

Boston Athenaeum
10 1/2 Beacon Street
Boston MA

Application for Design Approval Beacon Hill Architectural Commission

26 March 2020



schwartzsilver

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section A	Application Form
Section B	Description & Photographs of Existing Conditions
Section C	Description of & Images of Proposed Changes
Section D	Drawings of Proposed Changes
Section E	Historical Survey Information from MHC MACRIS Database

Congregational House
12-14A Beacon Street
Boston MA
3 March 2020

SECTION A

Application Form



APPLICATION CERTIFICATE of APPROPRIATENESS-or- DESIGN APPROVAL-or-EXEMPTION
Deliver or mail to: Environment Department Boston City Hall, Rm 709 Boston, MA 02201

For Office Use Only
APPLICATION # _____
RECEIVED _____
FEE _____
HEARING DATE _____

DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM BY FAX OR EMAIL

DO NOT STAMP THIS BOX

I. PROPERTY ADDRESS 10 1/2 Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108
NAME of BUSINESS/PROPERTY Boston Athenaeum

The names, telephone numbers, postal and e-mail addresses requested below will be used for all subsequent communications relating to this application. Environment Department personnel cannot be responsible for illegible, incomplete or inaccurate contact information provided by applicants.

II. APPLICANT Schwartz Silver Architects

CONTACT NAME Lawrence C Bauer AIA RELATIONSHIP TO PROPERTY Architect
MAILING ADDRESS 75 Kneeland Street, Boston MA ZIP 02111
PHONE 857 449 0708 EMAIL lbauer@schwartzsilver.com

PROPERTY OWNER Boston Athenaeum CONTACT NAME Creelea Pangaro, Trustee
MAILING ADDRESS 10 1/2 Beacon Street, Boston MA ZIP 02108
PHONE (617) 723-4554 EMAIL creelea@gmail.com

ARCHITECT Schwartz Silver Architects CONTACT NAME Lawrence C Bauer AIA
MAILING ADDRESS 75 Kneeland Street, Boston MA ZIP 02111
PHONE 857 449 0708 EMAIL lbauer@schwartzsilver.com

CONTRACTOR Windover Construction CONTACT NAME Glen Sullivan
MAILING ADDRESS 66 Cherry Hill Drive, Beverly MA ZIP 01915
PHONE 617 839 9093 EMAIL gsullivan@windover.com

III. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK
A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED WORK *MUST BE GIVEN IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW, OR THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.* This description provides the basis for the official notice and subsequent decision, and it must clearly represent the entirety of the project. Additional pages may be attached, if necessary, to provide more detailed information.

The outer bronze and inner red leatherette doors at the Boston Athenaeum at 10 1/2 Beacon Street are not original to the 1846 structure designed by Architect Edward Charles Cabot. (See Photo C taken in 1902 and Photo D an enlargement of the front entrance from the same photo for the design of what are believed to be the original doors). It is believed that the existing outer bronze doors were installed during the 1913 – 1915 renovation/expansion of the building, and that the red leatherette doors were installed either at that time or at some later date. Both pairs of doors were in existence but were unchanged during extensive renovations to the Lobby in 1999.

The two pairs of doors are separated by only two inches. The outer bronze doors are fixed in the open position when the Athenaeum is open to the public and shut and locked when the Athenaeum is closed to the public. The inner leatherette covered doors swing inward and are not in conformance with the current building code.

As part of a renovation and accessibility upgrade of the lobby of 10 1/2 Beacon, it is proposed to install new leatherette door leafs matching the design of the existing leafs but resized to swing outward. The bronze doors will remain unchanged except to restore the operability of the upper portions of the "dutch doors"

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION: Please include all required documentation with this application; review instructions carefully for details.

ESTIMATED COST OF PROPOSED WORK: \$12,500.00 _____

IV. DULY AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES (both required)

The facts set forth above in this application and accompanying documents are a true statement made under penalty of perjury.

APPLICANT Lawrence C. Bauer OWNER* Creelea Pangaro
 *(If building is a condominium or cooperative, the chairman must sign.)

PRINT Lawrence C Bauer AIA PRINT Creelea Pangaro, Trustee

Environment Department personnel cannot be responsible for verifying the authority of the above individuals to sign this application. Misrepresentation of signatory authority may result in the invalidation of the application.

UNSIGNED OR PARTIALLY SIGNED FORMS WILL BE REJECTED

THIS APPLICATION IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT SIGNATURES, FEES AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION.

The checklist below is for reference only: Please refer to the detailed application instructions for deadlines, fee schedule and required documentation specific to your proposal.

- COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM
- APPLICATION FEE (Check or money order made payable to City of Boston; see fee schedule in Instructions)
- DESCRIPTION OF WORK (A brief description must be included on the front page; additional pages of detailed information may be attached. **Applications that only note "see attached" will not be accepted.**)
- PHOTOS OF EXISTING CONDITIONS
- DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS AS REQUIRED (See "documentation requirements" in instructions)

For more information, visit the website at: www.cityofboston.gov/landmarks

Or contact the Environment Department at (617-635-3850) or at Boston City Hall, Room 709, Boston, MA 02201

SECTION B

Description & Photographs of Existing Conditions

Description of Existing Main Entrance Doors

The existing main front entrance of the Boston Athenaeum at 10 ½ Beacon Street is a feature of the 1846 competition winning design for the Athenaeum's new home on Beacon Street by Architect Edward Charles Cabot. There are presently two pairs of doors spaced about 2 inches apart filling the door opening. The outer pair of heavy, paneled, decorative bronze doors swings outward and is fixed in the open position during hours when the Athenaeum is open (See Photo A). The doors are closed and locked when the Athenaeum is closed to the public (See Photo B). The inner pair is covered with a red leatherette material decorated with a pattern of square brass studs. Each leaf is bordered at top and on each side with brass channel trim with a brass kick plate at the bottom. Each leaf has a rectangular vision lite. The inner door leaves swing inward with brass push plates on the exterior and brass pull handles on the interior for operation. The doors have closers but do not latch.

Neither pair of doors reflects the design of the original doors. A photograph from about 1902 shows what may have been the original doors (See Photo C & Enlargement D). It is believed that the existing outer bronze doors were installed during the 1913 – 1915 renovation and expansion of the building and that the red leatherette doors were installed either at that time or at some later date. Both pairs of existing doors were in place but were not altered during major alterations to the entrance lobby in 1999.



Photo A -Existing Entrance with Bronze Doors Open

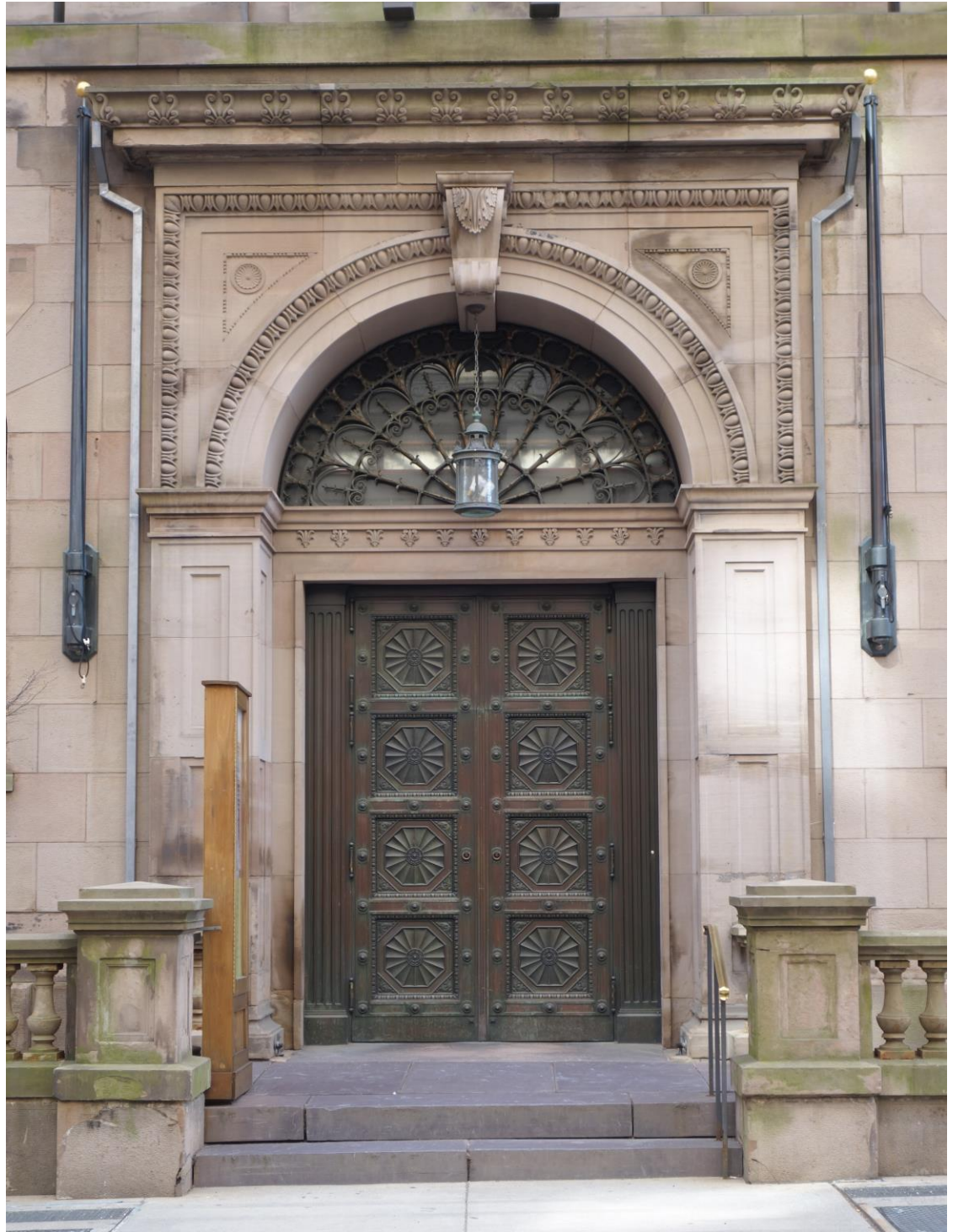


Photo B – Existing Entrance with Bronze Doors Closed



Photo C – Photo of Athenaeum Circa 1902



Photo D – Enlargement of Doors in Circa 1902 Photo

SECTION C

Description & Images of Proposed Changes

Proposed Changes to Entrance Doors

As part of a larger project to provide better universal access and code conforming egress, the inner red leatherette doors will be replaced with doors of the same design and materials, but of narrower width to allow the doors to swing outward while clearing the bronze door leafs in their open position. Upon removal of frame of existing red leatherette doors, the upper and lower leaves of the outer bronze doors will again be able to operate as a single door leaf if desired.

