



Executive Director's Recommendation

Commission Meeting: October 5, 2017

PROJECT Carnegie Library Rehabilitation 801 K Street, NW Washington, DC	NCPC FILE NUMBER 7532
SUBMITTED BY Events DC	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 21.00(38.00)44597
REVIEW AUTHORITY District Projects in the Central Area per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (e)	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Approval of preliminary and final site and building plans
	PROPOSED ACTION Approve preliminary and final site and building plans
	ACTION ITEM TYPE Staff Presentation

PROJECT SUMMARY

Events DC has submitted preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation and modernization of the Carnegie Library, located at 801 K Street, NW, on Mount Vernon Square in Washington, DC. Events DC, an independent instrumentality of the District of Columbia, holds administrative jurisdiction over the Carnegie Library, while Mount Vernon Square (Reservation 8) remains federally owned but administered by the District of Columbia. Currently, Events DC retains office space in the Carnegie Library and uses the public space for events. The other tenant is the Historical Society of Washington (HSW) which operates a research library, exhibit galleries, and administrative offices. The building features three full stories in addition to three habitable mezzanines and a sub-basement. The building has a gross area of 51,000 square feet, with a footprint of 17,000 square feet in Mount Vernon Square.

The final design presents an opportunity to rehabilitate and modernize the Carnegie Library building to accommodate new retail and additional education uses. The expected tenant is Apple. The building will be leased jointly by the HSW, which will continue to operate its current functions, and Apple, which will operate a retail, events, and education facility. The project is comprised of the following components:

- Restoration of the building exterior, including repair and cleaning of the exterior stone, repair or replacement of windows and skylights, repair of the copper roof cladding, and removal of a non-historic clerestory addition.
- Rehabilitation of the building interior, including removal of non-original infill construction throughout the building, insertion of a central atrium space, upgrade or replacement of the MEP systems, and restoration of certain original features.
- Reconfiguration of the north entrance, stairs, and landing.

- Restoration of the site's existing landscape including replacing dead trees, adding new perennial and shrub plantings, and reseeding the grounds.
- Upgrading hardscape elements to comply with accessibility and other code requirements.
- Events DC is in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the District regarding future management and operations of the square. They have expressed a strong interest in working with the District and the building tenants to improve and activate the site.

KEY INFORMATION

- Constructed between 1899-1902, with funds provided by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, the Carnegie Library was listed in the District of Columbia Inventory of Sites in 1964 and the National Register of Historic Places in 1969 as the Central Public Library. The nomination recognized the building's significance as one of the many buildings given to American cities by Mr. Carnegie to promote the library systems. It also reflects the growth of the DC Public Library system from humble beginnings to an imposing Beaux Arts edifice on Mount Vernon Square. Mount Vernon Square is a contributing resource to the Plan of the City of Washington (comprised of the L'Enfant and McMillian Plans).
- On June 1, 2017, the Commission reviewed the concept plans for the rehabilitation and modernization of the Carnegie Library and supported Events DC's vision to transform the building to accommodate a new Apple flagship store and additional educational uses. Other comments provided by the Commission include:
 - The concept plans require balancing historic preservation, planning, and design considerations.
 - The Commission requested that Events DC explore opportunities for additional landscaping design and pedestrian amenities in Mount Vernon Square, and explore opportunities for better access to the square as part of the evaluation of alternatives in the NEPA and Section 106 process.
 - The Commission requested Events DC provide further information on exterior lighting changes and signage as the project evolves and design coordination occurs.
- The Commission is the lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Environmental Assessment evaluating the no action and other action alternatives was released in July 2017 for public comment, with the public comment period ending on August 7, 2017. NCPC issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) following the close of the public comment period. NCPC executed a Memorandum of Agreement with Events DC, Apple, the Historical Society of Washington (HSW), and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), to complete the Section 106 consultation process.

- The preliminary and final building and site plan submittal includes a new design for the north entrance stairs and landing, as well as information on site plan changes, building signage and wayfinding in Mount Vernon Square. The remainder of the exterior improvements have not changed from the concept review.

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission:

Approves the preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation and modernization of the Carnegie Library.

Commends Events DC for developing a project that balances historic preservation, planning, and design considerations while respecting the historic significance of the Carnegie Library.

Notes that Events DC is also restoring the site's existing landscape including replacing dead trees, adding new perennial and shrub plantings, and reseeded the grounds.

Notes that Events DC is in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the District regarding future management and operations of Mount Vernon Square. They have expressed a strong interest in working with the District and the building tenants to improve and activate the site through appropriate programming on the square's grounds

Notes that Events DC addressed the Commission's previous comments and that any changes to the final plans are required to be submitted to the Commission for review in accordance with the National Capital Planning Act and NCPC's Submission Guidelines.

Notes that any improvements in public space will require a public space permit and coordination with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation Office of Public Space.

PROJECT REVIEW TIMELINE

Previous actions	June 1, 2017 – Concept Review
Remaining actions (anticipated)	None

PROJECT ANALYSIS

Executive Summary

In order to rehabilitate and modernize the Carnegie Library as an adaptive use for retail and increased events and educational programming opportunities, modifications to the building require altering original features, primarily of the interior of the building. The project is consistent with policies in the Federal Elements in the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*. In particular, the project meets the goals and objectives of the Federal Historic Preservation Element which encourages preserving the Plan of the City of Washington, and management of historic properties. Staff is recommending the Commission note that Events DC's final plan requires balancing historic preservation, planning, and design considerations and offers the comments describe below on the project. The analysis below is organized by the proposed improvements to the building exterior and site.

Building Exterior

As discussed under the concept review, the primary façade on the south side of the building has mostly retained its historic appearance and character-defining features, while the north elevation was altered in 1980 with the addition of a new entrance and a set of paired, curving stairs, as the building was occupied by the University of the District of Columbia. In 2003, as the building was converted to use as the Museum of the City of Washington, an awning was added over the entrance. In addition, a clerestory extension was added to the roof.

Under the current proposal for review, the design of the reconfigured north elevation's non-original stair is rectangular in form, rather than a new open stair that was shown under the concept. The new stair design consists of exterior stone stairs, with centered by bronze handrails. A glass balustrade encloses the new stair towards the building. The balustrade has 1" thick glass, with a 2" bronze handrail attached. The windows on this elevation that were modified during the UDC and HSW rehabilitation projects will be replaced and retrofitted. A small glass canopy is proposed over the new north elevation paired center doors. As discussed under the concept review, the remaining exterior of the building will receive a full restoration, following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation as much as possible, which will include repair and cleaning of the exterior stone, repair and retrofit of the original wood windows, repair and retrofit of the original skylight frames, and repair of the copper roof cladding. The 2003 clerestory addition will be removed from the roof.

Site

The Commission requested that Events DC explore opportunities for additional landscaping design and pedestrian amenities in Mount Vernon Square as part of the evaluation of alternatives in the NEPA and Section 106 process. While the current configuration of Mount Vernon Square's layout of sidewalk pathways and green space will be maintained (and restored), Events DC is showing other site improvements under this submittal.

The applicant continues to indicate modifying the plaza adjacent to the south elevation decreasing the slope from 5% to 2% in the plaza area between the stairs. The current non-historic switchback ramp at the south plaza will be removed. The site plan also indicates that the ADA ramp at the north entrance basement entry will be removed, but replaced with an ADA lift on the west side of the reconfigured north stair.

Once the rehabilitation project is completed, the applicant will reseed and re-sod the existing green areas of Mt. Vernon Square with new grass, restoring Mount Vernon Square to a more inviting space. The applicant conducted a tree survey of Mount Vernon Square and proposes to replace an undersized tree in the K Street sidewalk with a large healthy tree to match the other street trees. Three trees along Mount Vernon Place will be removed and replaced in-kind. The existing irrigation systems will be retrofitted to be fed from rainwater collected from the roof. In addition, new perennial and shrub plantings are proposed around the Carnegie Library itself, as well as areas for new rainwater retention plantings immediately adjacent to the building. New hedge and vine screenings are proposed to shield the cooling tower, to be implemented in symmetrical layout.

Four new benches are proposed to replace the existing benches, in the same locations on the pathways. A seating plan indicates the applicant will increase user seating opportunities from 49 seats in the Square to 52. New trashcans are proposed to match DC-approved standards. Four "Washington Globe" light fixtures that are only thirteen feet tall are proposed to be replaced with new globe fixtures that are eighteen feet tall to match all to the other globe fixtures on the site. Two other Washington Globe fixtures are proposed to be relocated to better illuminate the south plaza and façade. A total of ten Washington Globe lamp posts will be located on Mount Vernon Square. One DDOT street lamp currently centered on the south elevation is proposed to be relocated to the west and a new DDOT street lamp is proposed to be installed to the east.

Events DC is proposing to install bike racks on the site, along the north side of the Carnegie Library. The racks will be powder-coated steel, in the "Downtown" model, in a U-shape, and will provide bike parking for 48 visitors and 32 employees.

Access

The Commission asked for the applicant to explore opportunities for better access to the Square, as part of the Environmental Assessment (EA) review and comment phase. In developing the EA, the applicant discussed with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) the possibility of creating mid-block pedestrian crossings on both K Street and Mt. Vernon Place. DDOT has indicated that mid-block crossings in these locations are not feasible due to the existing traffic flow constraints and challenges around Mt. Vernon Square. In addition, DDOT has indicated that other DDOT transportation planning initiatives, including the streetcar, preclude the feasibility of mid-block pedestrian crossings at this location.

Since the Commission's review of the concept plans, Events DC and NCPC staff released the EA as part of the NEPA process, to receive public comments on topic areas, including pedestrian access, historic resources, transportation, landscape and site improvements. DDOT submitted comments on the EA and the Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR) appendix. DDOT's comments and requested mitigation included requesting Events DC to develop a Loading

Management Plan, providing short and long term bicycle parking, install a Capital Bikeshare station on site, not providing free or discounted parking to employees or retail customers, construct ADA accessible routes from all four corners of the Square, and conduct post-development monitoring including traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle counts. DDOT also noted that there will be continued coordination through public space permitting. In respect to the Capital Bikeshare location, the applicant has been working with DDOT to identify an adjacent location near Mount Vernon Square, instead of on site, with these discussions ongoing. DDOT has also indicated that the applicant has agreed to comply with many of the mitigation measures with discussions ongoing. Therefore, **staff notes that any improvements in public space will require a public space permit and coordination with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) Office of Public Space**

Programming

Events DC is in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the District regarding future management and operations of Mount Vernon Square. They have expressed a strong interest in working with the District and the tenants of the building to improve and activate the site through appropriate programming on the Square's grounds.

Signage

As part of the concept approval, the Commission requested Event DC provide further information on proposed signage. The applicant has submitted information on signage and wayfinding for the Carnegie Library and for Mount Vernon Square, consisting of the following:

- Four paired, logo banners located at the North and South Plazas, on 33'6" tall poles, with the one banner indicating Apple and the other the Historical Society of Washington.
- Four site identification signs, stating "The Carnegie Library at Mount Vernon Square", located on the four corners of Mount Vernon Square. The site identification signs are 4' tall, 2'10" wide, of dark bronze material with cut-out lettering revealing off-white Corian panel behind.
- Fourteen accessibility entrance directional signs, throughout the Square, 2'5" tall and 8" wide, of dark bronze material with cut-out lettering.
- One tenant sign for the Historical Society of Washington, on the south entrance plaza, 5'4" tall, 1'10" wide, of dark bronze material with cut-out lettering.
- Two tenants signs for Apple, on the south façade, consisting of new marble panels to match existing marble panels with an internally illuminated white Apple logo. The new marble panels are 5'10" tall and 3' wide, with anchor point in the grout joints.
- One tenant sign for Apple, on the north elevation, consisting of an illuminated acrylic Apple logo with bronze trim applied to new glass above the entrance canopy. The Apple logo is 2'9" tall and 2'3" wide.

Recommendation Summary

The preliminary and final site and building plans respond to the Commission's comments provided in June 2017. Staff is recommending that the Commission **approve the preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation and modernization of the Carnegie Library.**

Though some historic fabric will be altered with the rehabilitation of the building, overall, the changes and adverse effects are minimal, in respect to the overall restoration and preservation components of the project. The preliminary and final site plans balance the need of creating additional educational and retail uses for the Carnegie Library, while maintaining a significant historic resource; and therefore, staff is also recommending the Commission **commend Events DC for developing a project that balances historic preservation, planning, and design considerations while respecting the historic significance of the Carnegie Library.**

Based on Events DC's response to the Commission's previous comments regarding the additional landscape design and pedestrian amenities and access, exterior lighting, and signage, staff is recommending that the Commission **note that Events DC addressed the Commission's previous comments and that any changes to the final plans are required to be submitted to the Commission for review in accordance with the National Capital Planning Act and NCPC's Submission Guidelines.** Finally, staff is recommending that Commission **note that any improvements in public space will require a public space permit and coordination with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) Office of Public Space.**

CONFORMANCE TO EXISTING PLANS, POLICIES AND RELATED GUIDANCE

Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital

The rehabilitation and modernization of the Carnegie Library is consistent with policies in the Federal Elements of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*. In particular, the project meets the goals and objectives of the Federal Historic Preservation Element which encourages preserving the Plan of the City of Washington, and management of historic properties.

National Historic Preservation Act

NCPC is the lead federal agency responsible for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. NCPC initiated consultation with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) on April 21, 2017. In consultation with the DC SHPO and other consulting parties, NCPC identified an area of potential effects (APE) and the historic properties located in the APE.

NCPC hosted a Section 106 consulting parties meeting on May 17, 2017. The participants were mostly supportive of the proposed concept design for the rehabilitation of the Carnegie Library, with discussion including the initial assessment of effects on some of the proposed alterations, including the changes to the north elevation, and the insertion of a new interior atrium. A second consulting parties meeting was held on August 24, 2017, to update the participants on changes to the project and discuss potential mitigation measures for the adverse effects. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to complete the Section 106 consultation process is currently being routed for signatures.

National Environmental Policy Act

NCPC is the lead agency responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. NCPC is preparing an Environmental Assessment to analyze a range of alternatives including several action and a no action alternative. On April 25, 2017, NCPC announced the start of the public scoping period for the preparation of an Environmental Assessment. On May 9, 2017, NCPC hosted a scoping meeting to present the alternatives under consideration and solicit comments from interested members of the public and other agencies. Topic areas that will be evaluated in the EA include pedestrian access, transportation, historic resources, landscape and site improvements, hazardous materials, land use, public space, utilities, and energy. The public scoping period will end on May 23, 2017. NCPC released the EA for public comment in on July 6, 2017 for a thirty day public review period. The only comments on the EA were submitted by DDOT, as discussed previously. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to complete the NPEA process will be signed following NCPC's action.

CONSULTATION

Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the preliminary and final site and building plans at its August 16, 2017 and September 13, 2017 meetings. The Committee forwarded the proposal to the Commission with the statement that it has been coordinated with all participating agencies except the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), pending the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to conclude the Section 106 process. The participating agencies were: NCPC; the District of Columbia Office of Planning; the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, the General Services Administration; the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office; the National Park Service and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

U.S. Commission of Fine Arts

The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) reviewed the project and approved the concept design at the May 18, 2017 meeting, with the recommendation that Events DC work with the National Park Service, and their tenant, Apple, to explore opportunities to provide improved landscaping design to Mount Vernon Square, to compliment the rehabilitation of the Carnegie Library. CFA also reviewed and approved revised concept designs at their July 20, 2017 and September 20, 2017 meetings, which included signage, site plan improvements, and revised north stairs designs. A final approval submittal to CFA is anticipated for their October 2017 meeting.

