



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

45175 Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 347-0415 Phone
(248) 735-5600 Facsimile
www.cityofnovi.org

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS STAFF REPORT

FOR: City of Novi Zoning Board of Appeals

MEETINGDATE: October 13, 2026

REGARDING: **26233 Taft Road #50-22-16-451-081 (PZ26-0055)**

BY: Alan Hall, Deputy Director Community Development

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Applicant

SV Temple and Cultural Center

Variance Type

Dimensional Variance

Property Characteristics

Zoning District: this property is zoned Residential Acreage (R-A)

Location: south of Grand River Avenue, west of Taft Road

Parcel #: 50-22-16-451-081

Request

The applicant is seeking a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.35.3 of the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance for a proposed entry tower with a height of 62 ft. 11 in. (35 ft. permitted, variance of 27 ft. 11 in.).

II. STAFF COMMENTS:

The applicant is seeking a dimensional variance for a 27'-11" height increase.

Total height will be 62'-11".

III. RECOMMENDATION:

The Zoning Board of Appeals may take one of the following actions:

1. I move that we **grant** the variance in Case No. **PZ26-0055**, sought by _____, for _____ because Petitioner has shown practical difficulty requiring _____.

(a) Without the variance Petitioner will be unreasonably prevented or limited with respect to use of the property because _____.

(b) The property is unique because _____.

(c) Petitioner did not create the condition because _____.

(d) The relief granted will not unreasonably interfere with adjacent or surrounding properties because _____.

(e) The relief if consistent with the spirit and intent of the ordinance because _____.

(f) The variance granted is subject to:

- 1. _____.
- 2. _____.
- 3. _____.
- 4. _____.

2. I move that we **deny** the variance in Case No. **PZ26-0055** sought by _____, for _____ because Petitioner has not shown practical difficulty requiring _____.

(a) The circumstances and features of the property including _____ are not unique because they exist generally throughout the City.

(b) The circumstances and features of the property relating to the variance request are self-created because _____.

(c) The failure to grant relief will result in mere inconvenience or inability to attain higher economic or financial return based on Petitioners statements that _____.

(d) The variance would result in interference with the adjacent and surrounding properties by _____.

(e) Granting the variance would be inconsistent with the spirit and intent of the ordinance to _____.

Should you have any further questions with regards to the matter please feel free to contact me at (248) 347-0417.

Alan Hall – Deputy Director Community Development - City of Novi



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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATION

APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY

RECEIVED

SEP 01 2026

CITY OF NOVI
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

I. PROPERTY INFORMATION (Address of subject ZBA Case)				Application Fee: <u>\$330.00</u>	
PROJECT NAME / SUBDIVISION SV Temple and Cultural Center - Phase III : Rajagopuram					
ADDRESS 26233 Taft Road			LOT/SUITE/SPACE #		
SIDEWELL # 50-22-16 -451 -032			May be obtain from Assessing Department (248) 347-0485		
CROSS ROADS OF PROPERTY Between Grand River Ave and 11 Mile Rd.					
IS THE PROPERTY WITHIN A HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION JURISDICTION? ☐ YES ☒ NO			REQUEST IS FOR: ☐ RESIDENTIAL ☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ VACANT PROPERTY ☐ SIGNAGE		
DOES YOUR APPEAL RESULT FROM A NOTICE OF VIOLATION OR CITATION ISSUED? ☐ YES ☒ NO					
II. APPLICANT INFORMATION					
A. APPLICANT		EMAIL ADDRESS		CELL	
NAME Praveen Manyam					
ORGANIZATION/COMPANY Manyam Group LLC				FAX NO.	
ADDRESS 7552 Tuscola Rd.		CITY Frankenmuth		STATE MI	ZIP CODE 48734
B. PROPERTY OWNER ☐ CHECK HERE IF APPLICANT IS ALSO THE PROPERTY OWNER					
Identify the person or organization that owns the subject property:		EMAIL NAME		CELL PHONE NO.	
Ravi Gullapalli				TELEPHONE NO.	
ORGANIZATION/COMPANY SV Temple and Cultural Center				FAX NO.	
ADDRESS 26233 Taft Rd.		CITY Novi		STATE MI	ZIP CODE 48374
III. ZONING INFORMATION					
A. ZONING DISTRICT					
☒ R-A ☐ R-1 ☐ R-2 ☐ R-3 ☐ R-4 ☐ RM-1 ☐ RM-2 ☐ MH ☐ I-1 ☐ I-2 ☐ RC ☐ TC ☐ TC-1 ☐ OTHER _____					
B. VARIANCE REQUESTED					
INDICATE ORDINANCE SECTION (S) AND VARIANCE REQUESTED:					
1. Section <u>3.35.3</u> Variance requested <u>Permit a height of 62'-11" for Rajagopuram Tower.</u>					
2. Section _____ Variance requested _____					
3. Section _____ Variance requested _____					
4. Section _____ Variance requested _____					
IV. FEES AND DRAWINGS					
A. FEES					
☐ Single Family Residential (Existing) \$220 ☐ (With Violation) \$275 ☐ Single Family Residential (New) \$275					
☒ Multiple/Commercial/Industrial \$330 ☐ (With Violation) \$440 ☐ Signs \$330 ☐ (With Violation) \$440					
☐ House Moves \$330 ☐ Special Meetings (At discretion of Board) \$660					
B. DRAWINGS 1-COPY & 1 DIGITAL COPY SUBMITTED AS A PDF					
• Dimensioned Drawings and Plans • Site/Plot Plan • Existing or proposed buildings or addition on the property • Number & location of all on-site parking, if applicable • Existing & proposed distance to adjacent property lines • Location of existing & proposed signs, if applicable • Floor plans & elevations • Any other information relevant to the Variance application					



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATION

V. VARIANCE

A. VARIANCE (S) REQUESTED

☒ DIMENSIONAL ☐ USE ☐ SIGN

There is a five-(5) hold period before work/action can be taken on variance approvals.

B. SIGN CASES (ONLY)

Your signature on this application indicates that you agree to install a **Mock-Up Sign** ten-(10) days before the schedule ZBA meeting. Failure to install a mock-up sign may result in your case not being heard by the Board, postponed to the next schedule ZBA meeting, or cancelled. A mock-up sign is **NOT** to be actual sign. Upon approval, the mock-up sign must be removed within five-(5) days of the meeting. If the case is denied, the applicant is responsible for all costs involved in the removal of the mock-up or actual sign (if erected under violation) within five-(5) days of the meeting.

C. ORDINANCE

City of Novi Ordinance, Section 3107 – Miscellaneous

No order of the Board permitting the erection of a building shall be valid for a period longer than one-(1) year, unless a building permit for such erection or alteration is obtained within such period and such erection or alteration is started and proceeds to completion in accordance with the terms of such permit.

No order of the Board permitting a use of a building or premises shall be valid for a period longer than one-hundred and eighty-(180) days unless such use is established within such a period; provided, however, where such use permitted is dependent upon the erection or alteration of a building such order shall continue in force and effect if a building permit for such erection or alteration is obtained within one-(1) year and such erection or alteration is started and proceeds to completion in accordance with the terms of such permit.