The changes above will involve the following scope of work:

- Remove the existing red leatherette doors and their frame.
- Fabricate and install a new bronze door frame inside the bronze doors extending from floor to the top of bronze outer doors. (See SK-007 in Section D)
- Construct new flanking side walls on either side of new frame. (See SK-007 in Section D)
- Install new wood casing matching wood casing covered by new flanking walls on inner surface of flanking walls. (See SK-004, SK-005 & SK-007 in Section D)
- Install new bronze panels on interior surface of flanking walls to match interior of existing bronze door frame of outer bronze doors. (See SK-004, SK-005 & SK-007 in Section D)
- Fabricate and install new leatherette covered door panels with vision lites and new transom panel. Door leaves and transom panel will have brass channel edge trim and kick plates to match existing. Existing brass studs, push plates and pull handles will be reused on new door leaves. (See SK-002, SK-003, SK-004, SK-005 & SK-006 in Section D)
- Install new doors and transom panel in bronze frame using full mortise butt hinges to match existing.
- Install low energy power door operator fitting between jambs of door frame at head of door leaves behind transom panel. (See SK-004, SK-005 & SK-006 in Section D)
- Install new bronze post pedestal with bronze push plate to operate doors on exterior plaza to right of doors. (See SK-001 SK-002& SK-003 in Section D)
- After removing existing frame of red leatherette doors, restore operability of upper leaves of outer bronze doors, giving Athenaeum choice of opening both upper and lower leaves together or opening only bottom leaves as is presently done. (See Photo E & Photoshop Images F and G following)



Photo E – Existing Main Entrance Doors



Photoshop Image F – Proposed New Inner Doors w/Full Outer Door Leaves Open

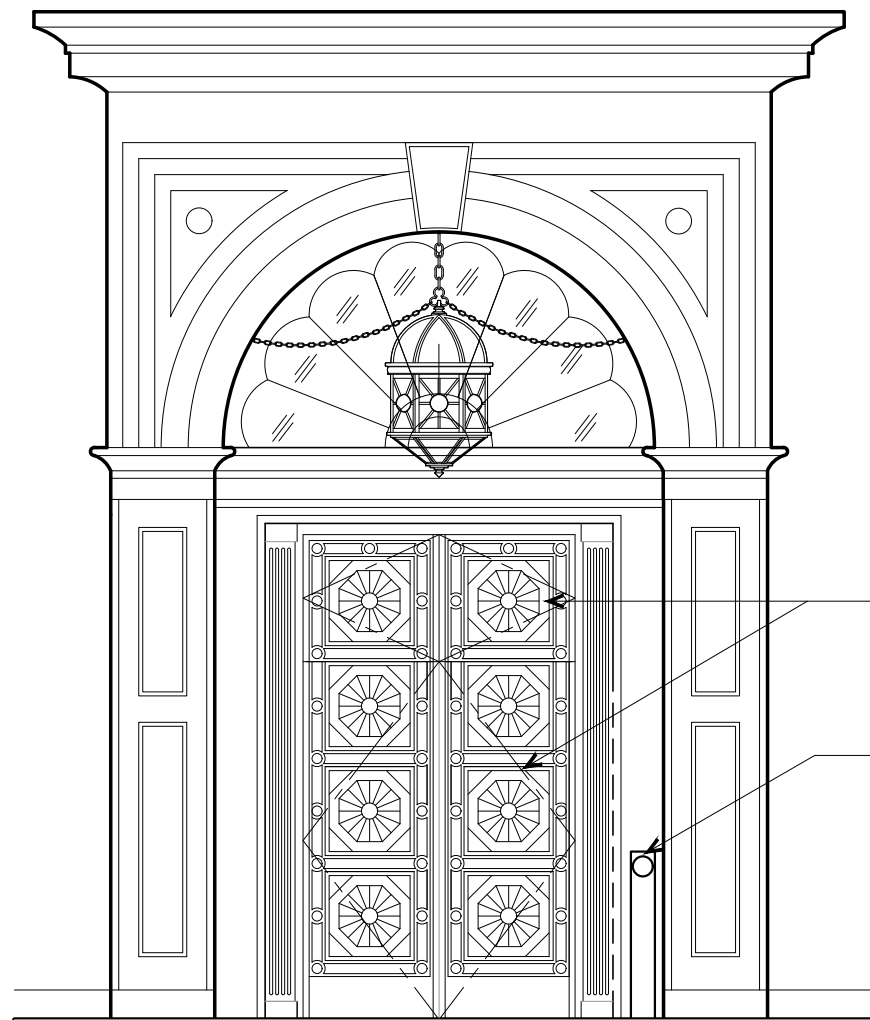


Photoshop Image G – Proposed New Inner Doors w/Lower Outer Door Leaves Open

SECTION D

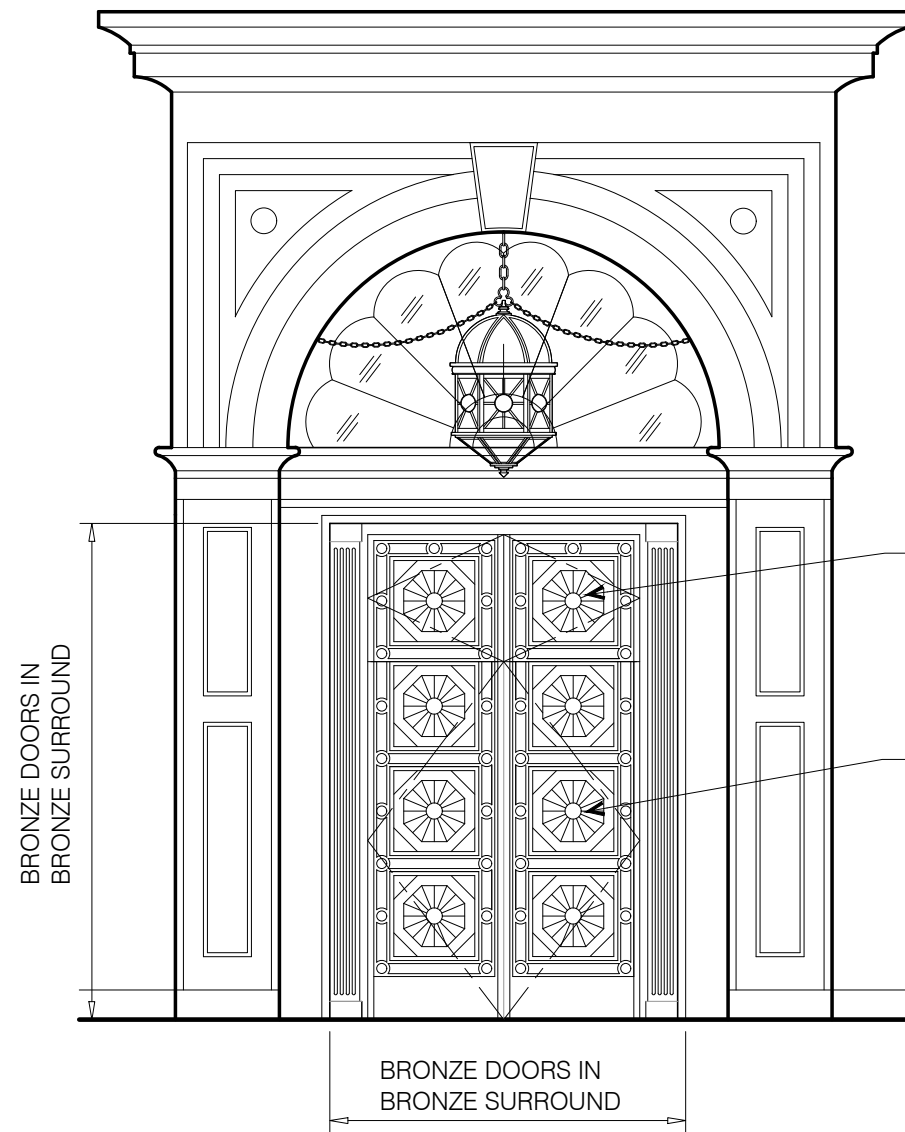
Drawings of Proposed Changes

SK-001	Exterior Elevations w/Bronze Doors Closed
SK-002	Exterior Elevations w/Lower Leaves of Bronze Doors Open
SK-003	Exterior Elevations w/Upper & Lower Leaves of Bronze Doors Open
SK-004	Interior Elevations of Red Leatherette Doors w/Upper Leaves of Outer Bronze Doors Open
SK-005	Interior Elevations of Red Leatherette Doors w/Upper Leaves of Outer Bronze Doors Closed
SK-006	Vertical Sections Through Doors
SK-007	Horizontal Section Details Through Door Jambs



NO PROPOSED ALTERATION
VISIBLE WITH BRONZE DOORS
CLOSED (TYPICAL AFTER
HOURS)

NEW 6" X 6" X 42"H BRONZE
BOLLARD WITH PUSH PLATE
ACTUATOR FOR NEW INNER
DOORS



BRONZE UPPER DOORS
SHOWN CLOSED (TYPICAL
DURING OPERATING AND
AFTER HOURS)

BRONZE LOWER DOORS
SHOWN CLOSED (TYPICAL
AFTER HOURS)

BRONZE DOORS IN
BRONZE SURROUND

2 Proposed Elevation

SK-001 with Upper and Lower Bronze Doors Closed

Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

1 Existing Elevation

SK-001 with Upper and Lower Bronze Doors Closed

Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

SCHWARTZ/SILVER
ARCHITECTS INC.

75 Kneeland Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Telephone 617-542-6650
Facsimile 617-951-0779

Boston Athenaeum
10 1/2 BEACON ENTRY ALTERATIONS

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

1/4" = 1'-0"

