shows the proposed location for 11 a dry well and French drains to improve the site drainage on 12 the property. 13 Next slide, please? 14 Here you can see the grading plan from the 15 landscape architect. 16 Next slide, please? 17 On this slide, you can see the landscape layout 18 from the landscape architect. Please note there are a 19 couple of trees missing from the left-hand side of the 20 landscape plan that were agreed upon with neighbors on

Monday afternoon, after these drawings had been submitted to

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the City.

They have since been added to the landscape plan.

Next slide, please?

On the upper left-hand side of this sheet, you can see the existing carriage house plan. And in the center, you can see a rendering of the proposed carriage house. And in the center bottom, you can see the plan of the proposed carriage house with the green line representing the side yard setback and the red line representing the property line.

Next slide, please?

And on this slide, you can see on the upper left the roof plan on the existing carriage house. And in the center, you can see the rendering of the proposed carriage house.

And in the bottom, you can see the upper level of the proposed carriage house, with the green line showing the side yard setback and the red line showing the property line where we're seeking relief.

Next slide, please?

On this sheet you can see the existing carriage house roof plan on the left, and an axon of the proposed carriage house in the center, and the roof plan on the

carriage house on the bottom center. We tried to keep the roofline of the proposed carriage house low by utilizing a hip roof and dormers, so not to make it too tall to the neighbors.

Next slide, please?

On this slide, you can see the existing east elevation in the upper left, an existing photo of the carriage house in the upper right. On the lower left you can see a proposed rendering of the carriage house. On the lower right you can see the proposed elevation, with the side yard setback on the property line highlighted in red.

Next slide, please?

On this slide, you can see the south elevation in the upper left. On the upper right, you can see the existing photo. On the lower left you can see the proposed render of the carriage house. On the lower right, you can see the proposed elevation.

Next slide, please?

On this slide, you can see the existing west elevation in the upper left, the existing photo on the upper right. On the lower left you can see the proposed render, and on the lower right you can see the proposed elevation at

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1 the side yard setback and the property line highlighted in the middle. 2 Next slide, please? 3 4 On this slide you can see the existing north 5 elevation in the upper left, and the existing photo in the 6 upper right. Lower left you can see the proposed rendering, 7 and on the lower right you can see the proposed elevation. 8 Next slide, please? 9 Here you can see the existing site survey. 10 Next slide, please? And on this slide, you can see the existing photos 11 12 of the carriage house. We should have six letters of 13 support in the file from surrounding neighbors, including direct abutters. 14 15 We reviewed the existing carriage house with the 16 Historical Commission and it was approved to be demolished 17 without a hearing. 18 Thank you for your time and I'd be glad to hear 19 the insights of the Board. 20 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: One of the I guess questions --21 I'll open this up to discussion is why the accessory

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apartment?

1 SAM KACHMAR: To be able to have my client's parents for extended visits. 2 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I mean, I guess my question is, 3 is that an accessory apartment with parking, or is it a 4 5 structure for parking with an accessory apartment above? 6 And why the need for an accessory apartment? 7 SAM KACHMAR: The need for an accessory apartment 8 comes from the client's parents visiting for extended 9 periods of time. And so this would allow for separate 10 spaces for our clients to be able to have their parents 11 visit their grandchildren in the area. 12 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: How big would the 13 accessory apartment be? 14 SAM KACHMAR: I believe it's 700 square feet. 15 It's under the 900 allowable by the accessory dwelling unit. 16 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: So that's the other 17 question I was getting at. 18 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. 19 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Perfect. 20 SAM KACHMAR: It's an accessory dwelling unit, and 21 it meets all the -- we reviewed those elements with Ranjit. 22 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Section 4.22,

"Accessory Apartments" --

SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: -- and the purpose of this section, "Accessory Apartments" is to allow for the creation of accessory apartments in all districts. Many large existing single- or two-family dwellings or other accessory buildings on their lots are underutilized.

SAM KACHMAR: Yep.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Alterations of these buildings to provide one additional dwelling unit on the lot would be prohibited in most cases, due to the existing floor area ratio and/or lot area per dwelling unit requirement, Section 5.31.

So I guess the purpose of the accessory apartment is to basically allow greater flexibility in the use of space in existing large houses, and/or existing carriage houses that, you know, dot the landscape around the city and that no longer have carriages, aren't suitable to really park a car in because of their structure.

And so we have occasionally granted relief to convert those existing buildings into an accessory apartment.

Obviously, you're losing that protection here by a very small structure, and once that structure comes down, then obviously you have to comply with all of the prevalent zoning ordinances.

SAM KACHMAR: Right. And that's why we we're seeking a variance instead of a special permit.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Right. And then it's a very large lot. And I guess the other question is is why can't you build it to conform to the side yard setback?

SAM KACHMAR: Right. Well, we could, quite heavily. The reason to try to pursue it as a variance is that the driveway initially runs along the side of the property line.

And if we move the structure within zoning compliance, we create more impermeable space, we create more driveway essentially. We get a longer driveway. We take down more of the tree canopy within the property.

So the goal of keeping the carriage house, you know, kind of in within where the existing one is is to allow to make that as a reduced impact as possible, as well as to sort of push it slightly downhill so as to not impede on neighbors in the area, whom we have met with multiple

times, both in person and over the phone.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. I'm not convinced that an as-of-right solution isn't warranted. But anyhow, that's -- I understand, obviously.

SAM KACHMAR: Yeah.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: On that existing structure, that is very, very challenging. In fact, it drops off dramatically, and really would qualify for wetlands at most of the season.

But anyhow.

SAM KACHMAR: We looked at a few different options where we either expanded the existing carriage house and pursued that as a special permit -- you know, where it's an existing nonconformity in a side yard setback. But, you know, we're well below the allowable FAR, and we could extend that.

But that didn't seem like that was going to be as beneficial to the overall project. So that was where we looked at the possibility of rebuilding it new by pushing it a little bit further down the site.

CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: I have a question. Section 4.22.21, which Brendan has already cited --

1 SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm. CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: That's for the conditions 2 3 -- yeah, the conditions for the construction of a building that's going to have -- or it's for a building that's going 4 to have an accessory apartment? 5 6 SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm. 7 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: The first condition is 8 that the building containing the accessory apartment has been in existence since, on or before February 1, 2019. 9 10 SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm. 11 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: You've been in existence 12 since that, on or before. So I don't know how you meet that 13 requirement/satisfy that requirement? SAM KACHMAR: Well, I think if we were pursuing 14 15 that direction, that would fall under a special permit. And 16 that's why we're seeking a variance for building a new 17 structure within the side yard setback. 18 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: I'm sorry, you are. Ι 19 thought it was a special permit. 20 SAM KACHMAR: No, it's not a special permit. 21 We're seeking a variance.

CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Accessory apartment?

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SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. Right -- as a variance, whereas normally if we were doing it within the existing structure, we'd be seeking a special permit for that.

CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: And what's the -- and how do you satisfy the requirements for a variance, as far as the accessory apartment?

SAM KACHMAR: Right. And so due to the nature of the slope of the grade on that property, to try to move a structure inboard within the zoning setbacks would require a lot of grading. And it would create more, like, water issues for some of the other neighbors.

So our goal is to keep the amount of impermeable space that we'd be adding on there, and as limited as possible and increase the overall drainage of the site by adding dry wells in there.

If we moved it, then we have to just add more driveway. And that just seemed like not the greatest good for the property overall. The more sort of permeable space we can keep on that property, the sort of better the property operates for the city as a whole, in our opinion.

CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Of course, if we allow this to happen, this accessory apartment could be a B&B.

SAM KACHMAR: Could be what? I'm sorry, sir. 1 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: It could be used as a --2 JIM MONTEVERDE: Airbnb. An Airbnb. 3 4 SAM KACHMAR: Certainly. That would be a risk it could be used as an Airbnb. I do not believe that's our 5 client's intent, and I will certainly allow them to speak to 6 7 that, but. 8 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Okay. 9 DANIEL STERNER: Not our intent. 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason, any comments at this time? 11 12 JASON MARSHALL: Sorry. Always a delay coming off 13 I appreciate the presentation. You know, SKA it was really helpful to actually see the different renditions. 14 15 And we've actually come to in other cases I appreciated the 16 SKA work that you've done. 17 I -- in reviewing the case beforehand, and even 18 now, given the discussion, I am wrestling still with the 19 legal standards for a variance. And I got to be a little 20 stickler about it, because the state statute requires us to 21 press this issue. And maybe you can help me out. I am 22 struggling with what the substantial hardship is here.

And in reading the application, I think it cited too if the relief is not granted, then it would force you to cut down a tree and hug the carriage house closer to the property.

And that's -- you sort of lose me there. I don't understand how that creates a substantial hardship. You know, it seems like, you know, you still can make beneficial use of your property without the specific design. And to me that goes more to the size of what you're looking to do than it being a hardship.

So maybe there's another way to characterize it, but as the application stands now, I'm struggling to be able to check that box under the statute.

SAM KACHMAR: I think the way we look at it is where the hardship falls is that by paving more area on the site, which -- you know, we could do by right\*-, it's certainly well below the open space calculations. It's a good-sized lot and has a fair amount of grass and trees on it, to make a long story short.

If we make more impermeable area, we then create more runoff down reservoir hill towards Huron Ave. And by doing that, we create a substantial detriment to the rest of

the neighborhood. And I guess the hardship in our opinion was more towards the neighborhood than specifically towards our clients.

So what we are trying to take into consideration is sure, we could move the carriage house over within the zoning setbacks, but by doing that, we create a lot more driveway space, because then we have to create a three-point-turn, and then we have to build it back out, and everything, as opposed to being able to come straight down the driveway and drive right into the garage.

And so our hope and our thought was given the Cambridge Tree Ordinance has given the hope to sort of protect allowed permeable space, that that's something we could pursue with this project.

JASON MARSHALL: Yeah, and I think that's where I got caught up. Maybe it was the phraseology of forcing you to cut down a tree, even if you're going to -- you know, the ordinance. Of course you wouldn't be forced to do that, you could choose not to pursue the project at all. So maybe that --

SAM KACHMAR: Sure.

JASON MARSHALL: -- maybe that's what tripped me

I'm trying to -- I'm trying to understand better not 1 up. only how it would be a hardship obviously to the current 2 occupants, but anyone who would live there. 3 4 And maybe it falls more into, you know, impeding 5 the ability to, you know, replace a structure that's in need 6 of rehabilitation, you know, and make better use. So that -7 - just to the extent we get to a vote, I think there would 8 need to be some other rationale for that than what is 9 currently in the record is what I'm saying. 10 SAM KACHMAR: Completely understood. 11 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim Monteverde, any comments at 12 this time? 13 JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah, I have the same issue with 14 the request, relative to the property line. I'm looking at 15 the survey, which I'm assuming is an existing survey. 16 That's the BZA sheet 301. And am I correct that with the 17 new garage -- this is the current garage, correct? This is 18 the single vehicle. SAM KACHMAR: Yeah, it's the current one. Right. 19 20 Yep.

JIM MONTEVERDE: And in the new garage position,

don't you wipe out the three trees that are behind and

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beside the 10-inch maple, 20-inch maple, 10-inch willow?

Don't those trees come out just to make the new double car
garage?

SAM KACHMAR: The 10-inch tree and the 20-inch maple would come out. And in the plan, you can see where we're planting out the rest of that site, with a lot of other arbor vitaes, other maples to replace that and increase the actual tree area.

JIM MONTEVERDE: Yep. I appreciate it. So I think the position of it, just the fact you're pushing the garage back further, is what will take the trees out. If you do step away from the property line, I would certainly be willing to support it.

And as far as the paving, you could certainly do that in impervious paving. I'm looking at the survey again -- calls it a brick paver. The photograph looks like it's now a bituminous paver. You could certainly introduce some type of impervious paver if you were worried about the amount of, you know, cover that you have on ground surface, hard surface.

SAM KACHMAR: Right. So -- yeah, currently it's asphalt. And, you know, right now you come down and you go

1 straight into the garage. So if we slide it down towards 2 where it says, like, "proposed inspection port" --3 JIM MONTEVERDE: Yep. 4 SAM KACHMAR: Then you almost enter the garage 5 from where on that garage element the arrow points up. So 6 that would make that sort of turn coming around into there 7 would add -- you know, a fair amount impervious area. 8 Not that we don't have the ability to do that on 9 the lot; it just seemed like not really the right direction 10 or the right thing to do if we can keep it a straight shot 11 on the driveway. 12 That's my concern is just JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. 13 14 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah, understood. 15 JIM MONTEVERDE: With aiding the variance. 16 I wouldn't -- I would be much -- I would be in favor all. 17 of everything else if you could get it from the -- get the 18 required setback. 19 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. Setback I have an issue. 20 JIM MONTEVERDE: SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. I understand that. We looked 21 22 at those it and pursuing, like, a special permit and

1 extending the garage. But it seemed like given the condition of the structure that it was better to try to 2 3 build new from start. JIM MONTEVERDE: Thank you. 4 5 SAM KACHMAR: Thank you. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? Laura, any comments at 6 7 this time? 8 LAURA WERNICK: I guess I had the same kind of 9 concern as Jim and Jason both mentioned, and I understand 10 the hardship -- the kind of discussion about the hardship on 11 the neighbors, but if you built a smaller, you know, a one-12 car garage, a smaller garage you'd be doing less impervious 13 pavement. 14 So it just feels a little bit incongruous, you're 15 building a much larger structure and then saying, "Oh, well, 16 we don't want to shift it away because it's going to create 17 more impervious surface." So I would certainly like to --18 SAM KACHMAR: Sorry, go ahead. 19 LAURA WERNICK: I'm sorry? 20 SAM KACHMAR: Just that part of this locating of 21 the structure also came from some conversations with

neighbors. Over where it says, "Residence B and Residence

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A-1," there's a neighbor pretty close to that lot line on the back side.

And they didn't -- you know, obviously don't really want a structure kind of plopped in the back in their back yard in there. And that was, you know, part of the siting or part of the -- you know, there's an existing garage here now, what if we just slide that back or kind of keep it tucked over here on the side?

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, if you're looking at what is there now, I can only imagine what is proposed. The garage, the proposed garage is going to be used by the main house or the carriage house or both? Or --

SAM KACHMAR: It could be used by both, providing both one parking space for the accessory unit, as well as a parking space for the main house.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. Laura, have you coupled?

LAURA WERNICK: I'm finished, thank you.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Let me open it to public comment. Any member of the public who wishes to speak should now click the button that says, "Participants," and then click the button that says, "Raise hand."

If you are calling in by phone, you can raise your hand by pressing \*9 and unmute or mute by pressing \*6, and you have up to three minutes to speak.

[Pause]

There appears to be nobody calling in. There are some -- a number of letters in support. John Gilmore, who lives at 47 Reservoir Street has reviewed the plan, and he has no problem.

He did note that the architect -- the landscape architect has met with him and Mrs. Gilmore on several occasions to discuss the plans. They have kindly agreed to mitigate the effects of the changes on our property through fencing and planting of trees and shrub. There is a correspondence from Maggie Currier, 207 Lakeview Avenue.

There is a correspondence from Greg and Jamie

Porreca on 57 Reservoir, Unit 1; Hilary and Dan Rasmussen on

8 Hubbard Park Road; Jeffrey Libert and Mardee Brown, who

live at 11 Garden Terrace. They are in favor. Todd Goulet,

20 Madison Street in favor. Lauren Carter (phonetic) on 111

Village Road in favor.

Sum and substance of the correspondence; I will close the public comment at this time.

So you're asking for a variance, and basically the 1 only violation is the side yard setback, is that correct? 2 SAM KACHMAR: That is correct. We're well below 3 4 the allowable FAR. We're -- you know, well below the, or well above the open space requirements in there. The only 5 6 thing is the side yard setback. 7 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And as far as the accessory apartment, you can put that in there as-of-right? 8 9 SAM KACHMAR: That is correct, sir. 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: A little bit of a hard time connecting the dots on that one, because you're not putting 11 12 it into an existing structure, because the existing 13 structure is coming down; you're creating a new structure. 14 So the only request that you're asking for is for a side 15 yard setback? 16 SAM KACHMAR: We're asking for the side yard 17 setback, and I believe in the application it says, "to be 18 used as an accessory dwelling unit? 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And you're asking for relief 20 from Section 55.31 and Article 8, which is --21 SAM KACHMAR: .22. 22 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: -- 8.223.

SAM KACHMAR: Correct, sir. I don't know how that gets you to the -- how does that get you to the accessory apartments?

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The accessory apartment would be allowable by a special permit if we were converting garage, but because we're seeking a variance for the new structure, that's part of what we're seeking as a variance. Sorry if I'm misunderstanding.

JASON MARSHALL: Yeah. I mean, I think you'd have to come back to get the special permit or to seek the special permit. That's how I'm reading it. I mean, you could seek the variance tonight, but I think you'd have to -

SAM KACHMAR: Could I -- we spoke with the Building Commissioner about this. Because originally, we had applied for both a special permit and a variance.

And we got on the phone with Maria and Ranjit, and he said just to apply for a variance for this, because a variance would cover all of those things.

And so that was why we -- we actually amended it from a special permit and a variance to just a variance application, per Maria and Ranjit telling us to just amend

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that that way. And I believe Ranjit's on this call, if he
 1
    wants to speak to that.
 2
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Because they'd have a higher
 3
    standard?
 4
               SAM KACHMAR: Correct, yep.
 5
                                 I don't know. I just --
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN:
 6
    discussion by the Board? Comments? Some direction?
 7
              JIM MONTEVERDE: Vote?
 8
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim, your thoughts again on if
 9
     I can go back to you?
10
              JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah, I'm unfortunately not in
11
     favor.
12
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Can't hear you.
13
              JIM MONTEVERDE: I don't find the --
14
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim, you have to turn up the
15
16
    volume.
              JIM MONTEVERDE: Oh, sorry. No, I just have to
17
    bring down my headphone, my microphone. I'm not --
18
    requested for the side yard setback. I don't see the
19
    hardship in locating it the required distance away. I think
20
    I can deal with the impervious or pervious pavers to deal
21
    with the -- you know, ground being able to absorb some
22
```

water. So I'm not favoring it.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

DANIEL STERNER: Could I speak to that for a second? I'm sorry if I'm speaking out of turn here. I'm Dan, the owner. So -- and I don't know if this qualifies, I'm not an expert here, as a hardship and I guess we're looking for a hardship that's particular to my lot, rather than to any of my neighbors.

And, you know, I wish they were here this evening. You can see it right here on the survey where it says, "Keeler and Bishop." So they're the home that's kind of right there. We're going to be looking at the lovely carriage house if I move it into the middle of my property.

So, you know, prior to me buying this house, there was a woman here, Suzanne Deutsch, who lived here since 1948.

And she lived here from 1948 until she passed, I think, in 2014. We bought the house in 2016.

And then we had this big meeting. When I moved in, I went to all the neighbors. They wanted me to take down a dead tree that was on the kind of the south side of the property, but they all told me how they viewed what they called -- they called this, "the hollow." My big -- I call

it, "the jungle." My big forest in my back yard.

And it's -- and they all kind of view it as this, like, you know, it's my property, right? But they view it as this, like, neighborhood amenity. It's been there. It's this big open space.

And we tried to be sensitive to that in locating this structure, which is why we tried to tuck it along the property line as best we could, rather than putting it at the right middle of an open space that we have, let all my neighbors enjoy.

And then my neighbors to the other side, John Gilmore, you read his letter. We spent a lot of time with them and his wife, Elizabeth, is a really avid gardener.

And she's taken to calling my new driveway, "The helipad."

And so I don't really want to have to increase the size of the helipad any further, because I think that's going to upset her more.

So I don't know if that qualifies as a hardship.

And I apologize if it doesn't. That was a lot of the thrust here was to try to kind of --

ELIZABETH LIBERT: Work with our neighbors.

DANIEL STERNER: To -- yeah, to be kind of

respectful of these people that we've developed a relationship with over the last five years. I get that I have space to do more or less whatever I want on my property.

We were trying to solve for a lot of problems here, and a lot of different opinions. But we landed on something where, you know, John supported us.

You know, I was hoping that David Keeler and Georgie Bishop would show up this evening. But I know that I have their support. They want me to solve some drainage issues in the back and plant some plants.

So that really is the genesis of kind of why we're asking for the relief to locate the structure. Thank you.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you. Jim, I'm sorry, have you compared your thoughts or --

JIM MONTEVERDE: No. I'm still where I was.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Laura? What are your conclusions?

LAURA WERNICK: Well, I appreciate Dan's last comment there. I think that's very -- to my mind that's very important. I'm put off by the size and the scale of the project, I guess. And that's influencing me. It seems

that all the talk of trying to hide it away and minimize impervious surface while you're trying to build a significant new structure on your site is kind of trying to have it both ways.

So I'm conflicted here, but I guess I'm ready to support the project as it's proposed.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Jason, your big thoughts before we take it to a vote?

JASON MARSHALL: I can't promise big thoughts, but I do, Dan, appreciate the additional background. And I think that you and your team have appreciated this in good faith, and tried to resolve issues that have arisen.

I mean, the discussion tonight, it raises a couple questions about the substantial hardship is still a question. I think it needs to be thought through or refined a little bit.

It does seem to still go to the inability to fit the accessory structure elsewhere on the lot. Has to do -- it seems at least at this point maybe because of size rather than something relating to the shape, you know, of the lot.

And then the question that came up earlier was around the accessory apartment. So, you know, I don't think

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I'm prepared to support it. You know, you may want to pursue a continuance to run some of those issues down -- that's your choice.

But I don't think based on what's in the record that I would vote to support, if it came to that -- you know, subject to the motion that the Chair would put forward.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. All right, I have not chimed in. I guess the -- my thought is that what is probably driving this, obviously, is that the existing structure is a detriment and of no value whatsoever. So we need to replace it with something. And yes, it would be nice to have a place to park your cars.

So potentially one parking area, one parking spot doesn't do it, we should do two. Well, if we're going to do that, then we need more than potentially a parking garage.

And so let's do a grander building.

To me, this is really building a house on that site. And that's where it became an accessory apartment, and then it just sort of think grew from there.

That then gets part of a master landscape plan.

And so the landscape architect gets involved. And again,

the wonderful plan. And very accomplished, but I think then it became a very nice back yard, side yard, and that's what sort of drove it...

Except for the fact that let's kick this as far to the side yard as we can, because then what it does is it impedes or takes away from our usable open space, and that the area facing the garage to the right of it -- if we were to maintain that 15-foot required setback, would almost become useless space, and render itself to leaves in the fall and vegetation during the rest of the year and so on and so forth.

So I think that is -- and yes, I'm not speaking for you, Sam, but I think that's maybe what drove all of this. And that if we were to kick it to the side, as close as we could possibly get, which is what, five feet, is that what you're proposing?

SAM KACHMAR: It's 5'9" away from the property line, and that's what we're proposing to keep it -- within the same line, and possibly --

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The streetscape, it makes for an easier entryway egress, and then it allows us also to park the cars, obviously, behind the house, which they may

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1 be there most of the time, and occasionally this weekend, you know, you may park a car in the garage or something like 2 3 that. So. I think the structure itself is excessive. 4 think it's -- and especially when you're asking for relief 5 6 and the hardship. I just haven't reconciled the hardship 7 fact, other than that what is proposed before us -- even 8 though I think it's excessive -- I think works for the site, 9 works for accessibility to the structure, which is a direct shot in off of Reservoir Street, and then allows for 10 additional parking of vehicles behind the house. 11 12 Where does that leave me? I'm still troubled by 13 the size of the structure. But --14 JASON MARSHALL: The size of the structure is 20 x 30, I believe? 15 16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sorry? 17 SAM KACHMAR: I believe it's 20 feet x 30 feet on

SAM KACHMAR: I believe it's 20 feet x 30 feet on the structure for the garage.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah, and again I go back to my original comment, is --

SAM KACHMAR: Sure.

18

19

20

21

22

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Is it a garage with an

Page 167

accessory apartment, or is it really meant to have an 1 accessory apartment with a garage underneath? 2 3 SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And you can say, well they go 4 hand in hand. 5 6 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. 7 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: You know? I don't know in that 8 neighborhood, you know, how many other -- now, I know that 9 there are garages in that neighborhood, but are they of this 10 size, and do they have an accessory apartment to it? I dare 11 say that they don't. 12 So I think that this here would be somewhat 13 different and somewhat unique in the neighborhood. 14 If I may respectfully disagree on SAM KACHMAR: 15 that one, only in the sense that there are some carriage 16 houses and structures within the neighborhood that I would 17 say dwarf what we have proposed in there. And, you know, 18 there's a wide variety of them. 19 But I would say that there is many two-car garages 20 with a floor above them, you know, tucked throughout. 21 know, and some of them have sold off in separate properties.

Like the one down on Worthington just around the corner on

22

1 Lakeview, you know --2 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: They didn't ask for relief on 3 the zoning. SAM KACHMAR: No, no, no, you're correct. 4 5 sorry. I'm not meaning to be argumentative; I'm only saying I think there are a fair amount of garages of that size. 6 7 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okav. SAM KACHMAR: I hope that's --8 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. Shall I make it to 9 10 a vote? There's an option. I can make a motion to grant, or you can continue this, rethink it, and then come back. 11 12 SAM KACHMAR: Can I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? 13 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes. 14 SAM KACHMAR: If we tried to renovate the existing 15 structure as a special permit and kept part of the existing 16 structure and then built the remainder of the new garage 17 with that, would that change the dynamic of the request and 18 push us into special permit territory, as opposed to a 19 variance? 20 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, I'd have to see it. SAM KACHMAR: Of course, of course. 21 I wouldn't 22 mean at this hearing. I just mean, like, where --

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BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It's a different standard. 1 SAM KACHMAR: Exactly. Right. It is the non-2 3 detriment to the neighborhood, as opposed to the hardship, of course. 4 5 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I mean, you could visit that scenario. 6 7 SAM KACHMAR: Would it be okay if I just ask my client real quickly the question? Of course, we're not in 8 9 person, so I'll just do it live here, if it's okay? 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, did you want to talk to 11 Dan or Elizabeth? 12 SAM KACHMAR: Yep. I have no problem doing it in 13 public. Dan, essentially if we take a vote and it gets 14 voted down, we're dead in the water for two years on the 15 project. 16 DANIEL STERNER: We'd like to continue. And we're 17 going to reduce the size of the project, like what we want anyway. I don't know if we're talking about this accessory 18 19 unit, that we don't want, Sam. 20 So, and then we're just going to reapply with the 21 garage and we'll have this conversation all over again.

Let's just move on and continue. Thank you.

22

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SAM KACHMAR: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I think we'd
1
    like to seek a continuance, if that would be okay.
 2
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. The date? The
 3
    earliest date would be March 24.
 4
              CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: We have four cases that
 5
    night, right? Don't we have three --
 6
              OLIVIA RATAY: That one's April 14.
 7
              CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Oh, I'm sorry. You're
 8
 9
    right, you're right.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So March 24?
10
              DANIEL STERNER: March 24, yes, works.
11
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim, are you available on March
12
         I'm going to ask the same question of Laura and Jason?
13
              JIM MONTEVERDE: Yes, I am.
14
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
15
              LAURA WERNICK: I'm wondering if we can't push it
16
    to the fourteenth, just so that it's the same night as the
17
    other one? I'm not sure. I've got a lot of balls up in the
18
    air during the end of March, the beginning of April.
19
              So I just would prefer to kind of keep them
20
    together, if possible, on the fourteenth of April.
21
22
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN:
                                 Um--
```

