

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Andrea Chelemengos](#); [Sean Gallegos](#); [Jon Biggs](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Windmill at LAHM  
**Date:** Friday, June 5, 2020 11:34:18 AM  
**Attachments:** [Proposed LAHM Windmill Project Overview.pdf](#)

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**From:** Elisabeth Ward <[eward@losaltoshistory.org](mailto:eward@losaltoshistory.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 5, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** City Council <[council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Windmill at LAHM

Dear Members of the City Council, Madame Mayor and Vice Mayor,

The Los Altos History Museum is grateful that an agenda item regarding the museum grounds is on the consent calendar for the June 9th meeting. We appreciate that you have many other serious issues to contend with right now. I am writing to provide some additional details and invite any Council members to send me questions if they have any.

The attached document illustrates where we would like to install the replica historic windmill near the Tank House in the Agricultural Exhibition area. Your permission next Tuesday would allow for this to be formally reviewed by City staff for permitting.

I have discussed this project and sent information about it to the neighboring groups in the Civic Center. Chief Galea with the Police Department sees no issue with the windmill installation. The Friends of the Library discussed it at their May Board meeting and thought it would be a nice addition and asked to be kept informed of the installation schedule. The Los Altos Garden Club is looking forward to celebrating its installation with the community. The Historical Commission also received a briefing about it.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you so much,

Elisabeth



Dr. Elisabeth I. Ward, Executive Director  
| 51 S. San Antonio Road | Los Altos, CA

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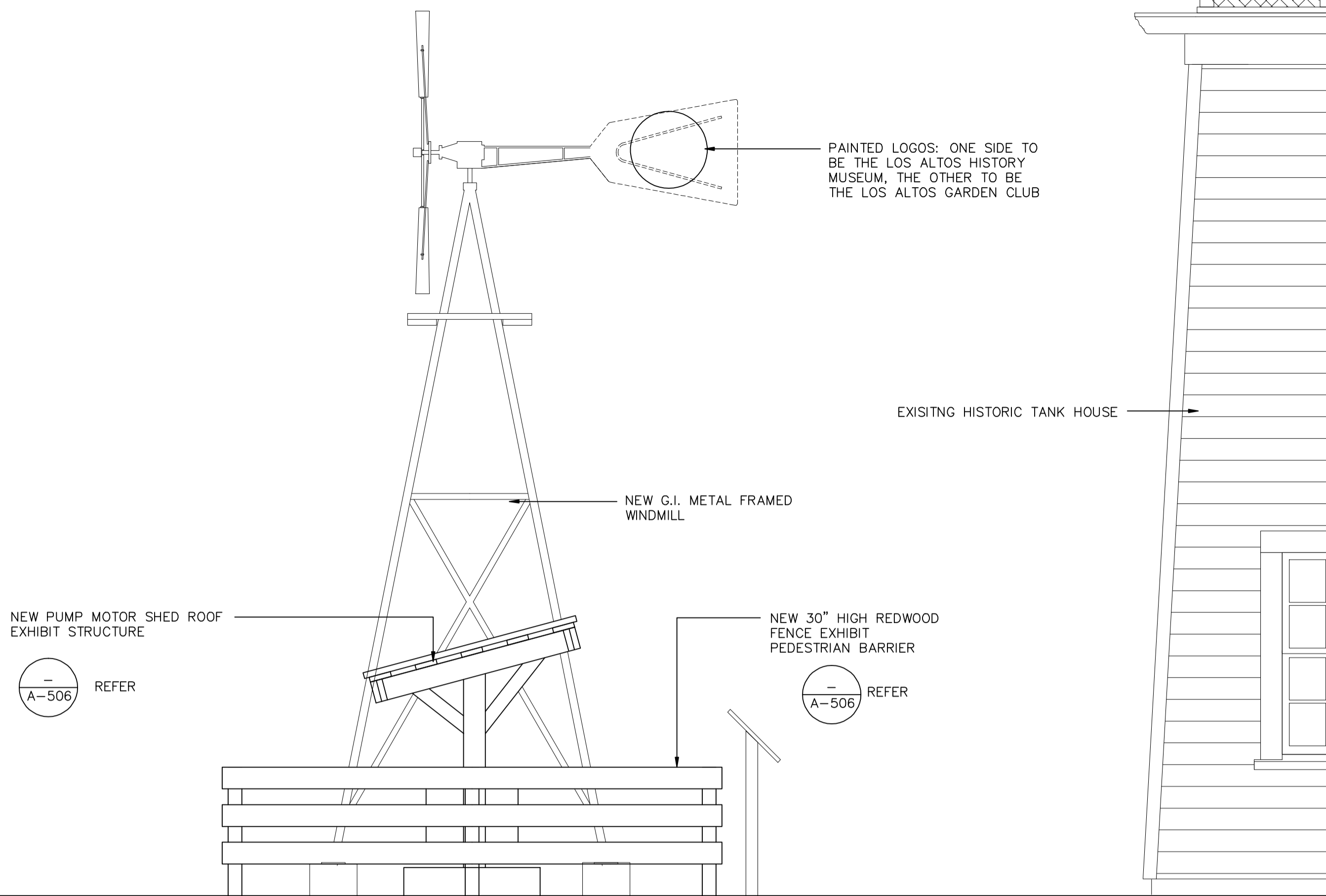
PROJECT:

