



**Center For Emerging Culture, Inc. & September
Hospitality Management, Inc. as MGR**

d/b/a Lightning Society

Community Board SLA License Questionnaire

Pesetsky & Bookman

Applicant's Alcoholic Beverage Counsel

325 Broadway, Suite 501

New York, NY 10007

www.pb.law | (212) 513-1988 | hello@pb.law

Meeting Date: April 2026

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of applicant(s):
Center for Emerging Culture Inc & September Hospitality Management Inc as MGR

Trade name (DBA):
Lightning Society

Premises address:
45 Howard Street AKA 427 Broadway, Floors 2 & 3

Cross Streets and other addresses used for building/premise:
Between Broadway and Mercer Street

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Principal(s) Name(s):
Timothy Phillips (Center For Emerging Culture Inc); Ryan Harris (September Hospitality Management Inc)

Office or Home Address: [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip: New York, NY 10013

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Landlord Name / Contact:
The AJD Building LLC; Michael Chetrit

Landlord's Telephone and Fax: [REDACTED]

NAMES OF ALL PRINCIPAL(s):	NAMES / LOCATIONS OF PAST / CURRENT LICENSES HELD
<u>Timothy Phillips</u>	<u></u>
<u>Ryan Harris</u>	<u>Sirrah, 1LW12 Restaurant LLC, 1-3 Little W. 12th Street</u>
<u></u>	<u></u>

Briefly describe the proposed operation (i.e. "We are a family restaurant that will focus on..."):

A catering establishment operating as a private event space for scheduled gatherings with food and beverage service.

WHAT TYPE(S) OF LICENSE(S) ARE YOU APPLYING FOR (MARK ALL THAT APPLY):

- ☐ a new liquor license (☐ Restaurant ☐ Tavern / On premise liquor ☐ Other)
- ☐ an UPGRADE of an existing Liquor License
- ☐ an ALTERATION of an existing Liquor License
- ☐ a TRANSFER of an existing Liquor License
- ☐ a HOTEL Liquor License
- ☐ a DCA CABARET License
- ☒ a CATERING CABARET Liquor License **Catering Establishment Beer/Wine License**
- ☐ a BEER and WINE License
- ☐ a RENEWAL of an existing Liquor License
- ☐ an OFF-PREMISE License (retail)
- ☐ OTHER : _____

If upgrade, alteration, or transfer, please describe specific nature of changes:
(Please include physical or operational changes including hours, services, occupancy, ownership, etc.)

N/A

If this is for a new application, please list previous use of location for the last 5 years:

Museum

Is any license under the ABC Law currently active at this location? ☐ yes ☒ no

If yes, what is the name of current / previous licensee, license # and expiration date: N/A

Have any other licenses under the ABC Law been in effect in the last 10 years at this location?
☐ yes ☒ no

If yes, please list DBA names and dates of operation:

N/A

PREMISES:

By what right does the applicant have possession of the premises?

☐ Own ☒ Lease ☐ Sub-lease ☐ Binding Contract to acquire real property ☐ other: _____

Type of Building: ☐ Residential ☒ Commercial ☐ Mixed (Res/Com) ☐ Other: _____

Number of floor: 5 Year Built : 1871

Describe neighboring buildings:

Mixed

Zoning Designation: M1-5/R9X; SNX

Zoning Overlay or Special Designation (applicable) N/A

Block and Lot Number: 231 / 8

Does the premise occupy more than one building, zoning lot, tax lot or more than one floor? ☒ yes ☐ no
Floors 2 & 3

Is the premise located in a historic district? ☒ yes ☐ no

(if yes, have all exterior changes or changes governed by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) been approved by the LPC? ☒ yes ☐ no, please explain : _____

LPC has approved proposed work; already underway

Will any outside area or sidewalk café be used for the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages?

(including sidewalk, roof and yard space) ☒ no ☐ yes : explain _____

What is the proposed Occupancy? N/A - no outdoor space

Does the premise currently have a valid Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) and all appropriate permits?

☒ no ☐ yes *Applied for a change in use from office (B) to eating & drinking establishment (6) - waiting for approval*

If yes, what is the maximum occupancy for the premises? 500* - see rider

If yes, what is the use group for the premises? B*

If yes, is proposed occupancy permitted? ☒ yes ☐ no, explain : _____

*Will apply for a public assembly permit once the change of use of COO is approved

If your occupancy is 75 or greater, do you plan to apply for Public Assembly permit? ☒ yes ☐ no

Do you plan to file for changes to the Certificate of Occupancy? ☒ yes ☐ no

(if yes, please provide copy of application to the NYC DOB) *Applied for a change in use from office to eating & drinking establishment - waiting for approval*

Will the façade or signage be changed from what currently exist at the premise? ☐ no ☒ yes

(if yes, please describe: Exterior signage on ground floor building door windows, and a branded canvas awning over the street elevator on Howard Street

INTERIOR OF PREMISES:

What is the total licensed square footage of the premises? Approx. 5,000 sq. ft. (including stairwells, storage, bathrooms, pantries, etc.)

