

The current proposal is:

Preservation Department – Item 5, LPC-24-08053

**153-159 Sullivan Street – Sullivan-Thompson Historic District
Borough of Manhattan**

To testify virtually, please join Zoom

Webinar ID: 863 0633 9476

Passcode: 077141

By Phone: 646-558-8656 (NY)

877-853-5257 (Toll free) US

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The Church of St. Anthony of Padua

155 Sullivan Street
New York, NY 10012

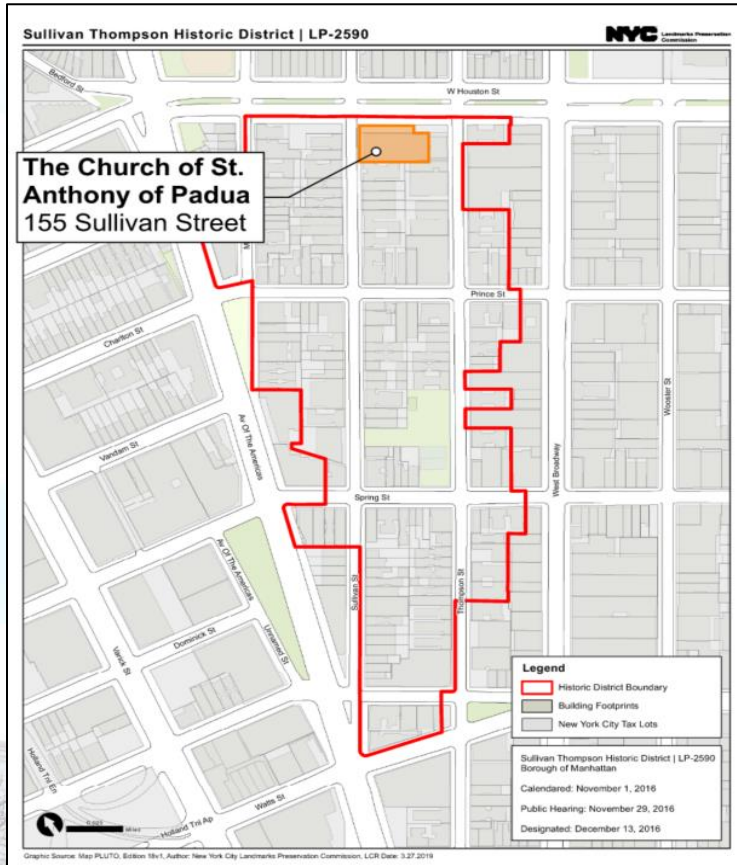
**Presentation to Landmarks
Preservation Commission**

2024-06-11



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St. Anthony of Padua Church



- Falls within Sullivan Thompson Historical District which was designated in December 2016.
- Tax address is 151-155 Sullivan Street, New York, NY, 10012

- Lies on corner of West Houston St. and Sullivan St. in SoHo.
- Due to the large Italian immigration in the 1850's the church was built to provide the Italians with an Italian speaking parish. It is close to the Little Italy neighborhood.

Project Summary



Proposed Scope of Work

Statue Base

- Remove Existing
- Install new base with grotto

Courtyard

- Replace existing asphalt with new stone paving
- Replace and resize new concrete walkways and curbs