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LAURA WERNICK: I think that was the date we had
 1
    proposed for the earlier continuance.
 2
              SAM KACHMAR: The twenty-fourth was one of them,
 3
    and then April was another.
 4
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry?
 5
              OLIVIA RATAY: We've got April 28, but it can't be
 6
 7
    the fourteenth.
              SAM KACHMAR: Okay.
 8
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Not April 14, but it could be
 9
    April 28, Laura.
10
              SAM KACHMAR: Prefer March 24, if possible.
11
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry. Wait a minute.
12
    Laura, are you available -- I'm sorry -- on the twenty-
13
    fourth of March?
14
              LAURA WERNICK: I'm just not sure at this point.
15
    I've got some travel plans that have not been pinned down
16
17
    yet.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. So then we're into
18
    April. April 28?
19
              LAURA WERNICK: I think that's better for me.
20
              JASON MARSHALL: Is the fourteenth available,
21
    where we have the other continued case? Is that, or is it
22
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```
1
     booked after that?
               OLIVIA RATAY: Well yeah, that's free -- 35
 2
 3
     Webster.
 4
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. Well, it's sort of a --
 5
     it's a tight schedule on the fourteenth.
 6
               CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: We have already four cases
 7
     on that night.
 8
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Four continued cases.
 9
               CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Four continued cases,
10
     that's right.
11
               SAM KACHMAR: We'll be quick.
12
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yep.
13
               SAM KACHMAR: We will be as efficient as we can.
14
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry?
15
               SAM KACHMAR: I said if you squeeze us in, we'll
16
    be very efficient with your time, if possible. Promise.
17
               LAURA WERNICK: Well, that's what they all said.
18
               SAM KACHMAR: We present pretty quickly and
19
    efficiently, I try to. We can be quicker if you guys want
20
    us to. We try to show everything as well.
21
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I don't know. Let me -- Laura,
22
    you're still checking, is that correct? So you're --
```

LAURA WERNICK: No, I can do the fourteenth, I'm 1 just uncertain of the March 24. I'm just uncertain. And it 2 3 looks like be another couple weeks before I get that pinned down, so. 4 5 SAM KACHMAR: Can we tentatively do March 24? BRENDAN SULLIVAN: No, the fourteenth is booked. 6 7 LAURA WERNICK: You can tentatively do the twenty-8 fourth, and if I'm not there, then you would just have four. 9 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: You have the option, then, to 10 go with four members if Laura's not here on the twentyfourth, Sam. 11 12 SAM KACHMAR: I do not imagine you guys are going 13 to vote, you know, the same way on another -- yeah, I mean I think that's --14 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: But you would need four 16 affirmative votes. 17 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah. I don't think it's going to 18 be a contested case. You know, in some ways it's more about 19 the legality and how we frame this hardship or the special 20 permit for that. 21 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. So shall we 22 continue this until the fourteenth?

SAM KACHMAR: Twenty-fourth. 1 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The twenty-fourth? 2 SAM KACHMAR: Yes. 3 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Now, now this is for this 4 particular case. 5 SAM KACHMAR: Yes. 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: If you decide to go to the 7 special permit, it's going to be a new case. 8 SAM KACHMAR: Mm-hm. We did initially apply for a 9 special permit and a variance, and it was amended to become 10 a variance. So could we maybe talk to maria and Ranjit and 11 see if we could amend it back to a variance and special 12 13 permit? BRENDAN SULLIVAN: But it's going to require a new 14 publication. It's going to be --15 SAM KACHMAR: Yeah, of course. 16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: -- readvertised, I think. 17 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: Since the date has been 18 advertised --19 SAM KACHMAR: Yep. 20 CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: -- of the parent case, we 21 can't change the nature of the relief. 22

1 SAM KACHMAR: Of course. I'll talk to Maria and Ranjit and see what the right procedure is to do that, if we 2 go that route. 3 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Or the alternative is to talk 4 5 to Ranjit and Maria tomorrow and if you wanted to file for a -- well, again, I don't know how fast you can put those 6 7 documents together. 8 SAM KACHMAR: Very quickly. 9 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Quickly? 10 SAM KACHMAR: Yep. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Why don't we mark this up, 11 12 then, for March 24 as a continued case. 13 SAM KACHMAR: Okay. 14 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And then see how this evolves, 15 or the special permit case evolves. And if the special 16 permit has to be a new case and refiling, and it's not ready 17 on March 24, we can continue this matter if you wish to the 18 special permit case, which keeps the case alive. Does that 19 sound okay? 20 SAM KACHMAR: Sounds very reasonable, Mr. 21 Chairman. 22 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Let me make a motion, then, to

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continue Case #154869, March 24, 2025 (sic) on the condition
 1
     that the petitioner sign a waiver to the statutory
 2
     requirement for a decision to be rendered on this case and
 3
 4
     filing.
 5
               That such waiver shall be in the file -- signed
 6
     and in the file by a week from Monday.
 7
               That any new plans be in the file by 5:00 p.m. on
     the Monday prior to March 24.
 8
 9
               That the signed -- the posting sign be changed to
10
     reflect the new date of March 24 and the new time of 6:00
11
     p.m.
12
               On the motion to continue this matter until March
13
     24, 6:00 p.m., Mr. Alexander?
14
               CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: I vote in favor.
15
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim Monteverde?
16
               JIM MONTEVERDE: [Jim Monteverde] I vote in favor.
17
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
18
               LAURA WERNICK: I vote in favor.
19
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Jason? Name and address
20
    Jason Marshall yes in favor of the continuance.
21
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Brendan Sullivan votes in
22
    favor.
```

[All vote YES] BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The matter is five affirmative votes -- the matter is continued until March 24 at 6:00 p.m. Thank you. SAM KACHMAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 

# Pacheco, Maria

From:

john gilmore <jadgilmore@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, January 27, 2022 9:58 AM

To:

Pacheco, Maria

Dan Sterner

Cc: Subject:

BZA-154869/ 43 Reservoir St/ Variance petition

We write in reference to the Variance Application filed by Daniel Sterner and Elizabeth Libert ("Petitioners") (BZA-154869) who reside at 43 Reservoir St., which Application is scheduled for hearing at 7:30 PM on January 29, 2022.

We live at 47 Reservoir St., the adjacent property to the north. We write to state that we do not oppose the granting of the variance. Petitioners and their architect and landscape architect have met with us on several occasions to discuss the plans with us.

and Petitioners have kindly agreed to mitigate the effects of the changes on our property through fencing and the planting of trees and shrubs.

John and Elizabeth Gilmore 47 Reservoir St.



# City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

2022 JAN 28 AM 10: 40

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL

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

# Board of Zoning Appeal Waiver Form

The Board of Zoning Appeal 831 Mass Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

Signature

§1455(a), or any other relevant state or federal regulation or law.

# STERNER RESIDENCE

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES BZA SET 03/16/22

2022 MAR 18 A 8: 24

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138





ARCHITECT:

SKA INC.



(C) 2022 SAM KACHAMAR ARCHITECTS

(p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138 CLIENT:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

DAN AND ELIZABETH STERNER

KERRY LEWIS

Kerry Lewis Landscape Architecture

# PROJECT NARRATIVE:

THE STERNER PROJECT CONSISTS OF RENOVATING THE LOWER LEVEL, INTEGRATING A MUDROOM, A WORKOUT SPACE, A RECREATION ROOM, POWDER ROOM AND STORAGE SPACE. REBUILDING AN EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE INTO A NEW CARRAIGE HOUSE.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

# **ROOME & GUARRACINO LLC**



BZA - SHEET LIST		
Sheet Number	Sheet Name	Designed by
BZA-000	COVER	SKA
BZA-001	SITE AXONS	Author
BZA-002	AREA PLANS	Author
BZA-003	SOLAR STUDY	Author
BZA-004	SITE PLANS	Author
BZA-100	CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN	Author
BZA-101	CARRIAGE HOUSE LEVEL 1 PLAN	Author
BZA-102	CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN	Author
BZA-200	CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-201	CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION	Author
BZA-202	CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-203	CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION	Author
BZA-204	SECTIONS	Author
BZA-300	QR CODE	Author
BZA-301	SURVEY PLAN	Author
BZA-302	ADDITIONAL EXISTING PHOTOS	Author
BZA-303	ADDITIONAL EXISTING PHOTOS	Author

# EXISTING SITE AXON







SAM. © 2022 SMURA KACHMAR (p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA,



43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

STERNER RESIDENCE



# **ZONING DISTRICT - A1**

MAIN HOUSE TOTAL SF

# LOT AREA = 26,220 SF FAR CALCULATIONS

# **OPEN SPACE CALCULATIONS**

### 2 1/2 STORY W/F AND STUCCO DWELLING

15' - 0" YARD SETBACK EXISTING FAR = 0.20

EXISTING OPEN SPACE = 83%

PROPOSED FAR = 0.256

**PROPOSED SITE PLAN** 

97' - 0" RESIDENCE B **RESIDENCE A-1** 

PROPOSED OPEN SPACE = 89%

AREA OF REQUESTED RELIEF

5' - 9 1/2"

REQUIRED FAR = 0.50

88' - 1 1/2"

REQUIRED OPEN SPACE =50%

### Level LOWER LEVEL UNFINISHED BASEMENT 2063 SF LEVEL 1 COVERED PORCH COVERED PORCH LEVEL 1 FINISHED LIVING AREA 2039 SF LEVEL 1 LEVEL 2 FINISHED LIVING AREA 1877 SF LEVEL 3 FINISHED LIVING AREA 1227 SF

EXISTING GROSS BUILDING AREA

### PROPOSED GROSS BUILDING AREA LOWER LEVEL 2063 SF LEVEL 1 COVERED PORCH LEVEL 1 COVERED PORCH LEVEL 1 FINISHED LIVING AREA 2039 SF LEVEL 2 FINISHED LIVING AREA 1877 SF FINISHED LIVING AREA 1227 SF LEVEL 3

# **CARRIAGE HOUSE TOTAL SF**

324 SF

EXIST	ING GROSS BUILDING AR	EA 2
Level	Name	Area
OWER LEVEL	UNFINISHED CARRIAGE	324 SF

Level	Name	Area
LOWER LEVEL	GARAGE	729 SF
LEVEL 1	STORAGE	340 SF
		1069 5

PROPOSED GROSS BUILDING AREA 2

# AREA PLANS | CARRIAGE HOUSE



17) BZA- EXG LL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

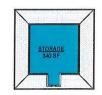


14 BZA - EXG ROOF PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

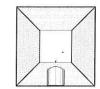




10) BZA -PROP, CARRIAGE HOUSE LL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

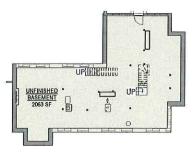


1) BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE L1 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



13 BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN

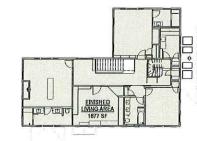
# AREA PLANS | MAIN HOUSE



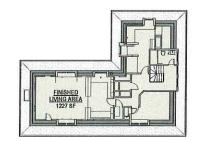
3 BZA - EXG LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN



2) BZA - EXG LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN



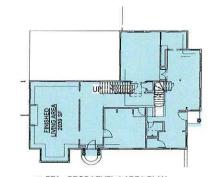
4) BZA - EXG LEVEL 2 AREA PLAN



5 BZA - EXG LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



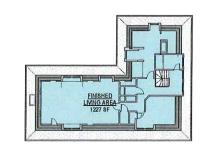
9 BZA - PROP LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"



6 BZA - PROP LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN



7 BZA - PROP LEVEL 2 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



8 BZA - PROP LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



AREA PLANS

SAM KACHMAR

REGISTRATIONS

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

(p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA,

Project Status	BZA SE
Project number	2017.0
Date	03/16/2
Drawn by	Autho
Checked by	Checke

STERNER RESIDENCE

BZA-002

1/16" = 1'-0"

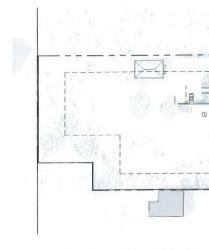
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

# 1) PROPOSED - PLOT PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

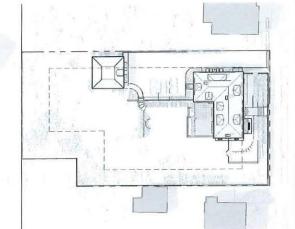
# WINTER SOLSTICE - PROPOSED



# SUMMER SOLSTICE - PROPOSED



T BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - SUMMER 3PM 1" = 40'-0"

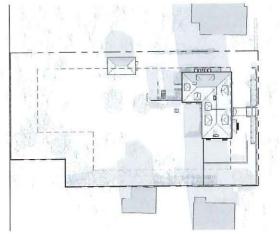


(10) BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - SUMMER 3PM 1" = 40'-0"

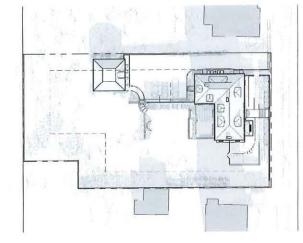


HMAR (p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA,



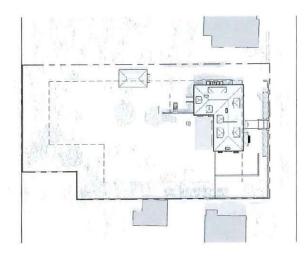


3 BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - WINTER 12PM

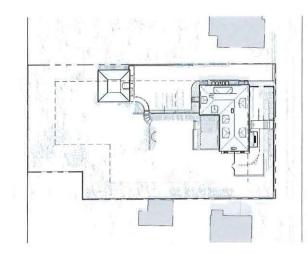


6 BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - WINTER 12PM 1" = 40'-0"

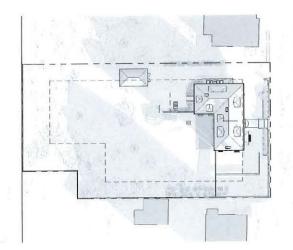
1" = 40'-0"



8 BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - SUMMER 12PM 1" = 40'-0"

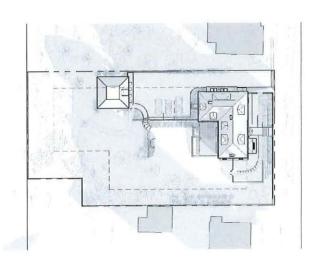


11) BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - SUMMER 12 PM

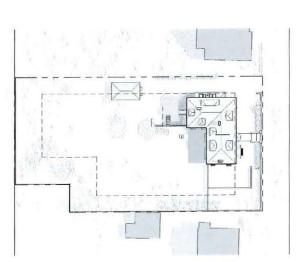


(4) BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - WINTER 9AM 1" = 40'-0"

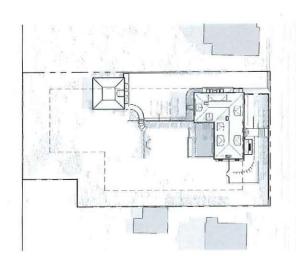
MORNING - 9AM



(5) BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - WINTER 9AM 1" = 40'-0"



9 BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - SUMMER 9AM 1" = 40'-0"



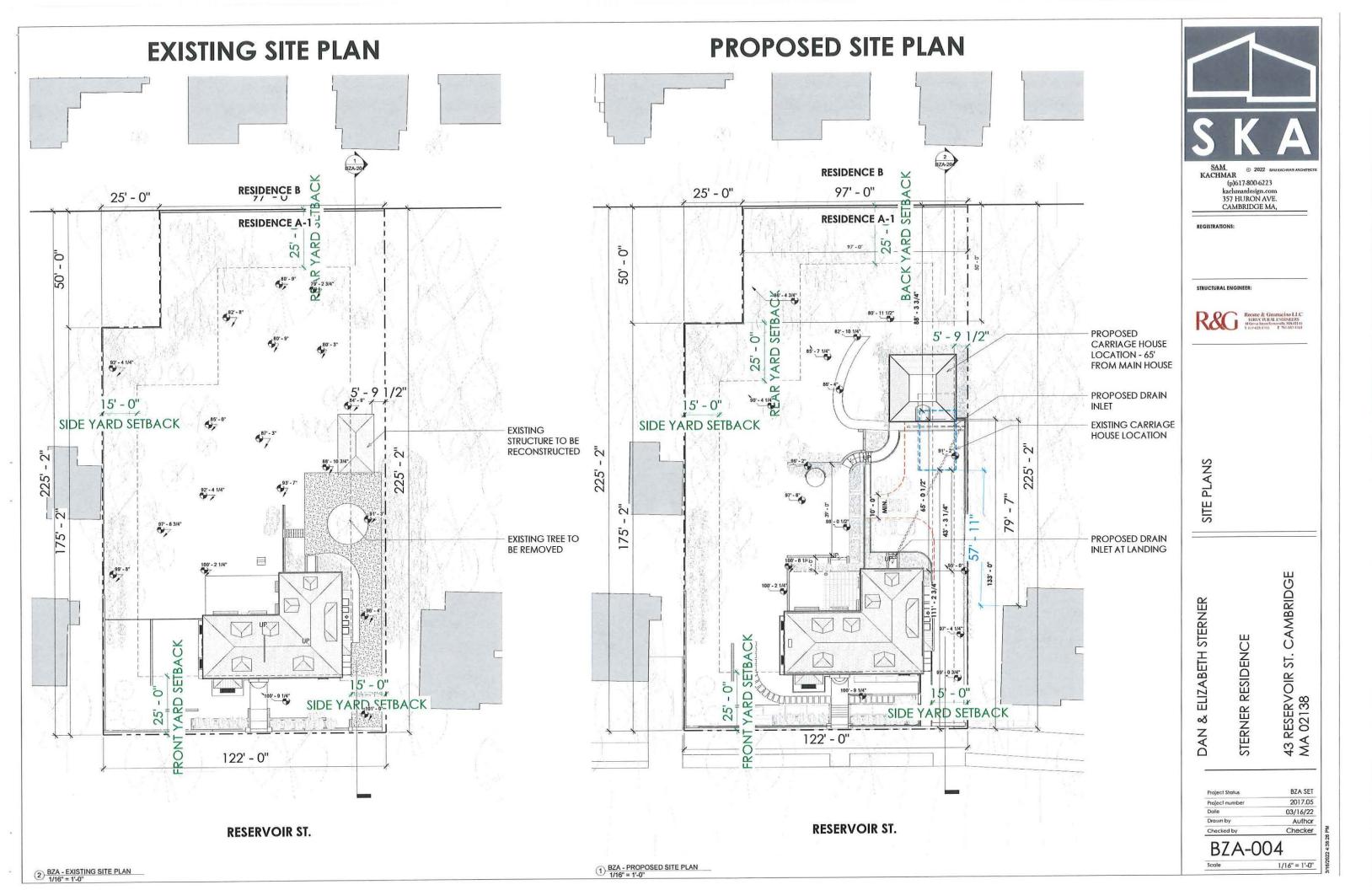
12 BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - SUMMER 9AM 1" = 40'-0"

# ELIZABETH STERNER

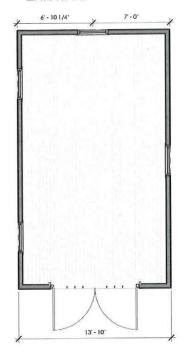
SOLAR STUDY

STERNER RESIDENCE	43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138
STERNER RES	43 RESERVO MA 02138