Reconstruction and  
Exterior Repairs to the

## HISTORIC SPAGNOLI TANK HOUSE

51 South San Antonio  
Road  
Los Altos, California

New Windmill and Pump  
Motor Outdoor Exhibit



NEW WINDMILL SITE ELEVATION - LOOKING TOWARDS THE NORTH

1/2" SCALE

2  
A-203



REVISIONS:

1	REVISED 9/9/19 PER MUSEUM
2	REVISED 11/27/19 PER MUSEUM
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

PRELIMINARY  
CLIENT REVIEW ONLY

SHEET DESCRIPTION:

### WINDMILL & PUMP SHED EXHIBIT PARTIAL SITE PLAN, ELEVATIONS

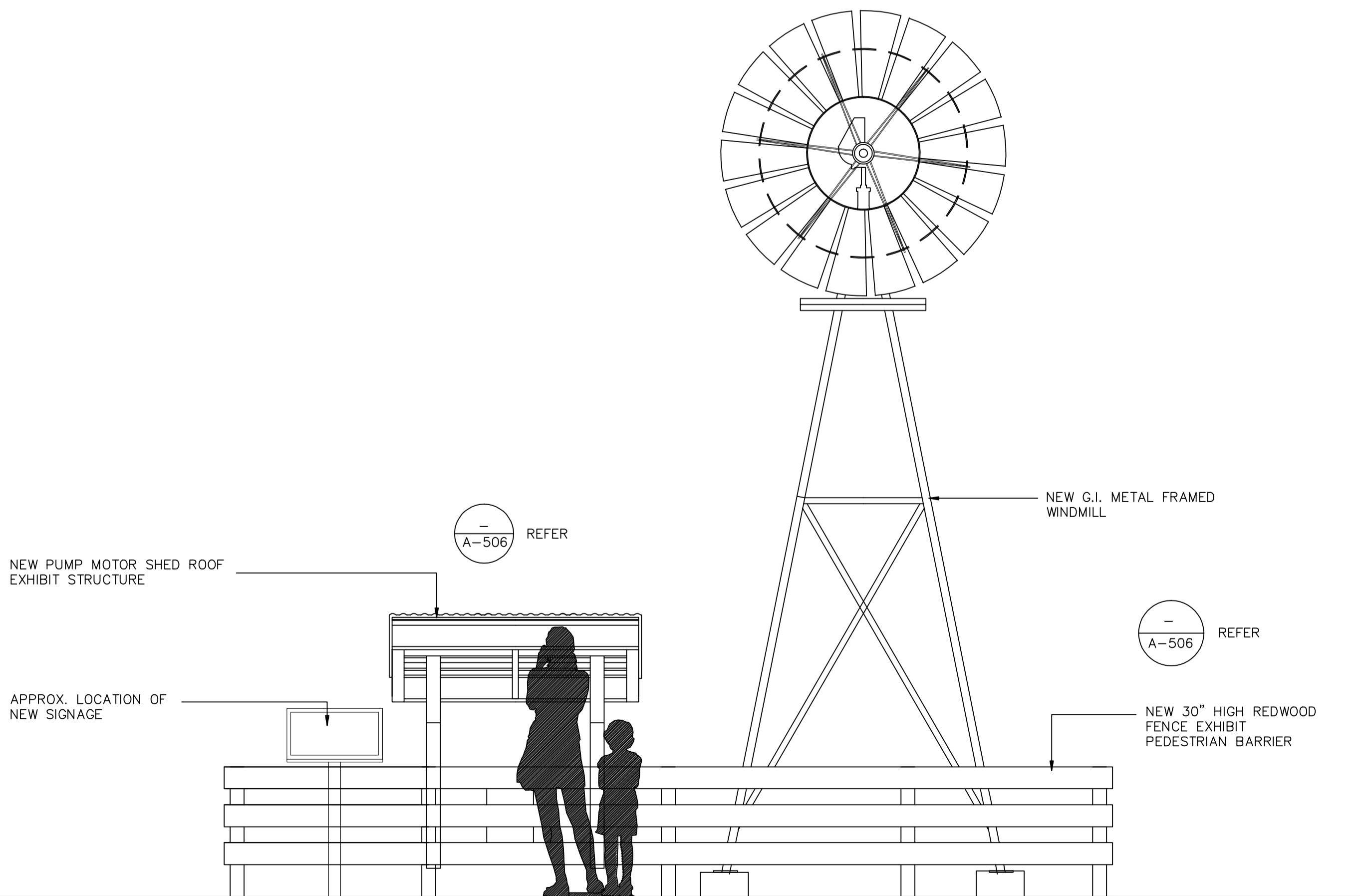
NO. 1711-01

12/19/19 AS NOTED  
DATE: SCALE:

DRAWN BY: CHECK BY:

SHEET NUMBER:

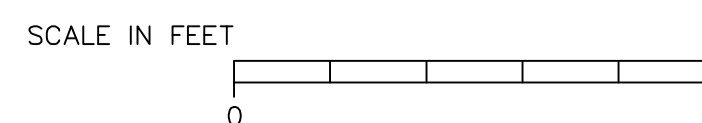
# A-203

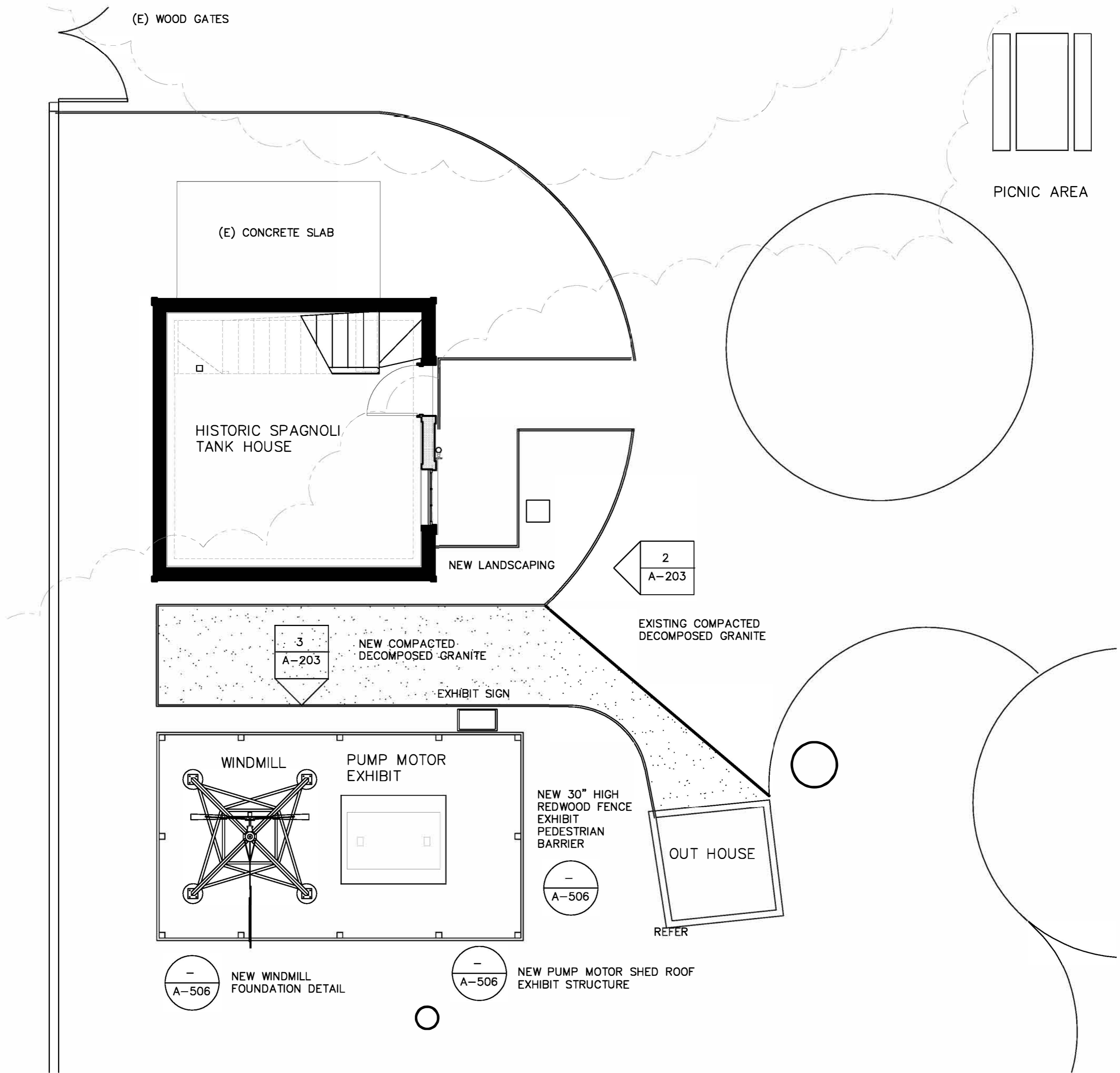


NEW WINDMILL SITE ELEVATION - LOOKING TOWARDS THE WEST

1/2" SCALE

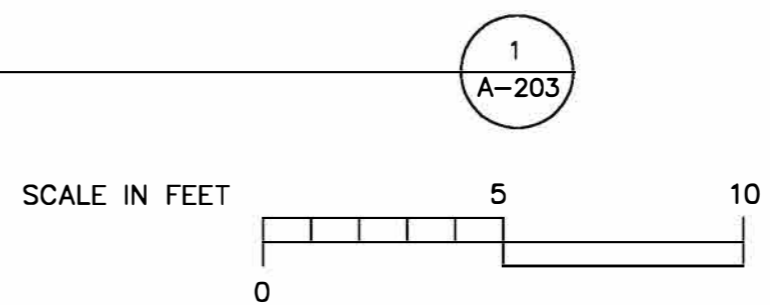
3  
A-203





