# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

#### February 03, 2021

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2021-019 **ADDRESS:** 1110 VIRGINIA BLVD NCB 3887 BLK 3 LOT 3 & W 25 FT OF 4 **LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ZONING:** RM-4. H **CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 2 **DISTRICT:** Knob Hill Historic District Stephanie Ramirez/RAMIREZ STEPHANIE MICHELLE **APPLICANT:** Stephanie Ramirez/RAMIREZ STEPHANIE MICHELLE **OWNER: TYPE OF WORK:** Front yard fence January 11, 2021 **APPLICATION RECEIVED: 60-DAY REVIEW:** Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders Huv Pham **CASE MANAGER:** 

## **REOUEST:**

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install a front yard cattle panel fence and relocating the side yard privacy to the property line.

#### **APPLICABLE CITATIONS:**

5. Guidelines for Site Elements 2. Fences and Walls

**B.NEW FENCES AND WALLS** 

i. Design—New fences and walls should appear similar to those used historically within the district in terms of their scale, transparency, and character. Design of fence should respond to the design and materials of the house or main structure. ii. Location—Avoid installing a fence or wall in a location where one did not historically exist, particularly within the front yard. The appropriateness of a front yard fence or wall is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences or wall should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. iii. Height—Limit the height of new fences and walls within the front yard to a maximum of four feet. The appropriateness of a front yard fence is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. If a taller fence or wall existed historically, additional height may be considered. The height of a new retaining wall should not exceed the height of the slope it retains.

iv. Prohibited materials—Do not use exposed concrete masonry units (CMU), Keystone or similar interlocking retaining wall systems, concrete block, vinyl fencing, or chain link fencing.

v. Appropriate materials—Construct new fences or walls of materials similar to fence materials historically used in the district. Select materials that are similar in scale, texture, color, and form as those historically used in the district, and that are compatible with the main structure. Screening incompatible uses-Review alternative fence heights and materials for appropriateness where residential properties are adjacent to commercial or other potentially incompatible uses.

#### 6.PRIVACY FENCES AND WALLS

i. *Relationship to front facade*—Set privacy fences back from the front facade of the building, rather than aligning them with the front façade of the structure to reduce their visual prominence

ii. Location - Do not use privacy fences in front yards.

## FINDINGS:

- The primary structure located at 1110 Virginia is a one-story Craftsman single-family residence constructed in c. a. 1910. The home features one-over-one wood windows, a cross gable roof covered with composition shingles and supported by wood brackets, a front porch and porte cochere supported by paired square columns. The home is contributing to the Knob Hill Historic District.
- b. DESIGN The applicant has proposed to install a cattle panel front yard fence. Per the Guidelines for Site Elements 2.B.i., new fences and walls should appear similar to those used historically within the district in terms of their scale, transparency, and character. Design of fence should respond to the design and materials of the house or main structure. While cattle panel fences are most common on Craftsman style houses in Dignowity Hill and Lavaca Historic Districts, staff find that they are not found in Knob Hill and that a wood picket or wrought

iron fence would be more appropriate for the structure.