Scale

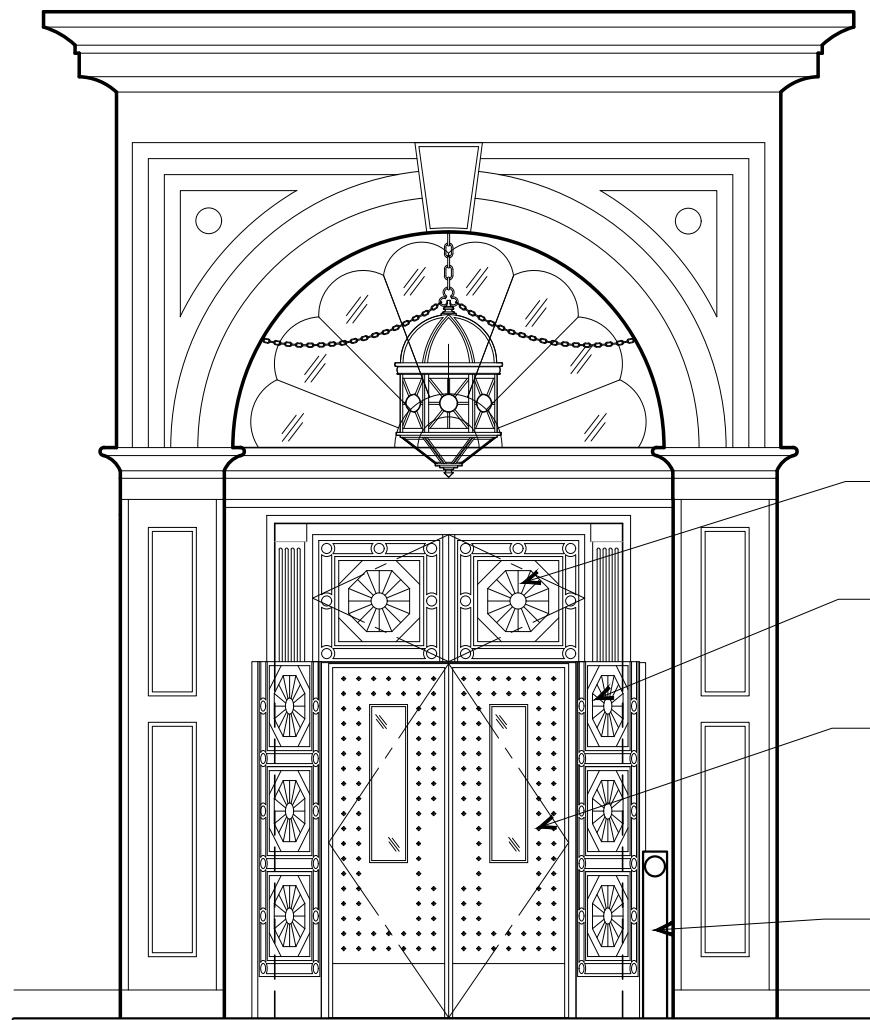
2020-03-25

Date

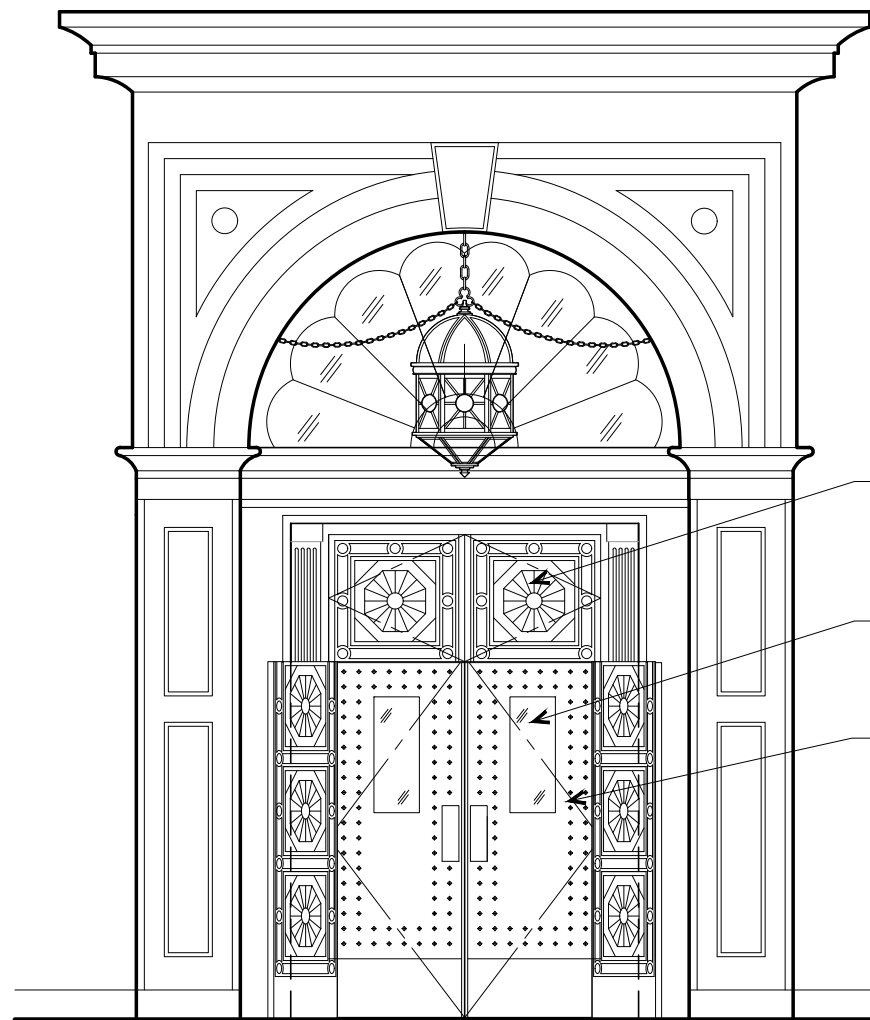
Reference No.

SK-001

Sketch No.



- BRONZE UPPER DOORS SHOWN CLOSED (TYPICAL DURING OPERATING HOURS AND AFTER HOURS)
- BRONZE LOWER DOORS SHOWN OPEN (TYPICAL DURING OPERATING HOURS)
- PROPOSED NEW PAIR OF RED LEATHERETTE OUTSWING DOORS BEHIND BRONZE DOORS- SEE 2/SK-004 FOR DESCRIPTION
- NEW 6" X 6" X 42" HIGH BRONZE BOLLARD WITH PUSH PLATE ACTUATOR FOR INNER DOORS



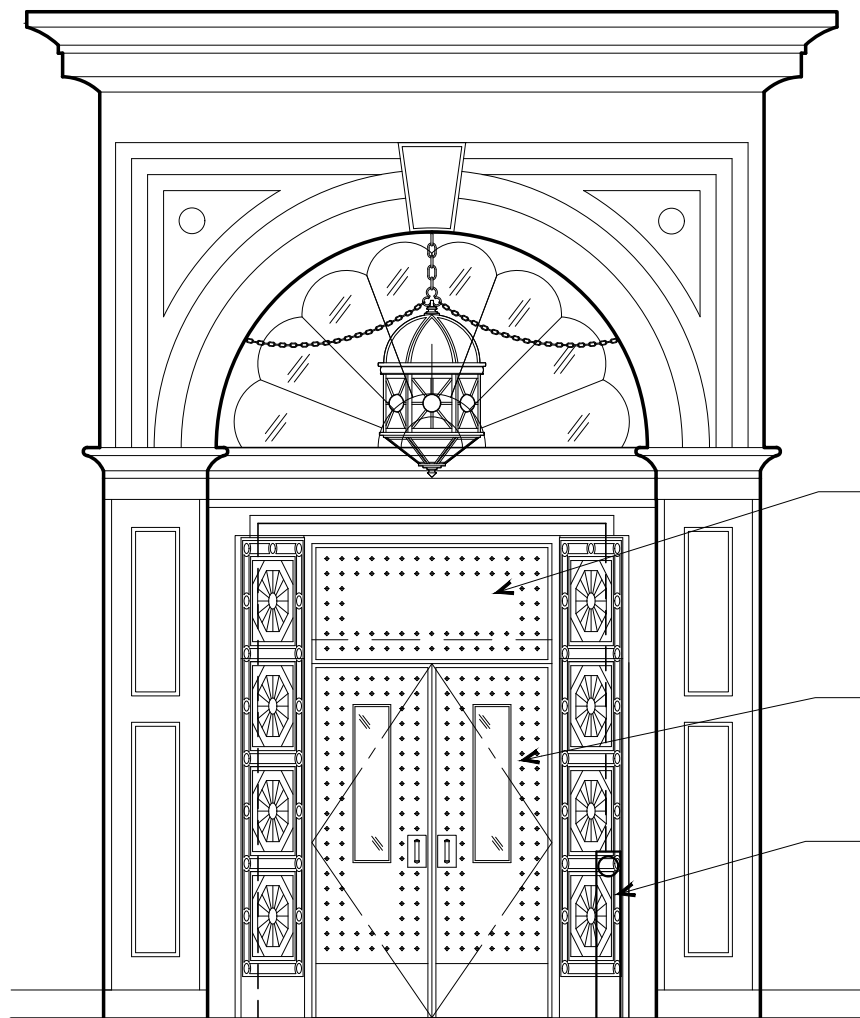
- BRONZE UPPER DOORS SHOWN CLOSED (TYPICAL DURING OPERATING HOURS AND AFTER HOURS)
- BRONZE LOWER DOORS SHOWN OPEN (TYPICAL DURING OPERATING HOURS)
- EXISTING PAIR OF RED LEATHERETTE INSWING DOORS BEHIND BRONZE DOORS (TYPICALLY VISIBLE DURING OPERATING HOURS)- PROPOSED TO BE REPLACED- SEE 1/SK-004 FOR DESCRIPTION

2 Proposed Elevation
SK-002 with Lower Bronze Doors Open/ Upper Closed

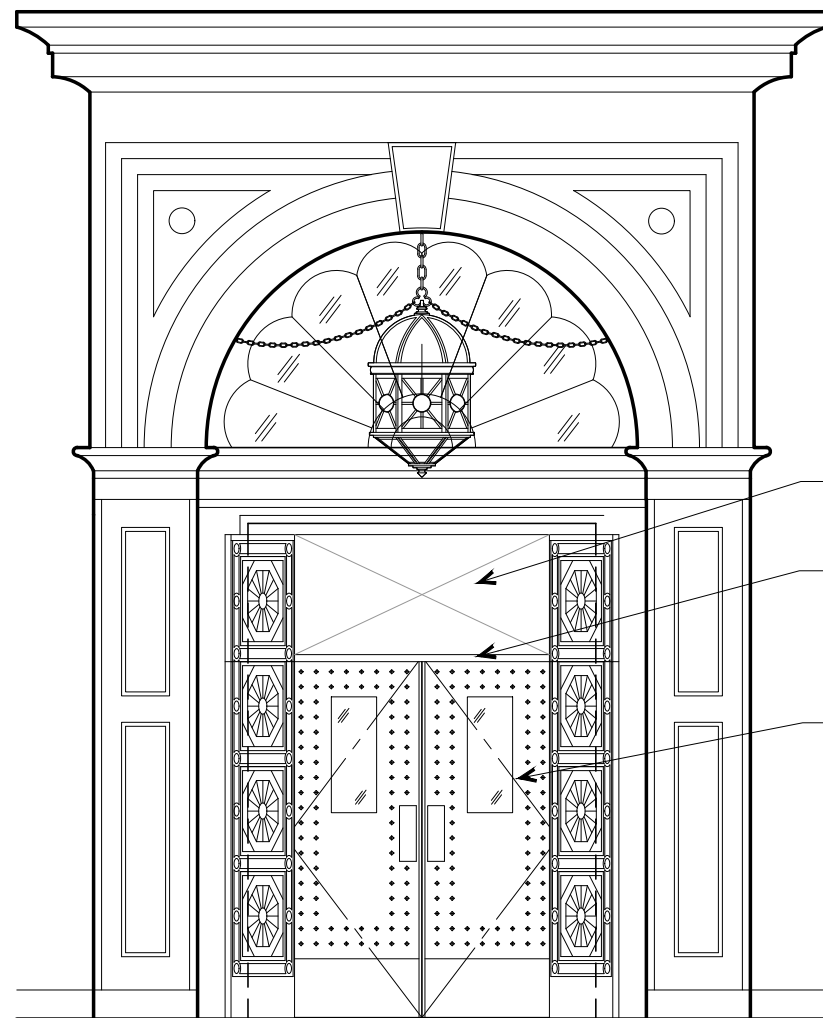
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

1 Existing Elevation
SK-003 with Lower Bronze Doors Open/ Upper Closed

Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"



- PROPOSED FIXED RED LEATHERETTE TRANSOM BEHIND UPPER BRONZE DOORS, ALLOWING UPPER BRONZE DOORS TO OPERATE (NOT CURRENTLY POSSIBLE)- SEE 2/SK-004 FOR DESCRIPTION
- PROPOSED NEW PAIR OF RED LEATHERETTE OUTSWING DOORS BEHIND BRONZE DOORS- SEE 2/SK-004 FOR DESCRIPTION
- NEW 6" X 6" X 42" HIGH BRONZE BOLLARD WITH PUSH PLATE ACTUATOR FOR INNER DOORS



- OPEN TO VESTIBULE BEHIND UPPER BRONZE DOORS
- FRAME AT HEAD OF EXISTING INNER DOORS IS FASTENED TO UPPER BRONZE DOORS, WHICH CANNOT CURRENTLY OPEN
- EXISTING PAIR OF RED LEATHERETTE INSWING DOORS BEHIND BRONZE DOORS (TYPICALLY VISIBLE DURING OPERATING HOURS)- PROPOSED TO BE REPLACED- SEE 1/SK-004 FOR DESCRIPTION