If more than one floor, please specify square footage by floors: Floor 2: approx. 2,500 sq. ft. ; Floor 3: approx. 2,500 sq. ft.

If there is a sidewalk café, rear yard, rooftop, or outside space, what is the square footage of the area?

N/A

If more than one floor, what is the access between floors? Stairs x2 and elevator

How many entrances are there? 2 How many exits? 2 How many bathrooms ? 7

Is there access to other parts of the building? no X yes, explain: See attached diagrams

OVERALL SEATING INFORMATION:

Total number of tables? 20* Total table seats? 150*

Total number of bars? 2 Total bar seats? 6

Total number of "other" seats? please explain : N/A

Total OVERALL number of seats in Premises : 156*

This is a Catering Establishment, and the number of tables and seats will vary per event. The numbers indicated are the maximum number for any given event

BARS:

How many *stand-up bars / bar seats are being applied for on the premises? Bars 1 Seats 6

How many service bars are being applied for on the premises? 1

Any food counters? X no yes, describe :

For Alterations and Upgrades:

Please describe all current and existing bars / bar seats and specific changes: N/A

* A stand-up bar is any bar or counter (whether seating or not) over which a member of the public can order, pay for and receive food and alcoholic beverages.

PROPOSED METHOD OF OPERATION:

What type of establishment will this be? (check all that apply)

 Bar Bar & Food Restaurant Club/ Cabaret Hotel X Other: Catering Establishment

What are the Hours of Operation?

Regular Operations: ***See Rider**

Sunday: Monday: Tuesday: Wednesday: Thursday: Friday: Saturday:

7:30AM to 10:30PM 7:30AM to 10:30PM 7:30AM to 10:30PM 7:30AM to 10:30PM 7:30AM to 10:30PM 7:30AM to 12AM 7:30AM to 12AM

Will the business employ a manager? ☐ no ☒ yes, name / experience if known : _____

Will there be security personnel? ☐ no ☒ yes (if yes, what nights and how many?) ^{2-4 on weekends; additional security, as needed, for special events}
Do you have or plan to install French doors, accordion doors or windows that open? ☒ no ☐ yes

If yes, please describe : N/A

Will you have TV's ? ☒ no ☐ yes (how many?) _____

Type of MUSIC / ENTERTAINMENT: ☒ Live Music ☒ Live DJ ☐ Juke Box ☒ Ipod / CDs ☐ none

Expected Volume level: ☒ Background (quiet) ☐ Entertainment level ☒ Amplified Music
(check all that apply)

Do you have or plan to install soundproofing? ☐ no ☒ yes

IF YES, will you be using a professional sound engineer? Yes

Please describe your sound system and sound proofing: See attached sound plan

Will you be permitting: ☐ promoted events ☐ scheduled performances ☐ outside promoters

☐ any events at which a cover fee is charged? ☒ private parties

Do you have plans to manage or address vehicular traffic and crowd control on the sidewalk caused by your establishment? ☐ no ☒ yes (if yes, please attach plans) See attached traffic plan

Will you be utilizing ☐ ropes ☐ movable barriers ☐ other outside equipment (describe) _____

See rider*

Are your premises within 200 feet of any school, church or place of worship? ☒ no ☐ yes

If there is a school, church or place of worship within 200 feet of your premises or on the same block, please submit a block plot diagram or area map showing its' location in proximity to your applicant premises (no larger than 8 ½ " x 11").

Indicate the distance in feet from the proposed premise:

Name of School / Church: _____

Address: _____ Distance: _____

Name of School / Church: _____

Address: _____ Distance: _____

Name of School / Church: _____

Address: _____ Distance: _____

Please provide contact information for Residents / Community Board and confirm that if complaints are made you will address it immediately.