D. APPEAL THE DETERMINATION OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The undersigned hereby appeals the determination of the Building Official / Inspector or Ordinance made

☐ CONSTRUCT NEW HOME/BUILDING ☐ ADDITION TO EXISTING HOME/BUILDING ☐ SIGNAGE

☐ ACCESSORY BUILDING ☐ USE ☐ OTHER _____

VI. APPLICANT & PROPERTY SIGNATURES

A. APPLICANT

Ram Marjuri
Applicant Signature

September 1, 2026

Date

B. PROPERTY OWNER

If the applicant is not the owner, the property owner must read and sign below:

The undersigned affirms and acknowledges that he, she or they are the owner(s) of the property described in this application, and is/are aware of the contents of this application and related enclosures.

P. Sampath
Property Owner Signature

September 1st, 2026

Date

VII. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DECISION ON APPEAL:

☐ GRANTED

☐ DENIED

The Building Inspector is hereby directed to issue a permit to the Applicant upon the following and conditions:

Chairperson, Zoning Board of Appeals

Date



Community Development Department
45175 Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 347-0415 Phone
(248) 735-5600 Facsimile
www.cityofnovi.org

REVIEW STANDARDS DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will review the application package and determine if the proposed Dimensional Variance meets the required standards for approval. In the space below, and on additional paper if necessary, explain how the proposed project meets each of the following standards. (Increased costs associated with complying with the Zoning Ordinance will not be considered a basis for granting a Dimensional Variance.)

Standard #1. Circumstances or Physical Conditions.

Explain the circumstances or physical conditions that apply to the property that do not apply generally to other properties in the same zoning district or in the general vicinity. Circumstances or physical conditions may include:

- a. Shape of Lot.** Exceptional narrowness, shallowness or shape of a specific property in existence on the effective date of the Zoning Ordinance or amendment.
☒ Not Applicable ☐ Applicable If applicable, describe below:

and/or

- b. Environmental Conditions.** Exceptional topographic or environmental conditions or other extraordinary situations on the land, building or structure.
☒ Not Applicable ☐ Applicable If applicable, describe below:

and/or

- c. Abutting Property.** The use or development of the property immediately adjacent to the subject property would prohibit the literal enforcement of the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance or would involve significant practical difficulties.
☒ Not Applicable ☐ Applicable If applicable, describe below:

Standard #2. Not Self-Created.

Describe the immediate practical difficulty causing the need for the Dimensional Variance, that the need for the requested variance is not the result of actions of the property owner or previous property owners (i.e., is not self-created).

There are a number of religious components to the building to create a more authentic Hindu Temple. A number of these were completed within the original Phase I work. These included dome structures that extended beyond the roof line. The Rajagopuram is one of the critical religious components of the temple. Similar in nature to a church steeple, it is an element germane to a traditional temple that rises up above. It's dimensions and proportionality is strictly determined by the religious figures inside.

Standard #3. Strict Compliance.

Explain how the Dimensional Variance in strict compliance with regulations governing area, setback, frontage, height, bulk, density or other dimensional requirements will unreasonably prevent the property owner from using the property for a permitted purpose, or will render conformity with those regulations unnecessarily burdensome.

The aim of this temple is to provide a more authentic and traditional religious experience akin to traditional temples of South India. The true structure is one that sits at the entrance as a main gateway into the temple. It is meant to be a visual landmark marking the sacred domain of the god. The tapering tiers are covered in sculptures depicting events and beings, serving as visual scriptures for devotees before they enter. The passing under the Rajagopuram is symbolic of moving from the material outer world into the inner spiritual sacred space of the temple.

Standard #4. Minimum Variance Necessary.

Explain how the Dimensional Variance requested is the minimum variance necessary to do substantial justice to the applicant as well as to other property owners in the district.

The Rajagopuram is designed to be grand in stature and is very symbolic. It will serve as the face of the temple. It will announce the temple in its grandeur. It was always part of the Master Plan to develop this structure. This structure will complete the construction of the temple building. The way it is now proposed will further enhance and clean up the front of the building to provide a very ornate and photo-friendly structure for the area.

Standard #5. Adverse Impact on Surrounding Area.

Explain how the Dimensional Variance will not cause an adverse impact on surrounding property, property values, or the use and enjoyment of property in the neighborhood or zoning district.

The proposed location of the Rajagopuram is deep within the temple property. It's proposed height is merely 7'-10" taller than the already existing previously approved dome on the current temple building. Because of it's location and the site location of the existing building, it will not cast shadows on neighboring properties nor will it be in the sightlines of any of the neighboring properties as they are currently developed.



September 1, 2026

Zoning Board of Appeals
City of Novi, Community Development
45175 Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375

**RE: JSP24-17 SV TEMPLE PHASE III: RAJAGOPURAM
DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE REQUEST**

Dear Members of the Board:

We wish to submit our request for your consideration of a dimensional variance for our proposed Rajagopuram structure as part of the Phase III development of the temple Master Plan for the Sri Venkateswara Temple and Cultural Center located at 26233 Taft Rd. in Novi.

We have appeared before on November 12, 2008 requesting similar for the various religious components of the then proposed main temple structure for dimensional variances of varying heights, the tallest of which was 55'-1", which have been approved and constructed. We are now looking to begin the development of the next religious component, the Rajagopuram.

Religious Significance

The Rajagopuram presents a grand gateway for entrance to the temple. It is one of three main energy centers that make up a traditional South Indian temple. The tapering tiers are covered in sculptures that depict deities and events and act as a focal point for positive vibrations and cosmic forces. Passing under the Rajagopuram is symbolic of movement from the material outer world into the sacred spiritual inner space of the temple.

It is very similar in concept to the church steeple. It's tapering points it upwards to the sky as reaching towards the cosmic energy of the heavens and by size it's meant to visually attract its followers and help locate it (stand out) amongst other buildings.

Implementation of Structure

Our original Master Plan planned for a separate independent structure of 37'-4 1/2". This was also approved at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on November 12, 2008, but always planned as a future Phase III. In moving forward with that development today, it was desired to be combined with the building to address a better approach to being the face of the temple. In doing so the proportionality



needed to be adjusted to allow it to serve its purpose and stand out as a prominent visual landmark. The development of proportions and dimensions are rooted from the sizing of the idols in the inner sanctums to the overall building dimensions to maintain a harmonious configuration amongst the energy centers.

The structure itself is very sacred. There will be no additional program space within this structure, it is merely a space for one to pass through and is largely symbolic in nature.

