

**CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS**

**Application Date:** February 3, 2016

**Applicant:** Robert Covington, Covington Custom Builder, owner

**Property:** 1917 Crockett St, Lot 1, Block 314, Shearn Addition Subdivision. The property is a vacant 2,315 square foot (47' x 49'-3") corner lot.

**Significance:** The property is a vacant lot located in the High First Ward Historic District.

**Proposal:** New Construction – Residence

Construct an approximately 2,400 square foot, two story residence on a corner lot.

- The residence measures 36' wide by 35' deep by 31" tall with a 20' eave height;
- The residence is setback 10' from the front (Crockett), 5' from White St; and 2' from the south side property adjacent to 1720 White St – the developer will need a maintenance easement from the owner of 1720 White St in order to have a setback less than 3' on that side.
- The residence is clad in 8" cementitious siding.

See enclosed application materials and detailed project description on p. 4-16 for further details.

**Context Area** The 1900 block of Crockett contains only one contributing structure, the one-story Queen Anne cottage at 1907 Crockett. The opposing blockface is not within the historic district boundary. There is a contributing house located immediately to the south of the proposed structure at 1720 White.

Because there is only one contributing structure on the blockface, staff looked beyond the block to other historic district contributing structures located on the 2000 block of Crockett St as well as the contributing structures on the 1700 block of White St for compatible setbacks and features.

**Public Comment:** Public comment was received in opposition. See pp. 17-18.

**Civic Association:** No comment received.

**Recommendation:** Deferral

**HAHC Action:** -

**APPROVAL CRITERIA**

**NEW CONSTRUCTION IN A HISTORIC DISTRICT**

Sec. 33-242(a): HAHC shall issue a certificate of appropriateness for new construction in a historic district upon finding that the application satisfies the following criteria:

**S D NA S - satisfies D - does not satisfy NA - not applicable**

- (1) The distance from the property line of the front and side walls, porches, and exterior features of any proposed new construction must be compatible with the distance from the property line of similar elements of existing contributing structures in the context area;

*There is one contributing structure on this blockface that has a setback of 11'. The contributing structure on White Street has an approximate setback of 5'. The current proposal has a setback of 10' on Crockett and 5' on White Street. The setback on the south side is only 2' however, which is not a typical or appropriate setback.*
- (2) The exterior features of the new construction must be compatible with the exterior features of existing contributing structures in the context area;

*8" cementitious siding is not an appropriate feature within the context area. Smooth-finish 4" reveal cementitious siding would be a more appropriate siding option.*

*The south elevation is lacking window openings in keeping with typical contributing structures in the area. This two-story blank wall only 2' from the south property line does not meet Design Guidelines provisions requiring traditional solid-to-void proportions for walls to windows.*
- (3) The scale and proportions of the new construction, including the relationship of the width and roofline, overall height, eave height, foundation height, porch height, roof shape, and roof pitch, and other dimensions to each other, must be compatible with the typical scale and proportions of existing contributing structures in the context area unless special circumstances, such as an atypical use, location, or lot size, warrant an atypical scale and proportions;

*The 36' width is compatible with contributing structures within the context area which are between 32'-39'. The first floor porch height is in-scale with the contributing structures on Crockett and White Street.*
- (4) The height of the new construction must not be taller than the typical height of existing contributing structures in the context area unless special circumstances, such as an atypical use, location, or lot size, warrant an atypical height, except that;

*The residence is a two-story structure; however, the first floor elements are in-line with the one-story contributing structures within the context area.*
- (a) Design guidelines for an individual historic district may provide that a new construction with two stories maybe be constructed in a context area with only one-story contributing structures as long as the first story of the new construction has proportions compatible with the contributing structures in the context area, and the second story has similar proportions to the first story; and\

*The Design Guidelines for High First Ward have not yet been adopted; the current draft guidelines do not contain provisions addressing this new criterion of the ordinance.*
- (b) A new construction shall not be constructed with more than one story in a historic district that is comprised entirely of one-story contributing structures, except as provided for in design guidelines for an individual historic district.

**HIGH FIRST WARD DESIGN GUIDELINES**

In accordance with Sec. 33-276, the proposed activity must comply with the City Council approved Design Guidelines.

*The Design Guidelines have not been officially adopted by City Council. However, the draft Design Guidelines state that new construction shall be no more than two stories tall. Width should be no greater than that of contributing structures, which in the context area ranges from 32' wide (1907 Crockett) to 39' wide. There are only two two-story contributing structures in High First Ward (neither in the context area) – one measures 40' wide by 28' tall; the other is 39' wide and 30' tall with a 23' eave.*

*The draft Design Guidelines also require traditional solid-to-void proportions for walls to windows. The south elevation lacks window openings, which is not in keeping with typical contributing structures in the area and therefore does not meet this provision.*