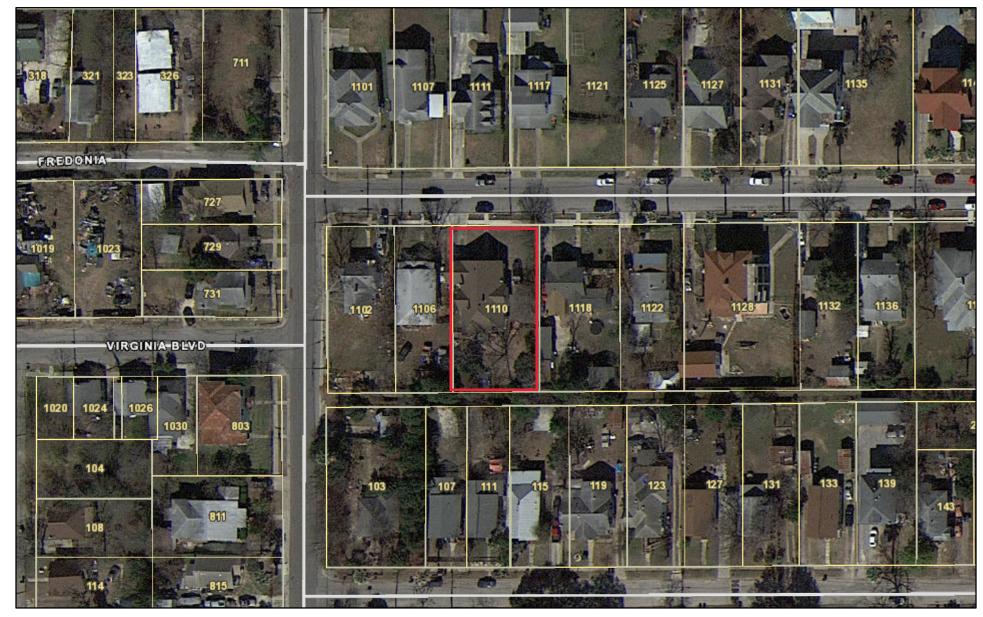
- c. LOCATION The applicant has proposed to install a front yard fence including a gate spanning across the front of the front of the driveway. Per the Guidelines for Site Elements 2.B.ii., applicants should avoid installing a fence or wall in a location where one did not historically exist, particularly within the front yard. The appropriateness of a front yard fence or wall is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences or wall should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. Staff finds that fences are found within the district and unobstructed front lawns are not a character defining feature of this block of the district. Additionally, while front driveway gates are atypical, staff finds that the side-flanking porte-cochere allows for a front gate instead of turned and set behind the front facade plane of the house.
- d. HEIGHT The applicant has proposed to install a fence height of 4 feet. Per the Guidelines for Site Elements 2.B.iii., applicants should limit the height of new fences and walls within the front yard to a maximum of four feet; the appropriateness of a front yard fence is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. Staff finds that the proposed height is consistent with the Guidelines with the stipulation that electrical and mechanical equipment, is used, should be set behind the fence and minimally visible.
- e. PRIVACY FENCE The applicant proposed to relocate the side and rear portions of the existing wood privacy to the property line, effectively widening the rear yard approximately 2 feet in the side directions. Staff finds the proposal is eligible for administrative approval with the stipulation that no 6 feet portions extend beyond the front façade plane of the house.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

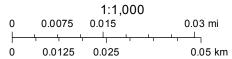
Staff recommends approval based on findings b through e with the following stipulations:

- i. That the fence design feature wood picket or wrought iron instead of cattle panel. A final fence design must be submitted to staff prior to installation.
- ii. That no portion of the front yard fence exceed 4-feet in height including electrical and mechanical equipment, which should be set be the fence and minimally visible.
- iii. That no portion of the 6 feet tall privacy fence extends beyond the front façade plane during the during relocation to the appropriate property line.