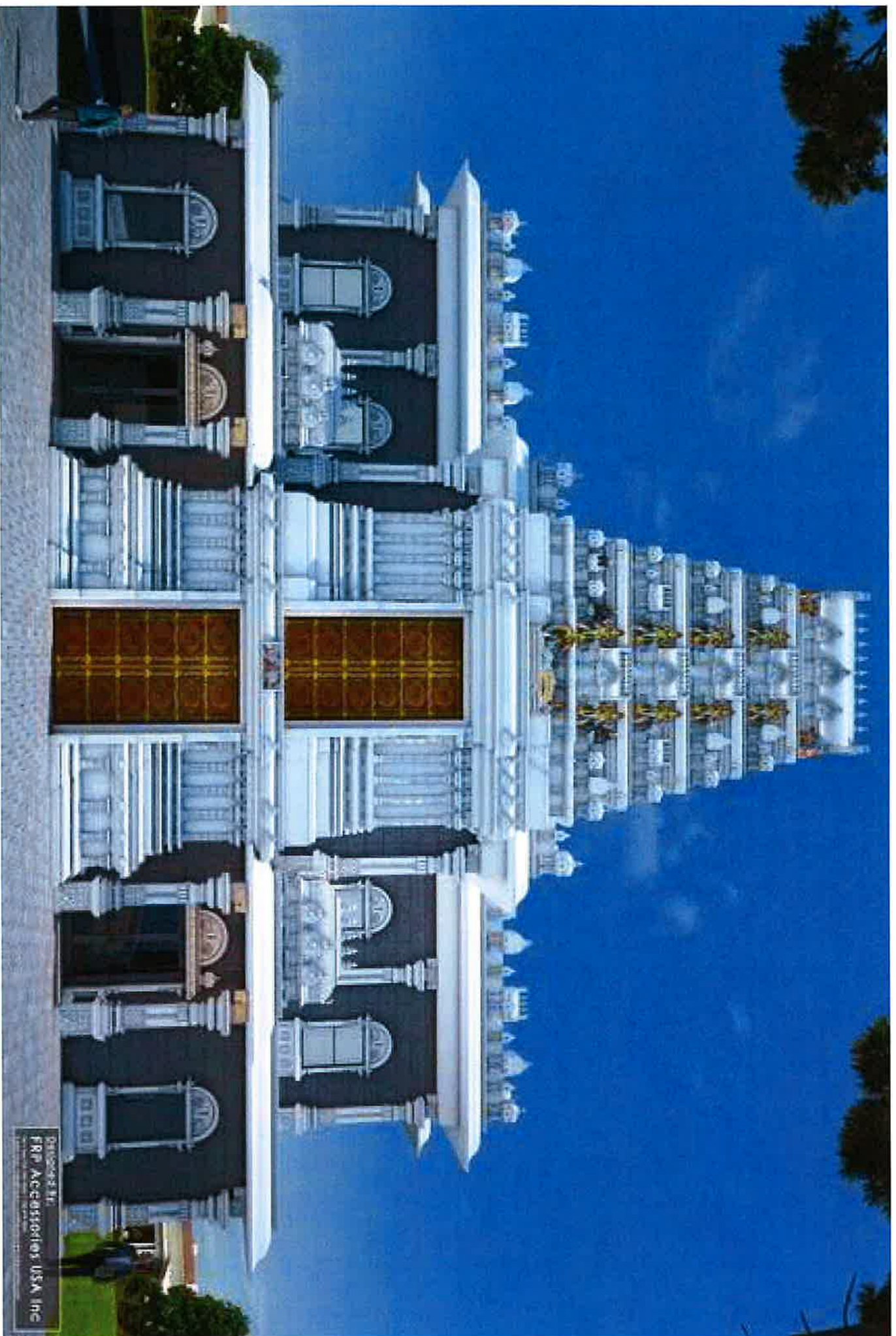
Impact

The site that the temple is located on is very deep and the location of the Rajagopuram will not affect the neighboring properties. The proposed structure is roughly under 8' over the existing tallest structure on the current building. It is meant to stand out in its cultural significance and grandeur and will present a dramatic and elegant face to the entrance of the temple.

We thank you kindly for your consideration for this implementation. We are very excited to be able to proceed to the next steps of bringing this project to fruition.

Sincerely,
MANYAM GROUP LLC

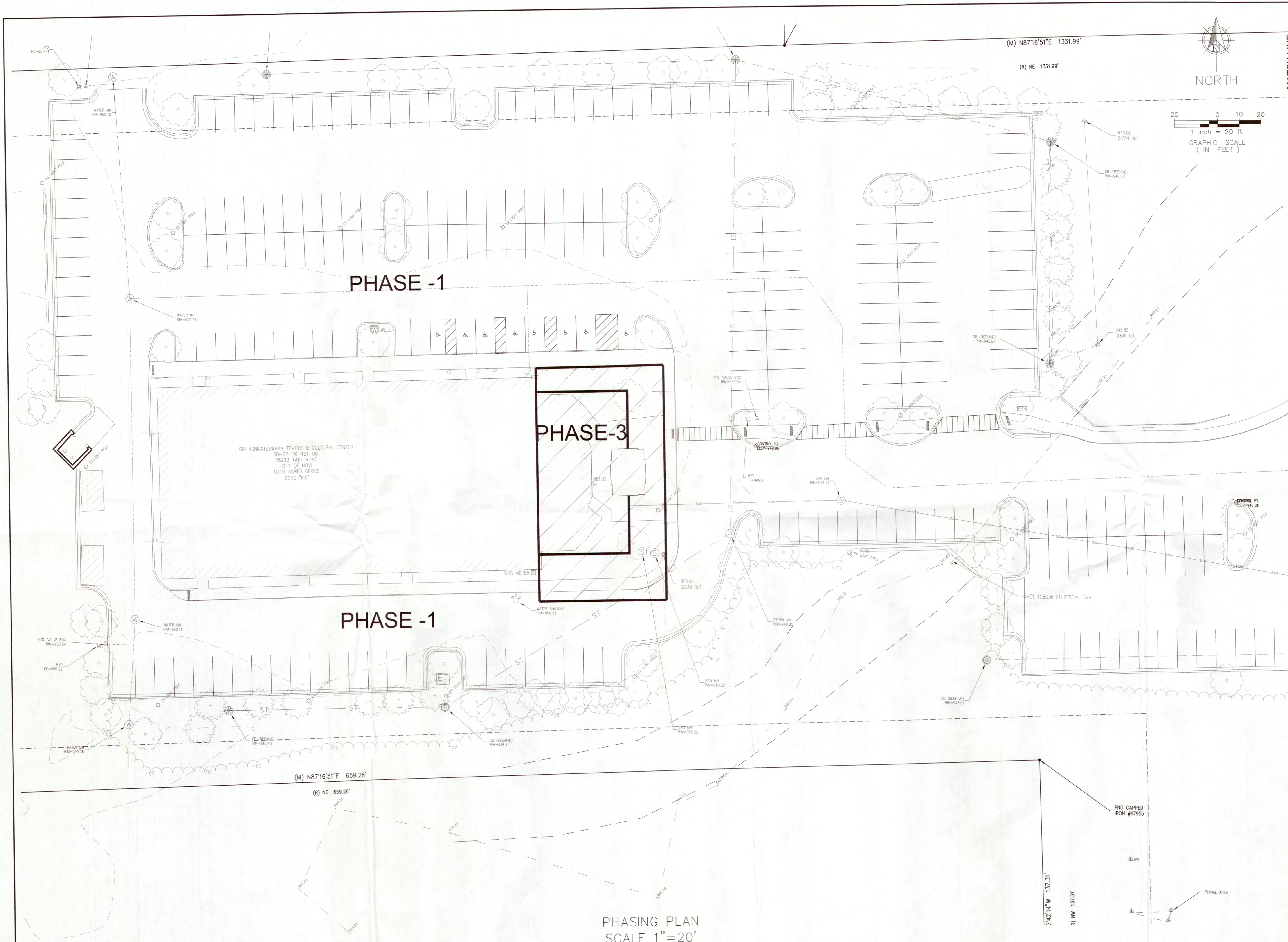
Praveen Manyam



0800-622-3411
FRP Accessories USA Inc
www.frpaccessoriesusa.com



Chennai
FRP Accretions USA Inc



MATCH LINE
SEE SHEET C-5

LEGEND

- PROPERTY LINE
- RIGHT OF WAY
- SECTION LINE
- SETBACK LINES
- EXIST STORM SEWER
- EXIST GRAVITY SEWER
- EXIST SANITARY SEWER
- EXIST DOMESTIC WATER LINE
- EXIST HYDRANT
- PHASE-1 EXISTING
- PHASE-2 FUTURE
- PHASE-3 PROPOSED