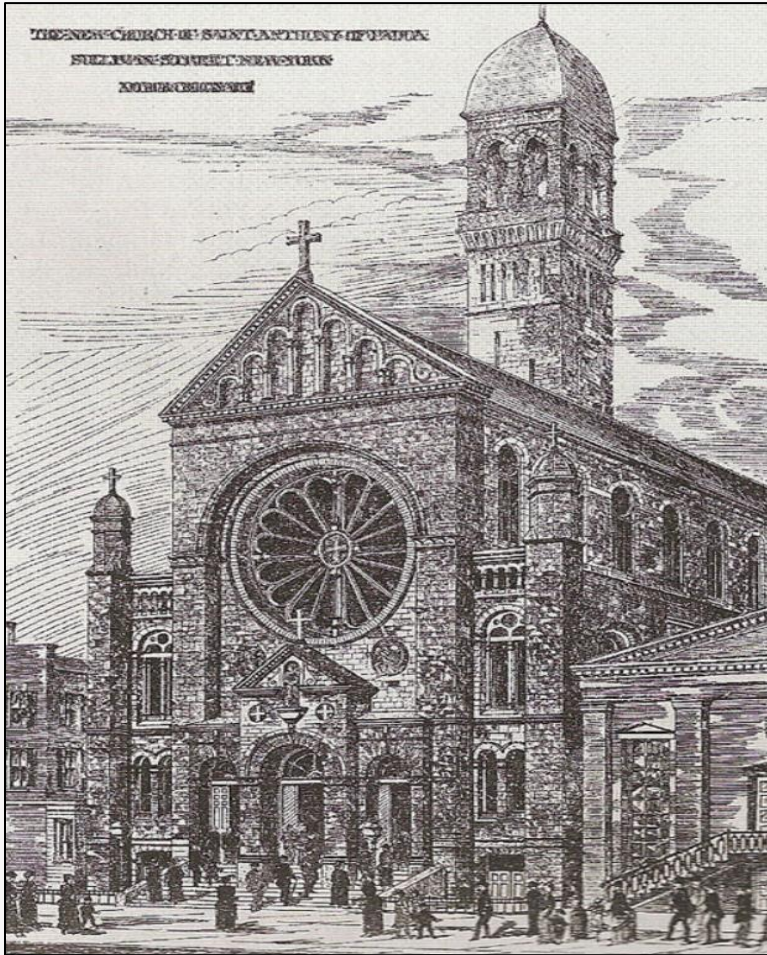
HVAC Units

- Legalize existing units
- Install planter and vegetation screen

Sign

- Install new sign at elevator bulkhead

History of Building



Architect's Render from 1886

- Church built from 1886 – 1888
- Designed by Arthur Crooks for Reverend Father Anacletus De Angelis
- Dedicated June 10, 1888 – First Italian Parish in NY State
- Oldest Existing Italian Parish in USA



History of Building



West Houston Street being widened to 6 lanes in early 1930's to accommodate new subway line. Multiple buildings on either side of the street were demolished for the street.

