ATTN: Historic District Commission

RE: April 14, 2021 Work Session

64 Vaughan Mall Restoration Portsmouth, NH 03801

Steve Wilson Hampshire Development Corp. 41 Industrial Drive #20 Exeter, NH 03833

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603.997.2519

64 Vaughan Mall

The property at 64 Vaughan Mall was acquired in September of 2020 from the Cabot House Group by the development team that successfully executed the re-development of the Connie Bean Center at 135-143 Daniel St. and The Provident Condominium at 25 Maplewood Ave. in Portsmouth. Principle Steven Wilson and Hampshire Development Corp. have operated since 1984 and have been involved in the successful construction and renovation of dozens of historic urban properties in the southeastern NH and northeastern Massachusetts regions. Our principal goal for the property at 64 Vaughan Mall will be to bring the site and existing structure up to current codes while restoring the main building to its original architecture.

Built in the late 19th century as as 3 story brick and heavy timber structure with a flat roof and full basement (36' x 75'), the building was originally owned and occupied by the Margeson Bros Furniture Co.. Early in the 20th century, the building was more than doubled in size 36' x 140' toward what is now the Worth Parking Lot with an addition constructed of essentially the same materials and form. A single story "modern" block addition with a shed roof was added mid century toward the rear facing Hanover St. and was utilized as a loading dock for shipping and receiving for Cabot Furniture. Notably, in 1993 Artist Robert Wyland received the owners permission to allow a mural of his design to be painted by a group of regional amateur artists on the side of the building facing the Worth lot. This mural quickly became a landmark of sorts referred to as the Whaling Wall. However through inappropriate preparation and application of paints, the mural has significantly deteriorated the facade of the building.

The only public access to the building is via the 75' of frontage on the Vaughan Mall leaving long expanses of blank walls along the Worth Parking Lot (145'), the rear alley (135') and the Hanover St. frontage (80') with no entry or other focal points. This provides no pedestrian interface with the building on three sides. In fact, circumnavigating the building on foot requires walking in active vehicle traffic lanes for an extended distance with no connectivity to the building or the Vaughan Mall from Maplewood Ave., Hanover St. or the rest of downtown to the West, South and Easterly directions.

The current condition of the building is widely substandard. The building in its existing condition presents many challenges to the developer, designers, and contractors associated with any renovation and

rehabilitation. The building is largely void of modern utility and mechanical systems with existing water, sewer, drainage, HVAC and fire protection all failing to meet modern standards or capacities.

The structure itself has not received any significant upgrades or improvements in over 70 years. The roof has failed in areas allowing moisture penetration and now threatens the integrity of the structure. Additionally most of the original windows have been infilled and the brick facade has been painted on four sides with a product that has trapped moisture, causing extensive spalling of the masonry. The inside of the existing structure, although retaining some very worthwhile architectural features and wide open space with high ceilings etc., is laden with asbestos and other environmental contaminants which must be removed and remediated. Finally the shape and size of the structure present a very monolithic and unappealing facade that does not enhance its surroundings, promote its history or engage the pedestrian at the street level.

In light of the building and site conditions we are uniquely qualified to rehabilitate and remediate the structure, and with the cooperation of the City, we will be able to convert this property to an attractive mixed use project that will make a significant contribution to the vibrancy of the Vaughan Mall and its strategic location in downtown Portsmouth. Our proposal will truly complement and enhance the City's architectural and historic character and contribute to its sense of place.

Currently underway, our first step is to remediate the hazardous waste conditions and perform select demolition of the interior. We are conducting tests to analyze the feasibility and best methods for removing the coatings and restore the historic facades. Our structural engineers have provided detailed analysis and preliminary plans for rehabilitation of the structure to current standards while maintaining its historic character. Our specific plan for the property is illustrated by the accompanying plans and would be to provide vehicle parking and storage in the existing basement accessed from Hanover St.. The ground floor would be developed as a commercial use as required by current zoning and with the addition of a sidewalk, entries and storefronts along the Worth Parking Lot will serve to activate the Vaughan Mall area.

