

JOHN COOPER  
MAYOR



**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
Telephone: (615) 862-7970

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**945 S Douglas Avenue, Unit #2**

**February 17, 2021**

**Application:** New Construction – Infill/Part II SP

**District:** Waverly-Belmont Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay

**Council District:** 07

**Base Zoning:** SP

**Map and Parcel Number:** 105130289.00

**Applicant:** Martin Wieck, Nine12 Architects

**Project Lead:** Jenny Warren, jenny.warren@nashville.gov

**Description of Project:** This is an application for the construction of an infill structure as part of a part II historic review of an SP zoning.

**Recommendation Summary:** Staff recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. The two (2) wall dormers shall be inset by two feet (2’);
2. Staff shall review and approve a brick sample, roofing color, doors, garage doors and walkway material prior to purchase and installation; and,
3. The HVAC shall be located on the rear façade, or on a side façade beyond the midpoint of the house, and utility meters shall be located on the side of the building, within five feet (5’) of the front corner or on the rear or rear-side within five feet (5’) of the rear corner,

finding that the proposed infill meets the conditions of the part I SP approval for massing and Section III of the Waverly-Belmont Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay Design Guidelines.

**Attachments**

- A:** Photographs
- B:** Site Plan
- C:** Elevations

**Vicinity Map:**



**Aerial Map:**



## **Applicable Design Guidelines:**

### **III. New Construction**

#### **A. Height**

1. The height of the foundation wall, porch roof(s), and main roof(s) of a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with those of surrounding historic buildings. Where there is little historic context, existing construction may be used for context. Generally, a building should not exceed one and one-half stories.

#### **B. Scale**

1. The size of a new building and its mass in relation to open spaces shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings.

#### **C. Setback and Rhythm of Spacing**

1. The setback from front and side yard property lines established by adjacent historic buildings should be maintained. Generally, a dominant rhythm along a street is established by uniform lot and building width. Infill buildings should maintain that rhythm.
2. The Commission has the ability to determine appropriate building setbacks of the required underlying base zoning for new construction, additions and accessory structures (ordinance no. *17.40.410*).

Appropriate setbacks will be determined based on:

- The existing setback of the contributing primary buildings and accessory structures found in the immediate vicinity;
- Setbacks of like structures historically found on the site as determined by historic maps, site plans or photographs;
- Shape of lot;
- Alley access or lack thereof;
- Proximity of adjoining structures; and
- Property lines.

Appropriate height limitations will be based on:

- Heights of historic buildings in the immediate vicinity
- Existing or planned slope and grade

3. In most cases, an infill duplex for property that is zoned for duplexes should be one building as seen historically in order to maintain the rhythm of the street. Detached infill duplexes may be appropriate in the following instances:

- There is not enough square footage to legally subdivide the lot but there is enough frontage and depth to the lot to accommodate two single-family dwellings in a manner that meets the design guidelines;
- The second unit follows the requirements of a Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit; or
- An existing non-historic building sits so far back on the lot that a building may be constructed in front of it in a manner that meets the rhythm of the street and the established setbacks.

#### **D. Materials, Texture, Details, and Material Color**

1. The materials, texture, details, and material color of a new building's public facades shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings.
  - a. Inappropriate materials include vinyl and aluminum, T-1-11- type building panels, "permastone", and E.F.I.S. Stud wall lumber and embossed wood grain are prohibited.
  - b. Appropriate materials include: pre-cast stone for foundations, composite materials for trim and decking, cement fiberboard shingle, lap or panel siding.
    - Lap siding, should be smooth and not stamped or embossed and have a maximum of a 5" reveal.
    - Shingle siding should exhibit a straight-line course pattern and exhibit a maximum exposure of seven inches (7").
    - Four inch (4") nominal corner boards are required at the face of each exposed corner.
    - Stone or brick foundations should be of a compatible color and texture to historic foundations.
    - When different materials are used, it is most appropriate to have the change happen at floor lines.
    - Foundation lines should be visually distinct from the predominant exterior wall material. This is typically accomplished with a change in material.
    - Clapboard sided chimneys are generally not appropriate. Masonry or stucco is appropriate for chimneys.
    - Texture and tooling of mortar on new construction should be similar to historic examples.
    - Generally front doors should be 1/2 to full-light. Faux leaded glass is inappropriate.
2. Asphalt shingle and metal are appropriate roof materials for most buildings.

*Generally, roofing should NOT have: strong simulated shadows in the granule colors which results in a rough, pitted appearance; strongly variegated colors; colors that are too light (e.g.: tan, white, light green); wavy or deep color/texture used to simulate split shake shingles or slate; excessive flared form in the shingle tabs; or uneven or sculpted bottom edges that emphasize tab width or edges, unless matching the original roof or a dominant historic example.*

## **E. Roof Shape**

1. The roof(s) of a new building shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the roof shape, orientation, and pitch of surrounding historic buildings. Common roof forms in the neighborhood include side, front and cross gabled, hipped and pyramidal. Typically roof pitches are between 6/12 and 12/12. Roof pitches for porch roofs are typically less steep, approximately in the 3-4/12 range.
2. Small roof dormers are typical throughout the district. Wall dormers are only appropriate on the rear, as no examples are found historically in the neighborhood.