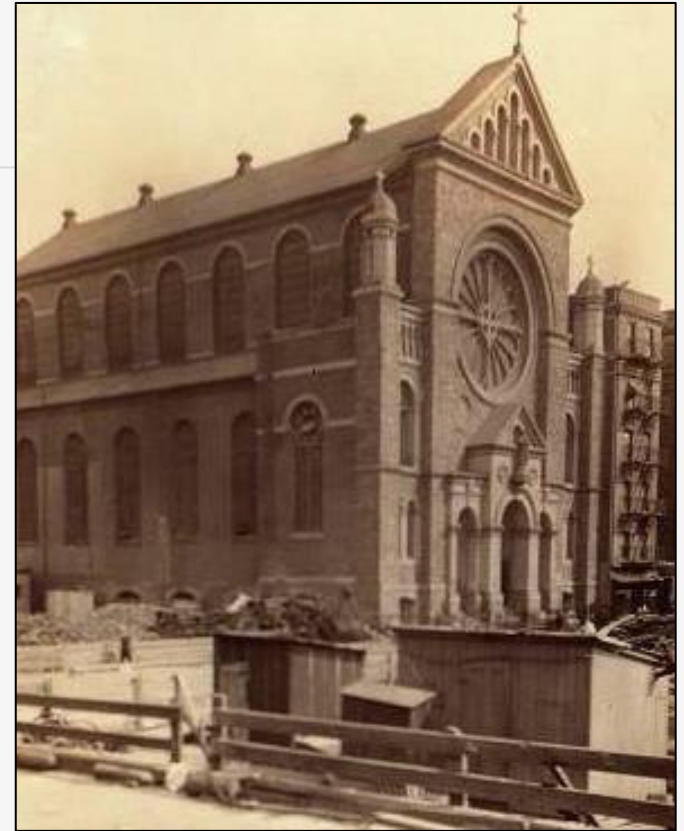


Photo of Church from 1930's Houston street widening

History of Building

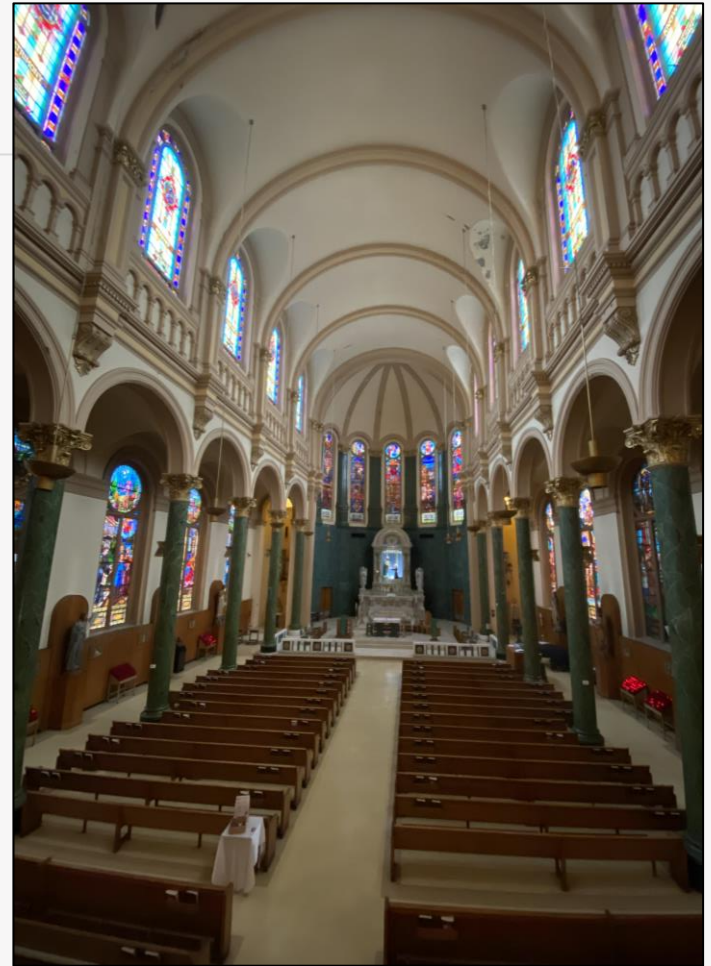


North and West Façade of Church from 1940's Tax Photos

Cultural Significance



St. Anthony of Padua Church in 1966



Interior of the Church

- Appeared in movies such as “The Pope of Greenwich Village,” “Moonstruck,” and “Godfather II.”
- It is currently the oldest Italian parish in the USA and serves as a frequent tourist attraction to the Soho area

History of Courtyard



- Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and supplemental statues (Center) installed by Father Felician Napoli in 1976
- Statue of St. Alphonsus (Left) installed by Reverend Patrick Boyle in 1997
- Statue of Padre Pio (Right) installation date is unknown - sometime after 1992
- Per Church Records, when Father Felician Napoli installed the Fatima Group in 1976, the asphalt pavement had already been installed.

History of Our Lady of Fatima Statue



- Originally located at St. Anthony Church Seminary Grounds at Troy, New York with other statues including the Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and St. Francis.
- When Seminary Grounds closed in 1976, Father Felician Napoli moved the statues to the church and installed Fatima Group as well as statues of Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and St. Francis in the courtyard of the church.
- Fr. Paul Rotondi became pastor in 1979 – in early 1980's he removed statues of the Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and St. Francis and relocated them to Wappingers Falls.

History of St. Alphonsus Statue



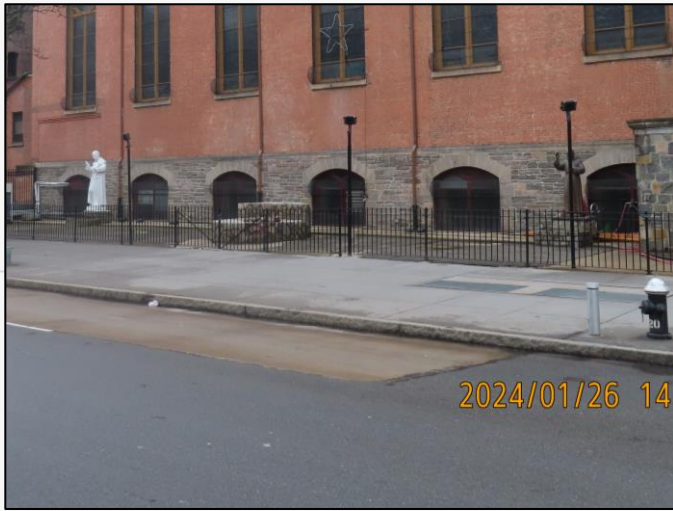
- Originally located at St. Alphonsus Church, which closed in the early 1980's and was amalgamated into Parish of St. Anthony.
- Parishioners from St. Alphonsus Church requested that Statue of St. Alphonsus be located in the courtyard of St. Anthony Church – Fr. Paul Rotondi did not allow the statue to be installed in the courtyard. Parishioner John Pepe took the statue and held it in his garage on Canal Street.
- Reverend Patrick Boyle became pastor in 1996, and in August of 1997 he was responsible of moving the statue of St. Alphonsus from John Pepe's garage to the courtyard of the Church of St. Anthony.

History of Padre Pio Statue



- Per Reverend Patrick Boyle, he left the Church of St. Anthony of Padua in 1992. At that time, the only statues in the courtyard were the Fatima Group and St. Alphonsus.
- The installation date of the Statue of Padre Pio is unknown. It was installed sometime after 1992 when Reverend Patrick Boyle's service ended.