The revitalization and adaptive reuse of this building will require a minor reconfiguration of parking spaces, installation of curbing, brick sidewalks and landscaping in and adjacent to the Worth Lot. It will thus require the support and approval of the City. The results and impacts as illustrated by the attached site plan and elevations will be profoundly positive for the Worth Lot and Vaughan Mall. No net loss of

parking, improvements in ADA compliance for pedestrians and handicap parking, creation of significant green space annexed to the Vaughan Mall and completion of the pedestrian connection from Hanover St., Maplewood Ave., Worth Lot to the Vaughan Mall and their adjacent businesses are some of the highlights of our plan. It will balance the pedestrian and vehicular experience for this active area with no functional downside to either. Additionally, we propose to reactivate the existing infilled windows with new windows and doors being added to the previously blank wall (along the Worth Lot side of the building) with an emphasis on maintaining the historic value in form and function on all sides of the building.

To address the disproportionate massing of the existing buildings, we have transitioned the rear facade of the building to a different style to differentiate the two buildings adding texture and interest to the continuous wall plane. Importantly, a significant portion of the rear building facade was constructed of poured concrete and was covered by an attached building having no relationship to the architecture of the main building.

In closing we are extremely excited to begin the process of working with the City to design and redevelop this significant property to better serve the community and its future occupants. To that end we are looking forward to listening to your input and ideas as we continue to refine the building and site designs.

Warm Regards Steven Wilson

64 VAUGHAN MALL BUILDING RESTORATION

Owner:

64 Vaughan Mall, LLC

10 Industrial Way Amesbury, MA 01913

Applicant:

Hampshire Development Corp.

41 Industrial Drive Exeter, NH 03833 (603) 778-9999

Civil Engineer:



133 Court Street Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 433-2335 www.altus-eng.com

Architect: JSA Design

273 Corporate Drive, Suite 100 Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 436-2551

Surveyor:

James Verra

& Associates Inc.

LAND SURVEYORS

101 SHATTUCK WAY, SUITE 8
Newington, New Hampshire
03801-7876

Tel 603-436-3557

64 Vaughan Mall, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Assessor's Parcel 126, Lot 1

Historic District Commission

Plan Issue Date:

April 8, 2021

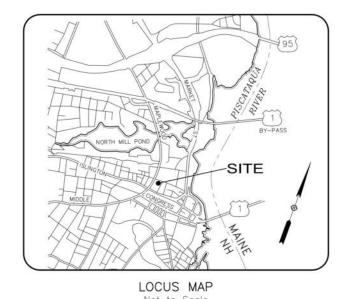
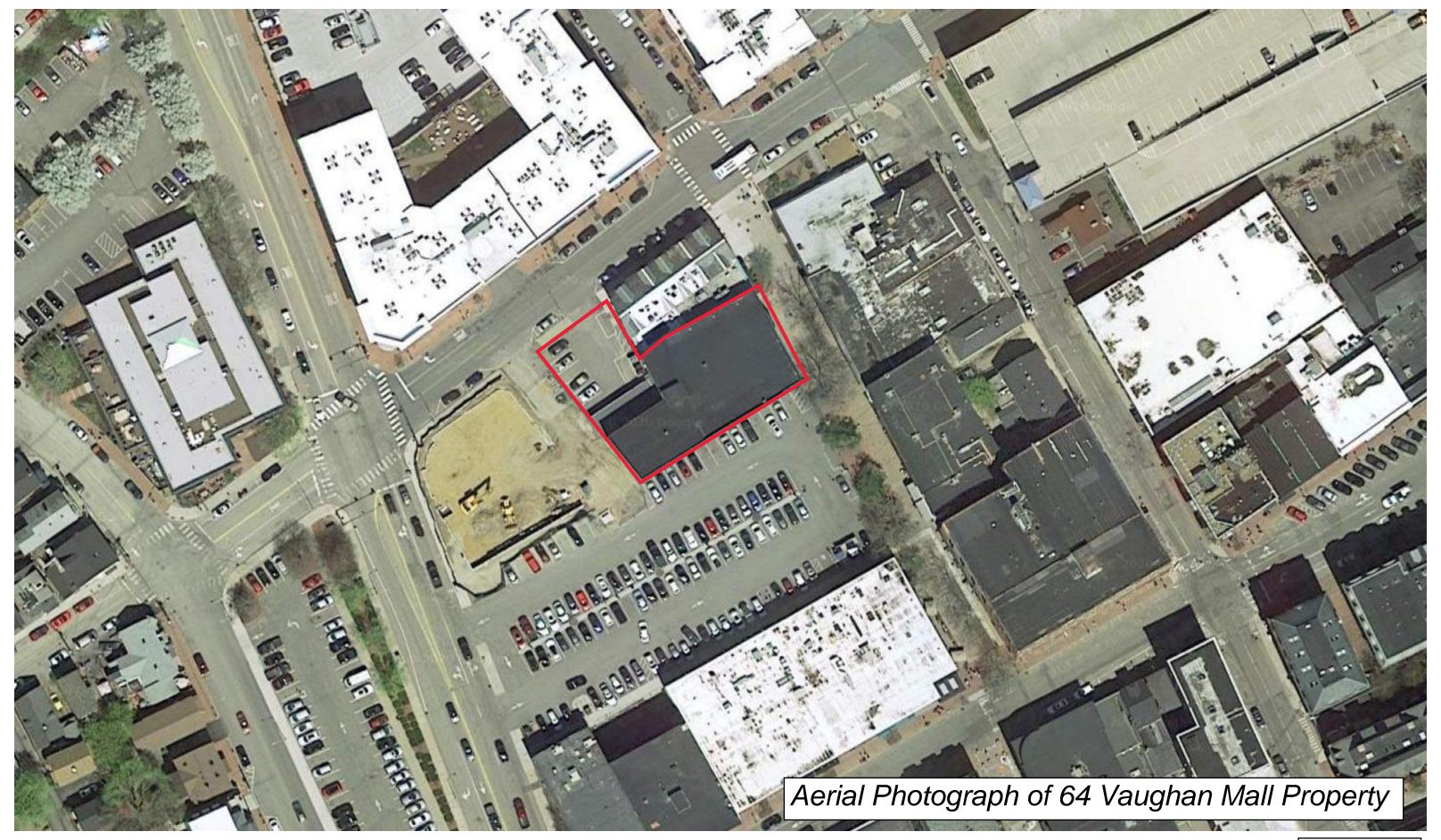