ONLINE REFERENCE

The following supporting documents for this project are available online:

- Submission Package
- NEPA/106 Documents or Letters

Prepared by Lee Webb
08/21/2017

POWERPOINT (ATTACHED)

NCPC File #: 7532
Carnegie Library
801 K Street, NW
Washington, DC

Events DC of the District of Columbia

Preliminary and Final

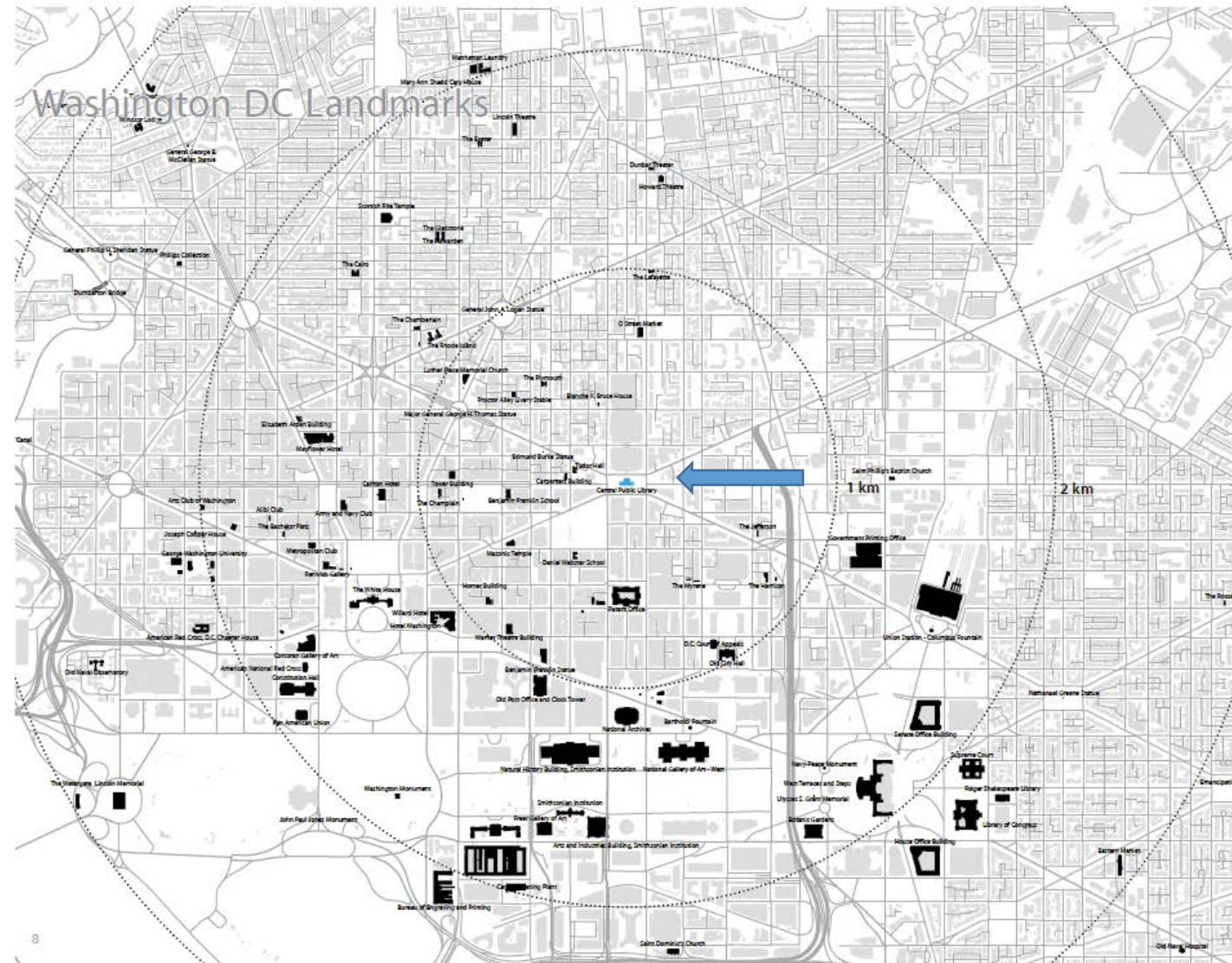
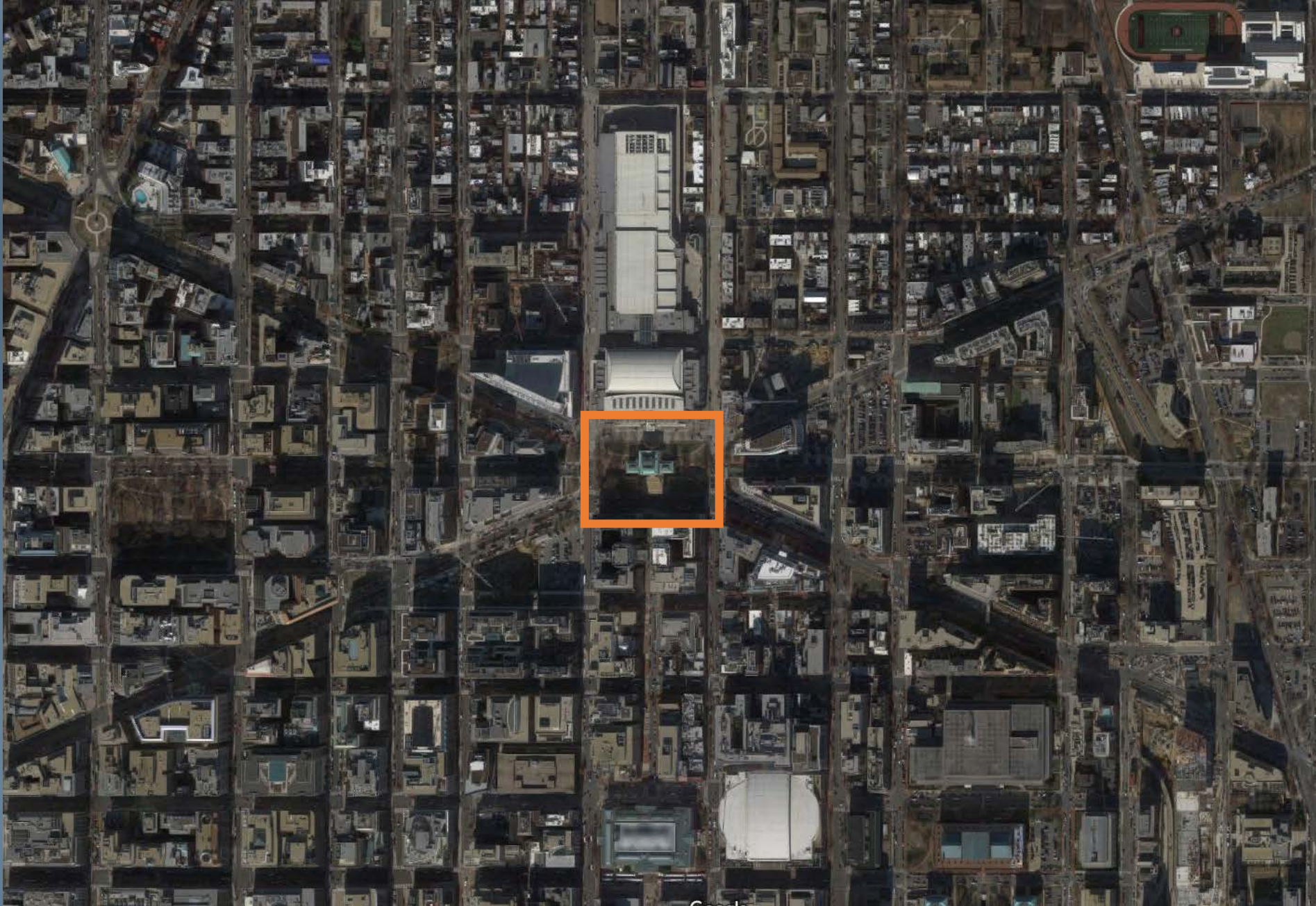
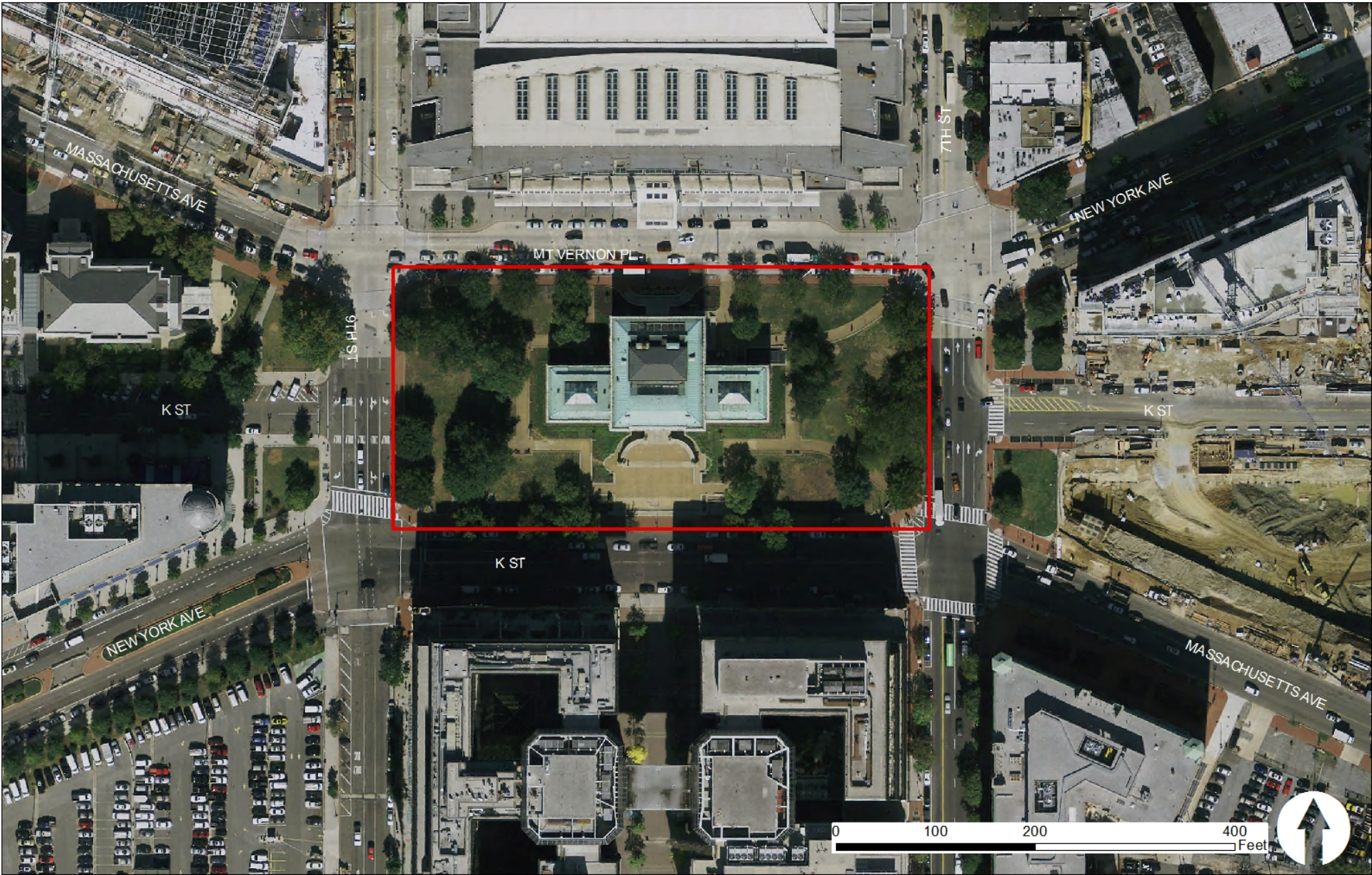


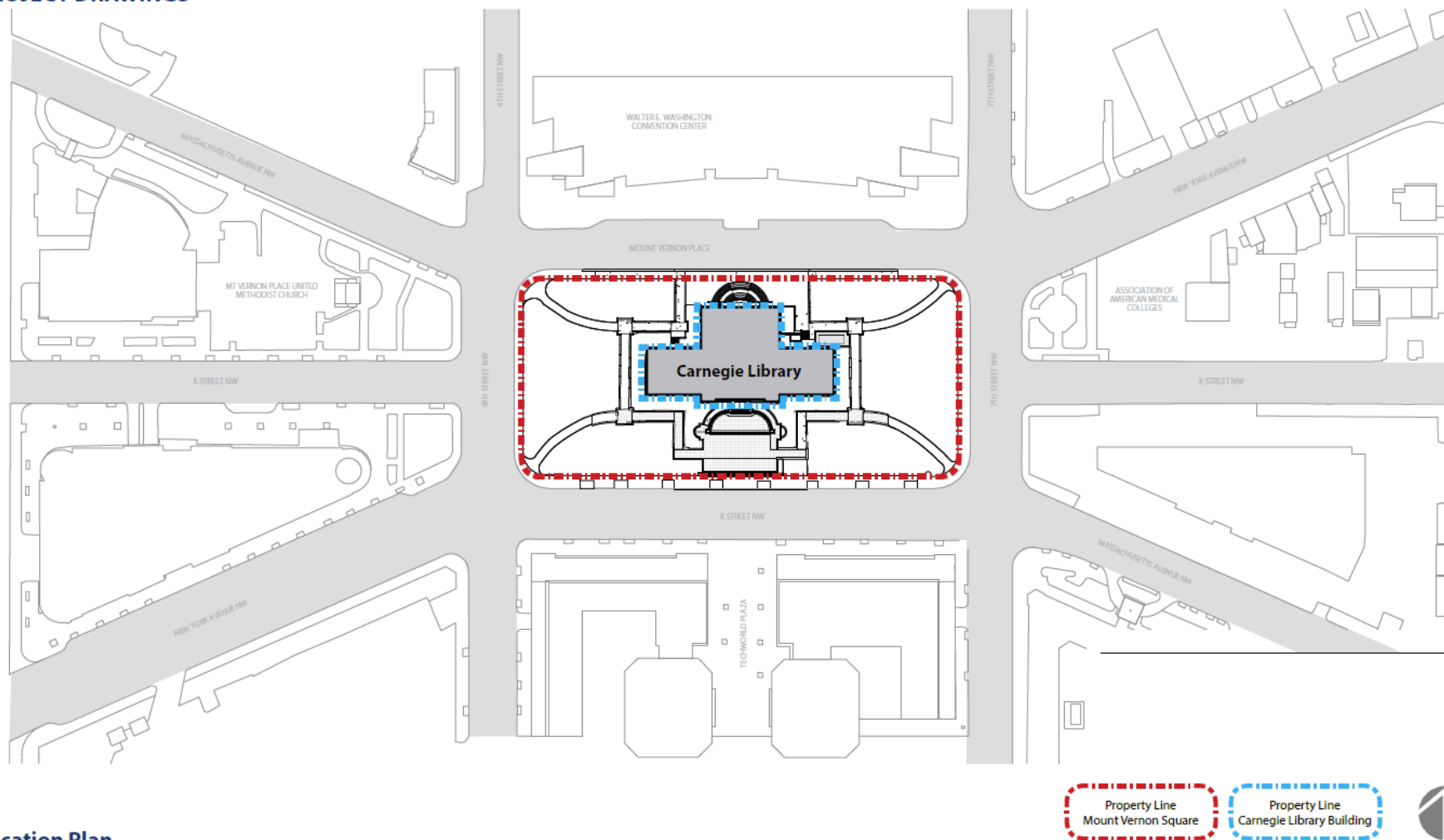
Figure 1: Vinity Map (not to scale)







PROJECT DRAWINGS



Location Plan





Existing Conditions Photographs



Figure 5: South elevation, facing northwest.