## **F. Orientation**

1. The orientation of a new building's front facade shall be visually consistent with surrounding historic buildings.
2. Primary entrances are an important component of most of the historic buildings in the neighborhood and include partial- or full-width porches attached to the main body of the house. Infill duplexes shall have one or two doors facing the street, as seen on historic duplexes. In the case of corner lots, an entrance facing the side street is possible as long as it is designed to look like a secondary entrance.
3. Porches should be a minimum of 6' deep, have porch racks that are 1'-3' tall and have posts that include bases and capitals. Front, side, wrap-around and cutaway porches are appropriate. Porches are not always necessary and entrances may also be defined by simple hoods or recessed entrances.

4. Generally, curb cuts should not be added. Where a new driveway is appropriate it should be two concrete strips with a central grassy median. Shared driveways should be a single lane, not just two driveways next to each other. Sometimes this may be accomplished with a single lane curb cut that widens to a double lane deeper into the lot. In the case of duplexes, vehicular access for both units should be from the alley, where an alley exists. A new shared curb cut may be added, if no alley and no driveway exists, but the driveway should be no more than 12' wide from the street to the rear of the home. Front yard parking or driveways which end at the front of the house are not consistent with the character of the historic neighborhoods.
5. For multi-unit developments, interior dwellings should be subordinate to those that front the street. Subordinate generally means the width and height of the buildings are less than the primary building(s) that faces the street. For multi-unit developments, direct pedestrian connections should be made between the street and any interior units. The entrances to those pedestrian connections generally should be wider than the typical spacing between buildings along the street.

### **G. Proportion and Rhythm of Openings**

1. The relationship of width to height of windows and doors, and the rhythm of solids (walls) to voids (door and window openings) in a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings.
2. Window openings on the primary street-related or front façade of new construction should be representative of the window patterns of similarly massed historic structures within the district. In most cases, every 8-13 horizontal feet of flat wall surface should have an opening (window or door) of at least 4 square feet. More leniencies can be given to minimally visible side or rear walls.
3. Double-hung windows should exhibit a height to width ratio of at least 2:1. Windows on upper floors should not be taller than windows on the main floor since historically first floors have higher ceilings than upper floors and so windows were typically taller on the first floor.
4. Single-light sashes are appropriate for new construction. If using multi-light sashes, muntins should be fully simulated and bonded to the glass, and exhibit an interior bar, exterior bar, as well as a spacer between glass panes.
5. Four inch (nominal) casings are required around doors, windows and vents on non-masonry buildings. Trim should be thick enough to extend beyond the clapboard. Double or triple windows should have a 4" to 6" mullion in between. Brick molding is required around doors, windows and vents within masonry walls but is not appropriate on non-masonry buildings.

### **I. Utilities**

1. Utility connections such as gas meters, electric meters, phone, cable, and HVAC condenser units should be located so as to minimize their visibility from the street.
2. Generally, utility connections should be placed no closer to the street than the mid-point of the structure. Power lines should be placed underground if they are carried from the street and not from the rear or an alley.





Figure 1. Approved site plan

**Background:** 945 S Douglas is a large parcel at the corner of S Douglas Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, in the Waverly-Belmont Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay.



Figure 2. Front elevation.

Until recently, a non-contributing church sat on the site. The Commission approved a part I SP for this site in December 2018, recommending approval of the site plan and general building massings to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission approved the SP. The applicant is required to return to MHZC with elevations for final design approval of the individual units. There are three units on the February 17, 2021 agenda; this application is for Unit #2, as seen in Figure 1.

**Analysis and Findings:**

**Form, Height & Scale:** Unit #2 was approved as a one-and-a-half story house with a maximum ridge height of thirty-two feet (32') as measured from grade, a maximum eave height of twelve feet (12') and a width of thirty-four feet (34').

*Form & Scale:*

The applicant was encouraged to use multiple roof forms across the development to create variety and avoid a homogenous streetscape. The form presented for this unit is a modified one-and-a-half story cross-gable. This is an appropriate historic form and different from the other roof forms submitted so far.

The proposed width of the house is thirty-four feet (34'). This matches the proposed width on the site plan for the part I SP.

*Height:* The proposed infill has a ridge height of about twenty-nine feet, six inches (29'6") from grade at the front, with a twelve foot (12') eave as measured from the finished floor. The eave height is as-approved, and the ridge height is about two feet, six inches (2'6") lower than the maximum approved height, which assists with meeting the diversity-in-form requirement. Staff finds the proposed height is appropriate and meets the requirements of Part I of the SP.

