Alterations or Repairs—Over

#### **ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS**

Building Permits: #44868 Giffen Industries, Inc: Roofing. \$ 167: June 9, 1954 #56869 Robbins Roofing & Sheet Metal: Repair wall flashings with 90# Felt - \$150. 7-24-58

#86418 - Alfonsio Vasquez - exterior clean and paint \$800.00 4/6/71

#12598-Owner-Erect a door within existing window from balcony to a second bedroom-\$400-1-18-78

Plumbing Permits: #34442 Belcher Oil: Oil burner, 500 gal tank: Jan 15, 1953

#34502 Economy Plumbing: 3 Down Spouts: Jan 27, 1953

#48383 - Peoples Gas - outlet and connect dryer (1)

4/29/71

#54921-Pitsch Plumbing-1 heater-replace, 1 gas piping-6-9-77 #54949-Peoples Gas- meter set(gas)-6-20-77

#68686 - Ocean Elect. - remain 3/30/71

**Electrical Permits:** 

#### COASTAL CONTROL ZONE

#### CUMULATIVE COST OF CONSTRUCTION OF PERMITS ISSUED

DATE	PROCESS	DESCRIPTION	WORK	CUMULATIVE	APPRAISED BLDG.			BUILDING
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Urban Robot Associates (2014). Photo of the Kaskades Hotel. [image] Available at: http://www.urbanrobot.net/gipfel/ln61k411wiol53iv5rqi9de8djsjye [Accessed

## KASKADES APARTMENTS

300 SEVENTEENTH STREET, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA







## Contents

Historic Resources Report
Building CardII
Kaskades Apartments prior to the 2013 renovation   Photography19
Kaskades Apartments prior to the 2013 renovation   Plans
Kaskades Hotel   Current Conditions

### Historic Resources Report by Carolyn Klepser and Urban Robot Associates

HISTORIC RESOURCES REPORT
Project: Kaskades Apartments / 300 17th Street, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Date: 15-FEB-2013 / Page 2 of 10

#### PRELIMINARY REMARKS:

The present report and attached documents comprise a survey of the Kaskades property located at 300 17th Street in Miami Beach, Florida. The project site currently has an existing two-story low-rise apartment building. The report has been prepared in anticipation of the renovation of the existing building and the addition of new structures to the property.

The attached study provides an overview of the existing structure based on photo surveys, since the available documentation for this property was found to be limited. It also includes the City of Miami Beach Building Cards documenting the permit history of the property.

The proposed project is designed to minimally impact historical resources mainly the two historical facades, while expanding the building structure to accommodate one additional floor in a manner consistent with the site's available development rights.

#### BUILDING HISTORY:

This building stands at the southwest corner of James Avenue and 17th Street, a block north of Lincoln Road, on Lot 13 of Block 31 in (Carl) Fisher's First Subdivision. Although this site was always zoned for multi-family structures, a single-family residence was built here in 1934 for owner Sarah Gosselin<sup>1</sup>. By 1949 this home was owned and occupied by William and Helen Kassman. Mr. Kassman (1905-1981) operated the Skybrite Liquor Store at 2300 Collins Avenue.<sup>2</sup>

In September 1952 this house was demolished, and in October a permit was issued to Mr. William Kassman for the construction of a two-story apartment building on the site. The Kaskades Apartment Building, built in 1952 by S.C. Davis Construction Company Inc., was probably named Kaskades as a play on Mr. Kassman's name. The building was designed by architect Melvin Grossman, early in his Miami Beach career (see Biography following). The building originally cost \$70,000 and contained 13 efficiency (studio) apartments, a one-bedroom apartment, at two-bedroom apartment, and two hotel rooms. It was completed in February 1953.

The building is located in both the National Register Historic District of Miami Beach and in the local Museum Historic District, which was designated by the City in 1990. When the Miami Beach Planning Department database was compiled at that time, the Kaskades was categorized as "non-historic conforming," but a 1994 change in the City ordinance reclassified all such structures as "Contributing."

No original plans (#39351) for the Kaskades were found at the Miami Beach Building Department, nor were any archival postcards or photographs. No major alterations to the building are documented over the years on the Permit Card, but in the absence of documentation it is unknown which features of the building are original.

