Application Documentation for Certificate of Appropriateness

for

9 Waterhouse Street

Cambridge, MA 02138

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Yanhua Peng 9WReal Estate LLC 50 Mount Vernon Street Cambridge, MA 02140 617-9920067

09/15/2024

Cambridge Historical Commission 831 Massachusetts Ave. 2nd Fl. Cambridge, MA 02139 617-349-4683

Dear Cambridge Historical Commission,

We are writing to request a Certificate of Appropriateness for the property located at 9 Waterhouse Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. The property has been under the ownership of 9W Real Estate LLC since 2020 and remained vacant until early this year, when Mathearth Inc., a company specializing in leak detection technology for municipal water systems, began using it as their research and development facility.

First and foremost, we would like to apologize for not seeking the Commission's approval prior to commencing our landscape project. We now understand that any exterior renovations, including landscaping, require prior consultation and approval from the Cambridge Historical Commission. We regret our oversight and sincerely apologize for this lapse in compliance.

We are proud to have Mathearth Inc. as part of our Cambridge community and are dedicated to enhancing both the aesthetic appeal and historical integrity of the property. To this end, we undertook a landscape renovation project. In November 2023, we engaged Zen Associates to design a garden that complements the historic character of the area. After refining the design, we hired 4Ever Patios & Garden Landscape Company to implement the revised design in June 2024.

The project involved installing a 1 ½-foot tall retaining wall in the front yard, designed to create a comfortable seating area where pedestrians can rest and enjoy the view of Cambridge Common across the street. To enhance safety and visibility, we also

added light fixtures on the pillars at both ends of the retaining wall, which will be particularly useful during the shorter daylight hours of winter. During an interior renovation in April, a broken sewage pipe between the house and the street caused basement flooding, necessitating excavation of parts of the yard. This excavation damaged the adjacent asphalt path, which we subsequently repaired by replacing it with a stone-paved walkway. To further address issues with dampness and weed growth, we added gravel to a stepping-stone paver walkway, improving drainage and reducing mosquito breeding around the property.

These updates, along with the addition of beautiful plants, have significantly improved the property's visual appeal and functionality. We have received positive feedback from the community, including residents enjoying the new seating area in a beautiful sunny day, children waiting comfortably while their parents unload strollers, and wildlife such as turkeys sauntering and finding respite in the gravel areas of the garden. We are pleased that these improvements have benefited both the community and the local wildlife.

We believe these updates honor the neighborhood's historical context and enhance its character. The improvements feature durable, timeless materials—such as granite, boulders, gravel, and brick—that align with those used in other historic buildings in the area. We are committed to ensuring that these additions integrate seamlessly into this academically prestigious community.

We respectfully request the Commission's approval for this Certificate of Appropriateness. Should you have any additional suggestions, we would be more than happy to accommodate them to preserve the spirit and aesthetic of Cambridge.

Thank you for considering our application. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Yanhua Peng

Co-owner

9W Real Estate LLC

Yanhua Peng

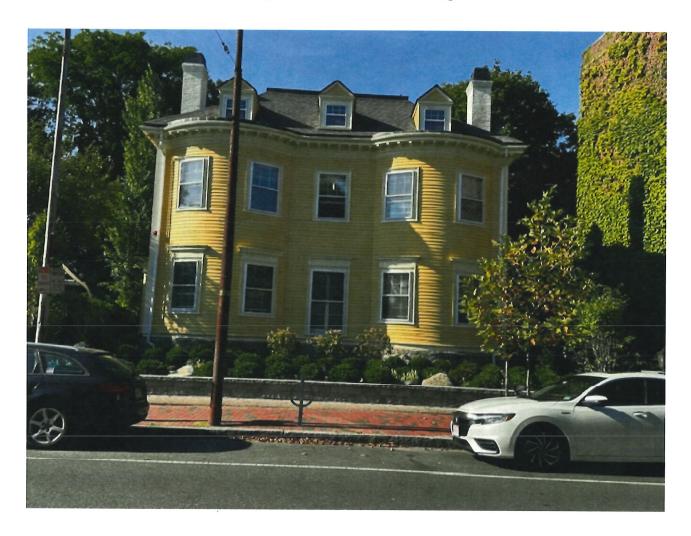


CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
831 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Fl., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Telephone: 617 349 4683 TTY: 617 349 6112
E-mail: histcomm@cambridgema.gov URL: www.cambridgema.gov/Historic