**NEW WINDMILL AND PUMP MOTOR SHED EXHIBIT - SITE PLAN**

1/4" SCALE



1  
A-203

-  
A-506  
NEW WINDMILL  
FOUNDATION DETAIL

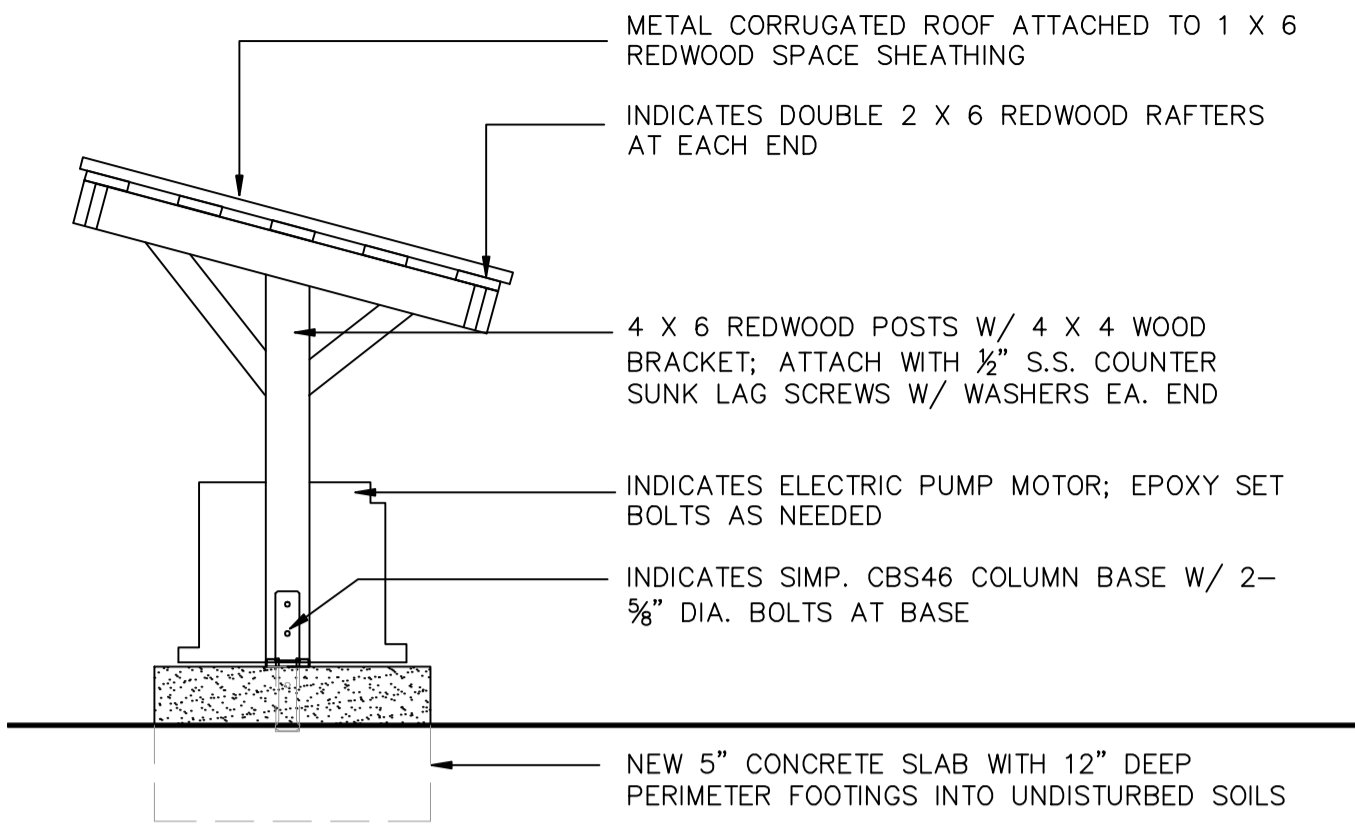
-  
A-506  
NEW PUMP MOTOR SHED ROOF  
EXHIBIT STRUCTURE