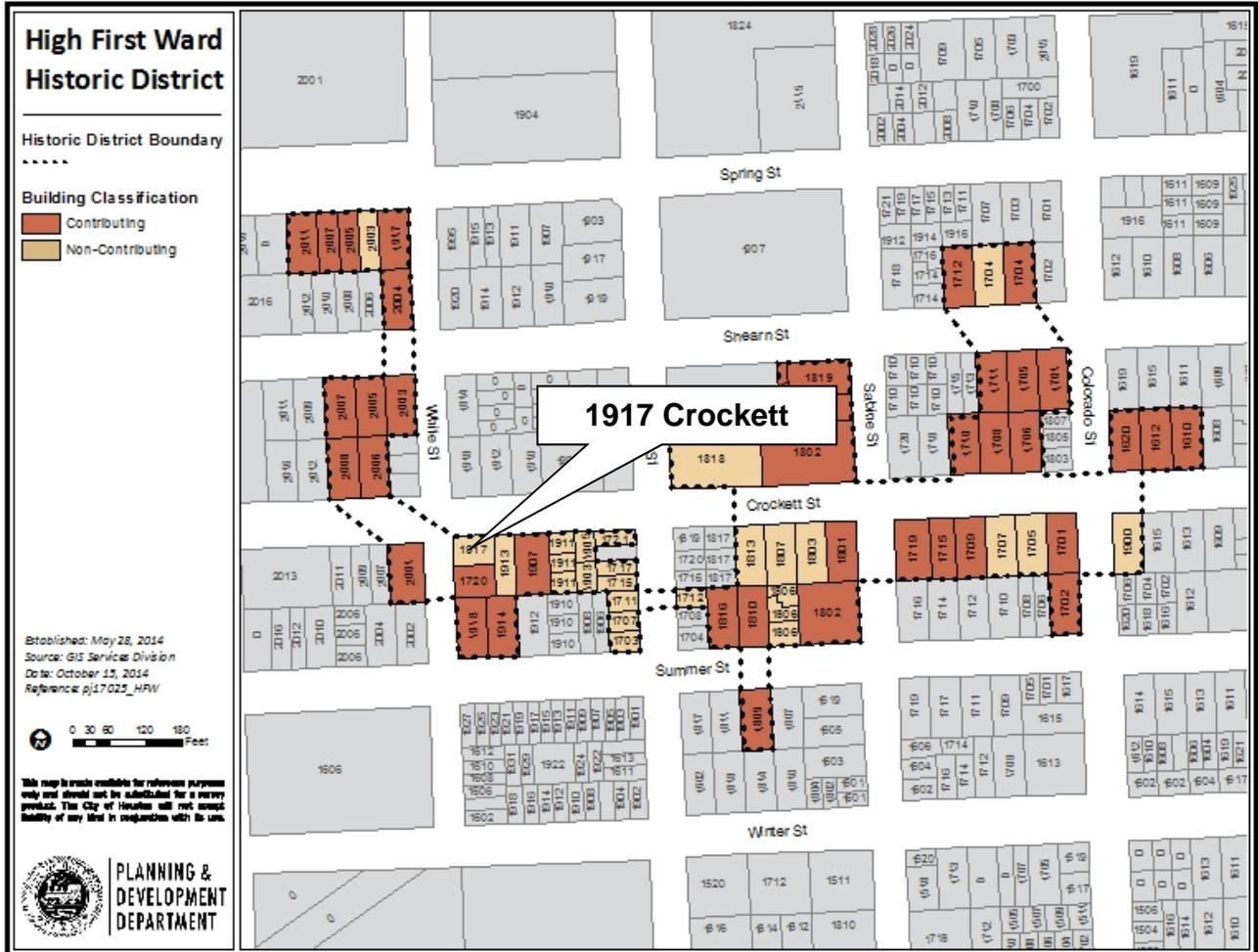
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PROPERTY LOCATION  
HIGH FIRST WARD HISTORIC DISTRICT

Building Classification

- Contributing
- Non-Contributing
- Park



INVENTORY PHOTO



NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES



1907 Crockett – Contributing –(neighbor)  
11' front setback  
32' width  
26' ridge  
14' eave



1720 White – Contributing (neighbor)  
18' ridge  
12' eave

CONTEXT AREA



2001 Crockett– Contributing –(across street)  
15' front setback  
39' width  
22' ridge  
13' eave



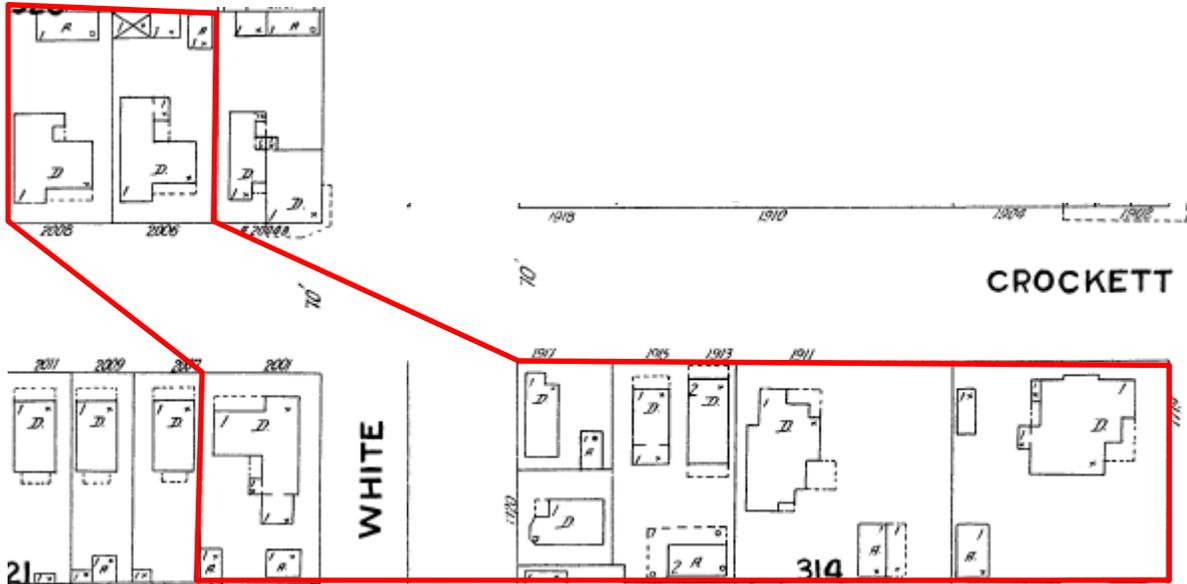
2006 Crockett– Contributing –(across street)  
11' front setback  
36' width  
27' ridge  
12' eave