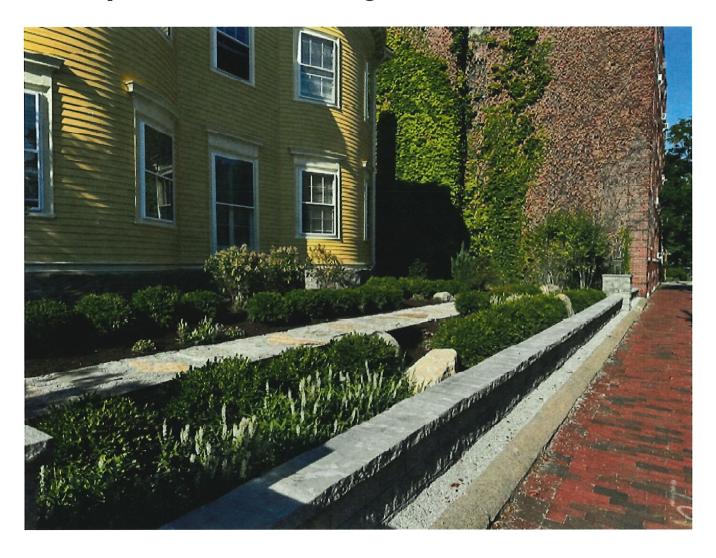
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

1. The undersigned hereby applies to the Cambridge Historical Commission for a Certificate of
(check one box): ☑ Appropriateness, ☐ Nonapplicability, or ☐ Hardship, in accordance with Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws and/or Chapter 2.78 of the Municipal Code.
2. Address of property: 9 Waterhouse Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts
3. Describe the proposed alteration(s), construction or demolition in the space provided below: (An additional page can be attached, if necessary).
 Clear Debris: Remove dead bushes, weeds, and any other debris. Plant new trees, shrubs, and perennials in the front yard.
Construct Retaining Wall: Build an 18-inch-tall stone retaining wall to create a sitting area. Install Landscape lights underneath the retaining wall to illuminate the area for pedestrians at night.
3. Install Pillars: Erect two pillars with LED light fixtures at either end of the retaining wall to enhance visibility.
4. Place Boulders: Arrange boulders behind the retaining wall for decorative purposes.
5. Create Pathway: Build a gravel and stepping stone paver walkway in the front yard.
Renew Walkway: Demolish the existing asphalt and concrete walkway and construct a new paved path leading to the side door of the building.
 Reference Materias: For additional details, please refer to the schematic design from Zen Associates and the execution proposal from 4Ever Patios & Garden.
I certify that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The undersigned also attests that he/she has read the statements printed on the reverse.
Name of Property Owner of Record: 9W Real Estate LLC
Mailing Address: 50 Mount Vernon Street Cambridge, MA 02140
Telephone/Fax: 617-9920067E-mail: _penny15job@gmail.com
(Required field; the application will not be considered complete without the property owner's signature)
Name of proponent, if not record owner: Jianna Eagar Mailing
Address: 9 Waterhouse Street Cambridge, MA 02138
Telephone/Fax: 617-9557477 E-mail: jianna.eagar@mathearth.com
(for office use only):
Date Application Received: Case Number: Hearing Date:
Type of Certificate Issued: Date Issued:

