



**WESTPORT™**

**JOINT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING**  
(Historic District Commission and Architectural Review Board)

**Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 7:00 PM**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Ward French, ARB Co-Chair  
Vesna Herman, ARB Member

Bill Harris, HDC Co-Chair  
Scott Springer, HDC Member

**Staff Present:**

Donna Douglass, HDC Administrator

Notice is hereby given that the Joint Committee of the Historic District Commission and the Architectural Review Board held an electronic public meeting on **Tuesday, May 3, 2022**, at 7:00 PM for the following purpose:

1. To approve minutes from the April 5, 2022, meeting.  
**MOTION (made by French): To approve the minutes of the April 5, 2022, meeting.**  
**SECOND: Springer**  
**SEATED: French, Herman, Springer**  
**VOTE: Unanimously approved**
2. To review and comment on the proposed signage at **142-150 Main Street** (Parcel ID# C10//141/000) submitted by Marty at Marty Signs for property owned by Teuscher Family LLC. Comments offered at the meeting will be considered in anticipation of further zoning review and approvals.  
**MOTION (made by French): To approve the proposed signage at 142-150 Main Street (Parcel ID# C10//141/000) submitted by Marty at Marty Signs for property owned by Teuscher Family LLC.**  
**SECOND: Herman**  
**SEATED: French, Herman, Harris, Springer**  
**VOTE: Unanimously approved**
3. To review and comment on the proposed new signage at **66 Church Lane** (Parcel ID# D10//002/000) submitted by Lauren Hayes, Chocolatierre for property owned by 66 Church Lane LLC, C/O Rachel Lorentzen. Comments offered at the meeting will be considered in anticipation of further zoning review and approvals.  
**MOTION (made by French): To approve the proposed new signage at 66 Church Lane (Parcel ID# D10//002/000) submitted by Lauren Hayes, Chocolatierre for property owned by 66 Church Lane LLC, C/O Rachel Lorentzen.**  
**SECOND: Harris**  
**SEATED: French, Herman, Harris, Springer**  
**VOTE: Unanimously approved**
4. To review and comment on the proposed new façade, awning, lighting and signage at **136 Main Street** (Parcel ID# C10//142/000) submitted by Michael O'Hare, Petra Construction

Corp. for property owned by Westfair Inc, C/O Torrey D Brooks. Comments offered at the meeting will be considered in anticipation of further zoning review and approvals.

**MOTION (made by French): To approve the proposed new façade, awning, lighting, and signage at 136 Main Street (Parcel ID# C10//142/000) submitted by Michael O'Hare, Petra Construction Corp. for property owned by Westfair Inc, C/O Torrey D Brooks.**

**SECOND: Herman**

**SEATED: French, Herman, Harris, Springer**

**VOTE: Unanimously approved**

5. To adjourn the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:21 PM**

Ward French, ARB Chairman

Bill Harris, HDC Chairman

May 4, 2022

**Village District Overlay (VDO) Zone Westport Center 836:**

The purpose of this Village District Overlay (VDO) is to protect the distinctive character, landscape, and historic structures and development pattern within this Village District while encouraging a mixed use, walkable district that is attractive to residents, employees, and visitors. New construction or substantial rehabilitation in the Village District should be compatible with the existing character of the district and reinforce both the existing development patterns and connections to the Saugatuck River. (See copy of Westport Regulations §36-2 attached 8pgs)

**JOINT COMMITTEE  
REVIEW and RECOMMENDATION**

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 19 Post Road East  
OWNER OF RECORD: WINWEST LIBRARY, LLC R Daytime Tel #: 914-468-7319  
OLNEYWOOD ASSOCIATES, LLC  
OWNER'S ADDRESS: 10 RYE RIDGE PLAZA, SUITE 200, RYE BROOK, NY 10573 E-mail: RYARMY@WINPACOR.COM  
APPLICANT'S NAME (if different): BV CT, LLC Daytime Tel #: 917-740-5878  
If the applicant is unable to obtain property owner's signature, submit a letter of authorization signed by the property owner with this application, as per §43-3.3.  
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: 111 West 19th St, New York, NY 10011 E-mail: lironica@bandvet.com

  
Property Owner's Signature

  
Legal Representative Signature (As authorized by owner)

- Required Review and Approvals for Properties Located in the VDO Zone:**
- Certificate of Appropriateness (if property is located within a local historic district or designated a local historic property)
  - Joint Committee Review and Recommendation of proposed design plans
  - Compliance Alternative for Joint Committee Review (if applicant requests consideration of an alternative approach that satisfies the intent of the design principles but is not in compliance with design standards)
  - Site Plan Approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission

**Prior to Joint Committee Review and Recommendation Meeting, please submit the following: (Call for Meeting dates)**  
This application completed and the following required materials to Historic District Commission Office, Room 108 203-341-1184.

- Submit a narrative, describing the project, including construction details, proposed materials and how the improvements are consistent with the style or how the improvements vary, a rationale of why the variation should be, approved under Sec 36-2.2.
- Seven (7) copies of the Historic Resources Inventory Form if the property is listed; (Available in HDC Office)
- Seven (7) copies of Site Plan (11" x 17").
- Seven (7) copies of Existing Style of the Building and
- Seven (7) copies of scaled Building Plans, including Existing Conditions Plans and Proposed Plans. (11" x 17").
- Seven (7) complete sets of photos showing the original Building(s) (if applicable), include photos of the Buildings to either side of the proposed project and the view from across the street. A contrasting demonstration of the Existing Building in current Streetscape and the Proposed Building within context of its surroundings.
- Also, submit such other material deemed appropriate by applicant to enable the Joint Committee to evaluate the design.
- E-mail an Electronic Version of ALL your submitted materials to [ddouglass@westportct.gov](mailto:ddouglass@westportct.gov)

Joint Committee Recommendations to P&Z Commission are: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Joint Committee Chair's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



111 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10011

May 24, 2022

Village District Overlay Zone Committee  
% Donna Douglas, Historic District Commission  
110 Myrtle Avenue, Room 108  
Westport, CT 06880

RE: Ground Floor Inline Portion of the West Wing of 19 Post Road East (the “Property”)  
Signage and Minor Exterior Work of the Property (the “Application”)  
BV CT, LLC (the “Applicant”)

Dear Committee Members,

Below is a completed list of materials submitted as part of the Application for the signage and minor exterior work for the ground floor inline portion of the west wing of 19 Post Road East. I have flagged the items that have been updated since the initial submission. They are enclosed with this letter.

1. Joint Committee Review and Recommendation Form - no change
2. Narrative with Project Description - **UPDATED**
3. Historic Resource Inventory Form - no change
4. Site Plan - no change
5. Proposed Plans
  - a. Floorplan and Elevation - **Elevation UPDATED**
  - b. Mounting Details - **UPDATED**
  - c. Illustrative Drawings of Acrylic Decaling - **UPDATED**
6. Streetscape Photos - no change
  - a. Building
  - b. Neighboring Buildings

Upon your review of the enclosed documents, kindly advise if you need any additional information. We look forward to discussing the proposed scope of work with you.

Sincerely,  
Veronica Chuah  
Planning and Entitlements Manager  
917-740-5878  
[veronica@bondvet.com](mailto:veronica@bondvet.com)



19 Post Road East  
Ground Floor Inline Portion of the West Wing  
Westport, CT

#### Building and Property Description

The Property is part of the former Westport Public Library Building. The initial portion of the Westport Public Library occupies the eastern section of the existing building. It was constructed in 1906 in the Neoclassical style. The original library features exterior walls of Flemish-bond brick with stone trim. The main block and side wings have wide brick corner pilasters with limestone Doric capitols. The main block has a recessed center bay with full-height Ionic columns that flank the entrance and a limestone belt course running between the first and second stories. The windows consist of wood, one-over-one, double-hung sash with prominent splayed limestone lintels, keystones, and sills. The west wing of the building was constructed in 1955 to house the growing library collection. The corridor linking the west wing to the original library portion of the building features a glass curtain wall on the south elevation. While the majority of the west wing is 2-stories in height, a section of the south west corner is 1-story in height. Fenestration consists primarily of plate-glass windows, though one-over-one, double-hung windows are present on the second floor of the south facade. The west wing expansion is constructed of common-bond brick.

When the library outgrew the building, it moved to its current site on Jessup Road. The entire building was then converted to retail and office space. The Property was most recently occupied by an HSBC and a Freshii. The proposed use is a veterinary clinic. For reference a layout of the clinic is included.

#### Proposed Scope of Work

Below is the “Proposed Scope of Work” for the exterior of the Property.

