DESIGN PROGRAM

town requirements and public input- a few key points

TOWN REQUIRES IMPROVEMENTS OF:

Lighting

Placemaking

Wayfinding

Environmental

PUBLIC INPUT:

While there were a number of design ideas and critiques that came from the workshop, we feel that these points were foundational to the wide variety of the feedback we received. For a more detailed description of the information collected, including a workshop transcript, please see the Workshop 2 Report.

Name the alleys

Form follows function

The planters in post office alley make the space cramped

ADA accessibility

CHAPEL HILL ALLEYWAYS: Scope of Work for Construction Plans

Varsity Alley

Wayfinding and placemaking:

- At the Franklin Street entrance, construct an entry portal arch incorporating the name "Varsity Alley"
- Install special paving to delineate the Franklin Street alleyway entrance, embedding the words "Varsity Alley" in the paving
- Relocate existing bicycle rack from alley entrance to a few feet further east
- At the rear entrance, construct an entry portal arch incorporating the name "Varsity Alley"
- Also see *Art Opportunities* below for further wayfinding elements

Materials improvements for accessibility, safety, security, and screening:

- Replace the paving along the length of the alley with more accessible and decorative paving
- Extend the alleyway paving to define the entry from the parking lot
- Install a channel drain down the center of the paving from the front to the rear entrance
- Embed downlights in the portal entry arches to illuminate the entrances
- Install LED downlights to provide uniform lighting levels
- Embed lights in the paving at intervals along the length of the alley
- Install a fence with a three-dimensional metal panel at the rear of the alley to screen the trash compactor
- Also see *Art Opportunities* below for further safety lighting elements

Art opportunities:

- Create image walls along the alley on both sides: an example would be a three-dimensional perforated metal panel incorporating a mural and decorative wall lighting
- Install an art element with a stormwater filter component at the rear of the alley

Post Office Alley

Wayfinding and placemaking:

- At the Franklin Street entrance, align a new tree away from the entrance to improve visual access into the alley
- Plant a new shade tree (such as Oak) in the at-grade planter to replace the declining Holly
- Install special paving to delineate the Franklin Street alleyway entrance, embedding the words "Post Office Alley" in the paving
- Widen the connection to the Peace & Justice Plaza
- Construct a planter wall at seatwall height along the Franklin Street side of the alley from the front edge of the Tankersley Building to the back edge of the Peace & Justice Plaza
- Construct an outdoor gathering space for Four Corners along front part of the Tankersley Building wall, possibly with built-in stools or leaning bar, and fold-down tables
- At the rear entrance, construct an entry portal arch incorporating the name "Post Office Alley"

Materials improvements for accessibility, safety, security, and screening:

- Replace the step at the Franklin Street entrance with a concrete ramp (1:16 – 6.25% slope, with metal handrails at a height to meet code)
- Remove planter walls except for the planter containing the Japanese Maple along the Post Office wall, and reduce the width of the planters along the Tankersley Building
- Install a code-compliant guard rail on the half-wall leading to the Post Office Building rear stairwell
- Replace the paving along the length of the alley with more accessible and decorative paving
- Install a channel drain down the center of the paving from the front to the rear entrance, and a catch basin for cleanout
- Embed downlights in the rear portal entry arch to illuminate the entrance
- Install string lights at intervals along the length of the alley, at a minimum 12' height and strung between metal lattice support posts
- Replace the wooden fence that screens the trash/recycling/grease carts at the rear of the Tankersley Building with a pierced brick screen wall about 7' high, to improve air movement and to break up the mass of the wall
- Install a pedestrian-scale trash can and recycling bin at the rear of the Tankersley Building in front of the new pierced brick wall

Art opportunities:

- Install a metal lattice for vine support down the length of the Tankersley Building wall, and on the new pierced brick wall at the rear of the building
- Remove the screen on top of the Post Office Building chimney to again allow for Chimney Swift nesting; add interpretive panels educating the public on the birds' habits

ALLEY CONTEXT

alley connections between Rosemary St. and Franklin St.

POST OFFICE ALLEY
existing conditions

view from Franklin St.

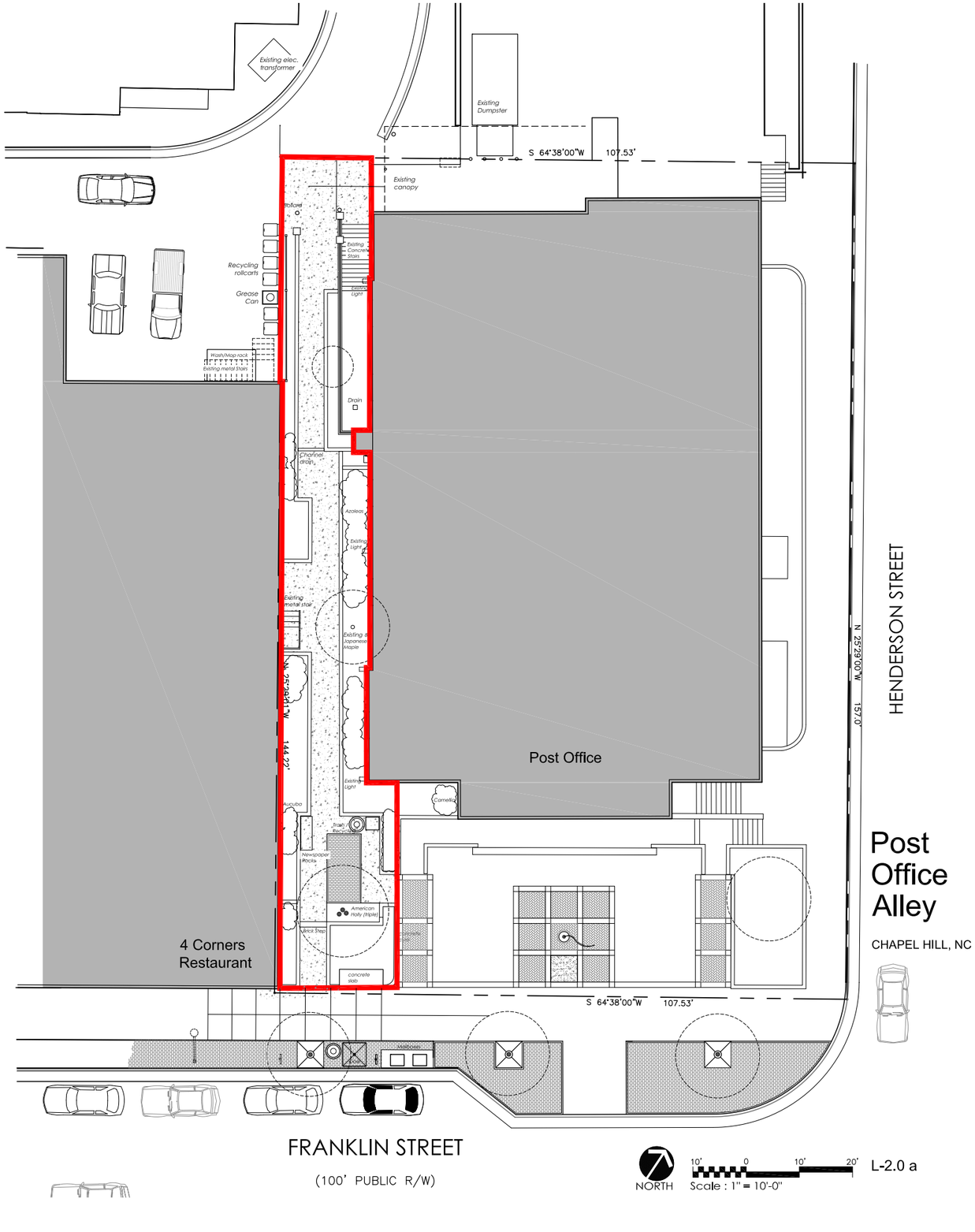
view from the parking deck on Rosemary St.

view into alley on the Franklin St. side.