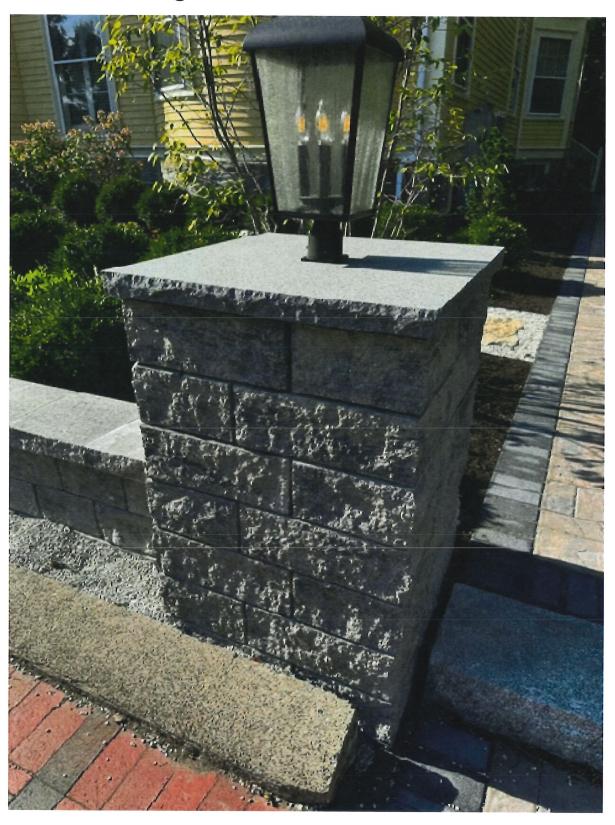
Front of the building and the sitting wall