This is a flat-roofed, rectangular building in Postwar Modern architectural style. It has an east-west orientation, and measures 40' by 125' on a 50' by 150' lot, with 5-foot setbacks on three sides and the required 20' front setback on the east side, facing James Avenue. Typical of the style, the apartments are accessed by catwalks on the north and south elevations rather than by interior hallways. The only exterior stair wraps around the southwest corner of the building, and there are metal railings on the stair and on the south catwalks. There is an office entrance on the north elevation. The "railing" of the north catwalks, and of a second-floor balcony on the east elevation, are of masonry, with stacked bricks. The east end of the upper catwalk on the north is also screened, or "boxed," by a panel of perforated masonry.

The present windows are a mix of awning-type and sash windows with horizontal panes that resemble the awning type. The Miami Beach Design Review Board approved window replacements in 1993. The original type is unknown,

Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).2-3.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Miami Beach Building Dept. Permit Records

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Obituary, Miami Herald; Jan. 1, 1982; and Polk's City Directory, 1949.

HISTORIC RESOURCES REPORT

Project: Kaskades Apartments / 300 17th Street, Miami Beach, FL 33139

Date: 15-FEB-2013 / Page 3 of 10

but awning windows were common here in the 1950s. The West and part of the North façade feature incised lines in the stucco, and there is channel-letter neon signage along the North façade.

#### BUILDING ARCHITECT BIOGRAPHY:

Melvin Grossman (1914-2003) grew up in Chicago and was the nephew of Albert Anis.<sup>3</sup> He followed his uncle into the field of architecture, and to Miami Beach; by 1950 they were associate architects here. Grossman was also a protege of Morris Lapidus, and became a master of the local Postwar Modern style of architecture known as "MiMo." Grossman, Anis, and Lapidus collaborated on the Nautilus Hotel (1825 Collins Ave.) in 1950<sup>4</sup> and a year later on the Biltmore Terrace Hotel (8701 Collins Avenue). Grossman and Lapidus partnered in designing the DiLido Hotel (One Lincoln Road) in 1953.

According to MiMo authorities Nash and Robinson,

Grossman began as an engineer working for Lapidus and then, after turning down an offer to become partners, struck out on his own to become Lapidus' biggest imitator.<sup>5</sup>

Influenced by both Anis and Lapidus, Grossman in his own right is credited with these buildings in Miami Beach:

Empress Hotel	4333 Collins Avenue	1952
Seville Hotel	2901 Collins Avenue	1955
Deauville Hotel	6701 Collins Avenue	1957
Doral Beach Hotel	4833 Collins Avenue	1962
Imperial House	5255 Collins Avenue	1962
Decoplage Apts.	100 Lincoln Road	1965

He also exported the MiMo style in designing the original Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and the Acapulco Princess Hotel in Mexico.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Obituary, Miami Herald, November 12, 2003, p.4B.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The 1930 U.S.Census shows Grossman living in Chicago with his grandparents, Herman and Sophia Anis, who came from Hungary; his widowed mother Hannah Anis Grossman; and her brother Albert, who was divorced.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> M. Lapidus, Too Much Is Never Enough; Rizzoli, 1996, p.150; and "Hotel Roosevelt Plans Gala Birthday Opening," Miami Herald; Nov. 19, 1950

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> E.Nash and R.Robinson, MiMo: Miami Modern Revealed; Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 2004, p.73.



Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).4.

#### East Elevation



Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).4.

North Elevation

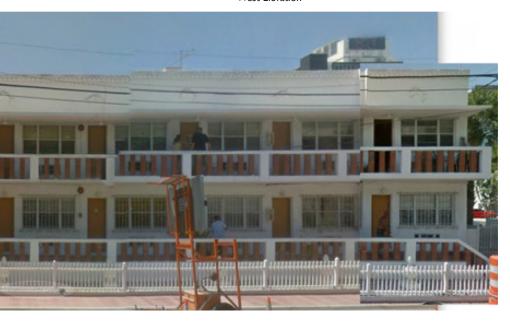






Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).5.

#### West Elevation









Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).6.

South Elevation (view 1)





Klepser, Carolyne. Historic Resources Report. Kaskades Apartments (February, 2013).7.