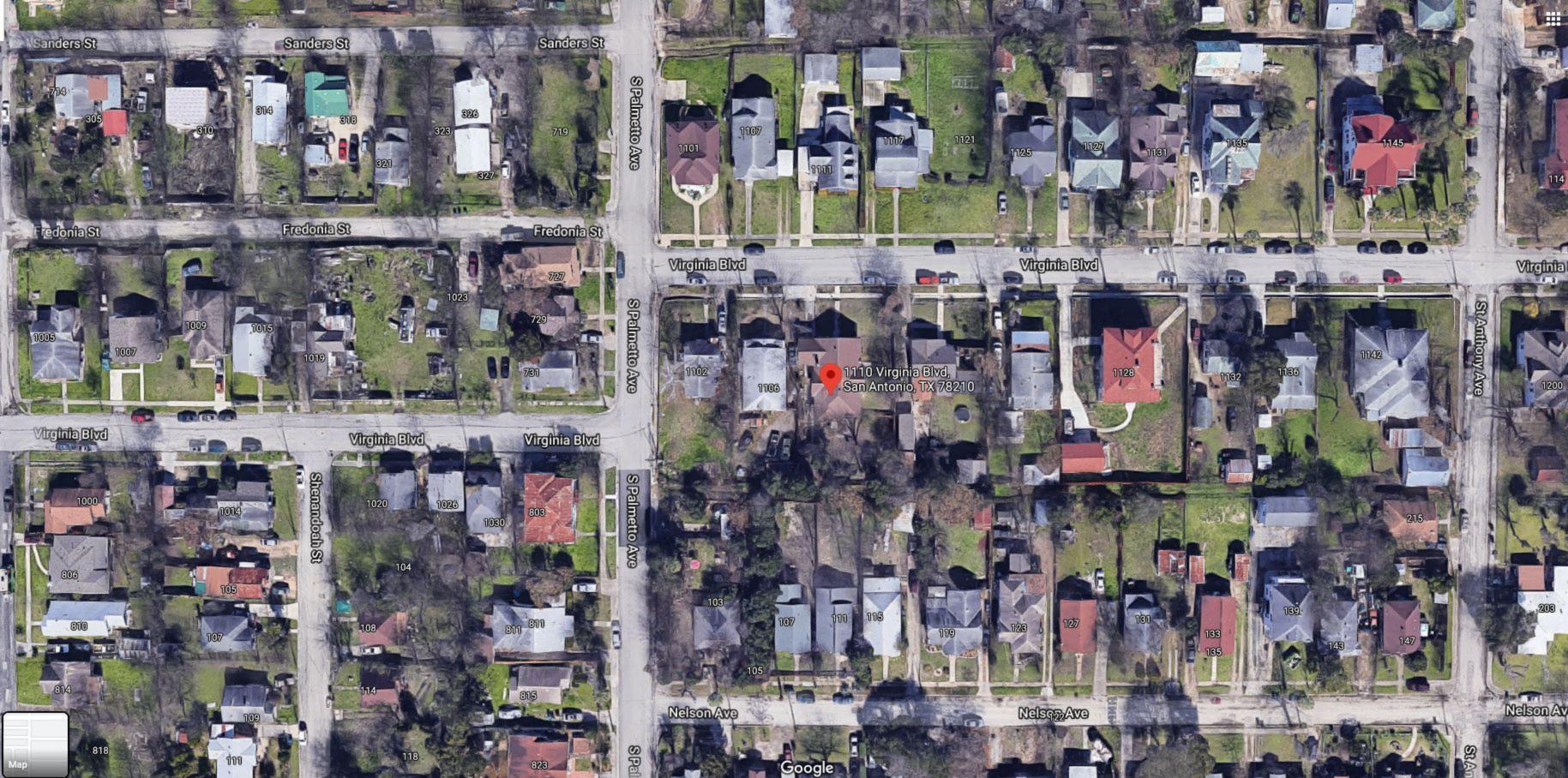
# 1110 Virginia

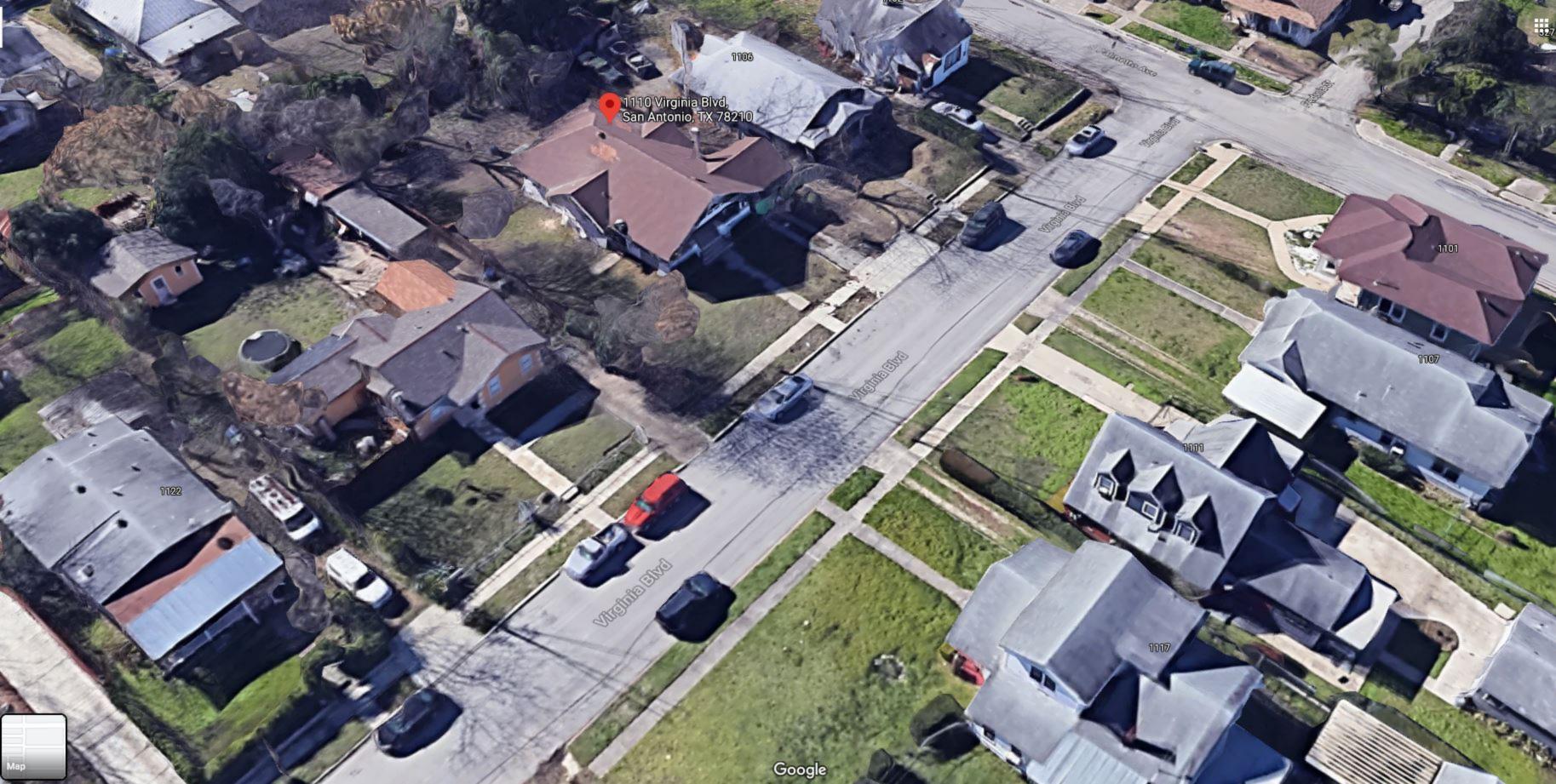