Figure 6: South elevation, facing north



Figure 7: South and east elevations, facing northwest



Figure 8: East elevation, facing northwest



Figure 9: North elevation, facing southwest

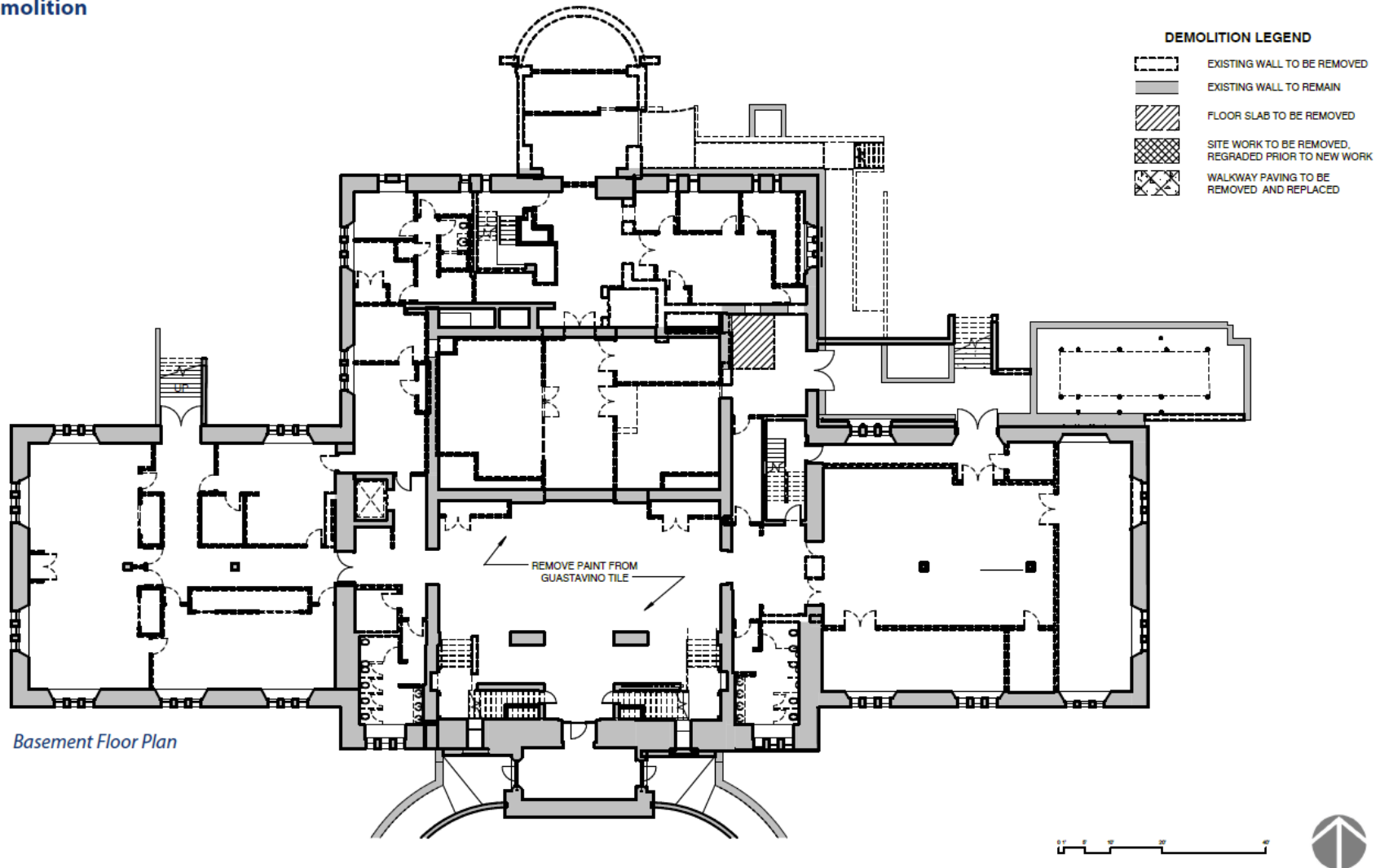


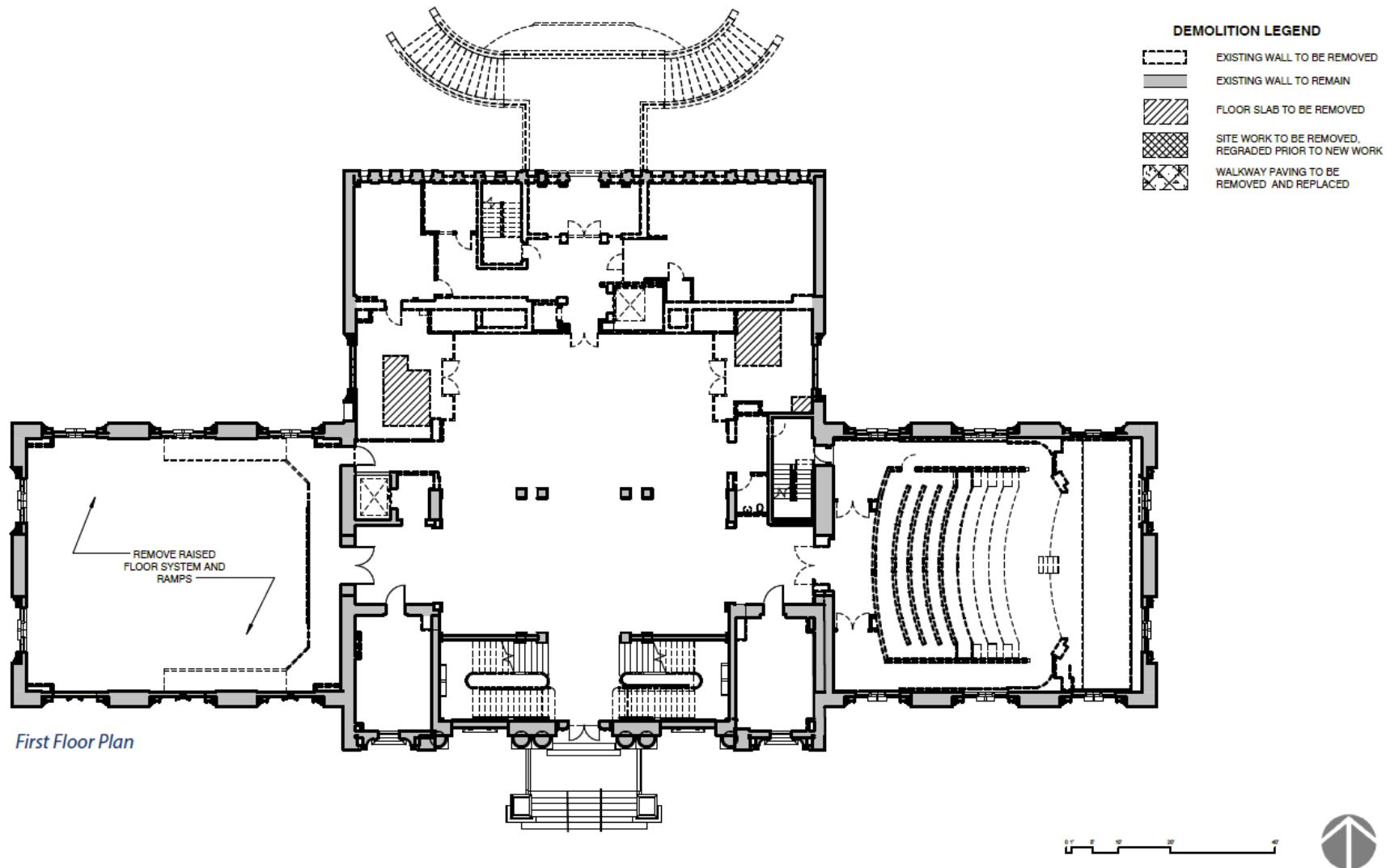
Figure 10: North elevation (including non-original stair and awning), facing southeast