The project meets section III.A. for height, III.B. for scale and III.E for roof shape (form).



Figure 3. Left side elevation (north).

**Setback & Rhythm of Spacing:** The infill will be sited as per the approved part I SP. This house will have a twenty-foot (20') front setback, as do all of Units 1-7. These houses will mostly be about twenty-five feet (25') apart at the front and will come closer further back, due to the curve of the parcel. Most will still maintain a distance of about ten feet (10'), but Unit #1 and Unit #2 will come a bit closer and will be about five or six feet (5'-6') apart at the back corner. This condition was present in the part I SP and was approved. The back corner of Units #2 and #3 are about thirteen feet (13') apart.

The project meets the SP approval and section III.C for setback and rhythm of spacing for new construction.

Materials:

|                                | <b>Proposed</b>              | <b>Color/Texture/<br/>Make/Manufacturer</b> | <b>Approved<br/>Previously or<br/>Typical of<br/>Neighborhood</b> | <b>Requires<br/>Additional<br/>Review</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Foundation</b>              | Concrete Block               | Split Face                                  | Yes   |   |
| <b>Cladding</b>                | Brick                        | Unknown                                     | Yes   | X   |
| <b>Secondary Cladding</b>      | cement fiberboard lap siding | Smooth                                      | Yes   |   |
| <b>Tertiary Cladding</b>       | Shingle siding               | Hardie                                      | Yes   |   |
| <b>Roofing</b>                 | Architectural Shingles       | Color known                                 | Yes   | X   |
| <b>Trim</b>                    | Wood                         | Smooth faced                                | Yes   |   |
| <b>Front Porch floor/steps</b> | Concrete                     | Unknown                                     | Yes   |   |
| <b>Front Porch Posts/Piers</b> | Wood/Brick                   | Unknown                                     | Yes   | X   |
| <b>Chimney</b>                 | Brick                        | Unknown                                     | Yes   | X   |
| <b>Windows</b>                 | Aluminum-clad wood           | Marvin Elevate                              | Yes   |   |
| <b>Principle Entrance</b>      | ¾ light with side light      | Needs final approval                        | Yes   | X   |
| <b>Side door</b>               | ¾ light                      | Unknown                                     | Unknown   | X   |
| <b>Garage door</b>             | Unknown                      | Unknown                                     | Unknown   | X   |
| <b>Walkway</b>                 | Not indicated                | Needs final approval                        | Unknown   | X   |

The majority of the lap siding will have a five inch (5”) exposure. However, an eight foot (8’) wide section in the recessed connector to the garage will have a wider reveal. Staff finds this to be appropriate as an accent material. Additionally, the windows are labelled as “Marvin Elevate or similar.” Marvin Elevate are approved windows, if another window is used, it must be approved by staff. Otherwise, with final staff approval of a brick sample, roofing color, doors, garage doors and walkway material, prior to purchase and installation, the materials meet section III.D. for new construction-materials.





Figure 4. South side elevation.

**Roof Shape:** The project uses front and side gables with a 9 /12 slope, which is appropriate. The applicant was encouraged to pursue different designs for the individual units rather than design them all the same, which the first three proposals meet.

The design uses a wall dormer on both side elevations, beyond the main side gable. (Figures 3 & 4) Section III.E.2 states that wall dormers are only allowed on the rear elevation in Waverly-Belmont. While the dormers are appropriately scaled and in an appropriate location, staff finds that these two dormers should be inset two feet (2') from the wall below, in order to meet the guidelines.

With the condition that the wall dormers are inset two feet (2'), staff finds that the proposal meets section III.E for roof shape.

**Orientation:** The infill faces the street and sidewalk. There is a walkway from the front door. The house has a traditional front porch that is six feet (6') deep. The house also has a recessed porch, located to the right of the front door, behind the front wall of windows. (Figure 5) This porch will have three walls and will be accessible from the living room, from the kitchen, and from the side yard via voids seen in the wall on the south elevation (Figure 4). This is a slightly unusual feature but allows for semi-protected outdoor space at the front of the house and meets the design guidelines. This porch could be enclosed into an interior room in the future and would still meet the guidelines.

