



Vieux Carré Commission Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2021



Review of Minutes



Chairman's Report



Director's Report



Appeals and Violations



533 Toulouse



533 Toulouse

VCC Architectural Committee

October 12, 2021





533 Toulouse

VCC Architectural Committee

October 12, 2021



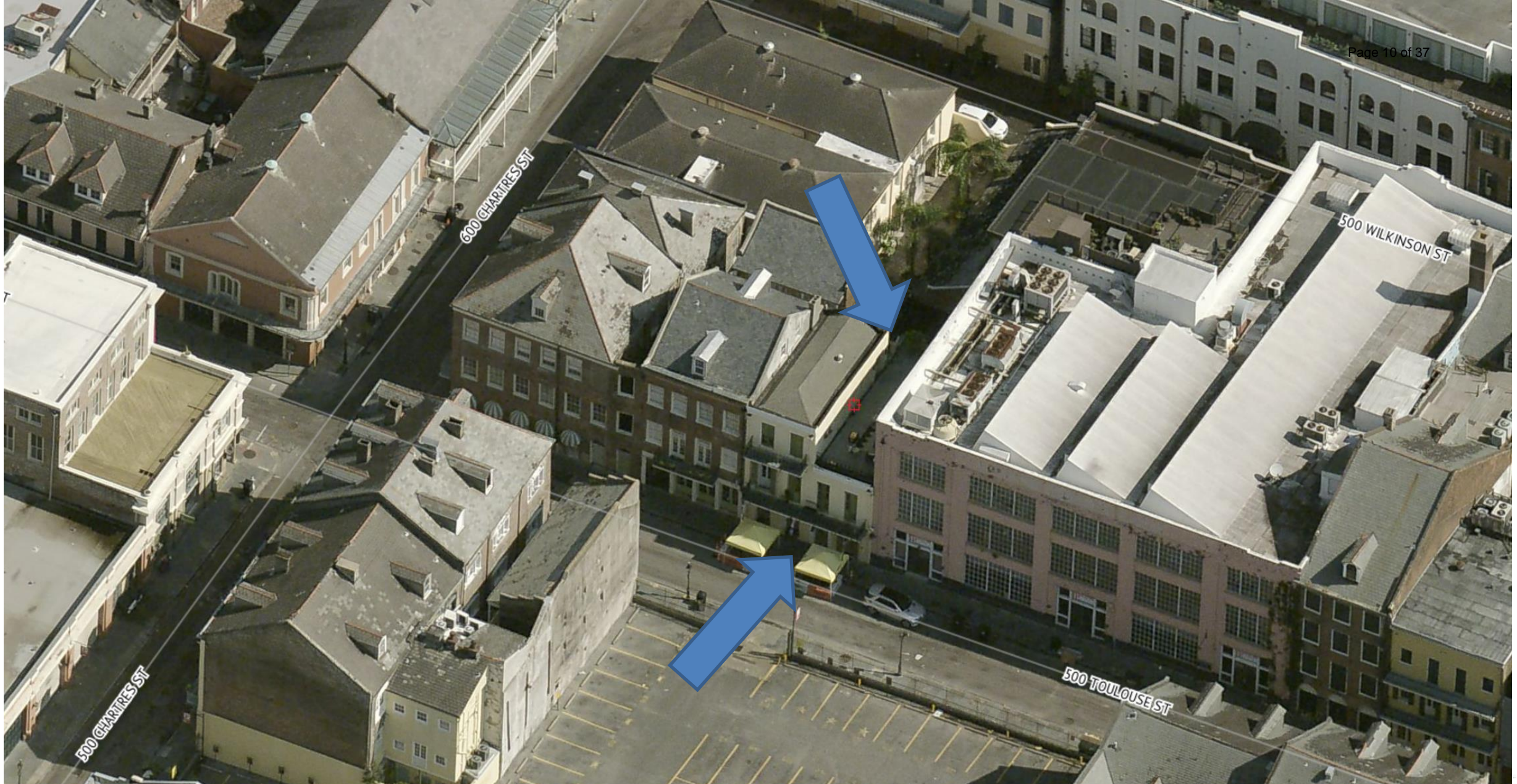


533 Toulouse

VCC Architectural Committee

October 12, 2021



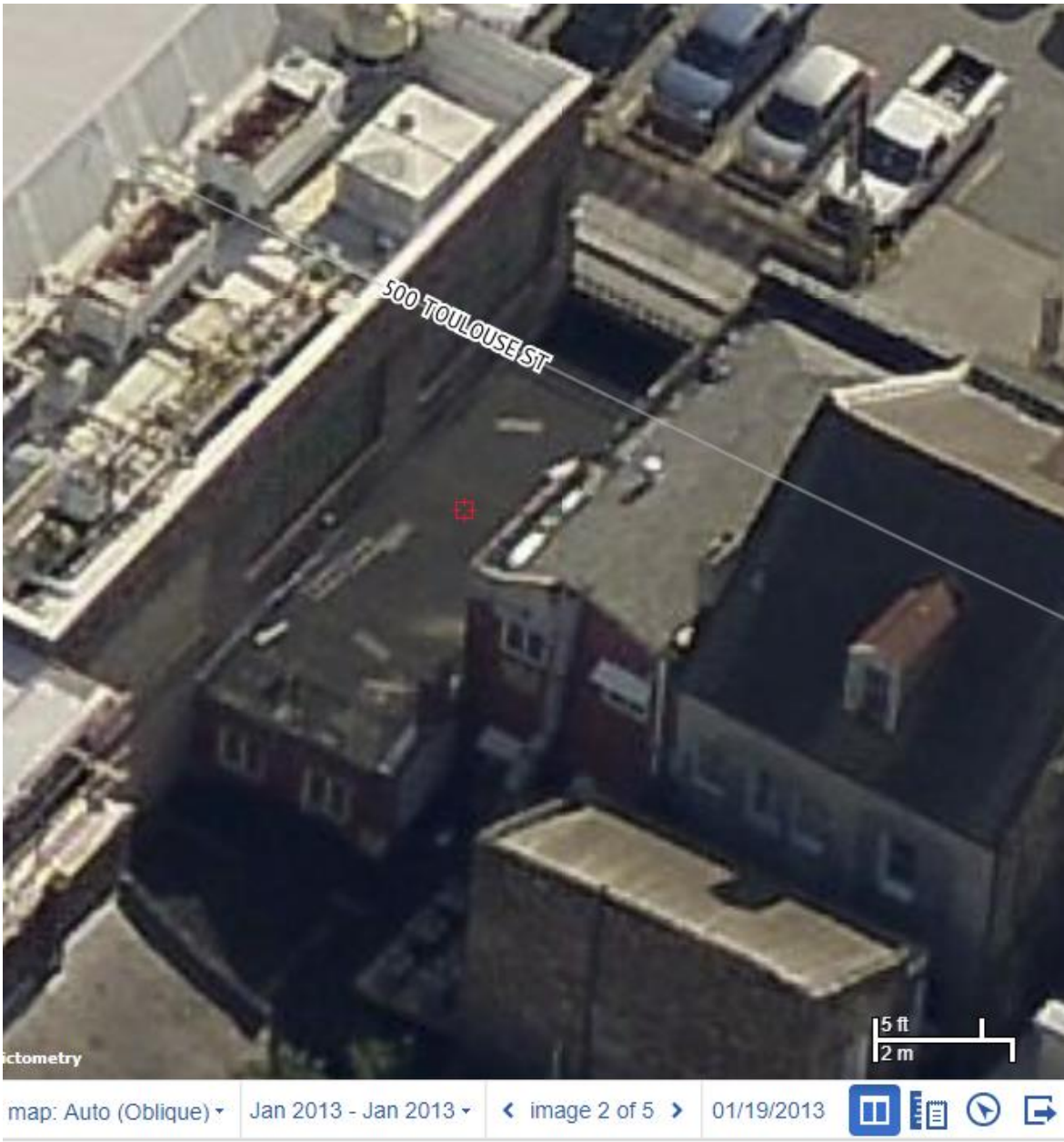


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October 12, 2021