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Checked by	Checker



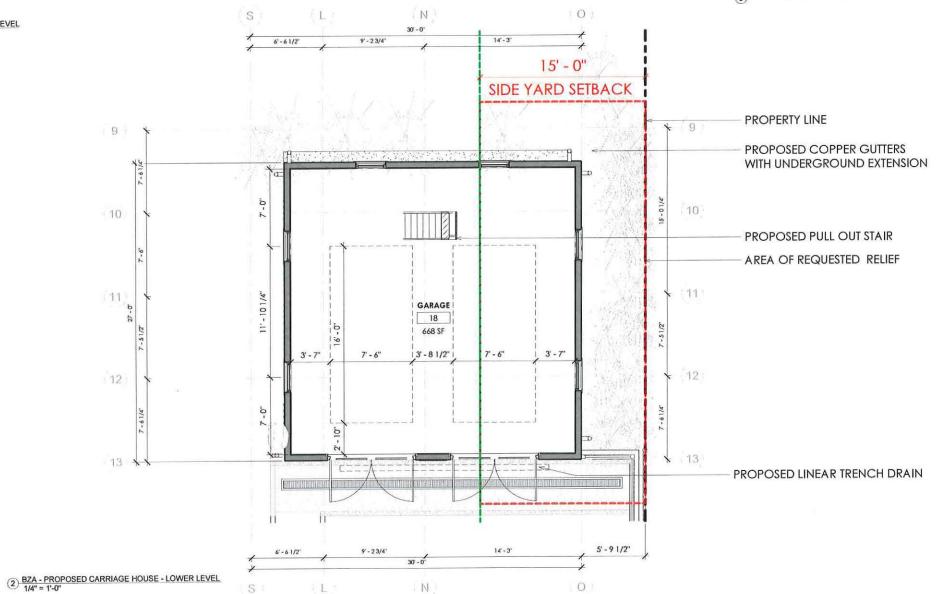
# **EXISTING**



(4) BZA - EXISITNG CARRIAGE HOUSE - LOWER LEVEL 1/4" = 1'-0"



3 BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE AXON - LL





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CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER STERNER RESIDENCE

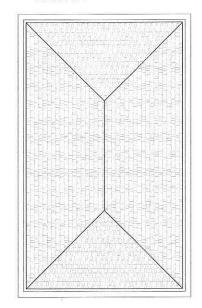
**BZA SET** 2017.05 03/16/22 Author Checker

BZA-100

1/4" = 1'-0"

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

# **EXISTING**



4 EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE - ROOF PLAN
1/4" = 1'-0"



UNFINISHED STORAGE 32

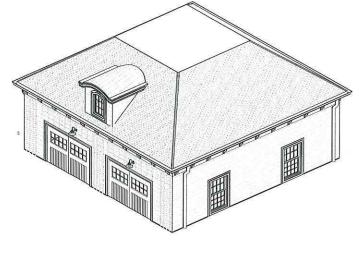
668 SF

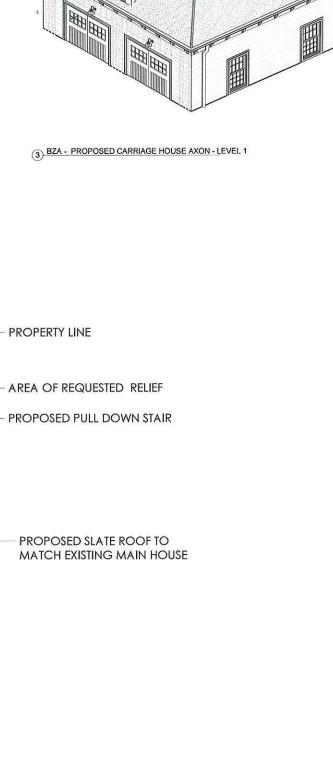
N

15' - 0" SIDE YARD SETBACK

5' - 9 1/2"

0







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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



CARRIAGE HOUSE LEVEL 1 PLAN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER STERNER RESIDENCE

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BZA-101

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

1/4" = 1'-0"

1 BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE - LEVEL 1

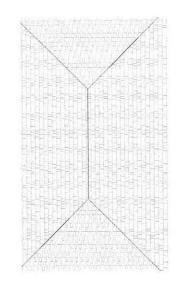
10

11 8

12

13

# **EXISTING**



② BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN
1/4" = 1'-0"

9

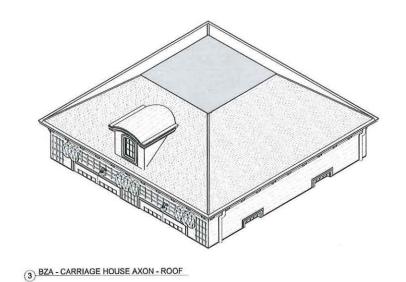
10

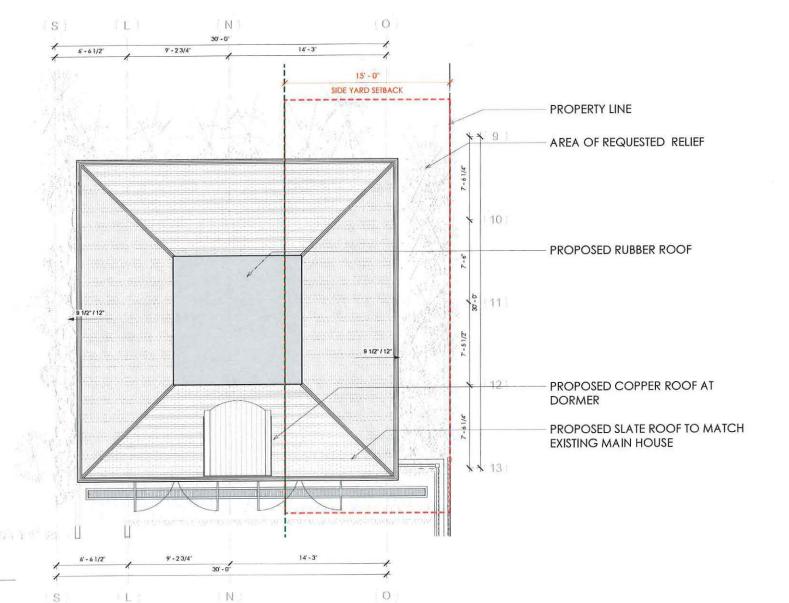
11 8

12

13 1









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CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	<b>BZA SET</b>
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Checked by	Checker

BZA-102

1/4" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED - EAST ELEVATION

# (2) BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

# **PROPOSED RENDER**



# **EXISTING PHOTO**







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CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION

STERNER RESIDENCE

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

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Date	03/16/22
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# PROPOSED - SOUTH ELEVATION

# 23' - 5"

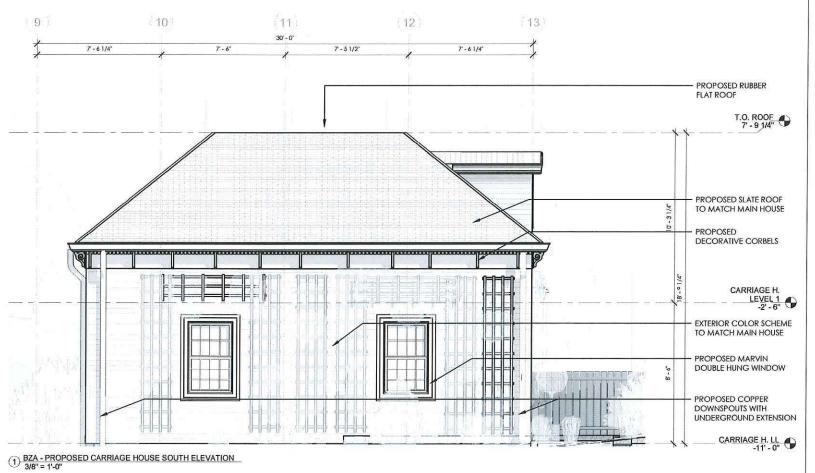
(2) BZA - EXISITING CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED RENDER



# **EXISTING PHOTO**





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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



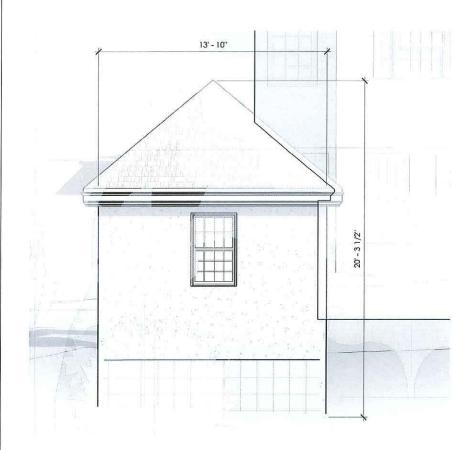
CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

**BZA SET** 2017.05 Project number 03/16/22 Checker

# PROPOSED - WEST ELEVATION

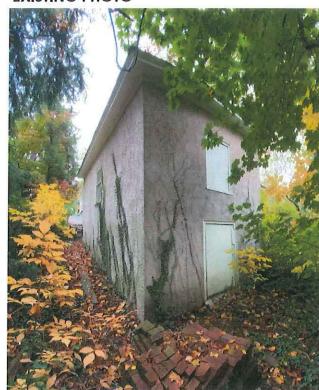


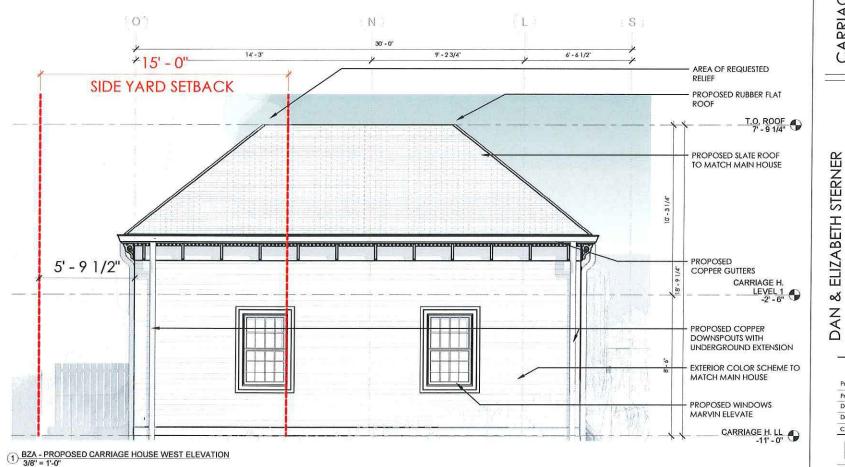
2 BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

# **PROPOSED RENDER**



# **EXISTING PHOTO**







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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
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# PROPOSED - NORTH ELEVATION

(2) BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED RENDER



# **EXISTING PHOTO**







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CAMBRIDGE MA,



CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION

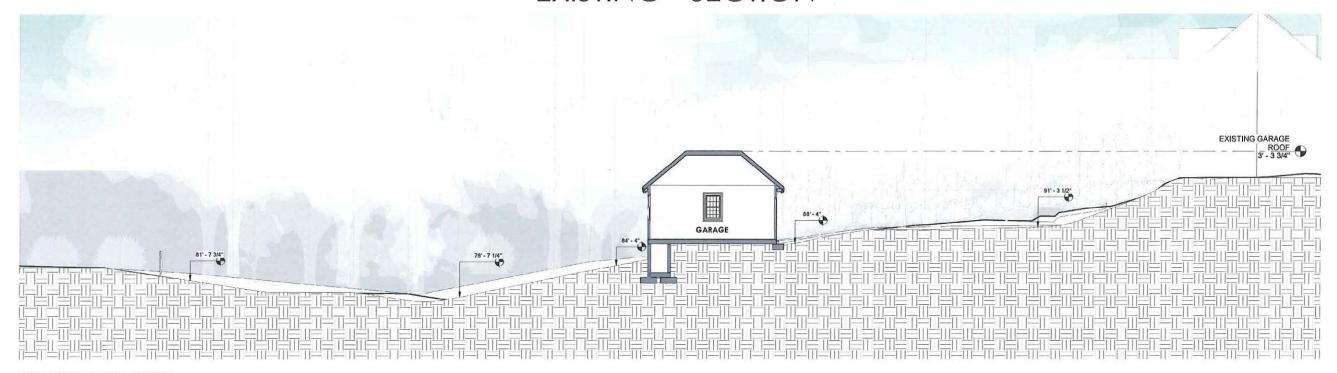
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

**BZA SET** 2017.05 Project number 03/16/22

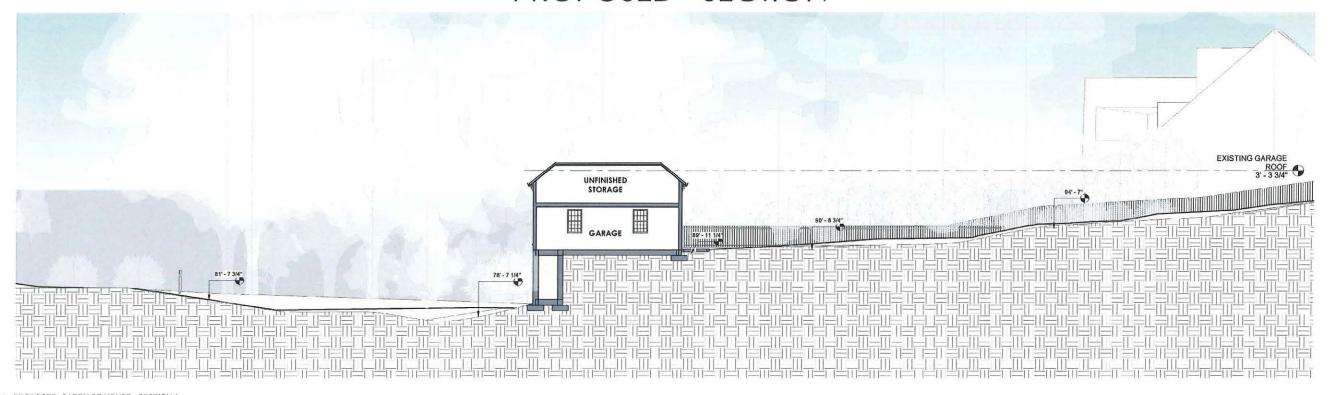
BZA-203

3/8" = 1'-0"

# **EXISTING - SECTION**



# PROPOSED - SECTION



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SECTIONS

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER STERNER RESIDENCE

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BZA-204

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

# **END OF PRESENTATION**

# 43 RESERVOIR EXTERIOR VIDEO RENDER

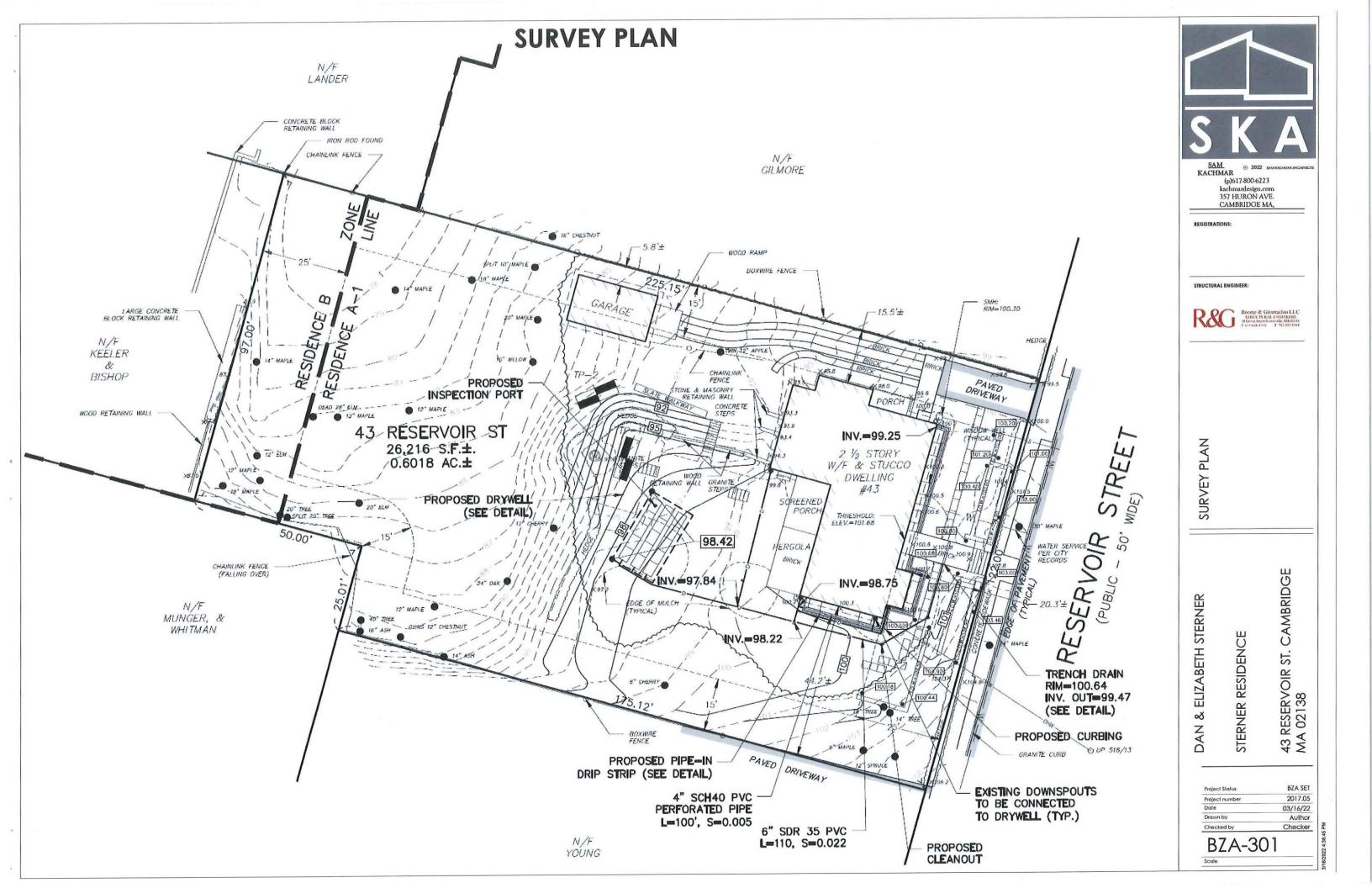






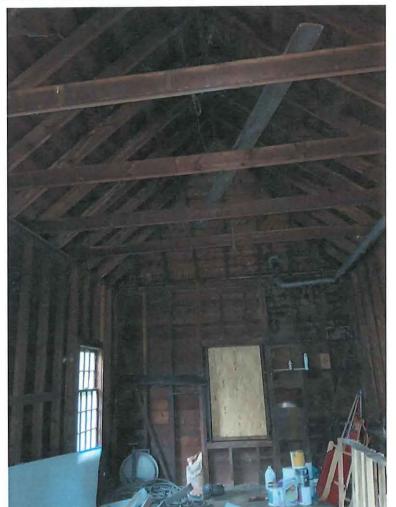
QR CODE

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	03/16/22
Drawn by	Author
Checked by	Checker



# **EXISTING PHOTOS**













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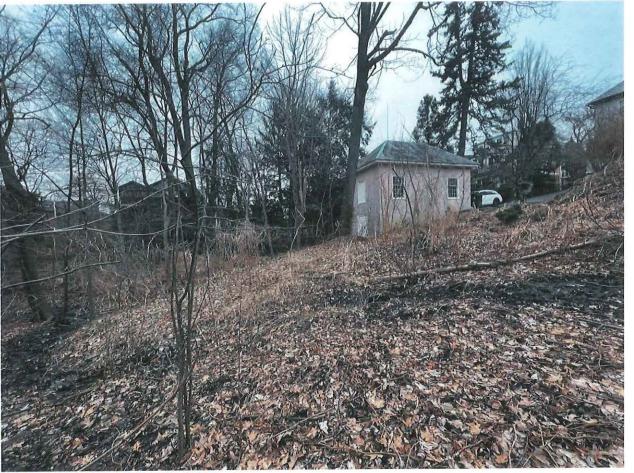
ADDITIONAL EXISTING PHOTOS

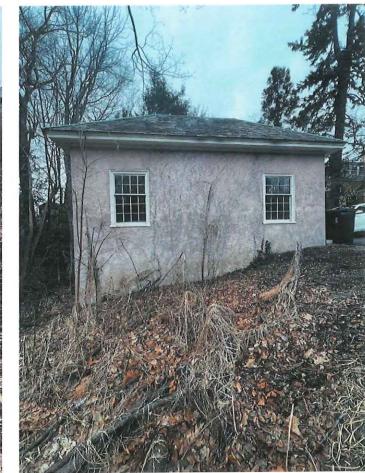
DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

STERNER RESIDENCE

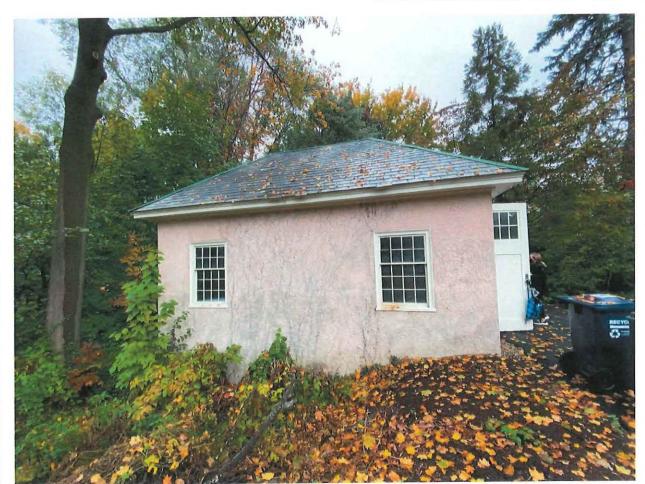
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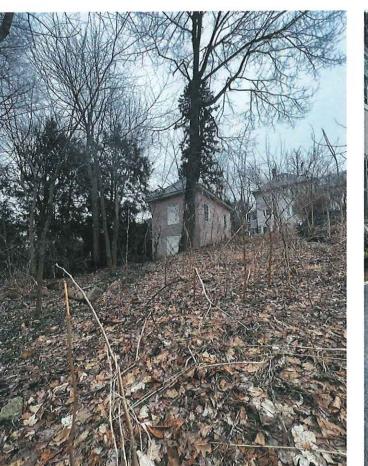
Project Status 2017.05 Checked by





# **EXISTING PHOTOS**





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ADDITIONAL EXISTING PHOTOS

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

2017.05

1 (6:13 p.m.)2 3 Sitting Members: Constantine Alexander, Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura Wernick, Wendy 4 5 Leiserson, and Jason Marshall BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The next case we'll hear is 6 7 Case #154869 -- 43 Reservoir Street. 8 CHRISTOPHER ALPHEN: Good evening, Mr. Chairman. Attorney Christopher Alphen, Blatman, Bobrowski & Haverty 9 10 for the petitioners. Last time the petitioners were before you they were proposing an accessory garage with some living 11 12 area. 13 It no longer has the living area. Therefore, we 14 are proposing an accessory building which will be used just 15 as a two-car garage. Therefore, the accessory building 16 meets the requirements for the setback at five feet, but it 17 does not meet the height requirements. It provides -- the proposal is 18.9 feet, where 18 19 the requirement for an accessory building is 15 feet, and 20 therefore we are still in need of a variance.

With that, I'd like to present -- I'd like to have

Sam from SKA present the new plans and go over the changes

21

22

that have been made.

SAM KACHMAR: Good evening. My name is Sam Kachmar from SKA. Olivia, could you bring up the plans, please? Thank you very much.

Here on the first sheet, you can see the residence
-- the photo on the left of 43 Reservoir Street that exists
with the garage in the back behind the driveway.

And on the right, you can see the proposed garage replacement. It's kind of set a little bit back and down the hill.

Could you take us to the next slide, please?

Here on this aerial axon you can see the property,
as it exists now on the left with the single-car garage, and
then on the right-hand side, you can see the proposed side
axon showing the two-car garage to replace it.

Next slide, please?