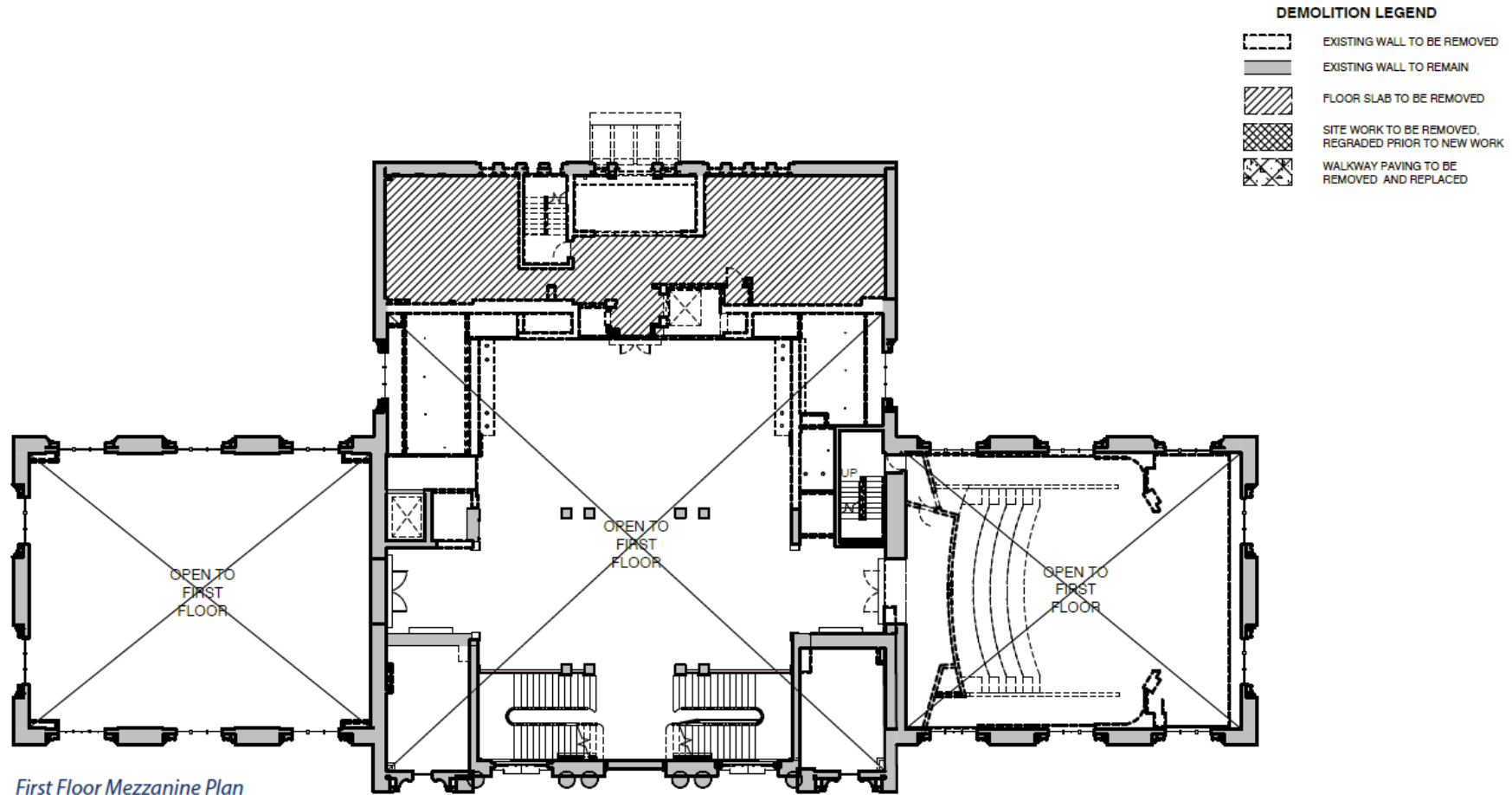


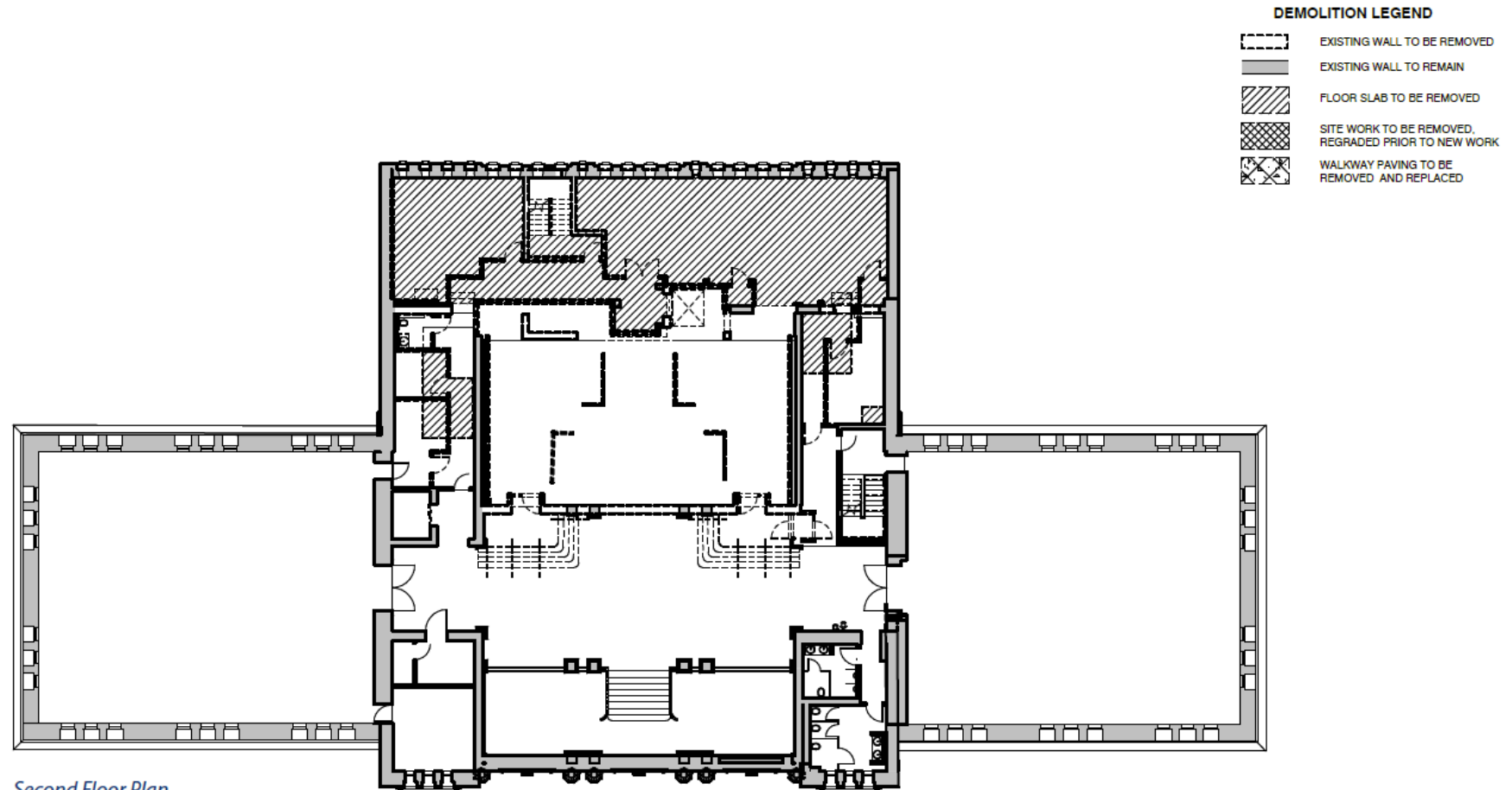
Exterior Conditions Details

Floor Plans - Demolition

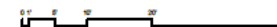




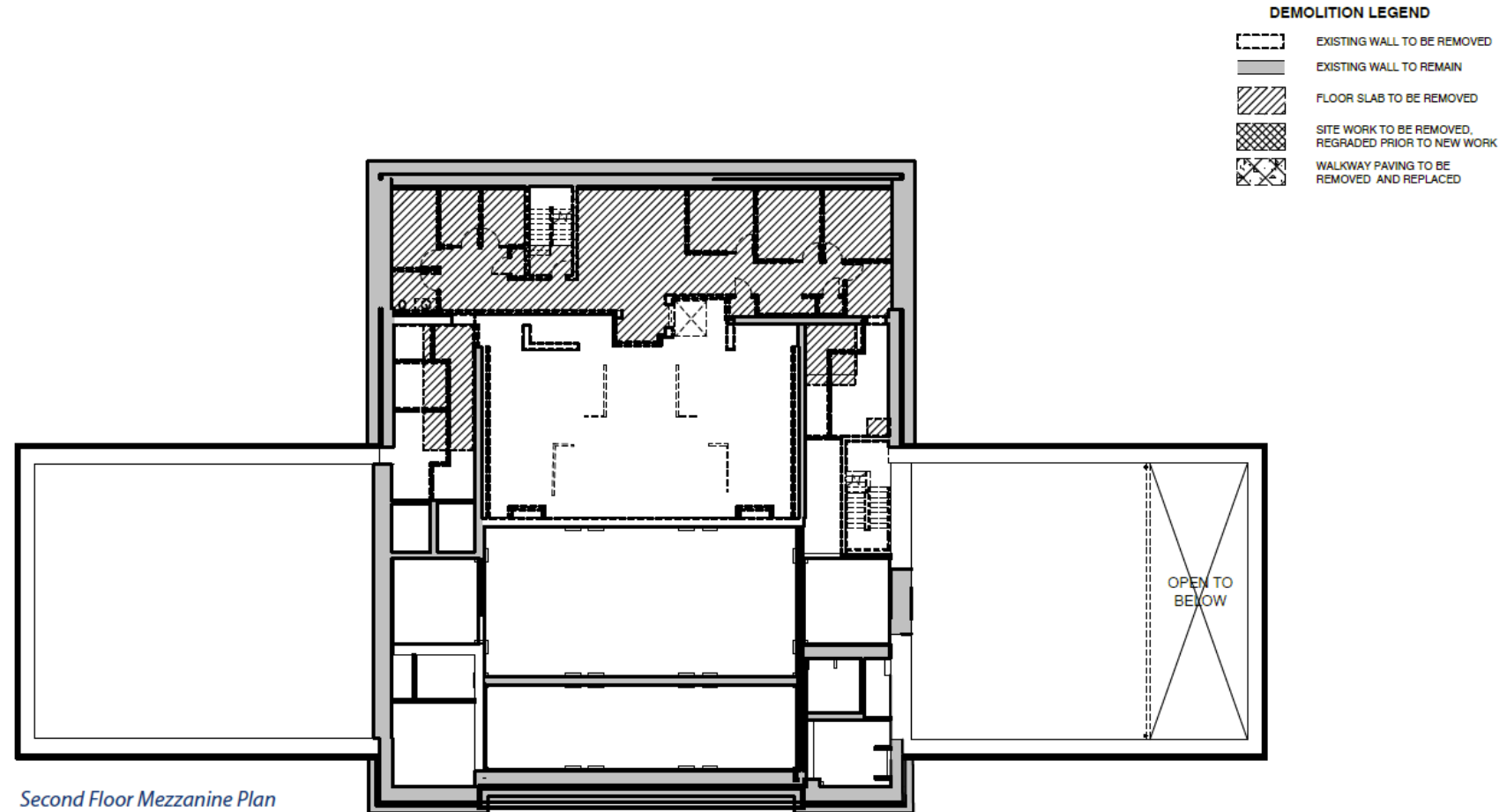


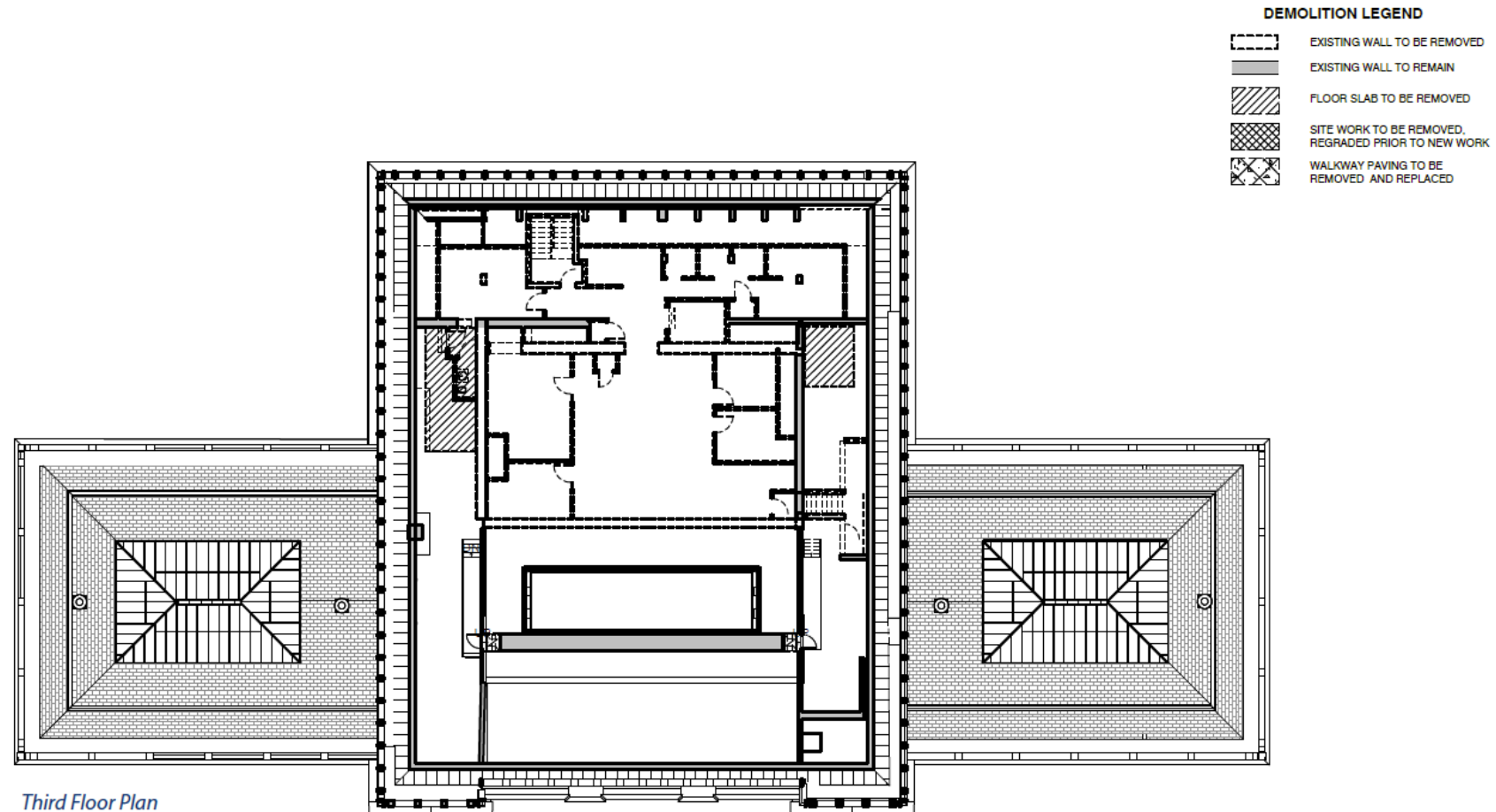


Second Floor Plan

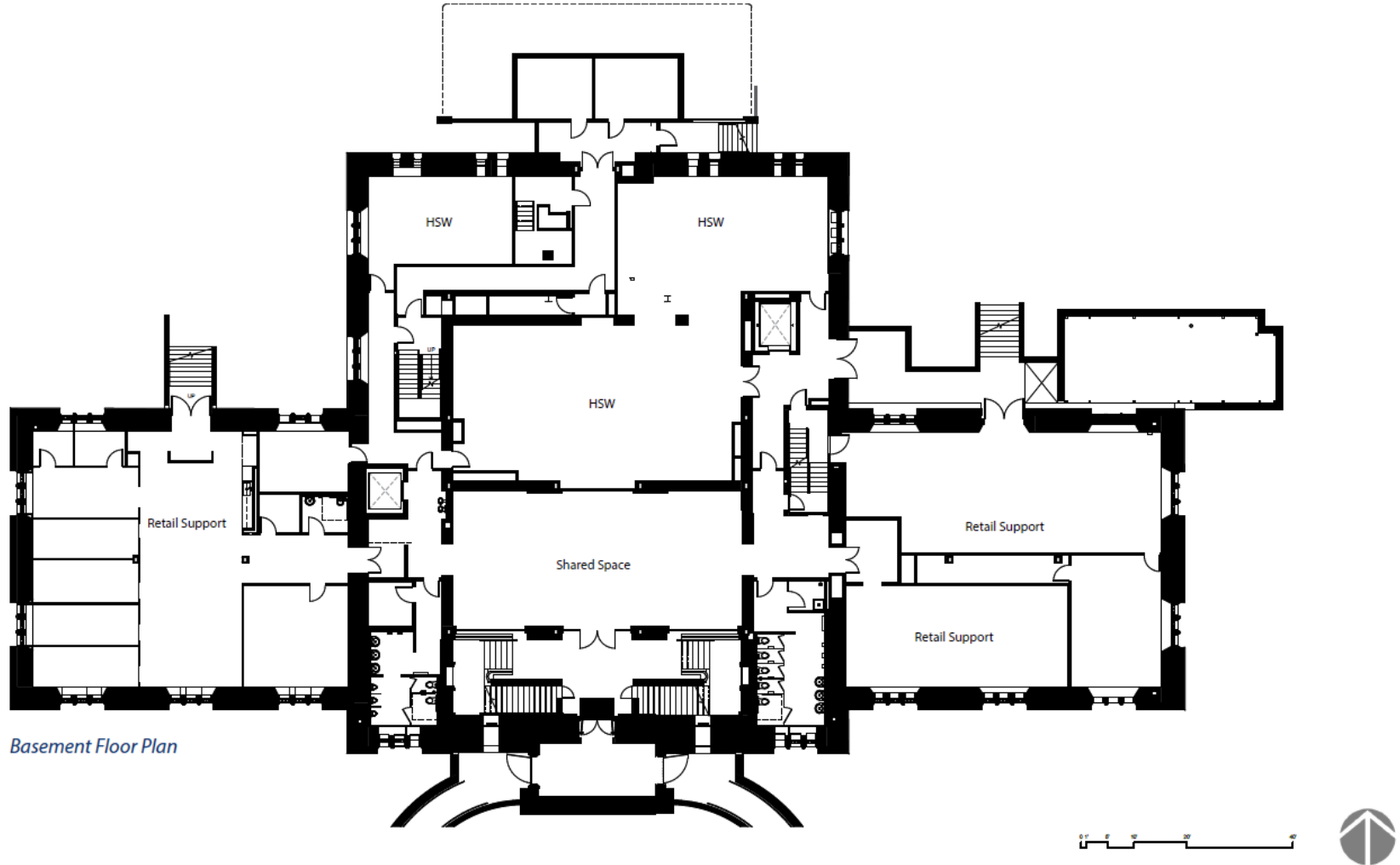


Second Floor Mezzanine Plan and Demolition

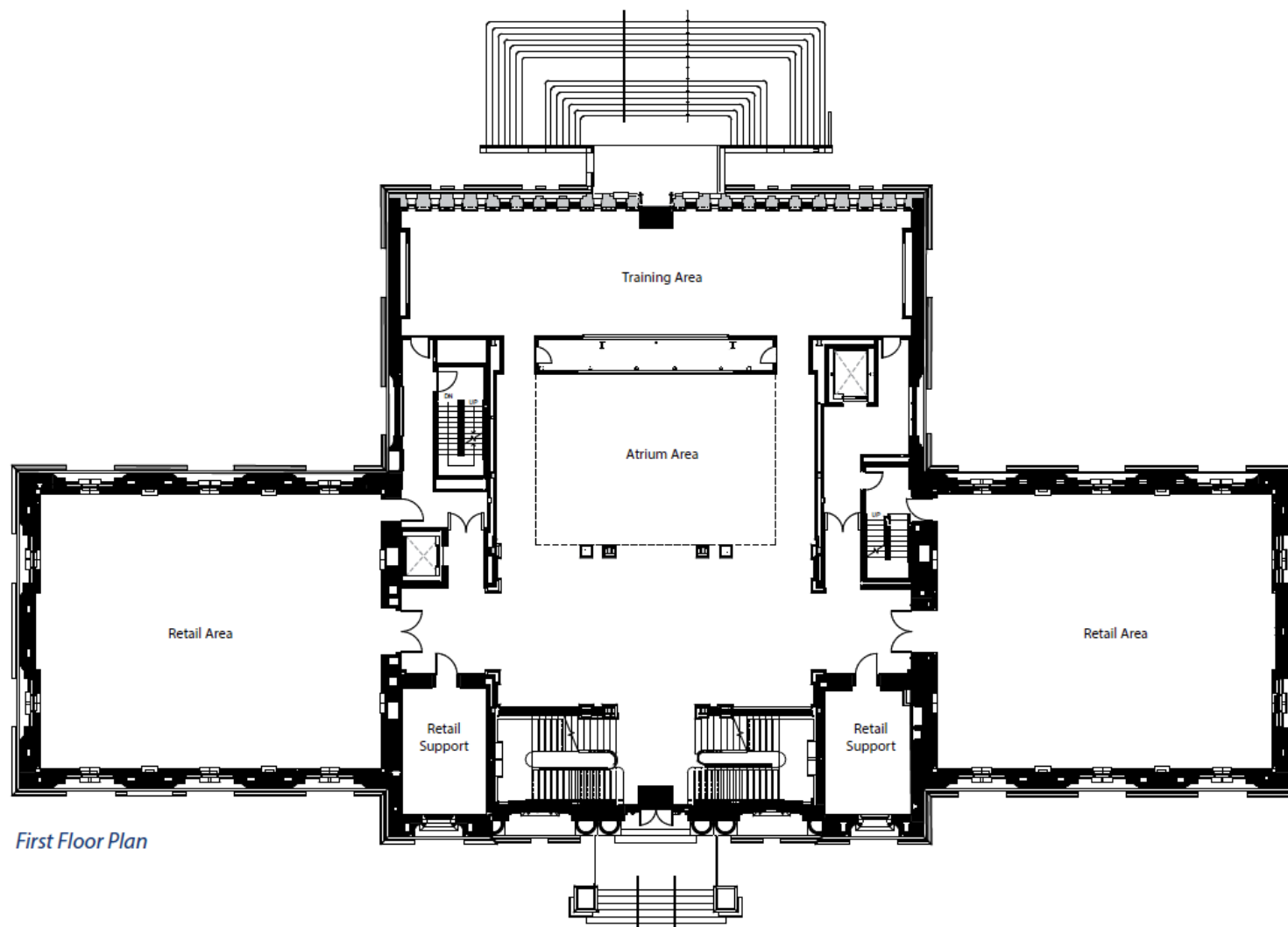




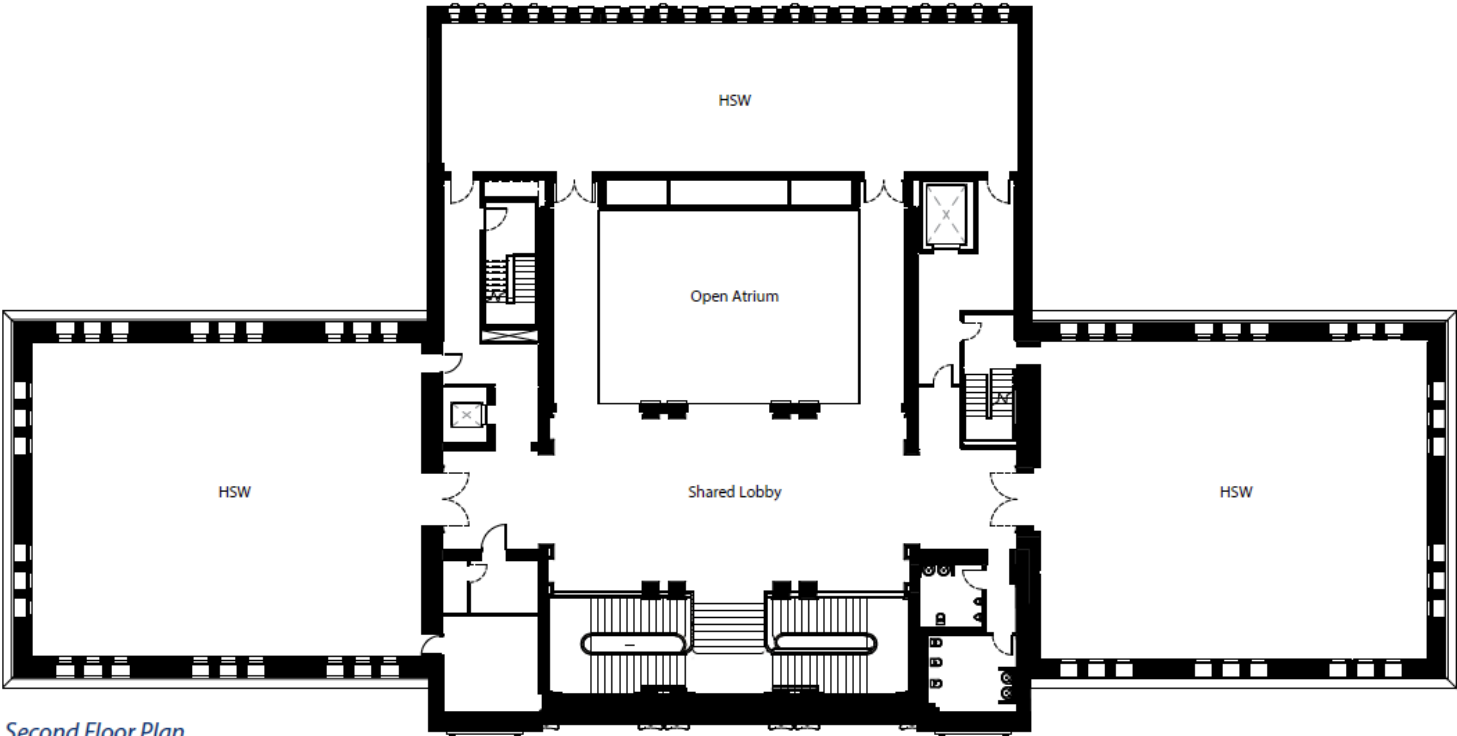
Floor Plans - Proposed



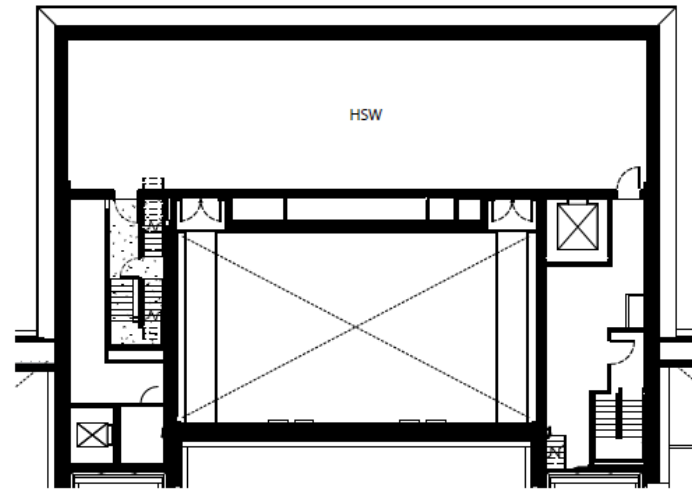
Basement Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



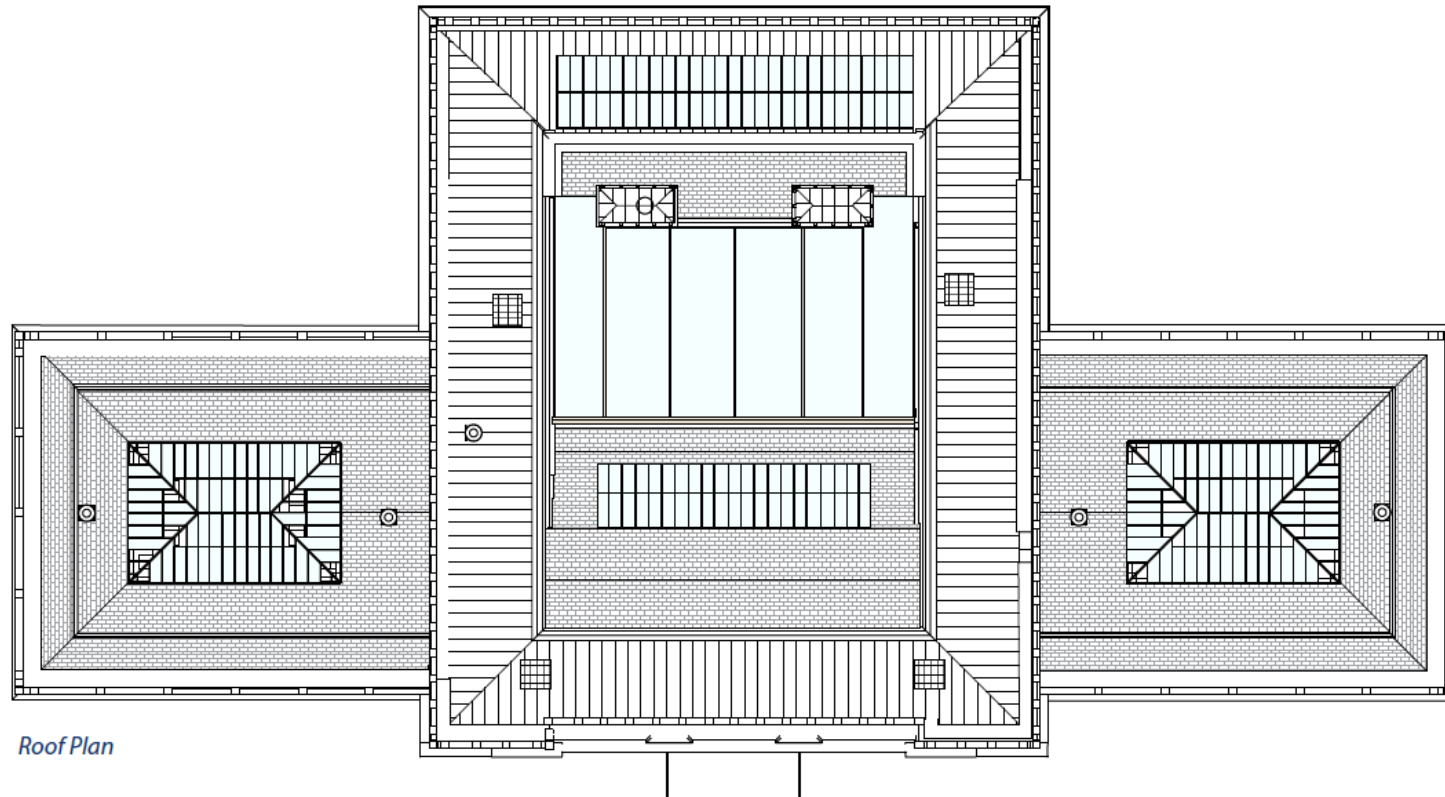
Second Floor Plan



Third Floor Plan

0' 5' 10' 20' 40'

