



Albany Museum of Art

Adaptive Reuse of Former Belk Department Store in Albany, GA

15 September 2025

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Belk building was constructed in 1968. It is a 2-story L-shaped structure with a brick veneer façade. Existing openings are limited to three glass entrances with stucco canopies and a loading dock. The architectural character is mid-century modern and representative of the 60s-era Belk department store architecture. The building is located within the boundary of the Albany, Georgia Historic District.

The design approach to the adaptive reuse of the Belk building follows the recommendations of The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, specifically the Rehabilitation guidelines. The intent is to protect the historic character and integrity of the historic district.

The brick veneer façades facing Broad Ave and Washington St, the parking lot, and the alley will be repaired, the stucco canopies above the entrances will be restored, and the glass assemblies in the shop windows and the entrances will be replaced with high-performing glass system matching the original configuration. The exterior walls facing the proposed sculpture garden do not have historic significance and will be renovated to feature a new stucco finish with a glass storefront system on the first floor and window openings on the second floor. The material palette and opening proportions will be differentiated from the historic features and complementary to the existing scale and proportions.

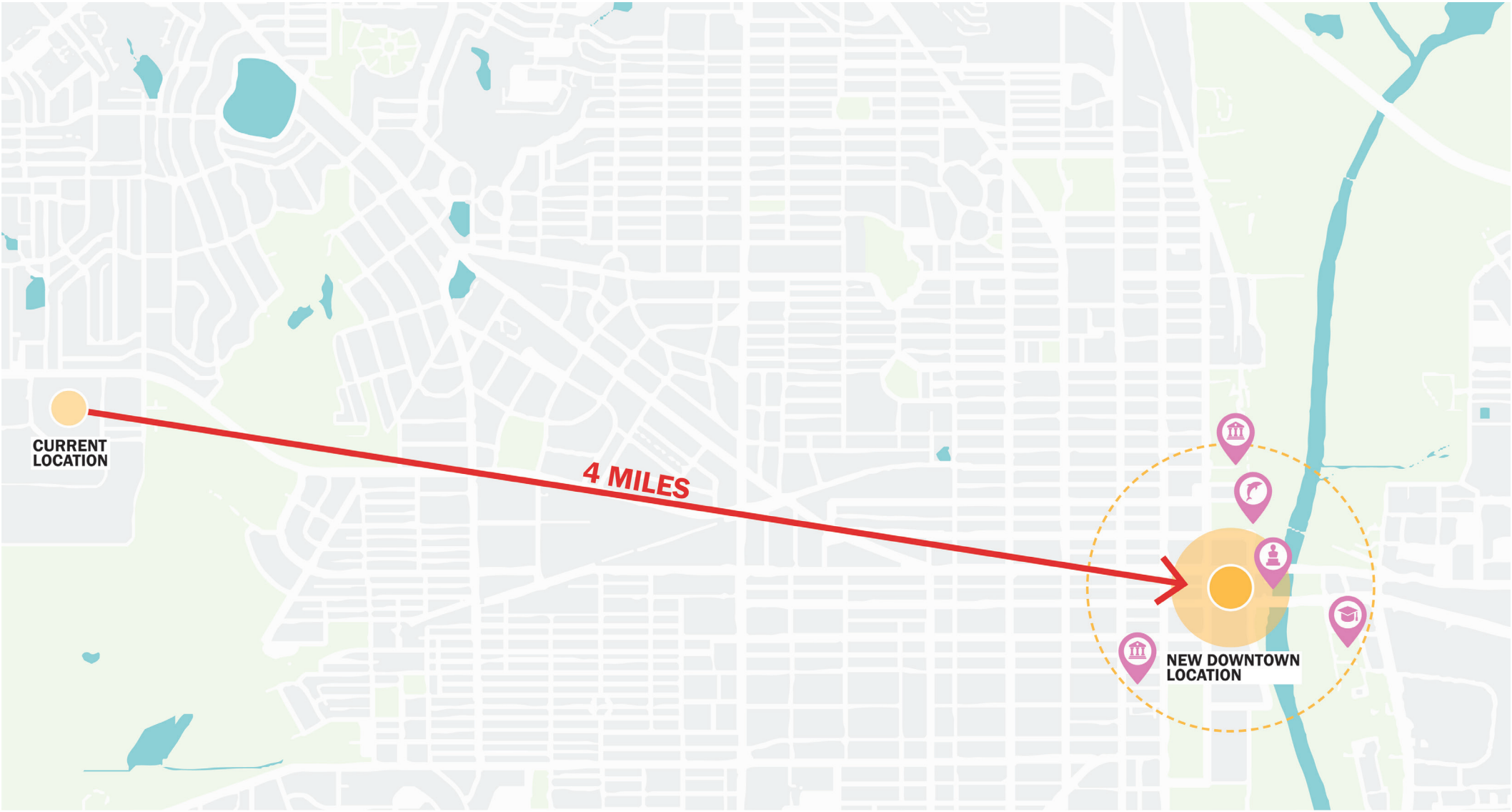
Modifications will be made to comply with accessibility code requirements. A new accessible ramp will be implemented on the interior of the Broad Street entrance and new entrances will comply with the current door and hardware requirements. A new accessible ramp will be constructed at the loading dock.

The original interior features have deteriorated and have been demolished as part of the hazardous material abatement project. The new interior fit-out will comply with all current life safety codes and will complement the mid-century architectural character of the Belk building.