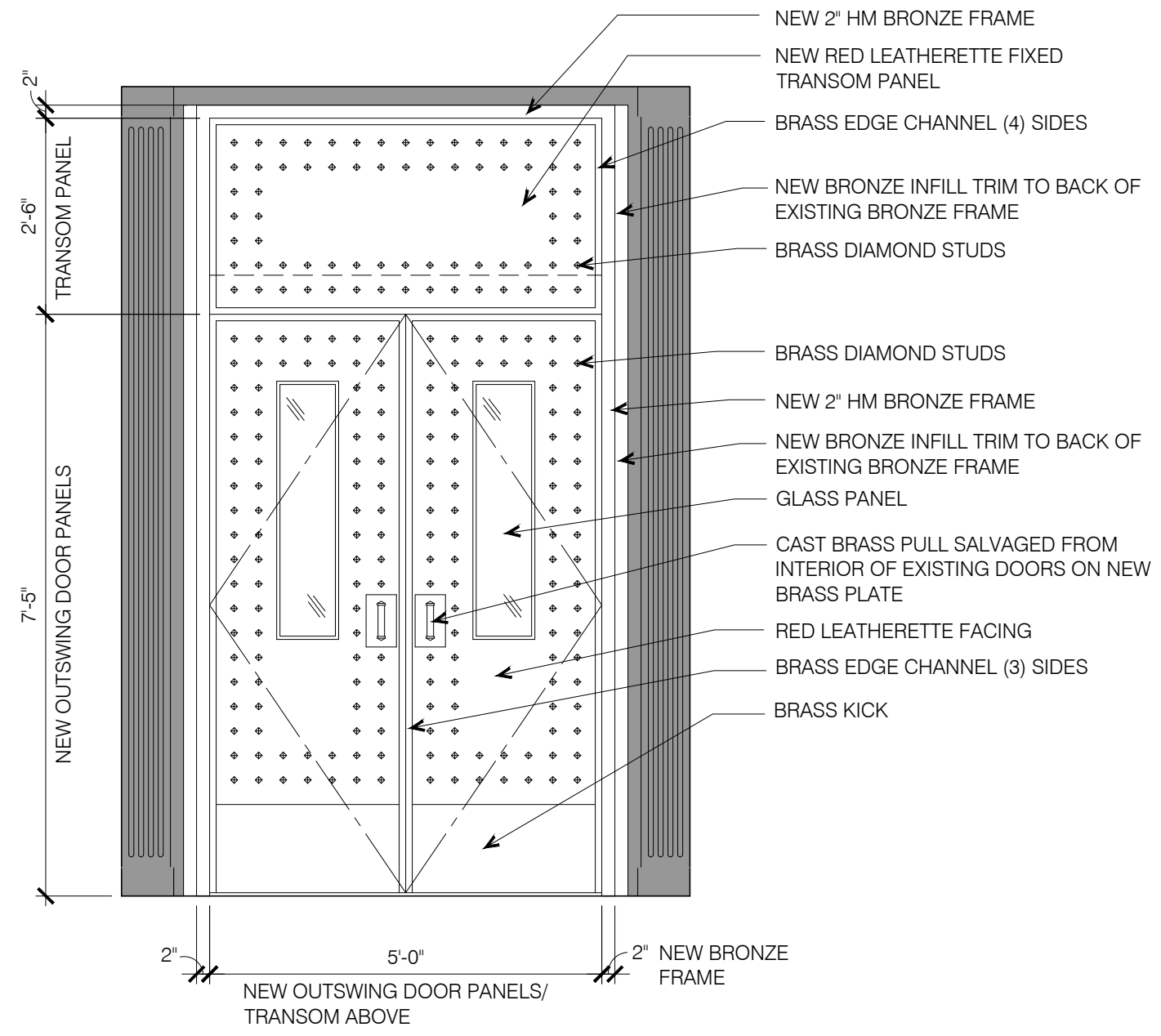
2 Proposed Elevation
SK-003 with Upper and Lower Doors Open

Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

1 Existing Elevation
SK-003 with Upper and Lower Bronze Doors Open

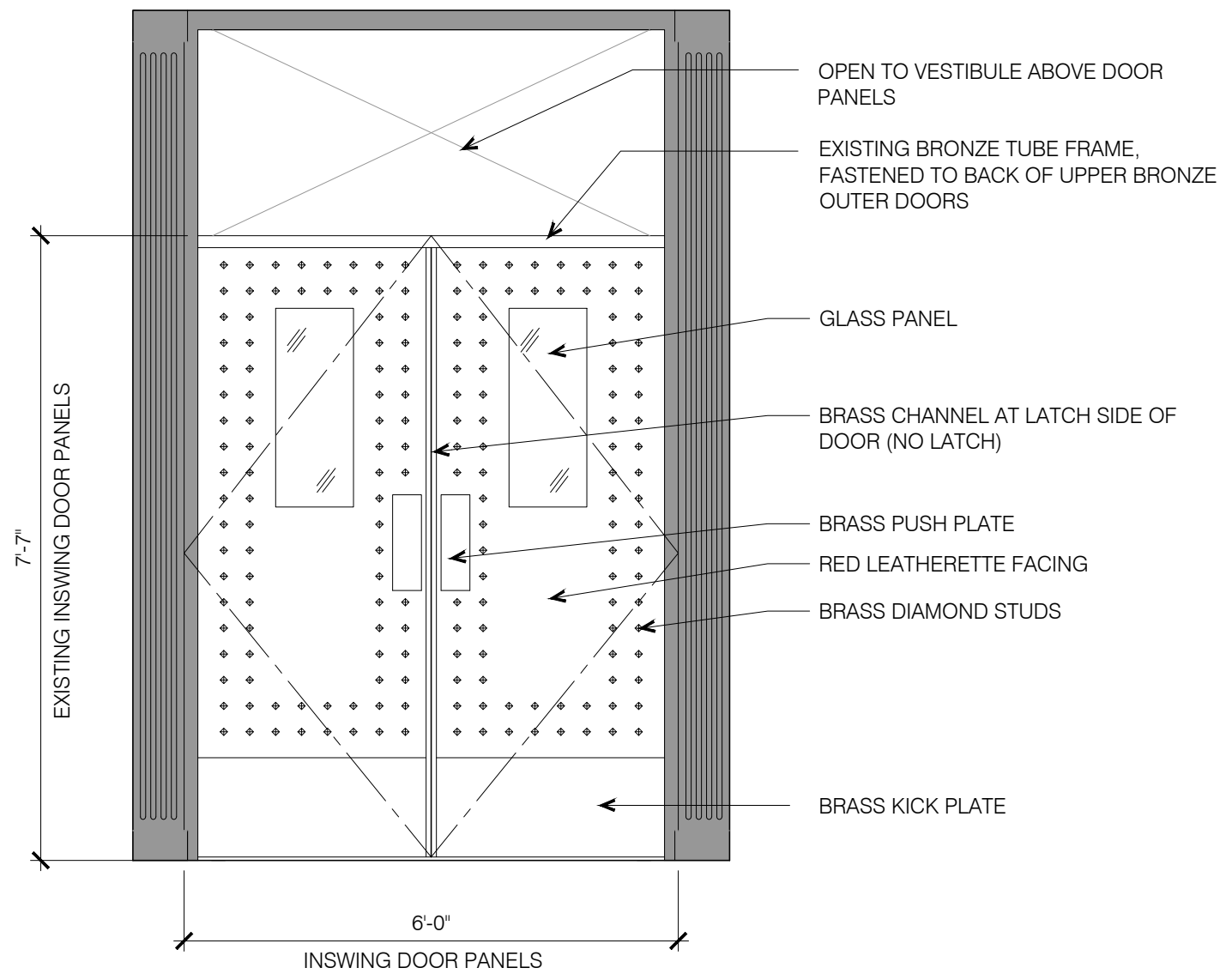
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

HATCH DENOTES BRONZE FRAME OF OUTER DOORS TO REMAIN (OUTER BRONZE DOORS NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY)



- NEW 2" HM BRONZE FRAME
- NEW RED LEATHERETTE FIXED TRANSOM PANEL
- BRASS EDGE CHANNEL (4) SIDES
- NEW BRONZE INFILL TRIM TO BACK OF EXISTING BRONZE FRAME
- BRASS DIAMOND STUDS
- BRASS DIAMOND STUDS
- NEW 2" HM BRONZE FRAME
- NEW BRONZE INFILL TRIM TO BACK OF EXISTING BRONZE FRAME
- GLASS PANEL
- CAST BRASS PULL SALVAGED FROM INTERIOR OF EXISTING DOORS ON NEW BRASS PLATE
- RED LEATHERETTE FACING
- BRASS EDGE CHANNEL (3) SIDES
- BRASS KICK

HATCH DENOTES BRONZE FRAME OF OUTER DOORS TO REMAIN (OUTER BRONZE DOORS NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY)