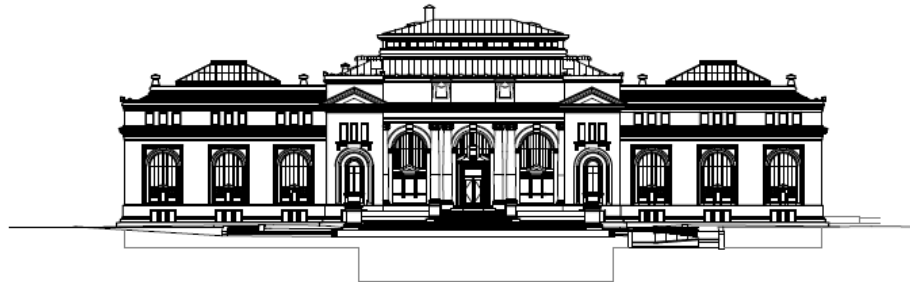




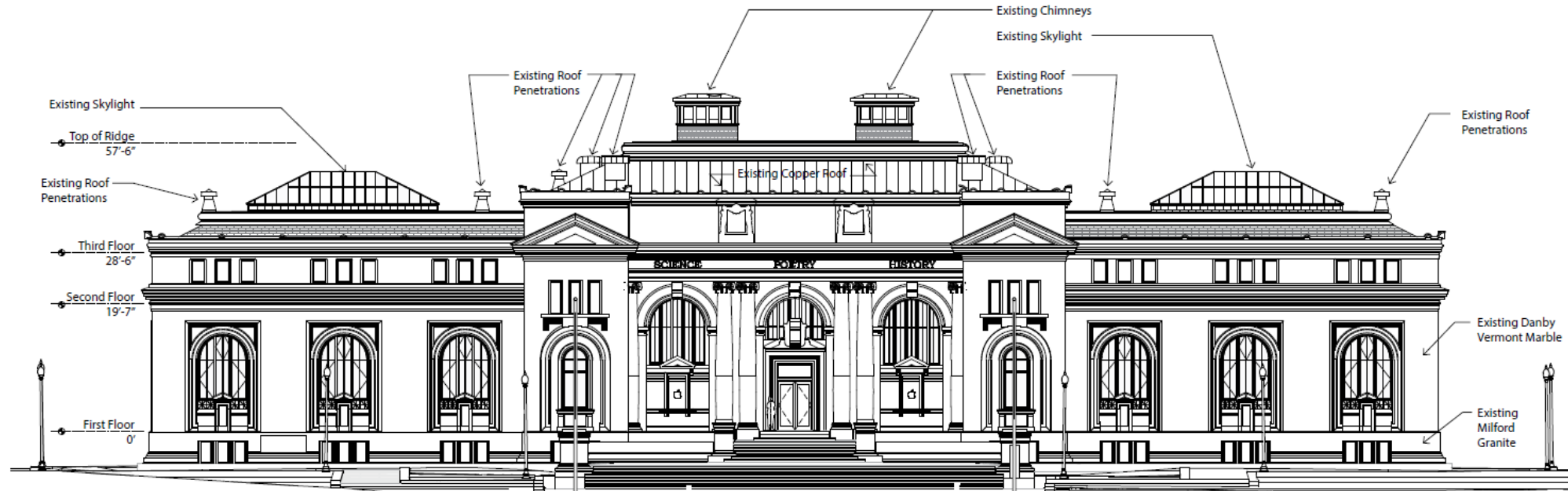
Roof Plan



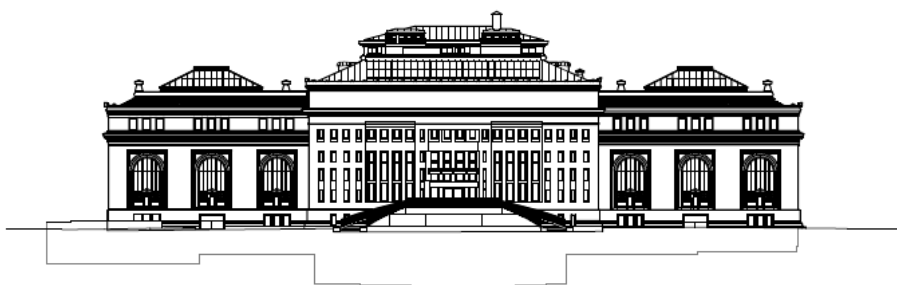
Elevations - Existing & Proposed



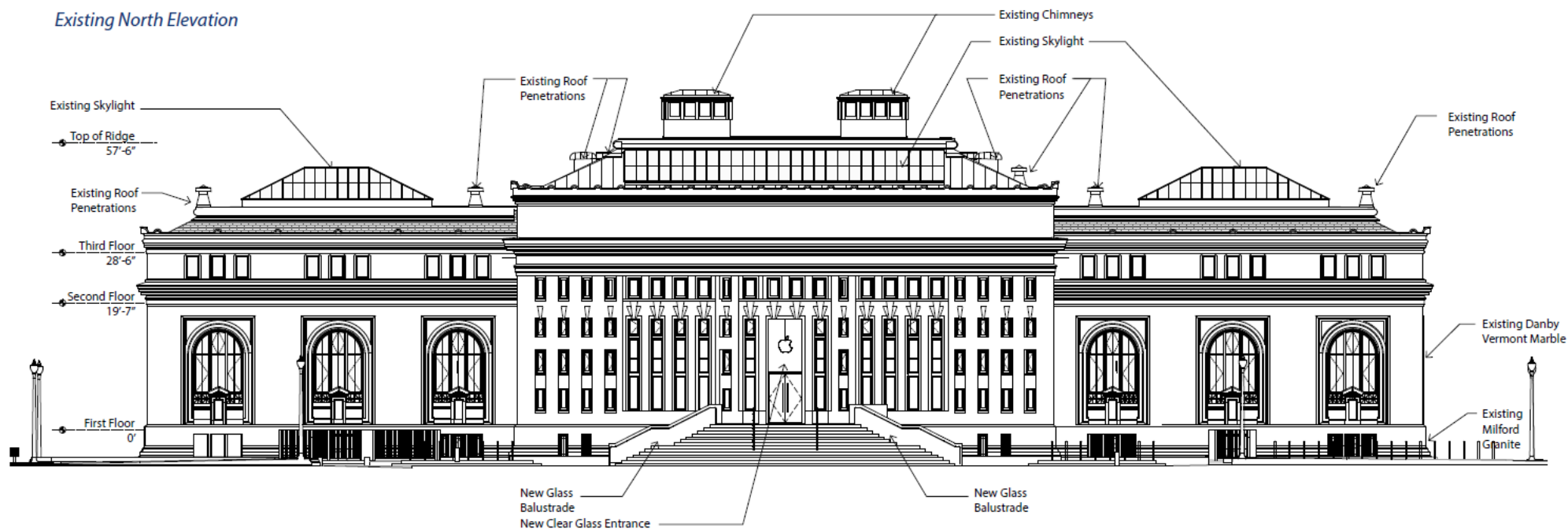
Existing South Elevation



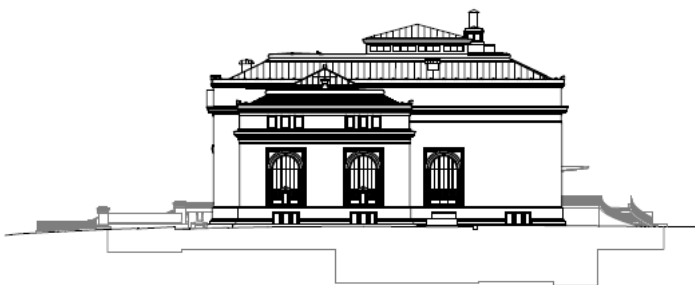
Proposed South Elevation



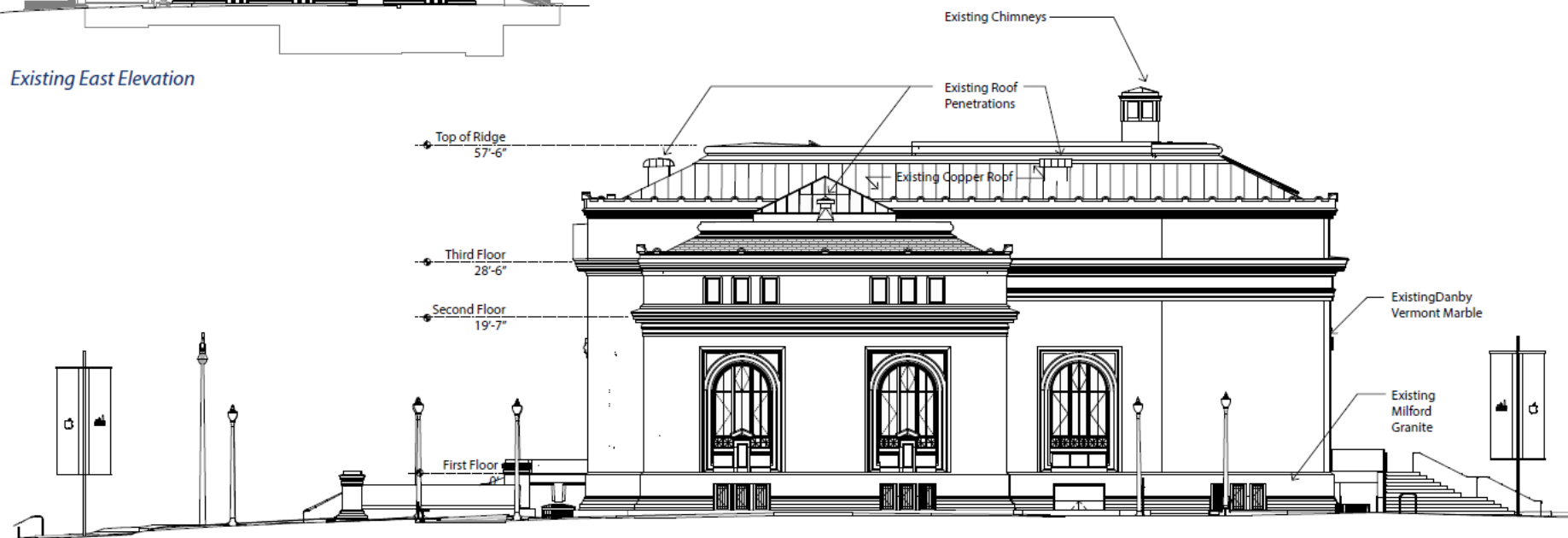
Existing North Elevation



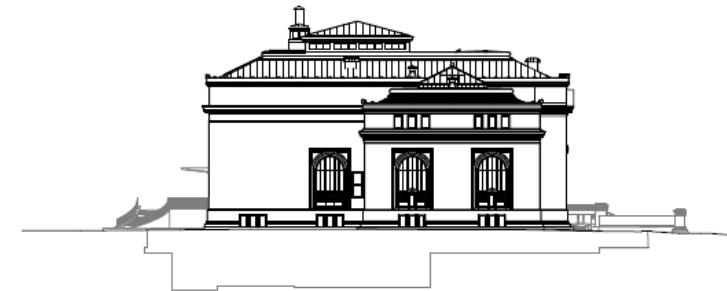
Proposed North Elevation



Existing East Elevation



Proposed East Elevation



Existing West Elevation



Proposed West Elevation

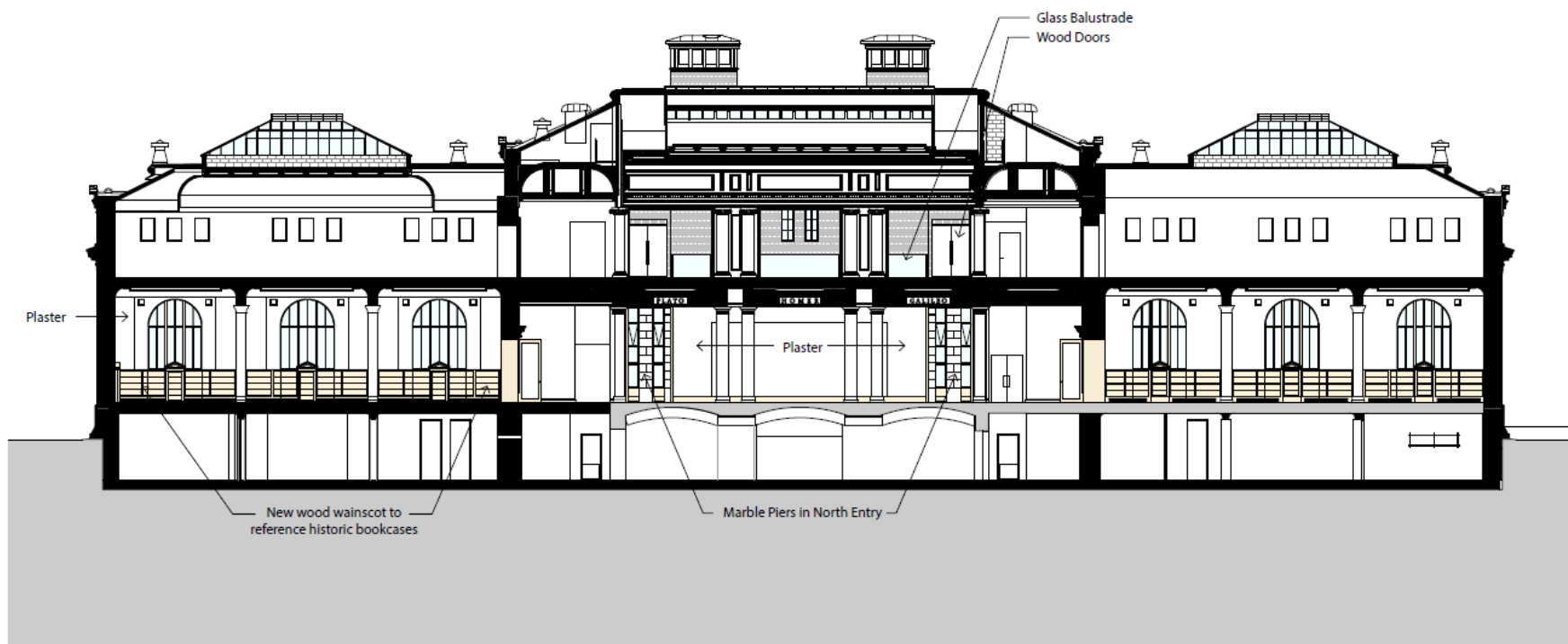
Sections - Proposed



Proposed Transverse Section (Facing West)