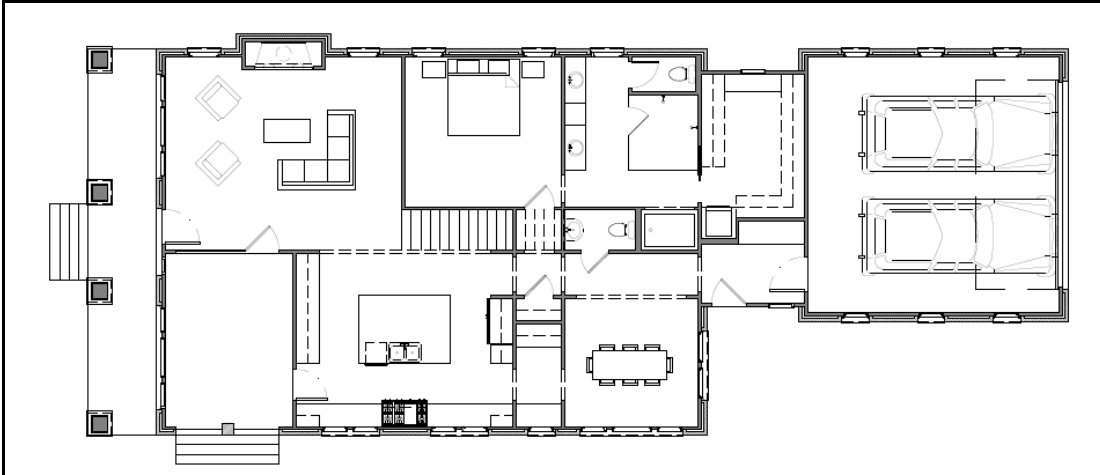


Figure 5. First floor plan. Note recessed porch at the bottom left.

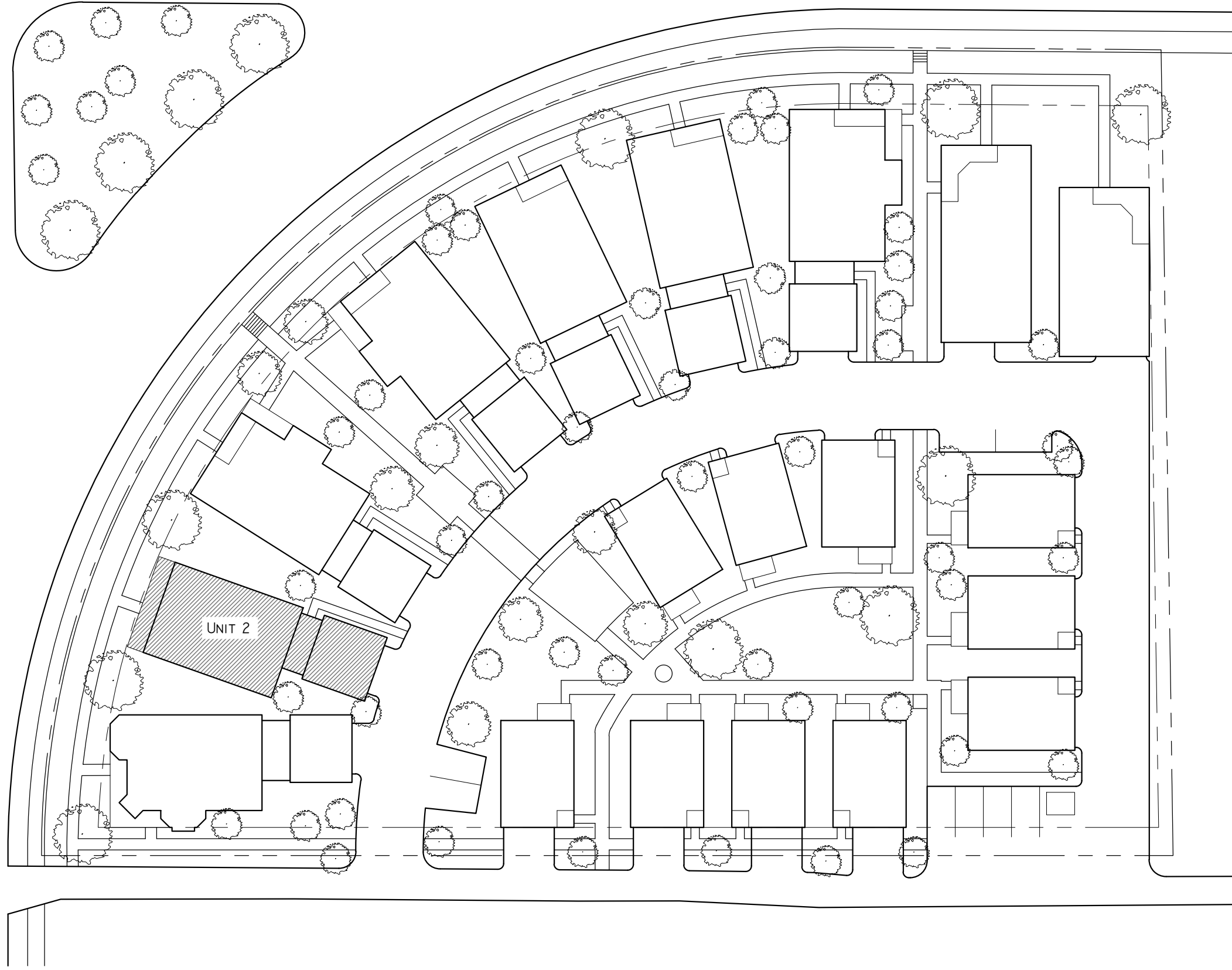
The project meets section III.F for new construction-orientation.