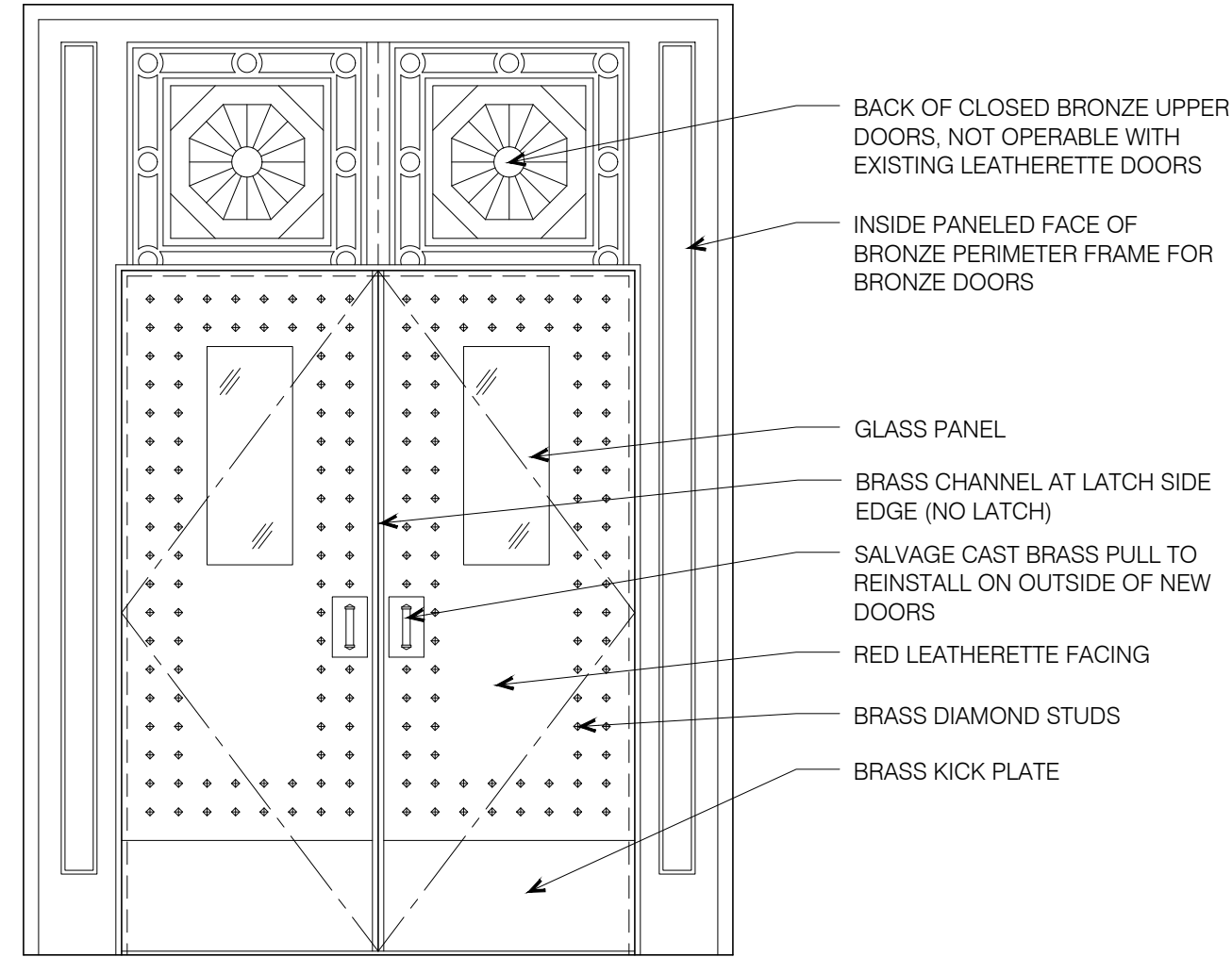
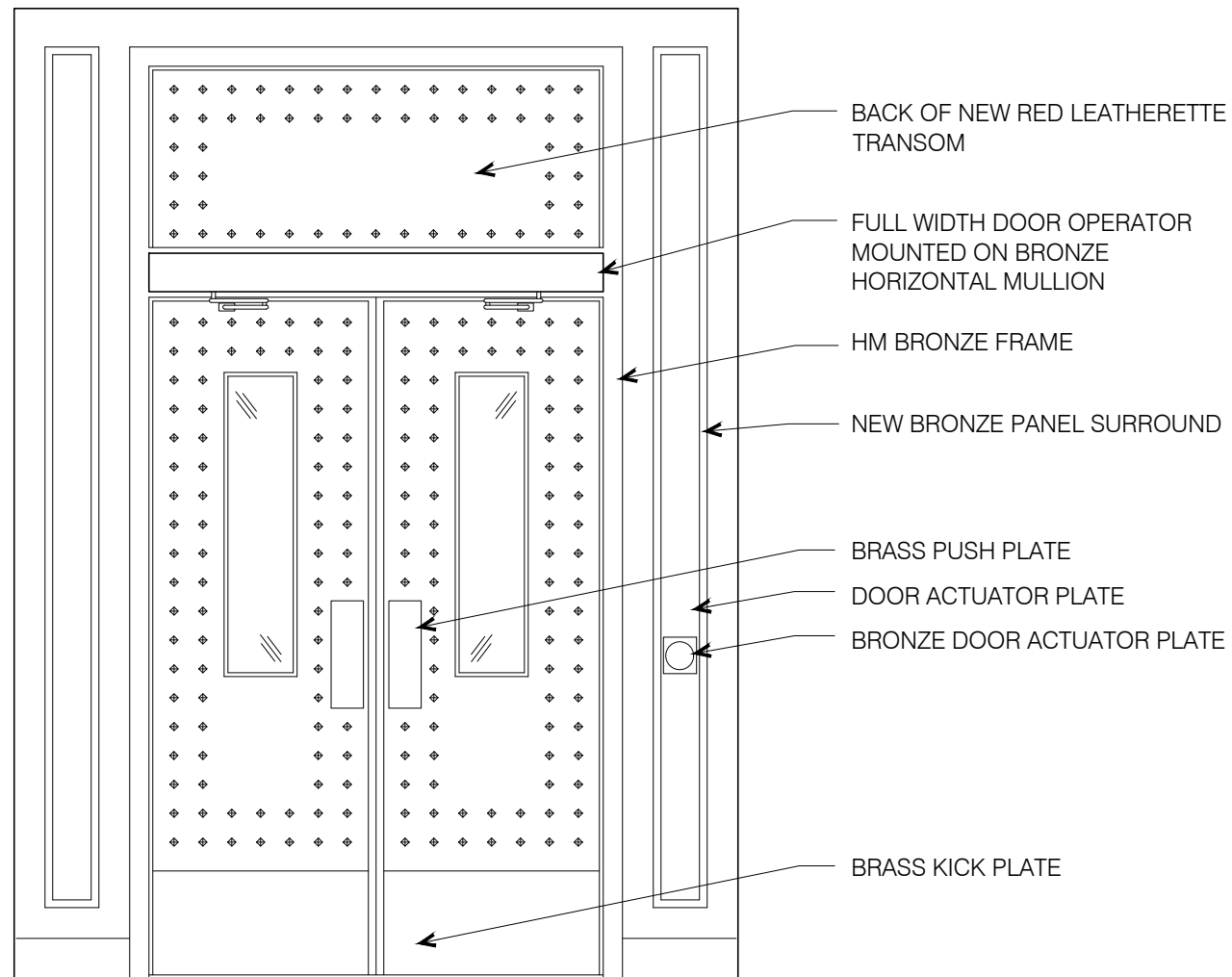
- OPEN TO VESTIBULE ABOVE DOOR PANELS
- EXISTING BRONZE TUBE FRAME, FASTENED TO BACK OF UPPER BRONZE OUTER DOORS
- GLASS PANEL
- BRASS CHANNEL AT LATCH SIDE OF DOOR (NO LATCH)
- BRASS PUSH PLATE
- RED LEATHERETTE FACING
- BRASS DIAMOND STUDS
- BRASS KICK PLATE

2 Proposed Inner Outswing Door Elevation
SK-004 from Exterior

Scale: 1/2"=1'-0"

1 Existing Inner Inswing Door Elevation
SK-004 from Exterior

Scale: 1/2"=1'-0"



2 Proposed Inner Outswing Door Elevation
 SK-005 from Interior

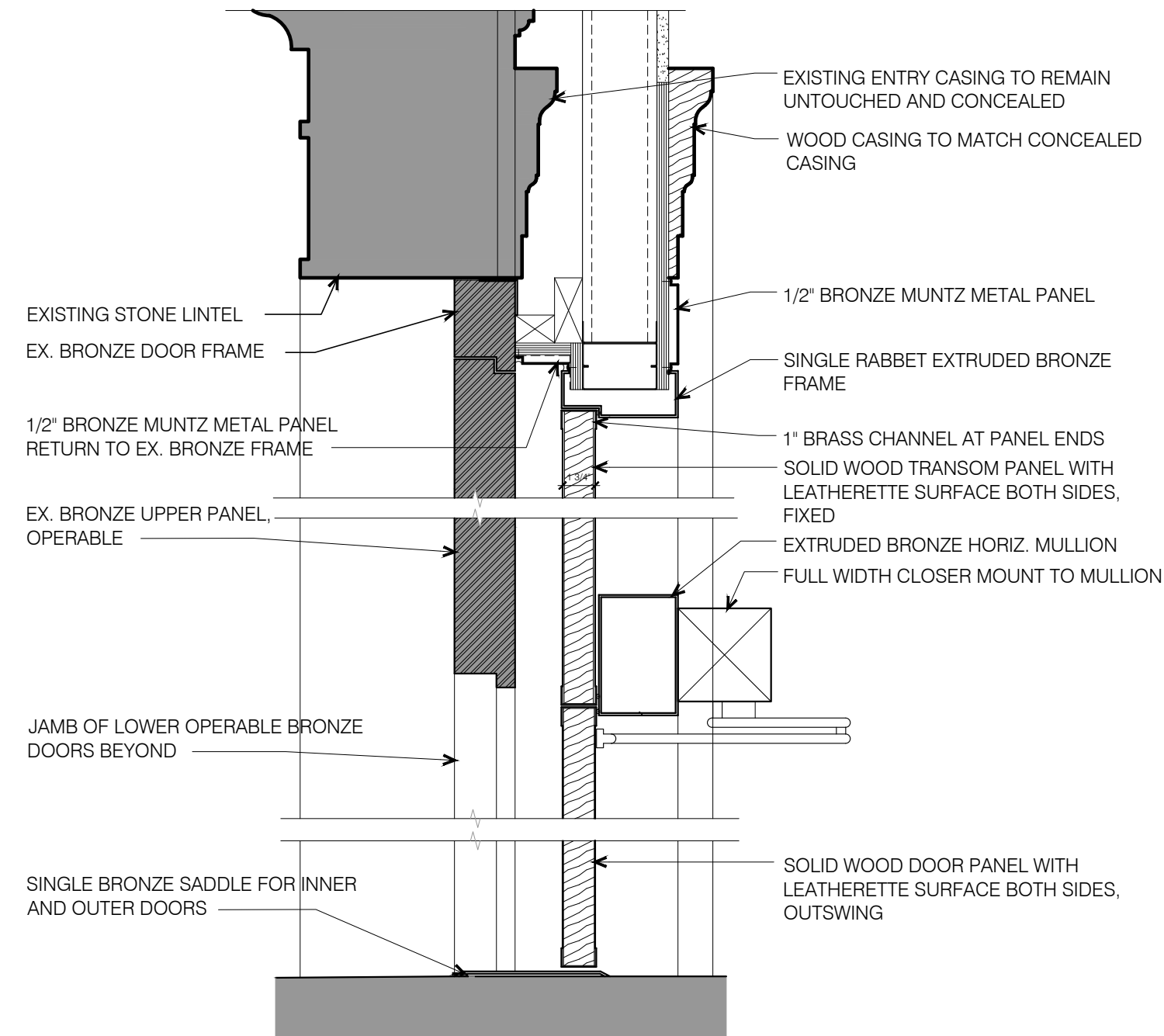
Scale: 1/2"=1'-0"

1 Existing Inner Inswing Door Elevation
 SK-005 from Interior

Scale: 1/2"=1'-0"

OUTSIDE

INSIDE

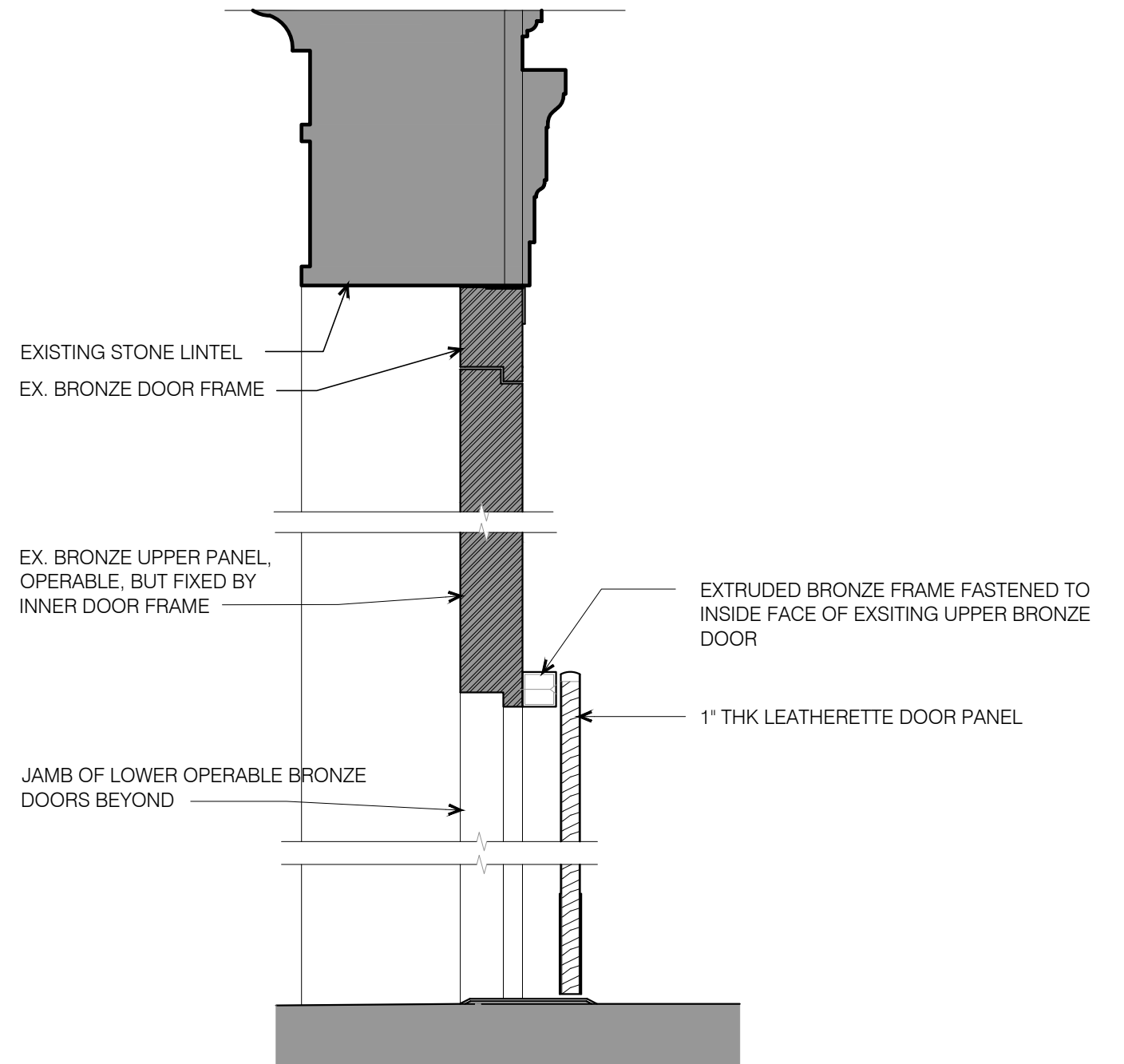


2 New Door Section Detail
SK-006

Scale: 1 1/2"=1'-0"