view into alley on the Rosemary St. side

POST OFFICE ALLEY

existing conditions plan view



Post Office Alley

CHAPEL HILL, NC

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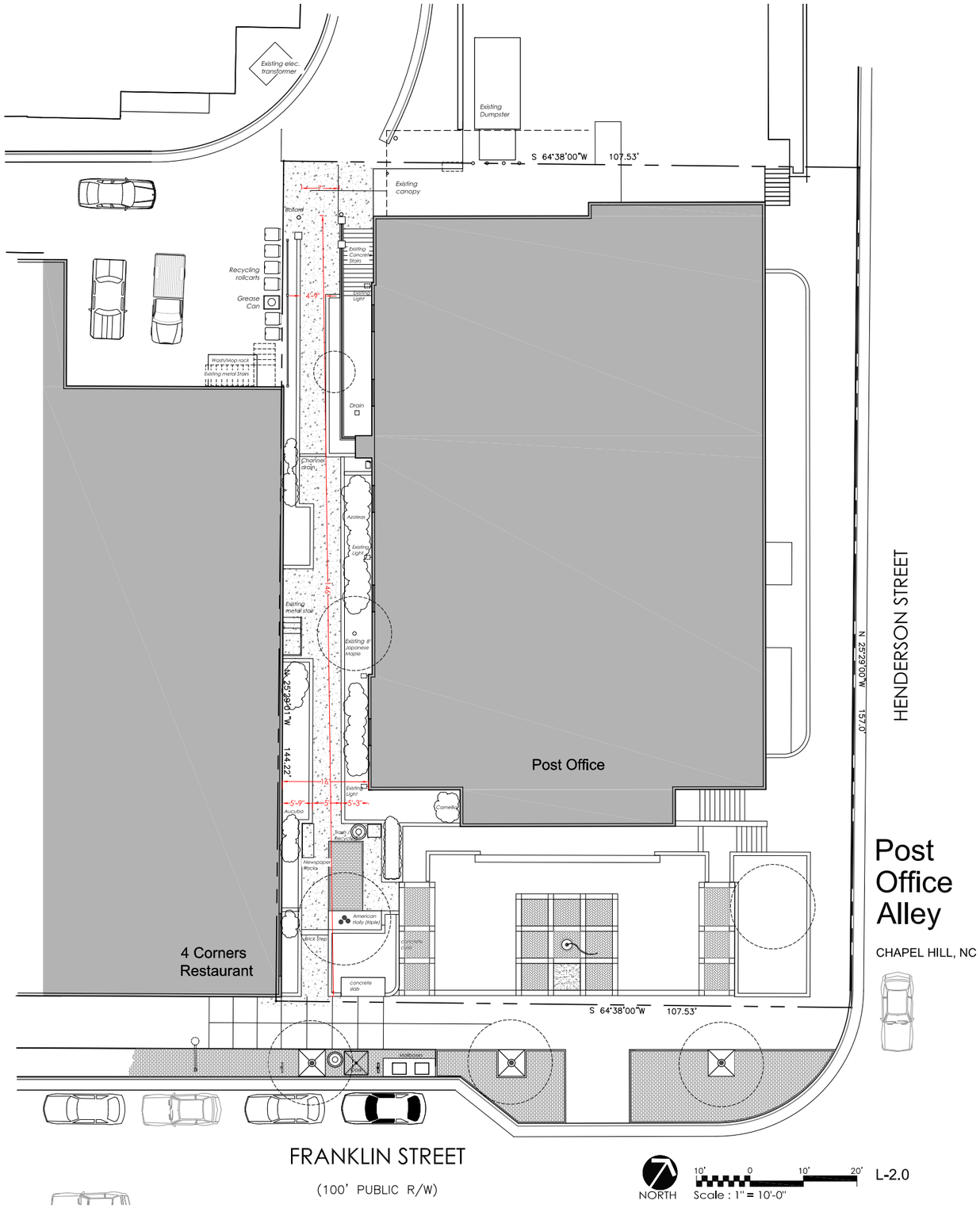
POST OFFICE ALLEY

existing conditions plan view



Post Office Alley

CHAPEL HILL, NC

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POST OFFICE ALLEY

schematic design plan view with demolition

Remove existing wood lattice fence

Remove existing brick planter wall

Rework existing drainage

- Investigate where the drainage piping daylights and take measure to clean out pipes (camera work where needed)

Remove existing brick planter wall

Remove existing streetscape elements

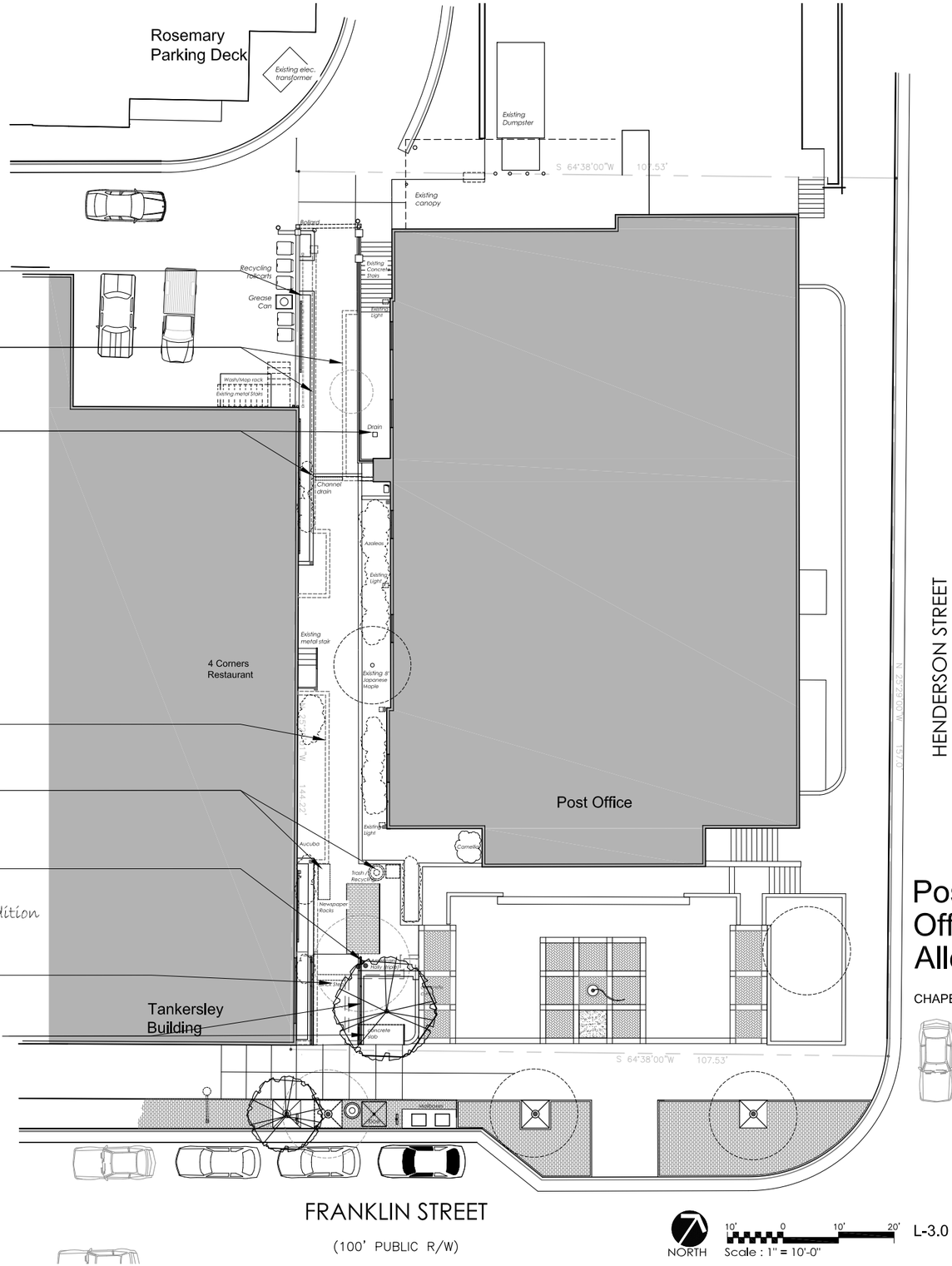
- newspaper rack,
- trash cans/recycling

Remove existing American Holly

- (long term solution) -
- short term, bring in Arborist to evaluate the condition the holly and provide neccessary pruning

Remove existing brick step

Remove existing brick planter wall and concrete slab and streetscape 'clutter'



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POST OFFICE ALLEY

schematic design plan view

Entry Portal Arch to define Alley Entry
- Wayfinding
- Placemaking

Pedestrian scale Streetscape elements
- trashcan/recycling

Brick Screen Wall
- wall height to be ~ 7 ft
- open pierced brick for air movement and to break up mass of wall
- add metal lattice trellis

Code compliant guard rail for wall to stairwell
- art opportunity

Metal Lattice Trellis for vine support

New Improved Drainage
- New Channel Drain & Catch Basin for cleanout

Chimney to allow nesting by migrating swifts
- add interpretive panels for educating public on bird patterns

String Lights
- mounted min. 12 ft high & strung between metal support posts.

New Channel Drain

Outdoor gathering
- open bar / outdoor bistro
- possibly with buil-in stools or leaning bar

New Planter Wall
- Seatwall height

Metal Lattice Trellis for vine support

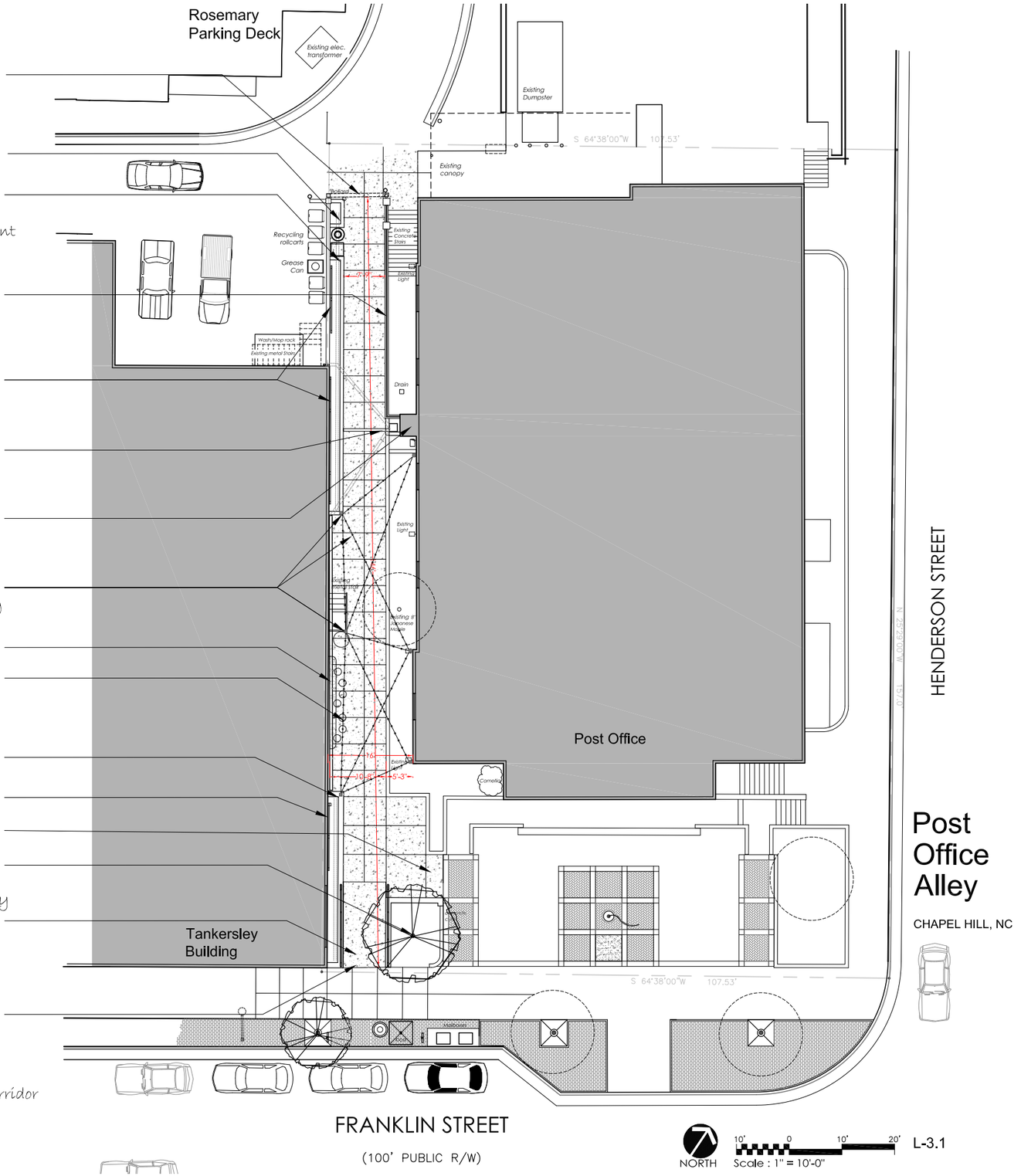
Widen connection to Post Office Peace and Justice Plaza