All mechanical, electrical, and plumbing equipment will be replaced and will comply with current energy codes, and the exterior envelope will be enhanced by adding required thermal insulation and vapor barrier to the interior of the existing walls, in order to preserve the historic character of the exterior appearance.



CONTEXT



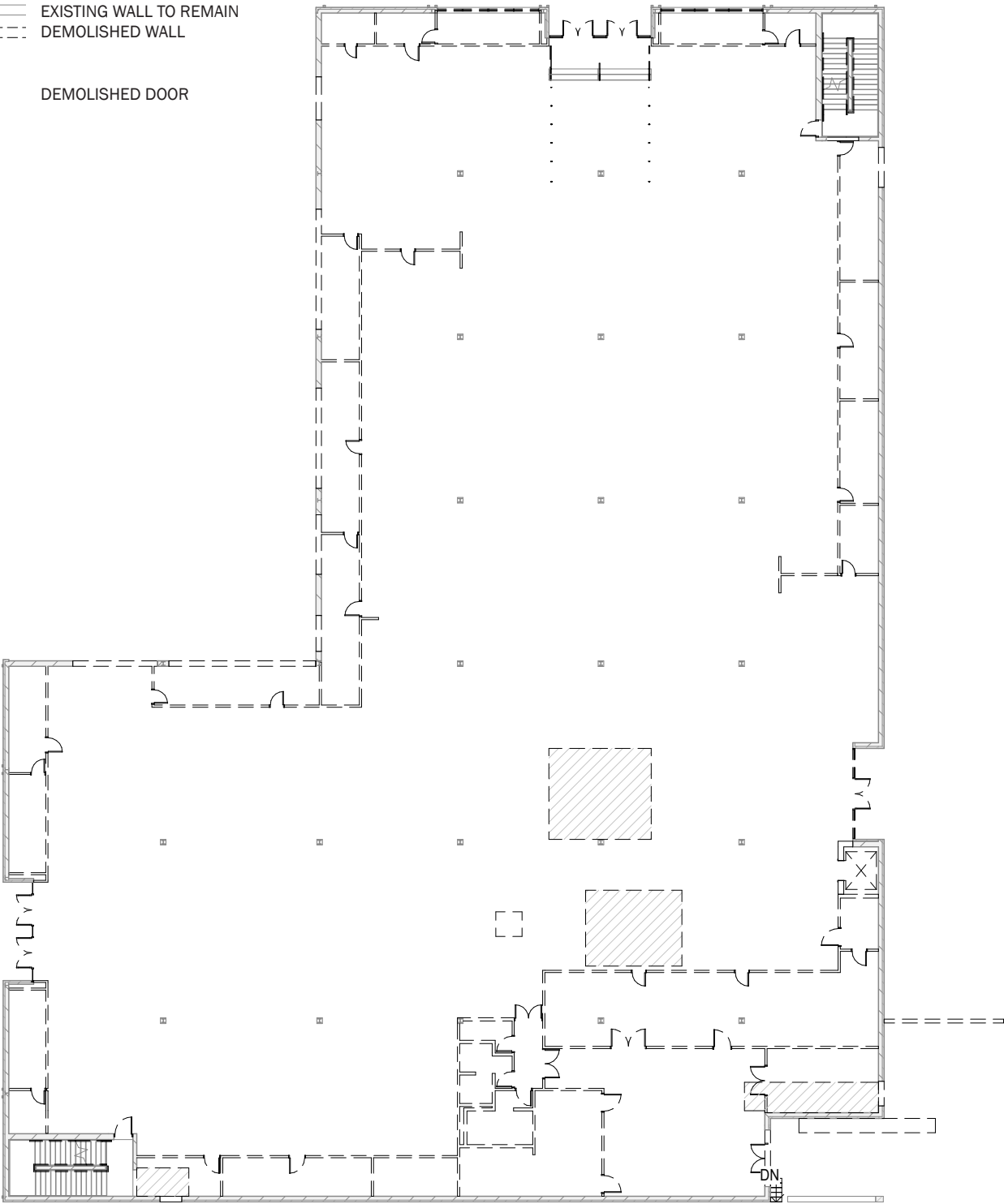
CURRENT MUSEUM



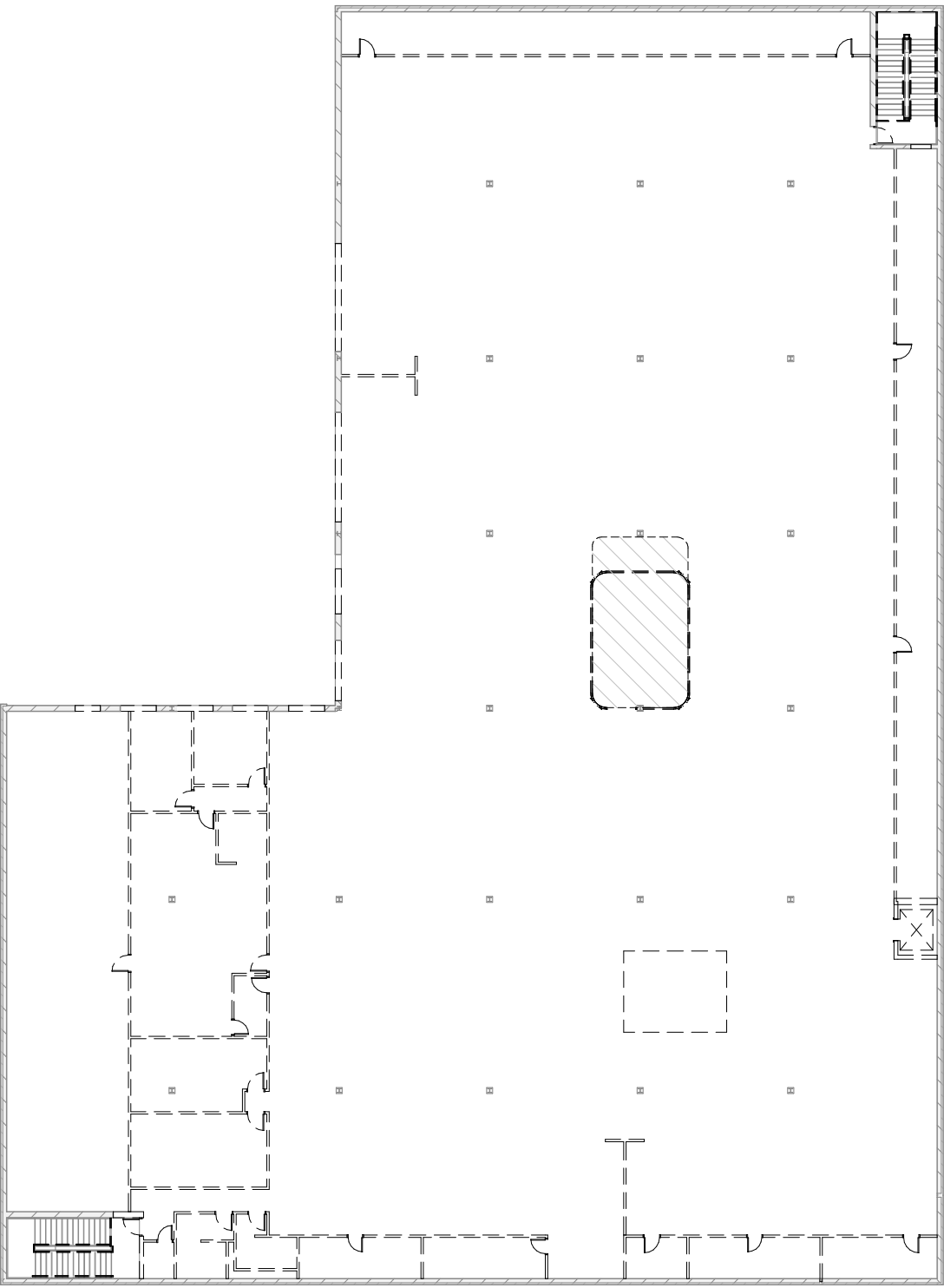
PROPOSED MUSEUM IN DOWNTOWN ALBANY

DEMOLITION FLOOR PLANS

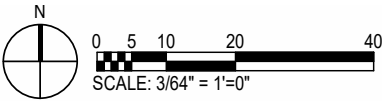
- EXISTING WALL TO REMAIN
- DEMOLISHED WALL
- DEMOLISHED DOOR