533 Toulouse – 2013 prior to deck installation





533 Toulouse – September 2021

VCC Architectural Committee

October 12, 2021





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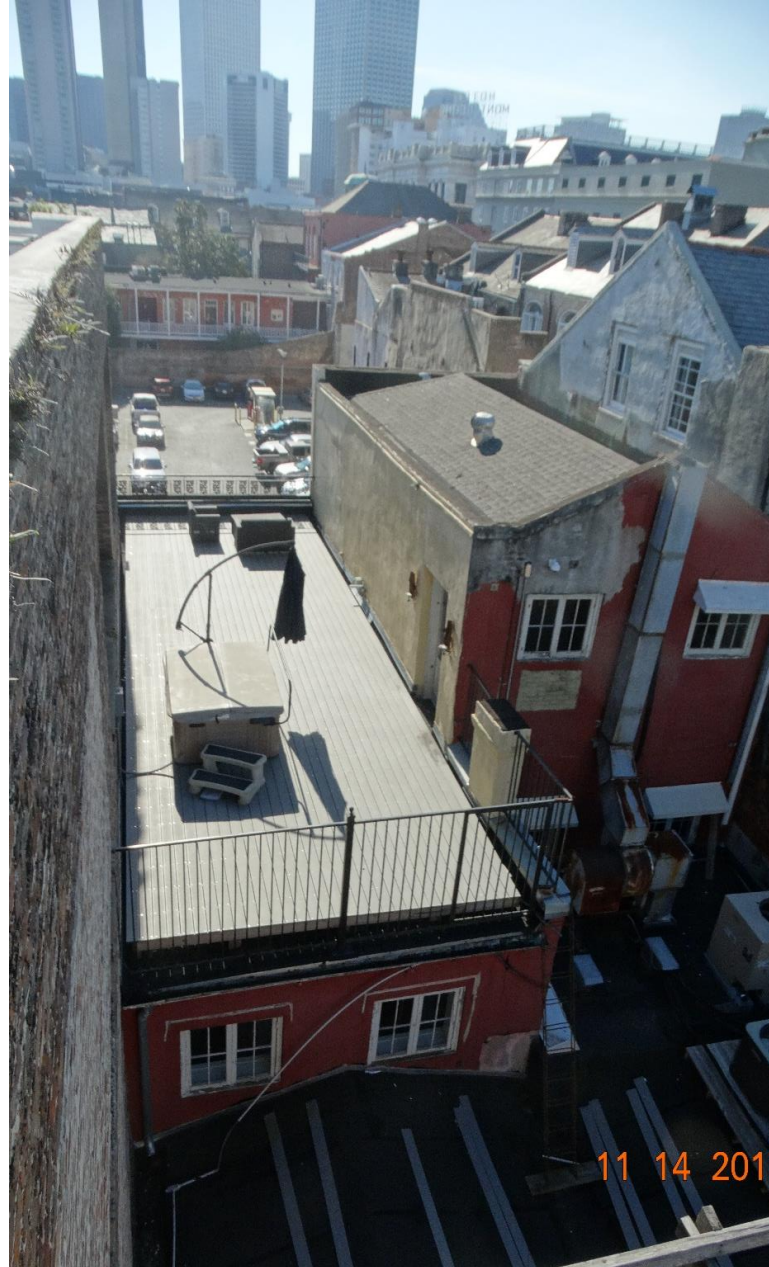