Here on our area calculations, you can see the current FAR of the property is 0.2. We're going to be going onto 0.25, still well below the 0.5 FAR for the Al district.

Our open space currently is 0.89 -- I'm sorry, is 0.83 and we're actually going to be going to like 0.89 because we shrunk it down a little bit.

Next slide, please?

Here our shadow studies show the structure is pretty well separated from any new neighbors, so any shadows cast will not be hitting any structures or impeding any neighbors.

Next slide, please?

And here you can see on the left the existing site plan, along with the grating showing the single-car garage.

And on the right-hand side, you can see the proposed site plan with the two-car garage.

Next slide, please?

And here on the top left, you can see the existing floor plan of the garage. In the middle on the upper portion you can see a rendering of the garage. On the right top you can see an axon of the two-car garage, a little bit of storage for some kids' bikes and stuff.

And on the bottom, you can see the floor plan of the two-car garage. Since our last visit, we shrunk the overall size of the garage in both width, length, and height, and removed the proposed accessory apartment that we were showing before as well.

Next slide, please?

Here on the upper level, you can see we just have a pull-down attic stair to get some storage. And on the upper left you can see the existing roof plan. You can see a rendering of the garage in the middle. And on the right, you can see the axonometric of the structure where we've removed some of the dormers and reduced the overall height of the roof line as well.

Next slide, please?

Here on the full roof plan, again, you can see the upper level of the existing garage in the upper left-hand corner. In the middle, you can see the proposed garage. On the right you can see an axonometric of it, and on the bottom middle you can see the roof plan of the proposed garage.

Next slide, please?

And here on the top left we've got the existing elevation. On the right-hand side we've got an existing photo. The bottom left we've got the proposed render, and on the bottom right we have the proposed elevation.

Next slide?

Same thing here. You can see where the site slopes down in a way, which is why we're seeking the

variance, because the property has a pretty significant slope going from the area where it sits on Reservoir Street back down into the middle, between Fayerweather and Reservoir. You know, it's a kind of hollow area.

Next slide, please?

And here, again, you can see the elevation from the rear. You can see the, you know, almost like two-story setup off the existing or right-hand corner. And on the lower left you can see the render, and on the lower right you can see the elevation.

Next slide, please?

Same thing along this side. Our clients have worked with the neighbors directly abutting this, who will be mostly affected with it and, you know, made a planting plan that is acceptable to everyone. And I believe those neighbors have written letters of support.

Next slide, please?

And here you can see the existing section in the upper portion of the drawing showing the slope of the property. And on the bottom, you can see the proposed section showing the same.

Next slide, please?

Here you can scan for a video render, sort of showing the garage and, you know, sort of a flyover of the entire property.

And then if you go to the next slide, please?

And here's the survey, as submitted with earlier documents. And then actually these next two slides are pretty helpful, I think.

The next slide, if you go that elevated?

This one starts to show the rear of the property,
and it's the next page that really kind of shows the slope.

If you go to the next slide, please?

This one you can kind of see on the top left just how much the site really slopes away. And that was one of the challenges of trying to fit the new structure onto this property.

The next slide just has -- I think that's it for our presentation. You know, we have our dimensional form. I believe there's a series of letters of support in the file.

I think the last time we were here, which is one of the concerns the Board had was the living area of the second floor could be used as an Airbnb, so our clients

```
1
     wanted to eliminate that and remove that from the program of
 2
     the building.
 3
               Thank you very much.
 4
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Any questions by Members
 5
     of the Board? Mr. Alexander?
 6
               CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: No questions.
 7
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim, any questions at all?
 8
               JIM MONTEVERDE: No questions.
 9
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura, any questions at all?
10
               LAURA WERNICK: No questions, thank you.
11
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN:
                                  Wendy?
12
               JASON MARSHALL: It's actually, Mr. Chair, I'm on
13
     the --
14
               WENDY LEISERSON: Actually, yeah, it's Jason, not
15
     Wendy, sorry.
16
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Playing musical chairs here.
17
     And I have no questions at this time. Let me open it up to
18
19
               JASON MARSHALL: Mr. Chair, I just have one
20
    question. And just for information, I'm on the first case
21
     for the regular Agenda, and then I'm off from then.
22
               Sam, just one question, and really appreciate the
```

work that your firm has put into this and the work that the applicants have put into it. I thought I heard you say that the reason for the height variance had to do with the slope.

Just want to confirm that that's the case.

SAM KACHMAR: That's correct. There's a significant hill on the property, and to be able to work within the zoning ordinance would be a good significant challenge for this project.

JASON MARSHALL: All right. Thank you. That's all I have for now, Mr. Chair.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, thank you. I'm going to open it up to public comment. Any member of the public who wishes to speak should now click the button that says, "Participants," and then click the button that says, "Raise hand."

If you are calling in by phone, you can raise your hand by pressing \*9 and unmute or mute by pressing \*6, and you will have up to three minutes to comment.

OLIVIA RATAY: Luis?

LUIS COTTO: My apologies. That was totally my mistake. I did not mean to speak.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. There appears to be

nobody else calling in on this matter. The Board is in receipt of quite a bit of correspondence from abutters near and some people far in support of the project. I will close public comment at this point.

Also any words, or Sam any other words before we discuss it and take it to a vote?

end. Mr. Chairman, just emphasizing that it's really the slope that causes the need for the excess height. The slope is obviously, when we're thinking about the variance criteria something — the slope or the terrain of the property that causes the detriment to the petitioners, and in order to have an attorney conforming structure — they may have to move the structure but not be affected by the slope or make the garage smaller than it is existing today.

So there is a hardship, and there is a -- and that hardship is owing to the slope of the property.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So the only relief you're requesting is the -- just the height? Because obviously the accessory building can be located no nearer than five feet, and you are within that five feet.

CHRISTOPHER ALPHEN: We are, correct.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. Five foot. So it's just the height that you're requesting the relief from?

CHRISTOPHER ALPHEN: Correct.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. All right. Let me close the presentation part. We'll discuss among ourselves.

Maybe I'll open it up. A literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would involve a substantial hardship, such hardship related to the soil, shape, or topography.

It's one of the few cases I think that where the soil, shape and topography actually come into play. I think it's quite evident. I've walked the site, I'm very familiar with the area, obviously. And that the soil conditions, if you go much further back into the lot, toward the rear lot line, becomes very spongy and very challenging.

The topography obviously is what it is, is and it is unique to this particular location, the area somewhat of this location, in particular. So that I think that the soil conditions and the topography -- two out of three aren't bad. So I would support the height.

And I'd also -- I think that the sight line as you come in on the lot actually makes the building appear

```
1
     smaller, shorter, because of the slope on the driveway.
 2
     that's my thought. Mr. Alexander, your thoughts?
 3
               CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: I'm in support.
                                                        I plan to
     vote in favor.
 4
 5
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jim Monteverde?
 6
               JIM MONTEVERDE: I share the same sentiments.
 7
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
 8
               LAURA WERNICK: Yeah, I have no concern about the
 9
     project.
10
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, I'm not sure. Wendy, are
11
     you on this case, or is it Jim?
12
               JASON MARSHALL: It's --
13
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason.
14
              LAURA WERNICK: Jason.
15
               JASON MARSHALL: It's me, Mr. Chair.
16
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason Marshall. Okay. Your
17
    thoughts?
              JASON MARSHALL: Yeah. I know I had a lot of
18
19
    questions about hardship in the last full round, and I think
20
    for all the reasons that you stated, Mr. Chair and as
21
    Counsel has articulated it, I do think this clearly meets
22
    the standard in my mind.
```

And as the picture showed, it's -- the existing structure is clearly in need of improvement as well. So I am in support of an incline to also vote in favor.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Great. Okay. The Board finds 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 locating this very well-designed two-car garage at this location...

That in order to comply with the ordinance, it would require the petitioner to shift the structure further, deeper into the lot, which then is encumbered with quite challenging soil conditions and topography.

The Board finds that that would be onerous and quite overbearing for the petitioner to construct such a structure under those conditions.

The hardship the Board finds is directly related to the soil conditions and the topography of the land, which is quite challenging also.

The Board finds that the petitioner's neighbors have expressed their desire to keep the trees located in the rear intact, which provides a screening. And that without

such relief from the Board, the petitioner would be compelled to remove the landscaping that acts as a natural buffer between the abutters.

The Board finds that desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good, but not nullify or substantially derogate from the intent and purpose of the ordinance. And that the neighbors have expressed support for the proposed garage and its — and prefers this location over removing landscaping in the rear of the property.

The Board finds that the proposed garage is designed to make the property more aesthetically pleasing, and the nonconforming height of the proposed garage would not cause a detriment to the residential character of the neighborhood.

And again, let me run through. Mr. Alexander, you have voted yes?

CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER: I did. And I vote yes again.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Jim, yes on the motion?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Yes.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura on the motion?

LAURA WERNICK: Yes. 1 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Jason Marshall on the 2 3 motion? JASON MARSHALL: Yes, in favor of the variance. 4 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair, Brendan 5 6 Sullivan, yes on the motion. [All vote YES] 7 Five affirmative votes, the variance is granted. 8 COLLECTIVE: Thank you very much. 9 LAURA WERNICK: That is my first and last for this 10 evening, so I'm going to say goodnight to you about all. 11 Have a good evening. 12 JIM MONTEVERDE: Goodnight, Laura. 13 COLLECTIVE: Goodnight. 14 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Thank you. 15 SAM KACHMAR: Can I say one last thing as we close 16 that case? That was the nicest variance hearing I've ever 17 18 had. COLLECTIVE: [Laughter]. 19 SAM KACHMAR: With that, I'll stop talking. 20 21 22

# STERNER RESIDENCE

BZA SET 12/10/21

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138





ARCHITECT:

SKA INC.



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(p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138 CLIENT:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

DAN AND ELIZABETH KERRY LEWIS STERNER

Kerry Lewis
Landscape Architecture

PROJECT NARRATIVE:

THE STERNER PROJECT CONSISTS OF RENOVATING THE LOWER LEVEL, INTEGRATING A MUDROOM, A WORKOUT SPACE, A RECREATION ROOM, POWDER ROOM AND STORAGE SPACE. REBUILDING AN EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE INTO A NEW CARRAIGE HOUSE.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

THE HARDER GROUP



STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

### **ROOME & GUARRACINO LLC**



	BZA - SHEET LIST	
Sheet Number	Sheet Name	Designed b
BZA-000	COVER	SKA
BZA-001	EXISTING SITE AXON	Author
BZA-002	PROPOSED SITE AXON	Author
BZA-003	STREETSCAPE	Author
BZA-004	AREA PLANS	Author
BZA-005	SOLAR STUDY	Author
8ZA-006	EXISTING SITE PLAN	Author
BZA-007	PROPOSED SITE PLAN	Author
BZA-008	PROPOSED - LANDSCAPE DESIGN	Author
BZA-100	CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN	Author
BZA-101	CARRIAGE HOUSE LEVEL 1 PLAN	Author
BZA-102	CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN	Author
BZA-200	CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-201	CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION (FRONT)	Author
BZA-202	CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-203	CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION	Author
BZA-300	QR CODE	Author
BZA-301	SURVEY PLAN	Author
BZA-302	ADDITIONAL EXTERIOR PHOTOS	Author
BZA-303	ADDITIONAL RENDERS	Author
BZA-304	ADDITIONAL RENDER	Author



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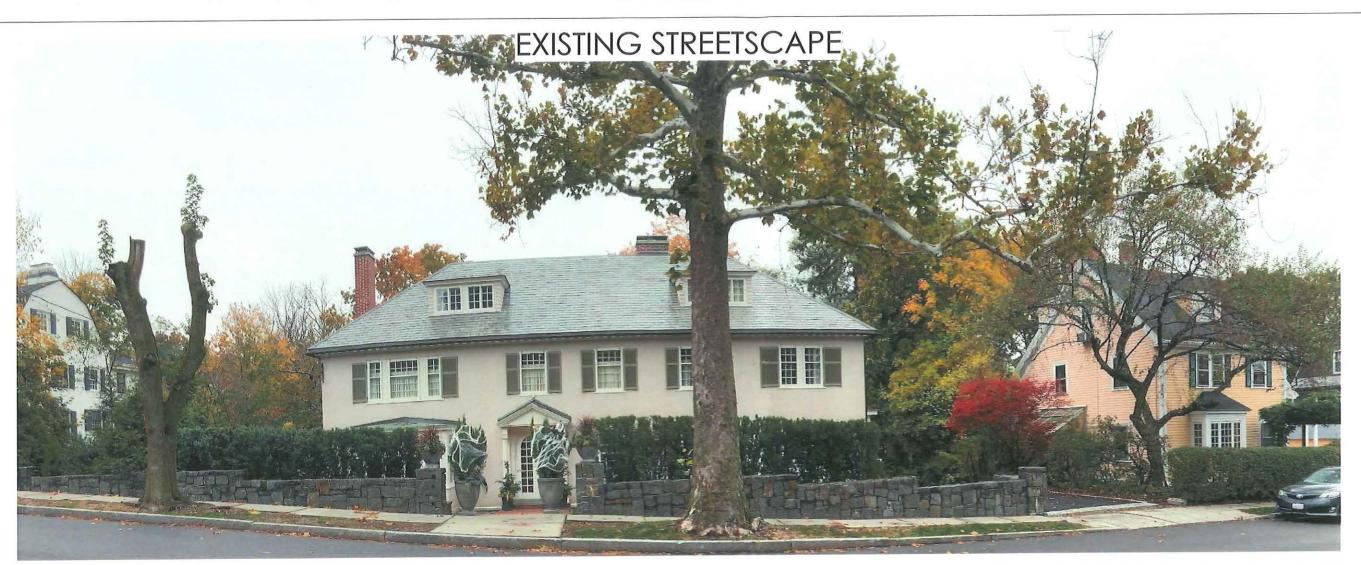
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STREETSCAPE

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

STERNER RESIDENCE

2017.05 12/10/21 Checked by Checker

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

## **ZONING DISTRICT - A1**

### LOT AREA = 26,220 SF

2 1/2 STORY W/F AND STUCCO DWELLING

### **FAR CALCULATIONS**

EXISTING FAR = 0.20PROPOSED FAR = 0.25REQUIRED FAR = 0.50

### **OPEN SPACE CALCULATIONS**

EXISTING OPEN SPACE = 83% PROPOSED OPEN SPACE = 77% REQUIRED OPEN SPACE =50%

Level	Name	Area	
LOWER LEVEL	UNFINISHED CARRIAGE HOUSE	294 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	17 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	27 SF	
LEVEL 1	FINISHED LIVING AREA	2039 SF	
Level 2	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1877 SF	
Level 3	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1227 SF	
		5481 SF	

Level	Name	Area	Comments
LOWER LEVEL	FINISHED GARAGE	788 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	27 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	17 SF	
LEVEL 1	FINISHED LIVING AREA	2039 SF	
LEVEL 1	LIVING AREA	546 SF	
Level 2	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1877 SF	
Level 3	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1227 SF	
		6521 SE	

PROPOSED GROSS BUILDING AREA



STERNER RESIDENCE

CAMBRIDGE

43 R MA

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



AREA PLANS

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

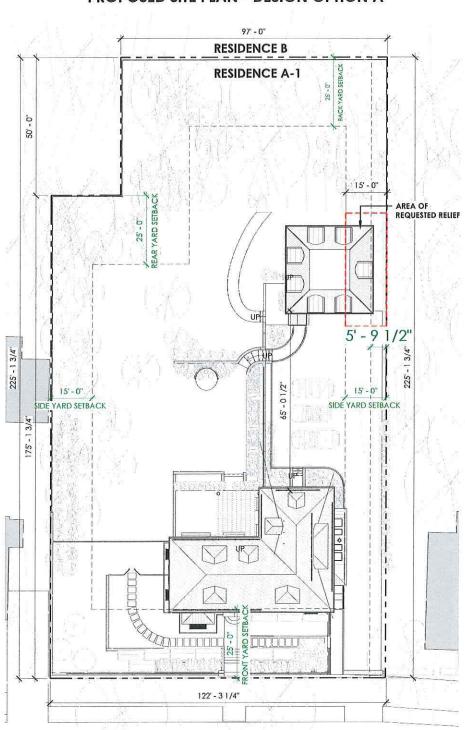
RESERVOIR S A 02138

Project Status	BZA SI
Project number	2017.0
Date	12/10/2
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BZA-004 1/16" = 1'-0"

Level	Name	Area	
LOWER LEVEL	UNFINISHED CARRIAGE HOUSE	294 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	17 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	27 SF	
LEVEL 1	FINISHED LIVING AREA	2039 SF	
Level 2	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1877 SF	
Level 3	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1227 SF	
		5481 SF	

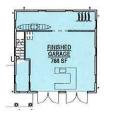
### PROPOSED SITE PLAN - DESIGN OPTION A



# AREA PLANS | CARRIAGE HOUSE



17) BZA- EXG LL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

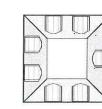


10 BZA -PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE LL AREA PLAN





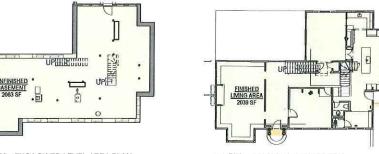
1) BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE L1 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



16 BZA -EXG ROOF PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"

13 BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN

### AREA PLANS | MAIN HOUSE



3 BZA - EXG LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN



9 BZA - PROP LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN



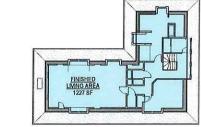
2 BZA - EXG LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



6 BZA - PROP LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN



7 BZA - PROP LEVEL 2 AREA PLAN

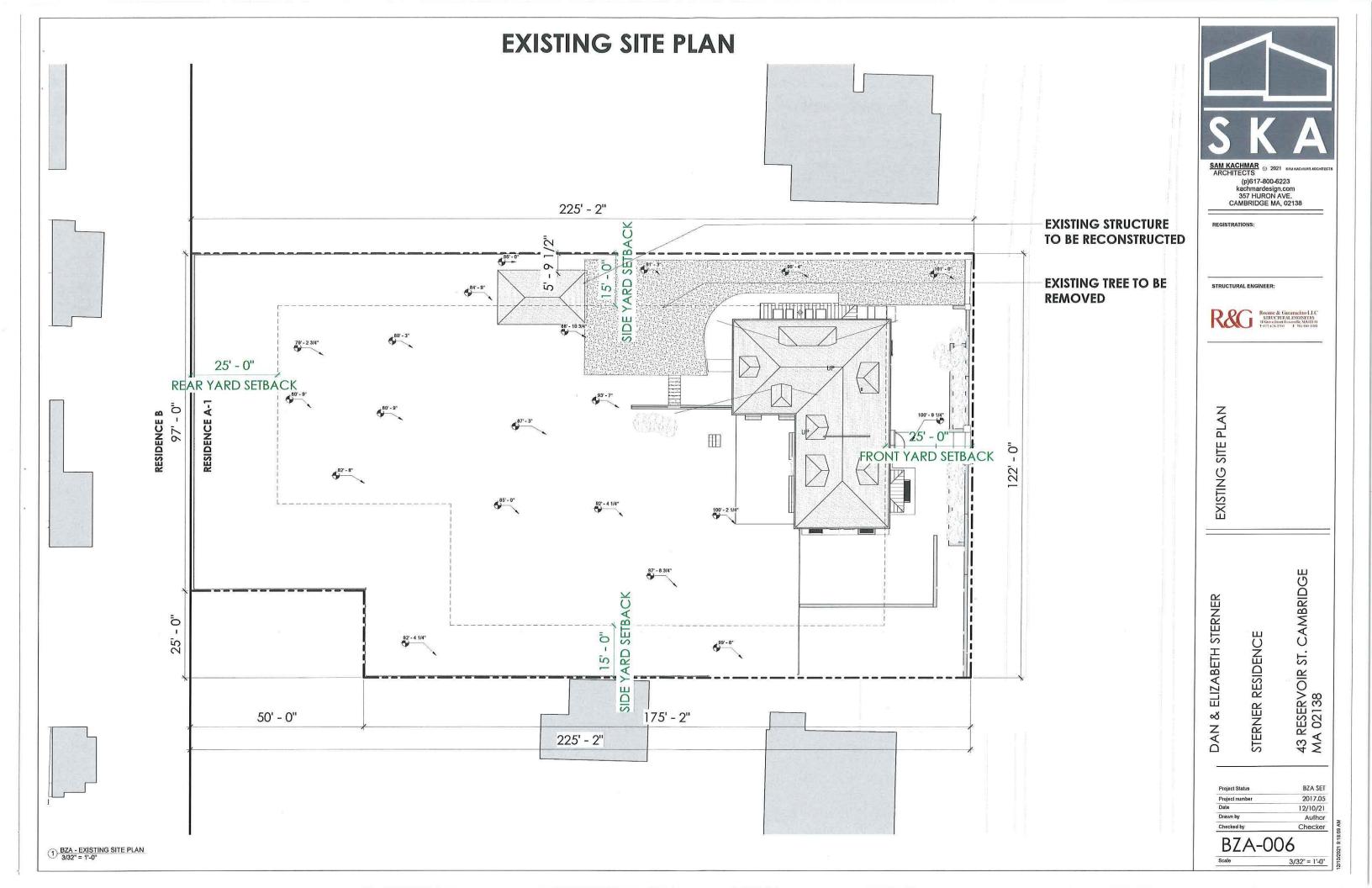


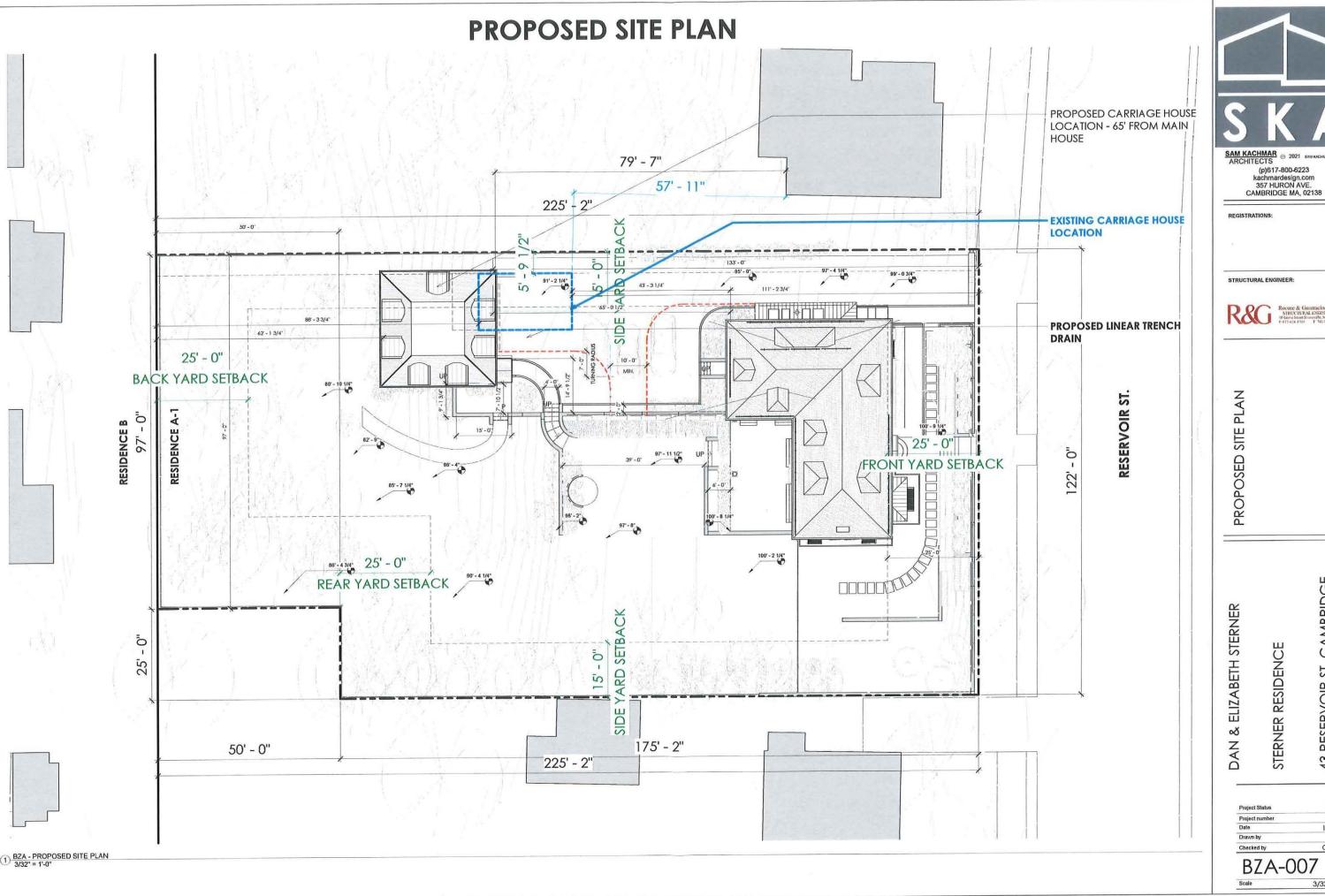
5 BZA - EXG LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN

8 BZA - PROP LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN



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Roque & Guarracino LLC STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS (4 Gave About Monerally, AAV63 tt

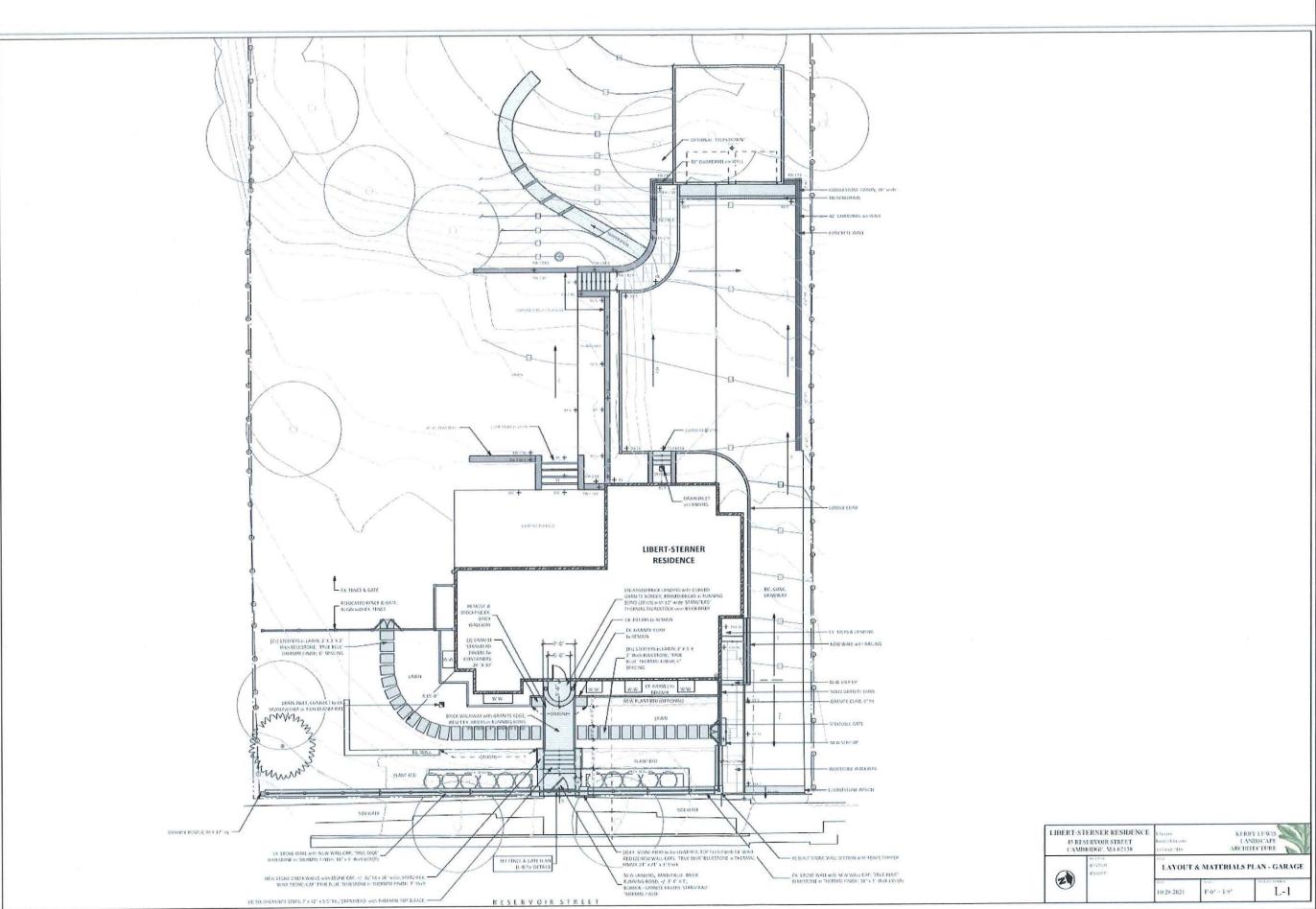
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

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BZA-007

3/32" = 1'-0"

### LANDSCAPE DESIGN | BY KERRY LEWIS LAYOUT & MATERIAL PLAN - GARAGE





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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



PROPOSED - LANDSCAPE DESIGN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

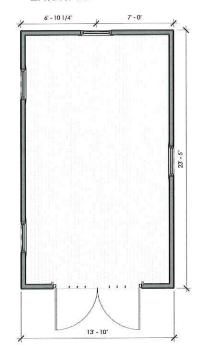
STERNER RESIDENCE

CAMBRIDGE

43 RESERVOIR ST. C MA 02138

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	12/10/21
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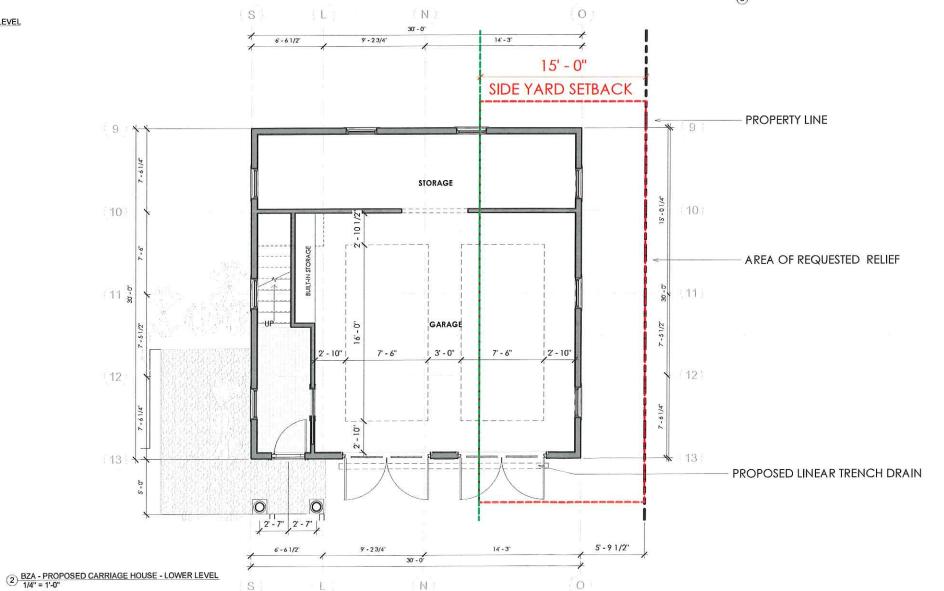
### **EXISTING**



(4) BZA - EXISITNG CARRIAGE HOUSE - LOWER LEVEL 1/4" = 1'-0"



(3) BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE AXON - LL





(p)617-800-6223 (p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE, CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

REGISTRATIO

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



Roome & Guarracino LLA STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS 18 Geove Street Sumeralle, MA0214 T-612-628-1700 P. 281-881-100

CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN

> STERNER RESIDENCE 43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

 Project Status
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 Project number
 2017.05

 Date
 12/10/21

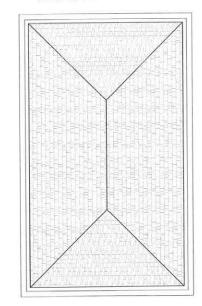
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BZA-100

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### **EXISTING**



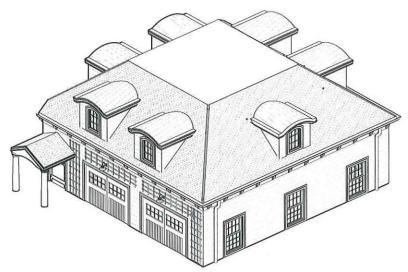
(4) EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE - ROOF PLAN 1/4" = 1'-0"

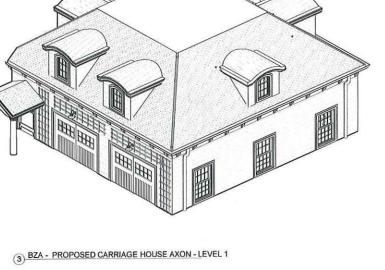
1 BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE - LEVEL 1



S

S





CARRIAGE HOUSE LEVEL 1 PLAN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

SAM KACHMAR

ARCHITECTS

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

Roome & Guarracino LLC
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
16 Grove Stant Sciencelle, MANGELII
FALL (2021 202 17 734 54) 1591

STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA SE
Project number	2017.0
Date	12/10/2
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Checked by	Checke

BZA-101 1/4" = 1'-0"

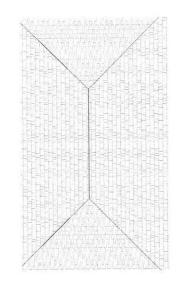
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

15' - 0" SIDE YARD SETBACK PROPERTY LINE AREA OF REQUESTED RELIEF 10 LIVING SPACE BEDROOM 11 6 PROPOSED SLATE ROOF (•) CL 121 13: 4 5' - 9 1/2"

0

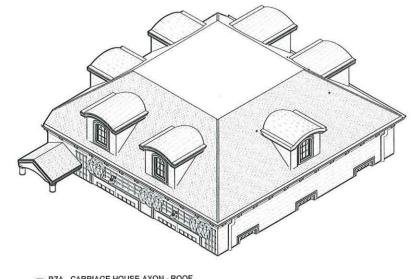
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### **EXISTING**

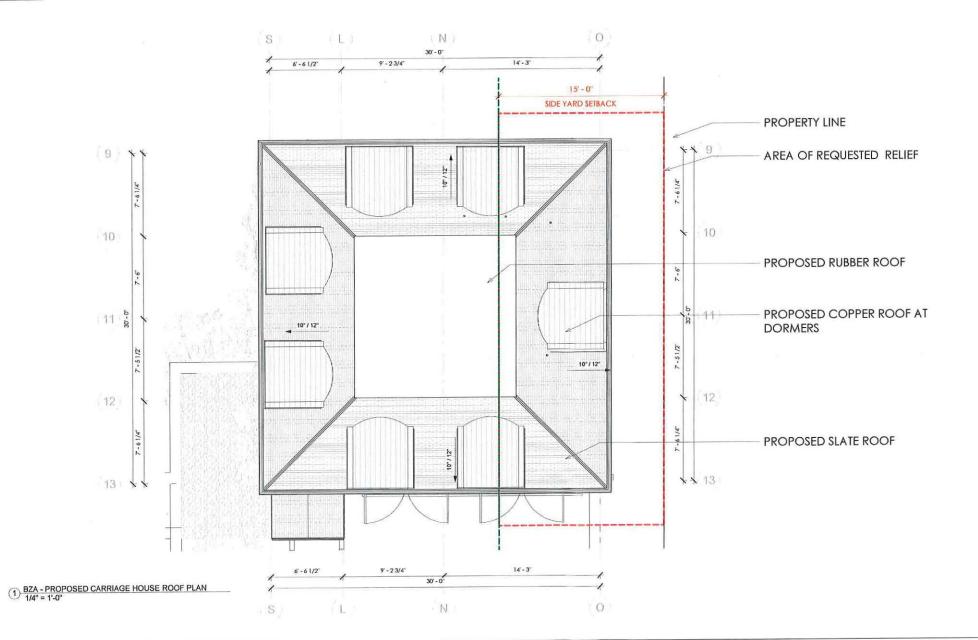


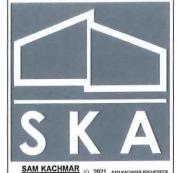
2) BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN





3 BZA - CARRIAGE HOUSE AXON - ROOF





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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
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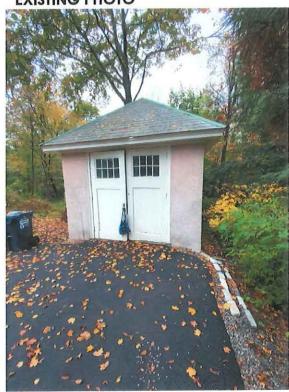
BZA-102

1/4" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED - EAST ELEVATION



### **EXISTING PHOTO**



## PROPOSED RENDER





SKA

ARCHITECTS

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CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

REGISTRATION

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



F-617-678 (200) Y -561-7-65

CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION

STERNER RESIDENCE

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE

MA 02138

 Project Status
 BZA SET

 Project number
 2017.05

 Date
 12/10/21

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 Author

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BZA-200

3/8" = 1

1) BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED - SOUTH ELEVATION



### **EXISTING PHOTO**



### PROPOSED RENDER







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CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

REGISTRATION

STOUCTURAL ENGINES



Roome & Guarracino LLC STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS II Gene Street Scientific, MA(2) 11 T-617-628-1720 1 701-743-1041

Carriage house south elevation (front)

> STERNER RESIDENCE 43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

 Project Status
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 Project number
 2017.05

 Date
 12/10/21

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 Author

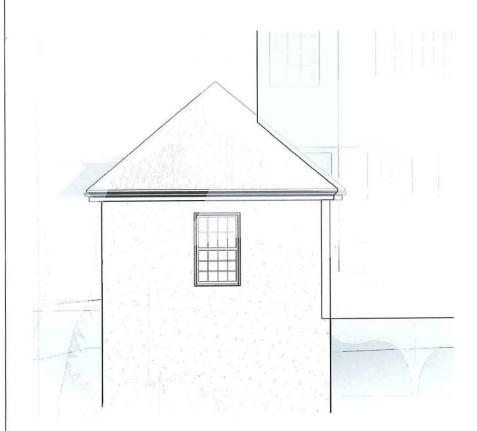
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BZA-201

3/8" =

1 1 18-26 AN

# PROPOSED - WEST ELEVATION



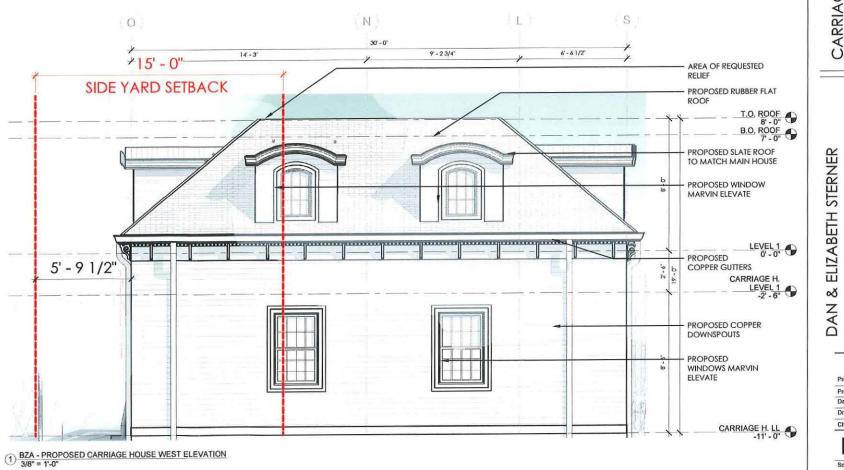
(2) BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"

### PROPOSED RENDER



### **EXISTING PHOTO**







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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	12/10/21
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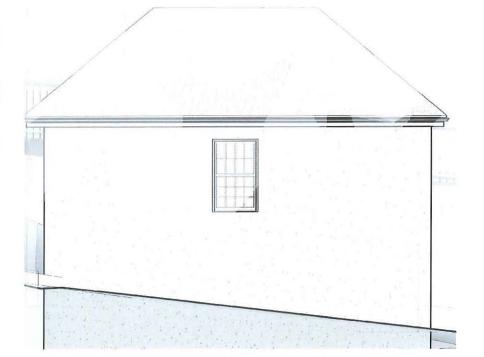
BZA-202

3/8" = 1'-0"

## PROPOSED - NORTH ELEVATION

## **EXISTING PHOTO**

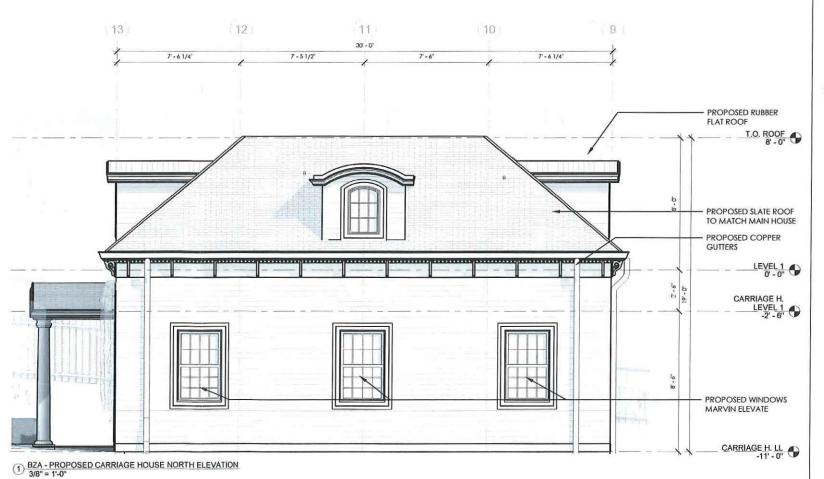




2 BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"

### **PROPOSED RENDER**





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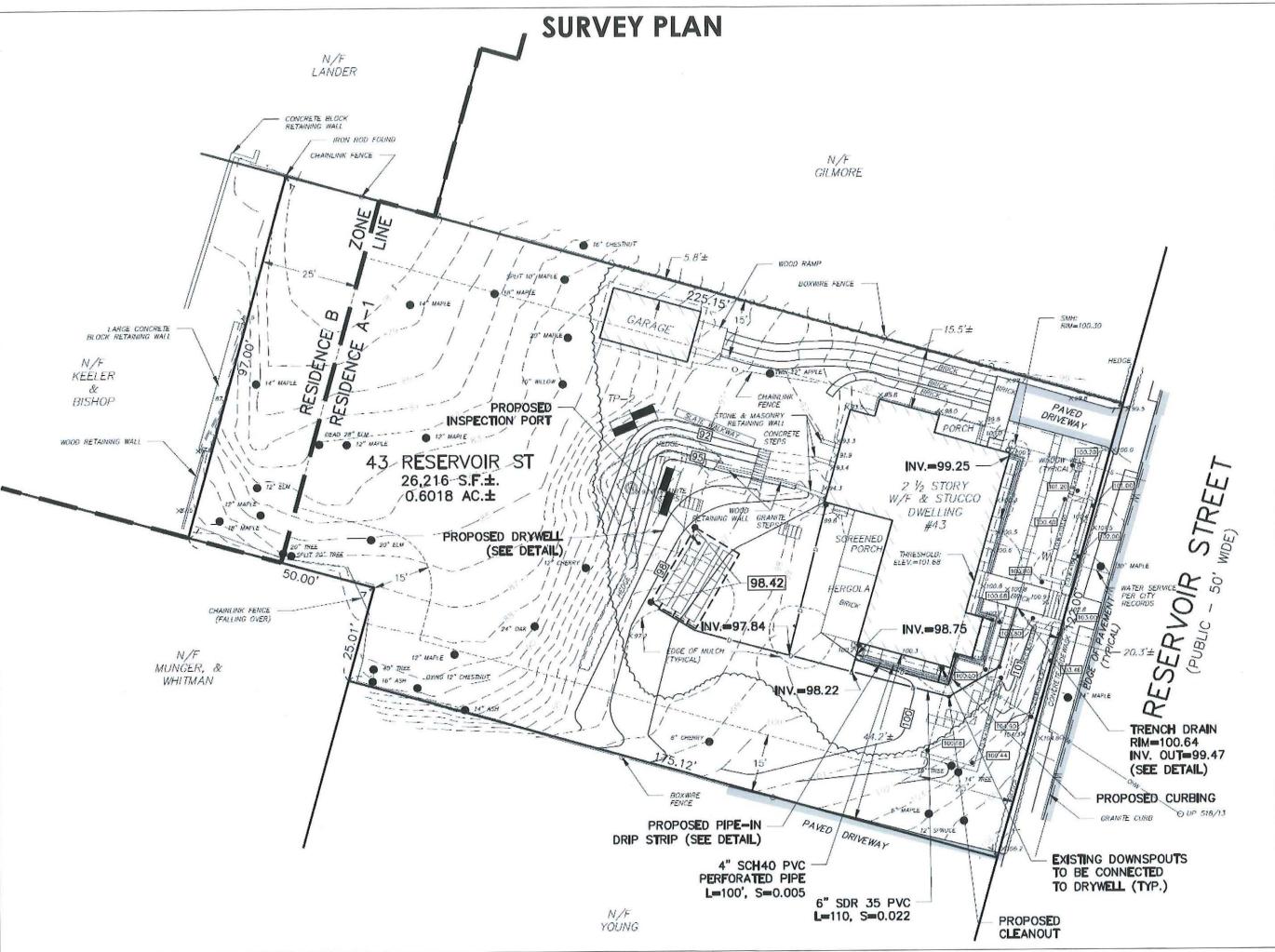


CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



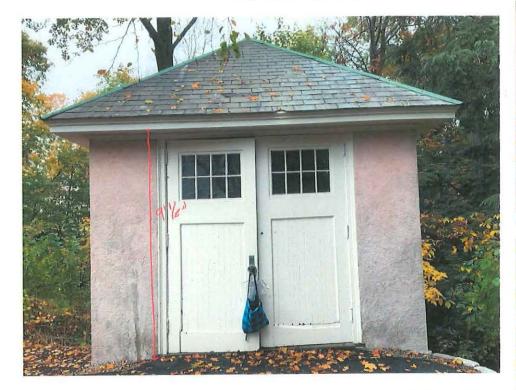
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SURVEY PLAN

CAMBRIDGE ELIZABETH STERNER STERNER RESIDENCE 43 RESERVOIR ST. C MA 02138 DAN &

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Project number	2017.05
Project Status	BZA SET

# **EXISTING PHOTOS**













SAM KACHMAR

ARCHITECTS

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CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138



Roome & Guartiscino LLC STRUCTURAL ENGINERS 19 Gross Steat Sourcelle, MAGENT 1947 & A. 470 17 26, 441-1001

ADDITIONAL EXTERIOR PHOTOS

STERNER RESIDENCE

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

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### CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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

~ A	CIT	7 7	TA
1 \		4 N	10:
	LOI	1 1	W.