South Elevation (view 2)

## Building Card Kaskades Apartments

#### Owner MR. WILLIAM KASSMAN 13 Block 31 Subdivision FISHER S F General Contractor S.C. Davis Construction Co.Inc Architect M. Grossman Use Zoning Regulations: RE Area **Building Size:** Front LO: Depth Certificate of Occupancy No. 2021, Feb. Foundation 12x Type of Construction CBS PLUMBING Contractor #33924 Economy Plumbing Co: ans #34001 Economy Plumbing Co: ಭ್ರಕ್ಷ Swimming Pool T Water Closets 19\* Lavatories 19# 1 - Schementar Hot W **Bath Tubs** 17% ROUGH APPRO 2\* **Showers** FINAL APPROVA Urinals 15\* Sinks GAS Contractor Dish Washing Machine 1:: Gas Ranges Laundry Trays Gas Water Heat Laundry Washing Machines 1: Gas Space Heat **Drinking Fountains** Gas Refrigerator Floor Drains Gas Steam Table Gas Broilers Grease Traps Safe Wastes AIR CONDITIONING Contractor #39850 S.L. Hamilton & SEPTIC TANK Contractor Contractor - (see over) OIL BURNER SPRINKLER Contractor

ELECTRICAL Contractor #37934 Emanuel Elec Co:

		•
OUTLETS	Switches 79 Lights 152 Receptacles 122	Ranges Irons 15 Refrigerators 15 Fans
		Motors 2
<b>HEATERS</b>	Water	Appliances
	Space	• •
	*	El 12716
FIXTURES	152	Electrical Contractor

Photo of Kaskades Apartments Building Card. Architect Melvin Grossman. From: Miami Beach Planning & Zoning Department



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permit for foundation





```
Permit No.
                      39351
                                       Cost
                                                $70,000..
                      300 - 17th STREET
IRST
        Address
        Bond No.
                      5420
        Engineer
        Lot Size
                      50 x 150
Height Befficiences - 1,1-bedrm ap & 1,2-Apts -- Use APARTMENTS - 15 UNITS & 2 HOTEL ROOMS
                                        Stories
27 spread footing
                                 Flat
                                               Date Sept 2, 1952*
                          Roof
        1 -Sewer Connection
                                               Date Sept 18, 1952
                                                 Oct 6, 1952 ...
OK, Cox, 2-2-53
                                 2
        Temporary Water Closet
                                    Down Spouts
raps
ater Boilers #34519 Economy Plb. was 2/2/530K, Cox, 2-2-53
                                    Sewage Ejector
VAL L. Rothman, 10-21-52
ALOK, E. Com, 2-2-53
                                        Date
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15*
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ers
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es
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Co: 2 (10-hp) Air Cond Units: $11,000: 10/23/52-0K, Al Plaag, 2/11/5
Date Nov 2, 1952
Temporary Service #37573 Emanuel Elec: 9-18-520K, P.M. 9/19/5
Neon Transformers
Sign Outlets
Meter Change
Centers of Distributions
                        16
Service
                         1
 Violations
              Date
                                Alterations or Repairs—Over
```

MOSCT 81733

| Most Side | 100 | Marker | 11733 | Marker

#### **ALTERATION**

Building Permits: #44868 Giffen Industries, Inc: #56869 Robbins Roofing & Sheet Metal: Repair wall: #86418 - Alfonsio Vasquez - exterior clean and #12598-Owner-Erect a door within existing windows.

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#54921-Pitsch Plumbing-1 heater-replace, 1 gas pip #54949-Peoples Gas- meter set(gas)-6-20-77

#68686 - Ocean Elect. - repair

**Electrical Permits:** 

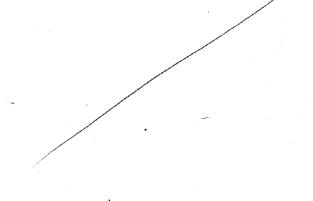


Photo of Kaskades Apartments Building Card. Architect Melvin Grossman. From: Miami Beach Planning & Zoning Department
(accessed March. 2018)