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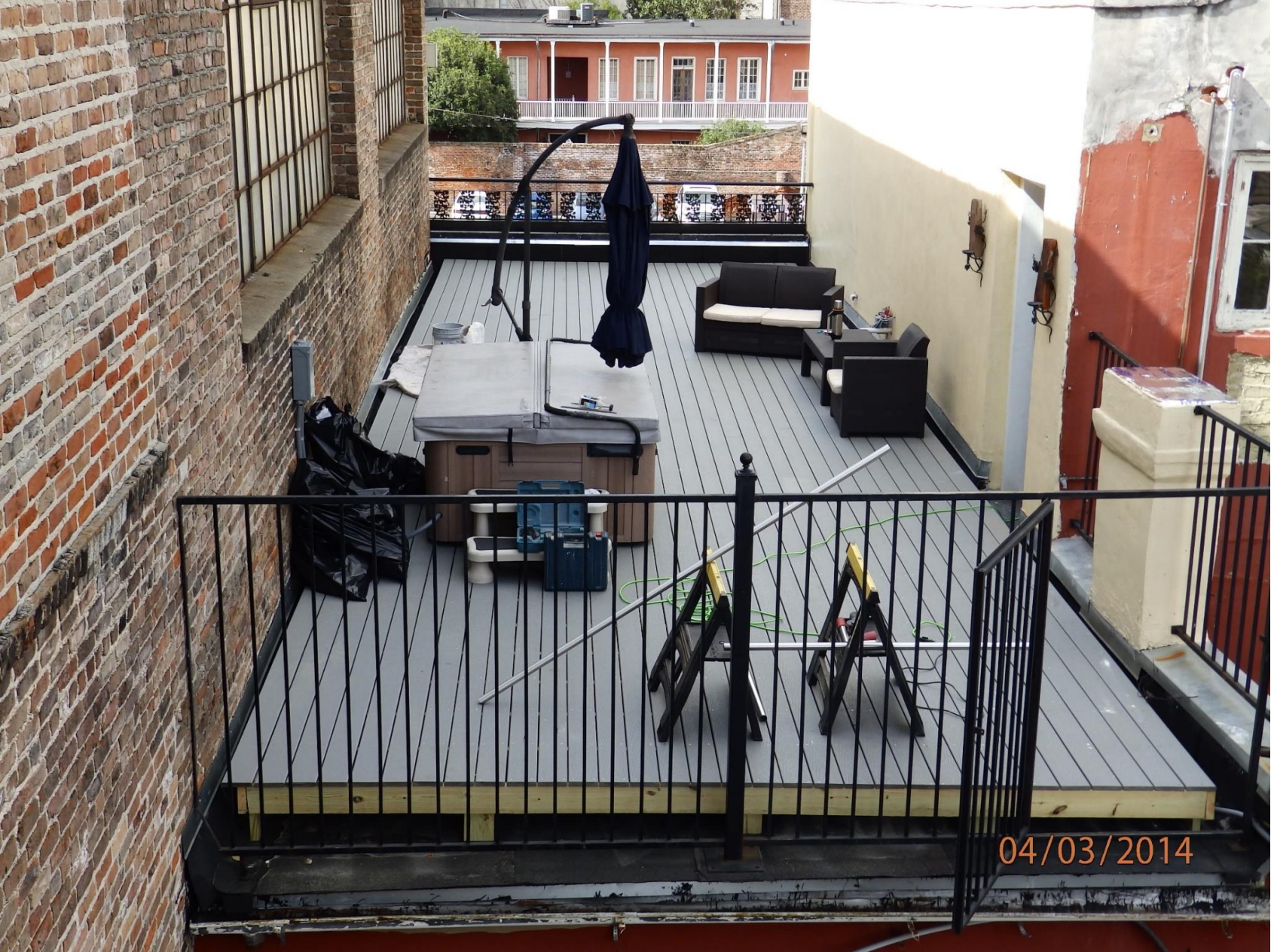


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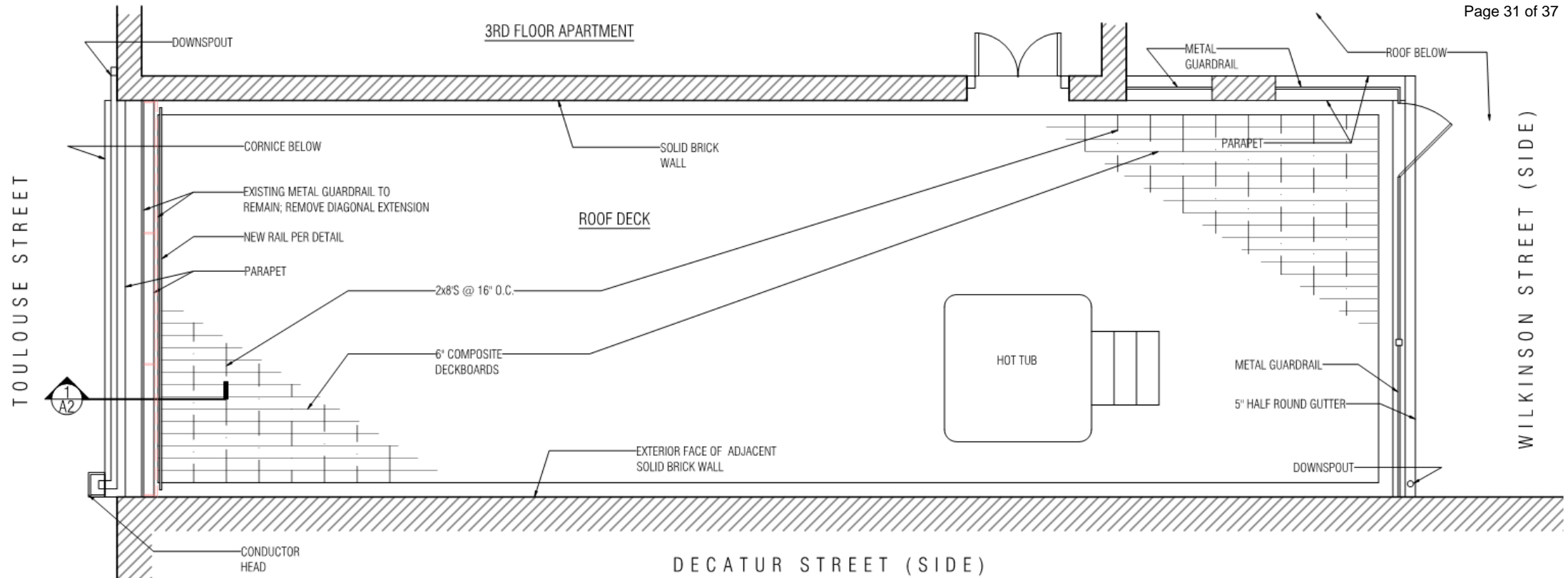