PHASING PLAN
SCALE 1"=20'

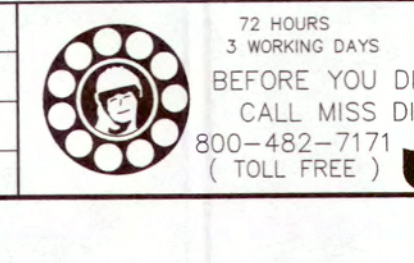
DATE	ISSUE	BY	DATE	ISSUE	BY
10/24/25	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			
02/03/26	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			
02/26/26	REVISED AS PER OWNER COMMENTS	BK			
04/08/26	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			

PROJECT

SRI VENKATESWARA TEMPLE & CULTURAL CENTER
26233 TAFT RD, NOVI, MI 48374

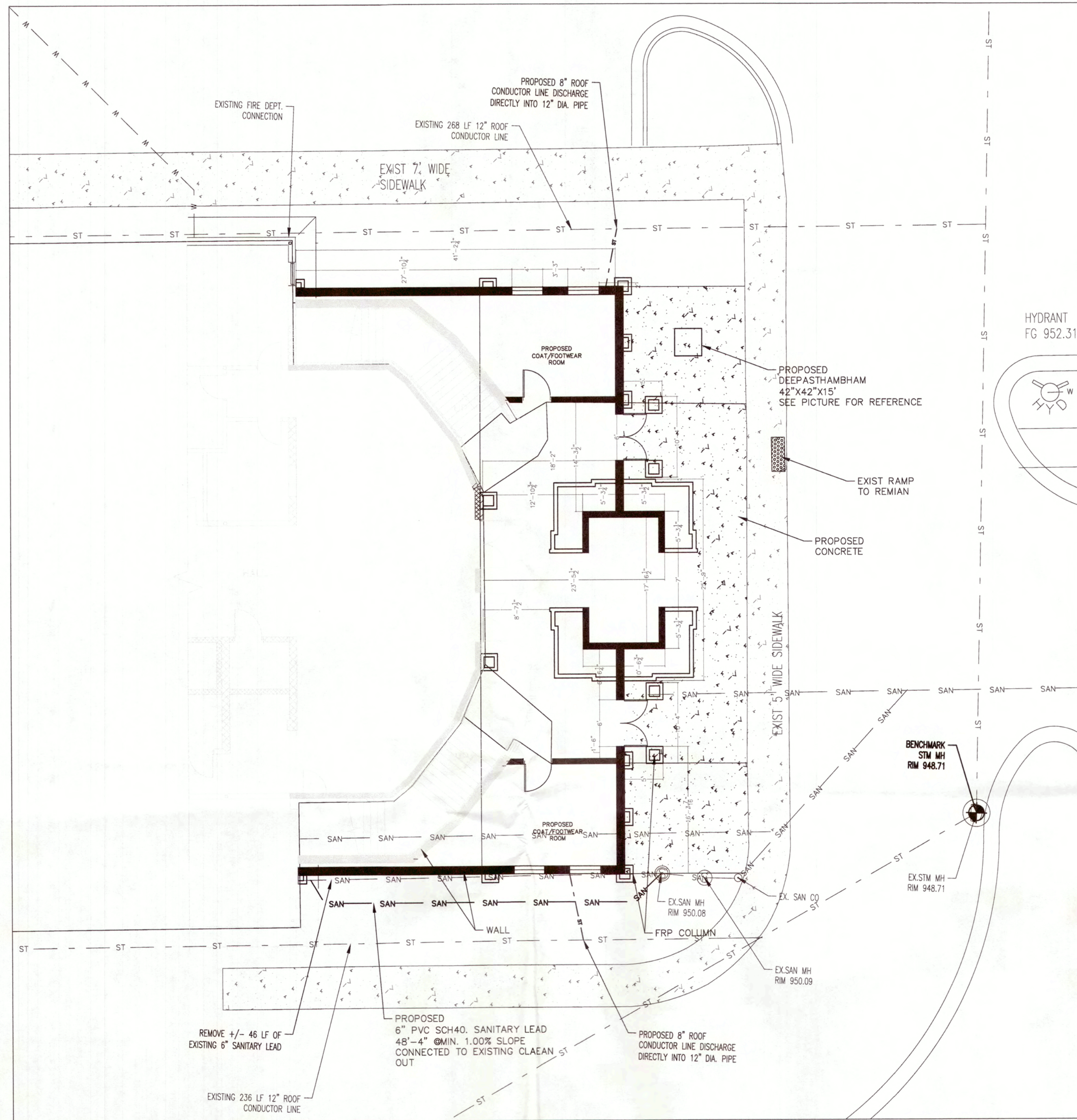
FAIRWAY ENGINEERING LLC
LAND DEVELOPMENT - STRUCTURAL - GEOTECH
28525 BECK ROAD, SUITE 114 WIXOM, MI 48393-4743
P:(248) 214-5913

DATE	02-16-24	CKD. BY	DATE
DRAWN	AG		
DESIGN	MM		
SECTION	16 T-1-N, R-8-E.		



PHASING PLAN
SHEET 1 OF 2

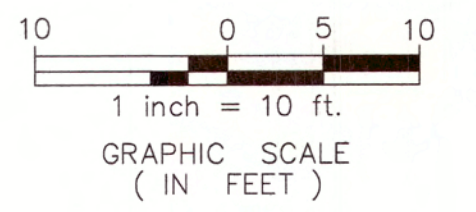
JOB No.	23-1016
SHEET	C-4
	SHEET 4 OF 14



PROPOSED PLAN
SCALE 1"=10'



DEEPASTHAMBHAM
(ILLUSTRATION ONLY)



LEGEND

	EXIST STORM SEWER
	EXIST STORM SEWER STRUCTURE
	EXIST GRAVITY SEWER LINE
	EXIST SANITARY SEWER MANHOLE
	EXIST DOMESTIC WATER LINE
	EXIST HYDRANT
	EXIST OVERHEAD WIRES
	EXIST UTILITY POLE
	BENCH MARK
	PROP. BUILDING
	PROP. CONCRETE
	EXIST. BRICK PAVERS
	EXIST. TREE
	PROPOSED SANITARY LEAD