DEMOLITION PLAN - FIRST FLOOR

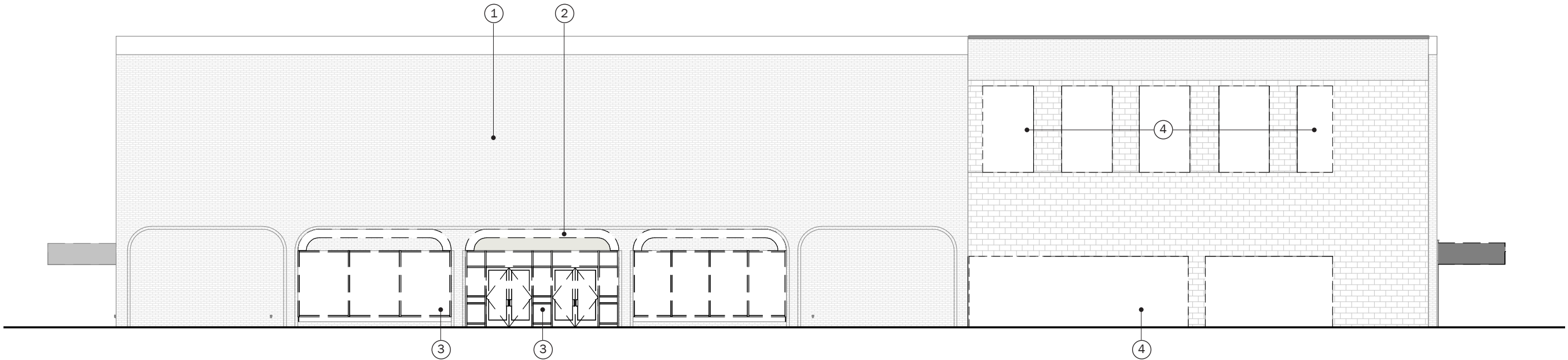


DEMOLITION PLAN - SECOND FLOOR

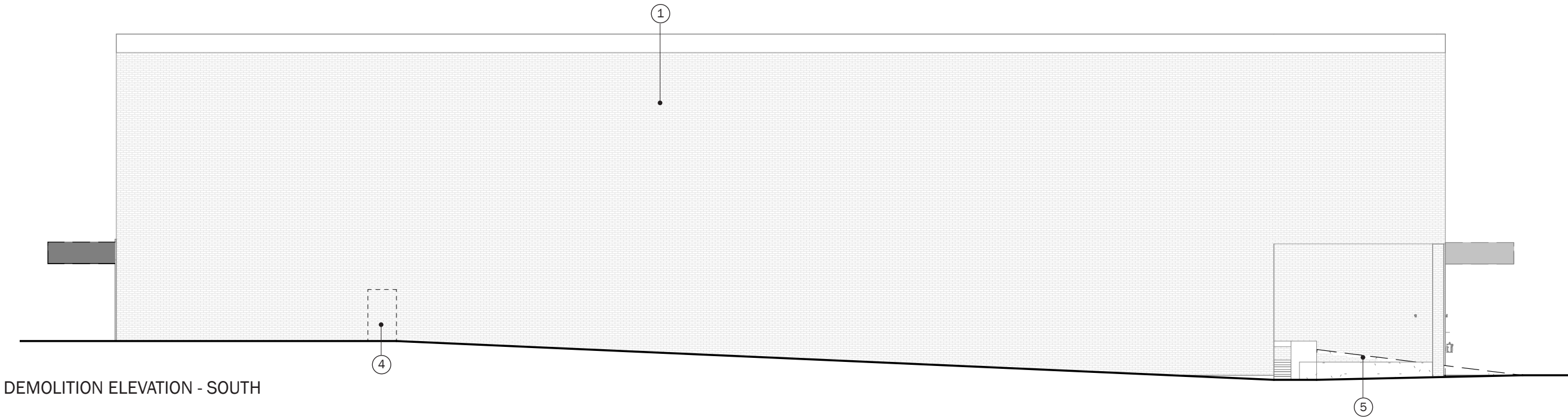


DEMOLITION EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

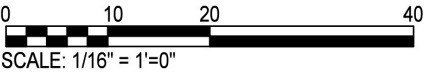
- 1. EXISTING BRICK VENEER TO REMAIN
- 2. EXISTING CANOPY TO BE RESTORED
- 3. REMOVE EXISTING STOREFRONT SYSTEM
- 4. DEMOLISH PORTION OF EXISTING WALL AND PREP FOR NEW OPENING
- 5. DEMOLISH EXISTING RAMP