- Exterior Work
  - Currently the interior space is divided into two separate spaces since it was previously occupied by two different tenants (HSBC and Freshii); each having a separate entrance on the north side of the building. To combine the two spaces together, one of the glass doors will be replaced with a glass panel, identical to the existing panels, creating continuity of the glass facade.
  - The proposed acrylic decals would be on the bottom portion of the ground floor windows. The decals are decorative swirls and drawings of cats and dogs. Shop drawings of the proposed decaling are included for illustrative purposes. The proposed decaling would have approximately 25% coverage of the ground floor windows. The placement of the acrylic decals on the Post Road East elevation provides some privacy to back of house functions of the facility. The decaling



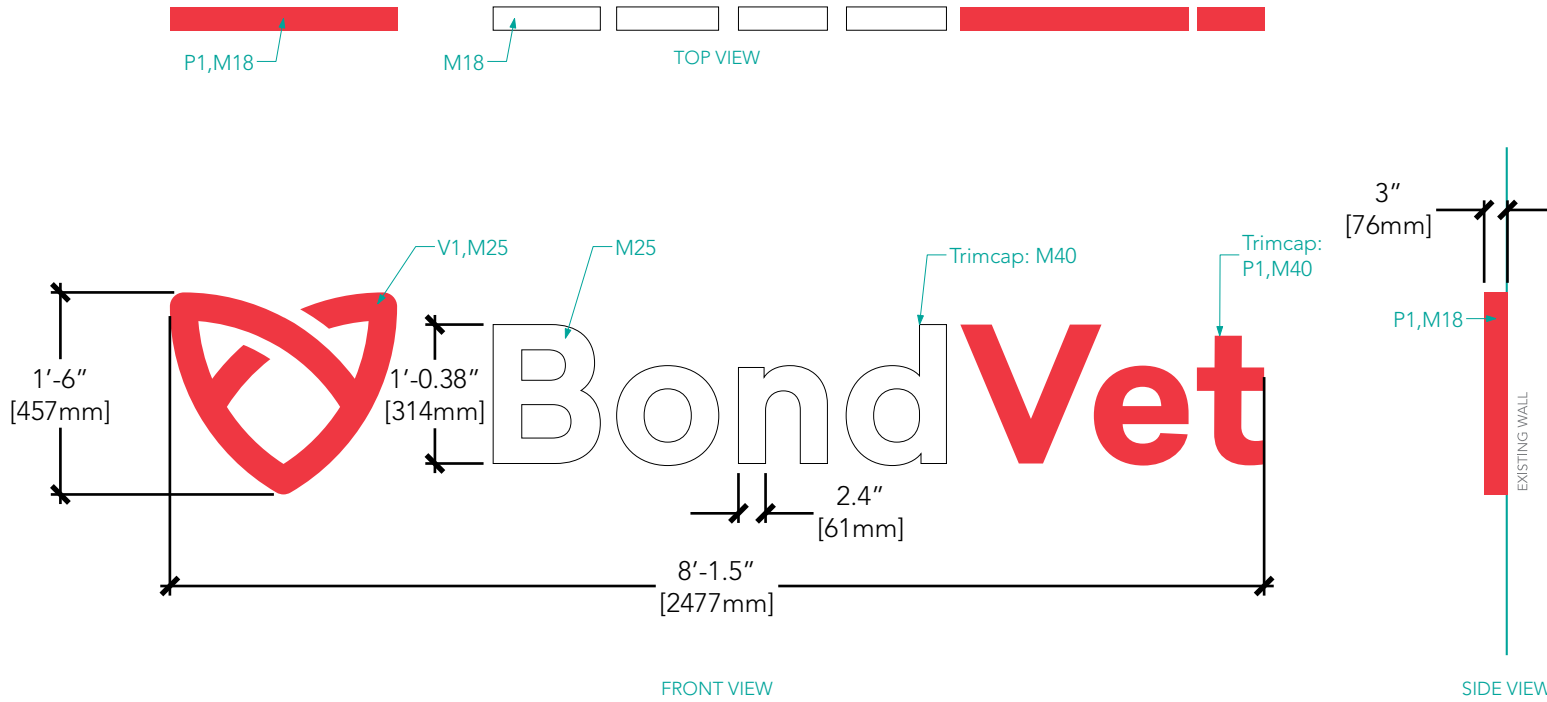
along the north elevation provides some privacy to pets and pet parents while they wait in the lobby. The decorative decals will contribute to the visual richness and variety of the surrounding commercial streetscape.

- Signage - Proposed Signage is detailed on Drawing No. 3 - Exterior Elevations
  - On the Post Road East elevation (Elevation 1), the proposed signage will be illuminated channel letters of the BondVet logo. The proposed signage will resemble the style and height of the “Starbucks Coffee” signage in the adjacent space.
  - On the north side elevation (Elevation 3), facing Parker Harding Plaza, the proposed signage is an internally illuminated logo and tagline mounted to a navy blue backer panel. The proposed signage is in the same format and mounting as the existing Freshii signage.

The Proposed Scope of Work is minimal and fortifies the existing patterns of land use and development within the VDO. The proposed signage is of similar size, height, location, proportion and style as the existing and nearby signage. The proposed replacement of the door with a glass panel creates continuity in the streetscape on the Parker Harding Plaza elevation. In addition, the replaced door will improve circulation around and into the newly combined space. Along with the acrylic decals offer privacy for patients, pet parents and clinic staff, it also livens the streetscape - the decals are akin to the retail displays.

# Illuminated Letterset with Trimcap

Exterior Illuminated (Face Lit) Letterset



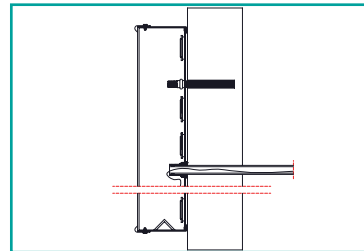
## PAINT & VINYL:

P1 • ANP3091 Satin Red  
 V1 • Orafol 8500 Red #323 Translucent Coral Red

## MATERIALS:

M17 • 0.063" Prepainted White Aluminum Back  
 M18 • 0.050" Prepainted Gloss White Aluminum Coil  
 M25 • 0.188" 7328 White Acrylic  
 M40 • 1" Gloss White Jewlrite Trimcap

## MOUNTING: Studs



## NOTES:

- Material, sizes, paint, and vinyl to be confirmed.
- Minimum stroke is 1.25"

## NIGHT VIEW:

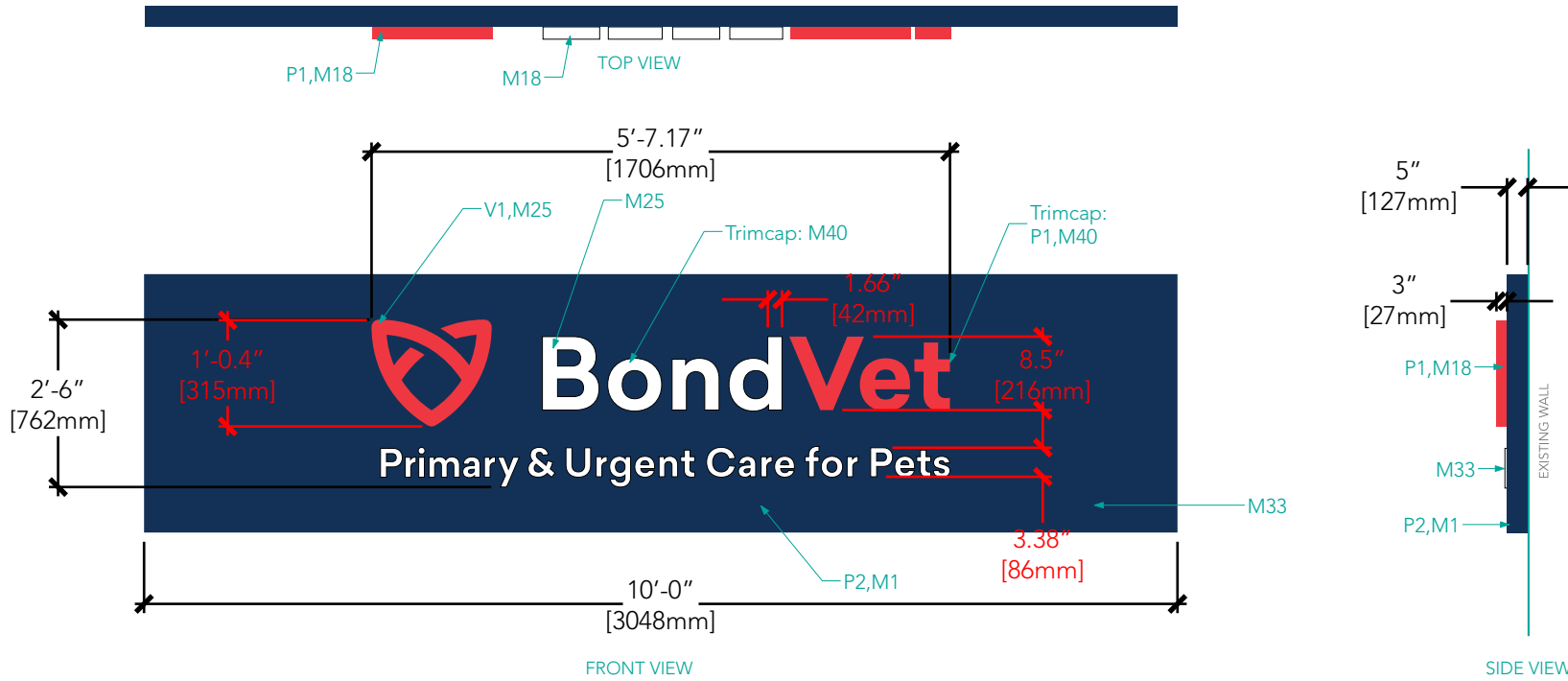


**NEED MORE INFORMATION: SEE NOTES**

\*\* COPY IN RED IS NOT CONFIRMED

# Logo With Tag Illuminated Wall Panel

Exterior Illuminated (Push Thru) Wall Panel With Illuminated Letterset



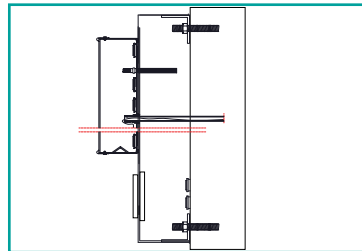
## PAINT & VINYL:

- P1 • ANP3091 Satin Red
- P2 • ANP5298 Satin Blue
- V1 • Orafol 8500 Red #323 Translucent Coral Red

## MATERIALS:

- M17 • 0.063" Prepainted White Aluminum Back
- M18 • 0.050" Prepainted Gloss White Aluminum Coil
- M25 • 0.188" 7328 White Acrylic
- M40 • 1" Gloss White Jewlrite Trimcap
- M1 • 0.125" Aluminum
- M33 • 0.5" 2447 White Acrylic

## MOUNTING: Brackets



## NOTES:

- Logo to be illuminated letterset attached to panel, tagline to be push thru illuminated letters.
- Material, sizes, and paint to be confirmed.