New Shade Tree
- large canopy tree such as an Oak in planter to replace declining holly

New Concrete Ramp
- Concrete ramp to replace step
- 1:16 (6.25% slope)
- Metal hand rails height to meet code

Special Paving to delinate alley entrance
- Wayfinding
- Name of Alley inset in paving

New Street tree
- align new tree away from alley corridor to improve visual access into alley



Post Office Alley

CHAPEL HILL, NC

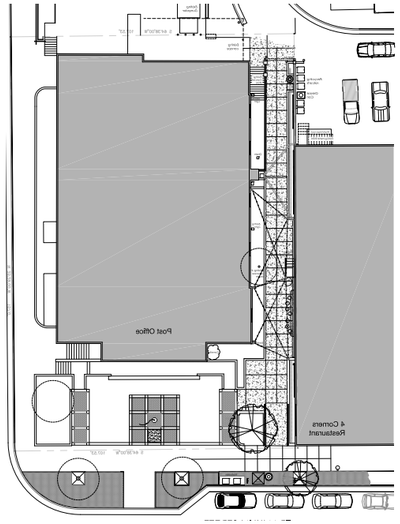
NORTH

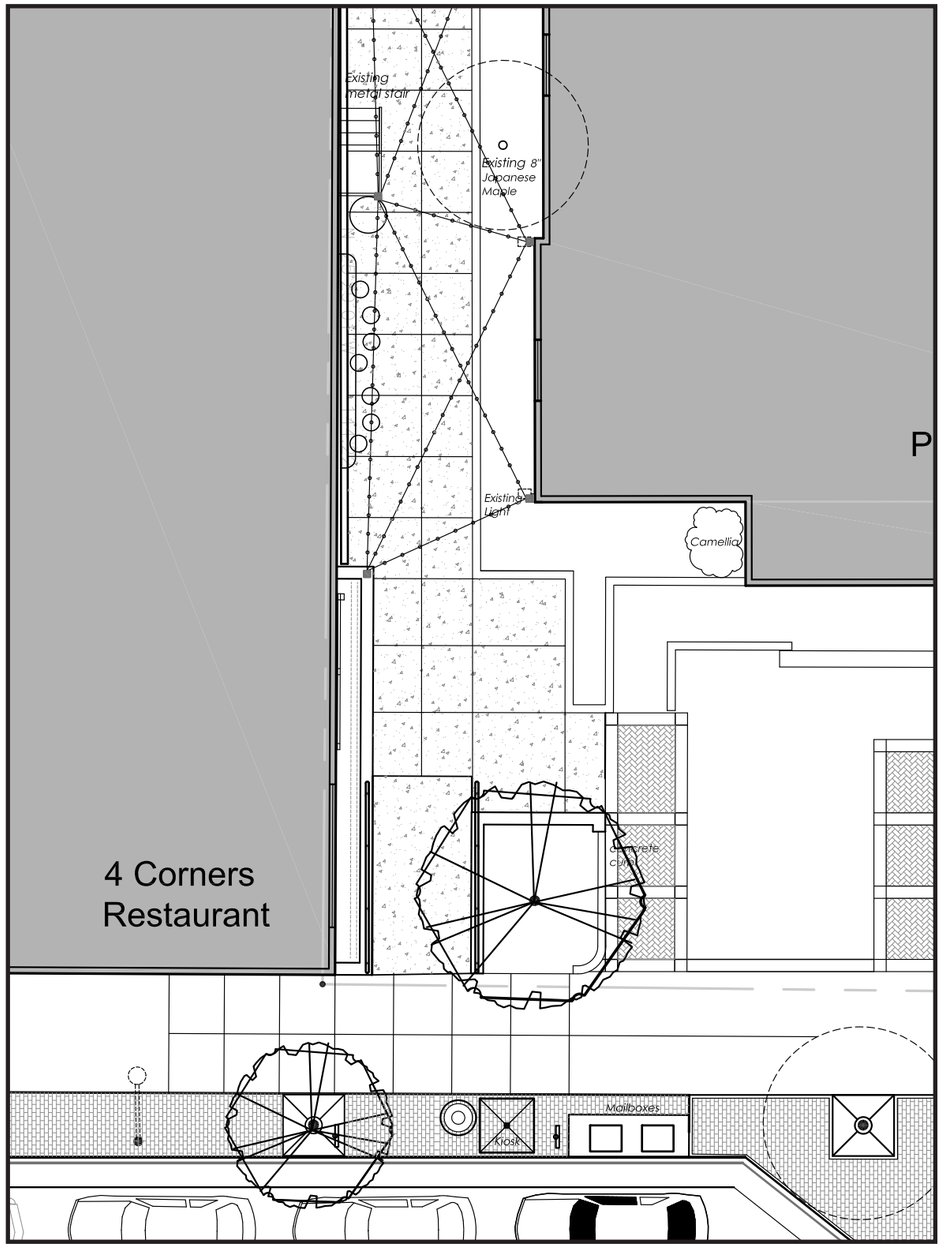
10' 0 10' 20'

Scale : 1" = 10'-0"

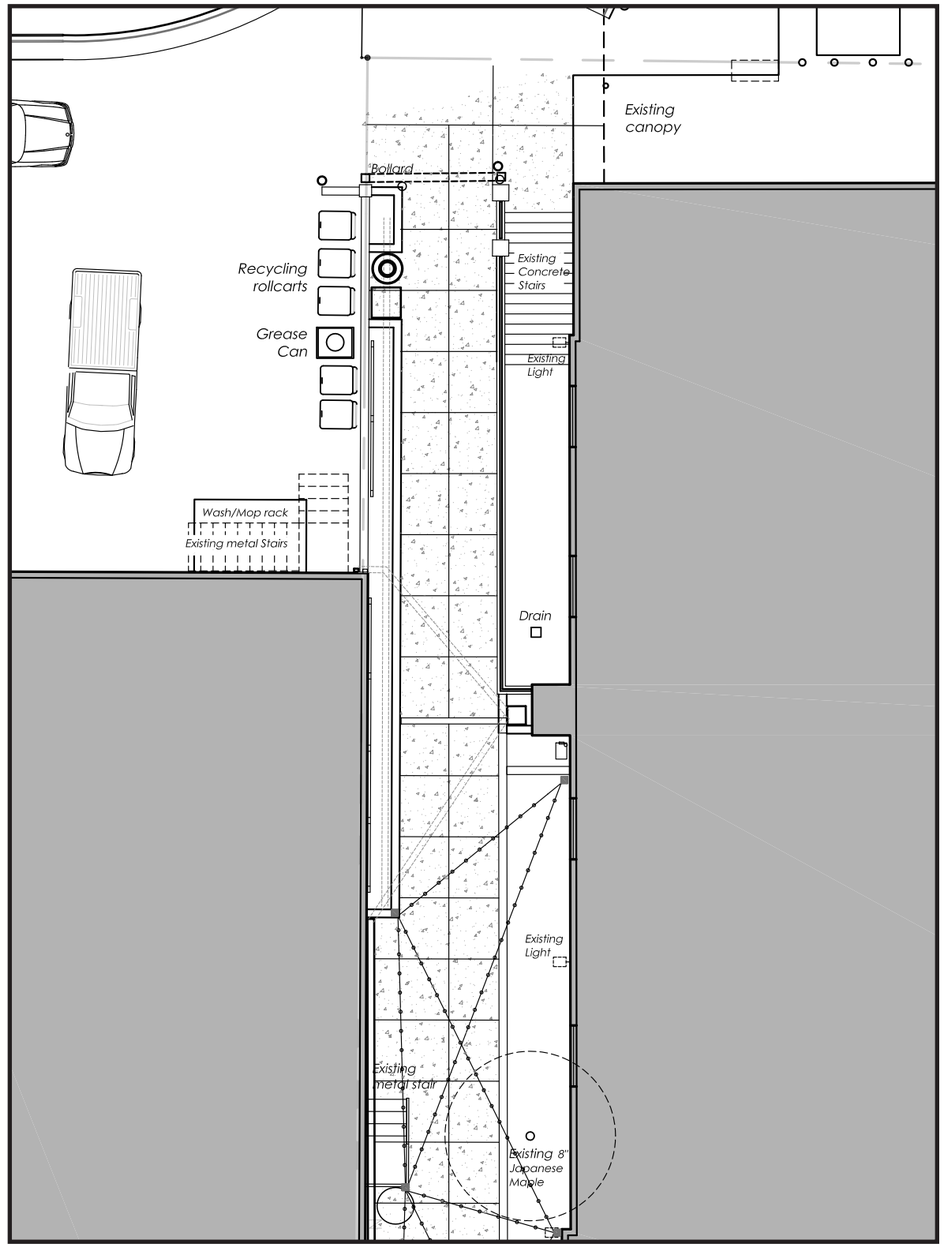
L-3.1

POST OFFICE ALLEY
schematic design plan view





south entrance (Franklin St.)