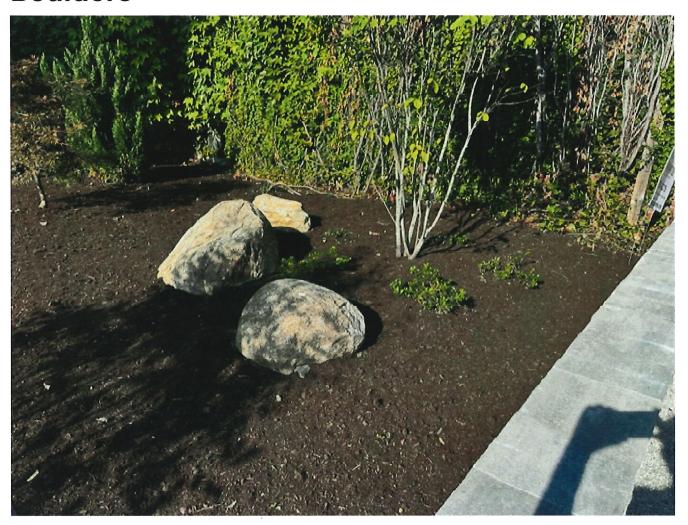
Front yard with the sitting wall



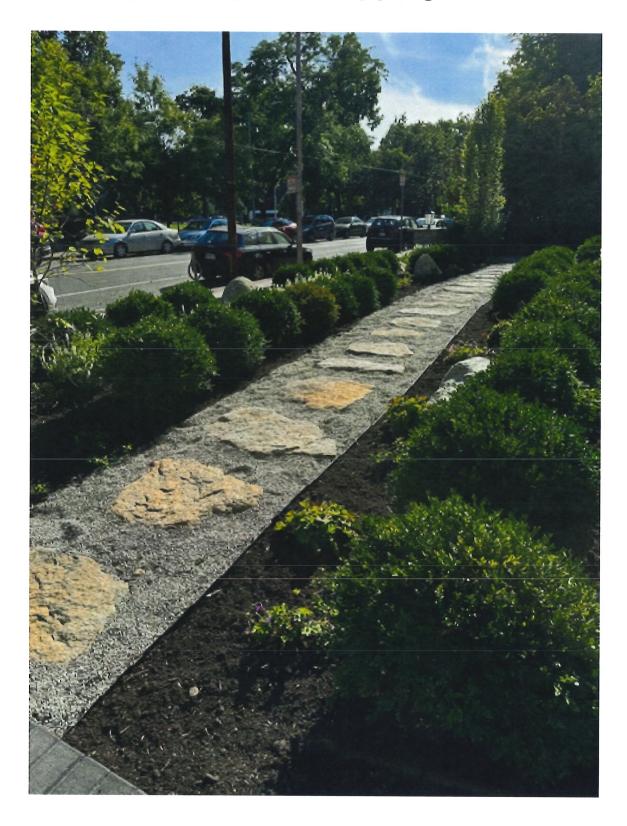
Pillar with light fixture



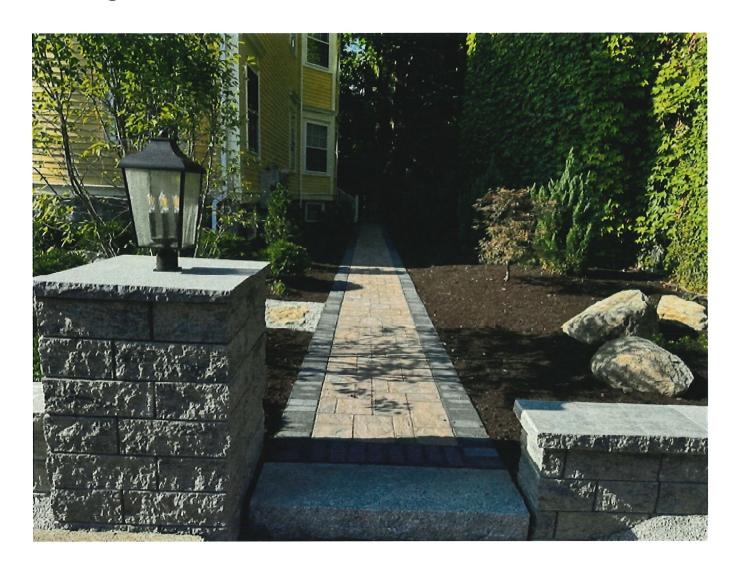
Boulders



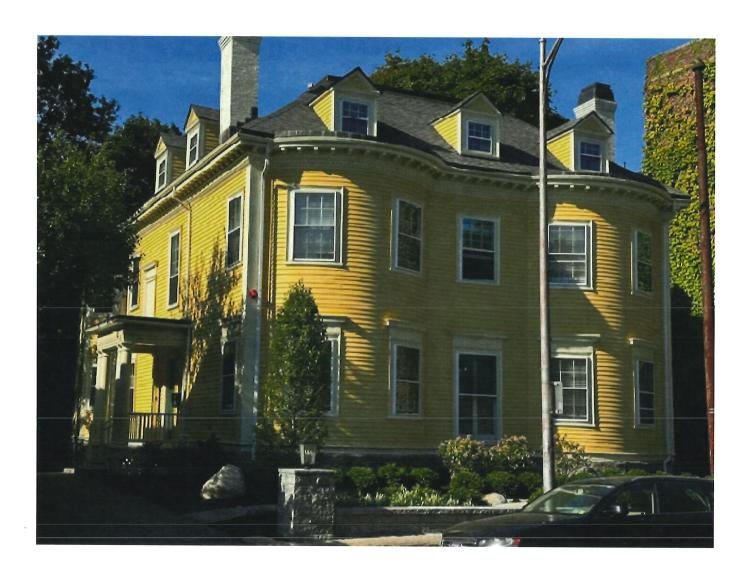
Gravel pathway with stepping stones



Paved walkway, pillar with light fixture and sitting wall



Building facade close to the driveway



Building facade close to the apartment complex



ESTIMATE



Prepared For

MathEarth Inc. 9 Waterhouse St., Cambridge, MA 12138 (617) 955-7477

4 Ever Patios & Garden Corp.

Estimate #

480

Marlborough, Ma 01752

Date

03/18/2024

Phone: (508) 733-0275

Email: foreverpatiosgarden@yahoo.com Web: www.4everpatiosgarden.com

Description

Total

\$145,380.00

PATIO \$10,400.00

Install CAMBRIDGE With ARMORTEC SHERWOOD 3-PC DESIGN KIT pavers built on a 6" bed of compacted 3/4 crash stone and 1" of Chip stone, Geotextile Stavilization/Separation soil fabric will be installed. Polymatic stone dust swept into the joints. Dimensions 20' x 20'.