NEW 30" HIGH  
REDWOOD FENCE  
EXHIBIT  
PEDESTRIAN  
BARRIER  
-  
A-506

OUT HOUSE  
REFER

3  
A-203

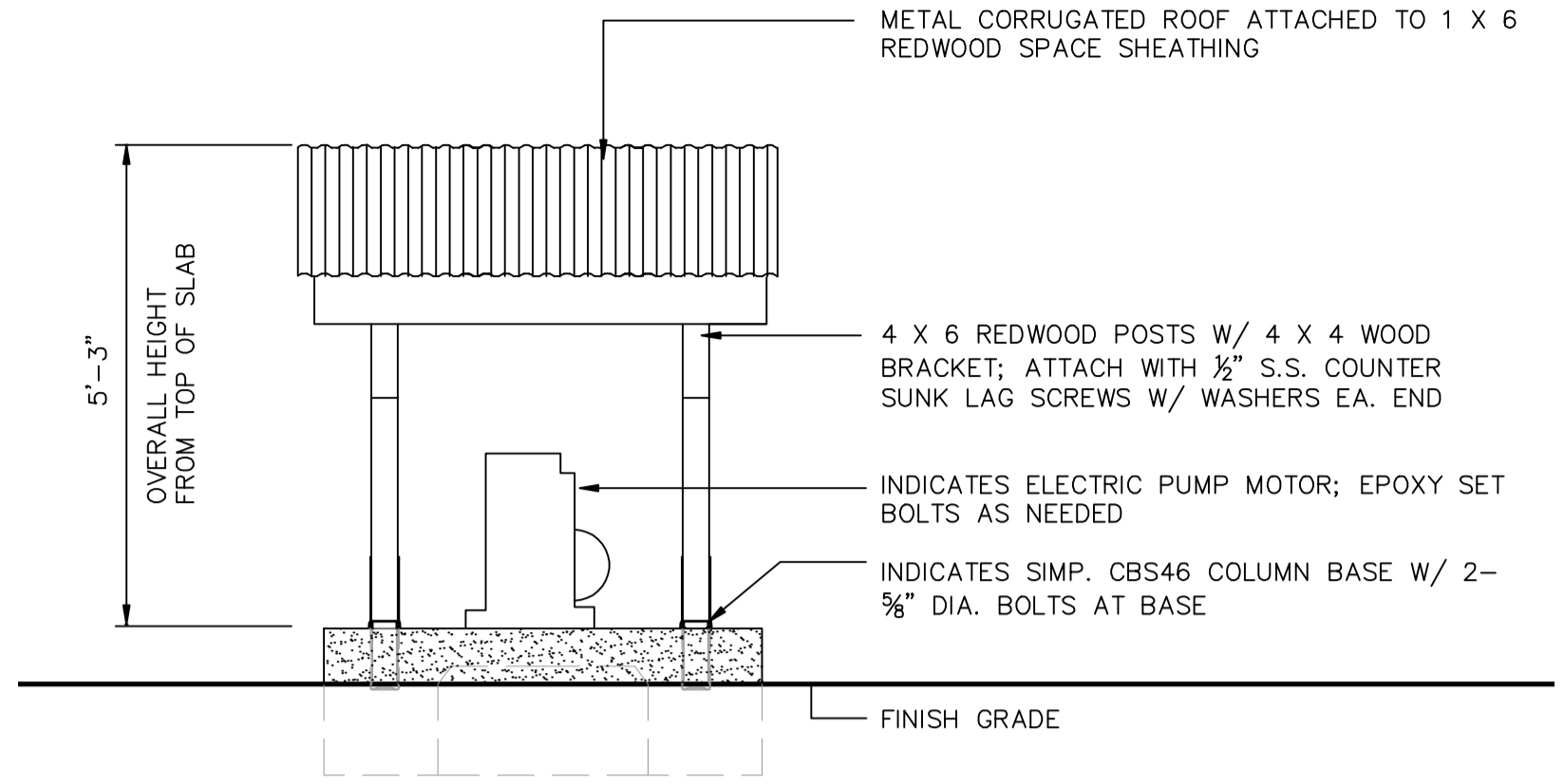
2  
A-203



**NEW PUMP MOTOR SHED EXHIBIT - RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION**

1/2" SCALE

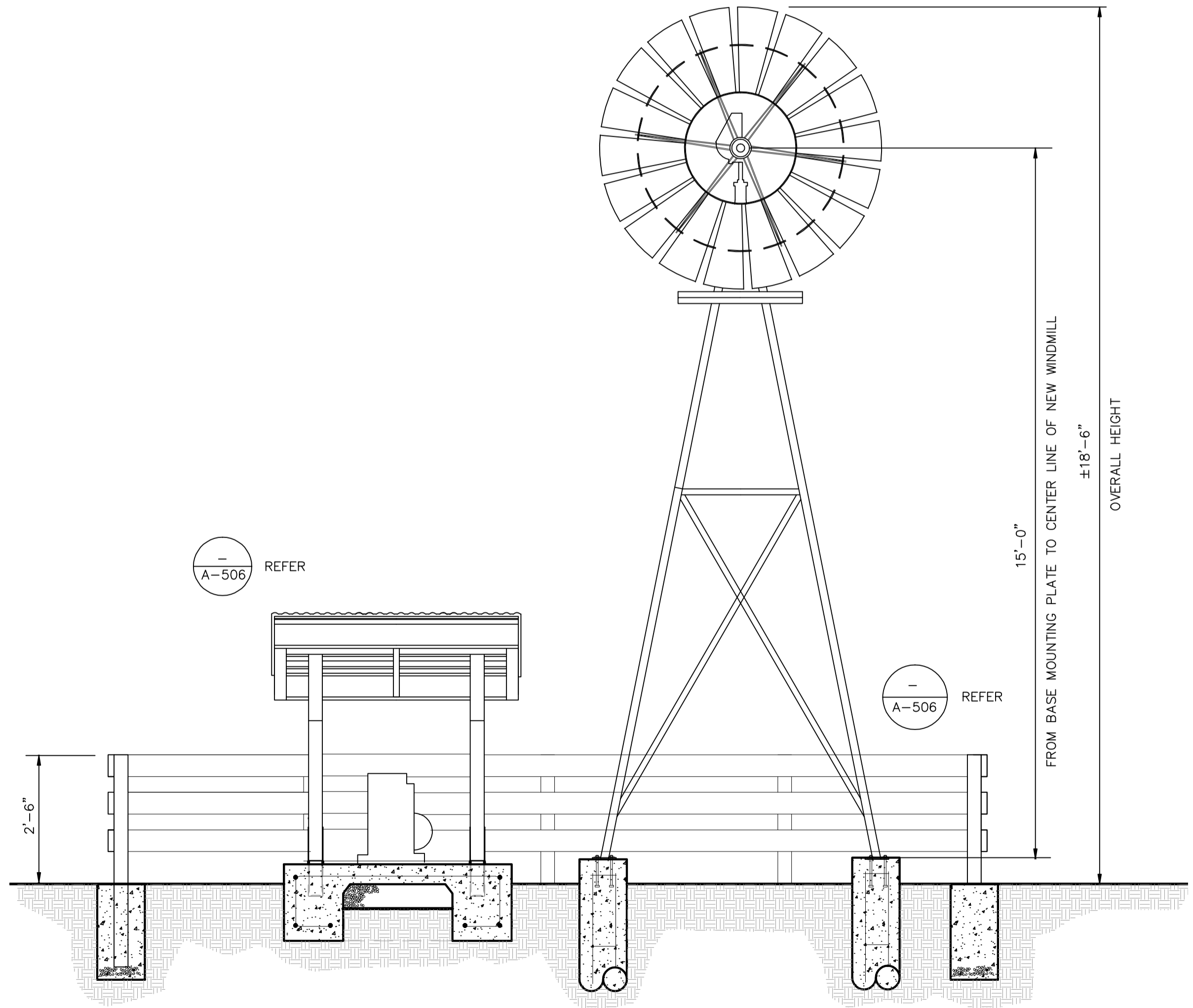
2  
A-204



**NEW PUMP MOTOR SHED EXHIBIT -BACK ELEVATION**

1/2" SCALE

3  
A-204

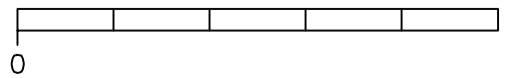


**WINDMILL & PUMP SHED EXHIBIT SECTION VIEW**

1/2" SCALE

5  
A-204

SCALE IN FEET

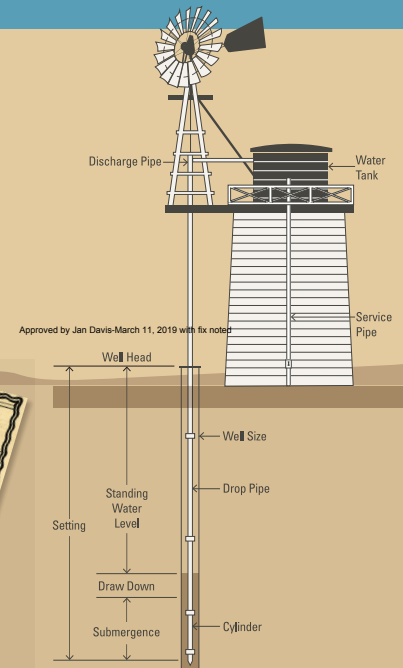


This is the signage that will accompany the windmill. The drawing shows a windmill attached to the Tank House; ours will not be attached due to the engineering challenges with a historic structure, but will instead be free standing next to the tank house.