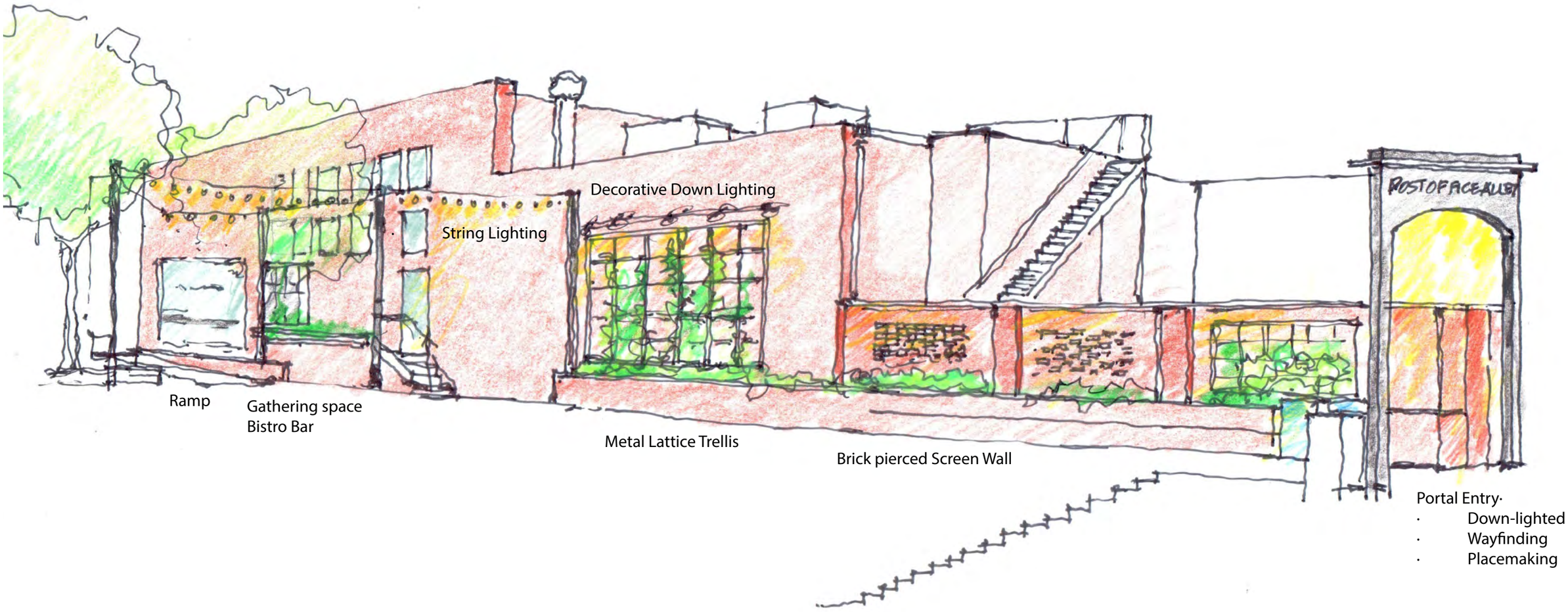


north entrance (Rosemary St.)

POST OFFICE ALLEY
schematic design perspective

POST OFFICE ALLEY

schematic design perspective



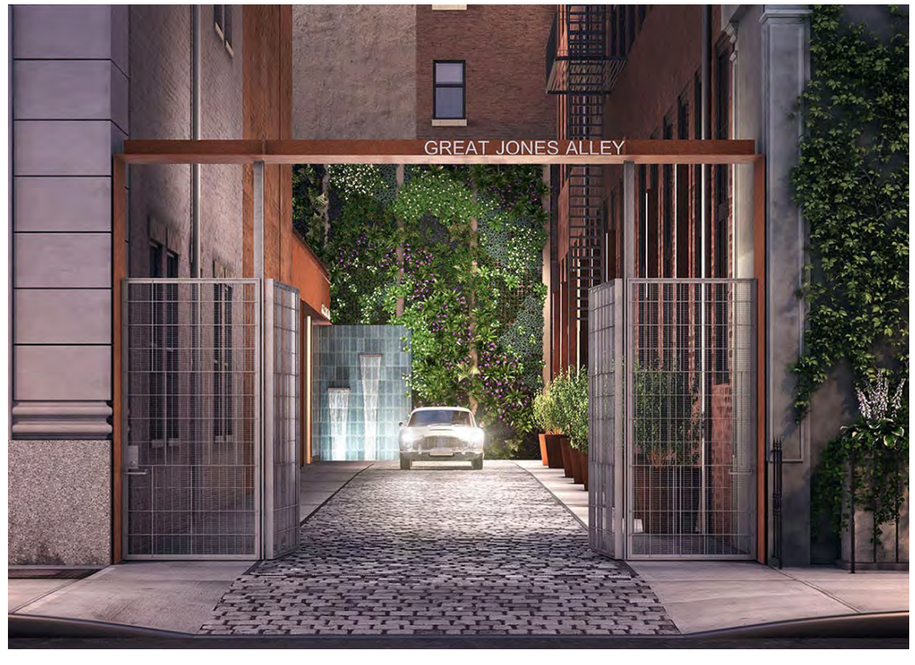
POST OFFICE ALLEY
precedent for schematic design

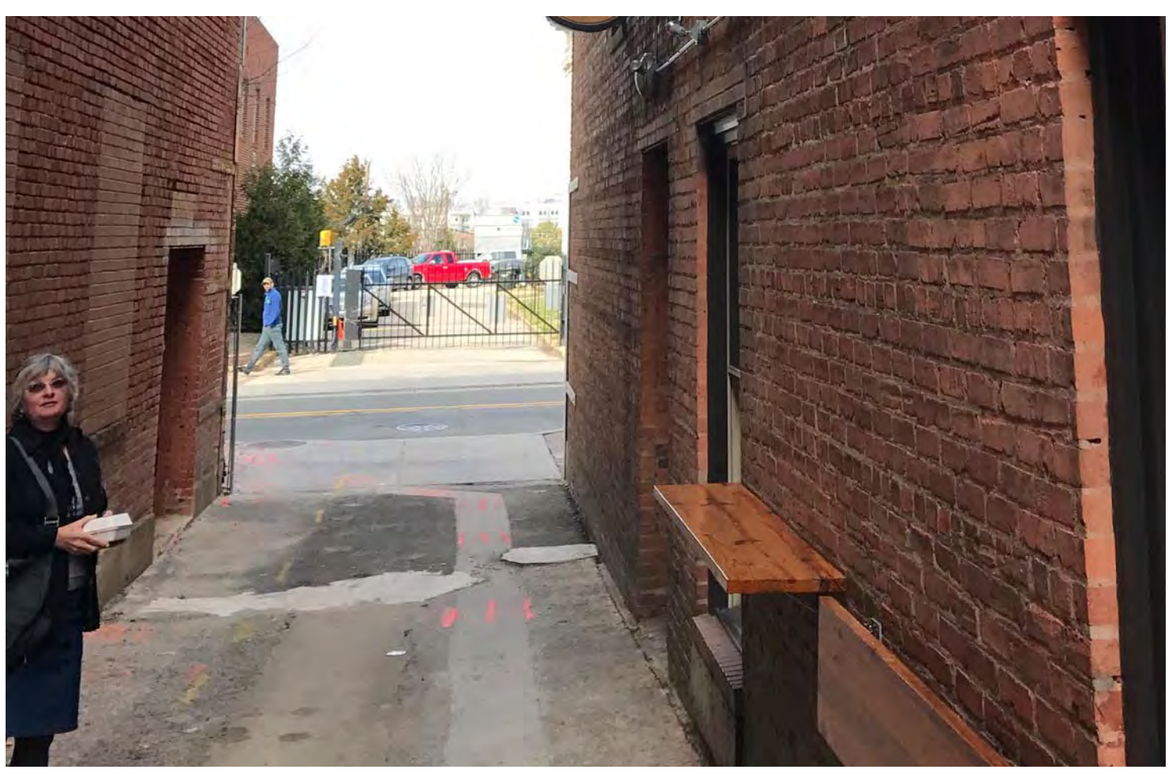
Alley names on the ground plane to assist in wayfinding.

Green walls are a compact way of bringing greenery into a tight environment.

Outdoor dining and string lights contribute to place making as well as populating the space aiding in a sense of wellbeing.

Alley names written into an entry arch on both north and south ends of the alley aid in a sense of place and in orientation.