DEMOLITION ELEVATION - NORTH

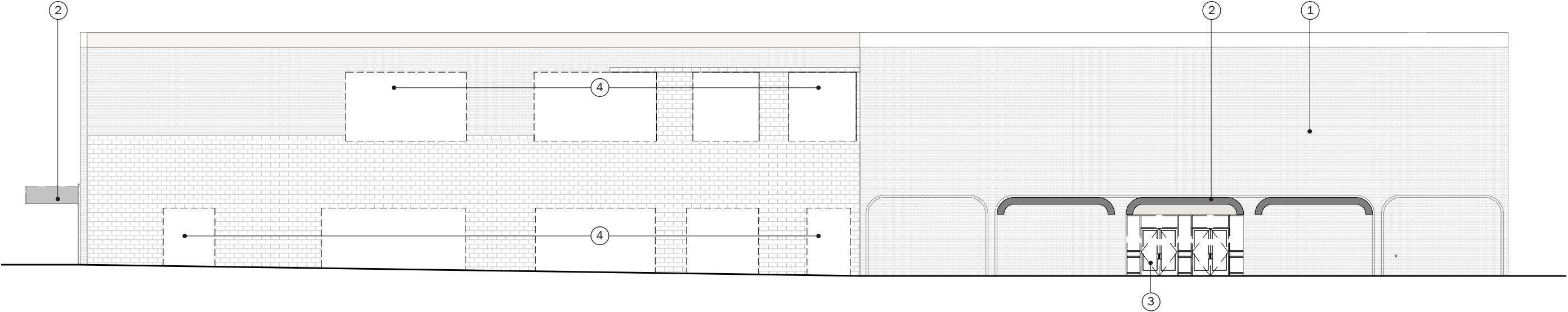


DEMOLITION ELEVATION - SOUTH

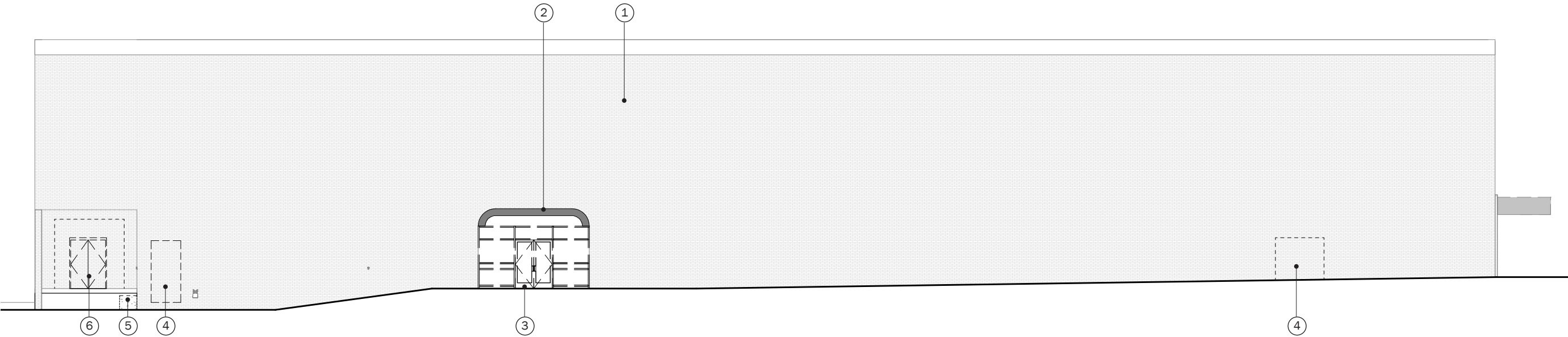


DEMOLITION EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

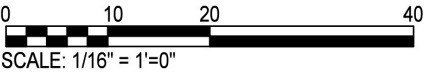
- 1. EXISTING BRICK VENEER TO REMAIN
- 2. EXISTING CANOPY TO BE RESTORED
- 3. REMOVE EXISTING STOREFRONT SYSTEM
- 4. DEMOLISH PORTION OF EXISTING WALL AND PREP FOR NEW OPENING
- 5. DEMOLISH EXISTING RAMP
- 6. DEMOLISH EXISTING DOORS AND PORTION OF EXISTING WALL AND PREP FOR NEW OPENING