#### S & ADDITIONS

Roofing. \$ 167: June 9, 1954 Flashings with 90# Felt - \$150. 7-24-58

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4/29/71

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connect dryer (1)

ing-6-9-77

3/30/71





#### CUMULATIVE COST OF CONSTRU

	DATE PROCESS		DESCRIPTION	WORK	CUMULATIVE
L	ISSUĖD	NO.	OF WORK	COST	WORK COST
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			<b>-</b>		

Photo of Kaskades Apartments Building Card. Architect Melvin Grossman. From: Miami Beach Planning & Zoning Department (accessed March, 2018)











#### ROL ZONE

C	TION OF PERMITS ISSUE	<u>D</u>		
	APPRAISED BLDG.			BUILDING
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Photography
Kaskades Apartments prior to 2013 renovation



1 | JAMES AVENUE, EAST ELEVATION | 14-FEB-2013



2 | 17TH STREET, NORTH ELEVATION 1 | 14-FEB-2013



3 | 17TH STREET, NORTH EI



6 | 17TH STREET, WEST ELEVATION 1 | 14-FEB-2013



7 | 17TH STREET, SOUTH ELEVATION 1 | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, SIGNAGE



17TH STREET, PLANTER DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, ARCHITECTU



JAMES AVENUE, CARPORT | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, GARDEN | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, CORNER

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).4.

Photography







EVATION 2 | 14-FEB-2013



4 | 17TH STREET, NORTH ELEVATION 3 | 14-FEB-2013



5 | 17TH STREET, NORTH ELEVATION 4 | 14-FEB-2013



DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



17TH STREET, BUILDING ENTRY | 14-FEB-2013



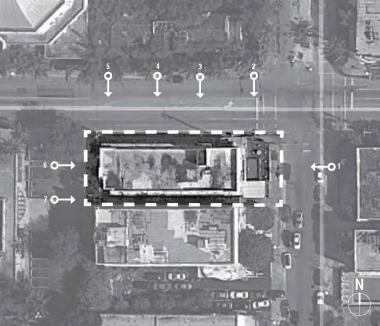
17TH STREET, ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



RAL DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



VIEW | 14-FEB-2013



KEY PLAN





Photography



1 | JAMES AVENUE, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



3 | 17TH STREET LOOKING EAST | 14-FEB-2013



4 | 17TH STREET LOOKING EAST | 14-FEB-2013



5 | 17TH STREET, LOOKI



6 | EXISTING GUARDRAIL DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



7 | EXISTING GUARDRAIL DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013



8 | EXISTING GUARDRA

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).5.









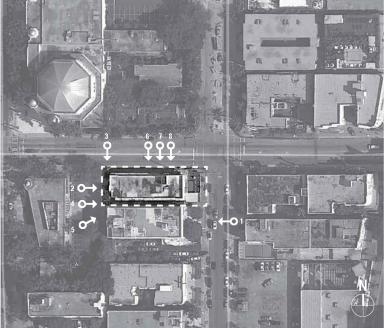
2 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING EAST | 14-FEB-2013



NG EAST | 14-FEB-2013



DETAIL | 14-FEB-2013 KEY PLAN





1 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING SOUTH | 14-FEB-2013



2 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING SOUTH | 14-FEB-2013



3 | 17TH STREET, LOOKI



6 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



7 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



8 | 17TH STREET, LOOKIN



11 | JAMES AVENUE LOOKING NORTHEAST | 14-FEB-2013



12 | JAMES AVENUE, LOCKING SOUTHWEST | 14-FEB-2013



13 | 17TH STREET, LOOKII



14 | JAMES AVENUE LOOKING EAST | 14-FEB-2013



15 | JAMES AVENUE, LOOKING EAST | 14-FEB-2013



16 | JAMES AVENUE LOOP

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).6.