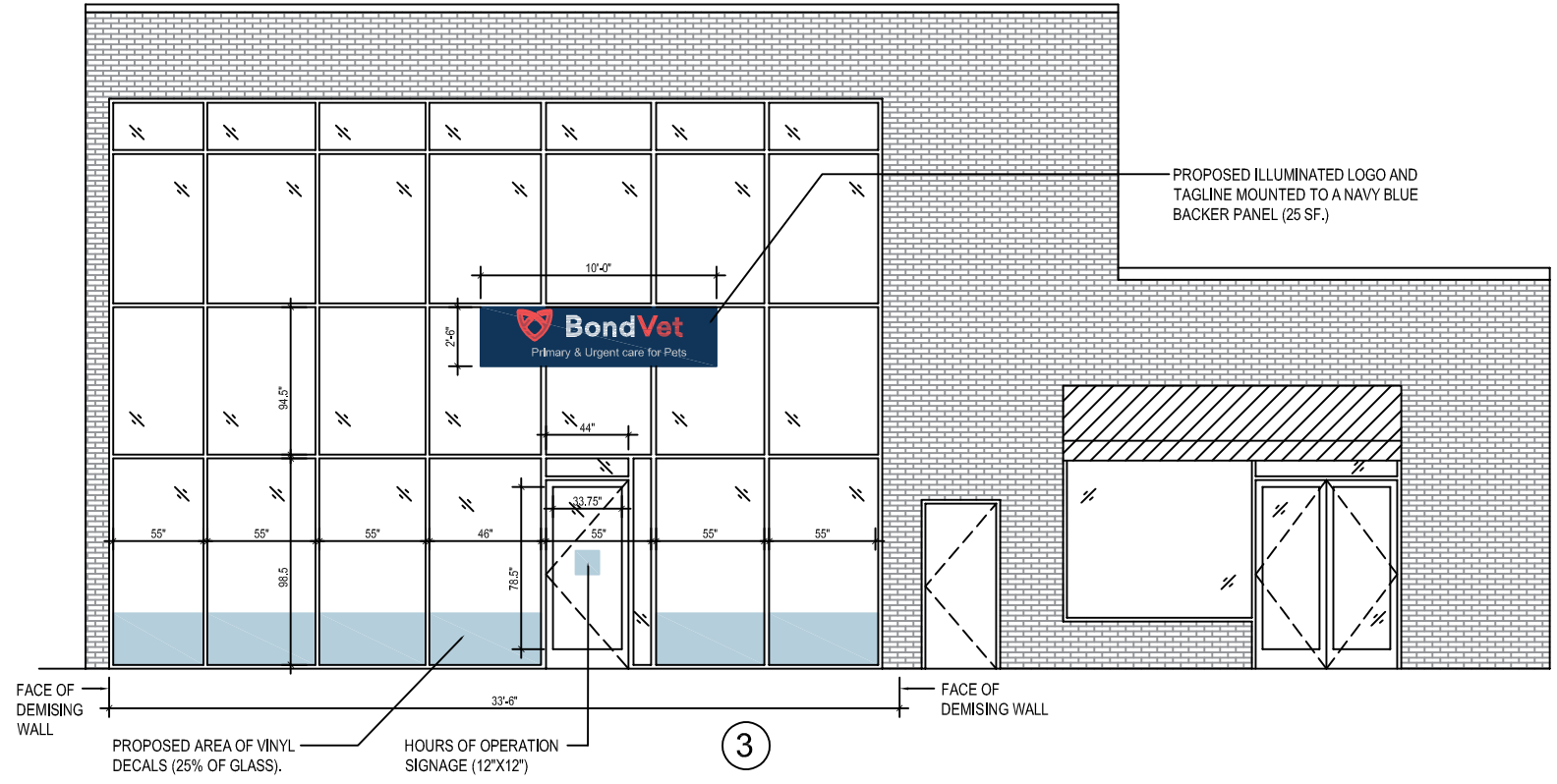
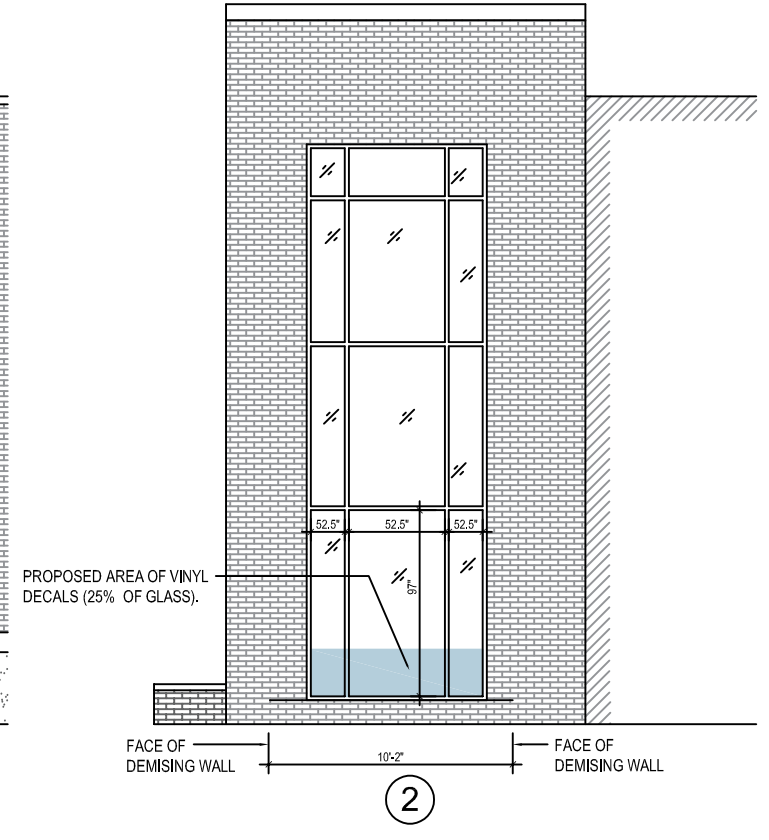
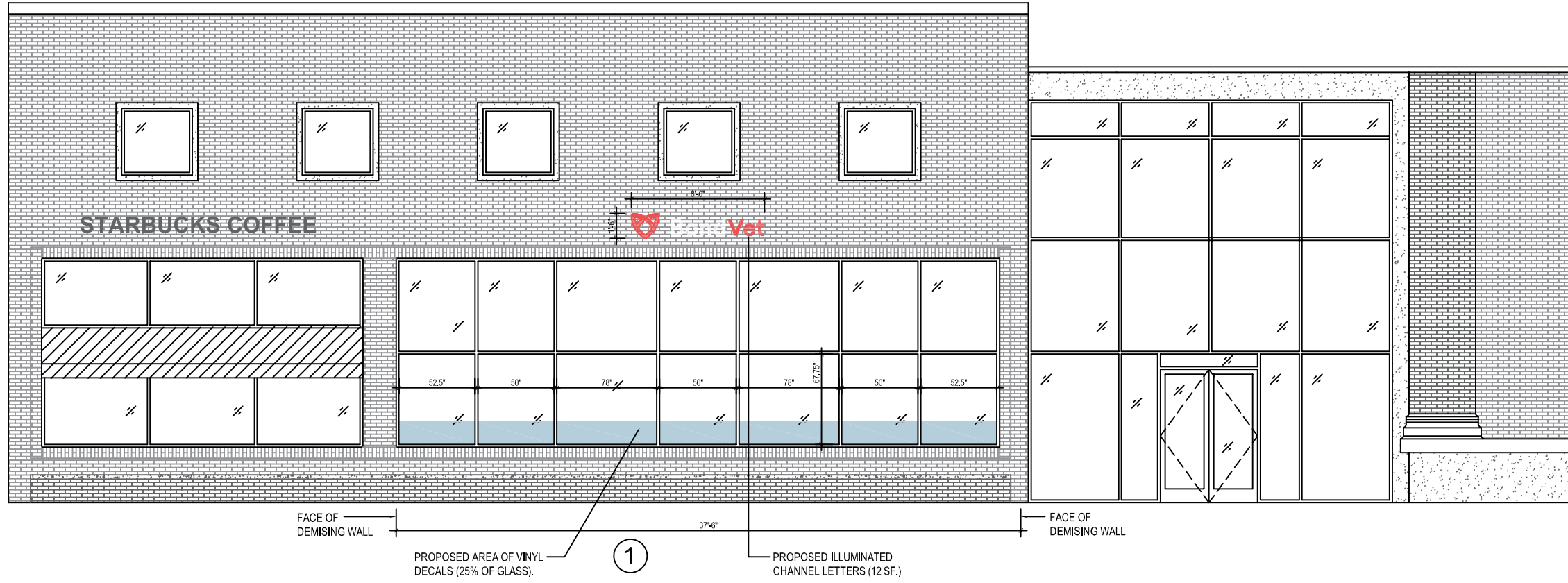
## NIGHT VIEW WITH LTR:



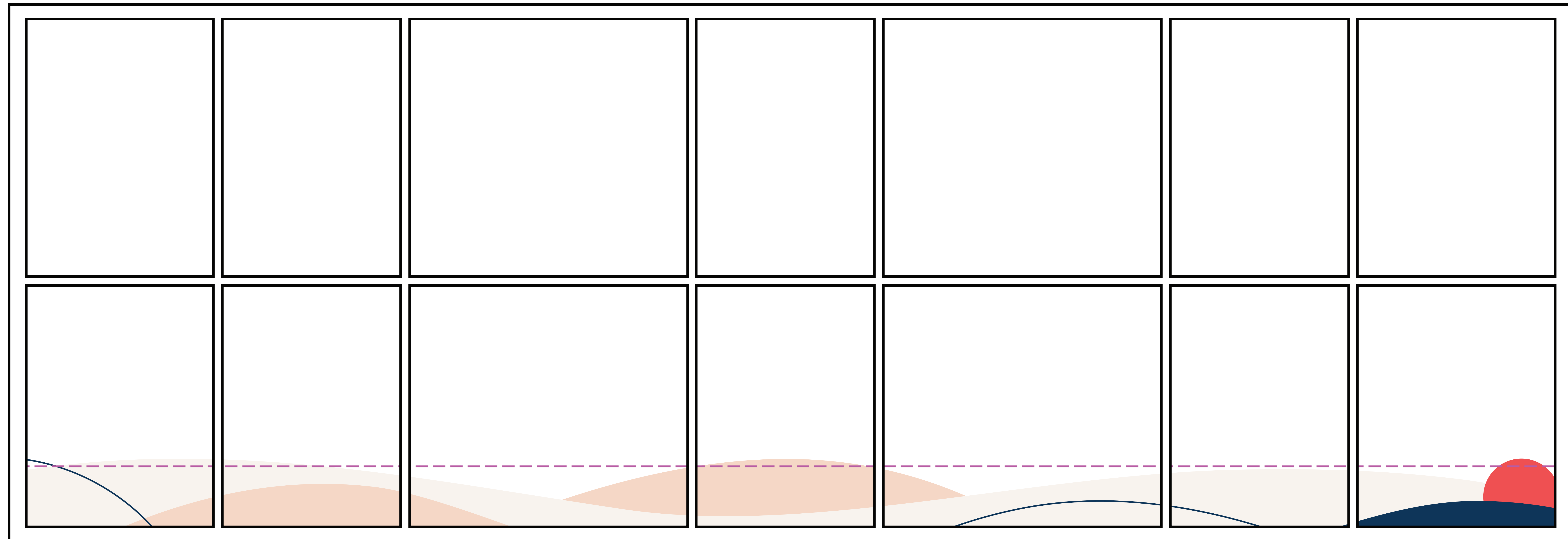
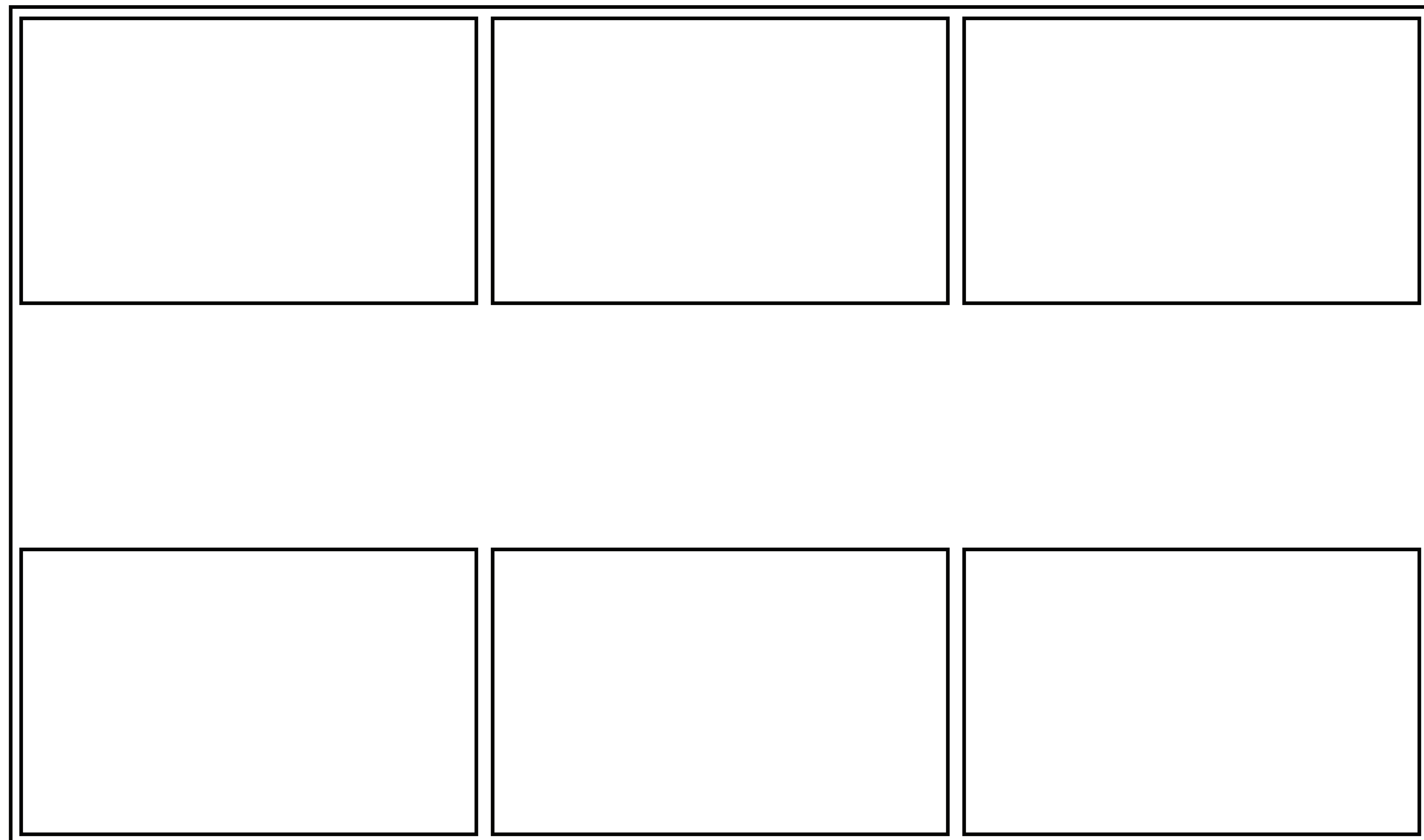
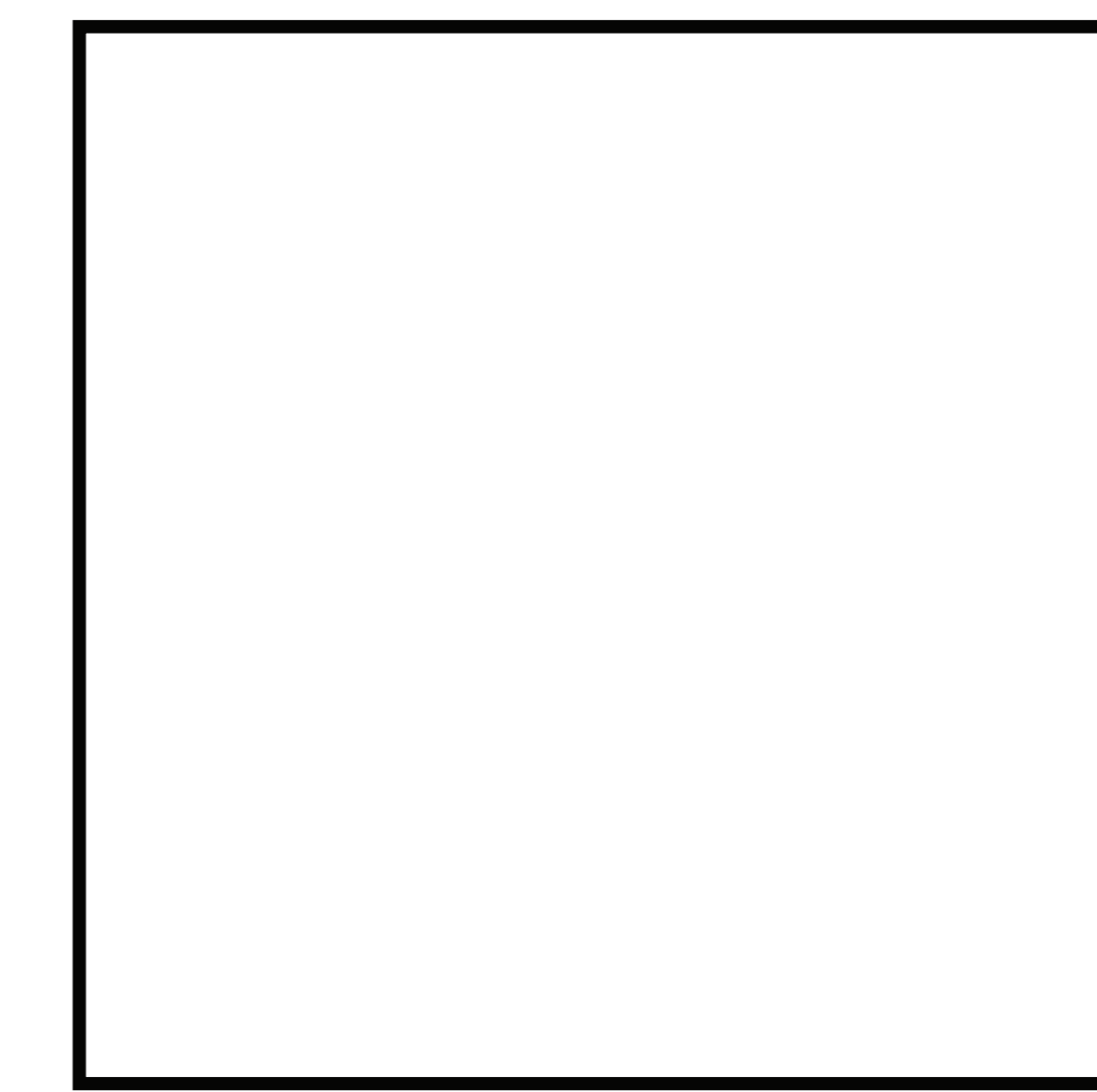
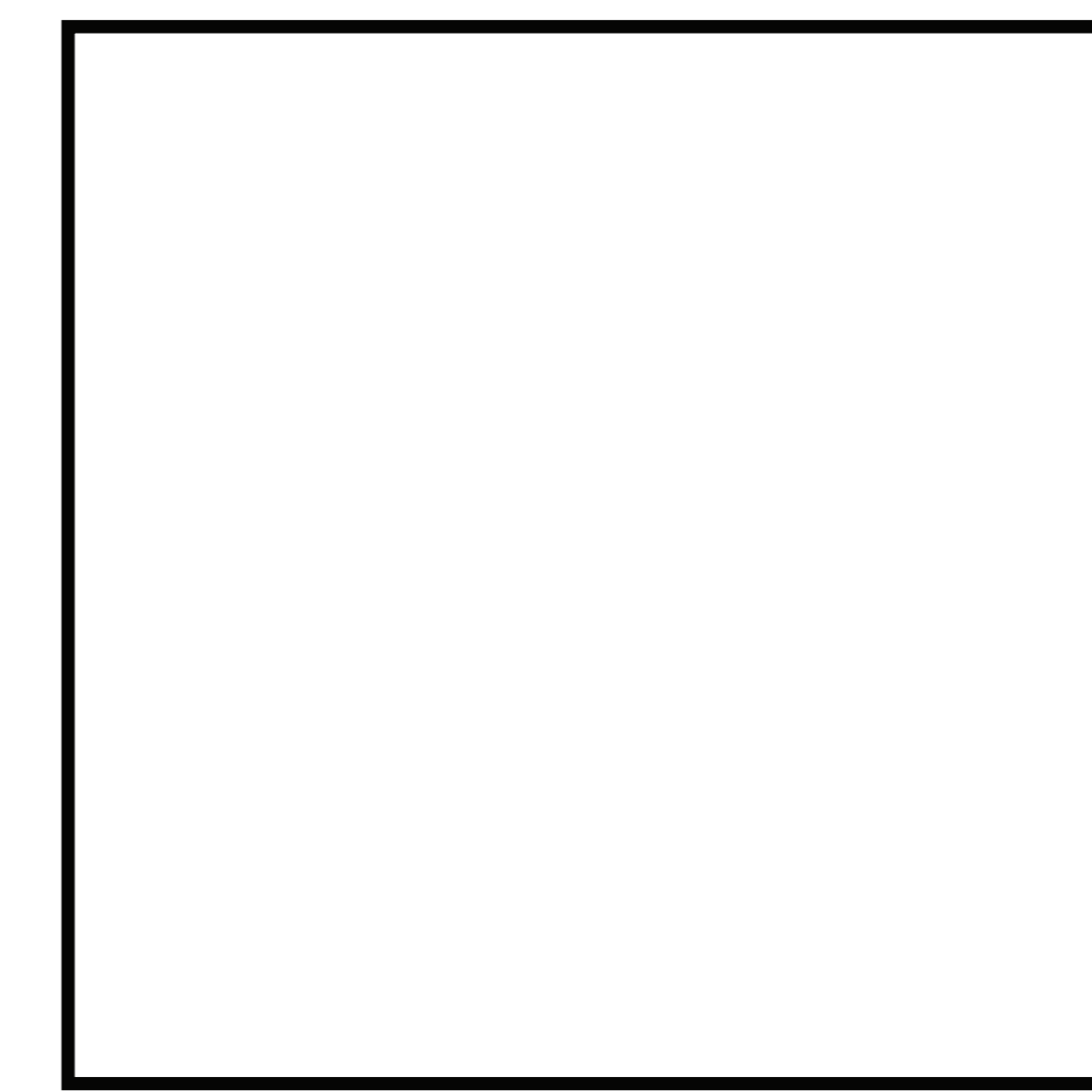