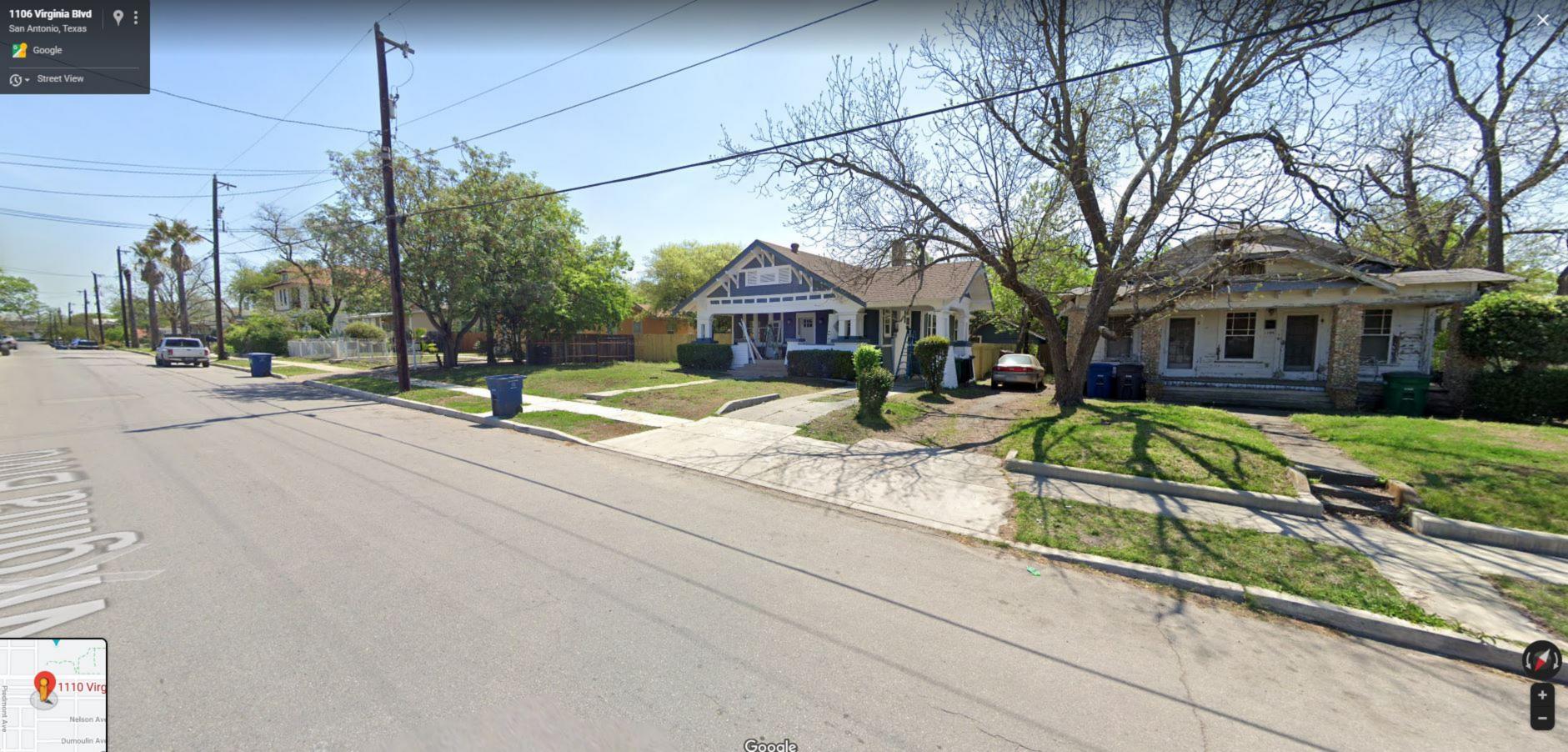