GENERAL NOTES

1. NOTIFY THE CITY OF NOVI, A MINIMUM OF 48 HOURS PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION.
2. ALL CONSTRUCTION MUST BE CONFORMING TO THE CURRENT STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF NOVI.
3. ALL UTILITIES TO BE UNDERGROUND.
4. CALL MISS DIG (800-482-7171) A MINIMUM OF 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE START OF CONSTRUCTION.
5. ALL EXCAVATION UNDER THE 45 DEGREE ZONE OF INFLUENCE LINE OF PAVEMENTS, BIKE PATHS, SIDEWALKS, AND/OR DRIVE APPROACHES, EXISTING OR PROPOSED, SHALL BE BACKFILLED AND COMPACTED WITH SAND (CLASS II MDOT) TO AT LEAST 95% OF MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY OF THE SOIL USED.
7. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL DAMAGE TO EXISTING UTILITIES FROM HIS OPERATIONS.
8. PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF AN OCCUPANCY PERMIT, ENGINEERING SITE INSPECTION IS REQUIRED.
9. ALL SIGNS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL DURING CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES SHALL BE ACCORDING TO THE MOST CURRENT MICHIGAN MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (MMUTCD).
10. IF DEWATERING IS ANTICIPATED OR ENCOUNTERED DURING CONSTRUCTION A DEWATERING PLAN MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE ENGINEERING DIVISION FOR REVIEW.
11. A MINIMUM OF 18" VERTICAL SEPARATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED WHERE UTILITIES ARE CROSSING EACHOTHER. ADDITIONAL BEDDING MEASURES SHALL BE UTILIZED AT THE POINT OF CROSSING WHERE ADEQUATE CLEARANCE CANNOT BE MAINTAINED

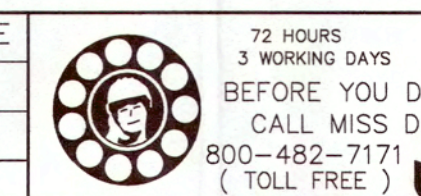
DATE	ISSUE	BY	DATE	ISSUE	BY
10/24/25	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			
02/03/26	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			
02/26/26	REVISED AS PER OWNER COMMENTS	BK			
04/08/26	REVISED AS PER CITY COMMENTS	BK			