154869

LOCATION:

43 Reservoir Street

Cambridge, MA

Residence A-1 Zone

PETITIONER:

Daniel Sterner & Elizabeth Clark Libert

C/o Samuel Kachmar, Architect

PETITION:

Variance: To build an accessory structure located 5 feet from property line

within the side yard setback to be used as an accessory apartment.

**VIOLATIONS:** 

Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements).

Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.3 (Non-Conforming Structure).

DATE OF PUBLIC NOTICE:

January 13 & 20, 2022

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: January 27, 2022 & March 24, 2022

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

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-154869

Location: 43 Reservoir Street

Petitioner: Daniel Sterner and Elizabeth Clark Libert – c/o Samuel Kachmar Architects

On March 24, 2022, Petitioner's attorney Christopher Alphen and architect Samuel Kachmar appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeal requesting a variance in order to build an accessory structure located 5 feet from the property line within the side yard setback to be used as an accessory apartment. The Petitioner requested relief from Article 5, Section 5.31 and Article 8, Section 8.22.3 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance ("Ordinance"). The Petitioner submitted materials in support of the application including information about the project, plans, and photographs.

Attorney Alphen stated that the Petitioners were no longer looking for an accessory apartment, but simply wanted to build a two-car garage violating only the height requirements. He stated the proposed height is 18.9 feet, and that the requirement for an accessory building is 15 feet. Mr. Kachmar stated that the current FAR is 0.2, and that they would be going to 0.25, which is below the 0.5 FAR for the A1 district. The current open space is 0.83, and the proposal would go to 0.89. Mr. Kachmar also noted that shadow studies show the structure is pretty well separated from any new neighbors, so any shadows cast will not be hitting any structures or impeding any neighbors. He also stated that the hardship involved the sloping lot, which impinged on the ability to meet the height limitations of the Ordinance. He stated that the Petitioners had worked with the neighbors on a landscape buffering plan, and that they were in support of the proposal.

The Chair asked if any members of the public wished to be heard on the matter, and no one indicated such.

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 locating this very well-designed two-car garage at the location; that the Board find that in order to comply with the Ordinance, it would require the Petitioner to shift the structure further, deeper into the lot, which then was encumbered with quite challenging soil conditions and topography; that the Board find that it would be onerous and quite overbearing for the Petitioner to construct such a structure under those conditions; that the Board find that the hardship was directly related to the soil conditions and the topography of the land, which was quite challenging; that the Board find that the Petitioner's neighbors expressed their desire to keep the trees located in the rear intact, which provided a screening; that the Board find that without relief from the Board, the Petitioner would be compelled to remove the landscaping that acts as a natural buffer between the abutters; that the Board find that desirable relief could be granted without substantial detriment to the public good, but not nullify or substantially derogating from the intent and purpose of the Ordinance; that the Board find that the neighbors had expressed support for the proposed garage and prefer the proposed location over removing landscaping in the rear of the property; that the Board find that the proposed garage was designed

to make the property more aesthetically pleasing, and the nonconforming height of the proposed garage would not cause a detriment to the residential character of the neighborhood.

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.

The five-member Board voted unanimously in favor of the findings and of granting the variance as conditioned (Sullivan, Monteverde, Alexander, Marshall, and Wernick). 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 Sumvan, Chan	
Attest: A true and correct copy of decision filed with the offices of Board on 5-4-22 by Maria Machello, Cler	f the City Clerk and Planning k.
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.



### SAM KACHMAR ARCHITECTS

357 Huron Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138 978-270-8441 | sam@kachmardesign.com

2023 MAR 28 AM 11:58

### SPECIAL PERMIT/VARIANCE EXTENSION REQUEST

Date: 3/26/23

Project Address: 43 Reservoir St., Cambridge, MA 02138

BZA #: 154869

### To Whom It May Concern:

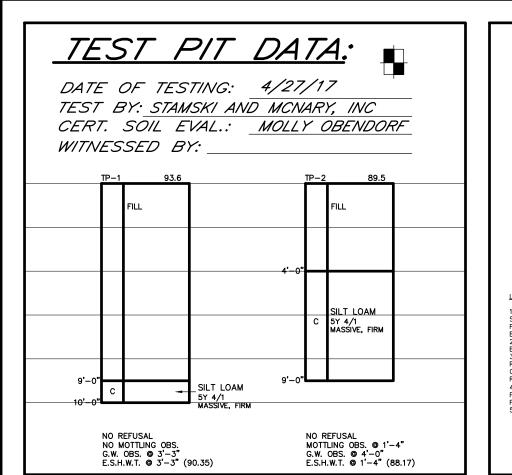
I, Sam Kachmar, am writing on behalf of my Clients, Dan and Elizabeth Sterner, to request a six-month extension on their special permit for the carriage house at their property at 43 Reservoir St. Our clients have not been able to start work on their project due to extraneous circumstances and respectfully request this extension to allow them additional time to begin construction.

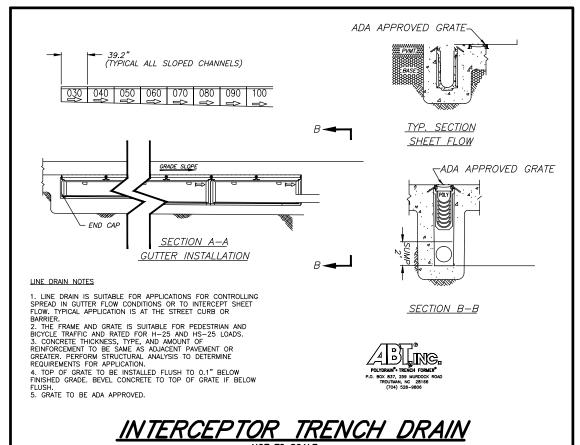
Thank you for your time. We are available to answer any questions or concerns, at your convenience.

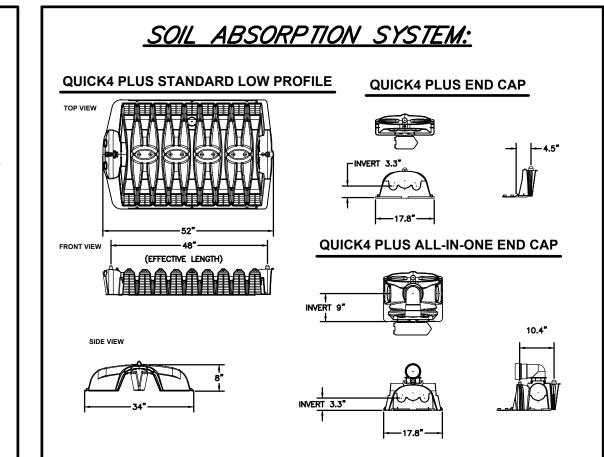
Respectfully,

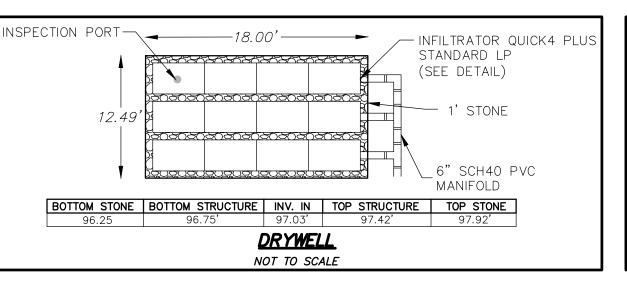
Samuel Jacob Kachmar

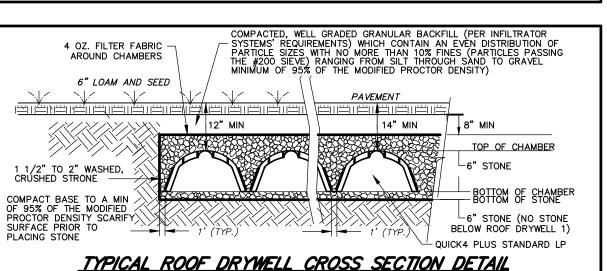


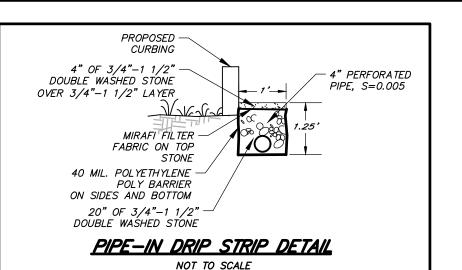












N/F NOW OR FORMERLY
OVERHEAD WIRES

TREE
TREE LINE/EDGE OF LAWN
UP UTILITY POLE
GG∘ GAS GATE

GG GAS SERVICE (BURIED)
WG∘ WATER GATE

WHO WATER SERVICE (BURIED)
ODMH DRAIN MANHOLE

DRAIN MANHOLE

SUB-SURFACE DRAIN LINE

EXISTING CONTOUR

LIGHTPOLE

OOOOO STONE WALL

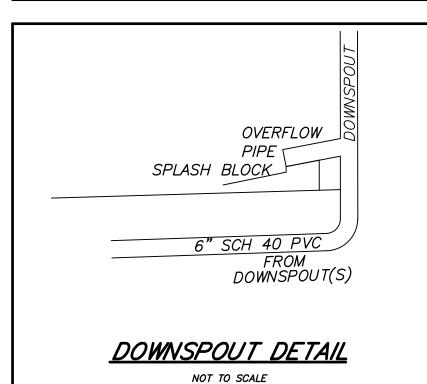
WELL

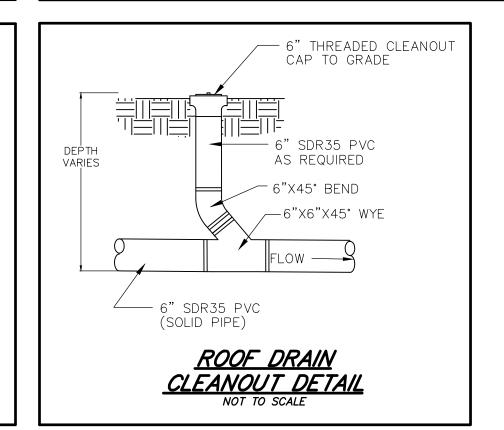
WETLAND FLAG

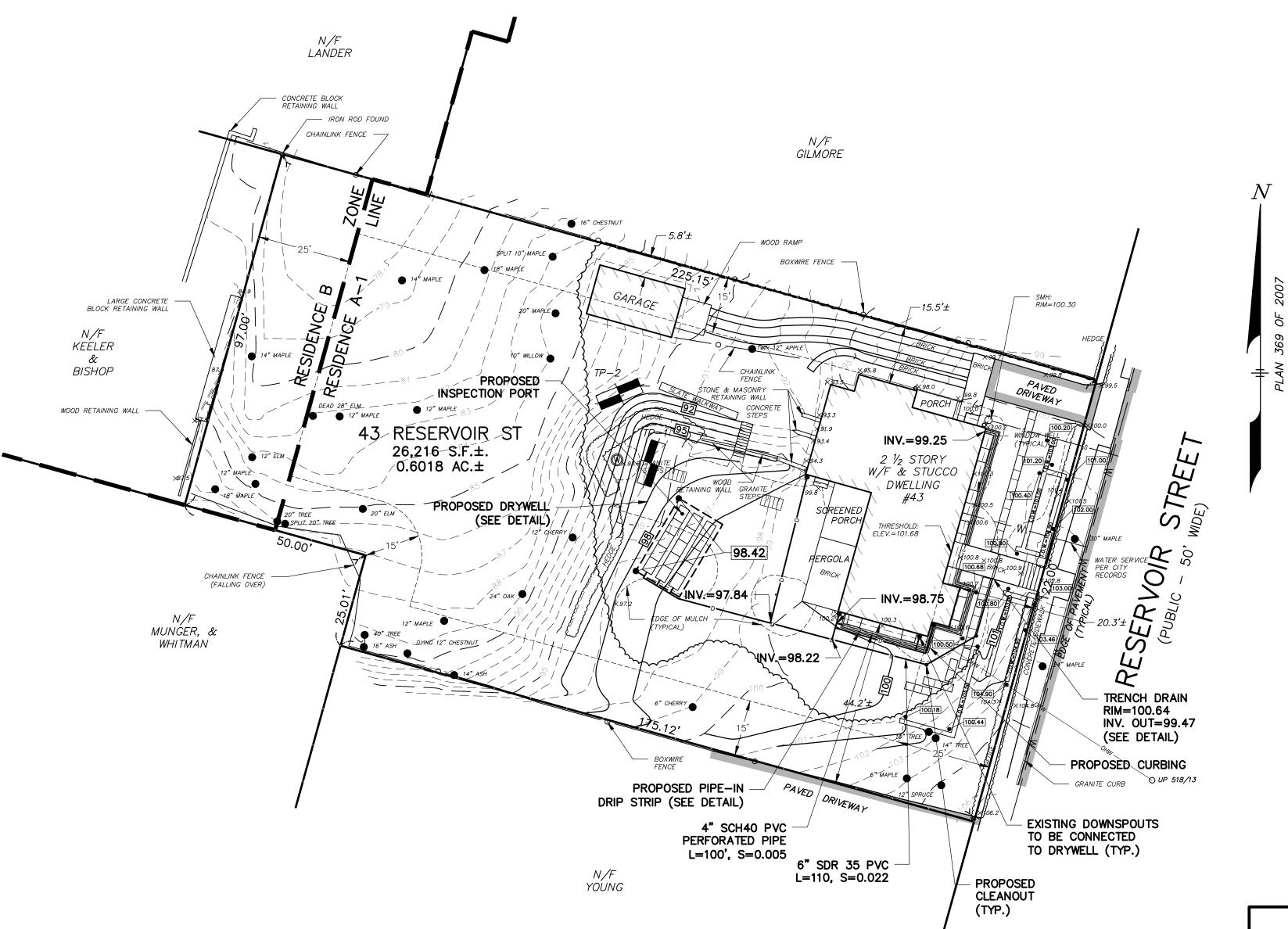
SPOT ELEVATION

EDGE OF PAVEMENT

**LEGEND:** 







UTILITY NOTE:

ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN HERE WERE COMPILED ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE RECORD PLANS FROM VARIOUS UTILITY COMPANIES AND PUBLIC AGENCIES AND ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY. ACTUAL LOCATIONS MUST BE DETERMINED IN THE FIELD BEFORE DESIGNING, EXCAVATING, BLASTING, INSTALLING, BACKFILLING, GRADING, PAVEMENT RESTORATION OR REPAIRING. ALL UTILITY COMPANIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, MUST BE CONTACTED INCLUDING THOSE IN CONTROL OF UTILITIES NOT SHOWN ON THIS PLAN. SEE CHAPTER 370, ACTS OF 1963 MASS. WE ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF UTILITIES OMITTED OR INACCURATELY SHOWN. BEFORE PLANNING FUTURE CONNECTIONS THE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC UTILITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT MUST BE CONSULTED. DIG SAFE TELEPHONE No. 1–888–344–7233.

# RECORD OWNER

DANIEL STERNER
ELIZABETH CLARK LIBERT
43 RESERVOIR ST
CAMBRIDGE, MA

# REFERENCE

MIDDLESEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS SOUTH DISTRICT DEED BOOK 63349 PAGE 336

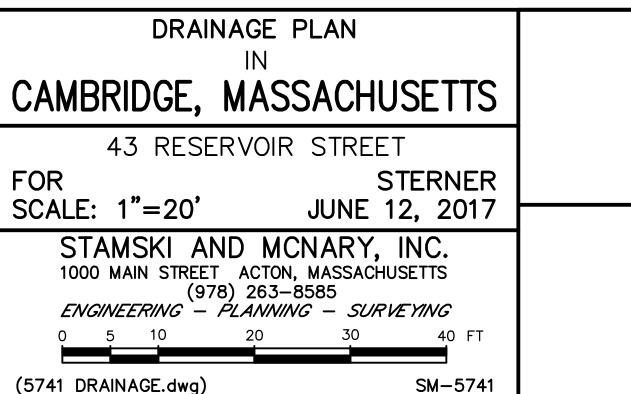
## ZONING DISTRICT

RESIDENCE A-1
RESIDENCE B

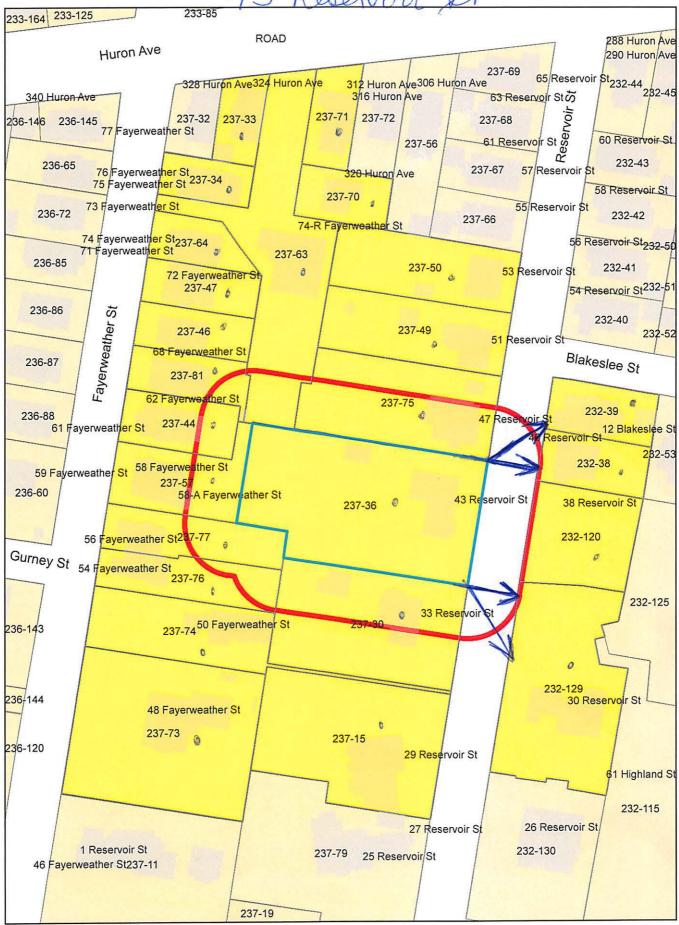
### DATUM

ELEVATIONS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN REFER TO AN ASSUMED BASE.

# PROGRESS PRINT DATE: 6/12/2017



43 Reservoir St



43 Reservoir St.

232-39 STRAUSS, MONICA M. 48 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3336

237-34 SIMONSEN, ERIK, JR. 76 FAYERWEATHER ST., #2 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-64 CABOT, SUSAN T. 74 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-44 SUTHERLAND, ANDREW V. & AMY M. SUTHERLAND 62 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-76 SWEENEY, TADHG & EDITH V. SWEENEY 54 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3355

237-47
TERHORST, CORNELIS & KAREN R.ROSENKRANTZ
72 FAYERWEATHER ST.
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3355

232-129 WARREN, HUGH L. 30 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-71 DOWNES, BRIAN E. & DEBORAH BARRETT DOWNES 316 HURON AVE., TWO CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-73 SEAPUIT LLC MV CONTRAIL LLC 48 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-77 SEGEL, ALEXANDRA EDWARD SARIS SEGEL 56 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 232-120 KORB, JONATHAN TRUSTEE RESERVOIR STREET TRUST 30 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-46 WORKUM, FIFIELD, JR. 70 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-70 HERRON, PATRICK M. III & LOIS RHO 320 HURON AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-57 KEELER, DAVID J. & GEORGIANNA M. BISHOP 58 FAYERWEATHER ST. CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3355

237-74 RABB, JANE 50 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-63 LANDER, LORI & ERIC LANDER 74R FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-34 SIMONSEN, ERIK, JR., & KIMBERLY R. SIMONSEN 76 FAYERWEATHER ST., UNIT #1 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-71 MCCABE, MICHAEL P. & MAUREEN DOWNES MCCABE 316 HURON AVE., ONE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-34 SIMONSEN, ERIK, JR. & KIMBERLY R. SIMONSEN 76 FAYERWEATHER ST. #2 CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

232-38 KLUBOCK, DANIEL DOROTHY M KLUBOCK 46 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3336 Petitional
KACHMAR DESIGN
C/O SAM KACHMAR, ARCHITECT
357 HURON AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-36 STERNER, DANIEL & ELIZABETH CLARK LIBERT 43 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-30 BIERER, BARBARA E. & STEVEN E. HYMAN 33 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-75 GILMORE, JOHN A. D. & ELIZABETH C. GILMORE 47 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3335

237-49 MURPHY, JANE C. 51 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3335

237-81 ARONSON, ERIC & JENNIFER WINN ARONSON 68 FAYERWEATHER ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-50 LOONEY, ANN M. , MARY A. FINNEGAN & PAUL J. FINNEGAN 53 RESERVOIR ST, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138-3335

237-33 DO, YENA H. CHICO SAJOVIC 324 HURON AVE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

237-15 RODGERS, RONALD EUGENE JANE M. RODGERS, TRS 29 RESERVOIR ST CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

# STERNER RESIDENCE

BZA SET 01/24/22

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138





ARCHITECT:

SKA INC.