Contact Person: Timothy Phillips Phone: 646-267-9344

Address: [REDACTED]

Email : [REDACTED]

Application submitted on
behalf of the applicant by:



Signature

Print or Type Name Timothy Phillips

Title President

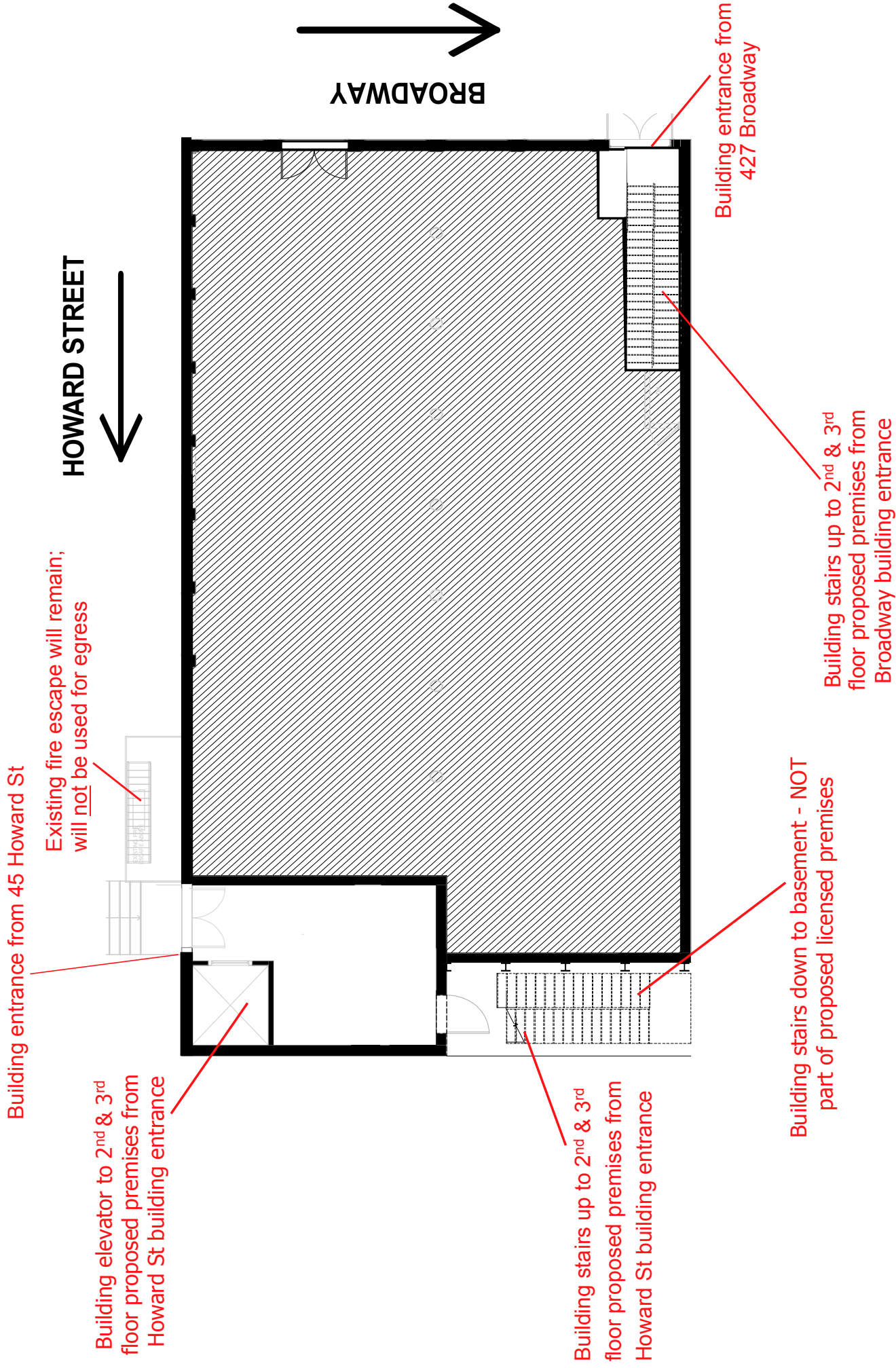
Thank you for your cooperation. Please return this questionnaire along with the other required documents as soon as you can. This will expedite your application and avoid any unnecessary delays. Use additional pages if necessary.