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Margeson Bros. Furniture Store; Photograph circa ~1910-1920

Sheet 2

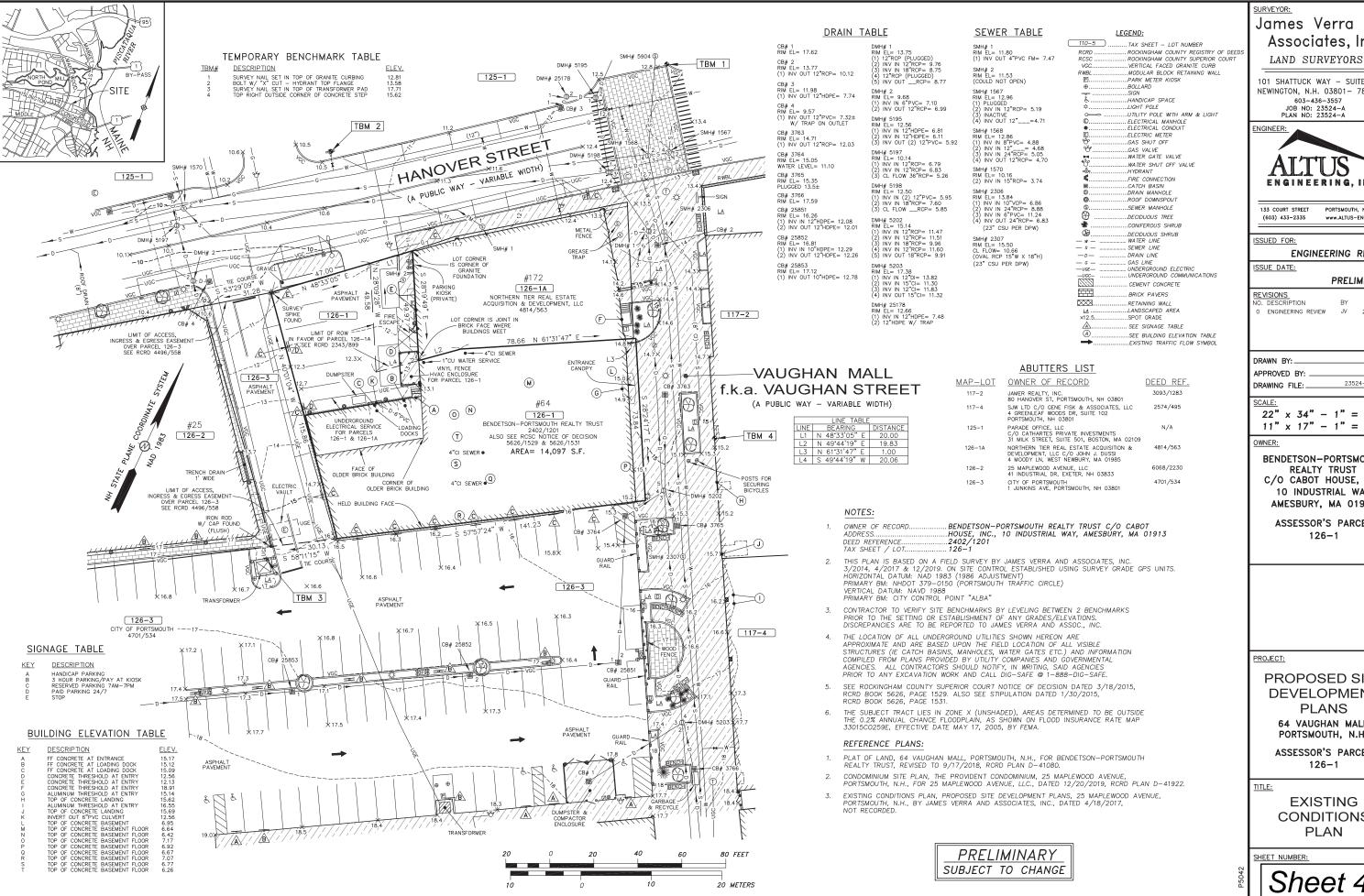












James Verra and Associates, Inc.