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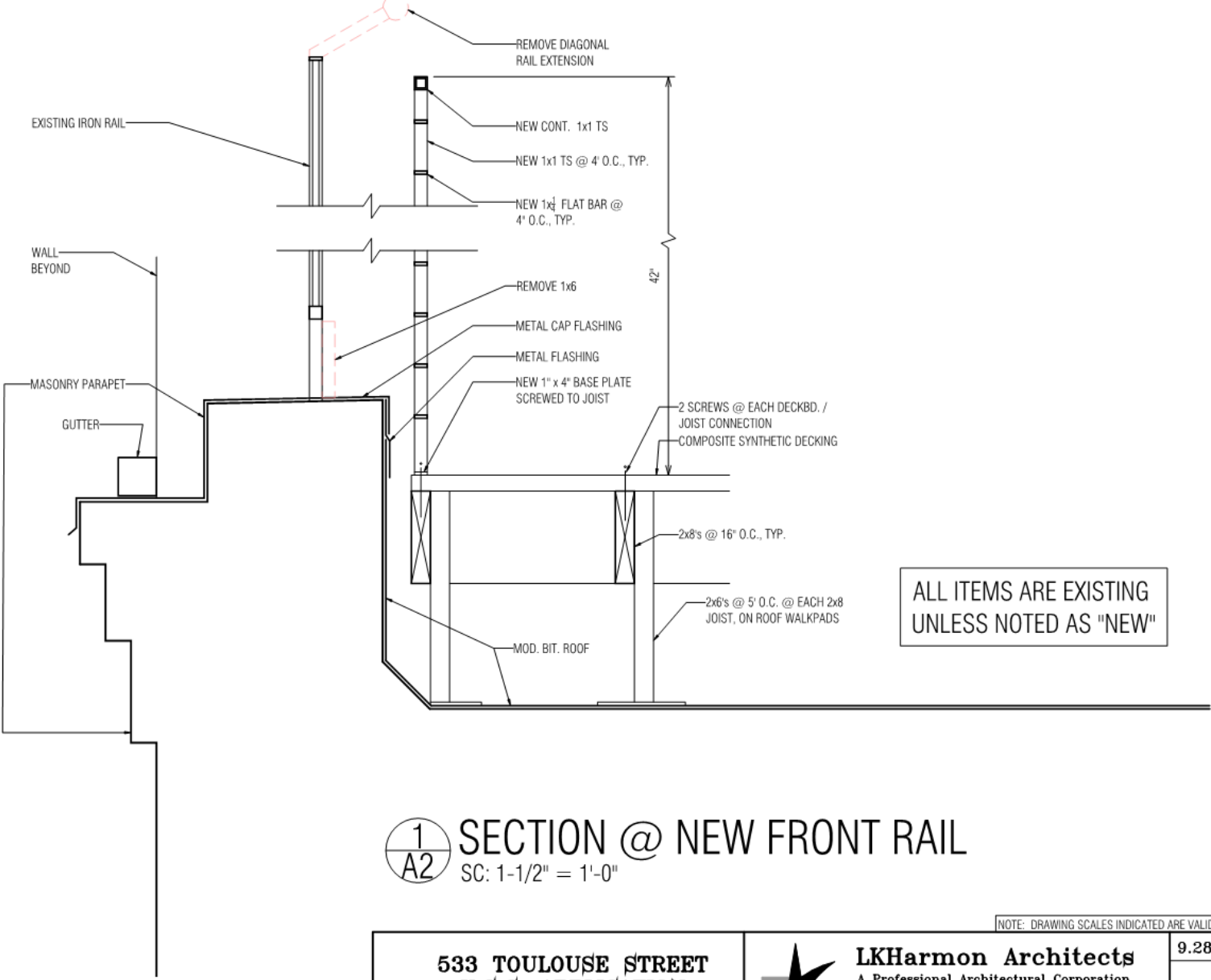
ROOF PLAN
 SC: 1/4" = 1'-0"