**Proportion and Rhythm of Openings:** The windows on the proposed infill are generally twice as tall as they are wide, thereby meeting the historic proportions of openings. There are no large expanses of wall space without a window or door opening. Staff finds the project's proportion and rhythm of openings to meet Section III.G. for new construction-proportion and rhythm of openings.

**Appurtenances & Utilities:** The location of the HVAC and other utilities was not noted. Staff asks that the HVAC be located on the rear façade, or on a side façade beyond the midpoint of the house, and that utility meters be located on the side of the building, within five feet (5') of the front corner or on the rear or rear-side within five feet (5') of the rear corner. Alternative mechanical and utility locations must be approved prior to an administrative sign-off on building permit(s). The project meets section III.I. for new construction-utilities and III.J. for new construction-public spaces.

**Outbuildings:** As per the approved SP, all nineteen (19) of the houses in this project will include an attached garage accessed off of the rear private drive. The massing studies from the part I SP application show the attached garages for the thirty-five foot (35') tall one-and-a-half story units #1-#7 as subservient in height with a ridge height of approximately twenty-seven feet (27') from grade and an eave of fifteen feet, four inches (15'4") from foundation. (Figure 7)

The proposed attached garage has a ridge height of about twenty-three feet, six inches (23'6") from grade and an eave of about twelve feet (12'). Staff finds that the proposed massing, which keeps the garage and connector lower and subservient, while matching the eave height of the house, is consistent with the SP approval.



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NINE12 ARCHITECTS PROJECT #19172-2

INFILL CONSTRUCTION - UNIT 2 AT:  
**945 S DOUGLAS AVE.**  
NASHVILLE, TN 37204



INFO@NINE12ARCHITECTS.COM  
615.761.9902  
WWW.NINE12ARCHITECTS.COM

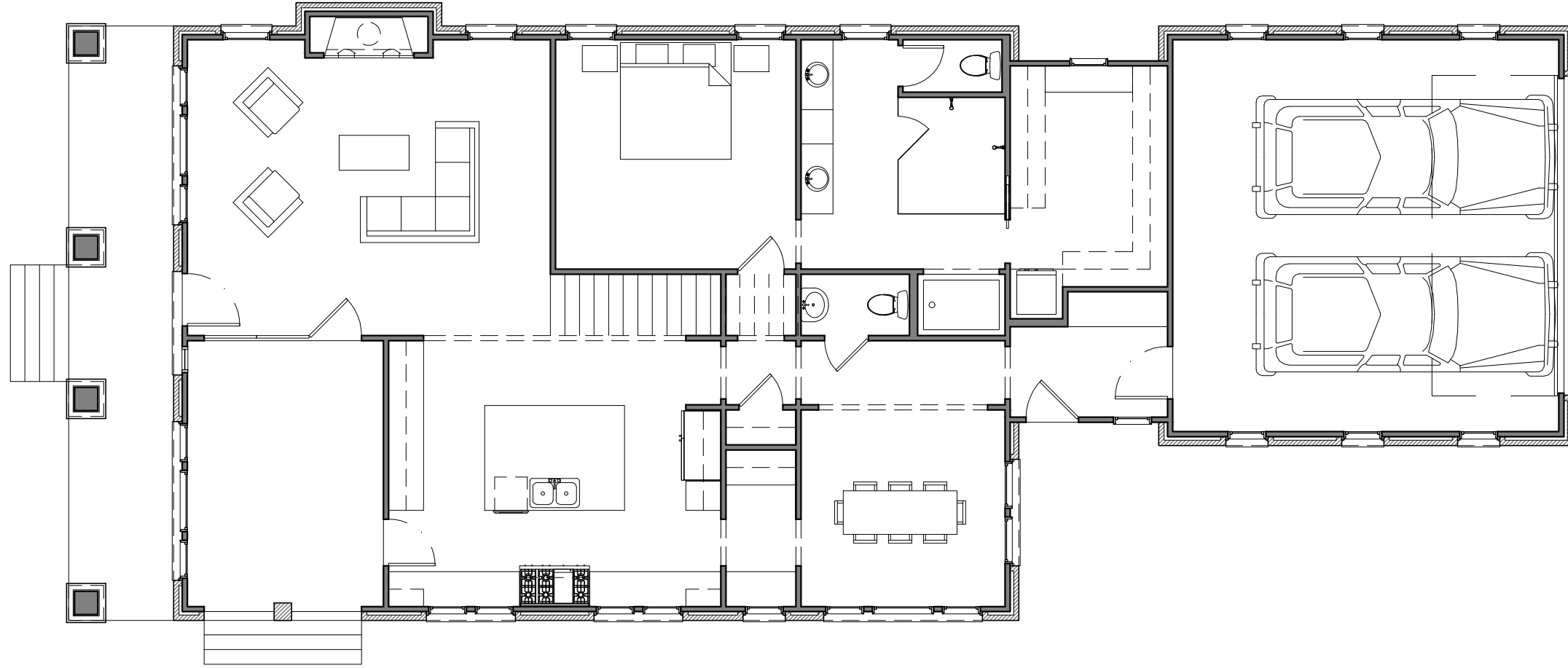
SITE  
PLAN

01



**SP SITE PLAN**

SCALE: 1" = 40'-0"