101 SHATTUCK WAY - SUITE 8 NEWINGTON, N.H. 03801- 7876 603-436-3557 JOB NO: 23524-A PLAN NO: 23524-A



133 COURT STREET PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801 www.ALTUS-ENG.com

ENGINEERING REVIEW

PRFI IMINARY

DATE 2/3/20

JCS JV 23524-A.DWG

 $22" \times 34" - 1" = 20'$ $11" \times 17" - 1" = 40'$

BENDETSON-PORTSMOUTH REALTY TRUST C/O CABOT HOUSE, INC. 10 INDUSTRIAL WAY AMESBURY, MA 01913

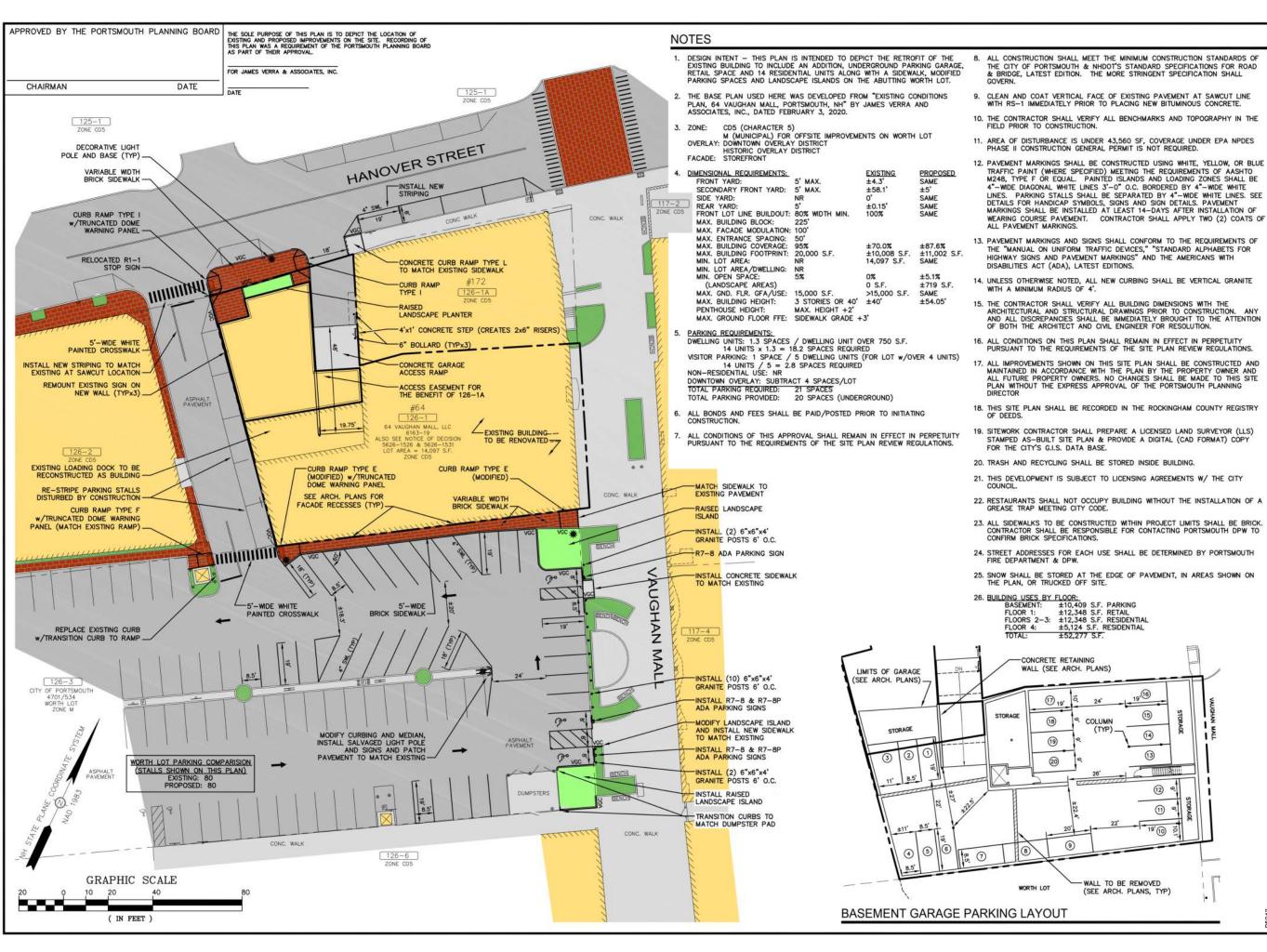
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL 126-1

PROPOSED SITE **DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

> 64 VAUGHAN MALL PORTSMOUTH, N.H.

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL 126-1

EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN





133 Court Street | Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 433-2335 | www.altus-eng.com

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

ISSUED FOR:

ISSUE DATE:

ISSUE DATE.

APRIL 8, 2021

KE VISIONS			
10.	DESCRIPTION	BY	DATE
0	CLIENT REVIEW	EBS	05/21/
1	TAC WORK SESSION	EBS	07/07/
2	TAC	EBS	10/19/
3	PB CONSULTATION	EBS	12/30/