Courtyard at Present



Existing North Courtyard



Existing Fatima Statue Base



Existing Fatima Statue Base Damaged

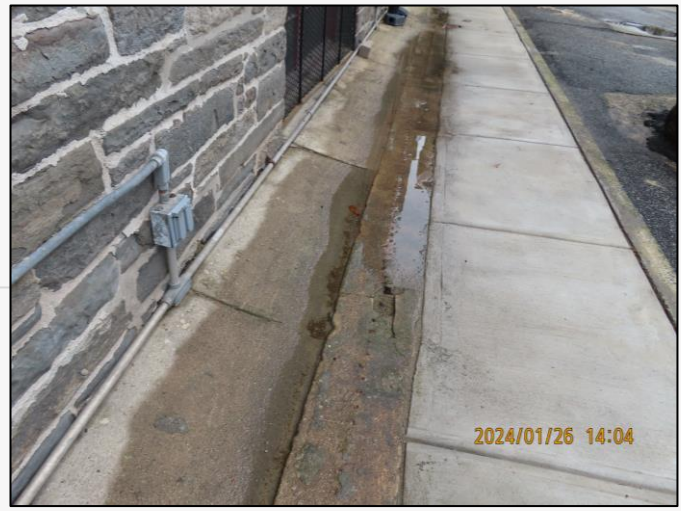


Closeup of the base damage

Courtyard at Present



Existing walkway at south side of courtyard



Existing walkway not draining properly



Existing courtyard pavement showing cracks



Existing courtyard pavement with potholes

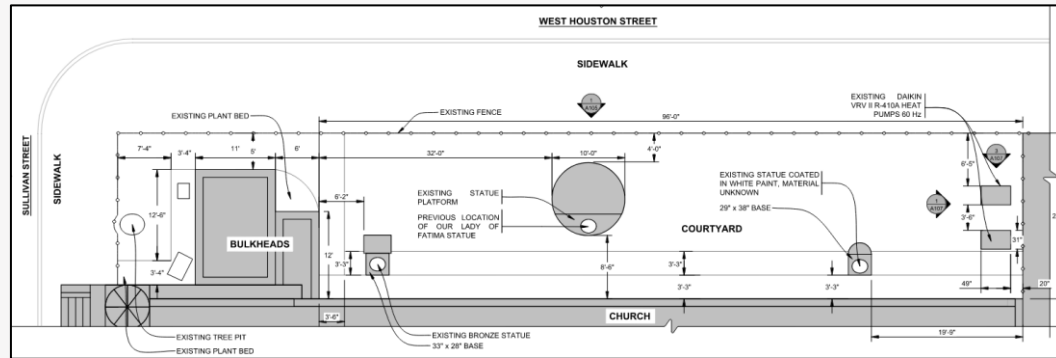
Current Status



Historic Sign

- The original installation date of the sign is unknown.
- The historic sign was removed under previous ownership in 2021
- As it is now, the Church cannot be easily identified by a passersby.