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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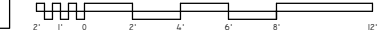
| REV: | DATE:    | DESC:           |
|------|----------|-----------------|
| 0    | 02.01.21 | MHZC SUBMISSION |



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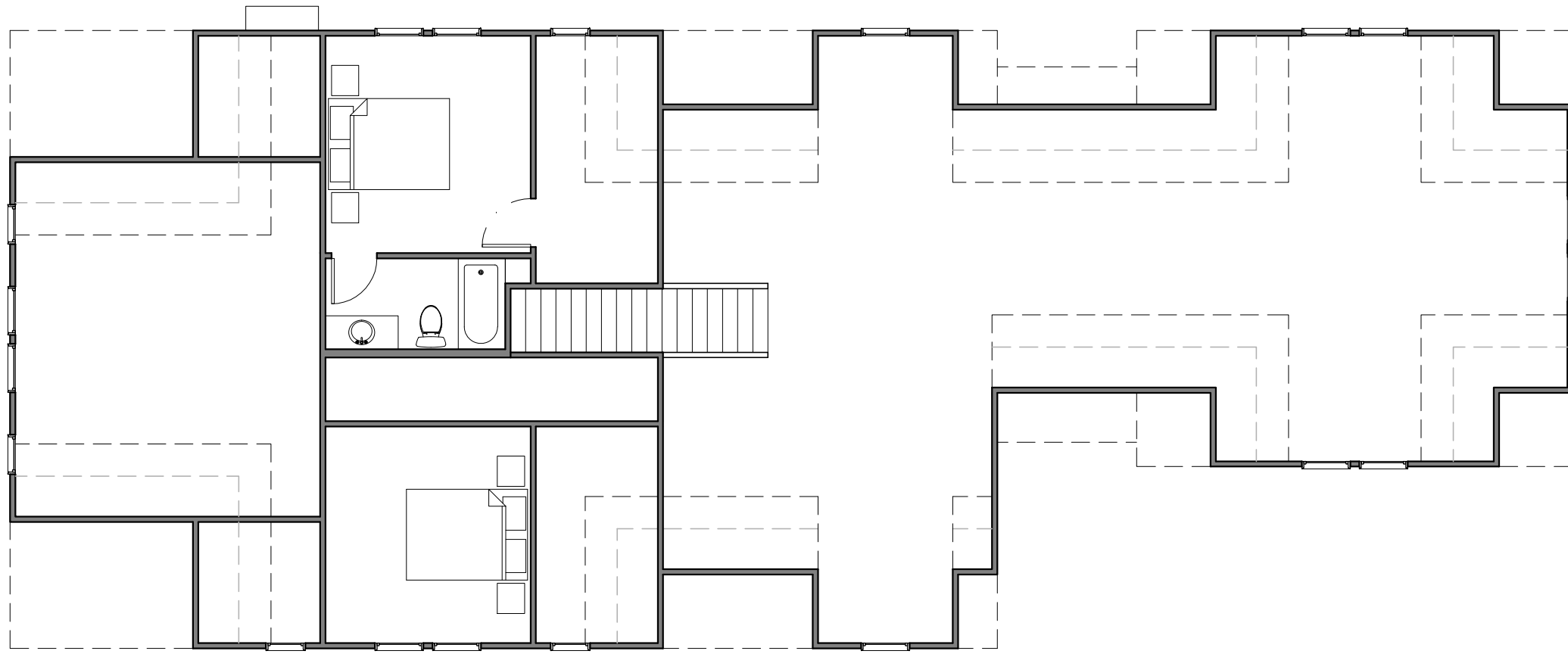
**FIRST FLOOR PLAN**



SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

FLOOR  
PLANS

**02**



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NINE12 ARCHITECTS PROJECT #19172-2

INFILL CONSTRUCTION - UNIT 2 AT:

945 S DOUGLAS AVE.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37204

REV: 0

DATE: 02.01.21

DESC: MHZC SUBMISSION



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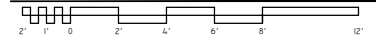
FLOOR  
PLANS