4	REV. BLDG. HEIGHT	EBS	01/26/

RE. FOOTPRINT FOR HDC EBS 04/08/:

 DRAWN BY:
 EBS

 APPROVED BY:
 EDW

DRAWING FILE: 5042-SITE.dwg

SCALE: 22"x34" 1" = 20'

11"x17" 1" = 40'

OWNER:

64 VAUGHAN MALL, LLC

41 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE EXETER, NH 0383

APPLICANT:

HAMPSHIRE DEVELOPMENT CORP.

41 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE EXETER, NH 03833

PROJECT:

64 VAUGHAN MALL BUILDING RESTORATION

TAX MAP 126, LOT 1

64 VAUGHAN MALL PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801

TITLE:

SITE PLAN

SHEET NUMBER:

Sheet 5





EAST ELEVATION 1/16" = 1'-0"

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

64 Vaughan Mall SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0" 04/08/2021



Sheet 6







WEST ELEVATION

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

64 Vaughan Mall SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0" 04/08/2021





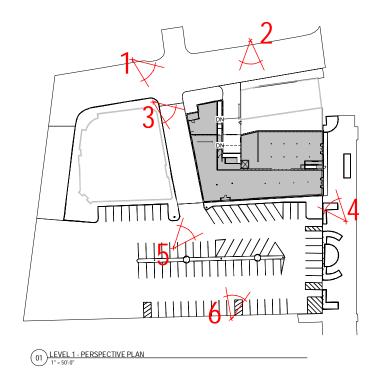
1 VIEW 01







2 VIEW 02





3 VIEW 03



4 VIEW 04



PERSPECTIVE VIEWS

64 Vaughan Mall

04/08/2021