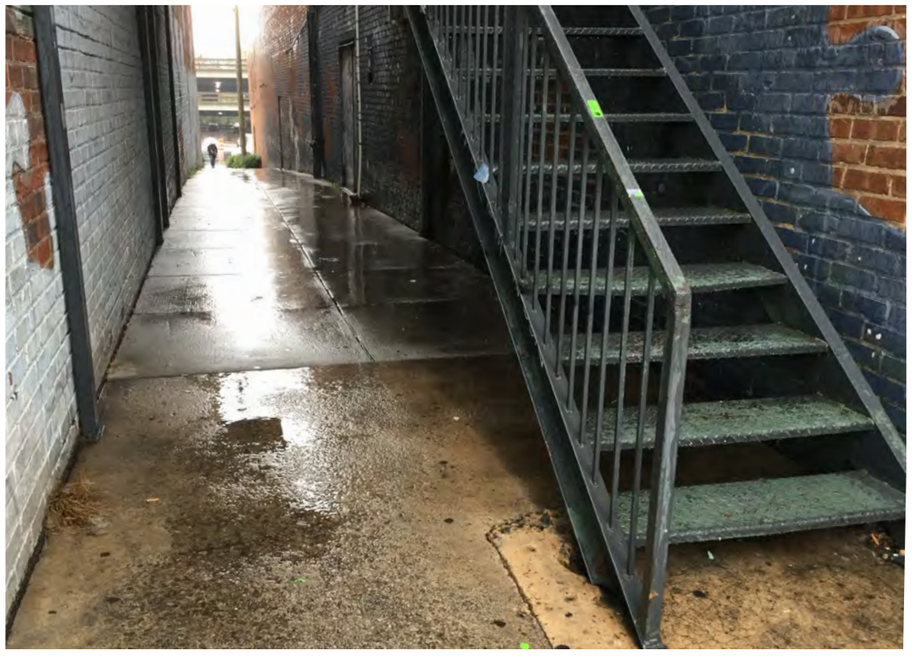


VARSITY ALLEY
existing conditions

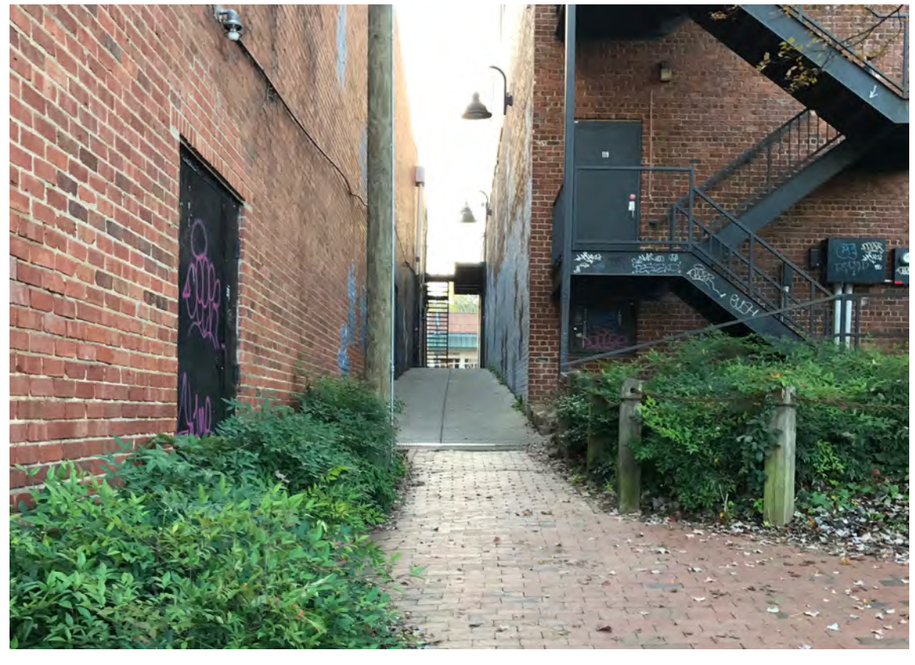
view from Franklin St.

view from the parking lot on Rosemary St.

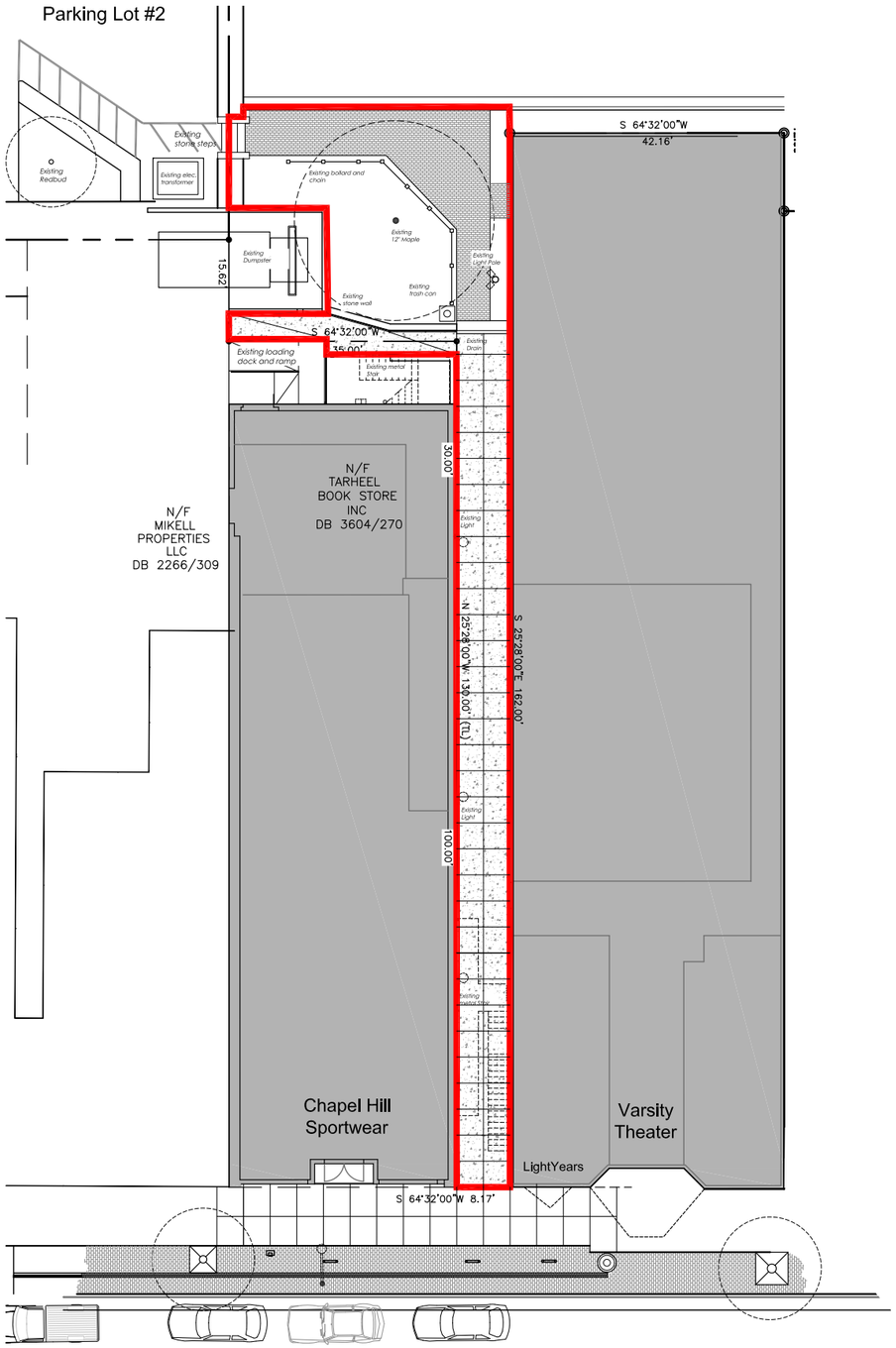
view into alley on the Franklin St. side.



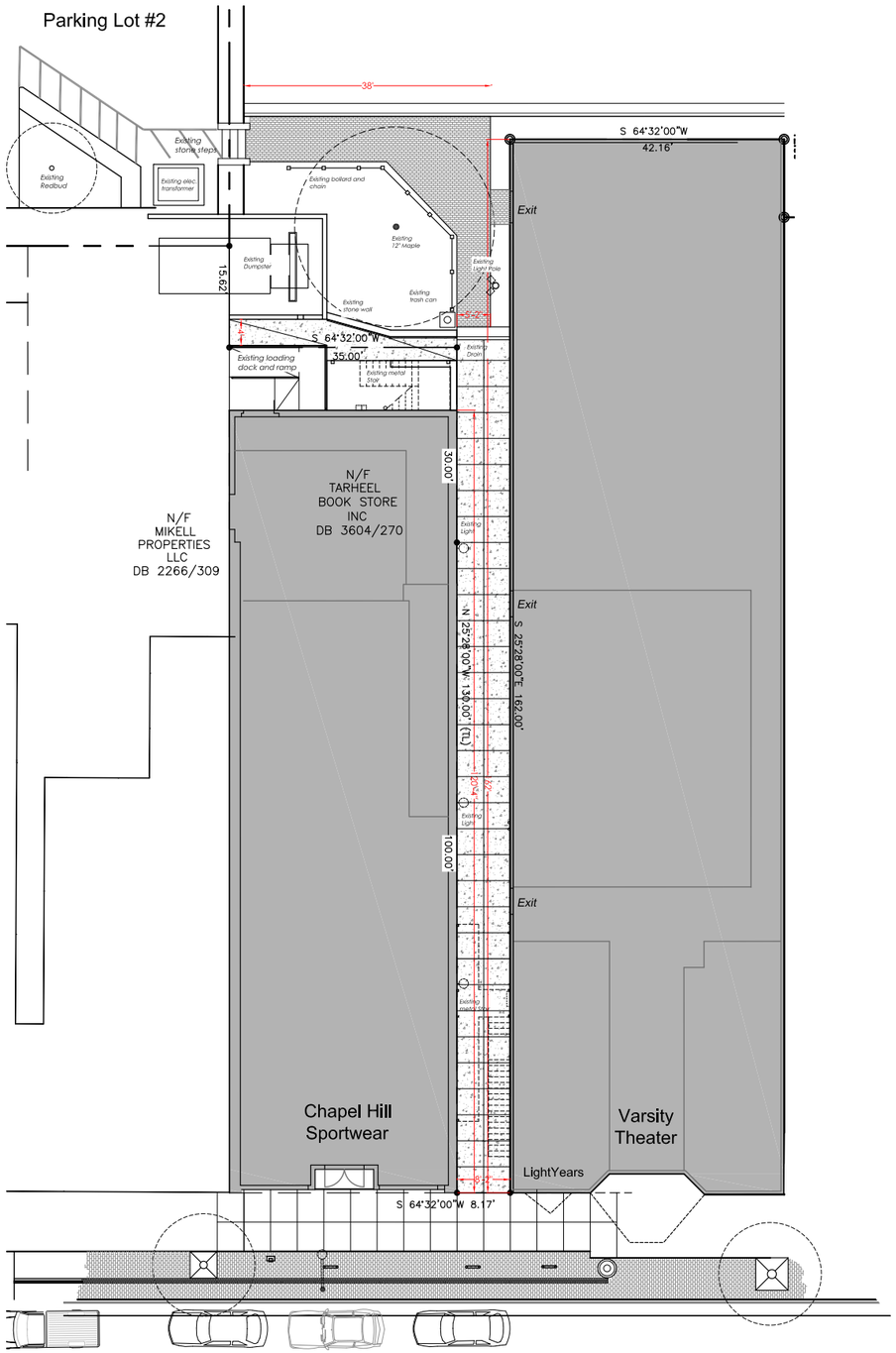
view into alley on the Rosemary St. side