03

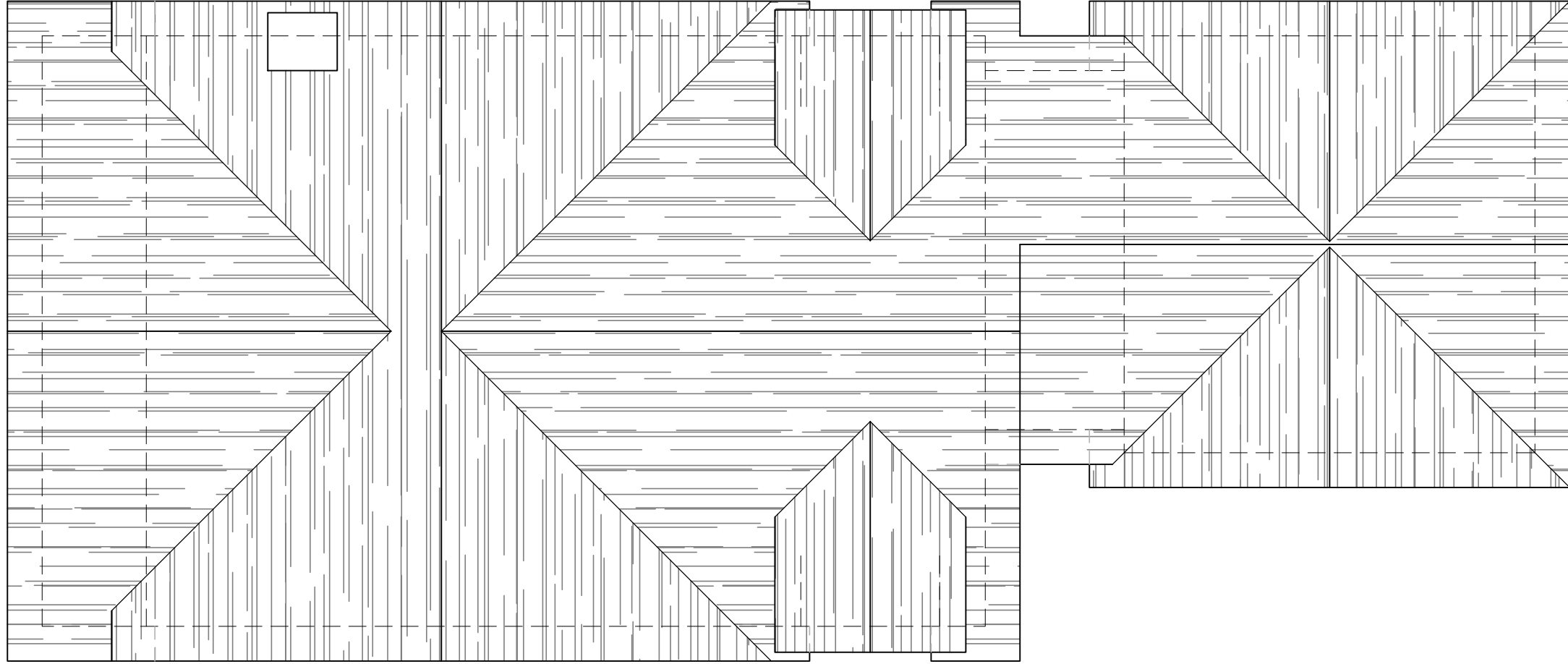


1

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

NINE12 ARCHITECTS PROJECT #19172.2

INFILL CONSTRUCTION - UNIT 2 AT:  
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NASHVILLE, TN 37204