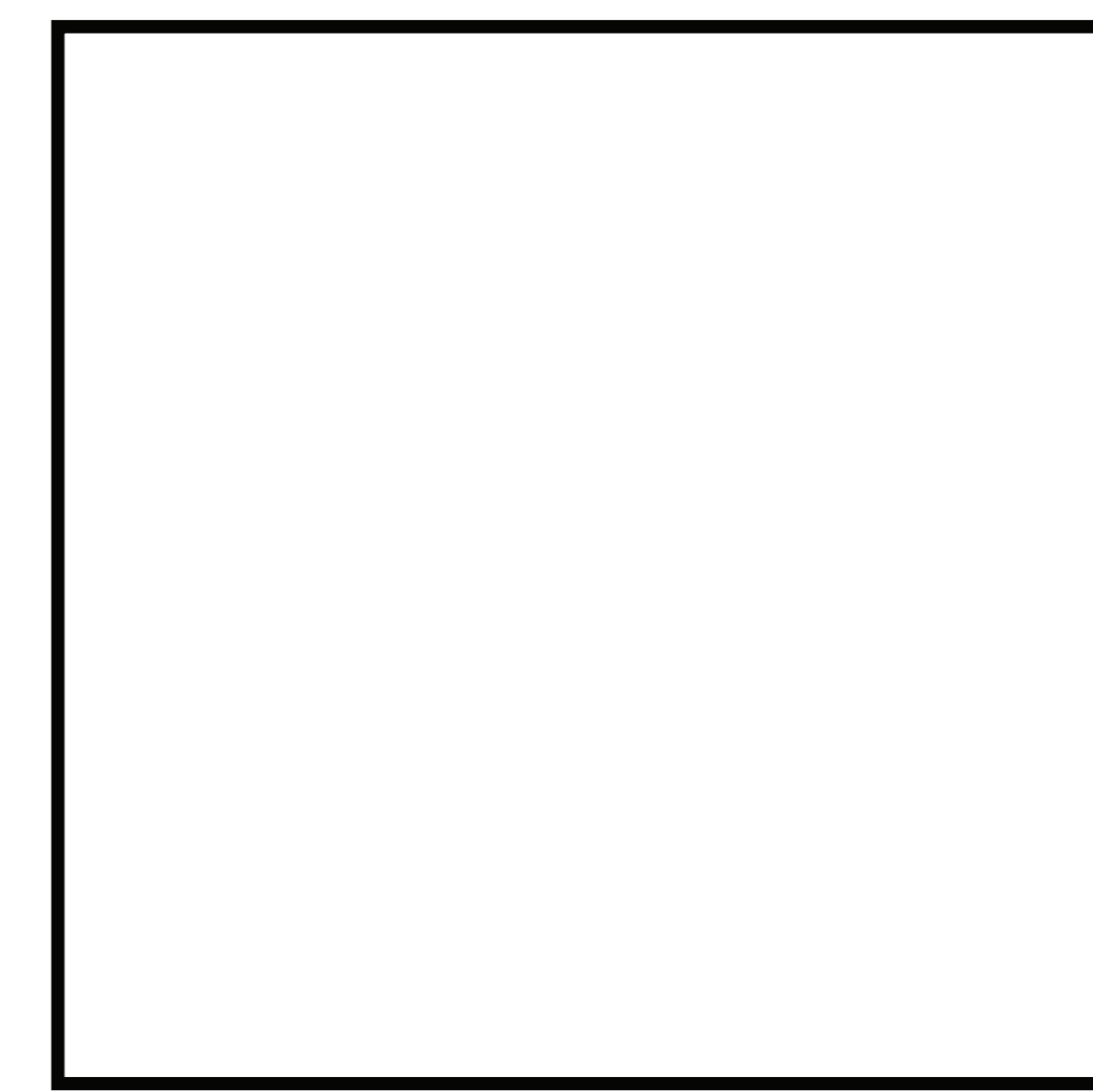
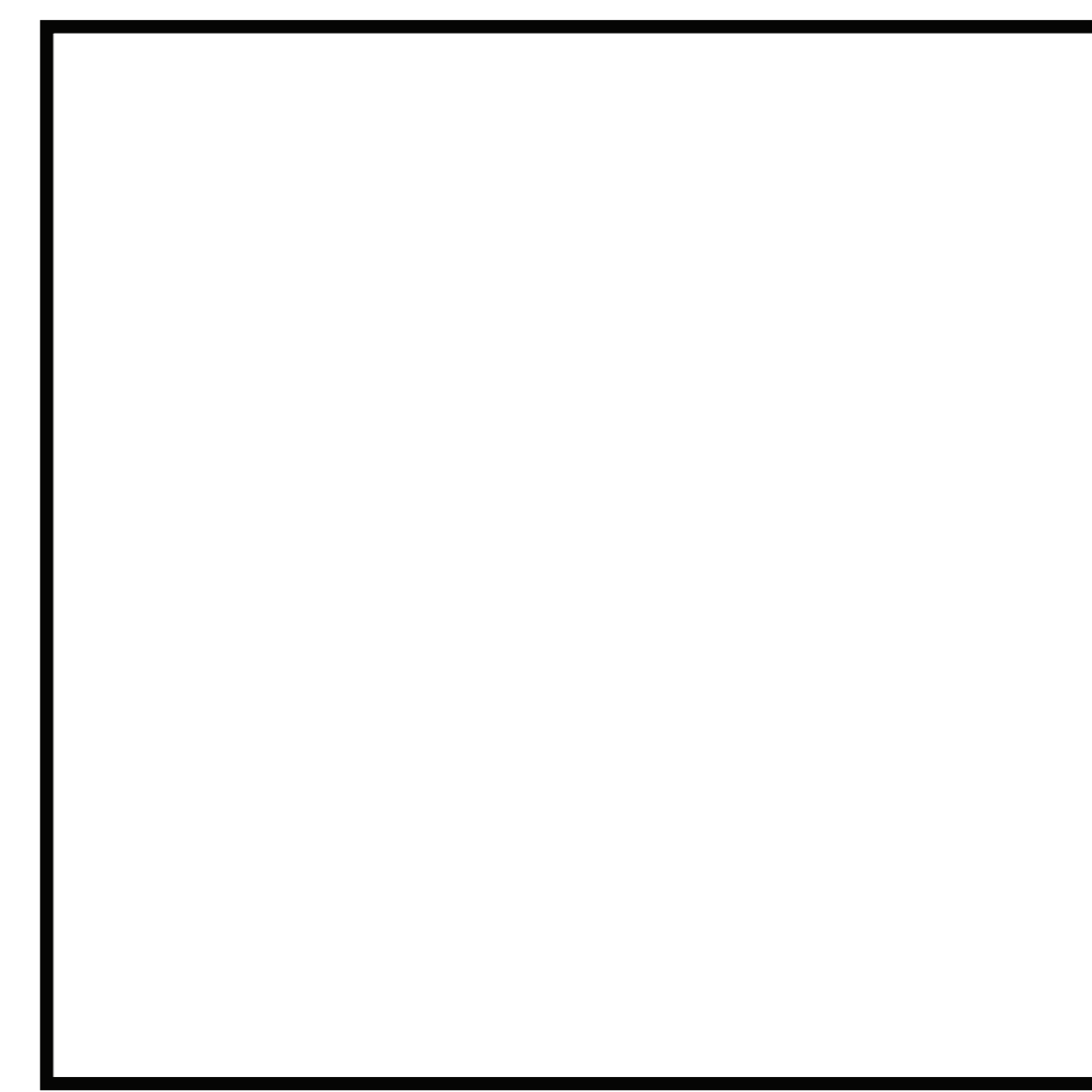
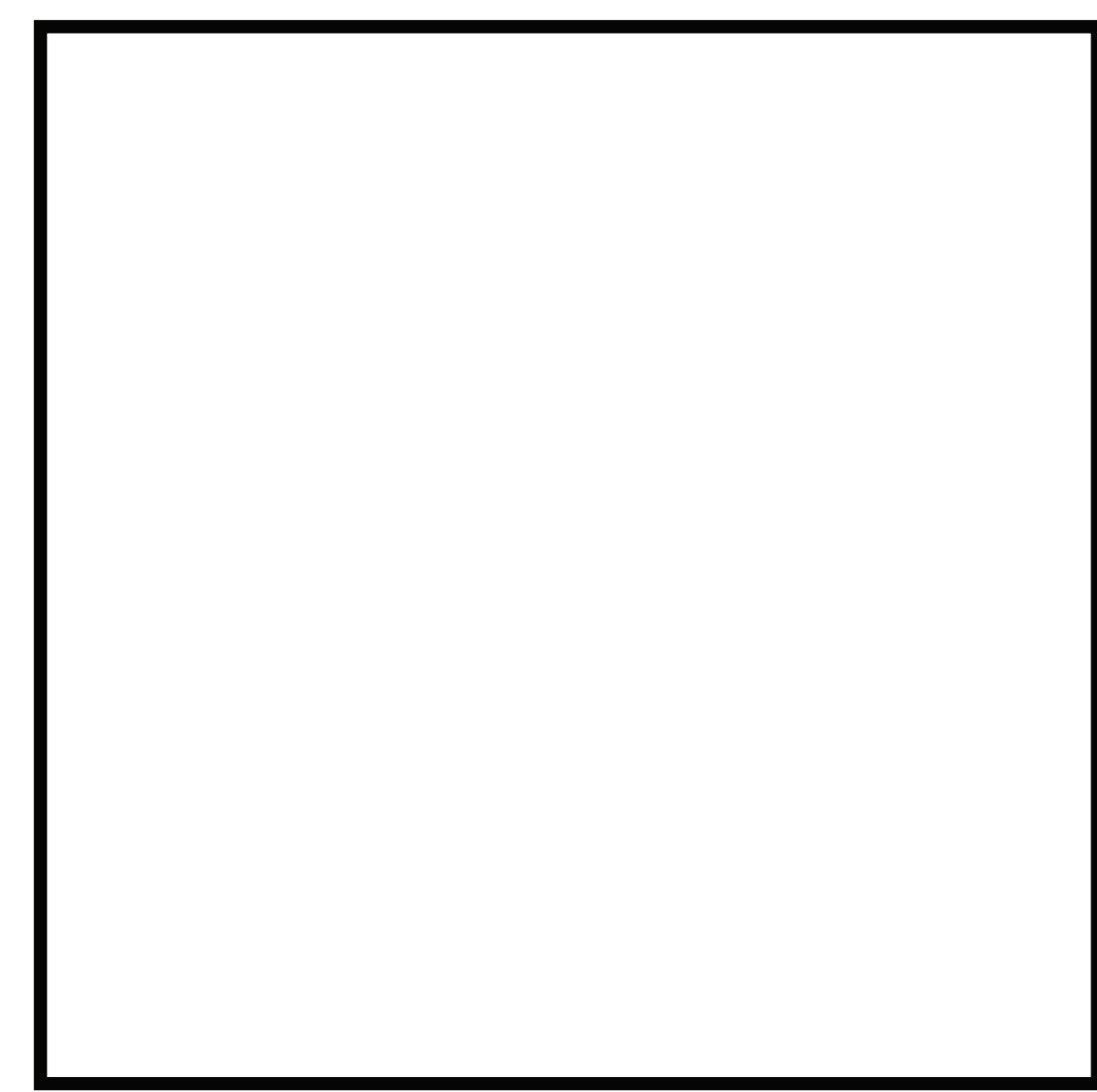
**NEED MORE INFORMATION: SEE NOTES**