ALL ITEMS ARE EXISTING
 UNLESS NOTED AS "NEW"

NOTE: DRAWING SCALES INDICATED ARE VALID ONLY IF PRINTED ON 11"x17" SHEETS

533 TOULOUSE STREET V.C.C. APPLICATION New Orleans, LA 70130	 LKHarmen Architects A Professional Architectural Corporation 6238 Argonne Boulevard New Orleans Louisiana 70124 504.485.5870 harmon@lkharmonarchitects.com	9.28.2021	A1
		LKH#6321	





1 SECTION @ NEW FRONT RAIL
 A2 SC: 1-1/2" = 1'-0"

NOTE: DRAWING SCALES INDICATED ARE VALID ONLY IF PRINTED ON 11"x17" SHEETS

533 TOULOUSE STREET V.C.C. APPLICATION New Orleans, LA 70130	 LKHarmont Architects A Professional Architectural Corporation 6238 Argonne Boulevard New Orleans Louisiana 70124 504.485.5870 harmon@lkharmontarchitects.com	9.28.2021	A2 LKH#6321

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533 Toulouse Roof Deck Research

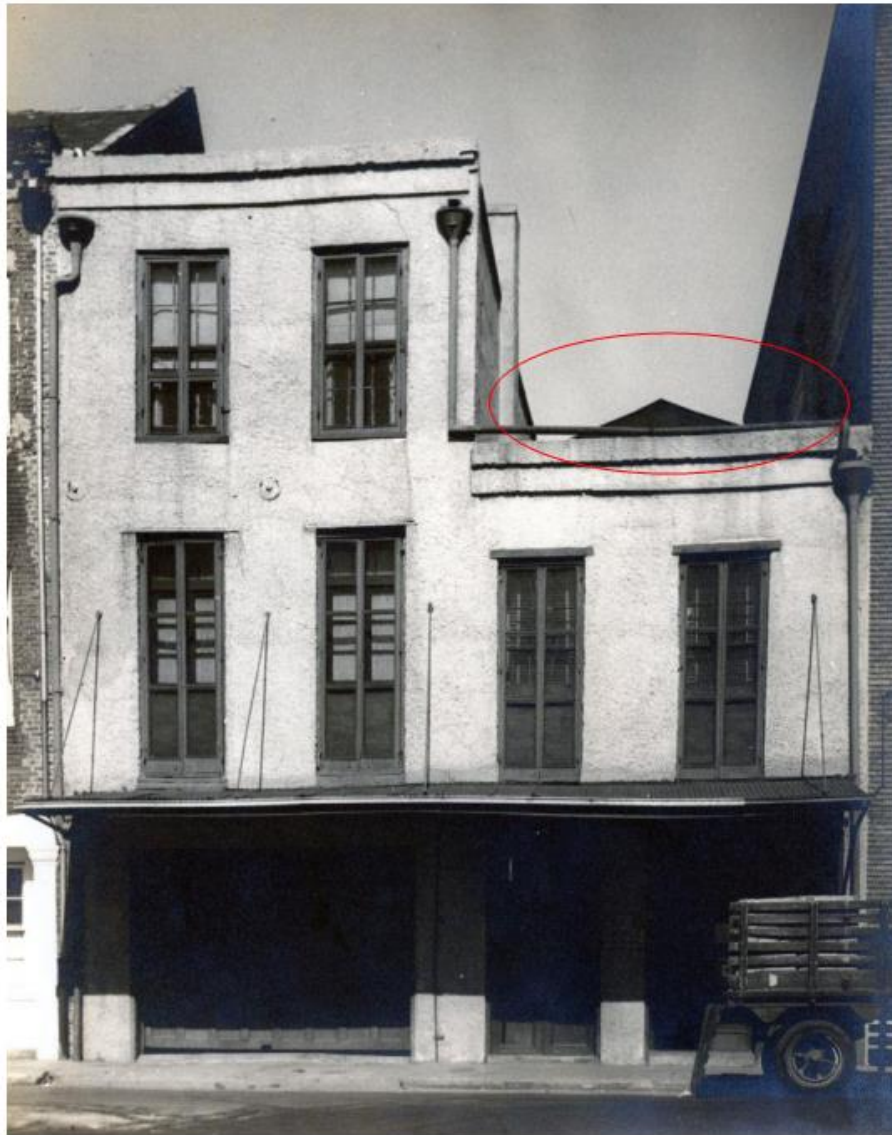
Research has produced compelling evidence that a roof top space was an intentional part of the 1961-63 renovation of 533 Toulouse. James J Plauche Jr (owner of Corinne Dunbar's restaurant on St Charles) owned the building at this time and is responsible for the current exterior, enclosed courtyard, and the flamboyant interior decorating. Photos, maps, and newspaper articles have been found to support the circumstantial physical evidence found on the property that this 2nd floor roof was an intentional occupiable roof top space created when this warehouse structure was significantly altered, and historicized details were added.