WALKWAY \$8,320.00

Install CAMBRIDGE With ARMORTEC SHERWOOD 3-PC DESIGN KIT pavers built on a 6" bed of compacted 3/4 crash stone and 1" of Chip stone, Geotextile Stavilization/Separation soil fabric will be installed. Polymatic stone dust swept into the joints. Dimensions 4' wide and 80' long.

PLANTING \$62,475.00

Prepping and install Trees, Shrubs and Perennials/Ground-cover as described in the plans, spray new soil and Fertilizer Healthy Start on each plants and trees, prepping beds for Ground-cover. Mulching areas as needed.

\$11,575.00 **BOULDERS** Install 17 boulders as the plans about 1-2 tons each boulder **GRAVEL BED** \$5,200.00 Prepping and install gravel bed with compacted Crashrun and 1/8" of Pea-stone, Landscape fabric will be install to keep weeds away from the bed \$5,400.00 STEP STONE PATH Install stepping stone at the front of the property with natural stone Steps. **DEMOLITION** \$1,200.00 Demo existing concrete walkway \$3,200.00 METAL ENDING Install metal ending in front step stone path, with crash run and pea-stone **IRRIGATION** \$4,975.00 -Installed 6 drip zones to irrigate all plants. -install a wireless Rain sensor. -install 6 PGV valves with pressure reducer to feed drip lines. -install drip lines with check valve .06gPmat 12" spacing emitters. -install 6 flush valves 1 for each drip valve. IRRIGATION BACKFLOW PREVENTER METER. \$2,595.00 -Provide and install a vacuum breaker preventer for new irrigation system. -provide and install a 2nd. Meter for irrigation system. *this includes all permits required.* WALL \$10,220.00 Prepping and install retaining wall with TECHO BLOCK SEMMA double sided, 6" of 3/4 Crash stone as base, GeoTextile Stabilization/Separation soil will be installed. Wall will be between 18" to 22" HIGH. **CAPS** \$2,520.00 Install retaining wall caps with cement glue. **PILLARS** \$7,200.00 Prepping and install 2 sets of Pillars with Semma Blocks, one pillar of each sides of the wall

LANDSCAPE LIGHTS	\$3,625.00
Install 12 Under cap Lights, Pro-Trade LL2 5.7 in. Ledge light bronze finish w/Removable LED Module 0.8W 2700K and one Pro-Trade TR1 transformer 150W Stainless Steel .	
LANDSCAPE PILLARS LAMP LIGHT Install 2 pillars Lamps Forstadele light Outdoor Post mount OZ	\$1,400.00
FENCE Install vinyl private fence 7 panels with concrete into the post corners	\$5,075.00

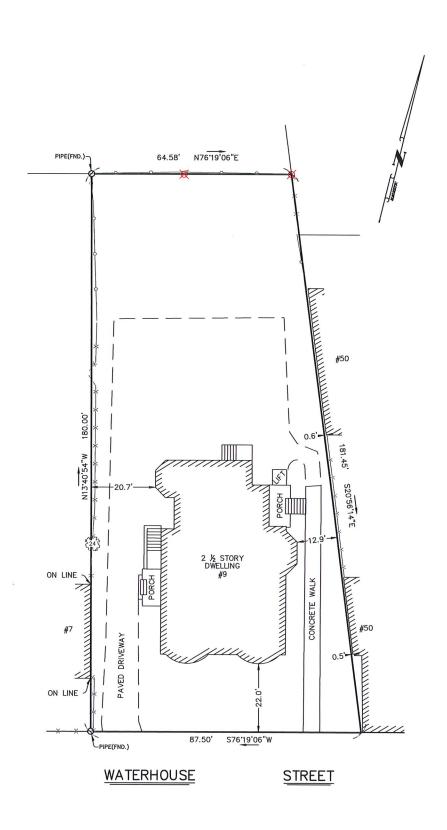
Total	\$145,380.00
Subtotal	\$145,380.00

	Jianna Eggar
Ever Reyes	Signed on: 04/09/2024

MathEarth Inc.