IG WEST | 14-FEB-2013



4 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



5 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



G NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



9 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



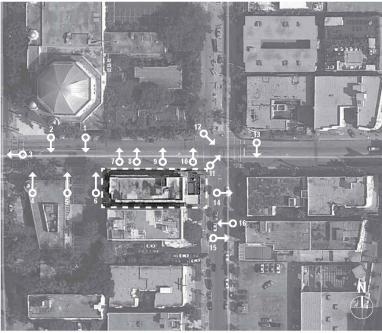
10 | 17TH STREET, LOOKING NORTH | 14-FEB-2013



IG SOUTH | 14-FEB-2013



ING WEST | 14-FEB-2013



KEY PLAN

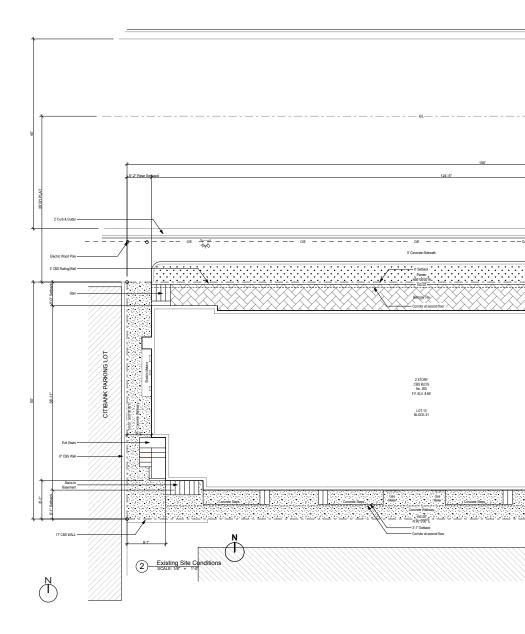




Photography

Plans

Kaskades Apartments prior to 2013 renovation



#### Site Plan

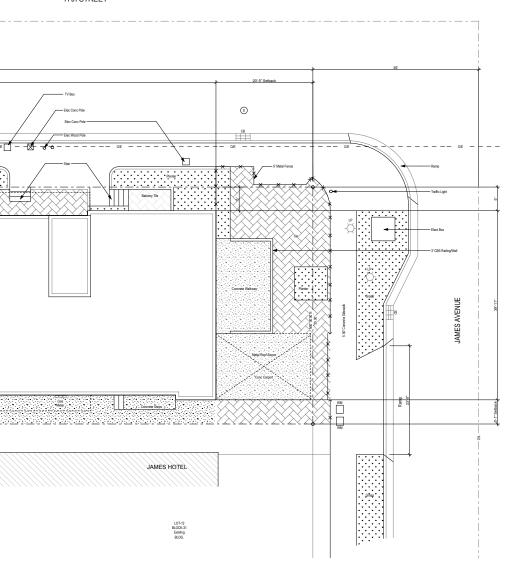
Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).7.







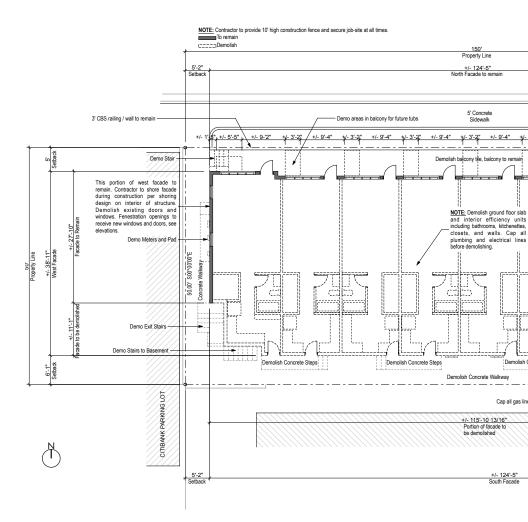
#### 17th STREET







#### 17th STREET

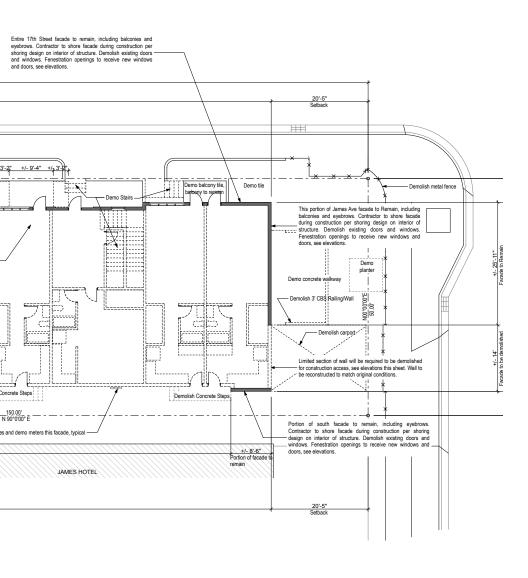


#### Ground Floor Plan

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).10.