2008 Crockett– Contributing (across street)  
39' width  
24' ridge  
15' eave

**SANBORN MAPS**

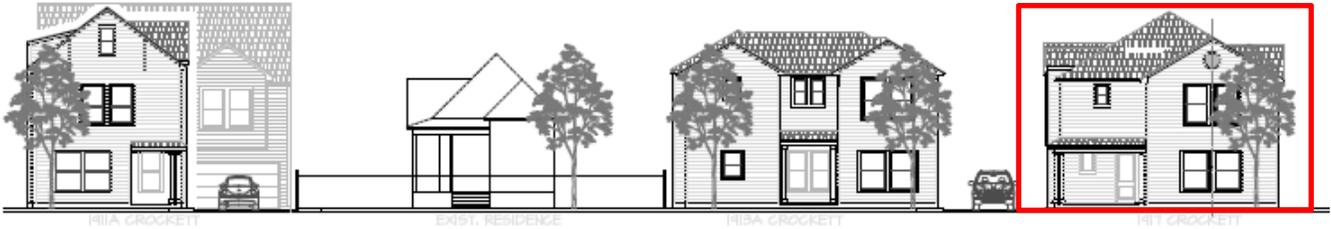
1924-1950, Vol 2, Sheets 228, 229



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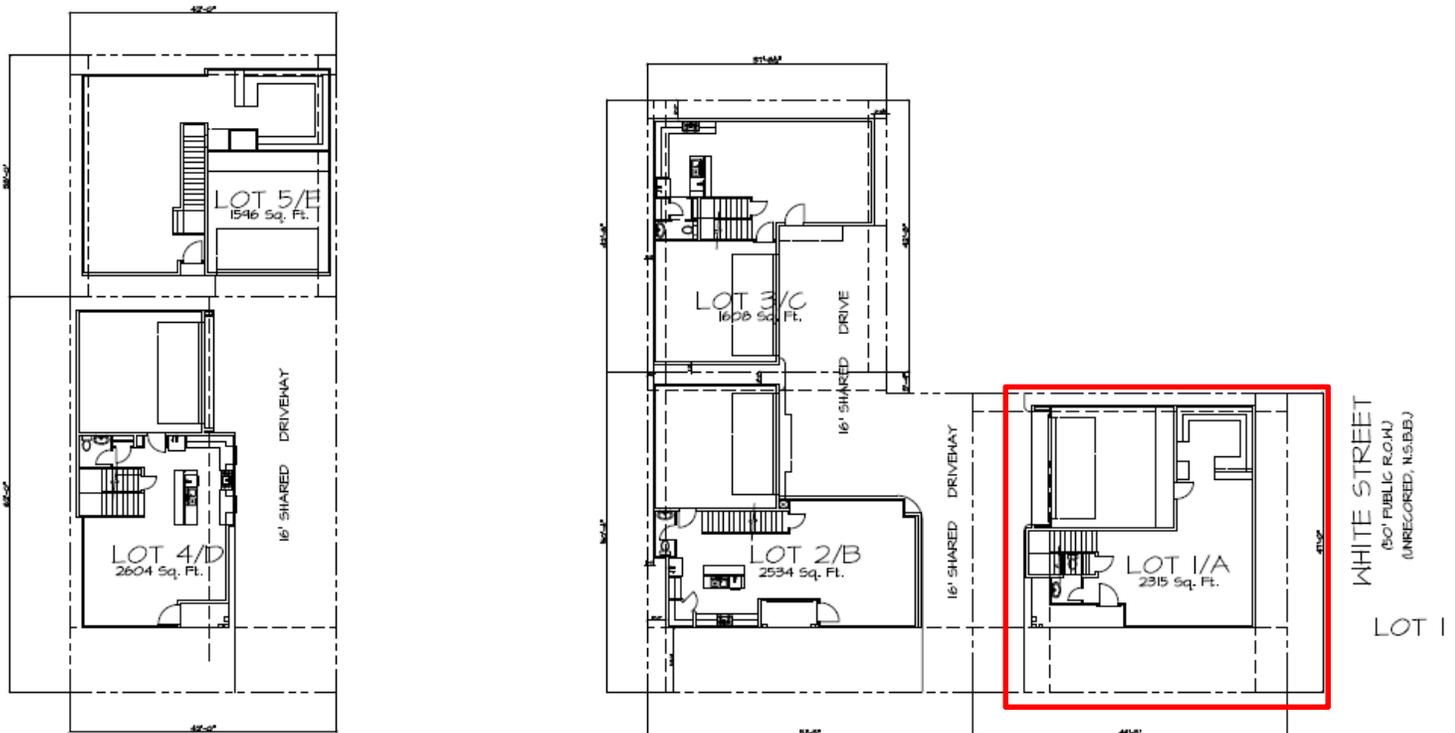
**BLOCKFACE RENDERING – FRONT FACING CROCKETT STREET**