DEMOLITION ELEVATION - WEST



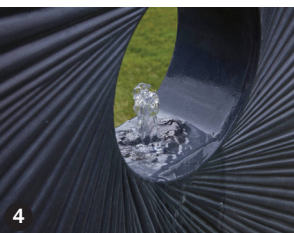
DEMOLITION ELEVATION - EAST



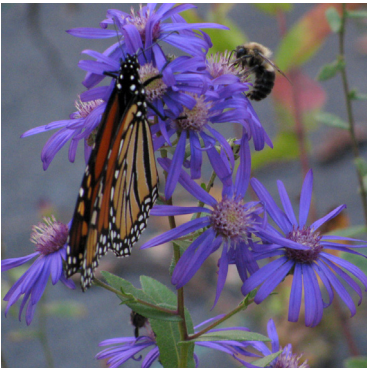
SITE



ARTWORK



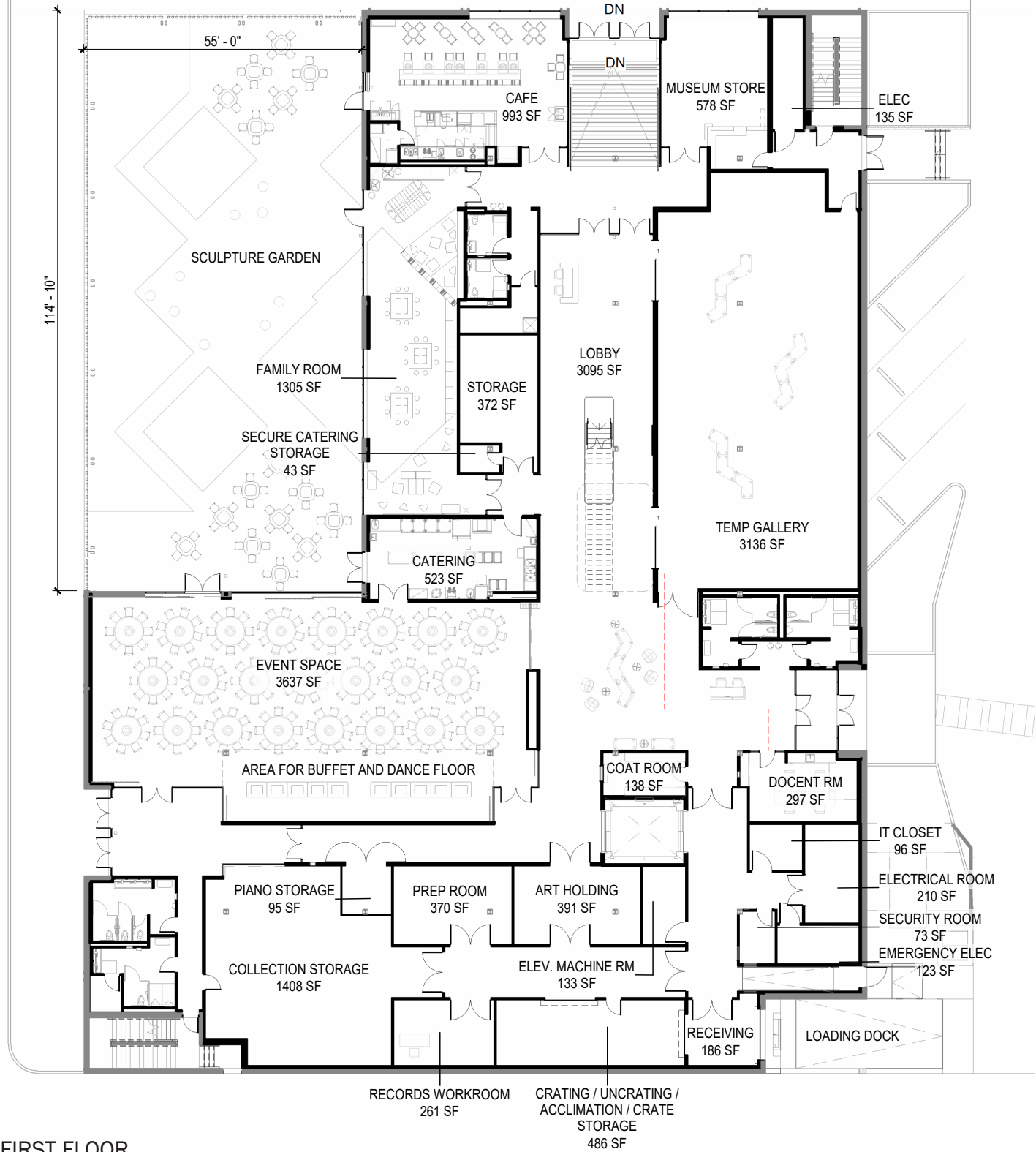
PLANTS



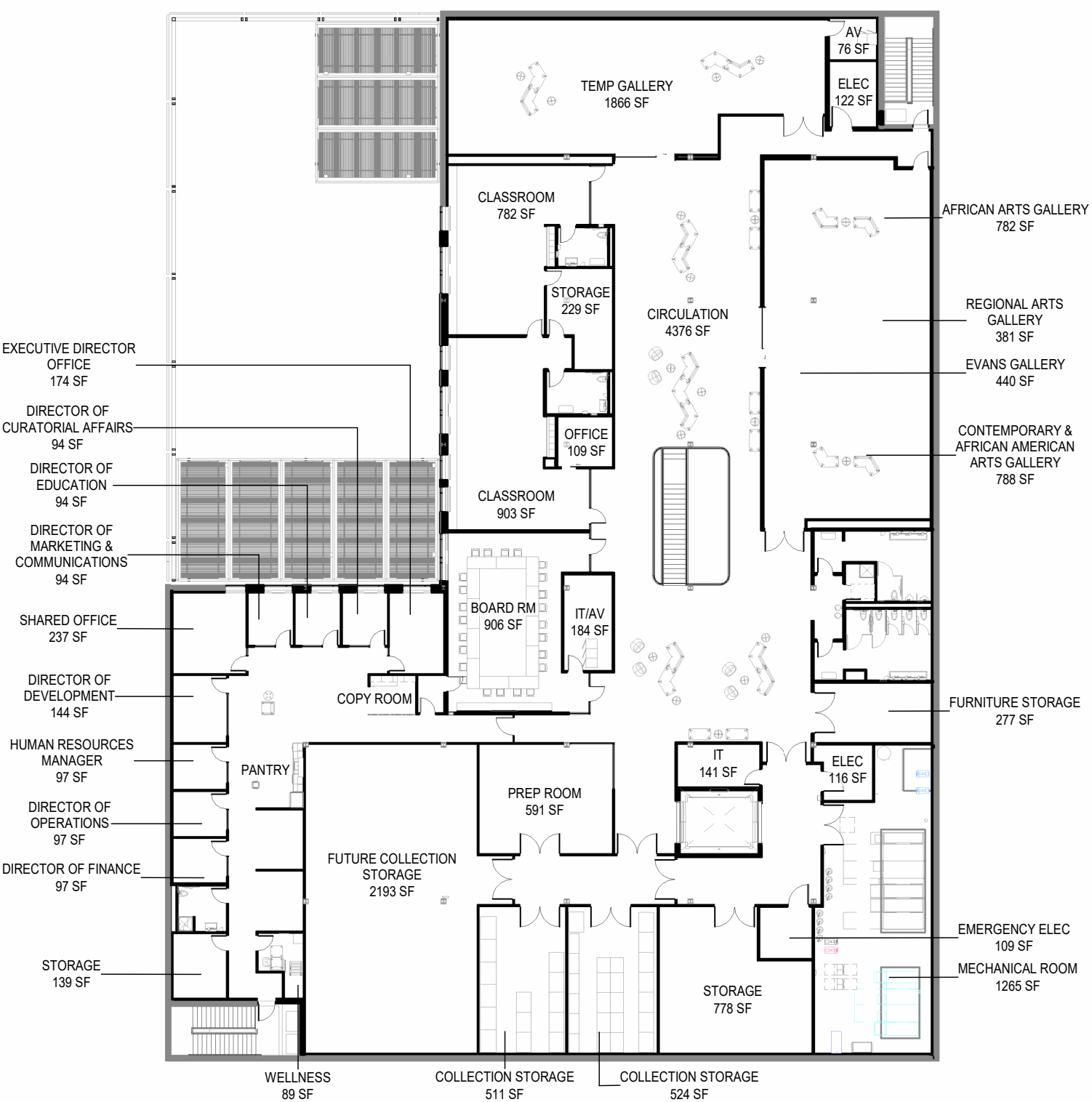
LANDSCAPE MATERIALS AND FURNISHINGS



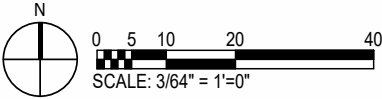
FLOOR PLANS



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