By signing this document, the customer agrees to the services and conditions outlined in this

document.



X:\24\24-02 WATERHOUSE\DWG\24-02 WATERHOUSE.DWG

PLOT PLAN #9 WATERHOUSE STREET CAMBRIDGE, MASS.





MathEarth Inc.

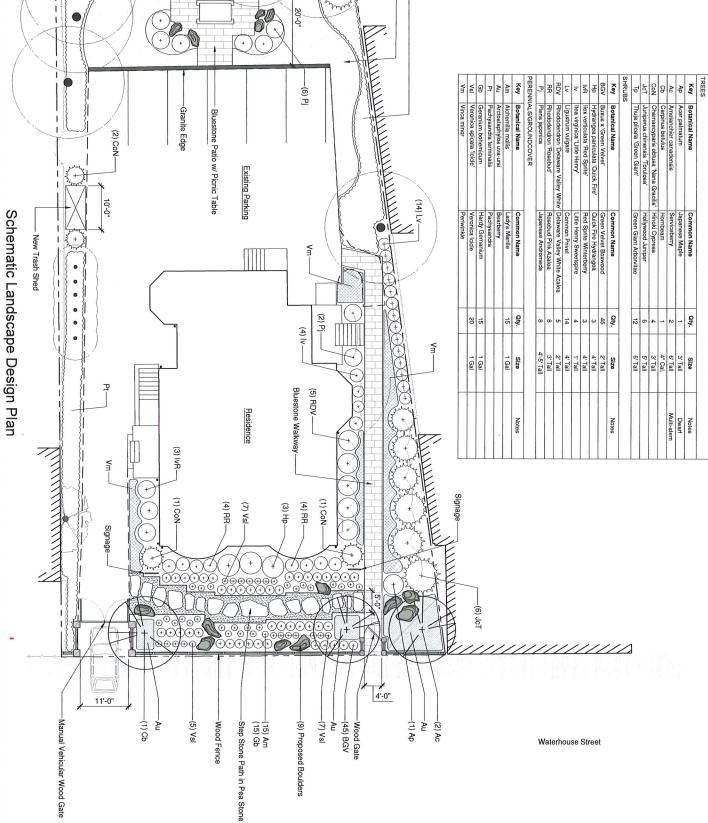
9 Waterhouse St, Cambridge, MA, 12138 Date: March 08, 2024

Existing Conditions

Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

ZEN Associates, Inc. the balance of art, science, and nature

- 1	Botanical Name	Common Name	Qty.	Size	Notes
	Acer palmatum	Japanese Maple	_	3' Tall	Dwarf
	Amelanchier canadensis	Serviceberry	2	6' Tall	Multi-stem
	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	_	4" Cal.	
	Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Nana Gracilis'	Hinoki Cypress	4	3' Tall	
	Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'	Hollywood Juniper	6	5' Tall	
	Thuja plicata 'Green Giant'	Green Giant Arborvitae	12	6' Tall	
S					
	Botanical Name	Common Name	Qty.	Size	Notes
	Buxus x 'Green Velvet'	Green Velvet Boxwood	45	2' Tall	
	Hydrangea paniculata 'Quick Fire'	Quick Fire Hydrangea	3	4' Tall	
	llex verticulata 'Red Sprite'	Red Sprite Winterberry	3	4' Tall	
	Itea virginica 'Little Henry'	Little Henry Sweetspire	4	1' Tall	
	Ligustrum vulgare	Common Privet	14	4' Tall	
	Rhododendron 'Delaware Valley White' Delaware Valley White Azalea	Delaware Valley White Azalea	5	2' Tall	
	Rhododendron 'Rosebud'	Rosebud Pink Azalea	8	3' Tall	
	Pieris japonica	Japanese Andromeda	88	4'-5' Tall	
z	NIALS/GROUNDCOVER				
	Botanical Name	Common Name	Qty.	Size	Notes
	Alchemilla mollis	Lady's Mantle	15	1 Gal	
	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Bearberry			
	Pachysandra terminalis	Pachysandra			
	Geranium bohemicum	Hardy Gemanium	15	1 Gal	
	Veronica spicata 'Icicle'	Veronica Icicle	20	1 Gal	
	Vinca minor	Periwinkle			