PROPOSED



**BLOCKFACE SITE PLANS**

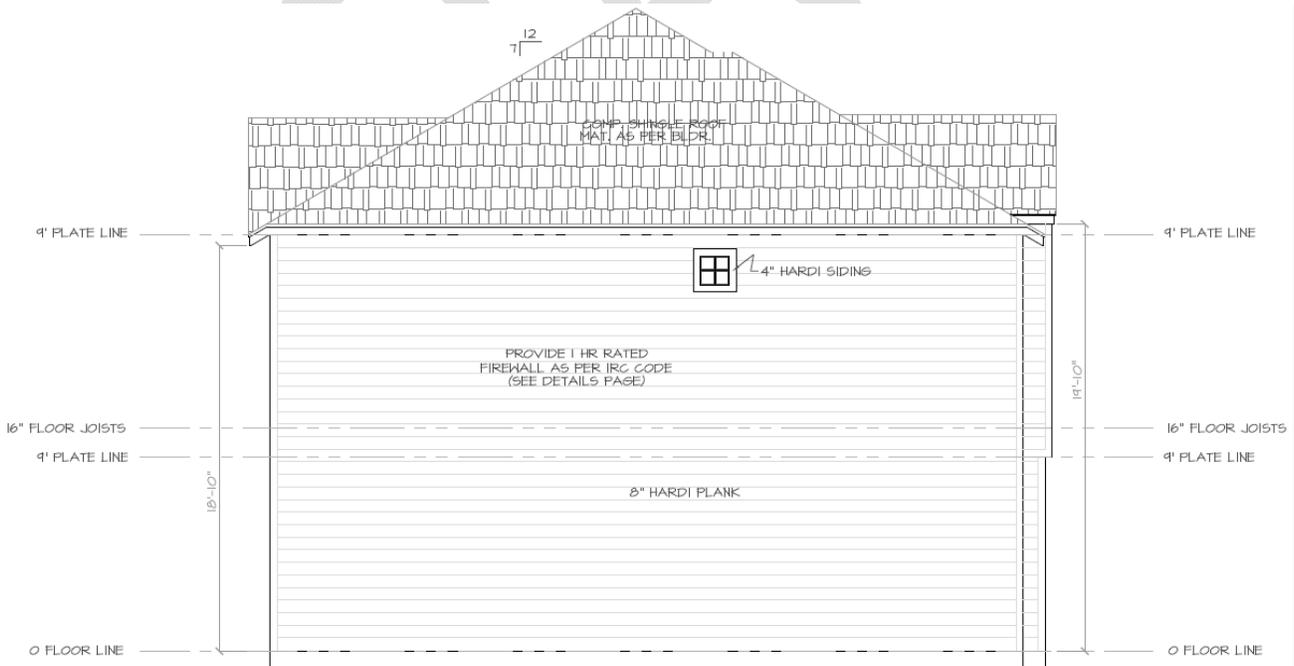
PROPOSED



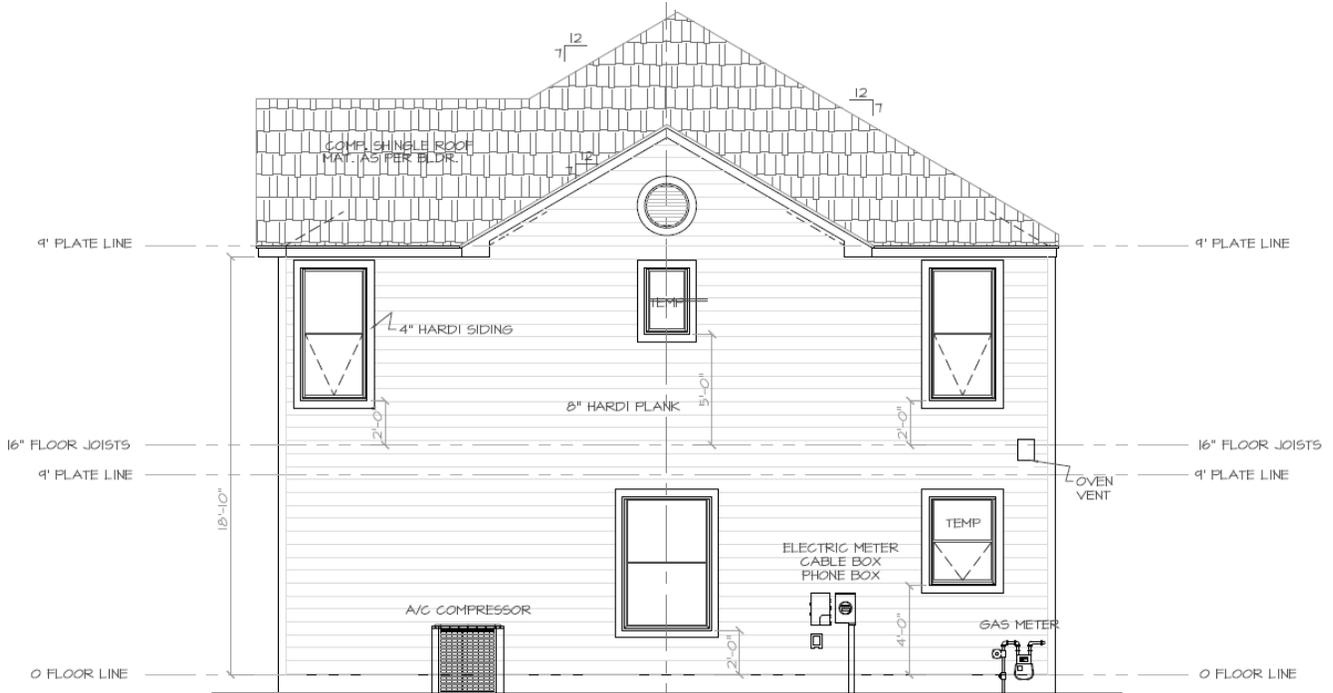
**NORTH ELEVATION – FACING CROCKETT STREET**  
**PROPOSED**