VARSITY ALLEY
existing conditions plan view



VARSITY ALLEY
existing conditions plan view



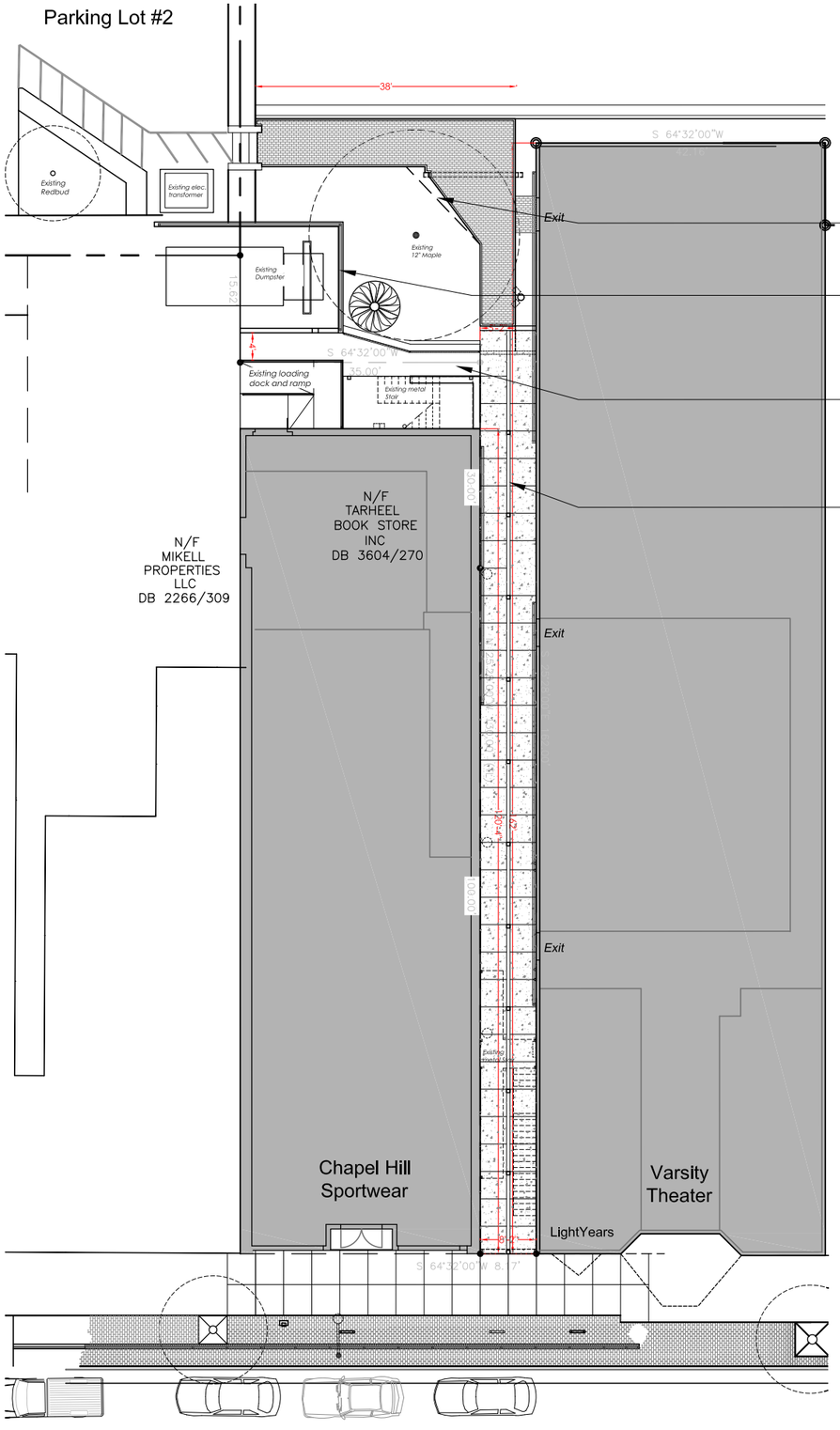
FRANKLIN STREET
(100' PUBLIC R/W)

NORTH
10' 0 10' 20'
Scale : 1" = 10'-0"

PLAN VIEW

VARSITY ALLEY

schematic design plan view | with demolition



Remove portion of existing brick paving

- Reduce angle to accomodate the Portal Entry

Remove wood fence

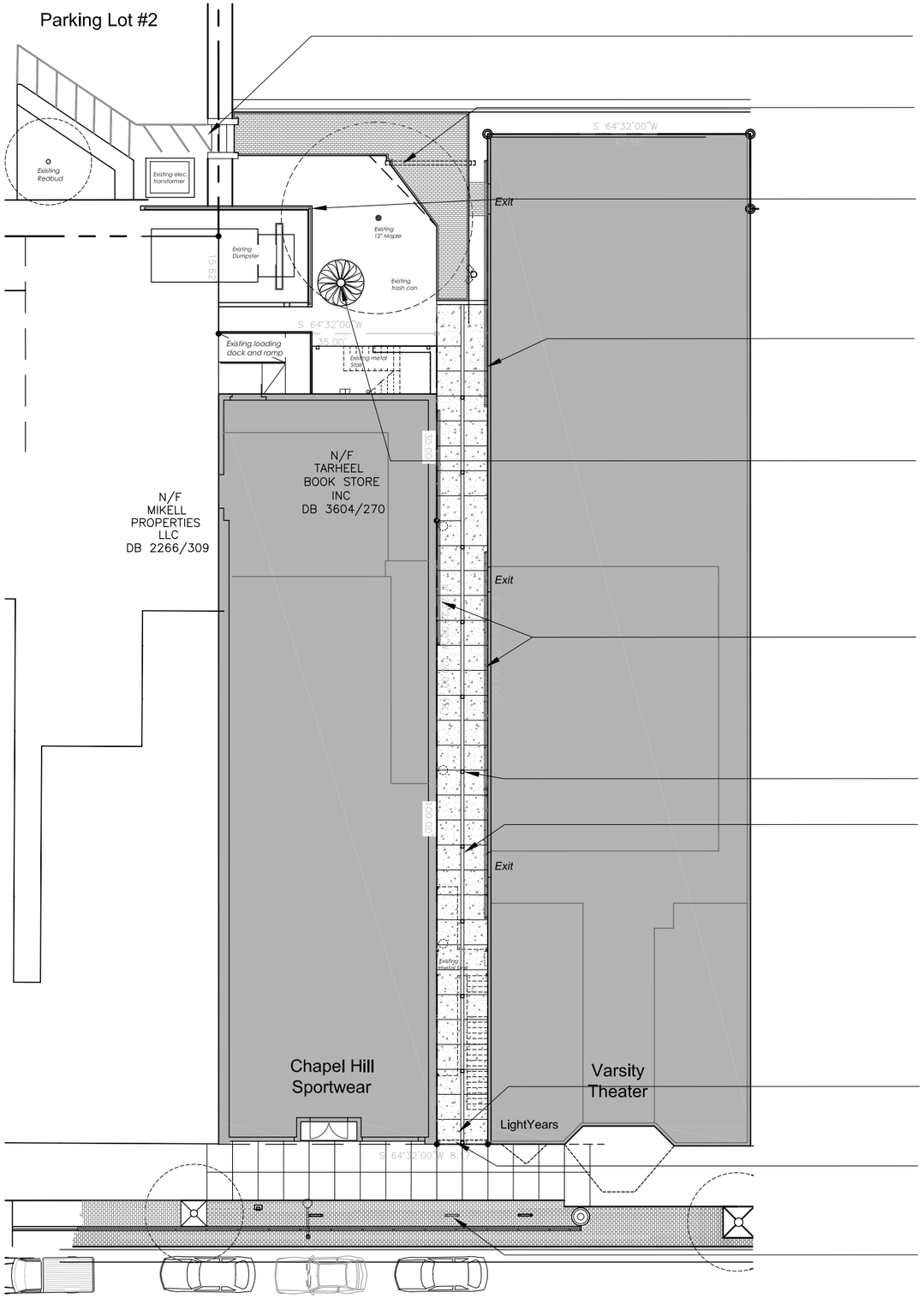
Remove concrete paving

- Integrate drainage measures

Remove concrete paving

- Reduce slope of walk where feasible

VARSITY ALLEY
schematic design plan view



Entry Paving/ Reconstruct existing stone steps
- extend the special (brick) paving to define entry at parking