Existing Courtyard



Existing Courtyard Plan



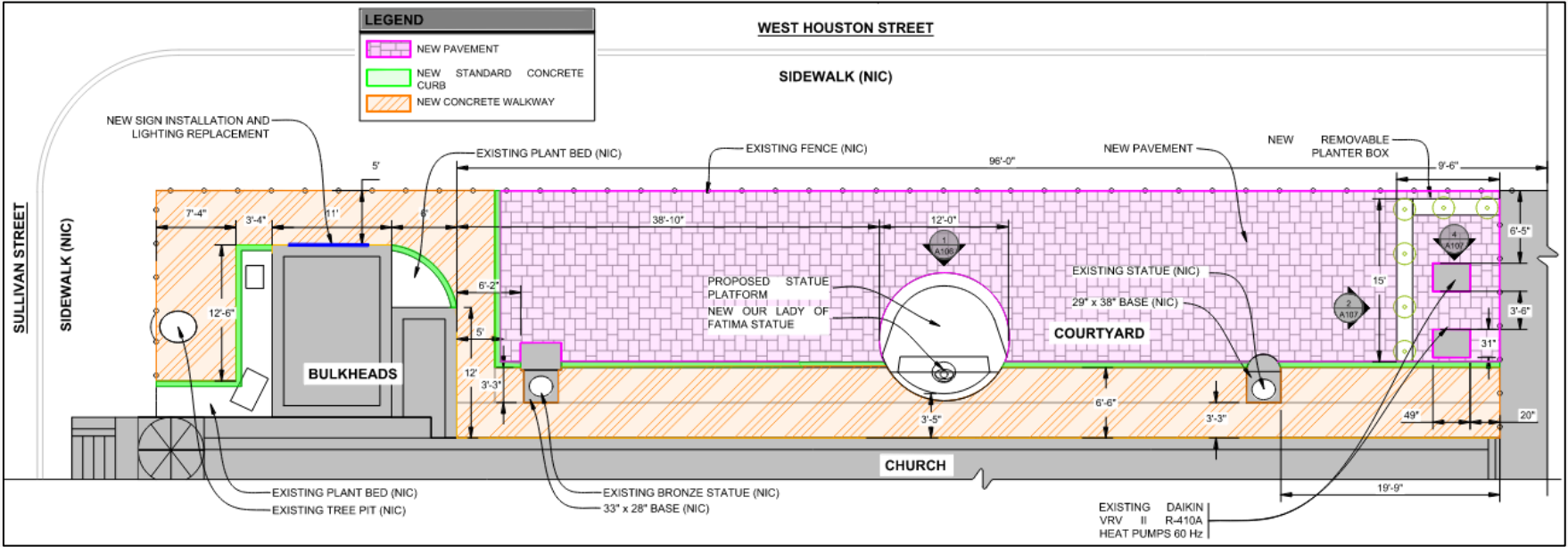
Existing Pavement

- The existing courtyard is made of asphalt – this was done to assist with pest control.
- The existing asphalt is damaged resulting in water pooling.
- The extensive cracks provide a potential tripping hazard.
- As is, the existing courtyard is unattractive.