Gravel Bed-(12) Tp-

20'-0"

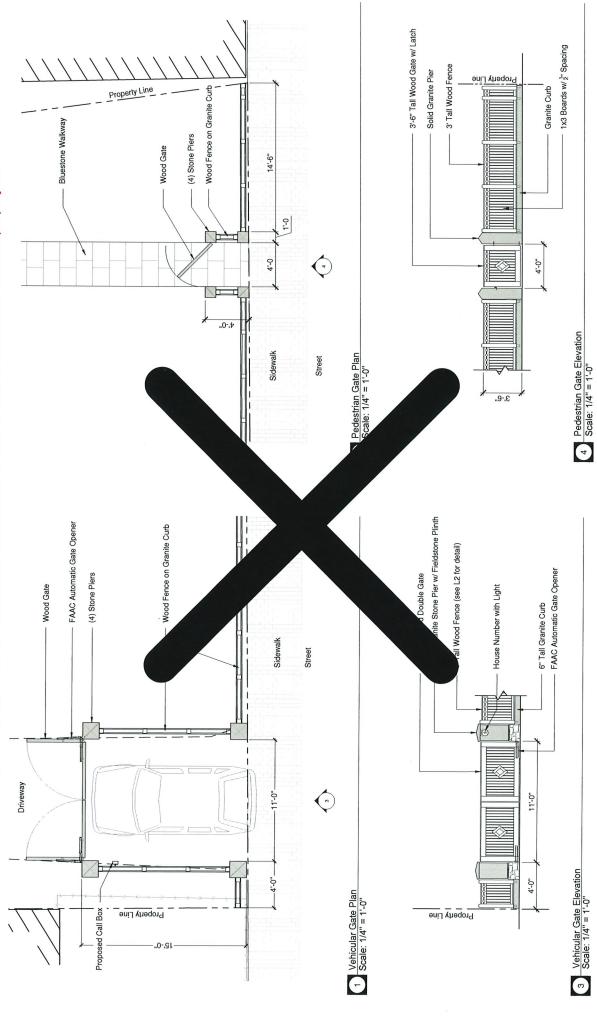
9 Waterhouse St, Cambridge, MA, 12138 Date: March 08, 2024

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Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

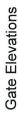
Automatic Gate Option

The design on this slide, including vehicular gate, pedestrian gate, vehicular gate elevation, and pedestrain gate elevation, was not materialized in the execution of the final landscape project.



MathEarth Inc.

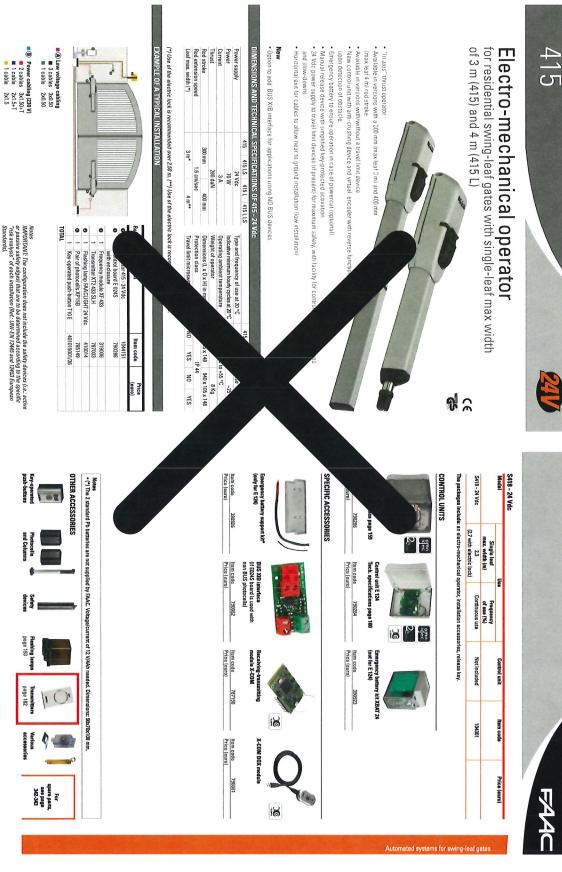
9 Waterhouse St, Cambridge, MA, 12138 Date: March 08, 2024



Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

ZEN Associates, Inc. the balance of art, science, and nature





MathEarth Inc.

Automatic Gate Operator



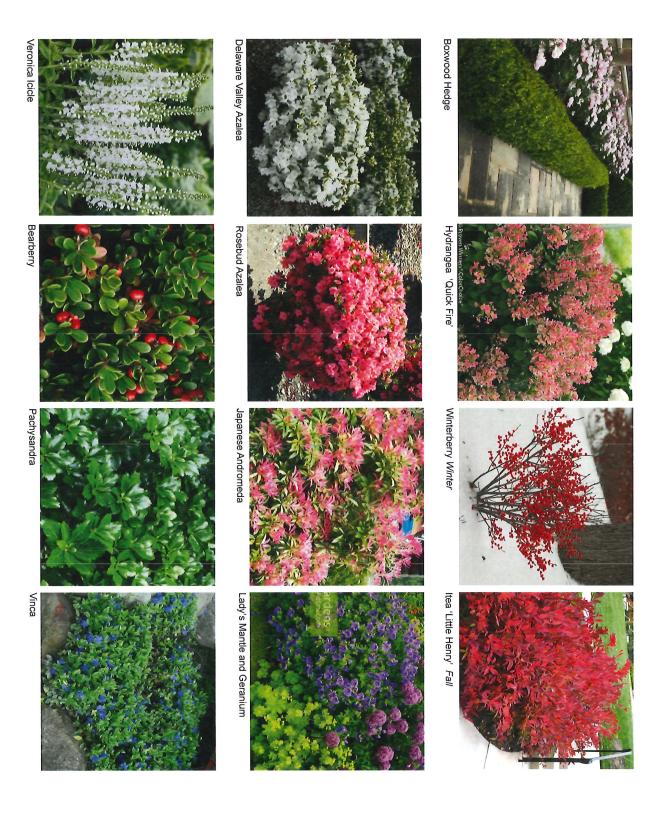
Green Giant Arborvitae for Screening

Plant Palette - Trees

Hollywood Juniper

MathEarth Inc. 9 Waterhouse St. Cambridge, MA, 12138 Date: March 08, 2024

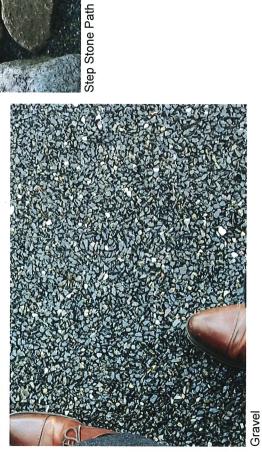
Hinoki Cypress

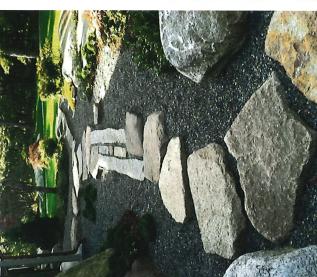


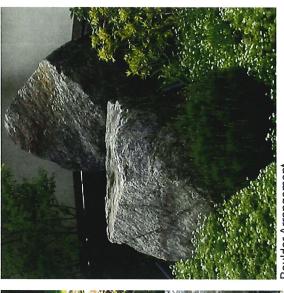
MathEarth Inc.

Plant Palette - Shrubs, Perennials, Groundcover









Boulder Arrangement



Boulders in Plant Bed

MathEarth Inc. 9 Waterhouse St, Cambridge, MA, 12138 Date: March 08, 2024