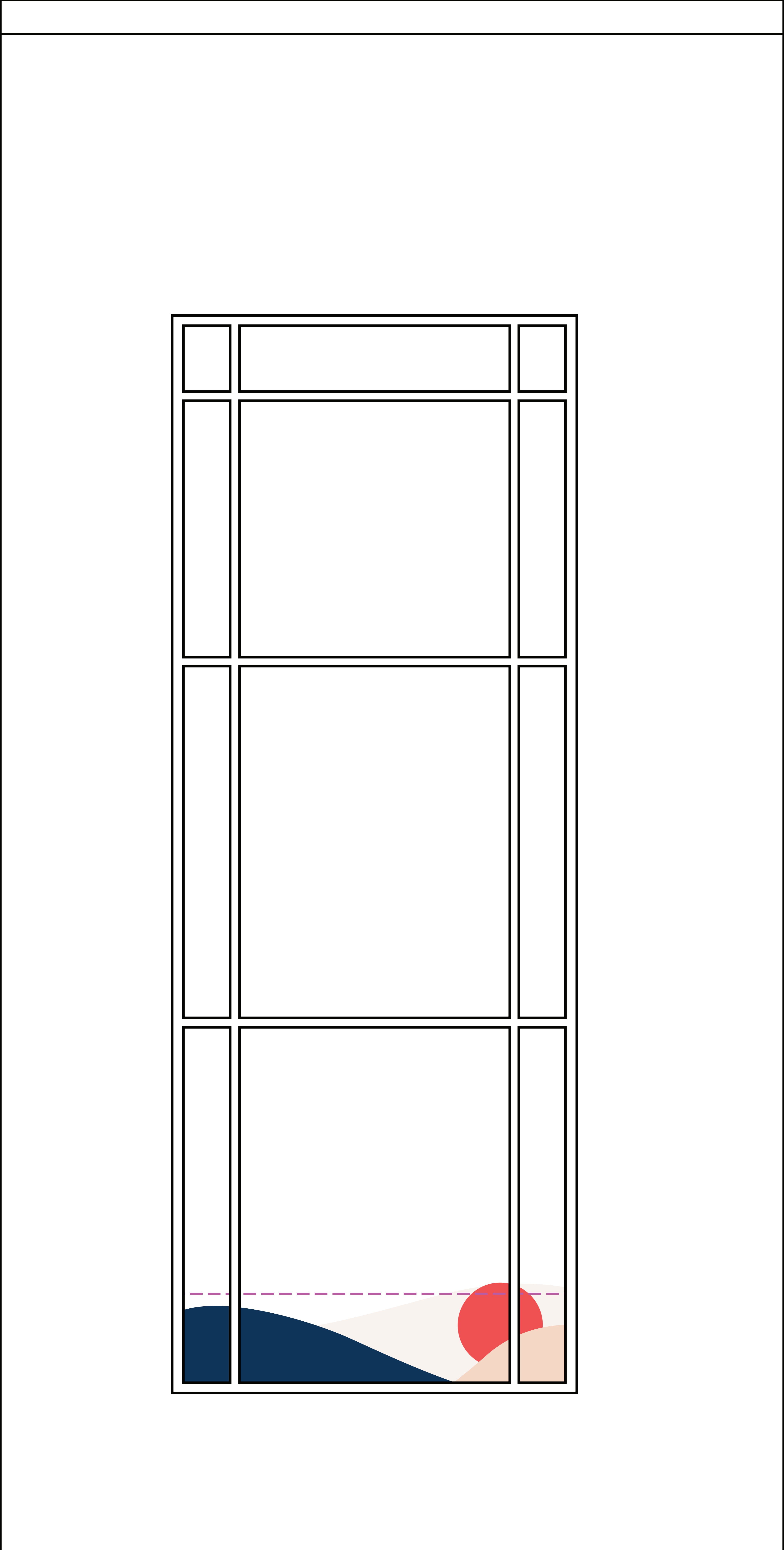
\*\* COPY IN RED IS NOT CONFIRMED





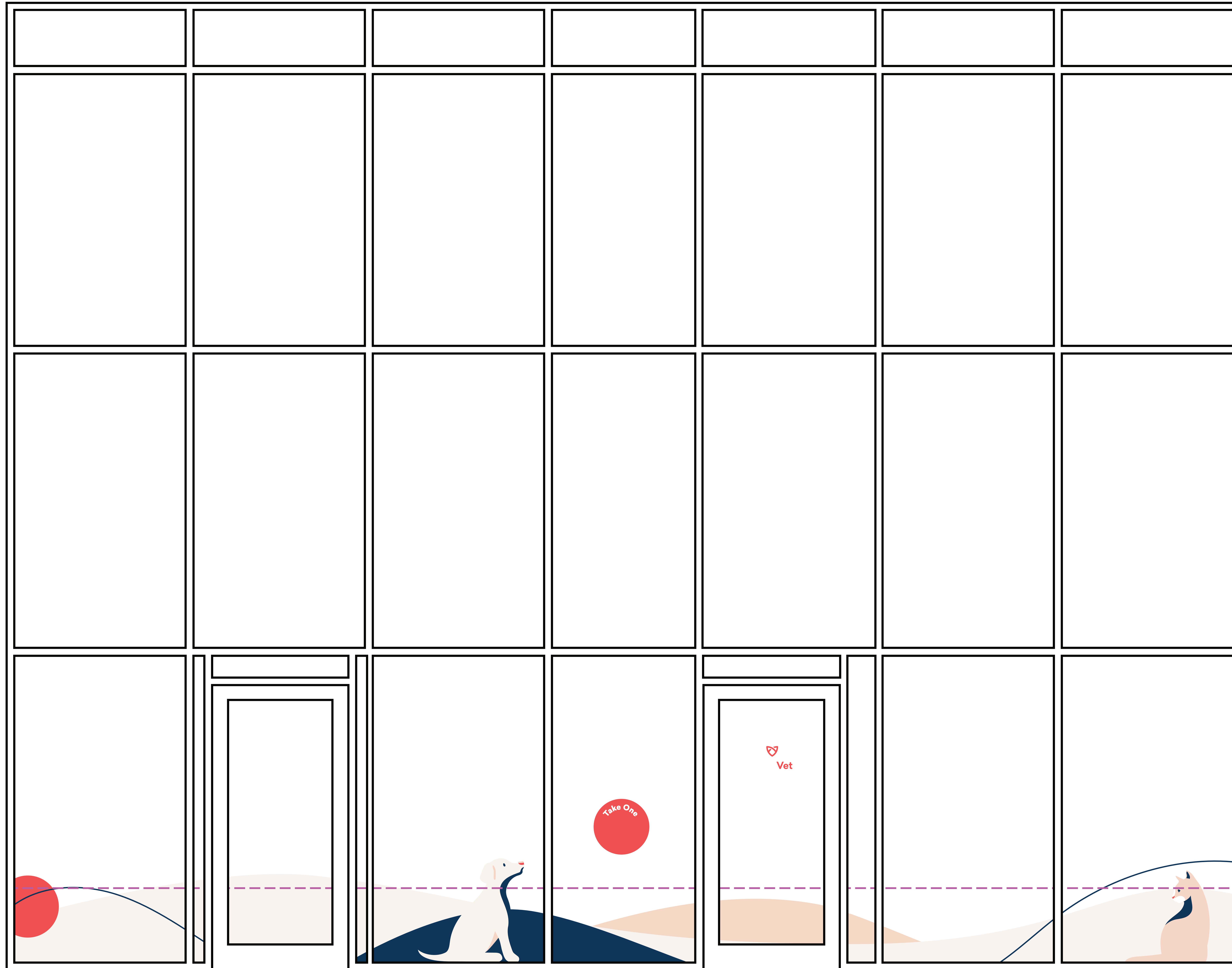
<b>TITLE</b> EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS		<b>DWG. NO.</b> <b>3</b>	<b>SCALE</b> 1/4" = 1'-0"
<b>PROJECT</b> BOND VET - WESTPORT 1 MAIN STREET WESTPORT, CT. 06880		<b>REVISION DATE:</b>	<b>DATE</b> 05/20/2022
<b>TectonArchitects   pc</b> <small>34 SEQUASSEN STREET          HARTFORD CONNECTICUT 06106          TEL 860 548 0802          FAX 860 249 2531          www.tectonarchitects.com</small>		<b>JOB NO.</b> BND-02-IN	







**BondVet**





**Neighboring Buildings Key**



1 – Parker Harding Plaza



2 – Parker Harding Plaza



3 – Post Road East



4 – Post Road East



**Existing Building Key- 19 Post Road East**



1 – Parker Harding Plaza (North)



2 – Post Road East (Southwest)



3 – Post Road East (South)



4 – Post Road East (Southeast)

# HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Please send completed form to: Stacey Vairo, National Register and State Register Coordinator,  
Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

\* Note: Please attach any additional or expanded information on a separate sheet.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Building Name (Common) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Building Name (Historic) Westport Public Library  
 Street Address or Location 19 Post Road East  
 Town/City Westport Village \_\_\_\_\_ County Fairfield  
 Owner(s) Winwest Library LLC  Public  Private

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

Present Use: Commercial  
 Historic Use: Library  
 Accessibility to public: Exterior visible from public road?  Yes  No  
 Interior accessible?  Yes  No If yes, explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 Style of building Neo Classical Date of Construction 1908

Material(s) (Indicate use or location when appropriate):

<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone	<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete (Type _____)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone (Type <u>Limestone</u> )	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		

### Structural System

Wood Frame  Post & Beam  Balloon  Load bearing masonry  Structural iron or steel  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Roof (Type)

<input type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/> Sawtooth
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

(Material)

<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Shingle
<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Not visible</u>		

Number of Stories: 2 Approximate Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_

Structural Condition:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

Exterior Condition:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

Location Integrity:  On original site  Moved When? \_\_\_\_\_

Alterations?  Yes  No If yes, explain: Use conversion

**FOR OFFICE USE:** Town # \_\_\_\_\_ Site # \_\_\_\_\_ UTM \_\_\_\_\_  
 District:  S  NR If NR, Specify:  Actual  Potential



**PROPERTY INFORMATION (CONT'D)**

**Related outbuildings or landscape features:**

- Barn       Shed       Garage       Carriage House       Shop       Garden
- Other landscape features or buildings: \_\_\_\_\_

**Surrounding Environment:**

- Open land     Woodland     Residential     Commercial     Industrial     Rural
- High building density     Scattered buildings visible from site

• Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

See Continuation Sheet

• Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and/or Exterior*)

See Continuation Sheet

Architect \_\_\_\_\_ Builder \_\_\_\_\_

• Historical or Architectural importance:

See Continuation Sheet

• Sources:

See Continuation Sheet

Photographer PAL \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

View \_\_\_\_\_ Negative on File \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/7/2011

Organization PAL \_\_\_\_\_

Address 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860

• Subsequent field evaluations:

**Threats to the building or site:**

- None known     Highways     Vandalism     Developers     Renewal     Private
- Deterioration     Zoning     Other \_\_\_\_\_     Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COMMISSION ON CULTURE & TOURISM  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM  
For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/	/ / / / / /
QUAD:	
DISTRICT:	NR: Actual Potential

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: October 2011  
PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