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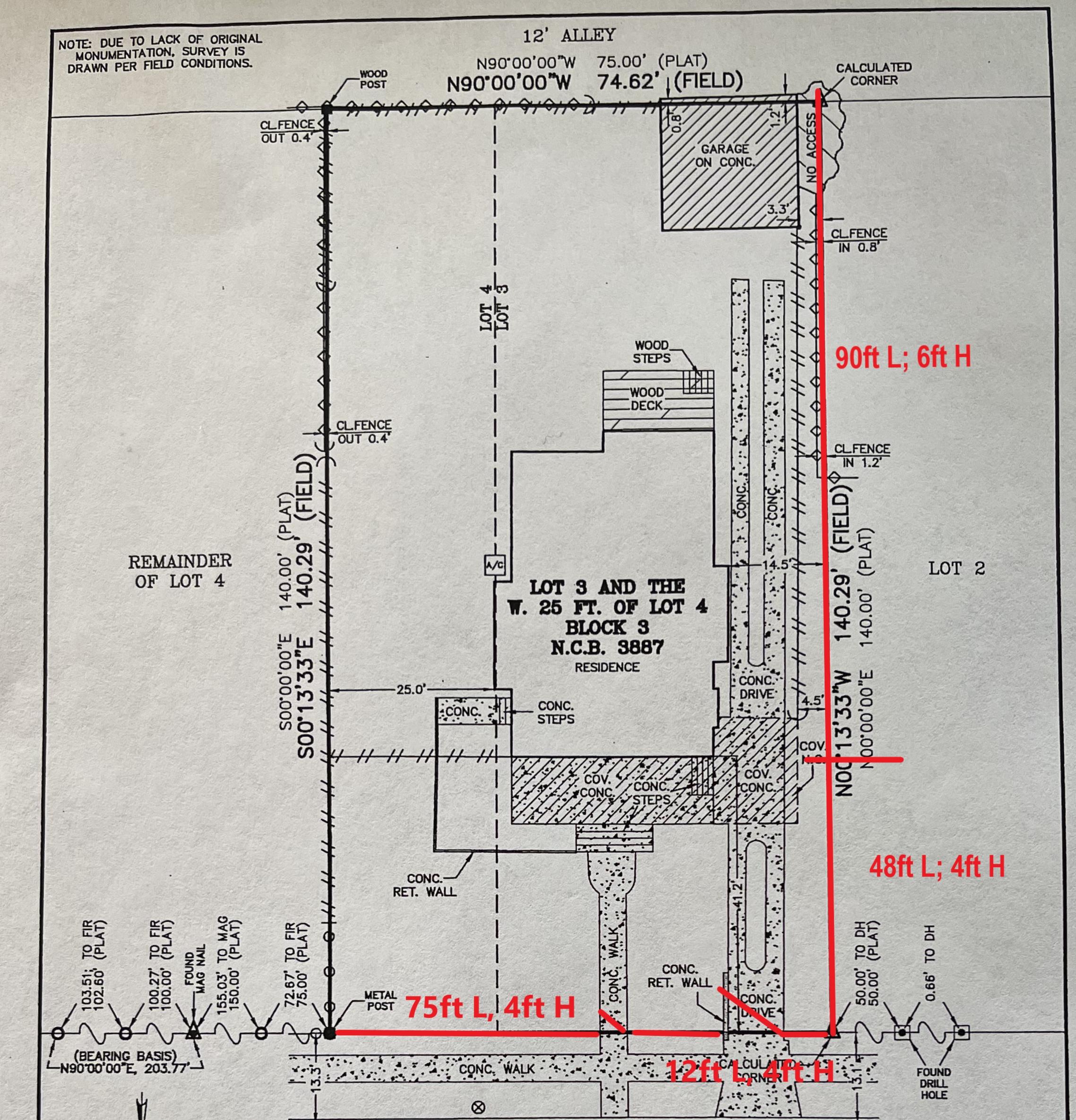