OUTSIDE

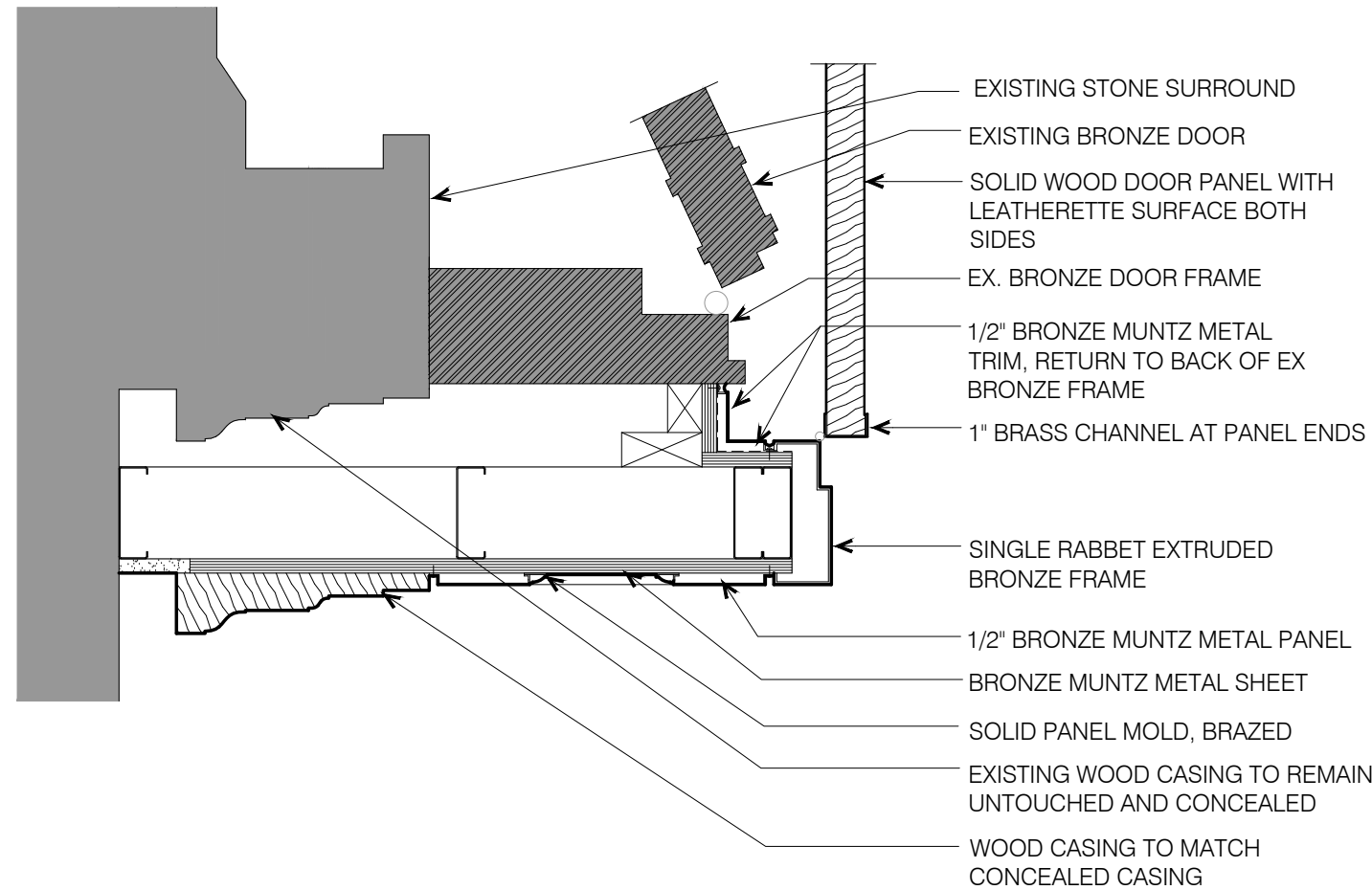
INSIDE



1 Existing Door Section Detail
SK-006

Scale: 1 1/2"=1'-0"

OUTSIDE

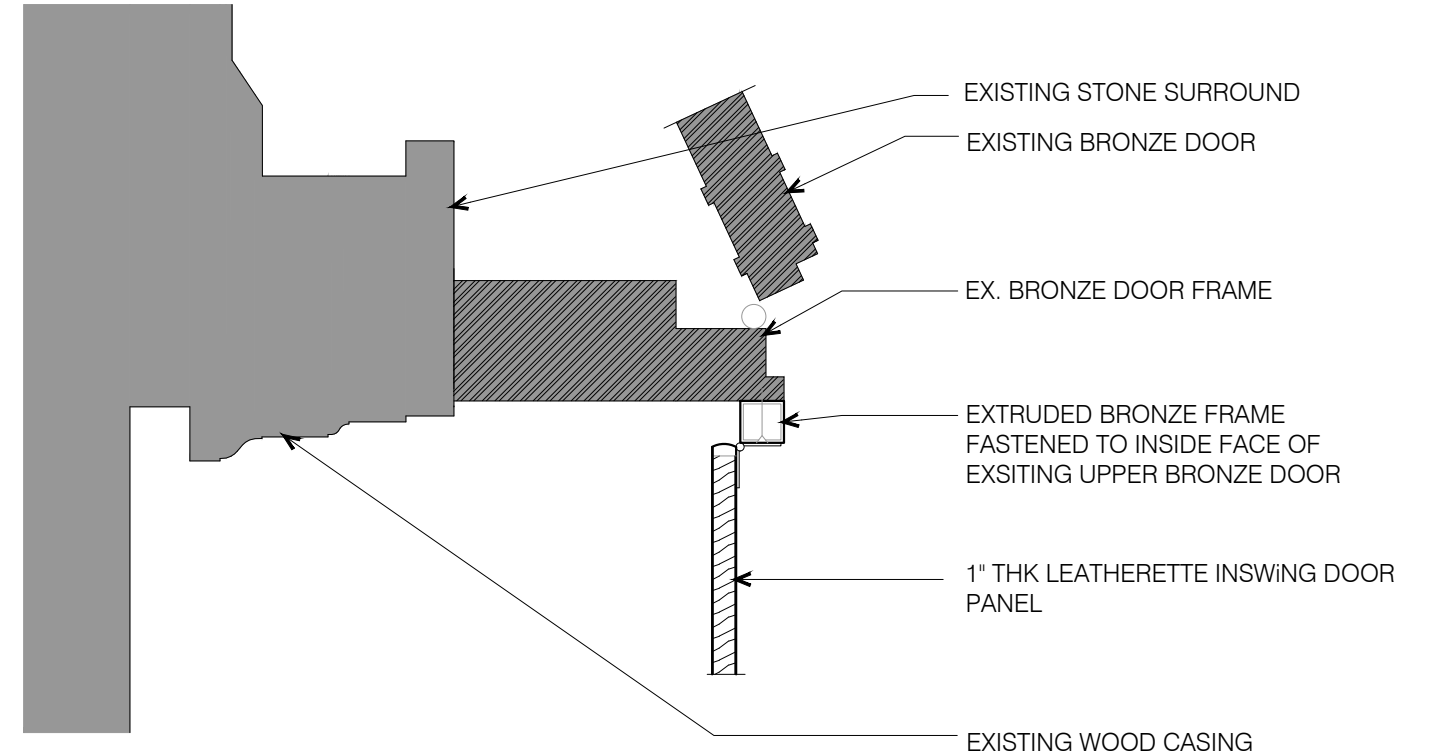


INSIDE

2 New Door Plan Detail
SK-007

Scale: 1 1/2"=1'-0"

OUTSIDE



INSIDE

1 Existing Door Plan Detail
SK-007

Scale: 1 1/2"=1'-0"

Boston Athenaeum
10 1/2 Beacon Street
Boston MA 02108
26 March 2020

SECTION E

Historical Survey Information from MHC MACRIS Database

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	BOS.1547
Historic Name:	Boston Athenaeum
Common Name:	
Address:	10 1/2 Beacon St
City/Town:	Boston
Village/Neighborhood:	Beacon Hill; Central Business District; Retail
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	c 1850
Architect(s):	Bigelow and Wadsworth; Burr, Theophilus; Cabot, Edward Clarke; Daly, Joseph; Dexter, George Minot; Prince, Nathan; Safford and Smith
Architectural Style(s):	Renaissance Revival
Use(s):	Art Gallery; Library; Museum; Other Cultural
Significance:	Architecture; Art; Community Planning; Education; Literature; Social History
Area(s):	BOS.AS: Park Street District BOS.BE: Beacon Hill Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (12/02/1955); Nat'l Register Individual Property (10/15/1966); Nat'l Historic Landmark (10/15/1966); Nat'l Register District (05/01/1974)
Building Materials(s):	Wall: Brick; Bronze; Sandstone; Stone, Cut



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 4:04: PM

BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION Building Information Form Form No. Area CBD

ADDRESS 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ Beacon St. COR.

NAME Boston Athenaeum (same)
present original

MAP No. 25N/12E SUB AREA Retail

DATE 1846-1851 Studies based on 1
Athenaeum records¹
source

ARCHITECT Edward C. Cabot, principal arch. "
George Dexter, consulting engineer
source

BUILDER Nathan Prince (mason), Theophilus Burr "
(carpenter), Safford & Smith (iron work)
Joseph Daly source (plastering)

OWNER Boston Athenaeum (same)
original present

PHOTOGRAPHS 11 ²/4*80

TYPE (residential) single double row 2-fam. 3-deck ten apt.
 (non-residential) library and gallery

NO. OF STORIES (1st to cornice) 3 plus 2 (added, 1913)

ROOF flat cupola dormers

MATERIALS (Frame) clapboards shingles stucco asphalt asbestos alum/vinyl
 (Other) brick stone sandstone concrete iron/steel/alum.
 (rear is red brick)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION Symmetrical 7-bay Palladian club with wide center bay set off by alternating quoins, center arched entrance flanked by niches and featuring double-leaved paneled bronze doors and a fanlight tympanum. Center 2nd fl. bay set off by paired Corinthian pilasters. The two side sections have rectangular windows set in blind arches, framed by rusticated voisoirs at level 1 & flanked by pilasters at 2. Bldg. terminates with stone parapet

EXTERIOR ALTERATION minor moderate drastic followed by 2 stories set back from street & dating from 1913.