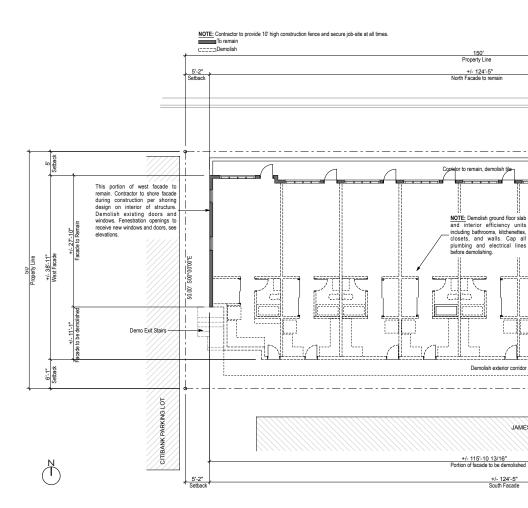






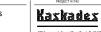




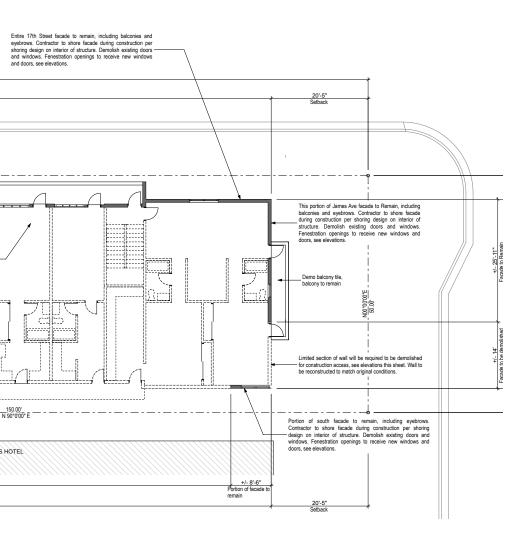


#### Second Level Plan

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).11.



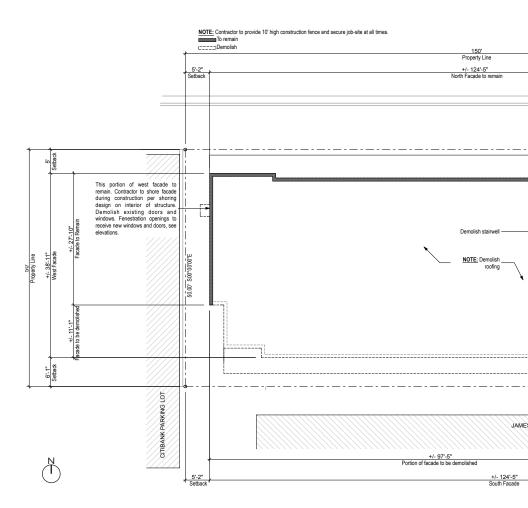








#### 17th STREET

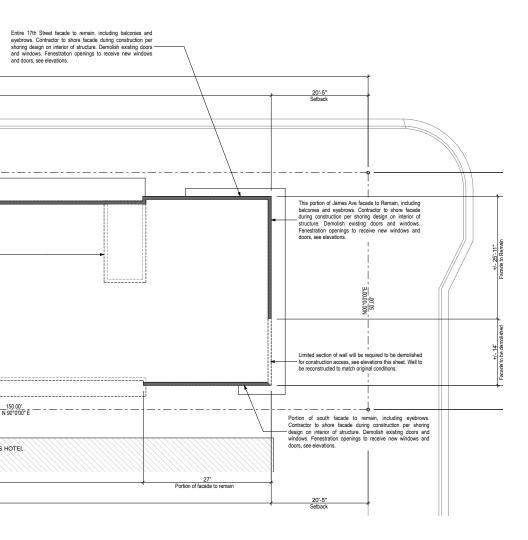


#### Roof Plan

Urban Robot Associates. Historic Preservation Board Presentation. Kaskades Hotel (February, 2013).12.











# Current Conditions Kaskades Hotel





I. JAMES HOTEL FACING JAMES AVENUE