19 Post Road East, Westport, CT

Interrelationship of building and surroundings:

The building is located on a level lot on the northwest side of the corner of State Street East and Main Street. It is set back from the street and faces south. A concrete terrace and handicap ramp with several built-in planters projects from the east elevation of the building. A low bed of hedges with large planters on either end runs along the south side of the building. A concrete sidewalk extends across the south and east edge of the lot.

Other notable features of building or site (*Interior and/or Exterior*):

The building is two stories tall, three bays wide, four-bays deep and constructed in the Neoclassical style. It has a flat roof with a limestone parapet, copper coping, and a heavy limestone entablature with a denticulated cornice. The plan is comprised of a main block with two side wings set back on the west and east elevations. The walls are brick in Flemish bond and rest on a raised limestone foundation and watertable. The main block and side wings have wide brick corner pilasters with limestone Doric capitals. The main block has a recessed center bay with full-height Ionic columns that flank the entrance and a limestone belt course running between the first and second stories. The entrance is comprised of a pair of wood panel doors with a window in the top half below a filled transom. The opening has limestone quoins with paneled pilasters supporting scroll brackets and a pediment. A limestone panel with recessed carving below the pediment reads "Open to All." A second limestone panel is located in the entablature in the center of the facade and reads "Westport Library." On either side of the entry porch are limestone panels affixed to the side walls that read "Erected 1906" and "Jesup Sherwood Memorial." Windows consist of wood, one-over-one, double-hung sash with prominent splayed limestone lintels, keystones, and sills. The building was closed by the library in 1986 and converted into office and retail space. A two-story, glass hyphen connects the west elevation of the building to the brick addition constructed in the 1960s. A secondary entrance constructed on the east elevation in 1999 consists of a center glass door flanked by plate glass windows. It is set within an opening with brick pilasters and limestone capitals and entablature designed to mimic the original design of the building. The remaining components of the building all appear to be original, including the windows and finishes.

Historical or Architectural importance:

The building was constructed as the Westport Public Library in 1908. The library was made possible through the efforts of many Westport citizens, who began a reading room on the second floor of the nearby Hurlbutt Building as early as 1886. The library received a state charter in 1893, and three years later had moved into the ground floor of the Hurlbutt Building and begun a fund for a purpose-built building. The land and much of the funding for the new library was donated by local businessman and philanthropist Morris Ketchum Jesup. The building was dedicated to Jesup's grandfathers, Samuel Burr Sherwood and Ebenezer Jesup. After its completion in 1909, the library served its function through the mid 1980s. In 1986, the library moved to a new building on its current site on Jesup Road. The former library building was converted to retail and office space and is currently owned by Winwest Library LLC.

Sources:

McWeeney, L., B. Salvo. HRI. Hartford: CT Historical Commission, 1983; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1891-1940; Westport Directory (W.D.). Loveland, CO: US West Marketing Resources, 1991; W.D. Chicago, IL: Johnson Publishing Co., 1985; W.D. Providence, RI: C. DeWitt White Co., 1917-1918; W.D. New Haven: The Price & Lee Co., 1923-1974; Westport Assessor's Online Database, 2011; Westport Building Permit No. 59060; Westport Public Library. *History*. accessed 1/10/2012 from <http://www.westportlibrary.org/about/history>.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COMMISSION ON CULTURE & TOURISM  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM  
For Buildings and Structures

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: October 2011  
PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

19 Post Road East, Westport, CT

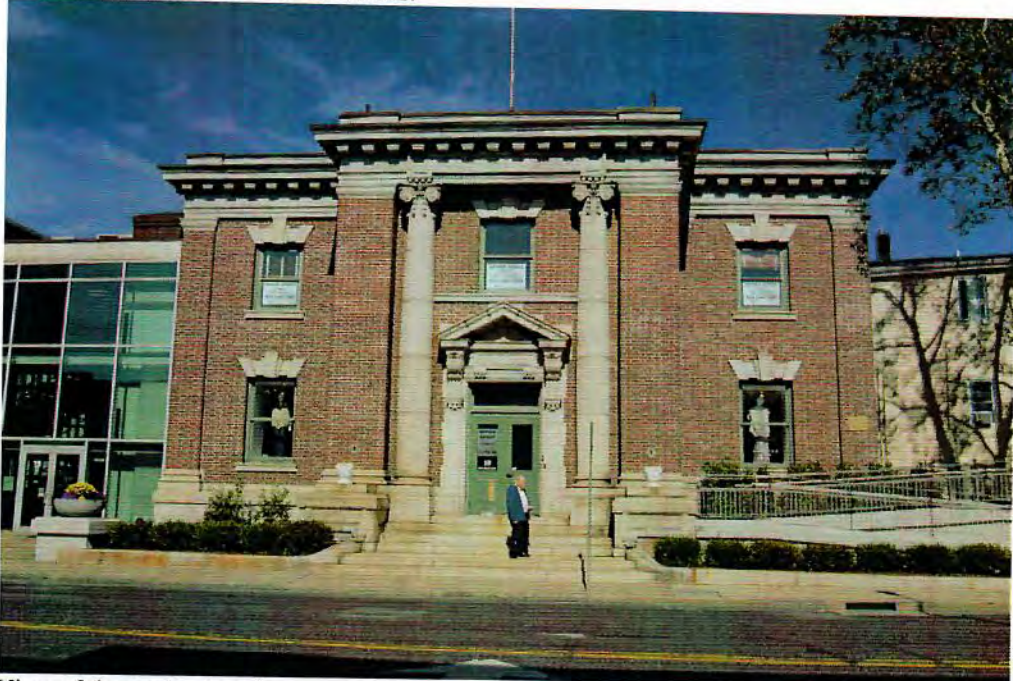
PHOTOGRAPHS

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/____/____/____/____/____	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT:	NR: Actual Potential



View of the south and west elevations.