Existing Pavement

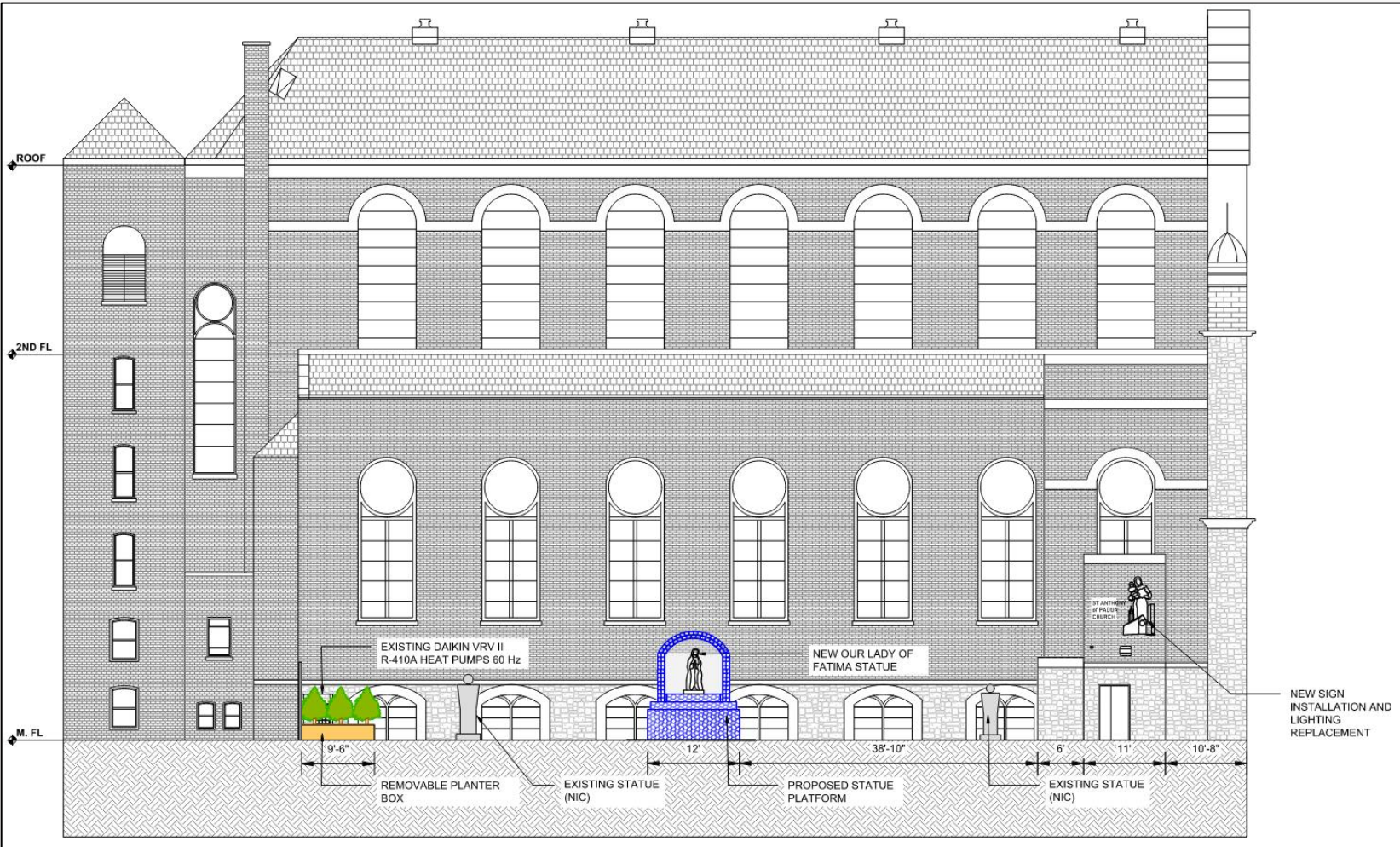
Proposed Courtyard



Proposed Courtyard Plan

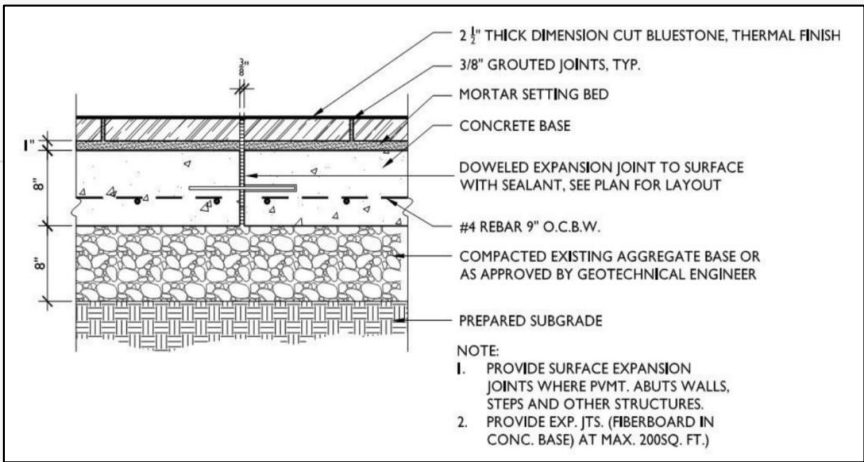
- We are proposing building a new statue base with a new grotto.
- We are proposing installing new courtyard paving, curbs, and walkways.
- We are proposing to legalize the existing HVAC units
- We are proposing the installation of a new planter and vegetation screen around the existing HVAC units.
- We are proposing the installation of a new sign and corresponding lighting system at the existing elevator bulkhead

Proposed Courtyard



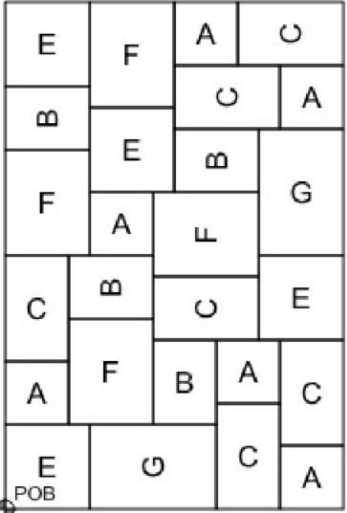
Proposed Courtyard Elevation

Proposed Courtyard



Walkway Replacement/New Curb

- We are proposing to replace the existing walkways and curbs in kind to provide a safe and smooth walking surface.
- This will restore adequate drainage.
- This will ensure ADA code compliant.



Sample Paving Pattern

Statue Vandalism 2017



Existing Statue Vandalized



Proposed Statue Base

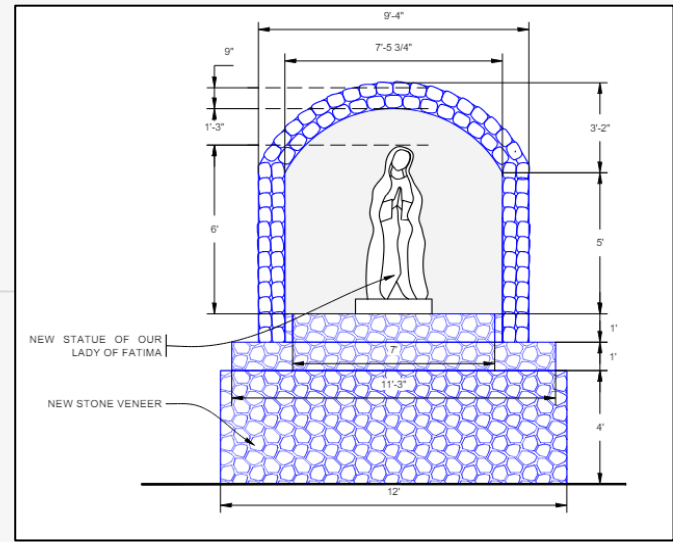


- The new base veneer stones will match those on the existing base.
- We are proposing that the new base be taller than the existing to discourage vandalism.
- We are proposing that the new base be placed further away from the street as an additional safeguard against vandalism.
- We are proposing the addition of a grotto behind the statue made from the same veneer stones to match the existing base.