PROJECT

SRI VENKATESWARA TEMPLE
& CULTURAL CENTER
26233 TAFT RD, NOVI, MI 48374

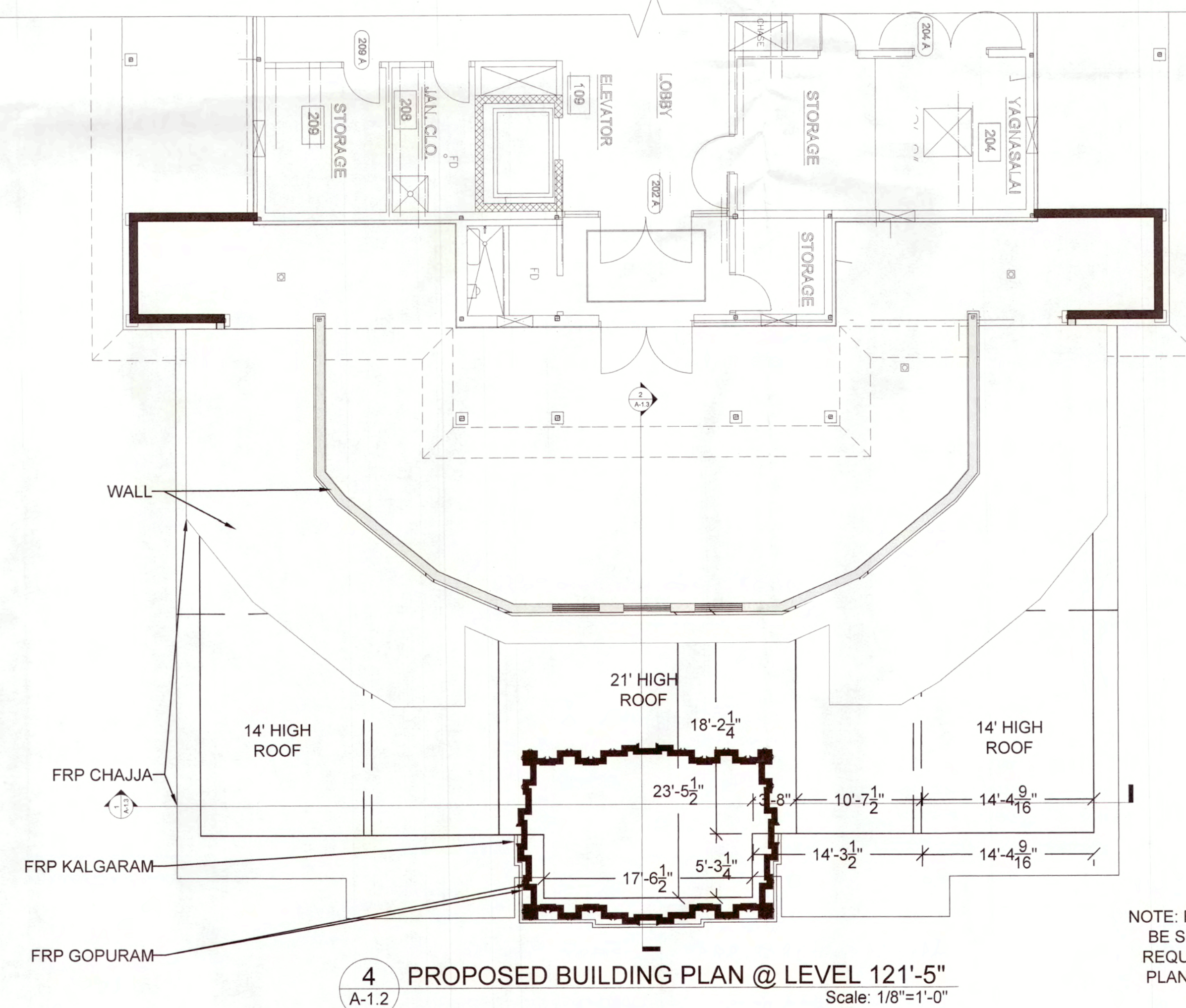
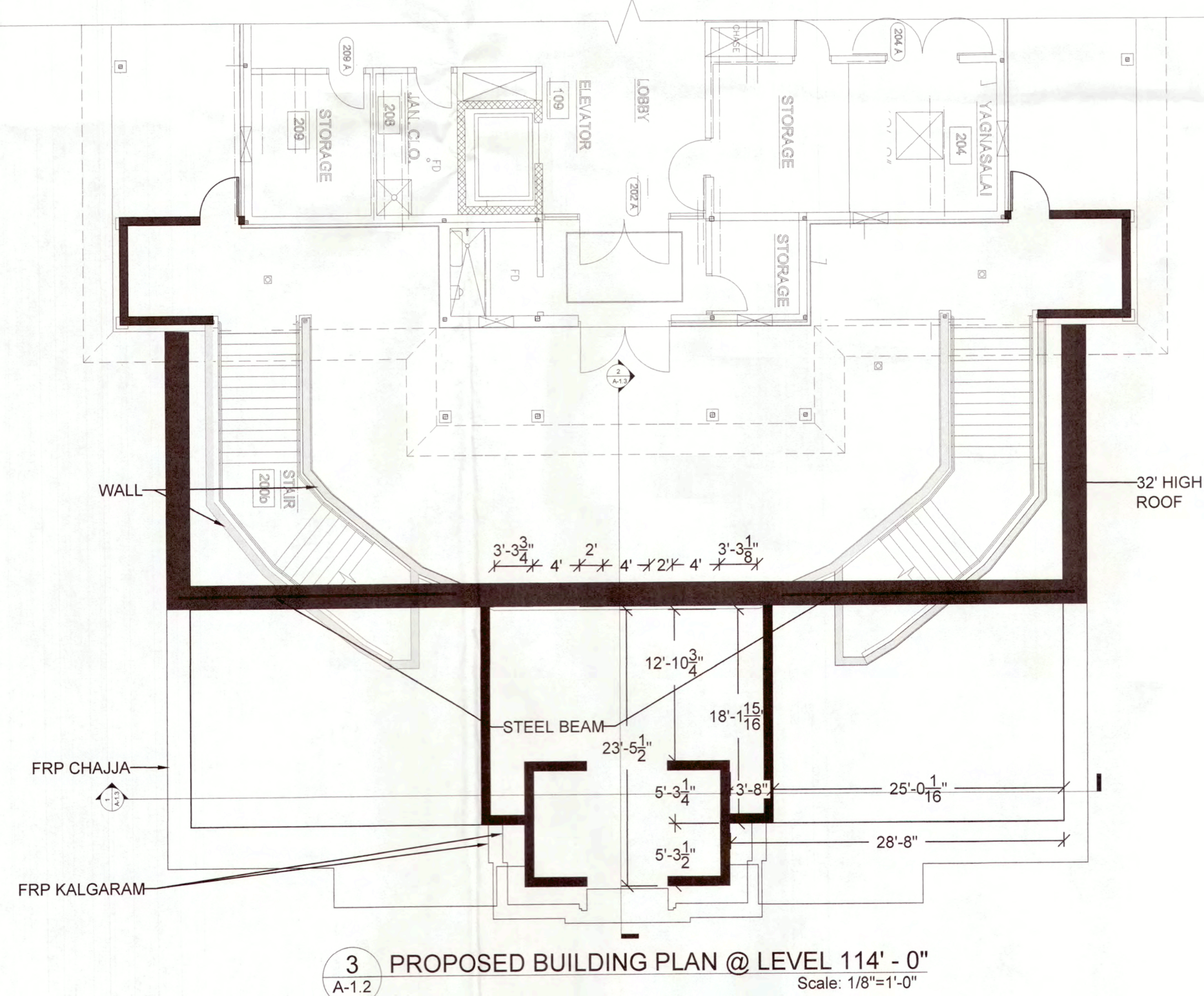
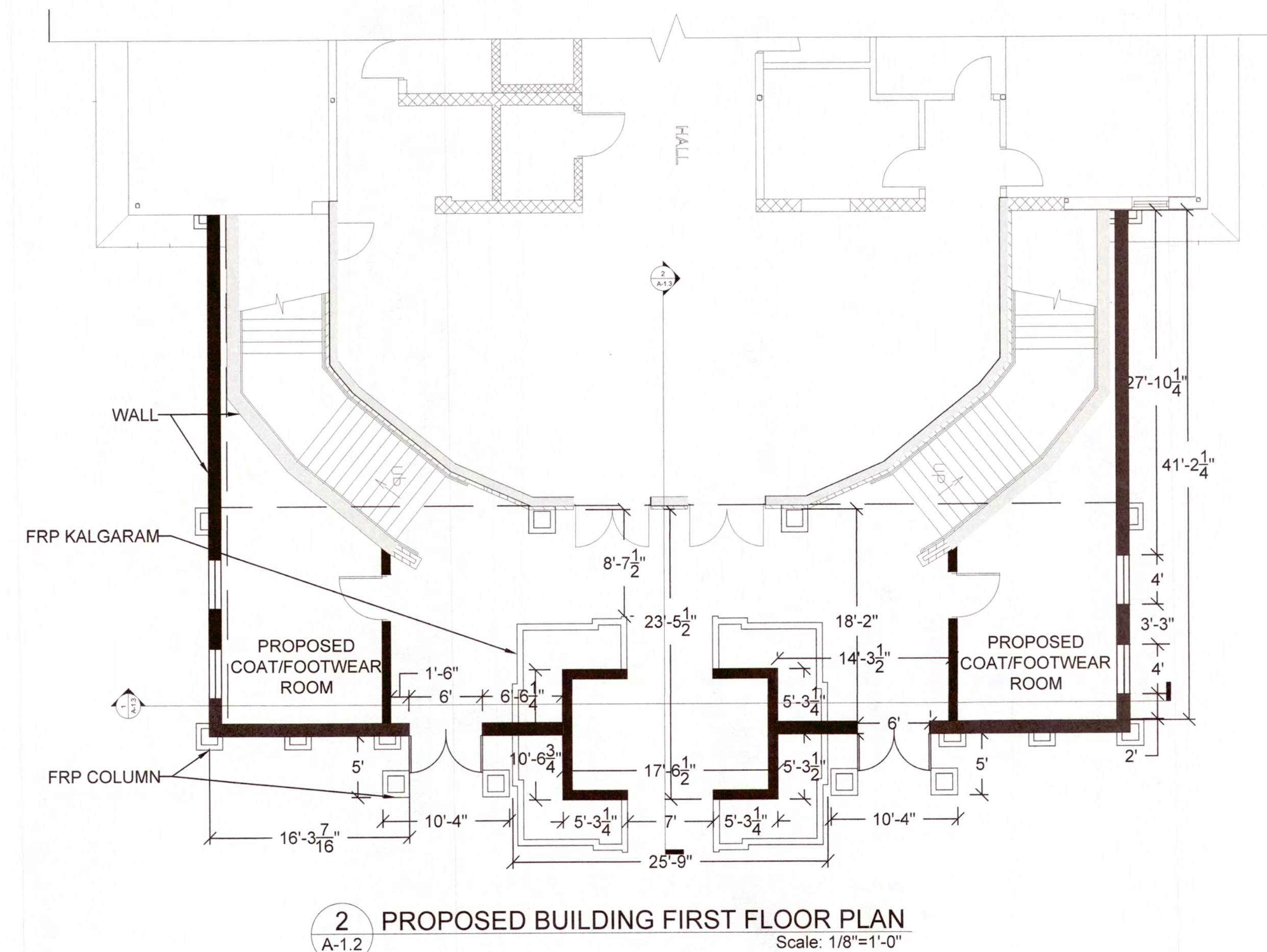
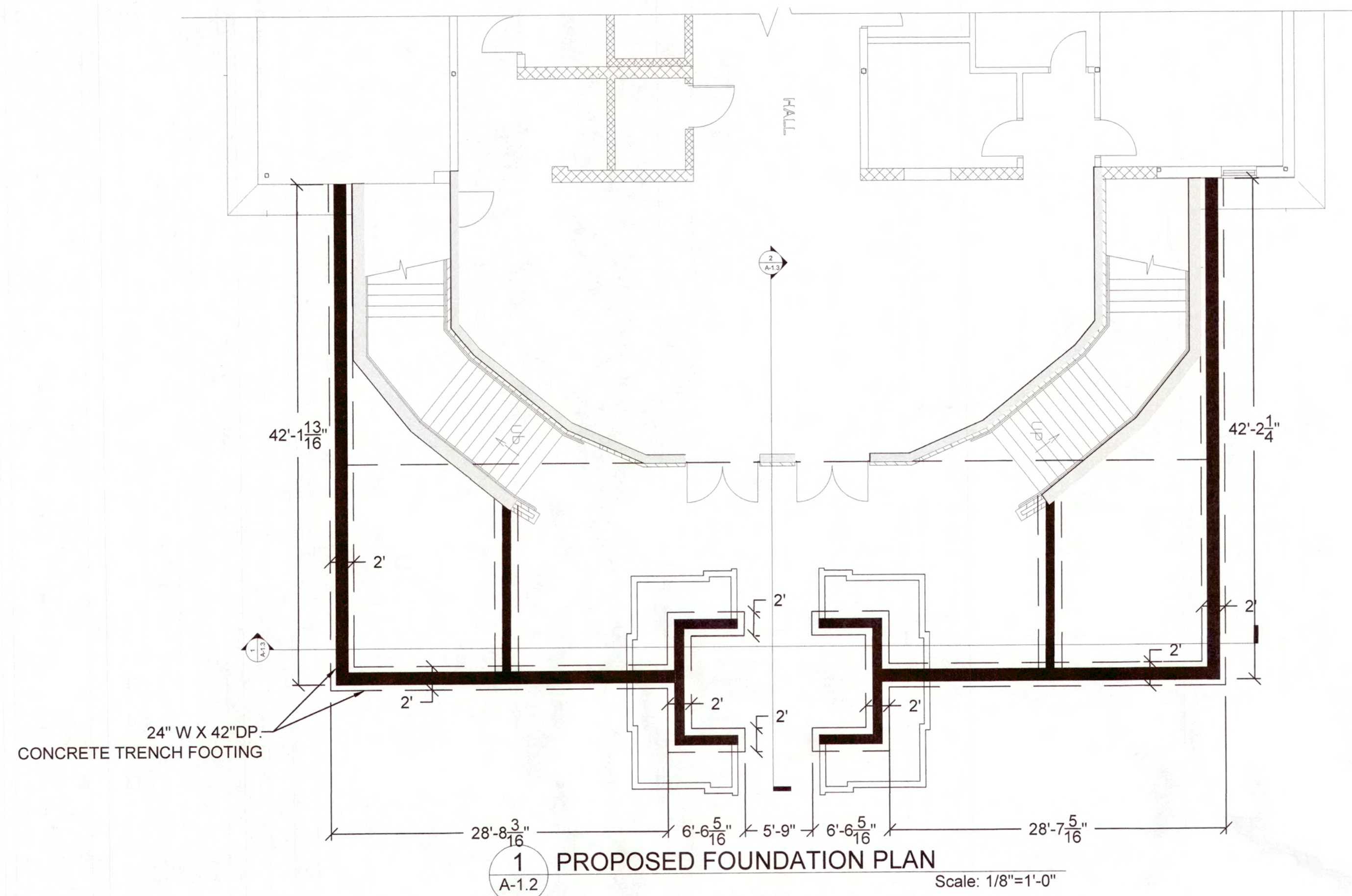
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LAND DEVELOPMENT - STRUCTURAL - GEOTECH
28525 BECK ROAD, SUITE 114 WIXOM, MI 48393-4743
P:(248) 214-5913