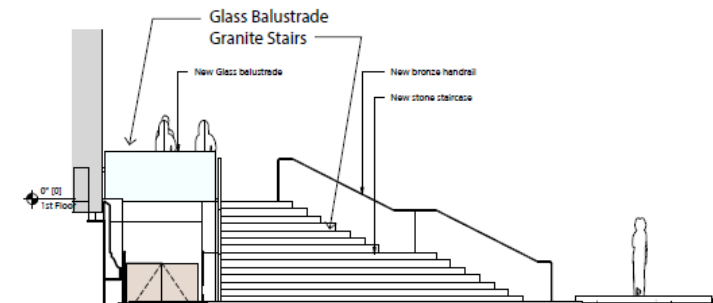
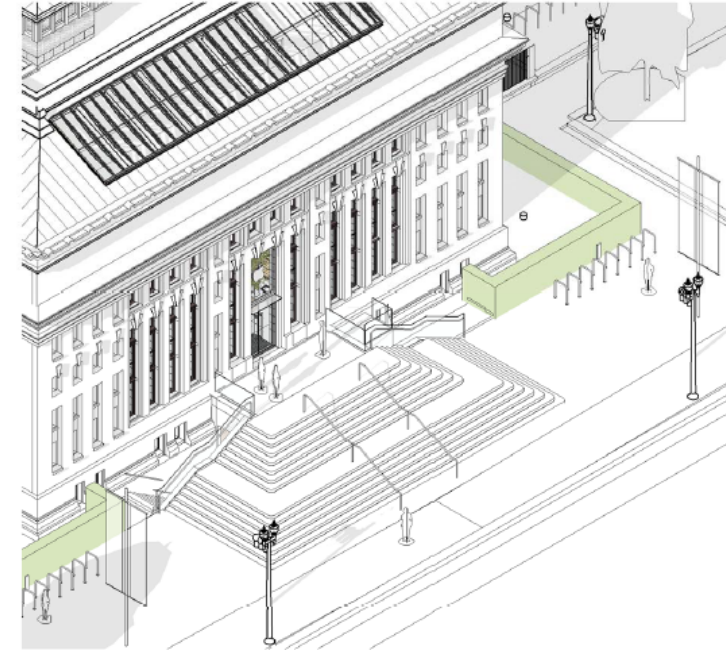
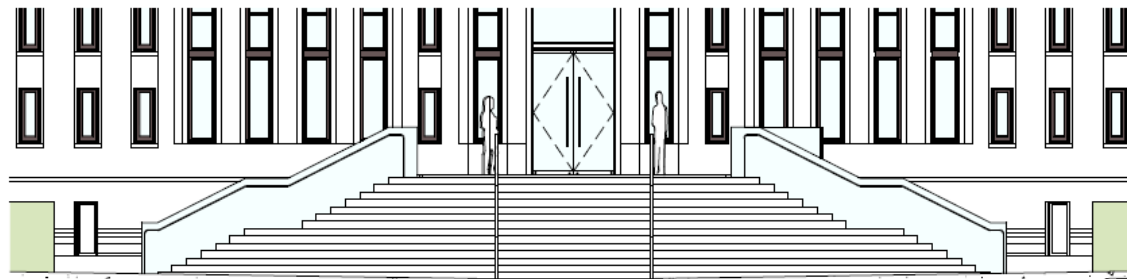
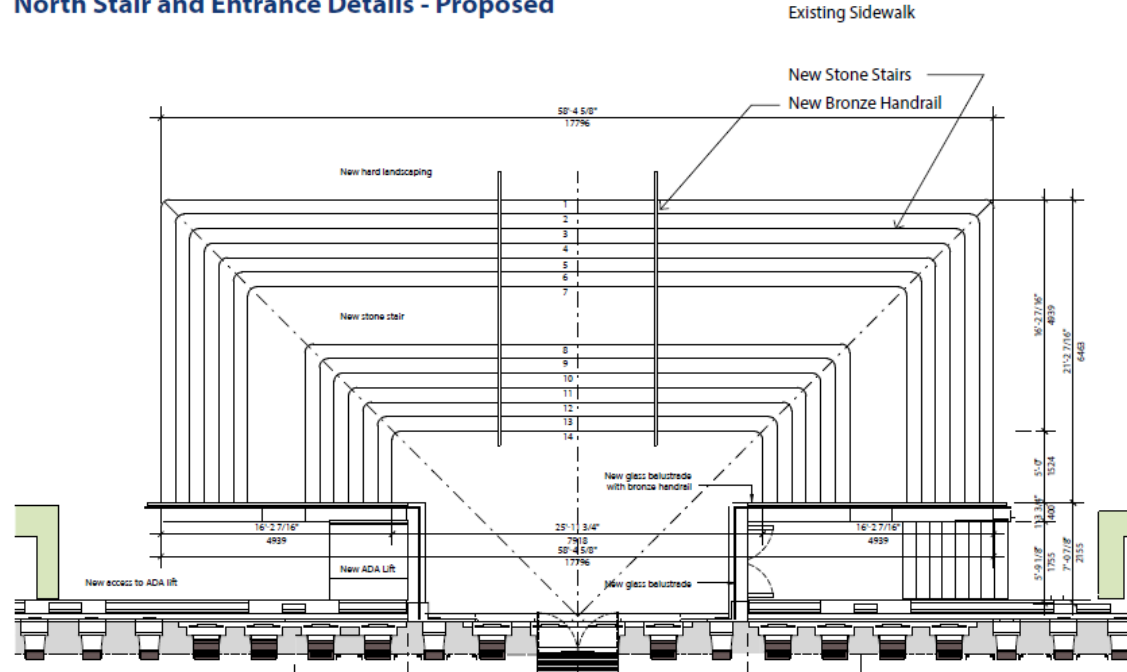
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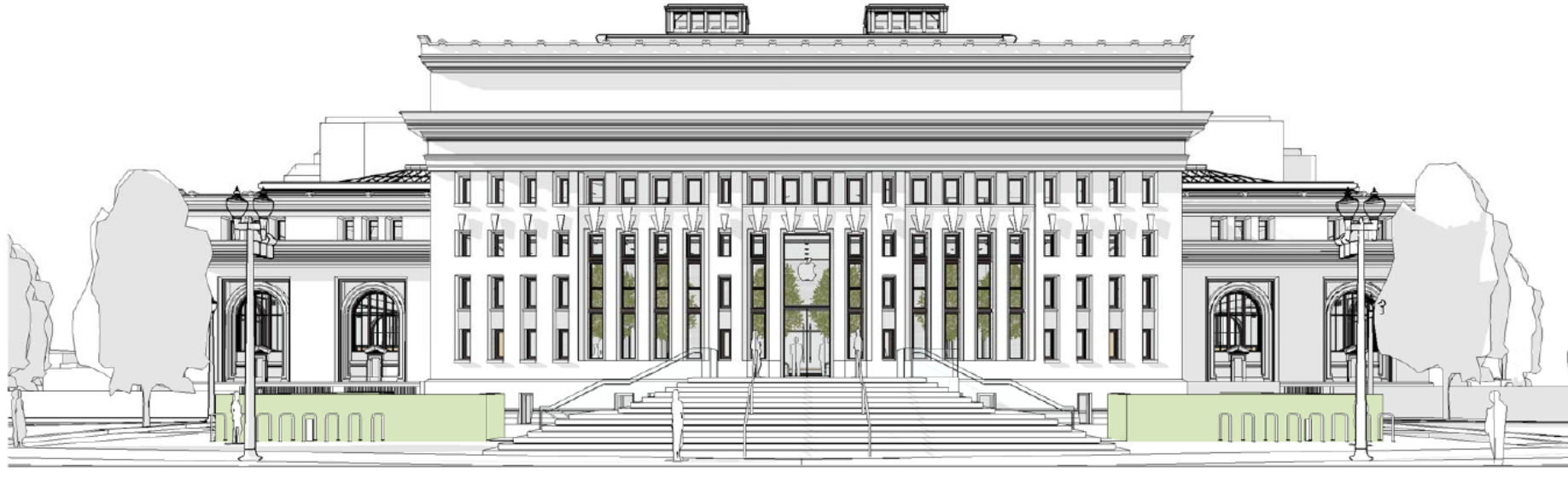
Longitudinal Section Facing North Proposed Section



Proposed Longitudinal Section (Facing North)

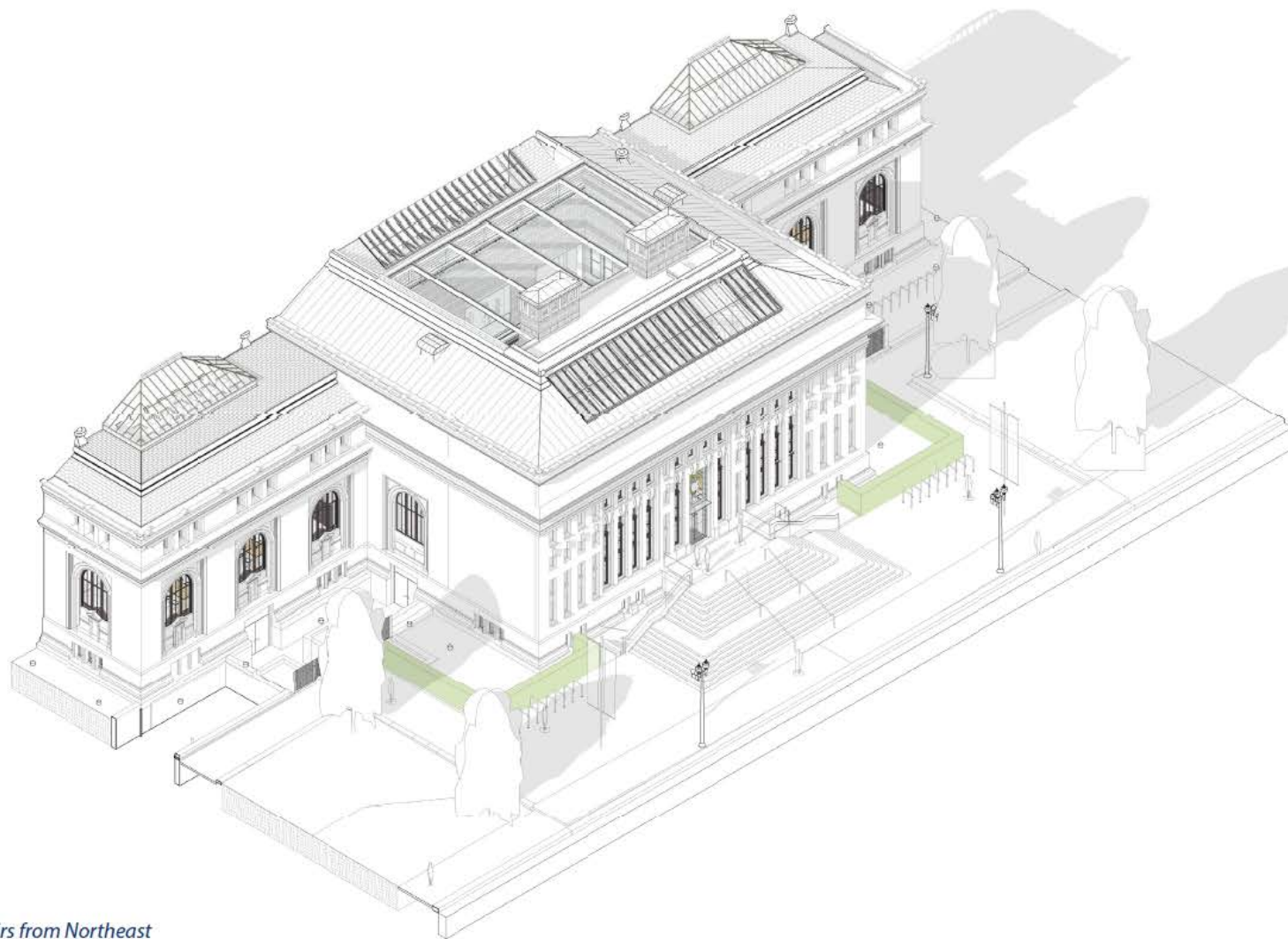
North Stair and Entrance Details - Proposed





Perspective View - Facing South

Proposed North Stair Isometric View from Northeast

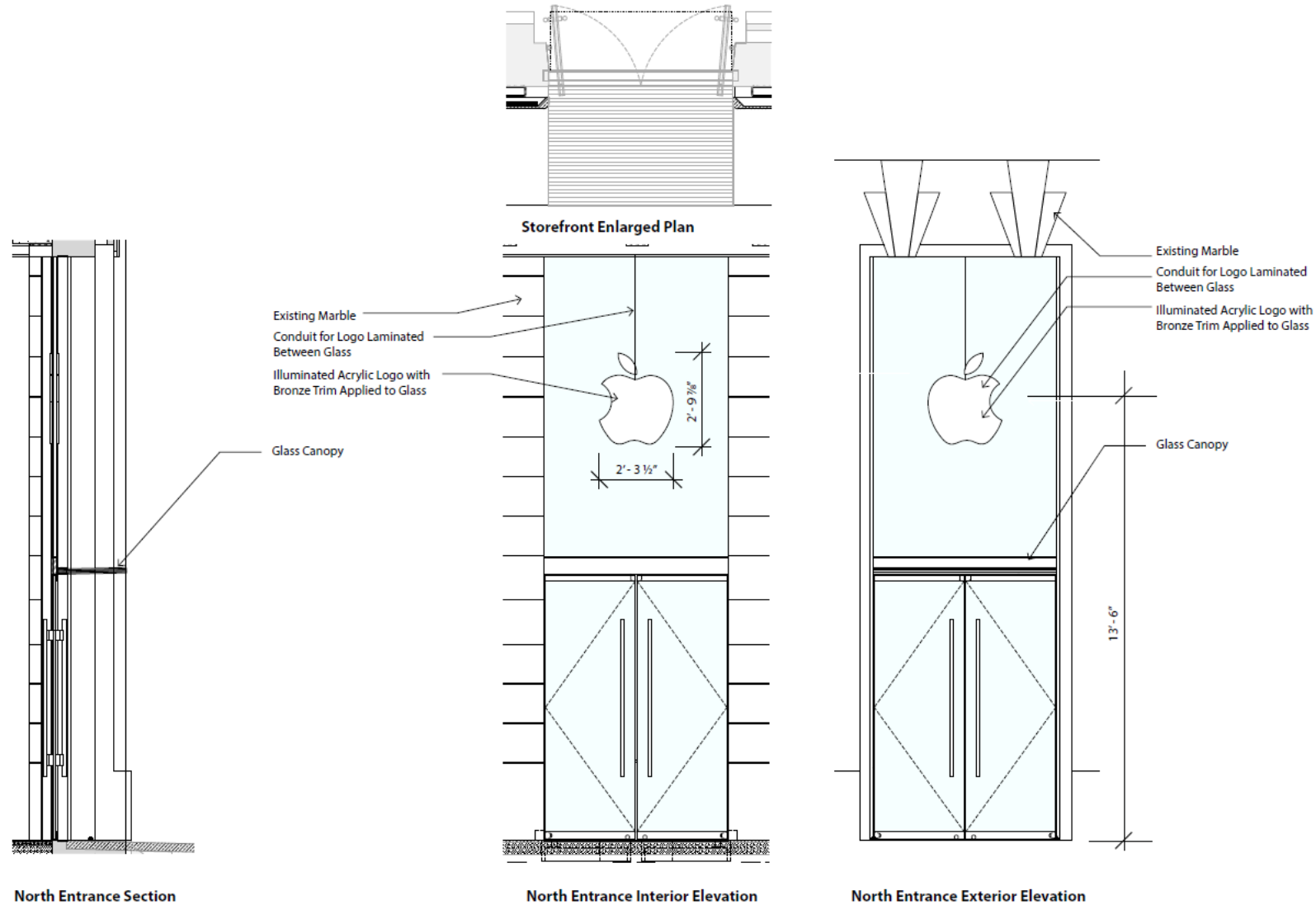


Isometric View of Stairs from Northeast

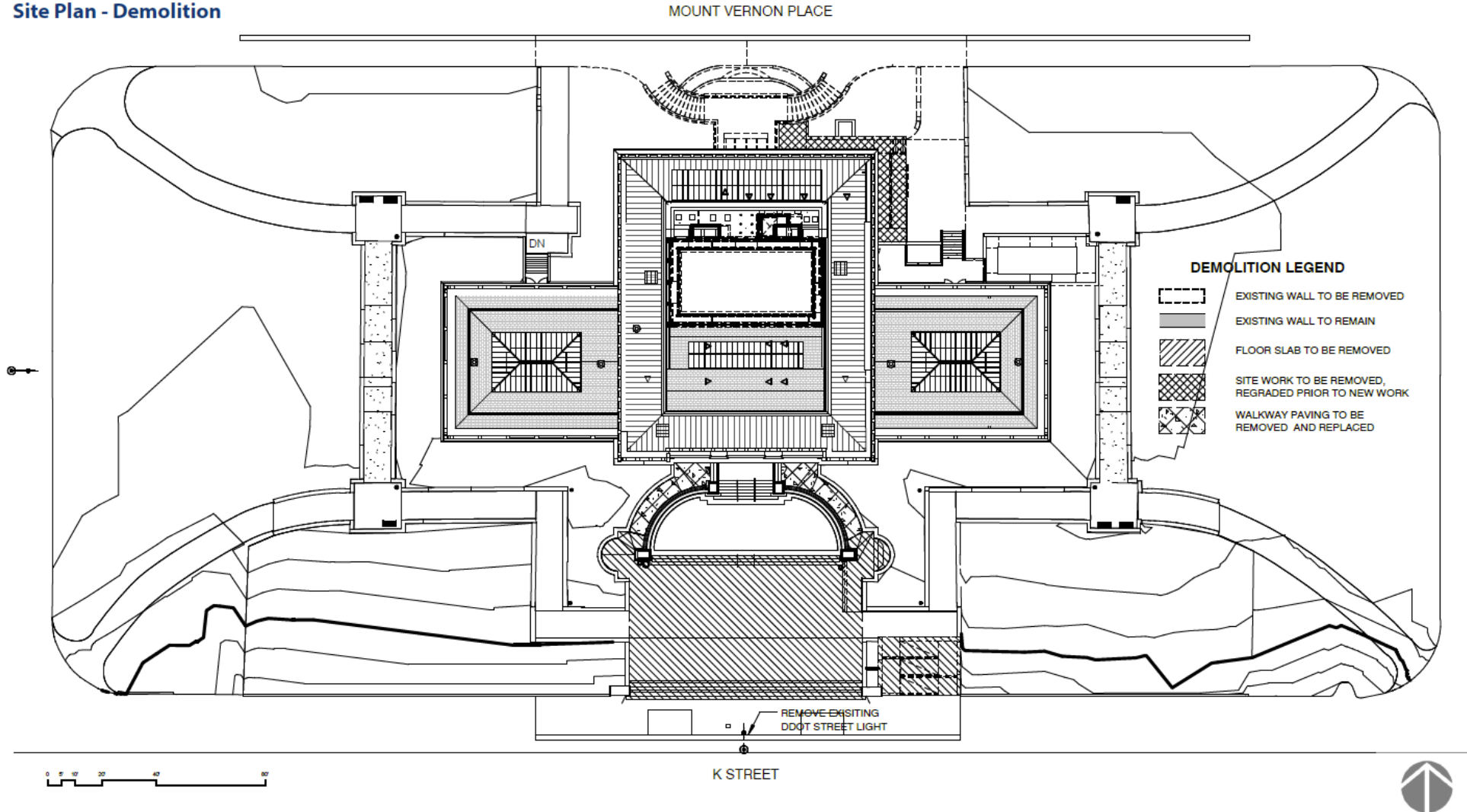
Perspective View Facing West of Proposed North Stair