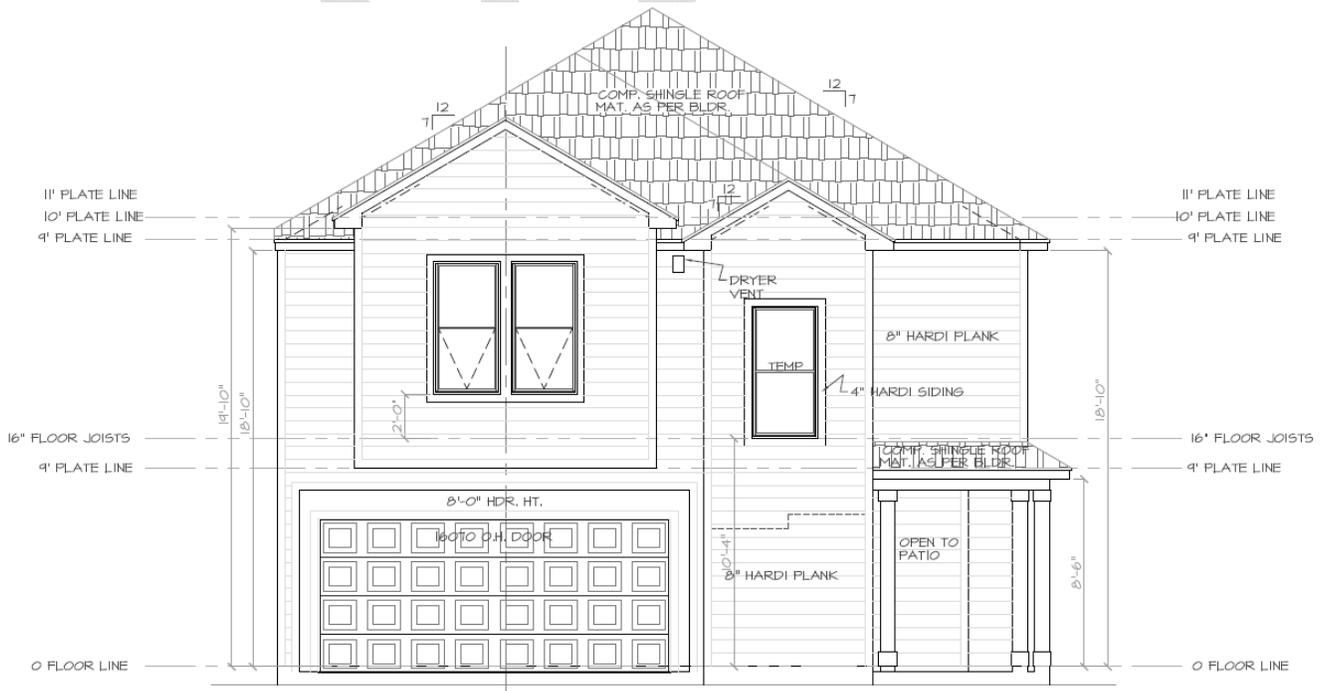
**SOUTH ELEVATION**  
**PROPOSED**



**WEST ELEVATION – FACING WHITE STREET**  
**PROPOSED**

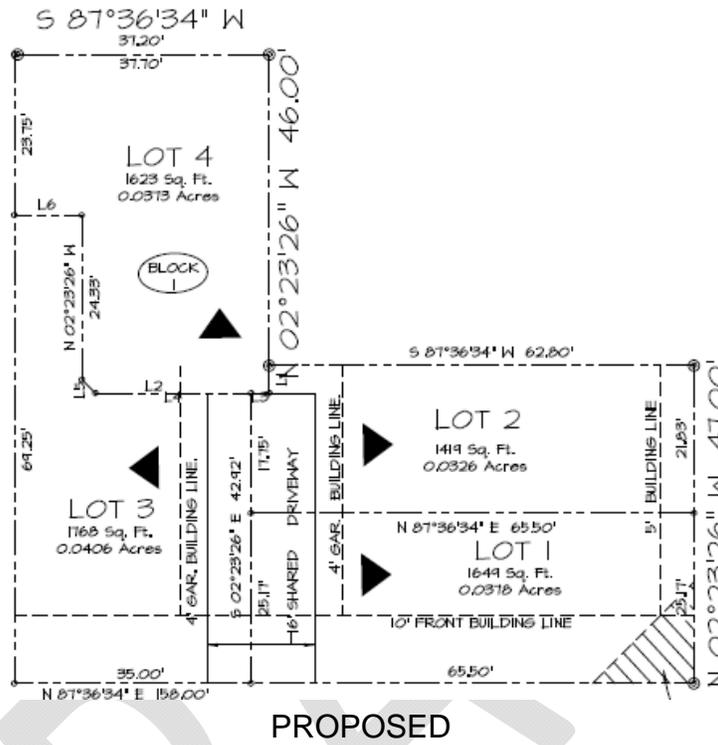


**EAST SIDE ELEVATION**  
**PROPOSED**

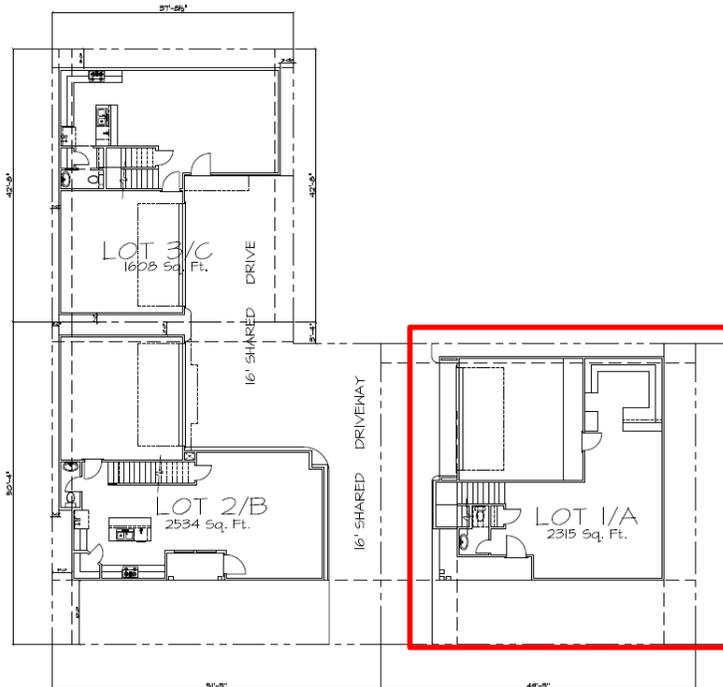




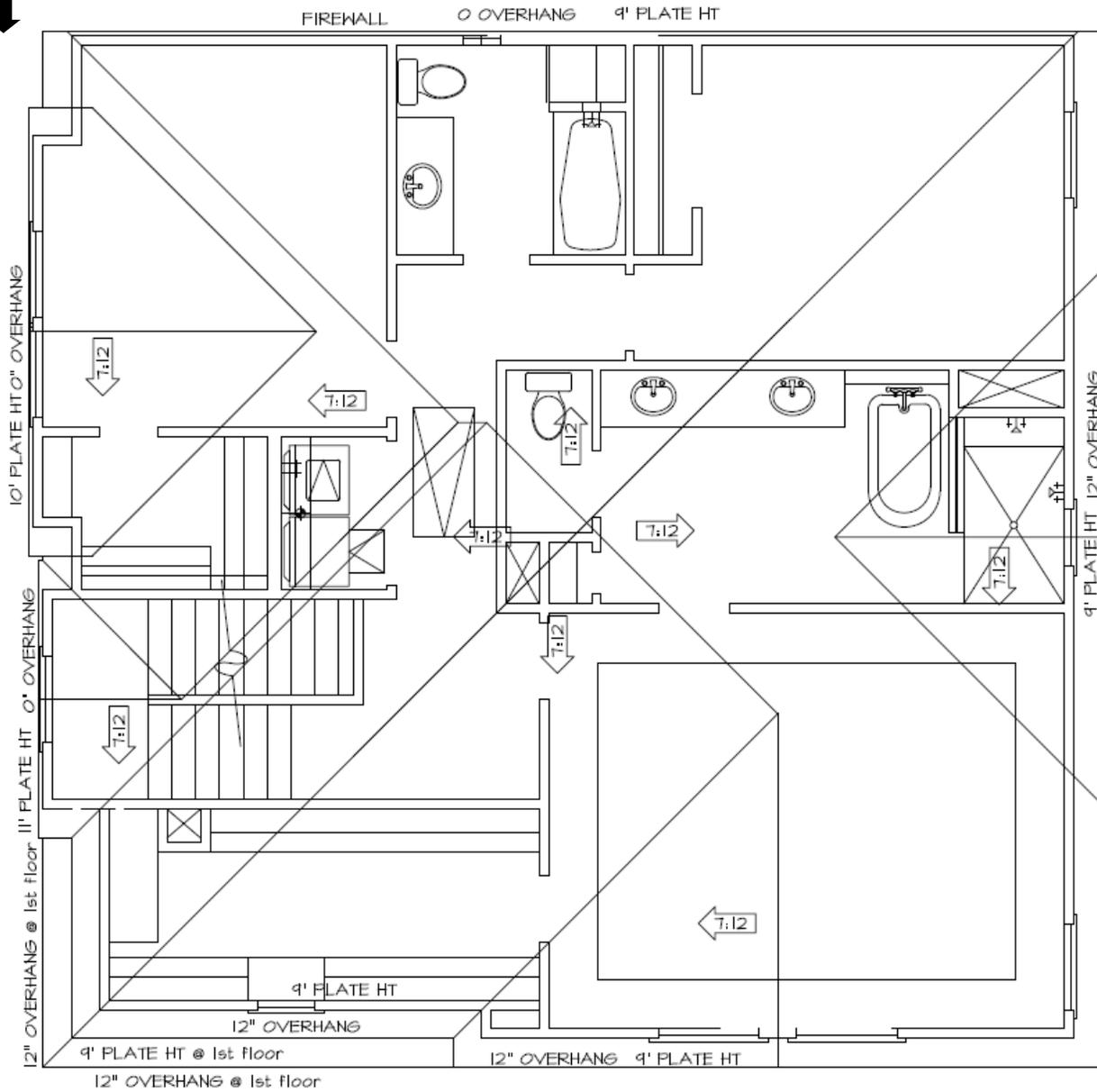
**SITE PLAN**  
**EXISTING**



**PROPOSED**



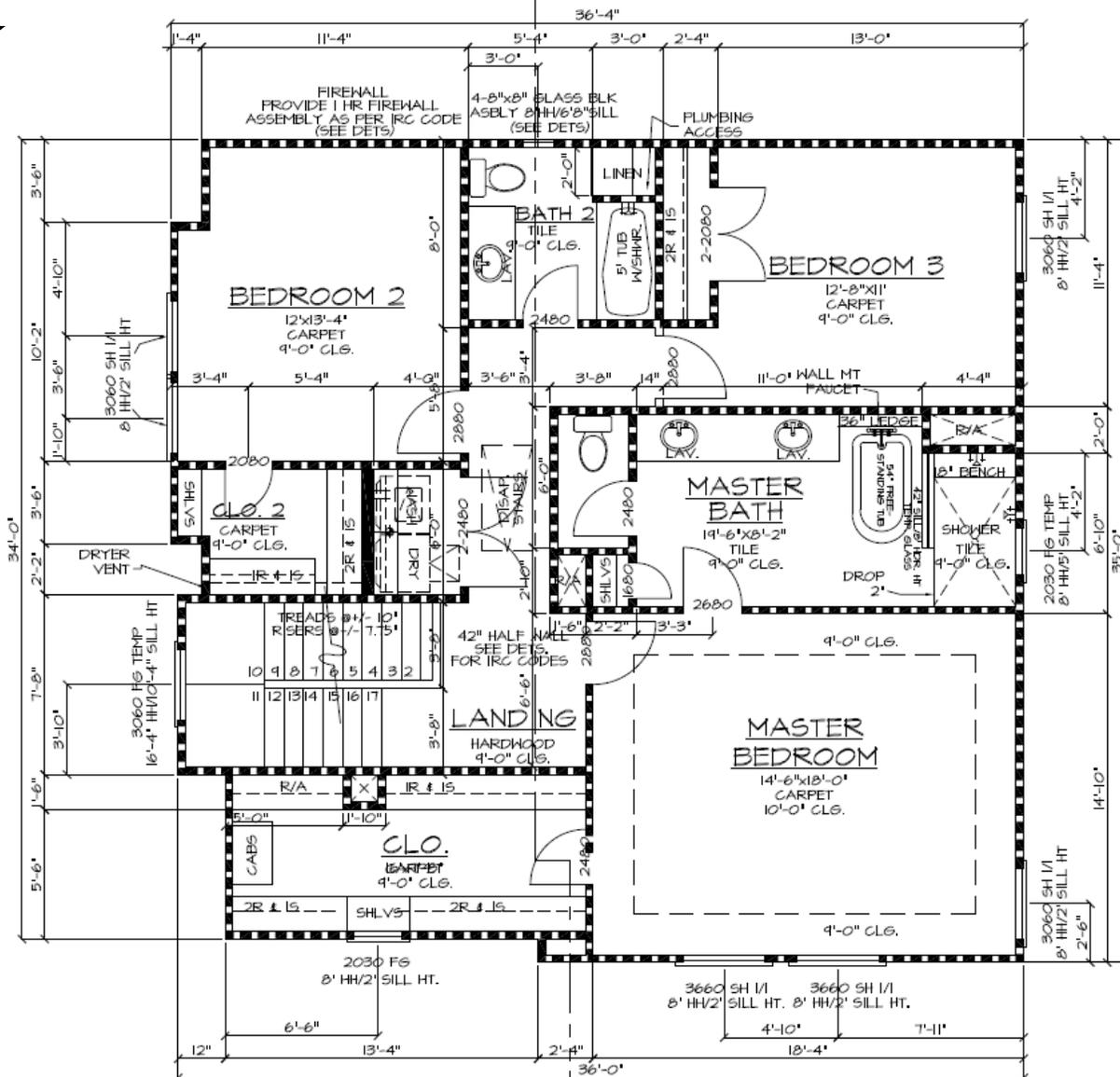