A 1943 photo from the Vieux Carre Digital Survey shows a hip roof on the 2-story section clearly visible from the street and is missing in a 1961 photo taken from the same position. This shows the roof was altered at that time and a decorative piece of ironwork was added to the parapet likely to provide the necessary height for a railing, as the type of ironwork present at this location on top of a parapet is certainly not typical within the Vieux Carre and likely would have need a specific purpose to have been approved by the Vieux Carre Commission at the time.

The most compelling detail comes on the 2nd page of a Jan 8, 1967, article in the Times - Picayune "Todays Living" section which mentions a "roof garden". Based on the description of the home's interior and the position of the structures on the parcel there is no other logical place within this property that a roof garden could have been located.

Though the current decking material on the flat roof was not permitted at its installation it has been inspected by a licensed architect and found to be structurally sound, is not impeding the flow of water from the roof and does not prevent inspection of the roof material. Given the Yellow rating of this building with the significant alterations that have been made and the evidence provided it may be reasonable to consider the continued use of this space as a roof top garden despite not meeting all requirement for such a space in the current VCC guidelines.





533 Toulouse

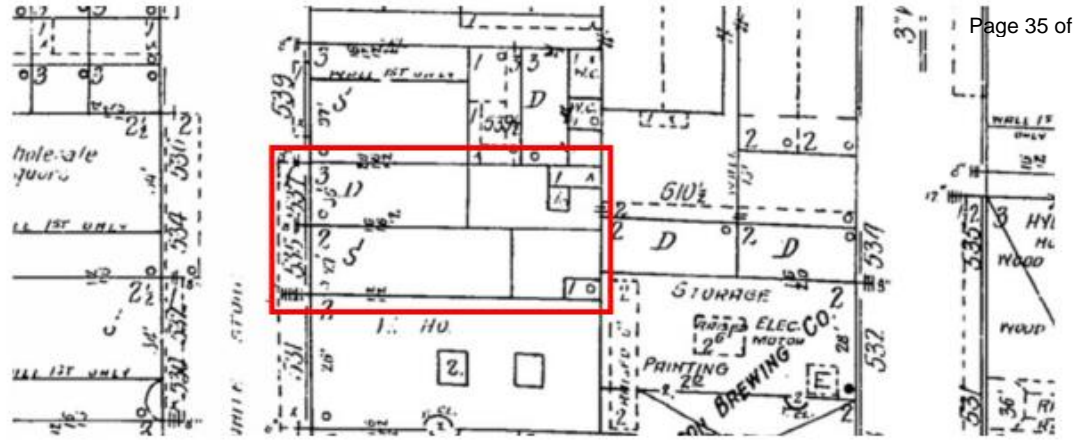
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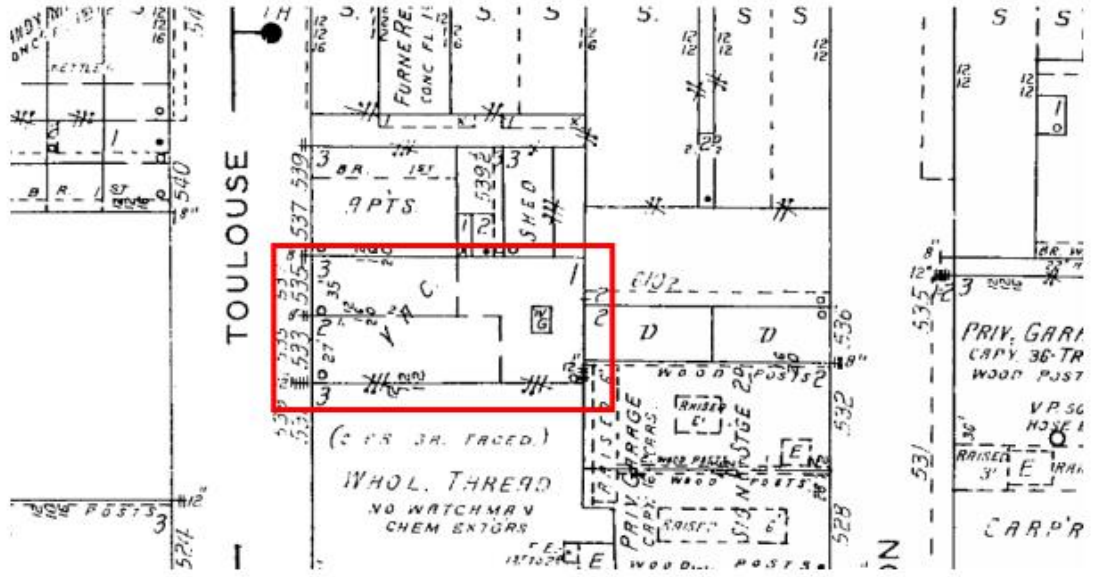