DATE	02-16-24	CKD. BY	DATE
DRAWN	AG		
DESIGN	MM		
SECTION	16 T-1-N. R-8-E.		



PROPOSED PLAN
(ENLARGED)

JOB No	23-1016
SHEET	C-6
SHEET	6 OF 14



NOTE: ROOF TOP UNITS WILL BE SCREENED PER CITY REQUIREMENTS SEE MEP PLANS FOR REFERENCE.

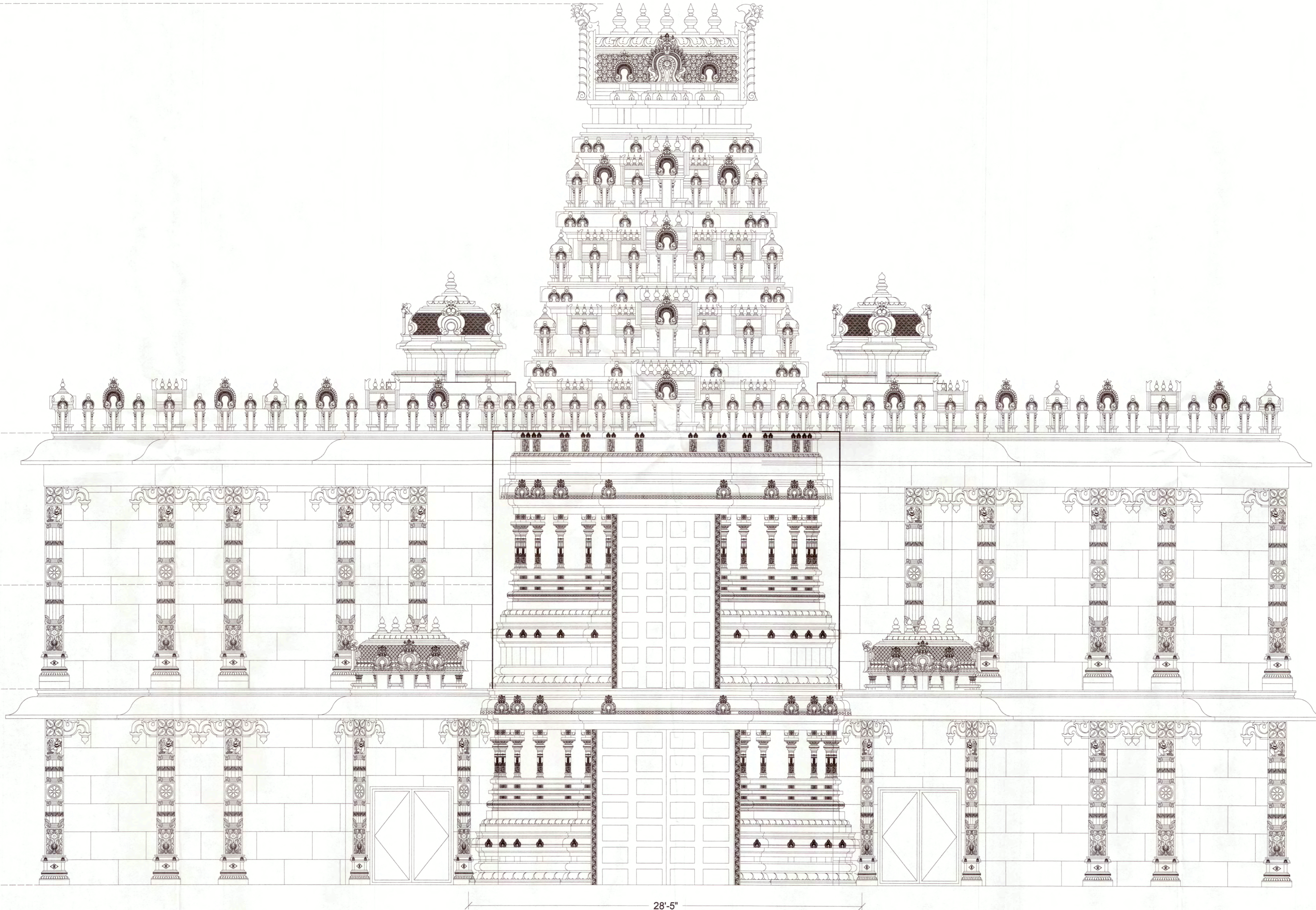
TOP OF GOPURAM
@ 162'-11"