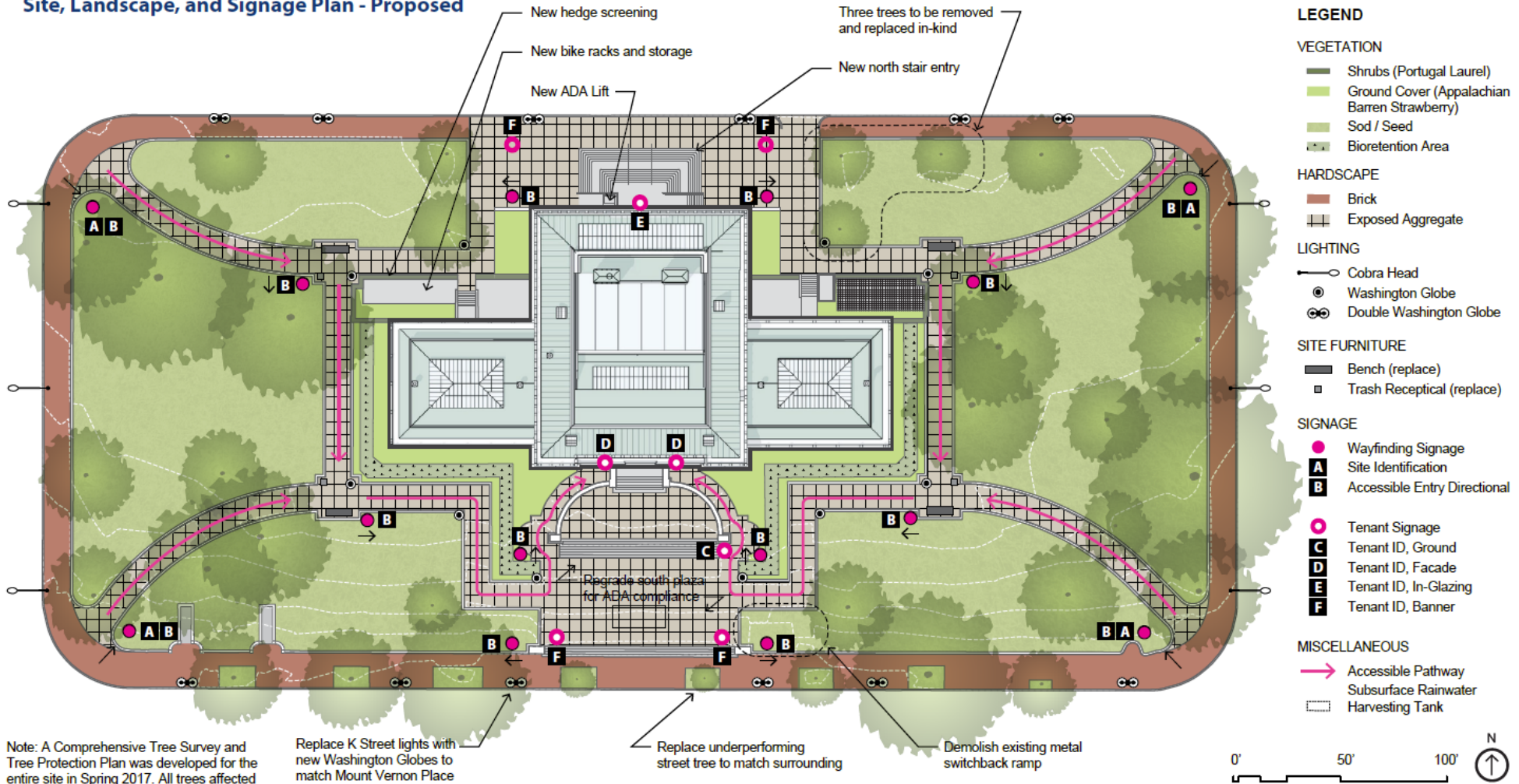
Perspective View - Facing West



Site Plan - Demolition



Site, Landscape, and Signage Plan - Proposed



Site Furniture and Planting - Proposed



72-inch "Gretchen" Bench with Arms

Manufacturer: Landscape Forms

Materials: Powder-coated cast aluminum legs and arms; wood slat seat and back (*Specified bench will have center armrest*)

Number Proposed: 4



ES-142 Trash Can

Manufacturer: Victor Stanley

Materials: Powder-coated steel (black)

Number Proposed: 4



Hedge Screening Shrubs

Species: Portugal Laurel, *Prunus lusitanica*

Location: Screening employee bike storage and cooling tower along north areaways of east and west wings



"Downtown" Bike Rack

Manufacturer: Dero

Materials: Powder-coated steel

Number Proposed: Bicycle parking for 48 visitors and 32 employees



"Washington Globe" Lamp Post

Manufacturer: Spring City

Materials: Cast Aluminum

Number Proposed: 10



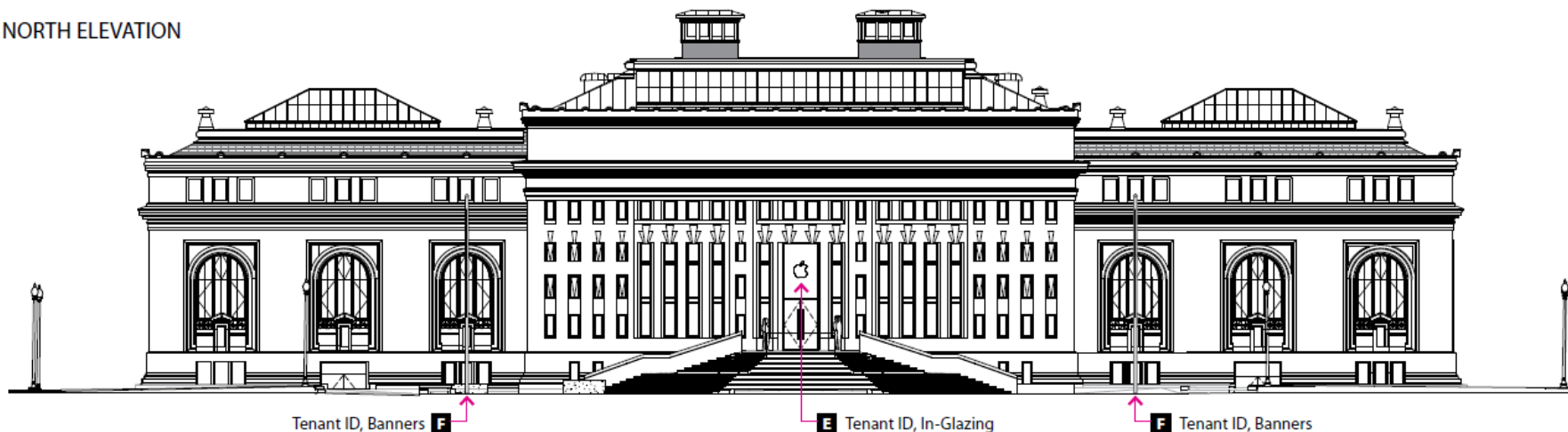
Perennial Groundcover

Species: Appalachian Barren Strawberry, *Waldsteinia fragarioides*

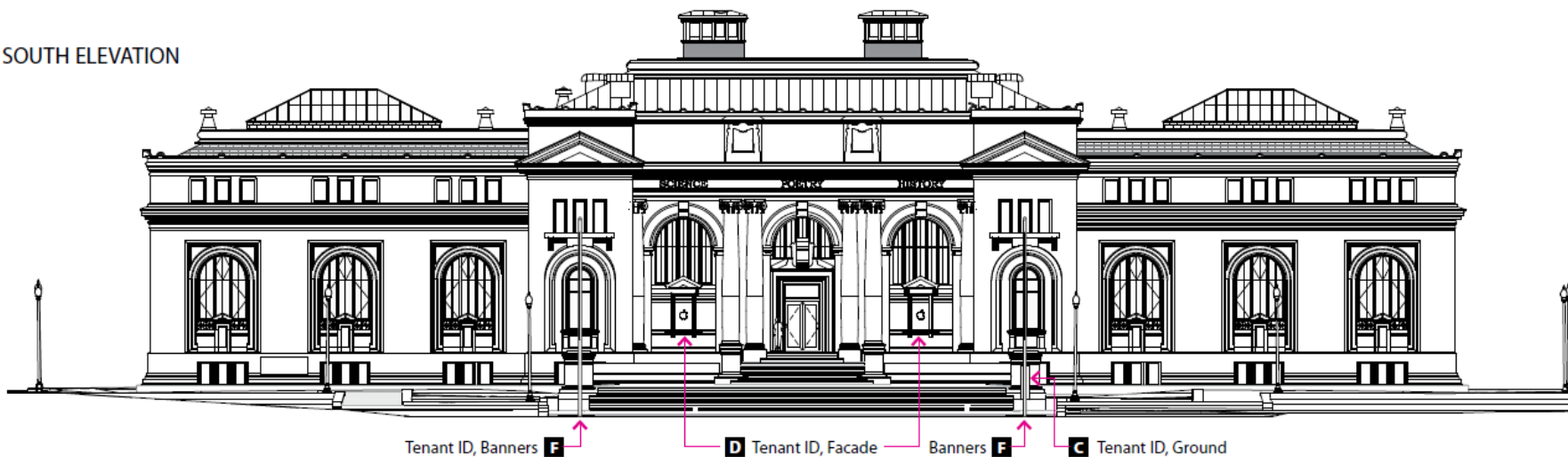
Location: Planting beds around perimeter of foundation



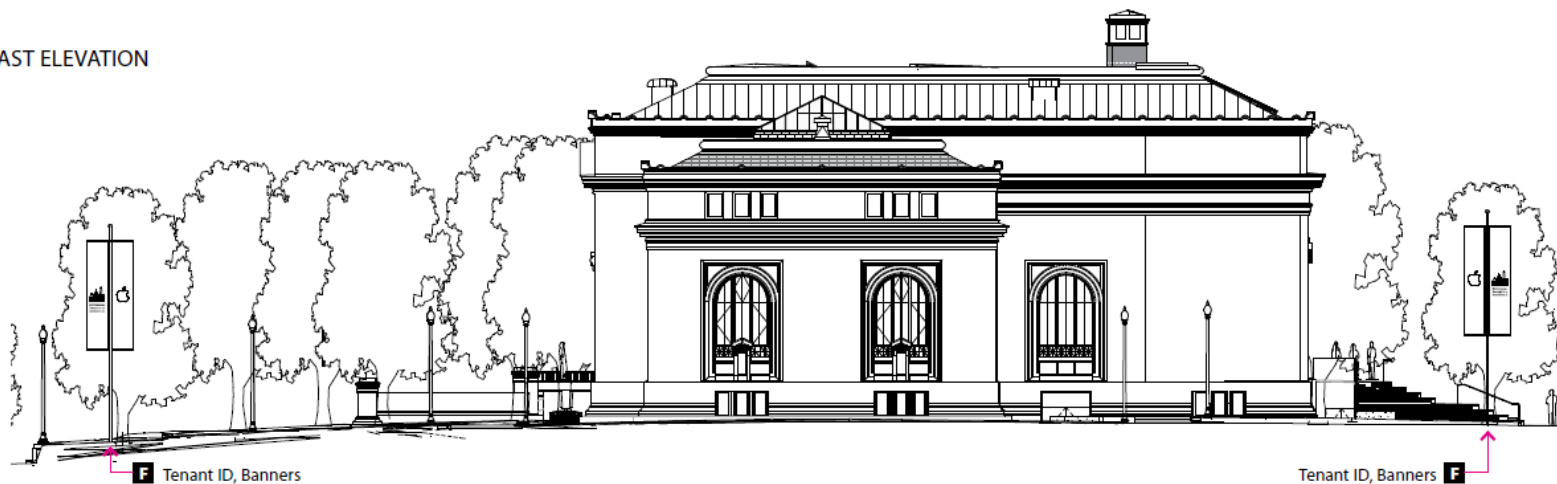
NORTH ELEVATION



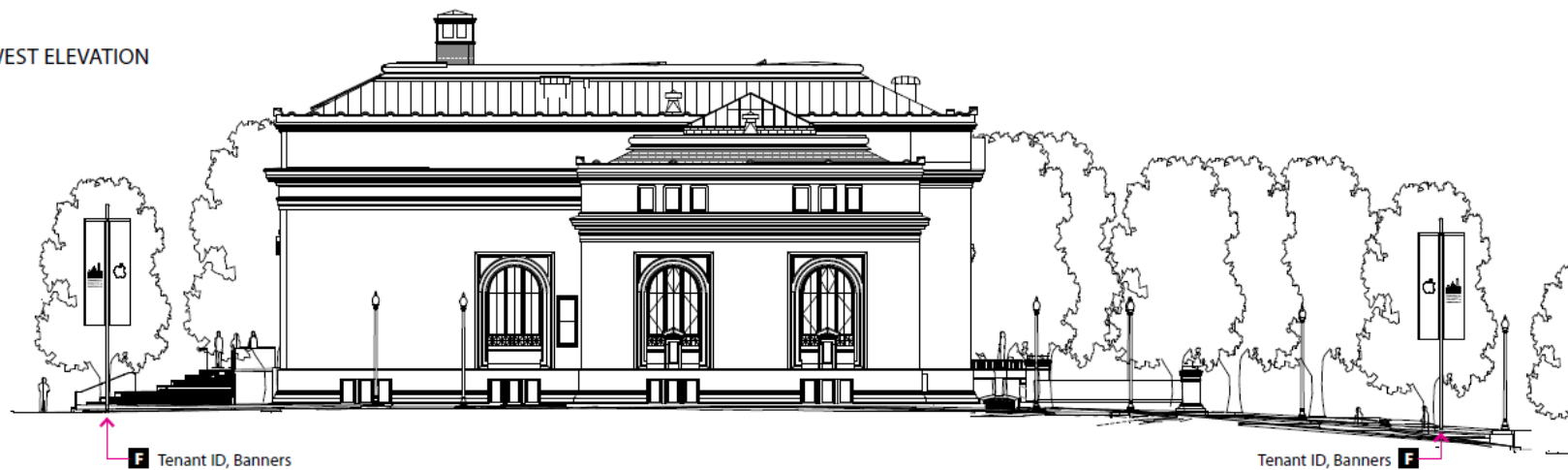
SOUTH ELEVATION

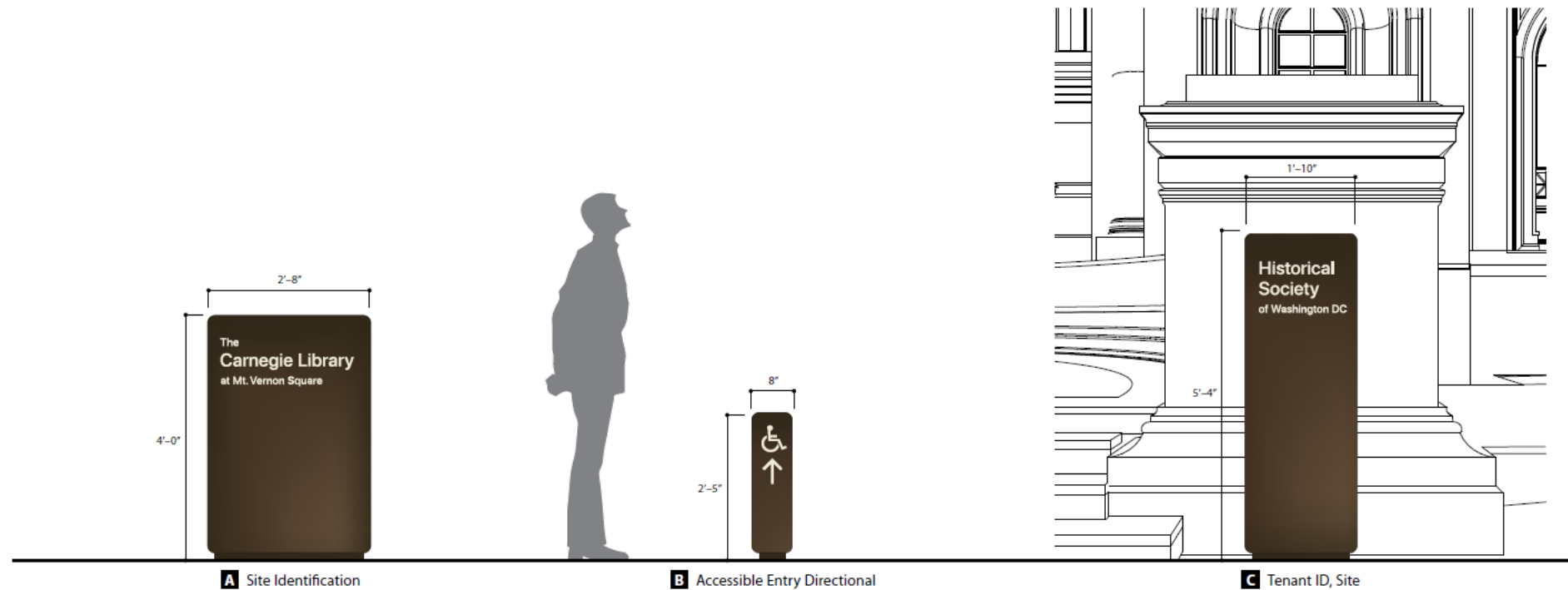


EAST ELEVATION

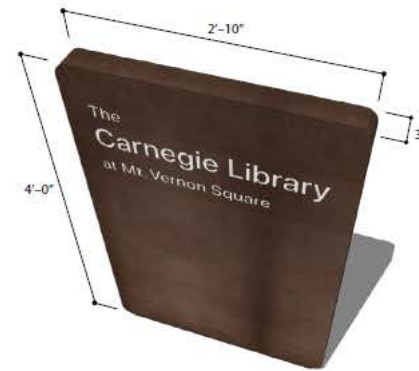
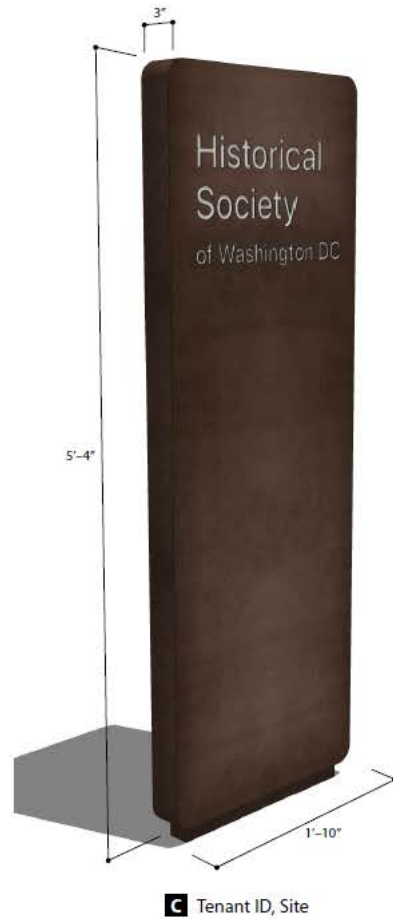