1. EXISTING BRICK VENEER TO REMAIN

2. NEW STUCCO FASCIA PANEL TO MATCH ORIGINAL CONFIGURATION

3. NEW METAL PENTHOUSE ENCLOSURE

4. NEW STOREFRONT SYSTEM, MATCH EXISTING CONFIGURATION

5. NEW THERMAL ENTRANCE SYSTEM, MATCH EXISTING CONFIGURATION

6. EXISTING CANOPY TO BE RESTORED

7. NEW METAL COPING

8. NEW METAL WALL PANEL
9. NEW STUCCO SYSTEM

10. NEW STOREFRONT SYSTEM

11. NEW PUNCHED OPENINGS WITH THERMAL GLASS WINDOWS

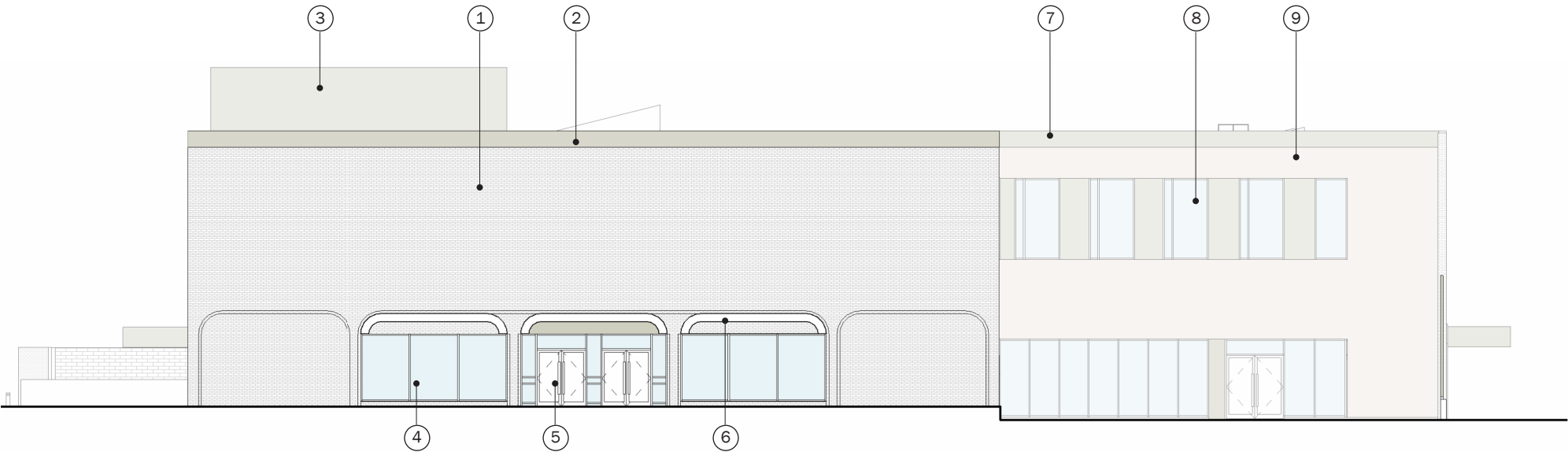
12. NEW INSULATED EXTERIOR DOOR

13. NEW METAL SCREEN WALL

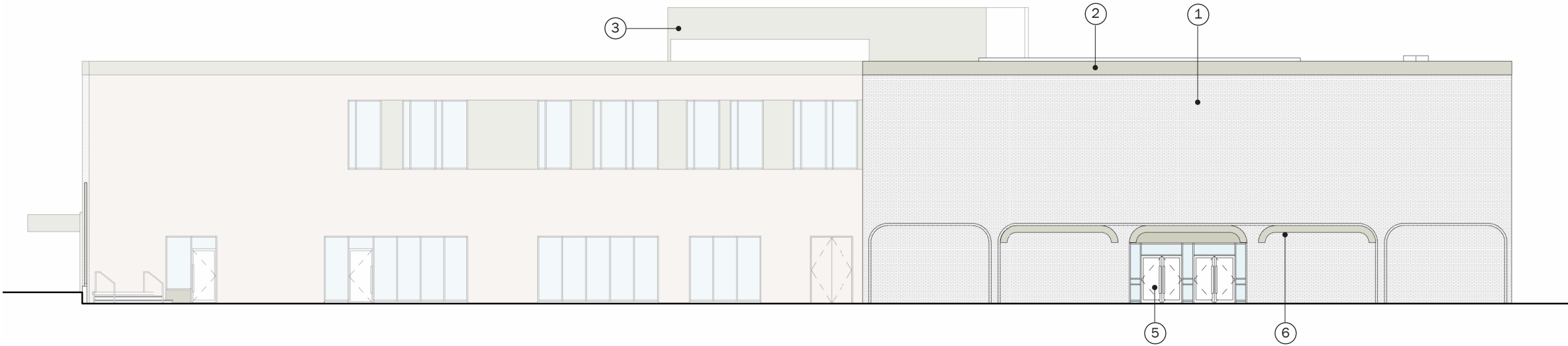
14. EXISTING RECONFIGURED LOADING DOCK

15. NEW CONCRETE RETAINING WALL WITH STEEL HANDRAIL

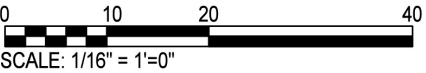
16. NEW 10' X 10' INSULATED OVERHEAD DOOR