ROOF DECK
@ 132'-3"

T.O.S. LEVEL
@ 121'-5"

SECOND FLOOR
@ 114'-0"

FIRST FLOOR
@ 100'-0"



1
A-1.1

PROPOSED BUILDING EAST ELEVATION WITH FRP DECORATION

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

These Drawings Belong To FRP Accessories USA Inc. These Drawings Should Only Be Used Once By The Listed Client For The Listed Site Location. They Should Not Be Copied, Reproduced Or In Anyway Duplicated In Whole OR Partially Without Written Consent Of FRP Accessories USA Inc.

REVISION NO	REV. DT
REVISION 1	AUG 31 2026

FIRST DRAWING	Sep 25 2021
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APPROVED DRAWING	
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CONCEPTURAL DRAWING

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

FRP Accessories USA Inc.
Creating Wonders with Composites

335 New Road, Suite 9,
Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852 USA
Tel / Fax: 732 355 0253 / 732 875 0269
E: mailvipul_fadia@frpacc.com Website: www.indiacrafters.com

PROJECT NAME:

SITE LOCATION:

PREPARED FOR:

DRAWING TITLE:
PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATION WITH
FRP DECORATION.

DRAWN BY:	CHECKED BY:	DATE:
DK		08/31/2023

JOB NO.: **1190**

DRAWING SHEET NO.:

A-1.1

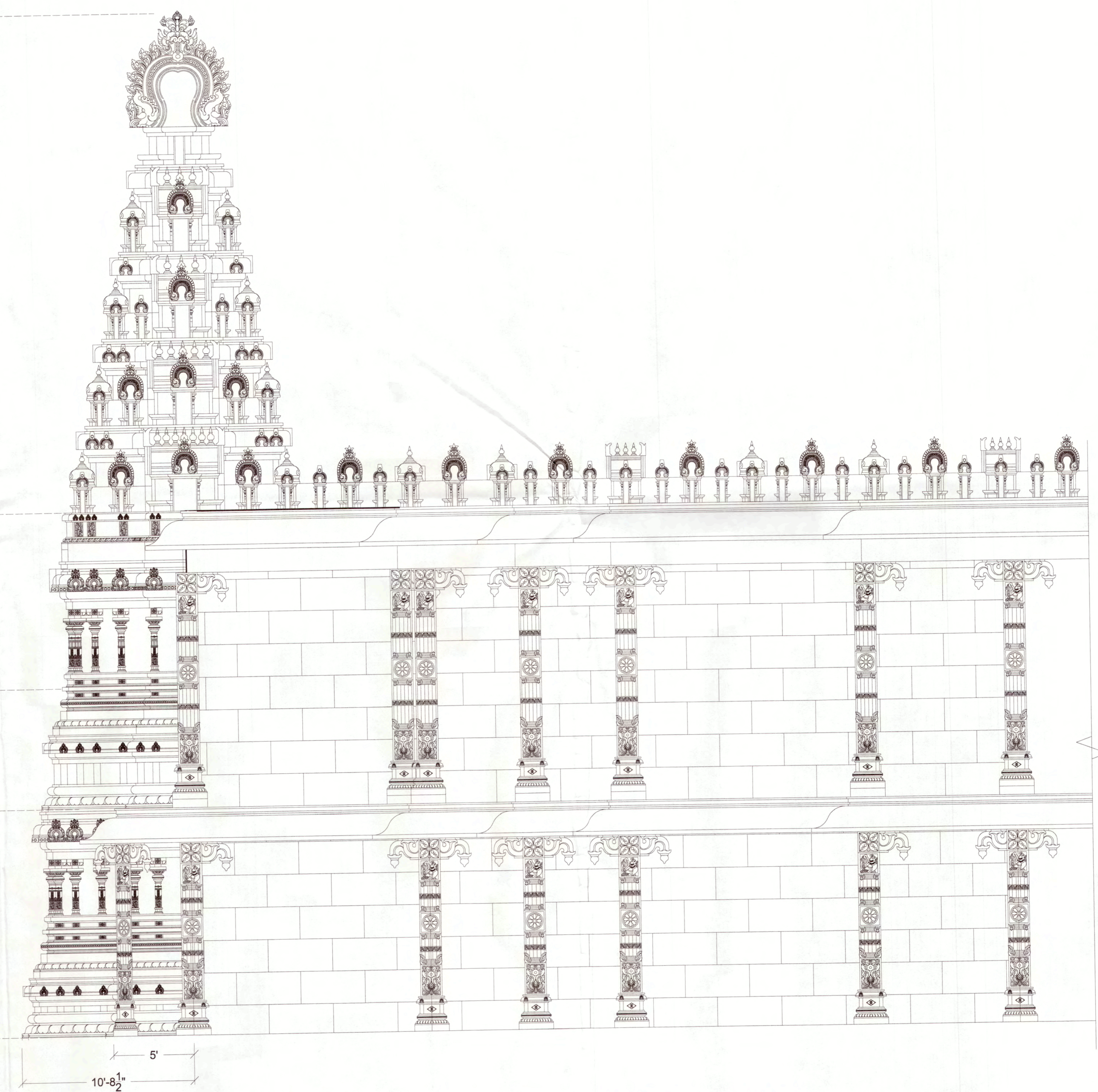
TOP OF GOPURAM
@ 162'-11"

ROOF DECK
@ 132'-3"

T.O.S LEVEL
@ 121'-5"

SECOND FLOOR
@ 114'-0"

FIRST FLOOR
@ 100'-0"



1 PROPOSED BUILDING NORTH ELEVATION WITH FRP DECORATION
A-1.2 Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

These Drawings Belong To FRP Accessories USA Inc. These Drawings Should Only Be Used Once By The Listed Client For The Listed Site Location. They Should Not Be Copied, Reproduced Or In Anyway Duplicated In Whole OR Partially Without Written Consent Of FRP Accessories USA Inc.

REVISION NO	REV. DT
REVISION 1	AUG 31 2026

FIRST DRAWING Sep 25 2021

APPROVED DRAWING

CONCEPTURAL DRAWING

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



FRP Accessories USA Inc.
Creating Wonders with Composites

335 New Road, Suite 9,
Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852 USA
Tel / Fax: 732 355 0253 / 732 875 0269
E-mail: vipul_fadia@frpacc.com Website: www.indiacrafters.com

PROJECT NAME:

SITE LOCATION:

PREPARED FOR:

DRAWING TITLE:
PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATION WITH
FRP DECORATION.

DRAWN BY:	CHECKED BY:	DATE:
DK		08/31/2023

JOB NO. : 1190

DRAWING SHEET NO. :
A-1.2