Proposed Statue Base



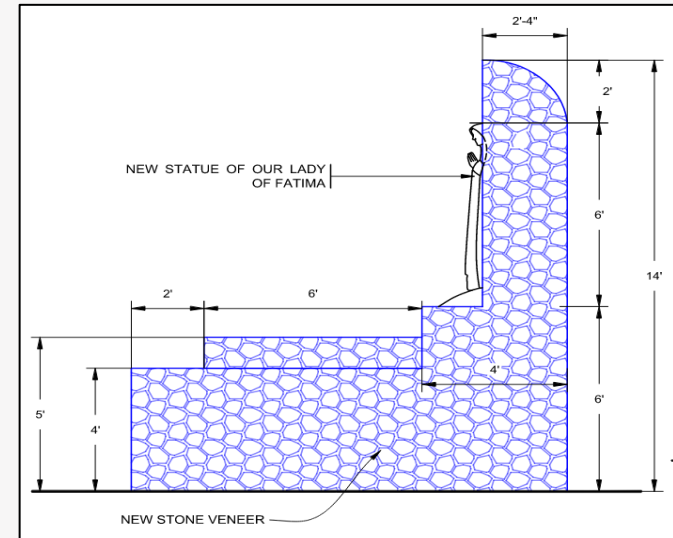
Existing Statue Base Vener



Proposed Statue Base North Elevation

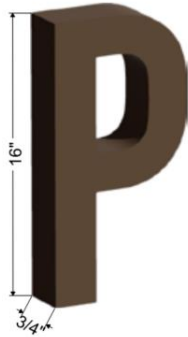


Traditional Display of Lady of Fatima with Grotto

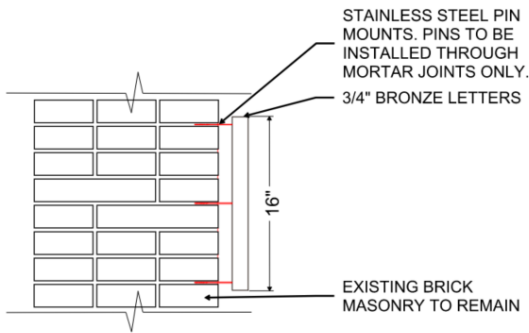


Proposed Statue Base West Elevation

Sign Installation



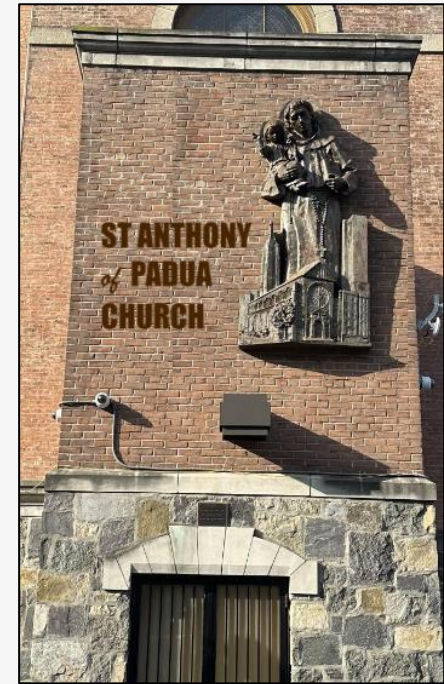
Sign Letter Dimensions



Sign Anchor Detail



Existing Sign at Elevator Bulkhead



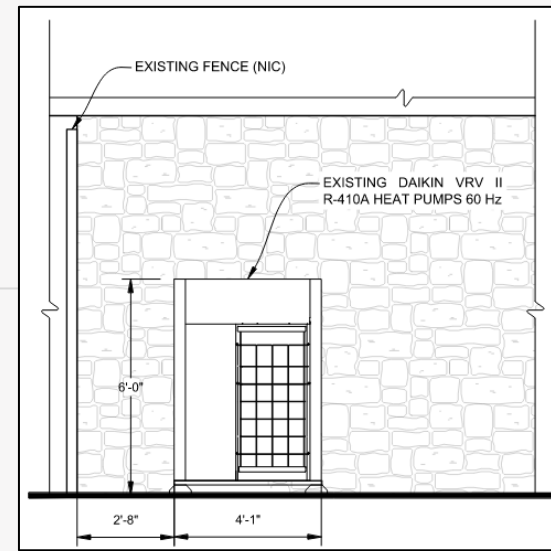
Proposed New Sign and Statue Location

- We are proposing to remove existing lighting and provide new lighting fixture at existing junction box.
- We will patch the existing bricks to match existing