(C) 2022 SAM KACHAMAR ARCHITECT

(p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138 CLIENT:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

DAN AND ELIZABETH STERNER

**KERRY LEWIS** 



PROJECT NARRATIVE:

THE STERNER PROJECT CONSISTS OF RENOVATING THE LOWER LEVEL, INTEGRATING A MUDROOM, A WORKOUT SPACE, A RECREATION ROOM, POWDER ROOM AND STORAGE SPACE. REBUILDING AN EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE INTO A NEW CARRAIGE HOUSE.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

NOSECTIONAL SERVICES

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

#### **ROOME & GUARRACINO LLC**



	BZA - SHEET LIST	
Sheet Number	Sheet Name	Designed by
BZA-000	COVER	SKA
BZA-001	EXISTING SITE AXON	Author
BZA-002	PROPOSED SITE AXON	Author
BZA-003	STREETSCAPE	Author
BZA-004	AREA PLANS	Author
BZA-005	SOLAR STUDY	Author
BZA-006	EXISTING SITE PLAN	Author
BZA-007	PROPOSED SITE PLAN	Author
BZA-008	PROPOSED - LANDSCAPE DESIGN	Author
BZA-009	PROPOSED - LANDSCAPE DESIGN	Author
BZA-100	CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN	Author
BZA-101	CARRIAGE HOUSE LEVEL I PLAN	Author
BZA-102	CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN	Author
BZA-200	CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-201	CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION (FRONT)	Author
BZA-202	CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION	Author
BZA-203	CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION	Author
BZA-300	QR CODE	Author
BZA-301	SURVEY PLAN	Author
BZA-302	ADDITIONAL EXTERIOR PHOTOS	Author
BZA-303	ADDITIONAL RENDERS	Author
BZA-304	ADDITIONAL RENDER	Author





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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



Roome & Guarracino LLC STRUCTURAL ENGREERS 48 Gives Servict (SANOS) 41 1-813-625-4750 F 781-513-4041

STERNER RESIDENCE

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

**BZA SET** 2017.05 01/24/22 Author

BZA-001





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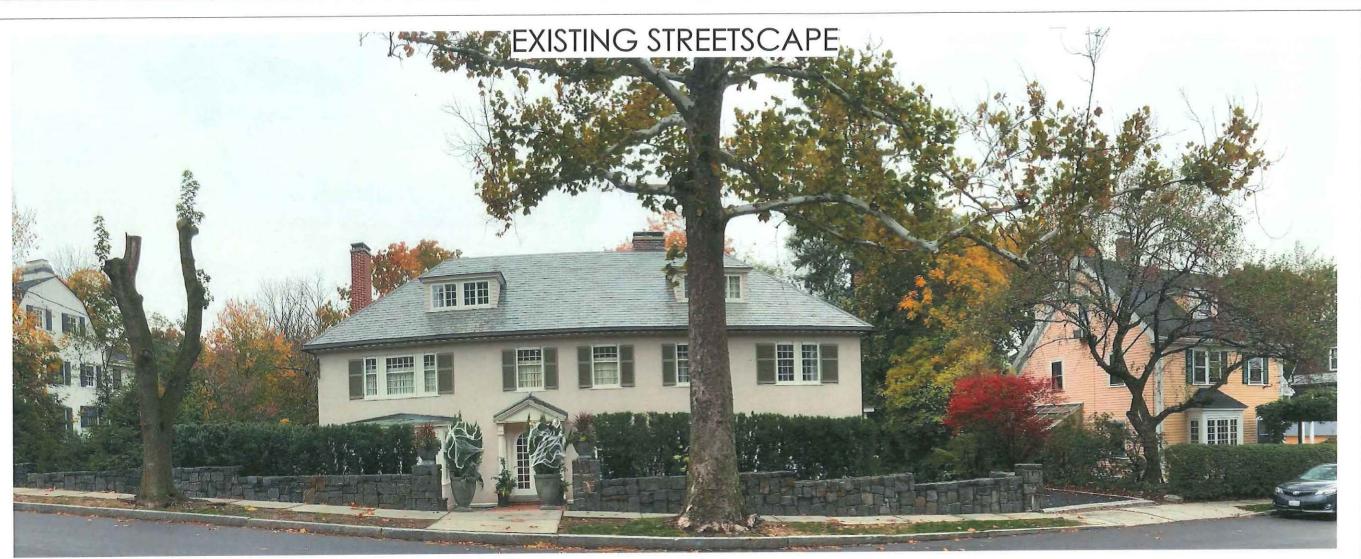


PROPOSED SITE AXON

STERNER RESIDENCE

BZA-002

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138







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STREETSCAPE

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA S
Project number	2017.
Date	01/24/
Drawn by	Auth
Checked by	Check

BZA-003

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

# **ZONING DISTRICT - A1**

#### **LOT AREA = 26,220 SF**

2 1/2 STORY W/F AND STUCCO DWELLING

#### **FAR CALCULATIONS**

EXISTING FAR = 0.20 PROPOSED FAR = 0.25REQUIRED FAR = 0.50

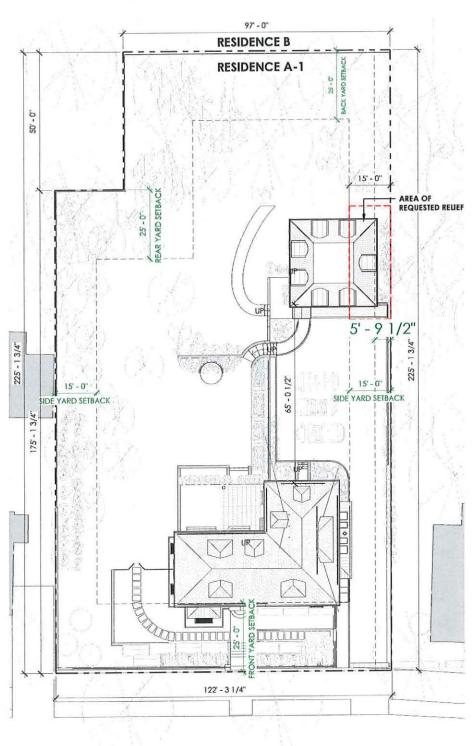
#### **OPEN SPACE CALCULATIONS**

EXISTING OPEN SPACE = 83% PROPOSED OPEN SPACE = 77% REQUIRED OPEN SPACE =50%

Level	Name	Area
LOWER LEVEL	UNFINISHED CARRIAGE HOUSE	294 SF
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	17 SF
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	27 SF
LEVEL 1	FINISHED LIVING AREA	2039 SF
Level 2	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1877 SF
Level 3	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1227 SF
		5481 SF

Level	Name	Area	Comments
LOWER LEVEL	FINISHED GARAGE	788 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	27 SF	
LEVEL 1	COVERED PORCH	17 SF	
LEVEL 1	FINISHED LIVING AREA 2039 SF		
LEVEL 1	LIVING AREA	546 SF	1
Level 2	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1877 SF	
Level 3	FINISHED LIVING AREA	1227 SF	
201010	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1	6521 SF	

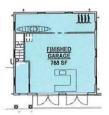
#### PROPOSED SITE PLAN - DESIGN OPTION A



#### AREA PLANS | CARRIAGE HOUSE



17 BZA- EXG LL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



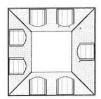
10 BZA -PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE LL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"





1) BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE L1 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"





13 BZA - PROP. CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

#### AREA PLANS | MAIN HOUSE



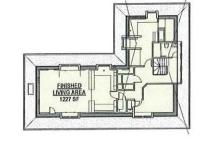
3 BZA - EXG LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



2) BZA - EXG LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



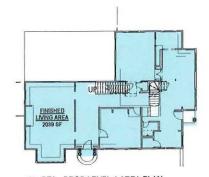
4 BZA - EXG LEVEL 2 AREA PLAN



5 BZA - EXG LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN 1/16" = 1'-0"



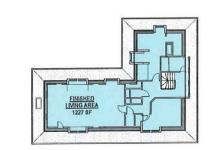
9 BZA - PROP LOWER LEVEL AREA PLAN



6 BZA - PROP LEVEL 1 AREA PLAN



7 BZA - PROP LEVEL 2 AREA PLAN



8 BZA - PROP LEVEL 3 AREA PLAN



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**AREA PLANS** 

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

CAMBRIDGE STERNER RESIDENCE

43 RESERVOIR ST. C MA 02138 BZA SET 2017.05

BZA-004

1/16" = 1'-0"

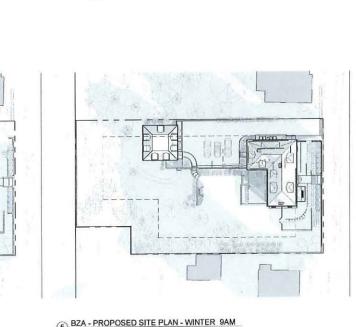
1) PROPOSED - PLOT PLAN

01/24/22

# WINTER SOLSTICE - EXISTING AFTERNOON - 3PM 2 BZA - EXISITING SITE PLAN - WINTER 3PM 1" = 40'-0" NOON - 12PM MORNING - 9AM

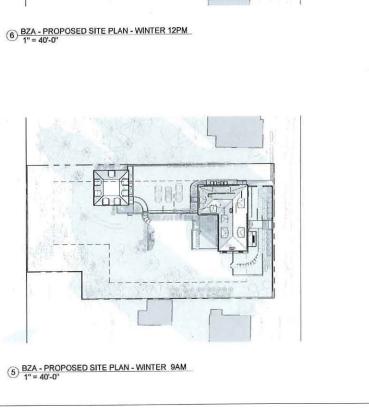
# 3 BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - WINTER 12PM 1" = 40-0"

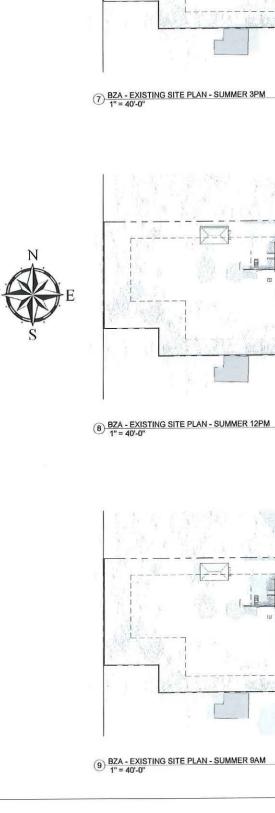
4) BZA - EXISTING SITE PLAN - WINTER 9AM 1" = 40'-0"

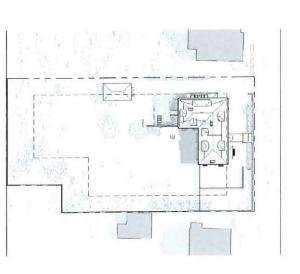


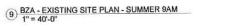
WINTER SOLSTICE - PROPOSED

1) BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - WINTER 3PM 1" = 40'-0"

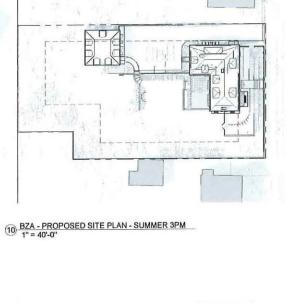




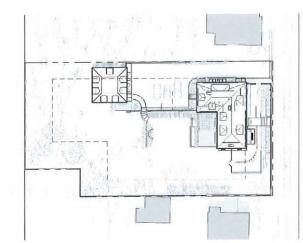




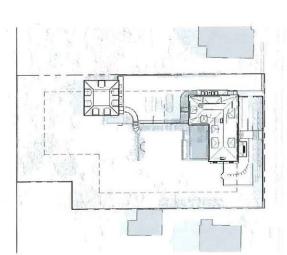
**SUMMER SOLSTICE - EXISTING** 



**SUMMER SOLSTICE - PROPOSED** 







12 BZA - PROPOSED SITE PLAN - SUMMER 9AM





SOLAR STUDY

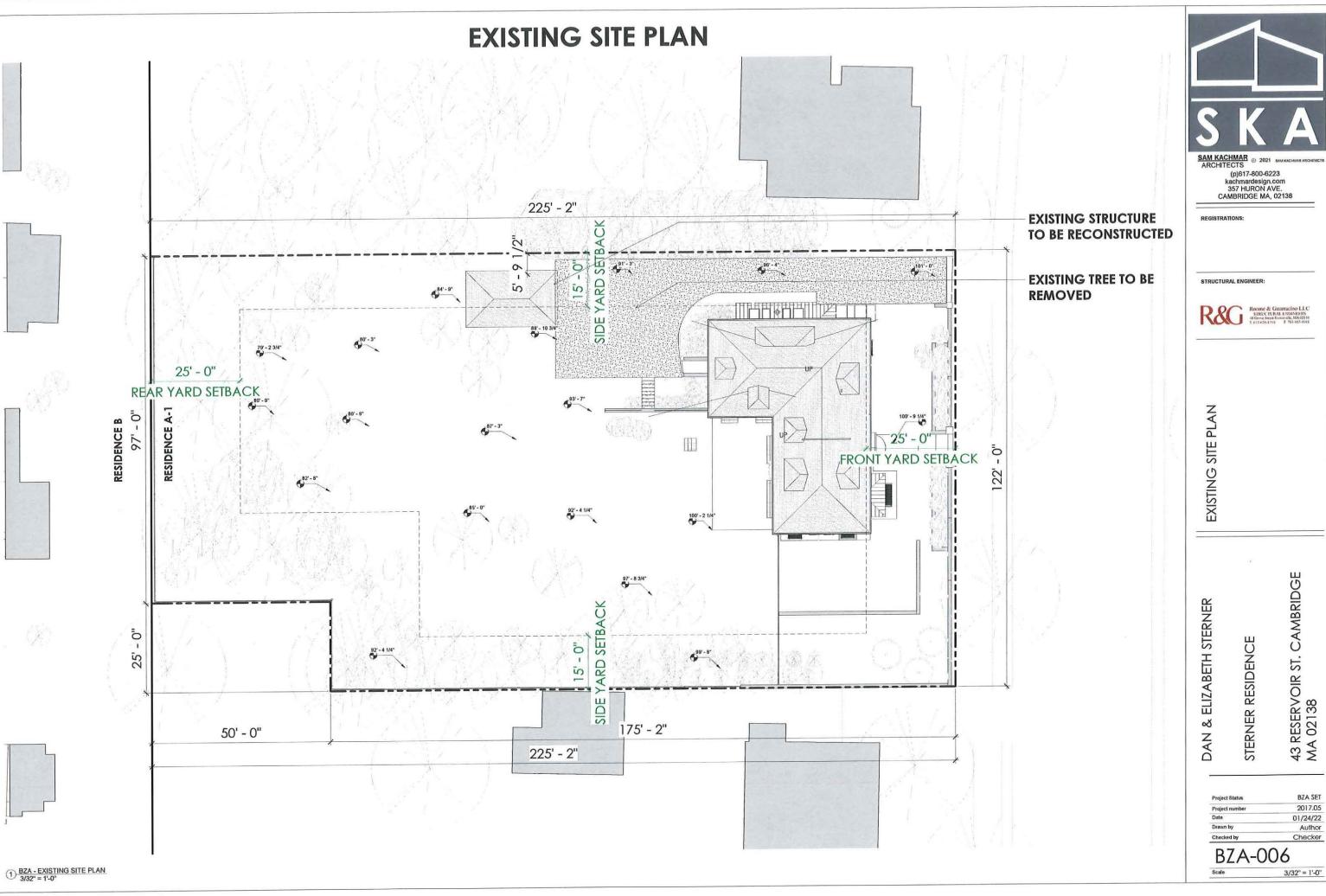
dan & elizabeth sterner

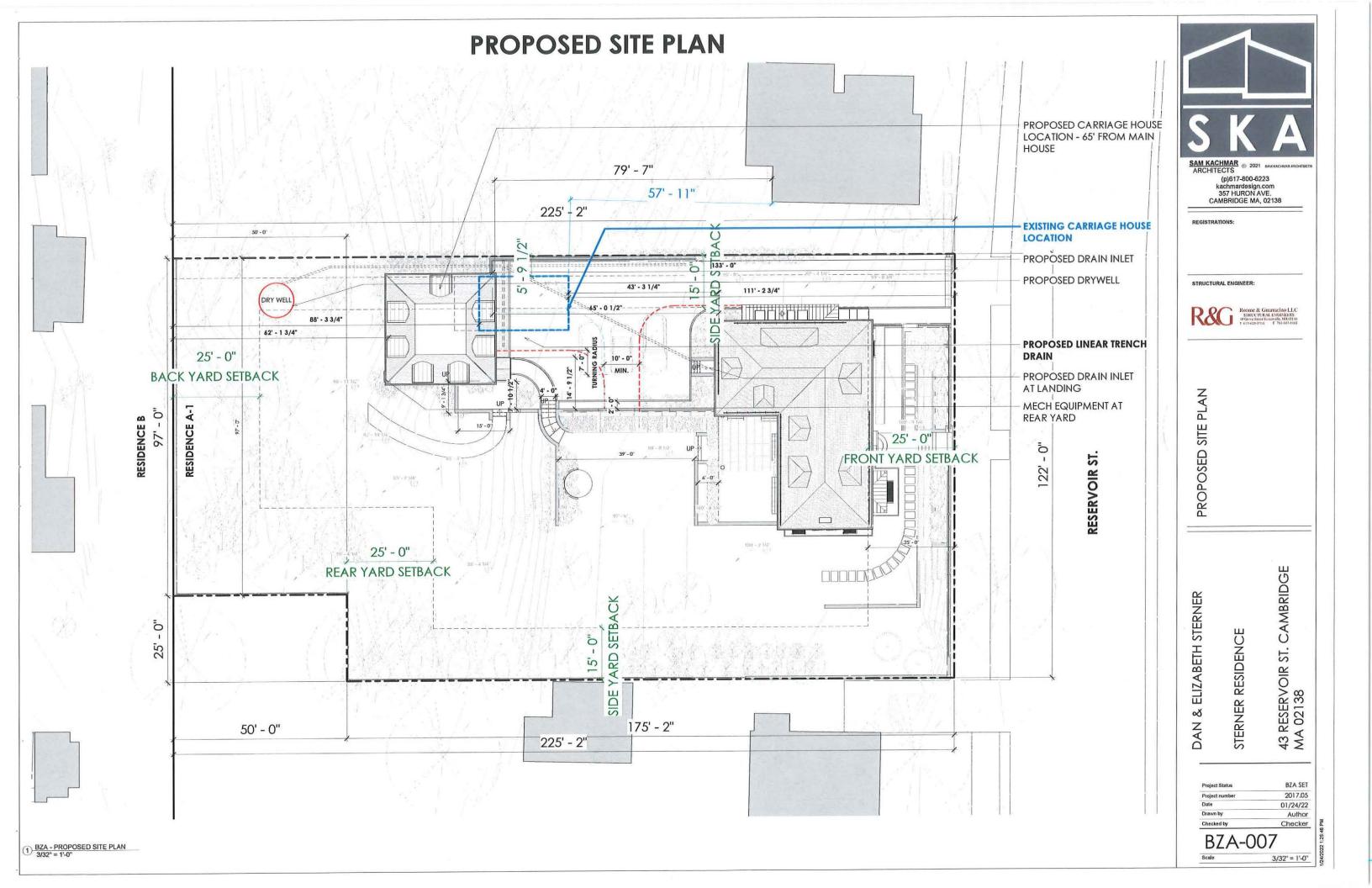
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	01/24/22
Drawn by	Author
Checked by	Checker

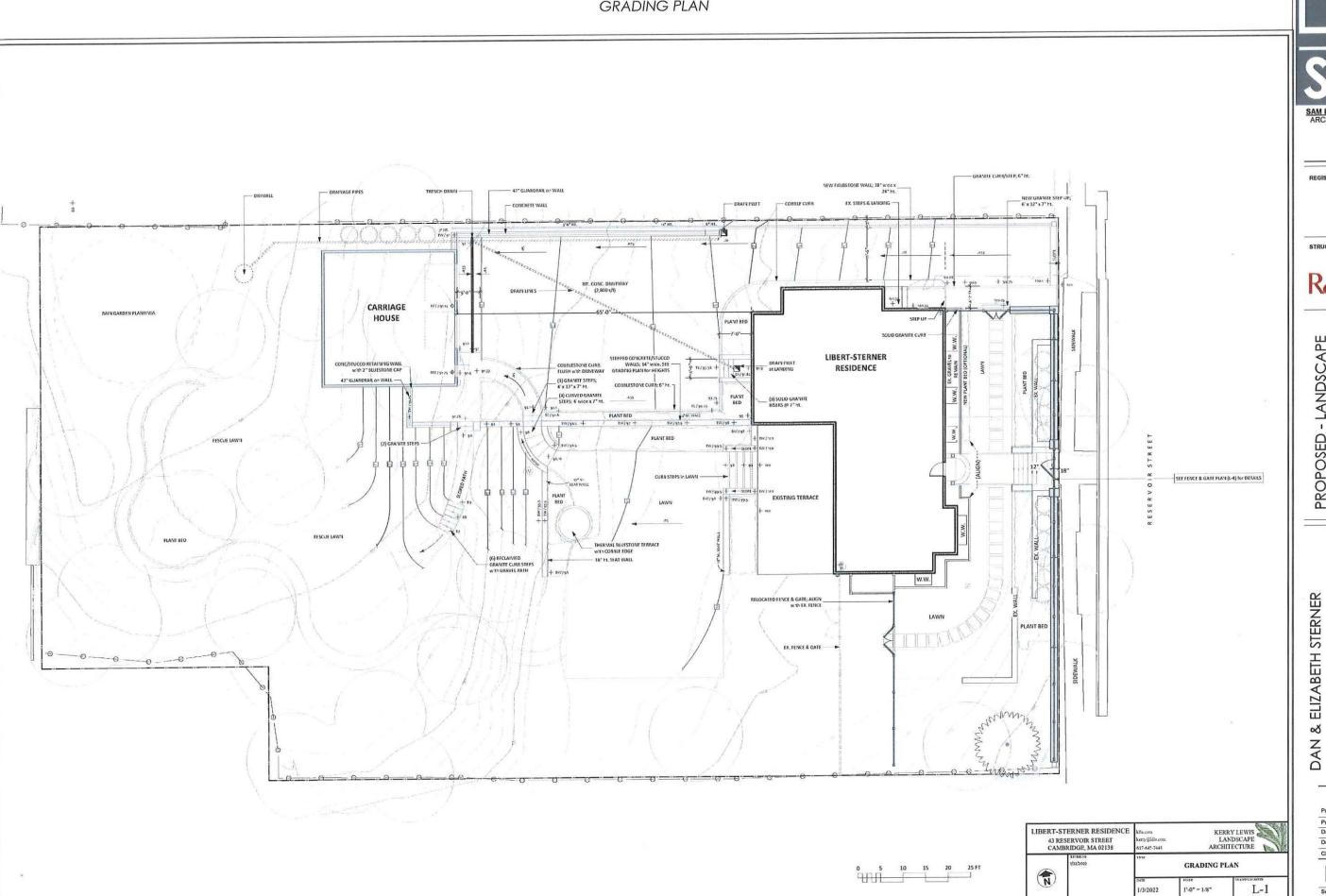
BZA-005

1" = 40'-0"





#### LANDSCAPE DESIGN | BY KERRY LEWIS GRADING PLAN





(p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE. CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

REGISTRATIONS:



Roome & Guarracino L.L.C STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS II Gaves Superi State (M. MAG) H (1-14-5)-1-30) - 7-731-331-343

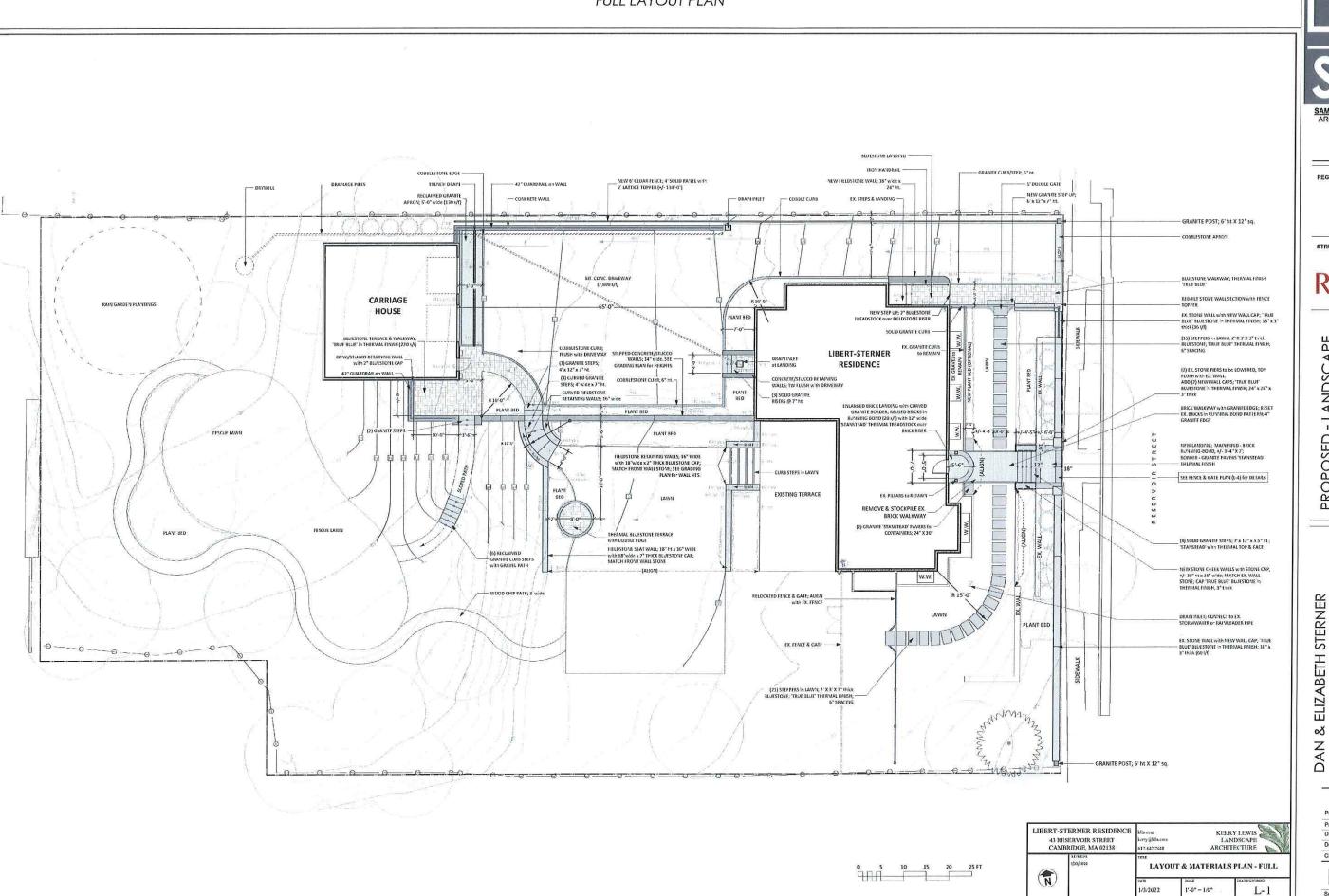
PROPOSED - LANDSCAPE DESIGN

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

CHUCKU
Checker
Author
01/24/22
2017.05
BZA SET

BZA-008

#### LANDSCAPE DESIGN | BY KERRY LEWIS **FULL LAYOUT PLAN**





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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:



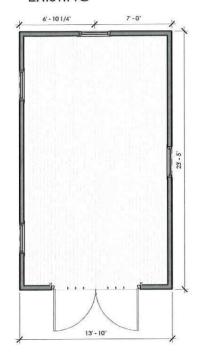
PROPOSED -DESIGN

CAMBRIDGE STERNER RESIDENCE ST. 43 RESERVOIR S MA 02138

Project Status **BZA SET** 2017.05 01/24/22 Drawn by Author Checked by Checker

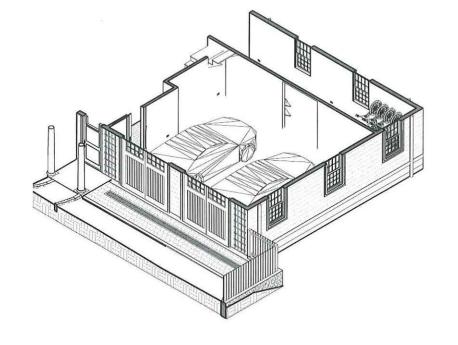
BZA-009

#### **EXISTING**

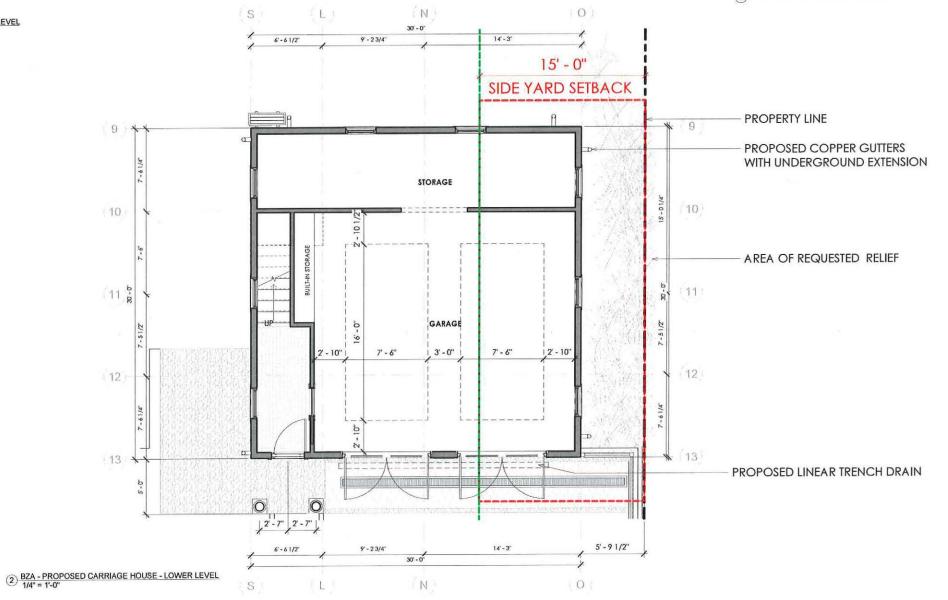


(4) BZA - EXISITNG CARRIAGE HOUSE - LOWER LEVEL





3 BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE AXON - LL





AM KACHMAR © 2021 SAMEKICHMARIAROHIE ARCHITECTS (p)617-800-6223 kachmardesign.com 357 HURON AVE, CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

REGISTRATIONS

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Roome & Guarracino LLC STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS IS Groce Street Semicolle, MAGUI

If Georg Stept Securities, MAI T. e17-e24-190) Y 781-182

CARRIAGE HOUSE LOWER LEVEL PLAN

dan & Elizabeth Sterner

INCE

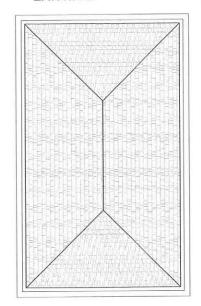
STERNER RESIDENCE
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE
MA 02138

Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	01/24/22
Drawn by	Author
Checked by	Checker

BZA-100

or er 0"

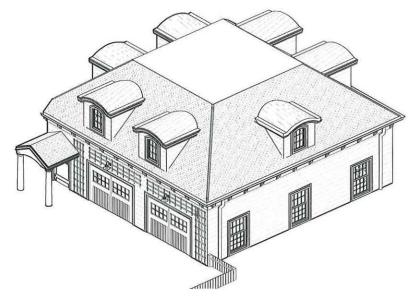
#### **EXISTING**



(4) EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE - ROOF PLAN 1/4" = 1'-0"



(3) BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE AXON - LEVEL 1





DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

SAM KACHMAR

ARCHITECTS

(p)617-800-6223

kachmardesign.com
357 HURON AVE.

CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138

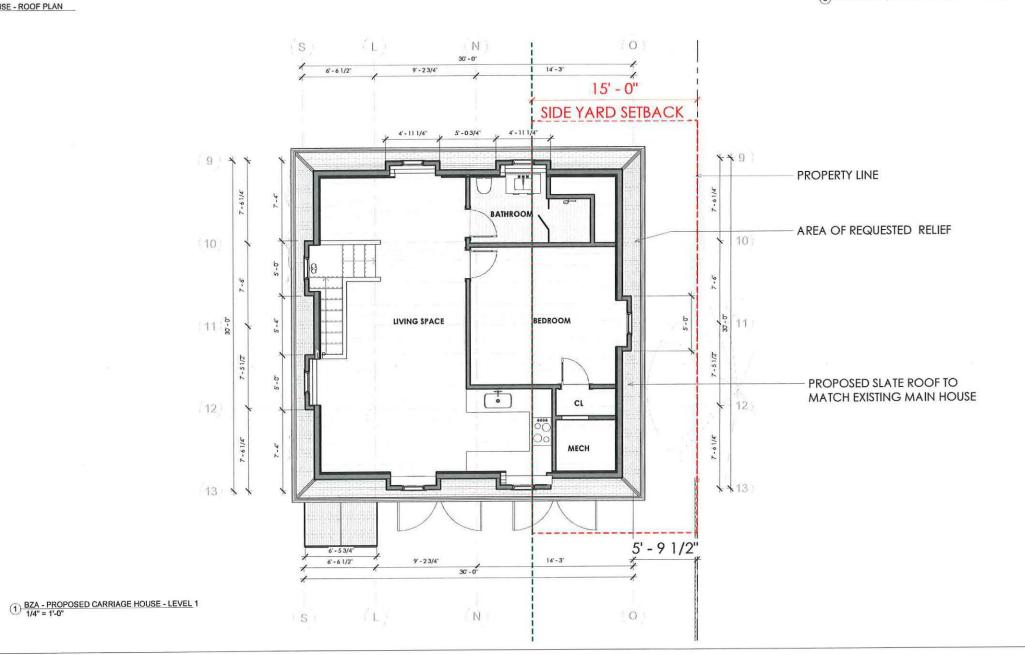
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

STERNER RESIDENCE	43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

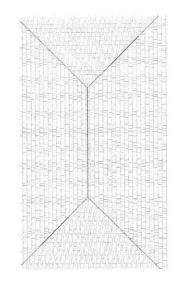
Project Status	BZA SET
Project number	2017.05
Date	01/24/22
Drawn by	Author
Checked by	Checker

BZA-101

1/4" = 1'-0"



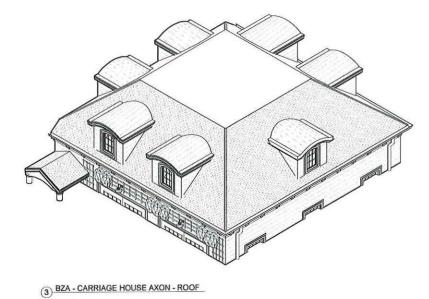
#### **EXISTING**

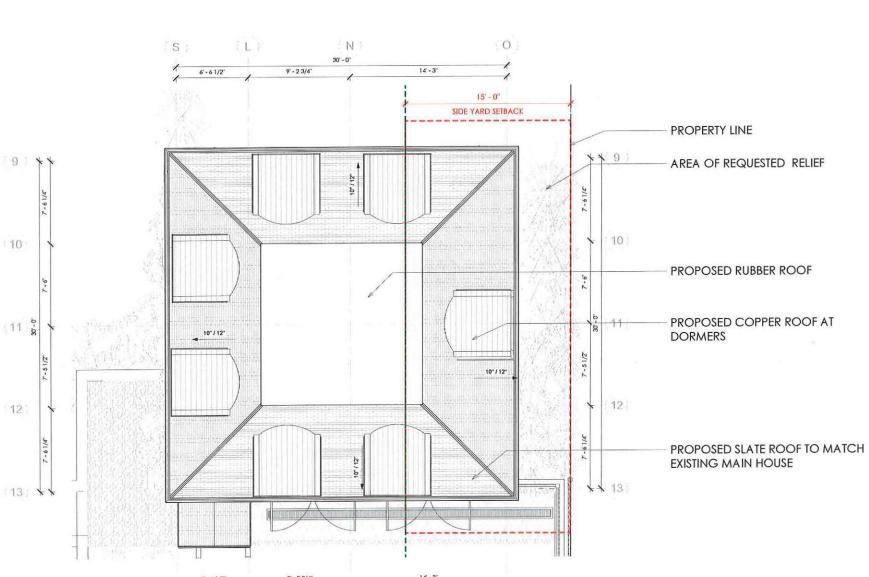


② BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN
1/4" = 1'-0"

1) BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN







IN:



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CARRIAGE HOUSE ROOF PLAN

STERNER RESIDENCE

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

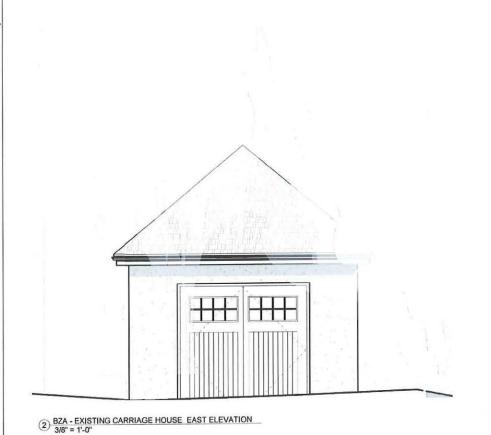
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Project number	2017.05
Date	01/24/22
Drawn by	Author
Checked by	Checker

BZA-102

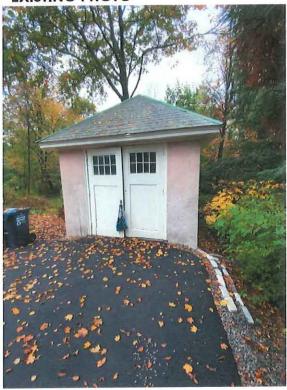
43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

# PROPOSED - EAST ELEVATION

1) BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"



# **EXISTING PHOTO**



CARRIAGE HOUSE EAST ELEVATION

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

STERNER RESIDENCE

**BZA SET** 2017.05 01/24/22 Author

BZA-200

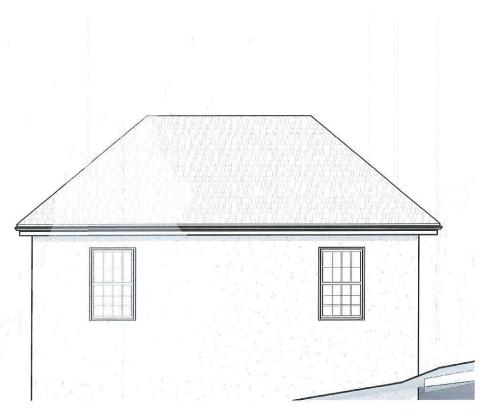
#### PROPOSED RENDER





# PROPOSED - SOUTH ELEVATION

1 BZA - PROPOSED CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION 3/8" = 1'-0"



#### **PROPOSED RENDER**



#### **EXISTING PHOTO**







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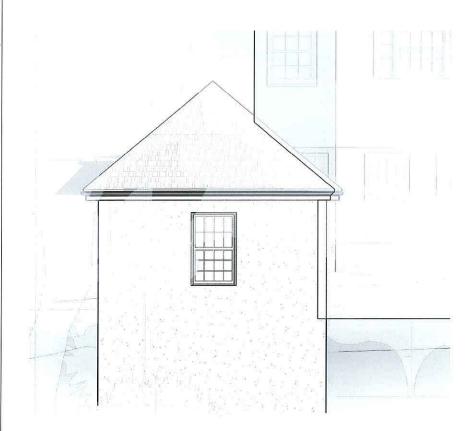


CARRIAGE HOUSE SOUTH ELEVATION

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

2017.05 Checker

# PROPOSED - WEST ELEVATION



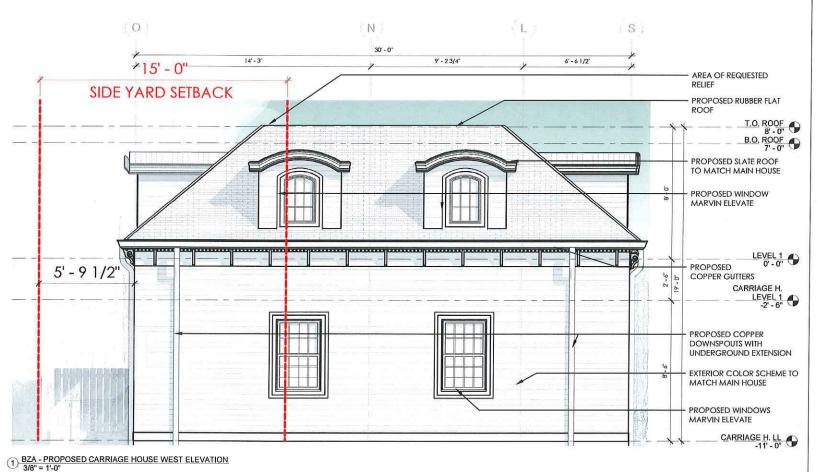
② BZA - EXISTING CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"

#### **PROPOSED RENDER**



#### **EXISTING PHOTO**





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CARRIAGE HOUSE WEST ELEVATION

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

**BZA SET** 01/24/22 Author

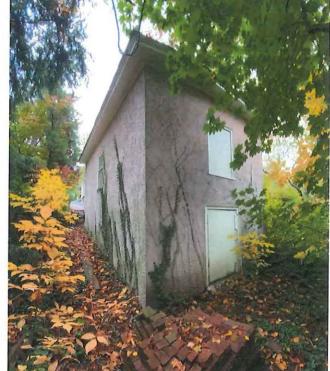
BZA-202

3/8" = 1'-0"

# PROPOSED - NORTH ELEVATION

# **EXISTING PHOTO**







#### PROPOSED RENDER







STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

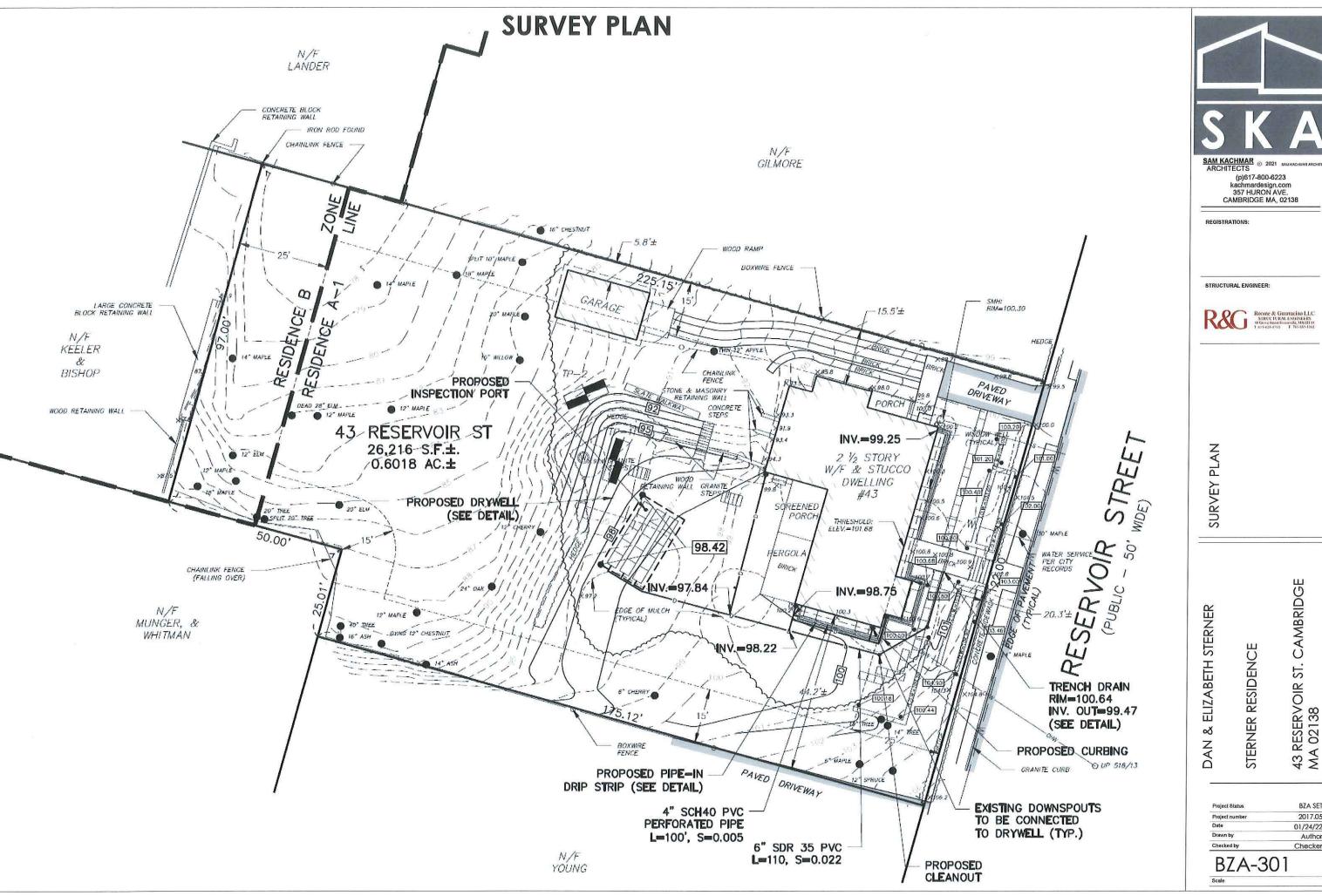


CARRIAGE HOUSE NORTH ELEVATION

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138 STERNER RESIDENCE

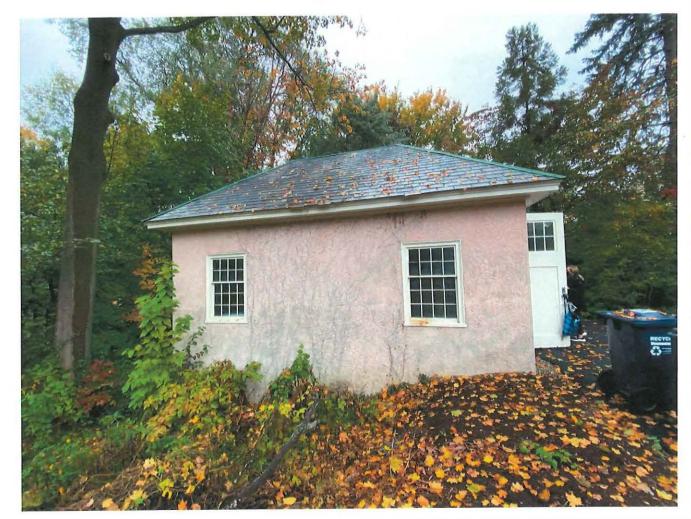
BZA SET 2017.05 Checker



BZA SE
2017.0
01/24/2
Autho
Checke

# **EXISTING PHOTOS**













SAM KACHMAR

ARCHITECTS

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357 HURON AVE.

CAMBRIDGE MA, 02138



Roome & Guarracino LLC
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
44 Garce Struct Structural Engineers
45 (17-424-170) | 734-333-104

ADDITIONAL EXTERIOR PHOTOS

STERNER RESIDENCE

DAN & ELIZABETH STERNER

43 RESERVOIR ST. CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

BZA SET 2017.05 01/24/22 Author Checked by

BZA-302

#### Pacheco, Maria

From:

Lauren Harder < laurenharder@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, January 24, 2022 11:42 AM

To:

Pacheco, Maria

**Subject:** 

Support for BZA case number 154869

Hi Maria,

I am writing in support of BZA case number 154869 at 43 Reservoir Street. Elizabeth and Dan are my neighbors in Huron Village and I know them through their community support work. I think the scope and tastefulness of their planned project is very much in keeping with the architecture in the area as was their original project approved by the Historical Commission some years ago.

I hope the board will approve their variance.

Best,

Lauren Harder 111 Grozier Road Cambridge, MA 02138

#### To whom it may concern:

My name is Todd Goulet, and I live at 20 Madison Street. I would like to state my support for Dan Sterner and Elizabeth Libert in their application for a variance / special permit for their home at 43 Reservoir Street.

Sincerely, Todd Goulet 20 Madison Street Cambridge resident since 2010

#### To whom it may concern:

My name is Greg Porreca, and I live at 57 Reservoir Street, Unit 1. My wife, Jamie, and I would like to state our support for our neighbors, Dan Sterner and Elizabeth Libert, in their application for a variance / special permit for their home at 43 Reservoir Street. Elizabeth is a family photographer who we met almost ten years ago. She actually used to operate her photography studio out of a space on Huron Avenue next to what used to be Fresh Pond Market and is now Formaggio Kitchen. When Dan and Elizabeth moved to the neighborhood in 2016, our daughter, Emma, became friends with their two boys, Calvin and George, and we have made an annual tradition of trick-or-treating together each Halloween.

Dan and Elizabeth care deeply about the neighborhood and its history, and we expect their project to be a tasteful addition to their property.

Sincerely,
Jamie and Greg Porreca
57 Reservoir Street, Unit 1
Cambridge residents since 2003

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My name is Dan Rasmussen, and I live at 8 Hubbard Park Road. My wife, Hilary, and I would like to express our support for our friends, Dan Sterner and Elizabeth Libert, in their application for a variance / special permit for their home at 43 Reservoir Street. We know Dan and Elizabeth well. They (and their two sons) are active participants in our community, and we see them often at the Cambridge Skating Club.

Since moving to the neighborhood in 2016, they have taken great care in renovating their home to respect its historical character both inside and out. In fact, they won a Preservation Award from the Cambridge Historical Commission in 2017. We have no doubt that they will bring the same level of care and thoughtfulness to their current project.

Sincerely,

Hilary and Dan Rasmussen

8 Hubbard Park Road

Cambridge residents since 2020