**ROOF PLAN  
PROPOSED**





**SECOND FLOOR PLAN**

PROPOSED



**WINDOW / DOOR SCHEDULE**

WINDOW SCHEDULE

QTY	SAFETY GLS.	DESCRIPTION	VERIFY R.O. W/ WINDOW MANUFACTURE	MFG. AS PER BLDG.	
				R.O.	HER. HT.
1	YES	3'-0" x 4'-0" SH W/ TEMPERED		FIELD VERIFY	8'-0"
3	NO	4'-0" x 8'-0" FG			8'-0"
2	NO	2'-0" x 3'-0" FG			8'-0"
4	NO	3'-0" x 6'-0" SH W/			8'-0"
1	YES	2'-0" x 3'-0" FG TEMPERED			8'-0"
1	NO	3'-6" x 6'-0" SH W/			8'-0"
1	YES	3'-0" x 6'-0" FG TEMPERED			10'-4"

DOOR SCHEDULE

QTY	SAFETY GLS.	DESCRIPTION	HER. HT.
1	NO	2'-0"X8'-0" W/ SELF-CLOSING MECHANISM	8'-0"
1	NO	3'-0"X8'-0" EXT. SOLID CORE	8'-0"
3	NO	2'-0"X8'-0"	8'-0"
2	NO	2'-0"X8'-0"	8'-0"
4	NO	2'-4"X8'-0"	8'-0"
1	NO	2'-2"X 8'-0"	8'-0"
1	NO	2'-2'-4"X8'-0"	7'-0"
1	NO	2'-6"X8'-0"	7'-0"
1	NO	16'-0" T-COVER HEAD DOOR	7'-0"