CONDITION good fair poor LOT AREA 10,208 sq. feet

NOTEWORTHY SITE CHARACTERISTICS Set back about 10' from the sidewalk, with sandstone balustrade around front "terrace." Rear facade is brick with stone trim and faces the Granary Burial Ground.

SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd on reverse)

This venerable institution is significant as one of the earliest and handsomest Boston examples of the Italian palazzo style; as one of the oldest and largest proprietary libraries in the nation; as the repository for a distinguished book and art collection including many rare treasures; as the city's first art museum and collector of paintings which later formed the nucleus of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts collection, and as an institution associated throughout the years with the most eminent men of Boston's social, literary and mercantile life.

The Athenaeum had its origin in the Anthology Society, a group of learned gentlemen organized in 1805 to edit and publish the Monthly Anthology and Boston Review. In 1805 the group voted to establish a periodical library and by 1807 the new enterprise, incorporated that year as

A Note on the Athenaeum collections: Important book collections include a portion of the library of George Washington and other Washington materials, collections of rare American pamphlets and first editions of New England authors and many rare single volumes.

Moved; date if known _____

Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	X	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	X	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community/ development	X				

Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

the Boston Athenaeum, had over 160 subscribers and a reading room located first in Joys Building (1807) and later in Scolley's Building (1807-9). Initial subscribers included Harrison Gray Otis, John Lowell, Josiah Quincy, Samuel Eliot, James Perkins, Thomas Handasyd Perkins, Nathan Appleton and other such accomplished gentlemen. From 1809-1822, the growing institution was located in a wooden house formerly belonging to Rufus Amory, Esq. and from 1822 to 1850 in a Pearl St. mansion donated by James Perkins. In 1827, the Athenaeum held its 1st art exhibit, a widely attended loan show. Among other notable exhibitions, the group later sponsored the first public showing of Audubon's engravings. The Trustees gradually amassed a permanent collection for its art gallery, including works by West, S. Hicks, Allston, and Stuart. Stuart's portraits of Geo. & Martha Washington were purchased in 1831 from the artists family for \$1500. When the MFA was founded in 1870, much of the collection was deposited and later sold to the new institution, although the Athenaeum retains many notable 19th century paintings & other arts.

By 1845, the Boston Athenaeum was the 5th largest library in the nation, & new quarters were needed. Two competitions were held, the 1st won by Geo. Dexter & 2nd by Edward Clark Cabot, in 1846. Dexter was retained to supervise construction. Cabot (1818-1901), a member of an old Boston family, had no formal architectural training. The Athenaeum was his first major commission; he is also known for his design of the old Boston Theatre (since demolished) (continued below)

Preservation Consideration (accessibility, re-use possibilities, capacity for public use and enjoyment, protection, utilities, context)

- 1) Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1965.
- 2) Part of Park Street National Register District.
- 3) Suggested for designation as a Boston City Landmark. (Ext. & possible interior)

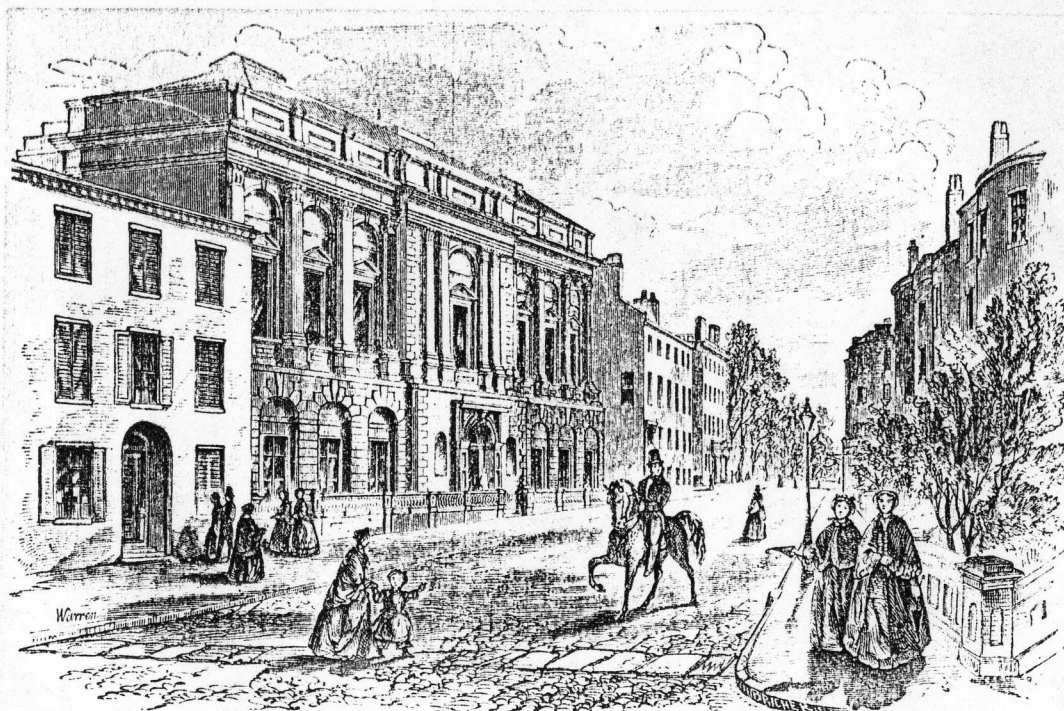
Significance (cont): The building was originally 3 stories, with a reading room & sculpture gallery on 1, main reading room on 2 and picture gallery on 3. A grand staircase was removed in 1888. Two floors were added in 1913 by the firm of Bigelow and Wadsworth.

Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

1. Contracts, elevations and measured drawings reproduced in the appendix of a graduate student paper by F. Amacher, N. Koch, L.C. Pei and M. Welch (fall 1974) done for Prof. Eduard Sekler, Harvard University, on file at Carpenter Center. Also incl. many early engravings & a very complete bibliography.
- 1a. Sketches of Boston and Vicinity (1860-61) p. 83-84.
2. The Influence and History of the Boston Athenaeum from 1807 to 1907 (Boston Athenaeum, 1907) includes early interior photographs.
3. Douglass S. Tucci, Built in Boston (1978) p. 21-23.
4. Yearbook of the Boston Arch. Club, 1915 (photos of renovation, floorplans (1st-5th)
5. Photographs, BPL Print Dept, also SPNEA & Bostonian Society



Boston Athenaeum
10 1/2 Beacon Street.



THE BOSTON ATHENAEUM, BEACON STREET, 1855

HELIOTYPE CO., BOSTON.

Xeroxed from: The Influence and History of the Boston Athenaeum, from 1807 to 1907
(Boston Athenaeum, 1907)

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE**

**ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:
10½ Beacon Street**

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area Form No.
AS & BE BOS.1547

HISTORIC BUILDING NAME: Boston Athenaeum

RECEIVED

CURRENT BUILDING NAME:

NOV 21 2013

ASSOCIATED ADDRESS:

MASS. HIST. COMM.

EXISTING DESIGNATIONS

DESIG CODE	DATE	NAME
LHD	12/2/1955	Beacon Hill Historic District
NRIND	10/15/1966	
NHL	10/15/1966	
NRDIS	5/1/1974	Park Street District
PR	12/23/1977	

CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO PAGE 1 BASE INFORMATION

Assessors Parcel ID: 0304693000
Assessors Address: 10 Beacon St.
Current Owner: Boston Athenaeum
Building Date: c. 1850

RECORDED BY:

Larson Fisher Associates, Woodstock, NY

ORGANIZATION:

Boston Landmarks Commission

DATE:

April 2013

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Boston Athenaeum building has maintained its historic appearance, dating to the 1913 addition. Repointing and repairing of the brownstone facade occurred in 1976 and 1996 and it was chemically cleaned in the latter year.¹ In 1985 five windows on the rear facade, out of public view, were replaced.² The building was connected to its neighbor at 14 Beacon Street on the basement level in 1994.³

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The historical significance of this building is succinctly outlined in the 1980 inventory form and further documented by the building's listing as a National Historic Landmark.

Edward Clarke Cabot, with George Minot Dexter, Architect:

The award of the commission to design the Athenaeum was likely won by Edward Clarke Cabot (1818-1902), his first, in part through family connections; his father, Samuel Cabot, Jr. (1784-1863), a prominent China-trade merchant and his maternal grandfather, Thomas Handasyd Perkins (1764-1854), were both subscribers to the library whose influence may have swayed the selection process.⁴ Research by Douglass Shand-Tucci, however, suggests he also "...secured this important commission in rather an interesting way. As Walter Kilham pointed out, the plot to be used was sharply indented at the southeast corner by a triangular projection of the Granary Burying Ground, containing some graves that could not be disturbed. 'The other competitors followed the angular indentation, which caused awkward projections into the interior all the way up through the building. [But] Cabot...simply carried the rear wall straight across making a segmental arched niche in the basement to accommodate the graves.'"⁵

Although the degree of his professional training is unclear, Cabot went on to an accomplished and prolific architectural career. He is credited with both the Boston Theatre (1852-1853, demolished) and the Gibson House and its twin neighbor at 135-137

¹ City of Boston, Inspectional Services Department online records, permit applications dated June 25, 1976 and July 26 and Aug. 8, 1996. The owner was granted a Certificate of Appropriateness for chemical cleaning on July 15, 1996.

² Ibid., permit application dated Aug. 5, 1985

³ Ibid., permit application dated June 27, 1994.

⁴ AIA Historical Directory of American Architects, *The American Institute of Architects, Quarterly Bulletin*, vol. II, no. I, April, 1901; Harvard Business School Library web site under Samuel Cabot, Jr.

⁵ Douglass Shand-Tucci, *Built in Boston, City and Suburb, 1800-1950*, University of Massachusetts Press, 1978, p. 21.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE**

**ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:
10½ Beacon Street**

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area Form No.
AS & BE BOS.1547

Beacon Street.⁶ During the 1880s he formed a productive partnership with Francis W. Chandler (1844-1925), an *Ecole Des Beaux Arts*-trained architect who had worked in the offices of H. H. Richardson and was a close friend of Robert Swain Peabody and Charles McKim, with whom he boarded in Paris.⁷ Their firm designed fully a dozen houses in the Back Bay on Beacon, Marlborough, Newbury and Fairfield streets and Commonwealth Avenue as well as a large number of country houses including the Torrey Mansion at Washington Street and Melville Avenue in Dorchester.⁸ They also designed several buildings for Harvard University, including the President's House and Walter Hastings Hall.⁹ Both Cabot and Chandler were veterans of the Civil War, having served in the 44th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Militia during 1862-1863, the possible origin of their acquaintance.¹⁰ Also an accomplished artist, "Mr. Cabot rose to such a position in the estimation of all who know him, but rather by the simple force of character. One is tempted to say that if his character had been less uncommon, his practice would have been larger. Simplicity, modesty, spotless integrity, an utter absence of self-seeking, generous appreciation and cordial recognition of the merits of others—these are not, I am afraid, the qualities which are most likely to advance a man to the high places in any department of our feverish modern life. I do not imagine he greatly cared. His temper was not fitted for strenuous competition, nor do I think he was especially ambitious of distinction. He had a delightful resource, apart from his architectural work, in his water-color drawing, in which his strong love of nature and his thoroughly artistic temperament found ample and most congenial expression."¹¹

Late in his career, after Chandler had moved on to a teaching position at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he served as dean of the department as well, Cabot formed a partnership with Arthur G. Everett and Samuel Mead.¹²