Entry Portal Arch to define Alley Entry
- Wayfinding
- Alley Name
- Placemaking

New metal screen fence
- Three-dimensional perforated metal panel
- Wayfinding opportunity
- Art Opportunity
- Improve screening of trash compactor

Image Wall
- Three-dimensional perforated metal panel with mural
- Decorative Wall Lighting
- Wayfinding opportunity

Art opportunity
- Art Element with stormwater filter component
- Wayfinding

Image Wall
- Perforated metal panel with mural
- Decorative wall lighting
- Art opportunity

Paving Light

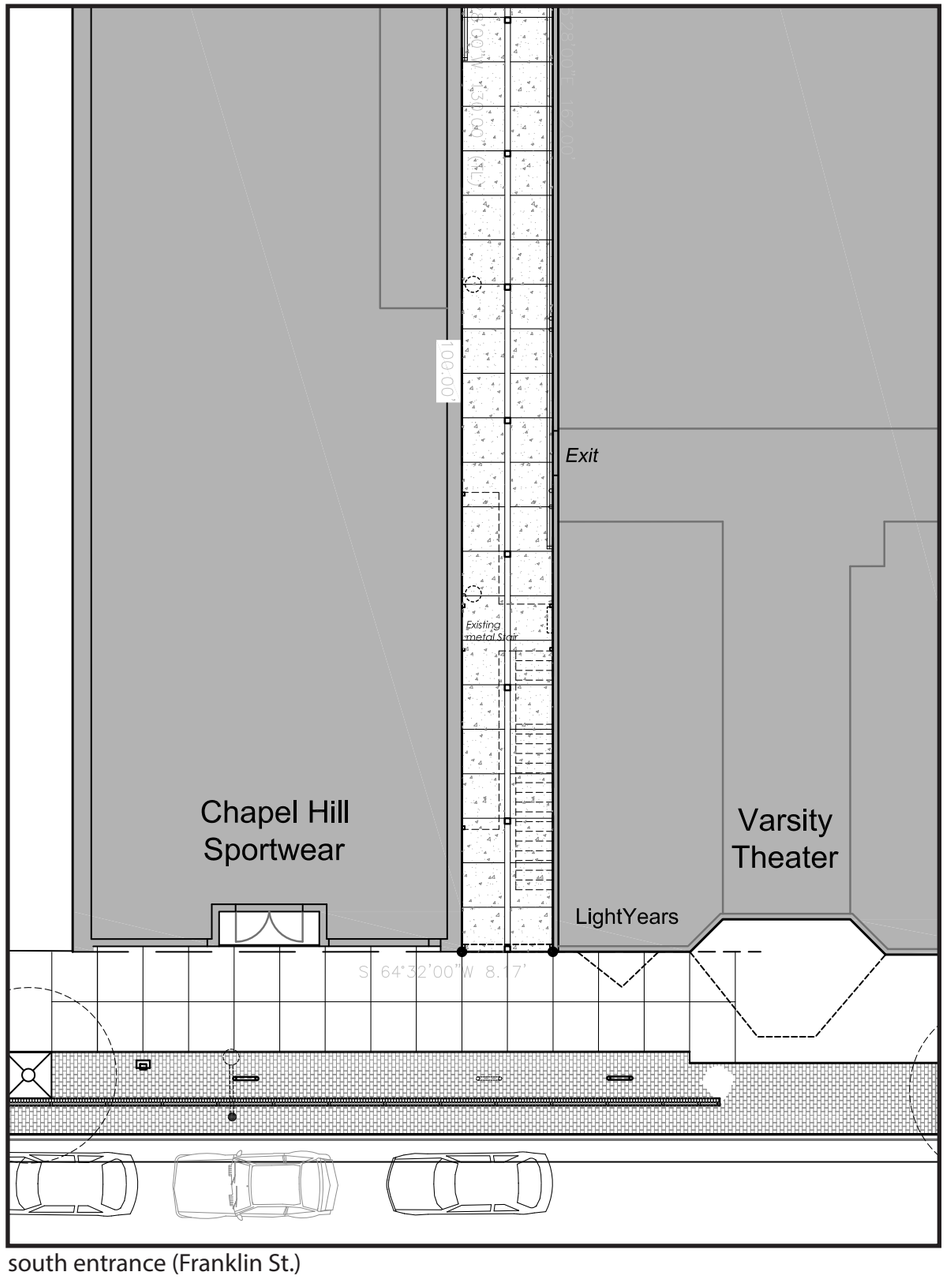
Channel Drain

Special Paving to delinate alley entrance
- Wayfinding
- Name of Alley inset in paving

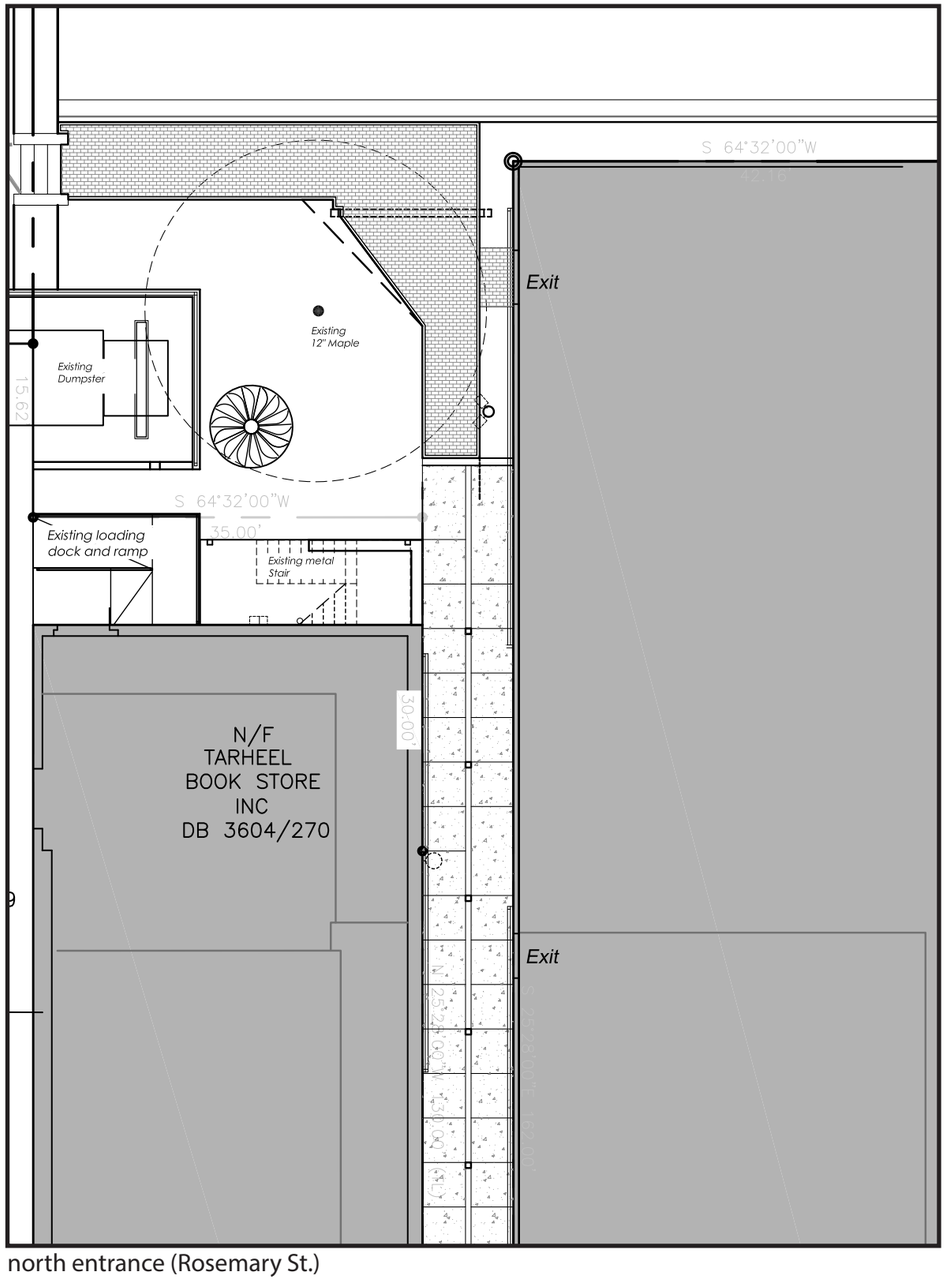
Entry Portal Arch to define Alley Entry
- Wayfinding
- Placemaking

Relocate existing bike rack

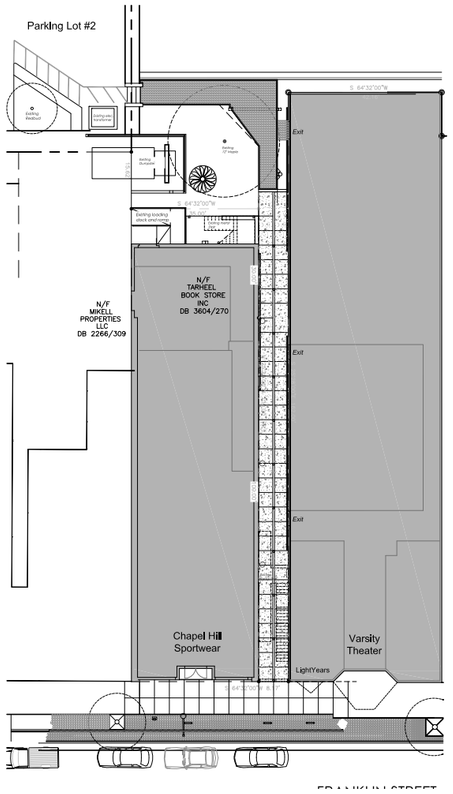
VARSITY ALLEY
schematic design plan view



south entrance (Franklin St.)