# Wind Power, Motor Power

To pump water up out of a well, the Halladay windmill was especially ingenious. It would turn in the direction of the wind, ensuring its blades would spin whenever there was a breeze. This wind power propelled a shaft which would then push water three stories up a pipe, emptying it into the tank above. The windmill, however, was hard to maintain: it had many moving parts and was perched high overhead to catch the wind.

In the 1920s, motor engines, first powered by kerosene and later by gasoline, were installed to get water out of the well and into the tank. The model you see here is a 1.5 horsepower electric engine connected to a Myers "self-oiling" pump.



017\_XF60\_46272\_\_F3-Wind\_Power04 x 18 sgrOutline\_KH\_LXE\_TP\_HEAT\_CMYK\_x1 ---- 24,000 in x 18,000 in



The proposed windmill will be most visible from the courtyard of the Museum, where it will help hide the view of the police emergency tower, in addition to enhancing the interpretation of historic land and water usage in the area.

# Proposed Historic Windmill Installation

The proposed windmill would be visible from the drive between the police station and the museum, but will be behind the fence of the Museum and will not obstruct the FOL sheds. It is intended to enhance the aesthetics of that space.



The proposed windmill would be visible from the path leading to the J. Gilbert Smith House. It will be placed in a clearing next to the tank house.

Windmills were originally used to pump water into tank houses.



The proposed windmill would not be visible from the walkway behind the library because it will be shorter than the tank house and the beneath the tree canopy.

The proposed windmill will not be particularly visible from the back of LACY sidewalk towards the library, because of the existing oak trees.