Cabot's assistant in the design of the Athenaeum, George Minot Dexter (1805-1872), whom the 1980 inventory form suggests initially won the commission and who was retained for his knowledge of engineering after the final decision, is also credited with a number of prominent designs throughout his career. In 1836 he was commissioned by prominent merchant, industrialist and real estate developer Patrick Jackson to design Pemberton Square and similar rows on Tremont and Somerset streets. The contract included designs for all ironwork and lamp posts.¹³ Another important design was the Augustus Hemenway House at 40-42 Mt. Vernon Street.¹⁴ He also designed a series of eight elaborate Second Empire carriage houses on Beaver Place in 1849.¹⁵

Bigelow & Wadsworth, Architects for the Addition:

The architectural firm for the 1913 addition, Bigelow & Wadsworth, included Henry Forbes Bigelow (1867-1929) and Philip Wadsworth. A native of Clinton, Massachusetts, Bigelow (1867-1929) studied architecture at M.I.T. followed by a tour of Europe before entering into a partnership with Walter T. Winslow and George H. Wetherell in Boston. His first commission was for St. Mark's School in Southboro, where he had been a student. With Winslow and Wetherill, Bigelow designed a number of residential and commercial buildings in Boston, such as the Tremont Building, Board of Trade Building, Shreve Crump & Low's store on Tremont Street, as well as the Radcliffe College Library in Cambridge, the Antiquarian Society Building in Worcester, and town halls in Needham and Weston. In 1909, following the death of one of his partners (Winslow) and the withdrawal of Wetherell to establish a solo practice, Bigelow joined with Philip Wadsworth and, later Edward A. Hubbard and Giles M. Smith in a new practice. On the Beacon Hill Flat, he designed his own house at 142 Chestnut Street and apartment houses at 10 Otis Place and 116 Charles Street. Bigelow also designed a country house for Philip Sears in Brookline, among a number of fine city

⁶ AIA Historical Directory of American Architects, *The American Institute of Architects, Quarterly Bulletin*, vol. II, no. I, April, 1901; Bainbridge Bunting, *Houses of Boston's Back Bay*, Belknap, 1967.

⁷ Mosette Broderick, *Triumvirate: McKim, Mead & White: Art, Architecture, Scandal, and Class in America's Guided Age*, Random House, 2010, p. 13, 608; Doreen Bolger, *In Pursuit of Beauty: Americans and the Aesthetic Movement*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1986, pp. 351, 511.

⁸ Bainbridge Bunting, *Houses of Boston's Back Bay*, Belknap, 1967; Anthony Mitchell Sammarco, *Dorchester, A Compendium*, The History Press, 2011, p. 23, 158 pgs.

⁹ Bainbridge Bunting, *Harvard, An Architectural History*, Harvard University Press, 1998, p. 301, 366.

¹⁰ U.S. Adjutant General, *Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War*, cited by the Acton Memorial Library Civil War Archives web site.

¹¹ AIA Historical Directory of American Architects, *The American Institute of Architects, Quarterly Bulletin*, vol. II, no. I, April, 1901: (Extracts From Remarks by Mr. Charles A. Cummings, President, Boston Chapter A.I.A., at Meeting of Chapter, February 1, 1901).

¹² Archives of American Art web site; Bainbridge Bunting, *Harvard, An Architectural History*, Harvard University Press, 1998, p. 301, 366; Margaret Henderson Floyd, *Architecture After Richardson: Regionalism Before Modernism – Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in Boston and Pittsburgh*, University of Chicago Press, 1994, p. 466, 369.

¹³ Phebe S. Goodman, *The Garden Squares of Boston*, UPNE, 2003, p. 59, 179.

¹⁴ SAH Archipedia web site.

¹⁵ Bainbridge Bunting, *Houses of Boston's Back Bay*, Belknap, 1967.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE**

**ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:
10½ Beacon Street**

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area Form No.
AS & BE BOS.1547

and country residences, the interior design of which brought him much renown. Bigelow was an associate fellow of the Boston Society of Architects, a trustee of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and a member of the Boston Art Commission.¹⁶

At the time this building was designed and constructed Philip Wadsworth was Bigelow's only partner. Wadsworth was a resident of Milton, Massachusetts, the son of prominent Harvard-trained physician and eye specialist, Dr. Oliver F. Wadsworth (1837-1911), and a descendant of first-period settler Christopher Wadsworth, who immigrated to Boston in 1633. Philip Wadsworth was educated at Harvard as well, graduating in 1902. A testament to his financial success and the wealth of his family (his father lived at 526 Beacon Street) was his ownership of a 40 foot ketch "Nadranga", which he kept moored at the Eastern Yacht Club in Marblehead and which sank in a violent gasoline explosion triggered by a cigarette in 1929. Although badly burned, he and two passengers survived.¹⁷

Nathan Prince, Theophilus Burr, Stafford & Smith and Joseph Daly, Builders:

Nathan Prince (1797-1886), a native of Danvers, Massachusetts, and the son of James and Phoebe Prince, was a brick mason. Late in life he lived at 181 Harrison Avenue with his daughter, Harriet (b. 1832), son-in-law, Francis W. Rider, a real estate broker, and one servant.¹⁸ Theophilus Burr (1795-1864) was a "housewright" whose shop and house was located at 15 Poplar Street. A native of Hingham, Massachusetts, he married Hannah Leavett (1800-1870) of that town in 1820.¹⁹ Burr served as a Common Councilor of Boston c. 1860.²⁰ Although no records regarding either Stafford & Smith or Joseph Daly could be identified, a blacksmith by the name of Michael Stafford (b. 1810), a native of Ireland, was active in Boston between 1845 and 1870. He lived at various addresses in South Boston and the South End during this period: 96 Fourth Street (1850); 35 Malden Street (1865); and 82 Northampton Street (1870).²¹

The property remains tax exempt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Public Records

Boston MA. City of Boston Assessors Department. Assessors Records. <http://www.cityofboston.gov/assessing>.
Boston MA, City of Boston Inspectional Services Department, Building Permit Records <http://cityofboston.gov/isd>.
Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System. <http://mhc-macris.net/index.htm>.
Massachusetts Land Records. <http://masslandrecords.com/malr/index.htm>
Washington, D.C. U.S. Bureau of Census. United States Censuses. 1790-1930.

Maps

Hale, J. G. *Map of Boston*. 1814
Hopkins, G. M. and Co. *Map of the City of Boston, and Its Environs*. 1874.
Bromley, George W. *Atlas of the City of Boston*. 1883, 1888, 1902, 1908, 1917, 1922, 1928, 1938.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1867-1970.

Secondary Sources

Boston City Directories. 1845-1960.
Boston MA. Boston Public Library. Architect Index.
Withey, Henry F. & Elsie Rathburn Withey. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*. 1956; rpt. Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970.

Internet Sources

Genealogy, Family Trees & Family History Records. <http://www.ancestry.com>.
Google Books Search. <http://books.google.com>.
Boston Globe, 1872-1981. <http://access.newspaperarchive.com>.
Heritagequest. <http://www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/index>.
New York Times. <http://search.proquest.com/hnpnewyorktimes/index?accountid=4384&groupid=119145>.

¹⁶ Henry F. Withey & Elsie Rathburn Withey, *Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)* (1956; rpt. LA: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970), 57-58.

¹⁷ *Boston Daily Globe*, Dec. 1, 1911; June 29, 1929; Jul. 4, 1929.

¹⁸ Vital Records, Boston, Oct. 30, 1886; 1880 Federal Census.

¹⁹ 1821 and 1831 Boston Directories; 1817-1823 Boston Marriage Publications; 1620-1988 Hingham, Massachusetts Vital Records; Gravesite photographic record.

²⁰ 1860 Boston Municipal Register.

²¹ 1845-1870 Boston City Directories; 1860 Federal Census.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE**

**ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:
10½ Beacon Street**

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area Form No.
AS & BE BOS.1547

SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES and LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

Assessors Map (north at top)



Photographs

(credit Larson Fisher Associates, 2011 unless otherwise noted)



View from north.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
BOSTON CBD SURVEY UPDATE**

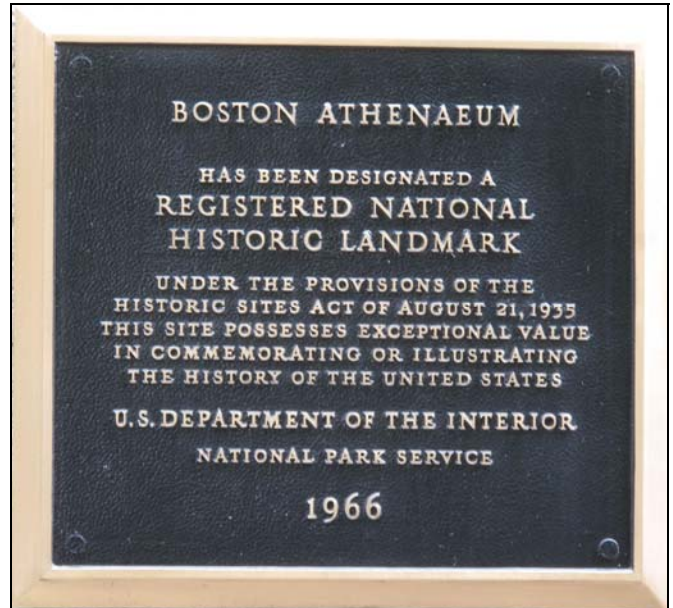
**ADDRESS ON BLC BUILDING INVENTORY FORM:
10½ Beacon Street**

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

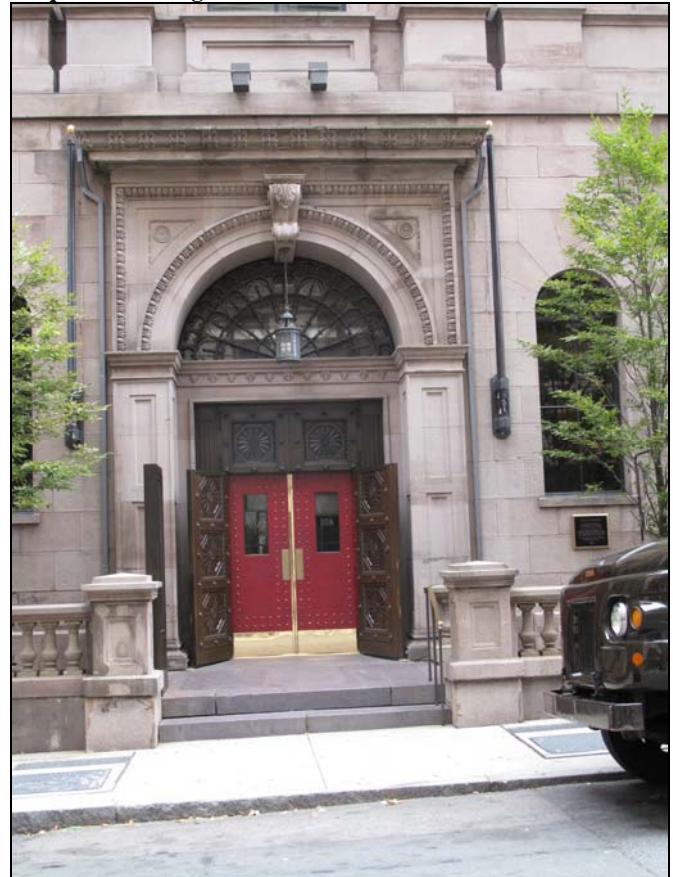
Area Form No.
AS & BE BOS.1547



View from northwest.



Plaque on building.



Detail of main entrance.

75 Kneeland Street
Boston MA 02111

schwartzsilver