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**ROOF PLAN**



SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

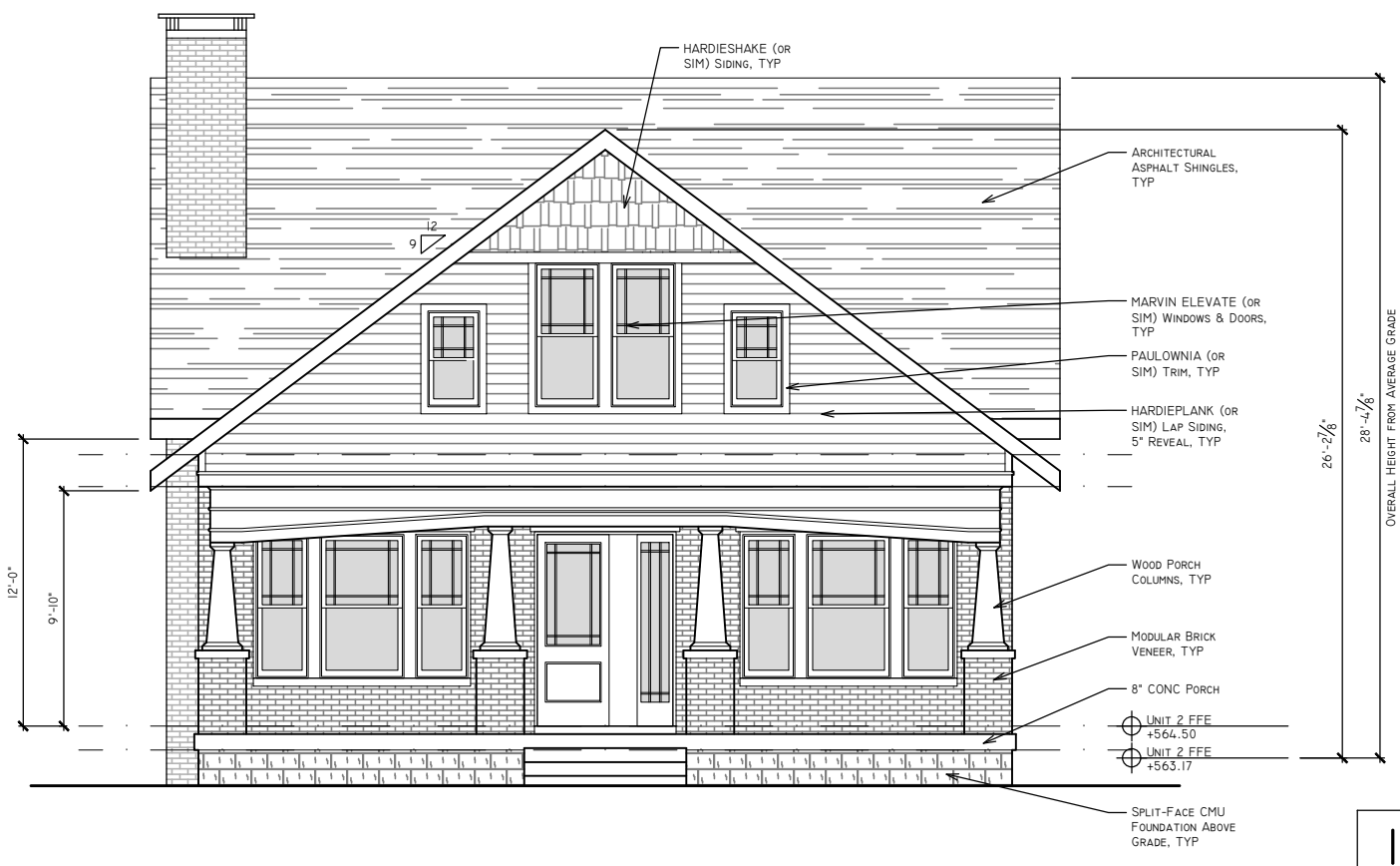
FLOOR  
PLANS

**04**





**2 SOUTH ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



**1 WEST ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS  
**05**



2 NORTH ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



1 EAST ELEVATION  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

| REV: | DATE:    | DESC:           |
|------|----------|-----------------|
| 0    | 02.01.21 | MHZC SUBMISSION |

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EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

06



Figure 6. North side elevation

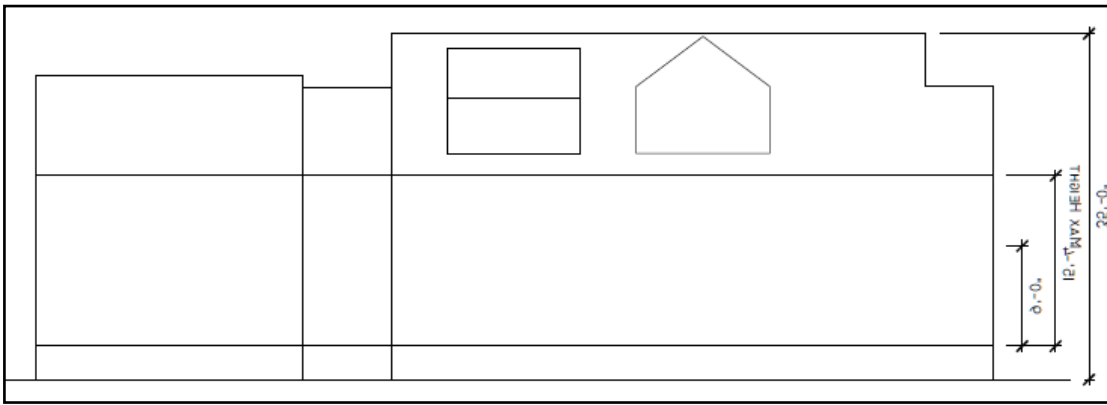


Figure 7. Massing study from Part I SP application

Staff finds that the proposed attached garage is consistent with the massing and site plan of the approved SP.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. The two (2) wall dormers shall be inset by two feet (2');
2. Staff shall review and approve a brick sample, roofing color, doors, garage doors and walkway material prior to purchase and installation; and,
3. The HVAC shall be located on the rear façade, or on a side façade beyond the midpoint of the house, and utility meters shall be located on the side of the building, within five feet (5') of the front corner or on the rear or rear-side within five feet (5') of the rear corner,

finding that the proposed infill meets the conditions of the part I SP approval for massing and Section III of the Waverly-Belmont Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay Design Guidelines.