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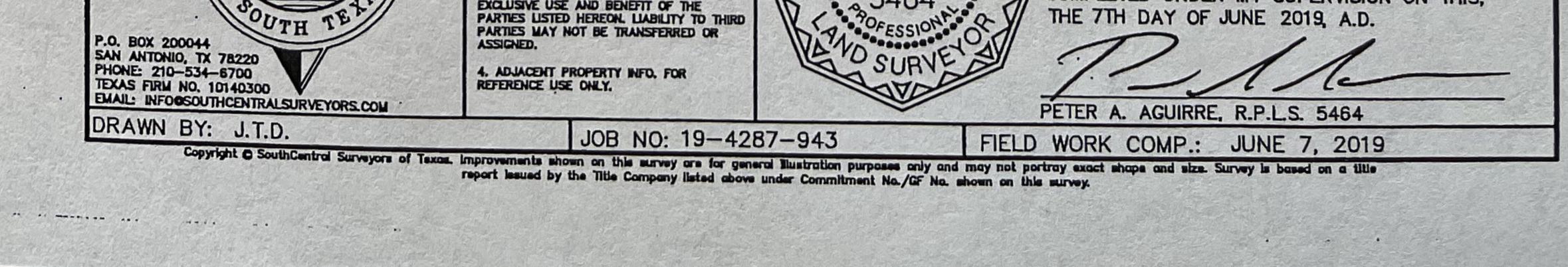




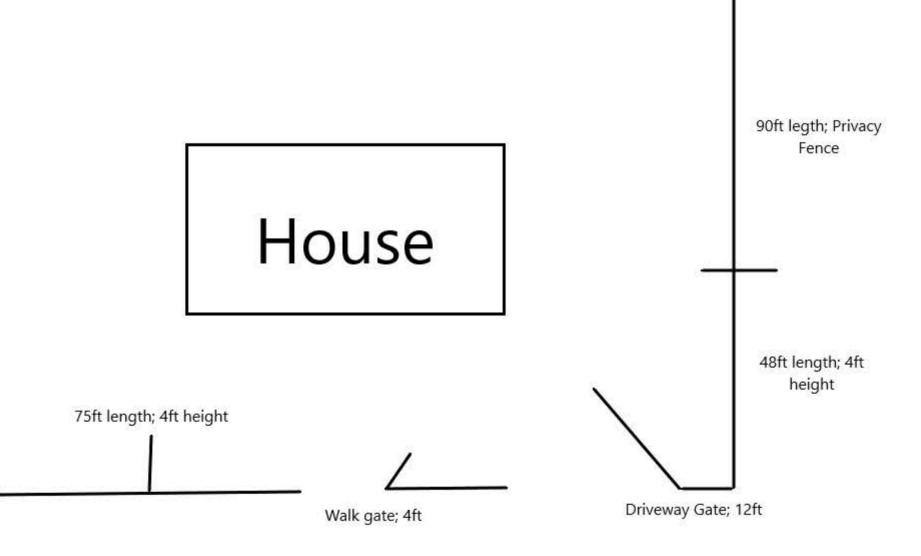




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