January 18, 2012 – prior to current decking material being installed. The door leading onto the roof is in place.



Sanborn Map -1908 showing a property line division and single-story sheds on rear/side property lines.



Sanborn Map -1940 showing no property line division or free-standing sheds. Courtyard has been enclosed with one-story structure.

533 Toulouse





Vieux Carre Splendor

From fish cannery to a home filled with antiques and art objects is the story of the James J. Plauche Jr. residence, 533 Toulouse.

"It can't be called a restoration nor renovation; it was just two narrow buildings which we joined to make one structure," advises Plauche.

In this year-and-a-half project, he called upon a team of artisans: the Carl Hille family of carpenters, decorator Charles Gray, architect Leon J. Impastato. The result is an impressive home and an ideal setting for Plauche's large collection of bronze statues. In the words of its owner, it's "just a little different from the typical Vieux Carre restoration."

The home, classic in feeling, has many noteworthy architectural features that are functional as well as glamorous. Probably the most outstanding feature is the atrium, a serene area vastly different from the patios one associates with Vieux Carre buildings. It's a glass-

roofed room with colonnaded arches that display pieces from the bronze collection.

Focal point of this area is a heated swimming pool. It's design is borrowed from a pool in Rome. It's equipment is housed in a structure resembling a small Greek temple.

Bronze statues are placed around the atrium in the colonnaded niches. The darkness of the sculpture contrasts sharply with the whiteness of the room. Tropical plants in special boxes add a softening touch of green.

The atrium is climate controlled, cooled as are the other rooms. This eliminates the necessity of doors linking the living room and game room with the atrium.

Throughout the Plauche house, there is impressive blending of beauty and convenience. Flooring is marble, with 12" slabs used in the master bedroom and guest room. Molding in the rooms

and atrium was custom-designed.

Silk damask covers the walls—except in those areas where paneling is used. The living room rug and its companion hall runner were woven in Puerto Rico to suit dimensions and colors of the rooms.

A small study which can serve as a guest room has a well-planned arrangement: false doors in two built-in bookcases fold out into single beds.

The home is furnished in antiques, fine paintings and bronzes. A built-in cabinet in the living room houses stereo and television sets—and holds part of Plauche's extensive collection of bronzes and Venetian glass.

Eighteenth Century French antiques, of the Empire period, enhance the living room. Focal point is a beautiful Empire mantel whose dove-gray color sets the tone for the silk brocade wall covering. This material is used also on a pair of chairs and a small settee. A crystal and bronze-ore clock and its matching

By Pat Phillips

urns sit on the mantel of this room.

A French clock, dated 1774 and signed by Martin Carlin, is one of a pair. Its mate, Plauche explains, is in the Louvre. Two paintings, one a Raphael studio painting, the other a 17th Century work, "Boy With a Violin," give further eclat to the room.

In the game room, paneling and ceiling beams of used cypress create a rustic atmosphere and a pleasing contrast to the formal rooms of the house. The paneling conceals walls of built-in storage space, a small dressing room, a wine cellar and stairs to a second-floor study and roof garden.

Focal point here is a carved walnut Italian mantel. It covers a false fireplace which serves as the return-air duct for the central air-conditioning system.

Flooring in the game room and adjoin-

Continued On Page 26



In hall, looking toward the front door, mirror walls seem to add to width of corridor.



533 Toulouse – September 2021

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