WEST ELEVATION



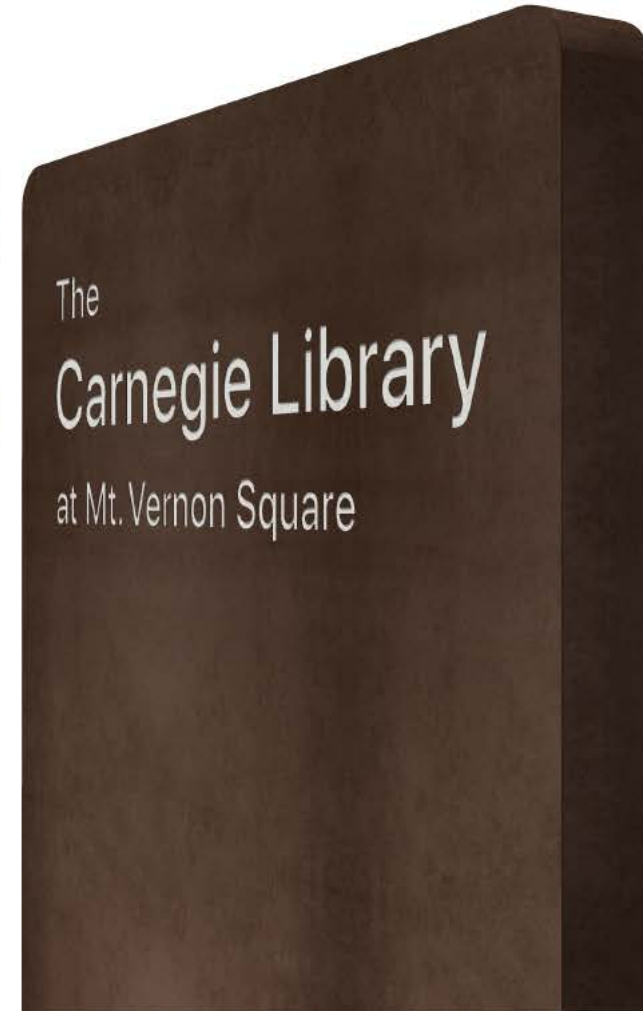


Ground Sign Details

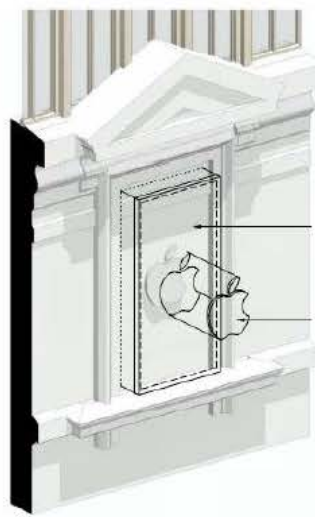


SIGN PANEL:
Dark bronze
or corten steel
closed pan sign
construction

LETTERING:
Cut-out lettering
revealing Off-white
Corian panel behind

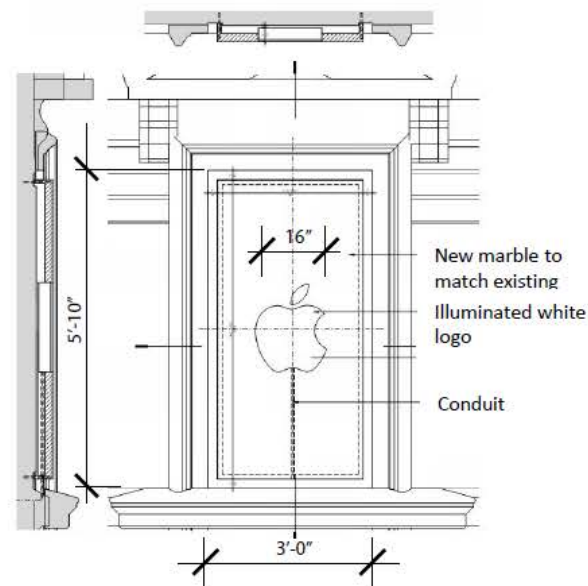


Ground Sign Details



New marble to
match existing

Illuminated white
logo

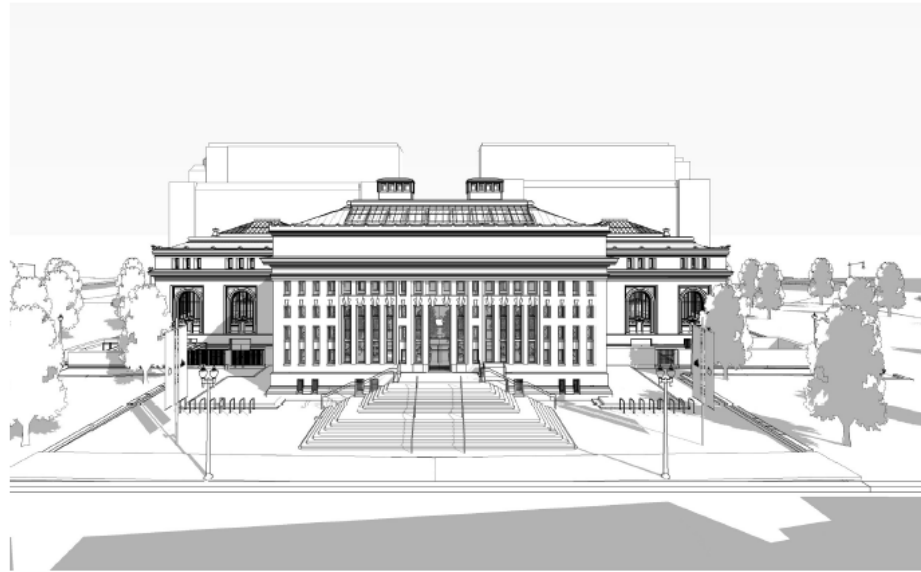


Anchor points in grout joints

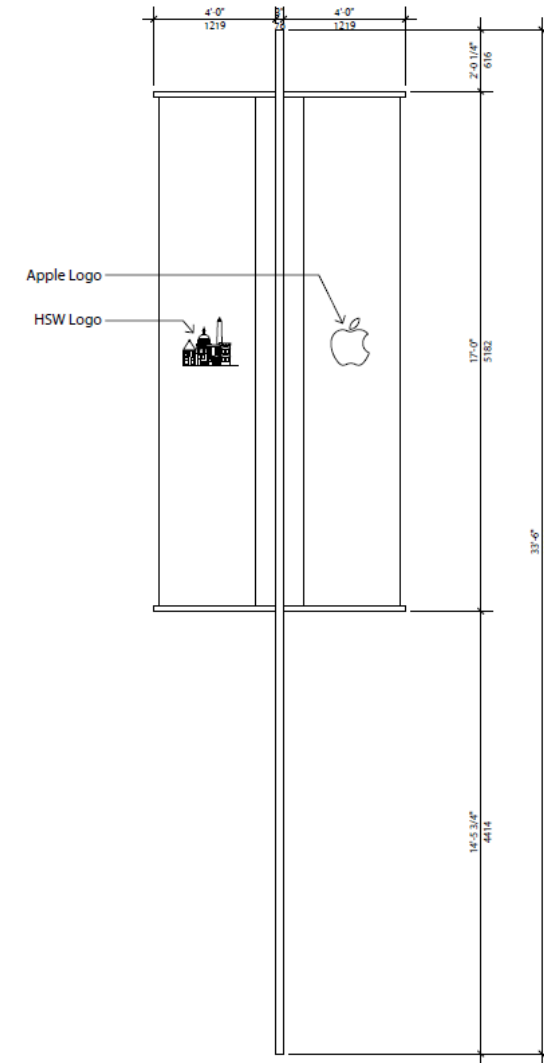
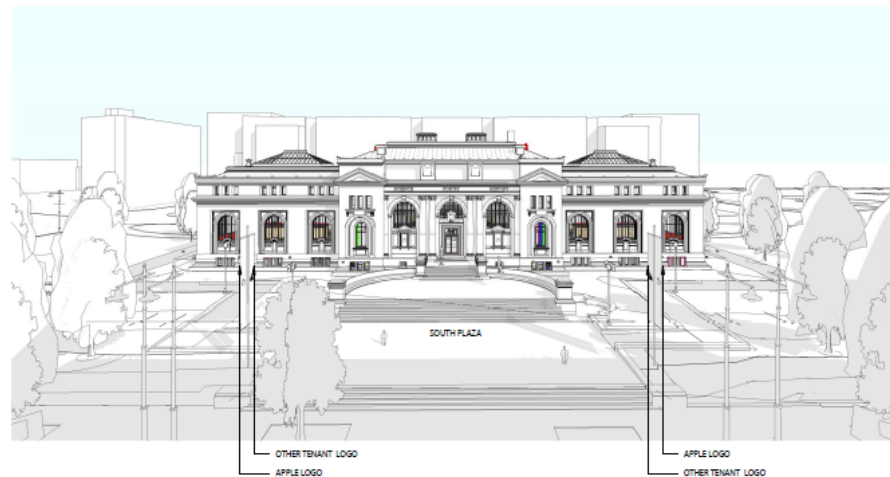


Detail at South Elevation Signs

Logo Banner at North Plaza



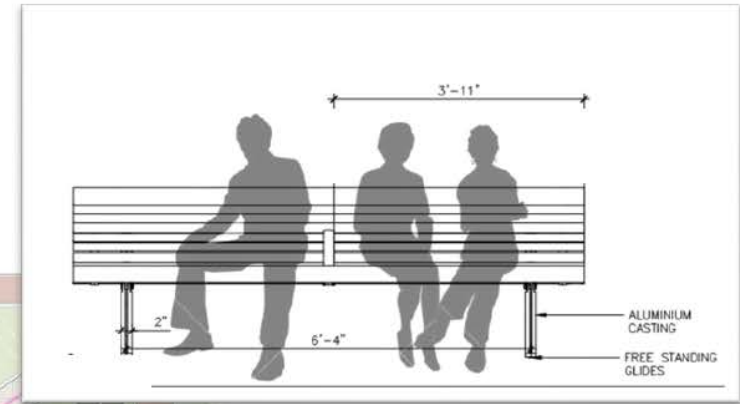
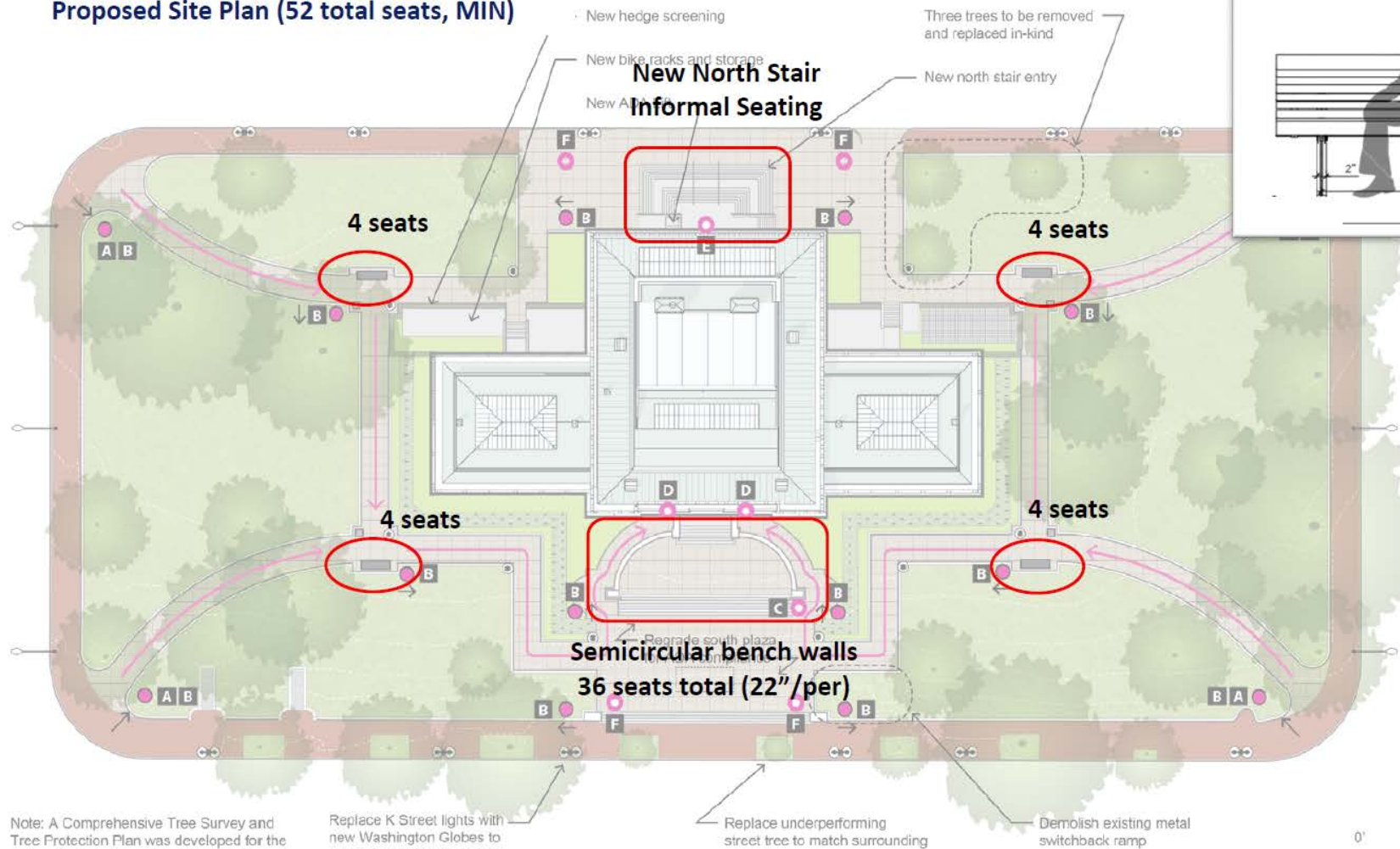
Logo Banner at South Plaza



Logo Banner Pole Elevation

Proposed Logo Banner Details

Proposed Site Plan (52 total seats, MIN)



Proposed Bench
Seating Study

Note: A Comprehensive Tree Survey and Tree Protection Plan was developed for the entire site in Spring 2017. All trees affected by construction will be adequately protected.

Replace K Street lights with new Washington Globes to match Mount Vernon Place

Replace underperforming street tree to match surrounding

Demolish existing metal switchback ramp



Rendering - Proposed



South Elevation Rendering

The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of The District of Columbia¹

Established Dec. 7, 1865 – Celebrating our 152nd year!

Officers:

President –

William N. Brown

Vice President –

Jan A.K. Evans

Treasurer –

Hulit Pressley Taylor

Secretary –

John P. Richardson

Historian –

Nelson Rimensnyder

Fire Dept. Liaison –

James Embrey

Directors:

A.L. Wheeler –

Past-president

Barbara Bates

Carl Cole

Margaret Hobbs

Jessica Hodge

Thomas Neale

Gary Scott

AOI of DC

4425 Greenwich Pkwy,

NW, District of

Columbia

20007-2010

Tel: 202-342-1638

Luncheon RSVP's

202-342-1865

Web site:

www.aoidc.org

E-mail:

aoidc@gmail.com

August 31, 2017

Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr., Chairman
and Commissioners
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW Suite 500
District of Columbia 20004

And

Honorable Earl A. Powell, III, Chairman
and Commissioner
U.S. Commission on Fine Arts
401 F Street NW, Suite 312
Washington, DC 20001-2728

Re: 7532 Carnegie Library/Apple Proposal

Dear Chairman Bryant, Chairman Powell and Members of the Commissions:

Today I am representing the District's oldest civic organization, The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia. (Full disclosure: I am a past HSW Trustee, volunteer, and current member of their Advisory Council and of the Collections Committee.)

Since I succeeded past AOI Presidents Dr. Philip W. Ogilvie, A.L. Wheeler, Harold Gray and William S. Waters in 1999, the AOI of DC has written in support of, in opposition to and provided comments on dozens of projects, memorials, legislation and street closings that have impacted the District of Columbia, its citizens and its history.

We have been long-time supporters of the Historical Society of Washington through their "thick and thin" and remain stalwart in our support of HSW, the Kiplinger Research Library, their programs and exhibits.

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia -- the District's oldest civic organization -- was established on December 7, 1865, to preserve memories and matters of historic interest. By virtue of our long presence and participation in the city's prosperity and improvement, we continue to work and strive for the city's stability, security and advancement -- to aid in every way the prosperity and well-being of the District while preserving the heritage of its past.

¹Effective June 1, 1871, Congress revoked the charters of the cities of Washington, Georgetown and the County of Washington and established a consolidated government of the District of Columbia. For all intents and purposes, on that date Washington -- as far as a jurisdiction -- ceased to exist.

The AOI membership – through our Board, our newsletters, web site, social media and monthly luncheon meetings -- have been kept fully informed of Apple's plans to reimagine the historic Carnegie Library as their flagship retail, educational and performance venue while maintaining a prominent and well-deserved home for the Historical Society of Washington, DC.

I believe in nearly 18 years of providing written and oral testimony on behalf of the membership of the AOI of DC that this is honestly the very first time I can enthusiastically say, **"The AOI of DC, having reviewed Apple's plans for the Carnegie Library and having attended numerous public presentations on their proposals, absolutely supports the plans as they have been presented without reservation."**

We look forward to continuing to support the Historical Society, their programs, their exhibits and their new partner, Apple.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William N. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being more prominent than the last name "Brown".

William N. Brown, President

Cc (via email): District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer
The Committee of 100 on the Federal City
The DC Preservation League
Julie Koczela, Chair, HSW of DC