NOTES: SAFETY GLASS LOCATIONS ARE NOT NOTED AT FLOOR PLANS

FINISHED FLOOR H.O.K.  
 NOTE:  
 -REFER BACK TO REVISED  
 WINDOW SCHEDULE WITH WINDOW  
 MANUFACTURER TO INSURE R.O.  
 SIZES AND VERIFY EGRESS  
 REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO  
 ORDERING WINDOWS.  
 \*ALL HER. HT. ARE FROM

FG= FIXED GLASS  
 HER. HT.= HEADER HEIGHT  
 GLS.= GLAZED LIGHTS  
 TEMP. GLS.= TEMPERED GLASS  
 CORED. CASSETTE  
 BSA.= EGRESS ARCH  
 FCM= FULL ARCH



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**PROJECT DETAILS**

**Shape/Mass:** The residence measures 36' wide by 35' deep by 30'-10" tall with a 19'-10" eave height.

**Setbacks:** The residence will be setback 10' from the front (Crockett), 5' from the side (White), 8'-3" from the east side and 2' from the rear property lines.

**Foundation:** Foundation height is 1' above grade.

**Windows/Doors:** The residence will use 1-over-1 windows, pedestrian doors and a garage door.

**Exterior Materials:** The residence will be clad in 8" cementitious siding.

**Roof:** The roof is a cross-gable on hip with a 7-over-12 pitch, 12" overhang, a porch eave height of 9'-6" and 19'-10" and 21'-10" eave heights.

**Front Elevation:** Please see elevation drawings for details.  
**(North)**

**Side Elevation:** Please see elevation drawings for details.  
**(West)**

**Side Elevation:** Please see elevation drawings for details.  
**(East)**

**Rear Elevation:** Please see elevation drawings for details.  
**(South)**

**ATTACHMENT A**

**PUBLIC COMMENT– Evan and Laura Michaelides**

Comments on proposed new construction in High First Ward Historic District

1911A, 1911B, 1913A, 1913B, 1917 Crockett Street

February 13, 2016

**1. Site plans**

- 1.1. A site plan is required for a COA application. Each of these applications includes a drawing labeled "Site Plan". However, these purported site plans do not indicate the orientation of the proposed buildings to the surrounding streets or to each other. In addition, the elevations are listed as "left", "right", etc. instead of the usual "north", "south" etc. All this is contrary to industry standards, and makes the site plans are very difficult to decipher. This needs to be addressed in order to make the proposed plans more readily understandable.
- 1.2. Given the close proximity and interrelationships of the proposed buildings with one another, a site plan should be provided that covers all the buildings in the project so that what is being proposed can be understood.
- 1.3. With respect to the applications for 1911A and 1911B Crockett: according to the records available online, the 5,000 square foot lot in question is platted into 3 lots, so one might have expected to see applications for 1911A, 1911B and 1911C. However, no COA application for 1911C appears to have been made. Are we to understand that the 5,000 square foot lot is being replatted into two instead of three, i.e., that 1911A and 1911B are going to take up the full 5,000 square feet? This is another point that the site plan should have made clear, but doesn't.
- 1.4. The historic/contributing structure at 1907 Crockett is known to encroach on its neighbor to the west (1913 Crockett). This encroachment is not shown on the site plan. This omission is significant, since it affects the actual distance that will separate the new structure at 1913 from the existing one at 1907.
- 1.5. A 10' setback from the street is noted. This is out of character for the District, where setbacks of 15 feet or more are prevalent on contributing structures. Is this permissible?

**2. Massing**

- 2.1. The contributing structures in the High First Ward Historic District include both single-story and two-story structures. However, it is not a random mixture; single-story structures are overwhelmingly prevalent. In fact, there are only two two-story contributing structures in the District: 1809 Summer and 2007 Shearn. Everything else is single-story. The overall proposal to add no fewer than five two-story structures in close proximity to each other is highly unbalanced and not compatible with the contributing structures in the District. Worse, the

existing historic structure at 1907 Crockett would be sandwiched in the middle of all this new construction which would loom over it, resulting in a classic example of what historic districts are intended to avoid.

- 2.2. In addition, several of the proposed structures (1911A, 1911B, 1913B) stretch the definition of what can be considered a two-story structure. By incorporating dormers (in order to capture additional living space in an area which in a traditional historical structure would be an unfinished attic), they create additional massing, worsening the contrast with and dwarfing of 1907 Crockett and the other contributing structures. These proposed new buildings are really two-and-a-half-story structures.

### 3. Materials

- 3.1. 8" hardie plank has been specified throughout. This material is cheap-looking and not in keeping with the historic structures in the District. 4" plank should be used instead. Additionally, the texture of the planks to be used is not noted; flat-texture planks should be used.
- 3.2. Glass block has been specified in all of the designs. This material does not seem appropriate for a historic district.
- 3.3. Many of the windows in the designs are large, single-pane fixed windows. This type of window does not seem appropriate to this historic district. 1-over-1 and 2-over-2 double-hung windows are the norm in this district.

### 4. Other design issues

- 4.1. On a number of the sides of the proposed structures, there are no windows at all. This is out of character for the contributing structures in the District.
- 4.2. Many of the rooflines are excessively complicated and thus not compatible with the contributing structures in the District.