View of the south elevation.

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**COMMISSION ON CULTURE & TOURISM  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor, Hartford, CT 06103

**HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM**

For Buildings and Structures

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: October 2011

**PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860**

**19 Post Road East, Westport, CT**

<i>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</i>	
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/____/____/____/____/____/____	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT:	NR: Actual Potential



View of the west elevation.

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**  
For Buildings and Structures

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

**19 Post Road East, Westport, CT**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:		SITE NO.:	
UTM: 18/	___/___/___/___/___		
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:		NR:	Actual Potential

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (*exterior and/or interior*)

The property at 19 Post Road East is a 2-story, Neoclassical-style building with a roughly rectangular floor plan. The building, which faces south, consists of a flat-roofed, cross-plan main block with a large, flat-roofed, rectangular addition to its west. The three-bay-wide main block rests on a stone-faced foundation and has exterior walls of Flemish-bond brick with stone trim. The stone cornice includes a wide, unadorned frieze with dentils. Flat, brick pilasters with simple stone capitals mark the corners of the main block. The main entrance, which is accessed by a set of six stone steps, is located in the projecting, center bay of the primary facade. The stone door surround includes a pediment supported by carved, scroll brackets. 2-story, Ionic columns flank the door. The words "OPEN TO ALL" are carved in the architrave above the doorway, while "WESTPORT LIBRARY" is carved into the frieze of the building's center bay. Fenestration consists of one-over-one, double-hung, replacement windows that feature simple stone sills and wedge-shaped, stone voussoirs and keystones. Alterations to the main block include the addition of a doorway on the east elevation, with a new surround consisting of modern brick pilasters and a stone entablature. The mid-twentieth century west wing of the library has exterior walls of common-bond brick. While most of the west wing is 2-stories in height, there is a 1-story section in the southwest corner. Fenestration consists primarily of plate-glass windows, though one-over-one, double-hung windows are present on the second floor of the south facade. The corridor linking the main block with the west wing features a glass curtain wall on its south elevation.

## 18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

The property at 19 Post Road East was dedicated as the Westport Public Library on April 8, 1908, shortly after construction was completed (*Bridgeport Telegram* 9 April 1908). The project was financed primarily by Morris K. Jesup, member of a prominent Westport family. In his 1922 *Westport, Connecticut: The Making of a Yankee Township*, Edward Coley Birge states, "Perhaps no family epitomizes the influence of the human element in the development of Westport more than the Jesup family" (Birge 1922:8) Ebenezer Jesup (1767-1851) was an early Westport merchant who built and operated a wharf on the Saugatuck River, and was a leader in the movement to construct the Connecticut Turnpike (present-day Post Road, or US Route 1) around 1807 (Birge 1922:9-11; Hurd 1881:816). His grandson, Morris K. Jesup (1830-1908), was a noted New York City banker and philanthropist who, among other things, was a founding board member and president of the American Museum of Natural History and helped finance Perry's expedition to the North Pole (*Bridgeport Telegram* 9 April 1908; Foster 1985:6-7).

During the second half of the nineteenth century, Charles LaCroix operated a saloon on the site of present-day 19 Post Road East. The establishment was surrounded by other commercial properties; at the end of the century, a grocery store, real estate office, department store, and hardware store were all located across the street, as was the "Hurlbutt Block," which housed a shoe store and druggist (Adams 1951:38; Westport Public Library, Local History Vertical Files). On February 4, 1886 the Westport Reading Room and Library Association was formed. A charter was granted by the state seven years later. The second floor of the Hurlbutt Block served as the organization's first home; at the turn of the twentieth century, the library moved to the first floor (Dort 1935:47-48).

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.:

SITE NO.:

UTM: 18/ / / / / /

QUAD:

DISTRICT:

NR:

Actual  
Potential

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

**19 Post Road East, Westport, CT**

In the early 1900s, a movement began to expand the library's collection and to construct a building to house it. In 1905, Morris K. Jesup was asked for a contribution; he offered to pay for the construction of a new building, freeing the approximately \$6,000 that had already been raised to be used for an endowment and a book fund. Construction of the \$75,000 building began in 1906 and was completed in 1908, shortly after Jesup's death in January of that year. At the opening ceremonies on April 8, 1908, Jesup's widow presented the building, along with an endowment check of \$5,000, to the town of Westport as a memorial to Jesup's grandfathers, Ebenezer Jesup and Samuel Burr Sherwood (*Bridgeport Telegram* 9 April 1908; Adams 1951:38). Speakers at the dedication of the building included John E. Parsons, a New York lawyer and friend of Morris K. Jesup; William H. Burr, president of the Westport Library Association; and Governor Rolin S. Woodruff. Burr praised the "ornate, symmetrical, and beautiful" building that "bears over its portals the cordial welcome, 'Open to All.'" He continued,

What an inducement in that brief proclamation to enter! Its appeal comes not to those who love books alone, and whose homes are the receptacles of many treasured volumes; but its silent message will find a warm response in the heart of the toiler... Within this sanctuary will be the choicest treasures of the past, the ripest thought of the present, and here will be focused the wide world's activities and achievements (*Bridgeport Telegram* 9 April 1908).

When originally constructed, the building consisted only of the cross-plan main block. The *Bridgeport Telegram* described the building as "very beautiful... It is built of brick with granite trimmings and has two tall pillars of sandstone running up in front for two stories. The entrance and stairways are of marble, with marble wainscoting, as is also the foyer." Reading rooms occupied the east and west wings of the first floor, with the west one dedicated to children, while an auditorium was located at the second floor (*Bridgeport Telegram* 9 April 1908). The first librarian was Frances A. Gray (Dort 1935:47). Edith Very Sherwood served from 1916 to 1945. During her tenure, an extensive collection of materials related to art and illustration was developed. A reference collection was established in 1948 (Foster 1988:28; Kreger and Kaye 1976:33).

By the middle of the twentieth century, the library had begun to outgrow its original accommodations. The collection grew from 17,000 volumes in 1933 to over 25,000 in 1952 (1933 and 1952 Directories). Construction began on an extensive addition in 1955, at a cost of over \$300,000. The new west wing was opened to the public on July 8, 1956. The 1908 building was renovated as a part of this project, which tripled the amount of usable space in the library. By the mid-1960s, however, the library had again become cramped, and began renting 2,400 square feet of space from an adjacent property (Westport Public Library, Local History Vertical Files; Kreger and Kaye 1976:33). In the 1970s, a movement began to construct a new town library near Jesup Green. In 1984, a public referendum to fund the \$4.6 million project was passed by a close margin, and construction began shortly thereafter. The new, 30,000 square foot building opened to the public on September 3, 1986. The original library building was sold for \$2.8 million to Westport businessmen Drew Friedman and Alex Land. The building was then converted to retail space, as it remains at the present time (Westport Public Library, Local History Vertical Files).

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**

For Buildings and Structures

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

**19 Post Road East, Westport, CT**

**SOURCES**

- Adams, Judge Joseph. *Ownership of Real Estate in Westport*. 1951. Manuscript on file, Westport Historical Society, Westport, CT.
- Anonymous. "Mrs. Jesup Presents Library and \$5000 to Westporters." *Bridgeport Telegram*. 9 April 1908.
- Birge, Edward Coley. *Westport, Connecticut: The Making of a Yankee Township*. Westport, CT: Westport Historical Society, 1922.
- Dort, Wakefield. *Westport in Connecticut's History, 1835-1935*. No publisher, 1935.
- Foster, Joanna. *Stories from Westport's Past*. Westport, CT: 1985.
- Foster, Joanna. *Book III: Stories from Westport's Past*. Westport, CT: 1988.
- Hurd, D. Hamilton. *History of Fairfield County, Connecticut*. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1881.
- Kreger, Louise P. and Sylvia Kaye. *The Library in Transition: A Study of the Westport Public Library*. September 1976.
- Westport Public Library, Westport, CT. Local History Vertical Files -- Library. Westport History File -- Houses and Buildings.
- Westport Historical Society, Westport, CT. Genealogy Files. Historic House Files. Photograph Collection -- Houses.
- Westport, Saugatuck, Greens Farms, Weston, Wilton Directory*. New Haven, CT: The Price & Lee Co., 1933, 1939, 1943, 1952.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ SITE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: 18/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
QUAD: \_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_ NR: Actual  
Potential

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM**

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.:

SITE NO.:

UTM: 18/ / / / / / / /

QUAD:

DISTRICT:

NR:

Actual  
Potential

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

**19 Post Road East, Westport, CT**

PHOTOGRAPHS



View showing the main entrance on the front (south) elevation.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM  
For Buildings and Structures

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Item number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2000

PAL, Pawtucket, RI 02860

19 Post Road East, Westport, CT

PHOTOGRAPHS

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/ / / / / / / /	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT:	NR: Actual Potential



View from the southeast.



View of the south elevation of the west wing.