HVAC Unit Legalization

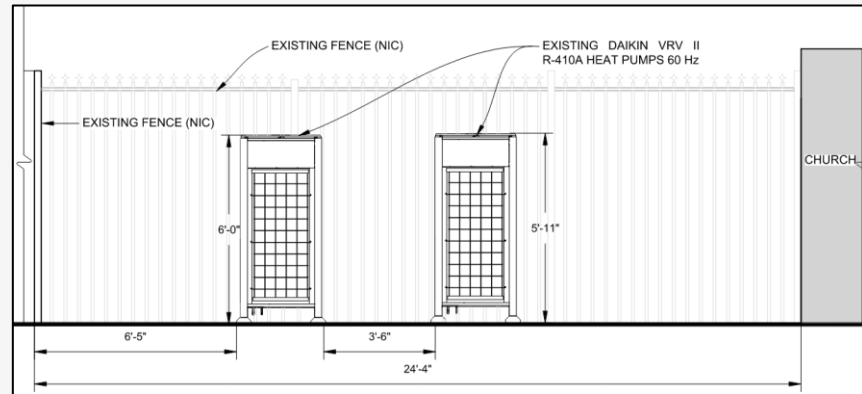


Existing HVAC Units



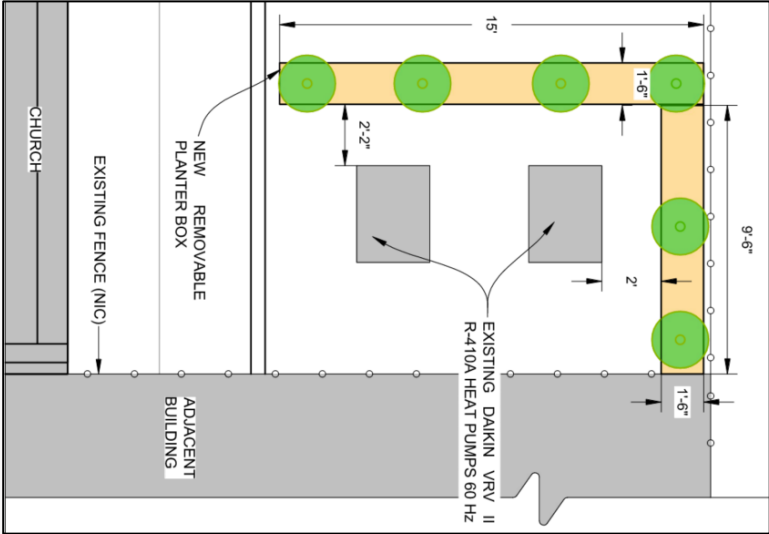
HVAC Units North Elevation

- HVAC units were installed in 2021.
- We are proposing to legalize the units to remain as installed without relocation.
- We are proposing a planter and vegetation screen to minimize visual impact



HVAC Units West Elevation

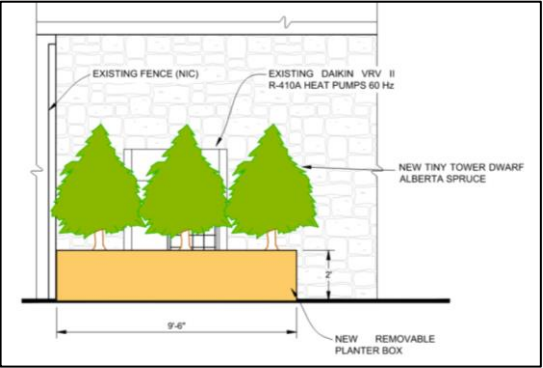
Planter Installation and Vegetation Screen



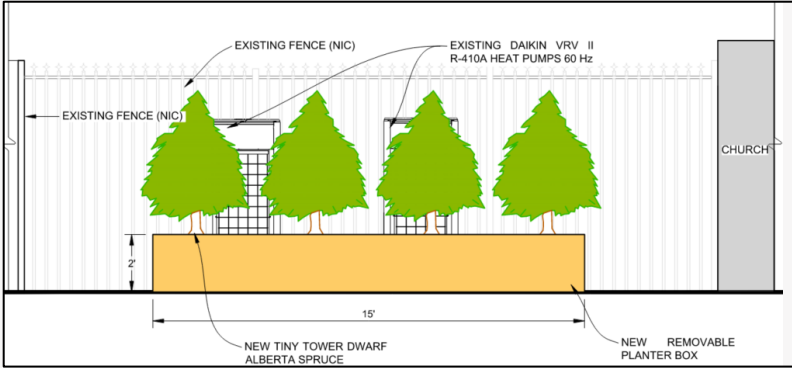
Plan View of Planters



Photos of planters from 2019



North Elevation of Planters



West Elevation of Planters



Tiny Tower Dwarf Alberta Spruce Tree



QUESTIONS?



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