NORTH ELEVATION

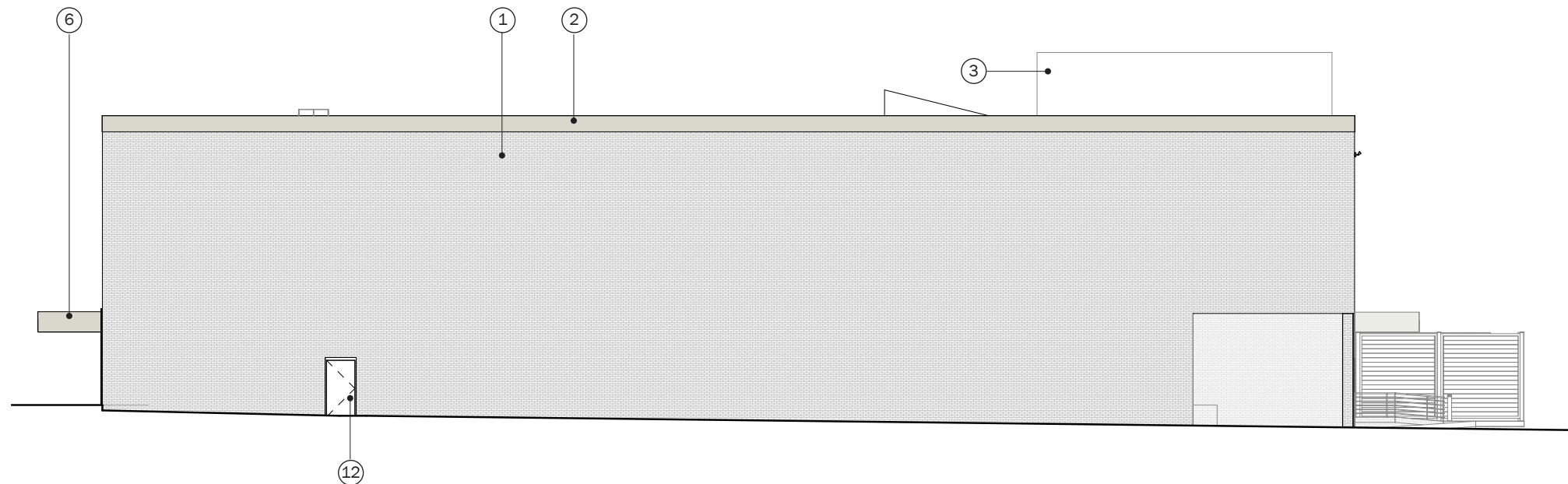


WEST ELEVATION

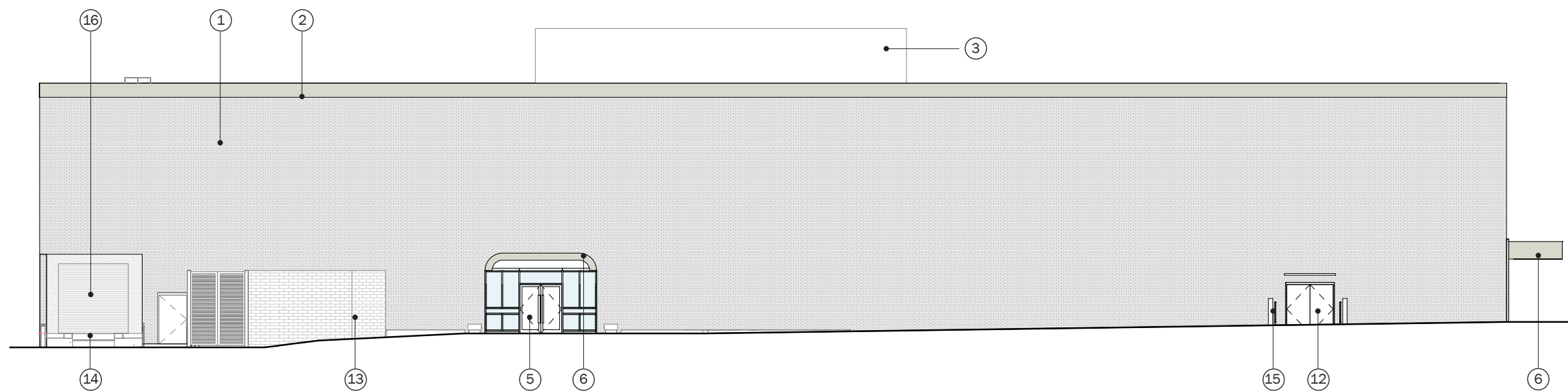


EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

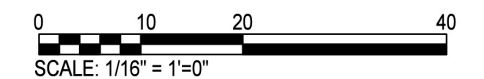
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. EXISTING BRICK VENEER TO REMAIN | 9. NEW STUCCO SYSTEM |
| 2. NEW STUCCO FASCIA PANEL TO MATCH ORIGINAL CONFIGURATION | 10. NEW STOREFRONT SYSTEM |
| 3. NEW METAL PENTHOUSE ENCLOSURE | 11. NEW PUNCHED OPENINGS WITH THERMAL GLASS WINDOWS |
| 4. NEW STOREFRONT SYSTEM, MATCH EXISTING CONFIGURATION | 12. NEW INSULATED EXTERIOR DOOR |
| 5. NEW THERMAL ENTRANCE SYSTEM, MATCH EXISTING CONFIGURATION | 13. NEW METAL SCREEN WALL |
| 6. EXISTING CANOPY TO BE RESTORED | 14. EXISTING RECONFIGURED LOADING DOCK |
| 7. NEW METAL COPING | 15. NEW CONCRETE RETAINING WALL WITH STEEL HANDRAIL |
| 8. NEW METAL WALL PANEL | 16. NEW 10' X 10' INSULATED OVERHEAD DOOR |



SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



VIEWS



MAIN ENTRY



SCULPTURE GARDEN



LOBBY



EVENT SPACE