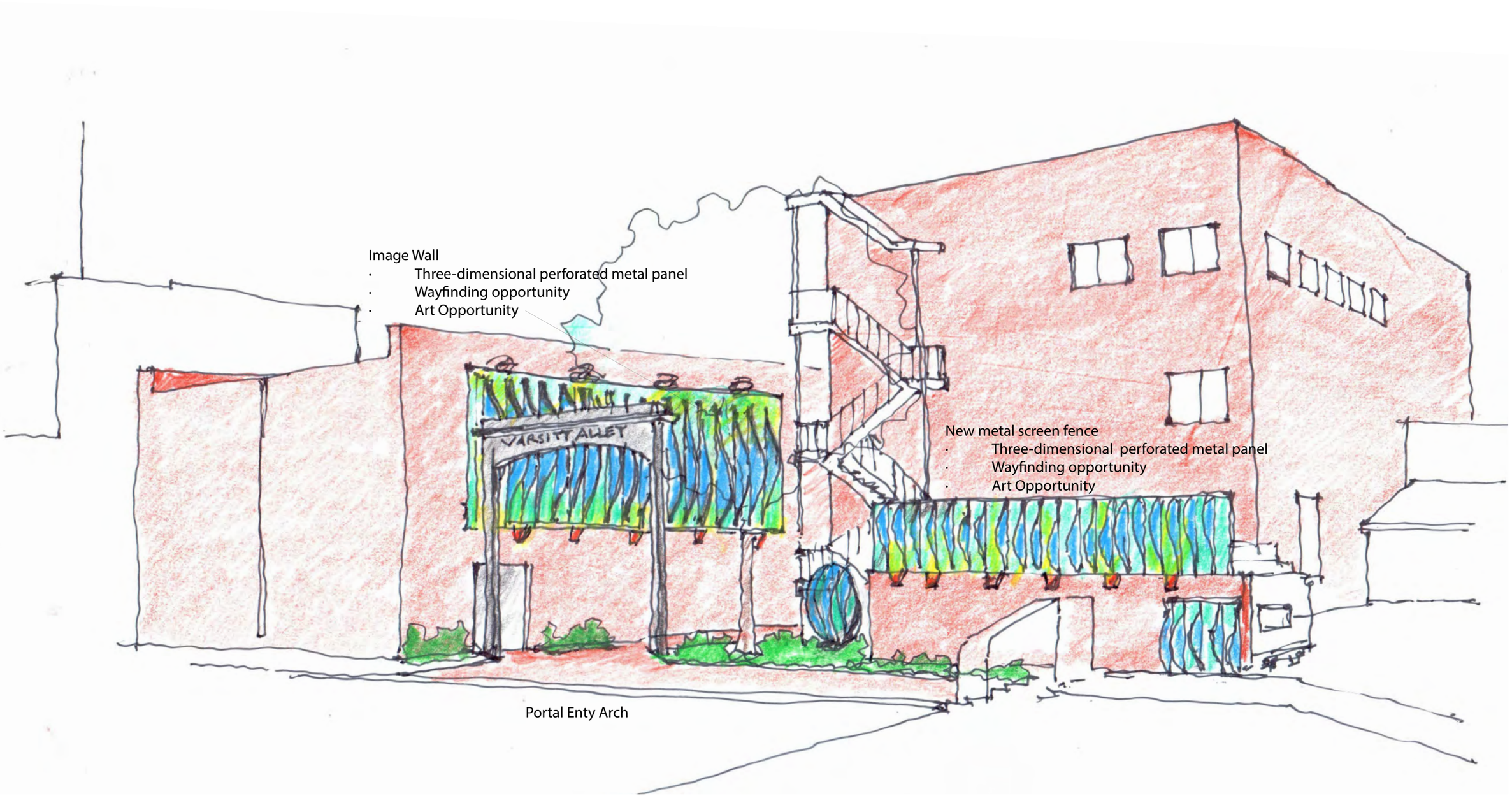


north entrance (Rosemary St.)



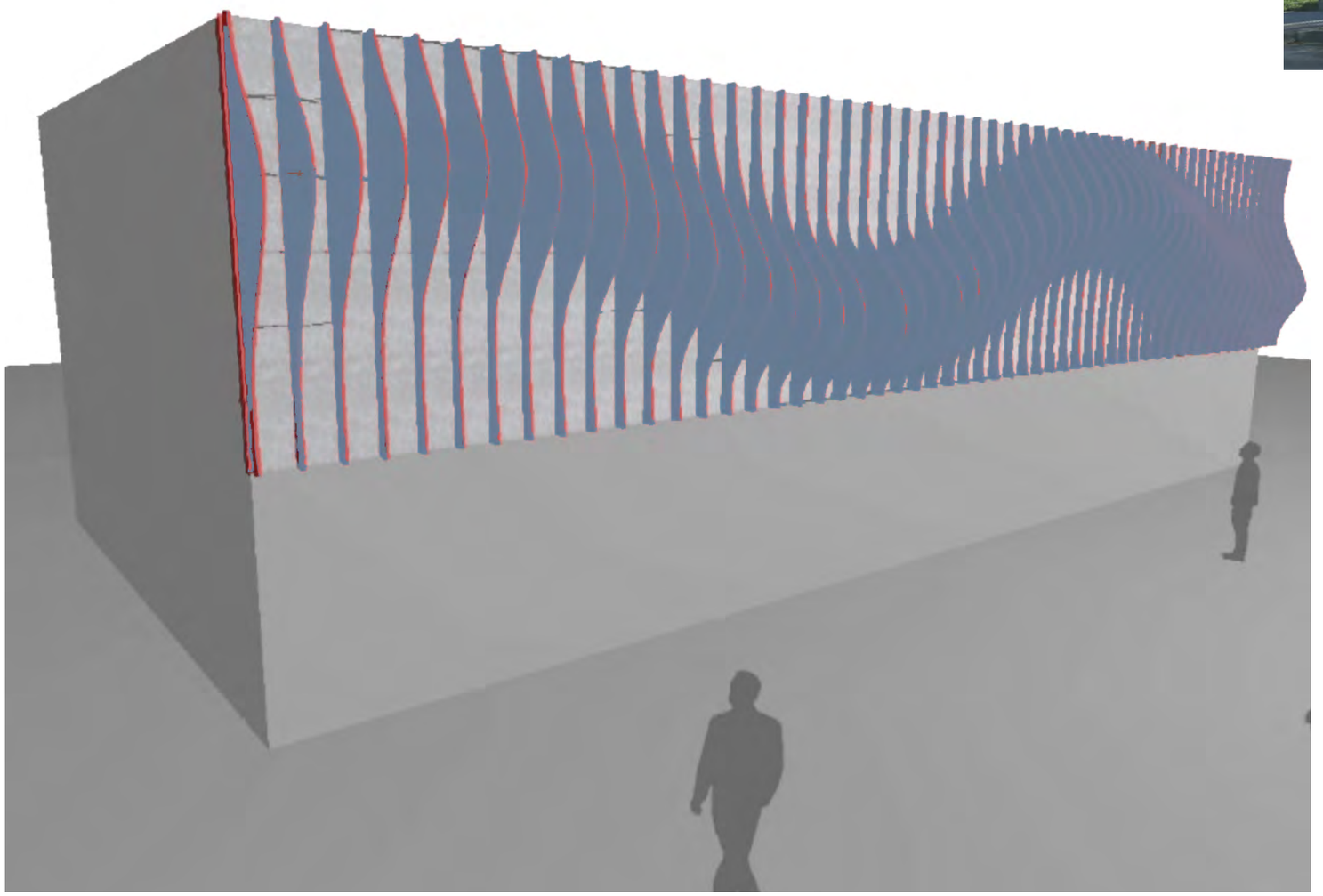
VARSITY ALLEY
schematic design plan view

VARSITY ALLEY
schematic design perspective



VARSITY ALLEY

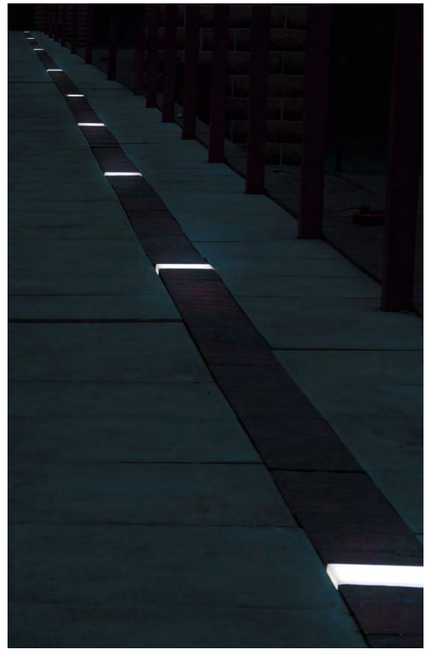
wayfinding, placemaking and lighting



VARSITY ALLEY
precedent for schematic design

Downward facing
outdoor lighting.

By using three paving materials; permeable brick pavers, LED light pavers, and concrete we can convey direction, contribute to safety and perform sustainably.



Combining lighting and wayfinding artfully in order to contribute to sense of place and safety.