Community Board 2,
Manhattan SLA Licensing
Committee Donna Raftery, Chair

Special Events Rider

	Regular Operations	Special Events <i>*No more than 10 per year*</i>
Hours	7:30AM – 10:30PM, Sunday – Thursday 7:30AM – 12AM, Friday + Saturday	7:30AM – 12AM, Sunday – Thursday 7:30AM – 2AM, Friday + Saturday
Max Occ.	400	500
Wait Lines	No outdoor wait lines permitted past 6PM	Outdoor wait lines permitted past 6PM
Security	2-4 security personnel on weekends	Additional security personnel, as needed (est. 6-10)



Center for Emerging Culture Inc

Ground Floor

Center for Emerging Culture Inc

Second Floor

Existing fire escape will remain; will not be used for egress

Building elevator

Service bar

Employee access
to food prep area,
only; no patron
access

Building stairs down to ground
floor building entrance from Broadway

Premises stairs up
to 3rd floor

Entrance to 2nd floor proposed premises
from Broadway building entrance

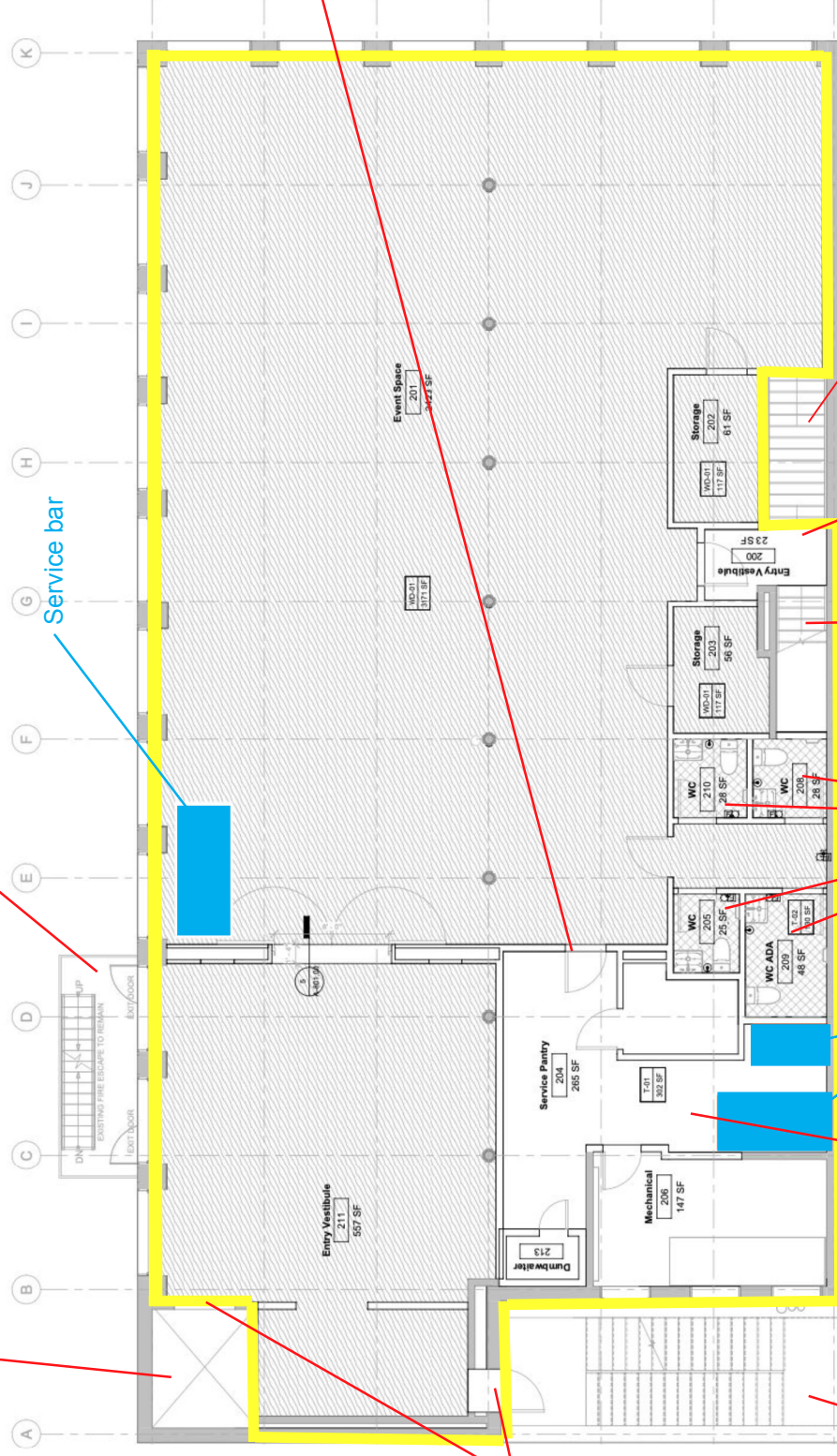
Bathrooms

Alcohol storage

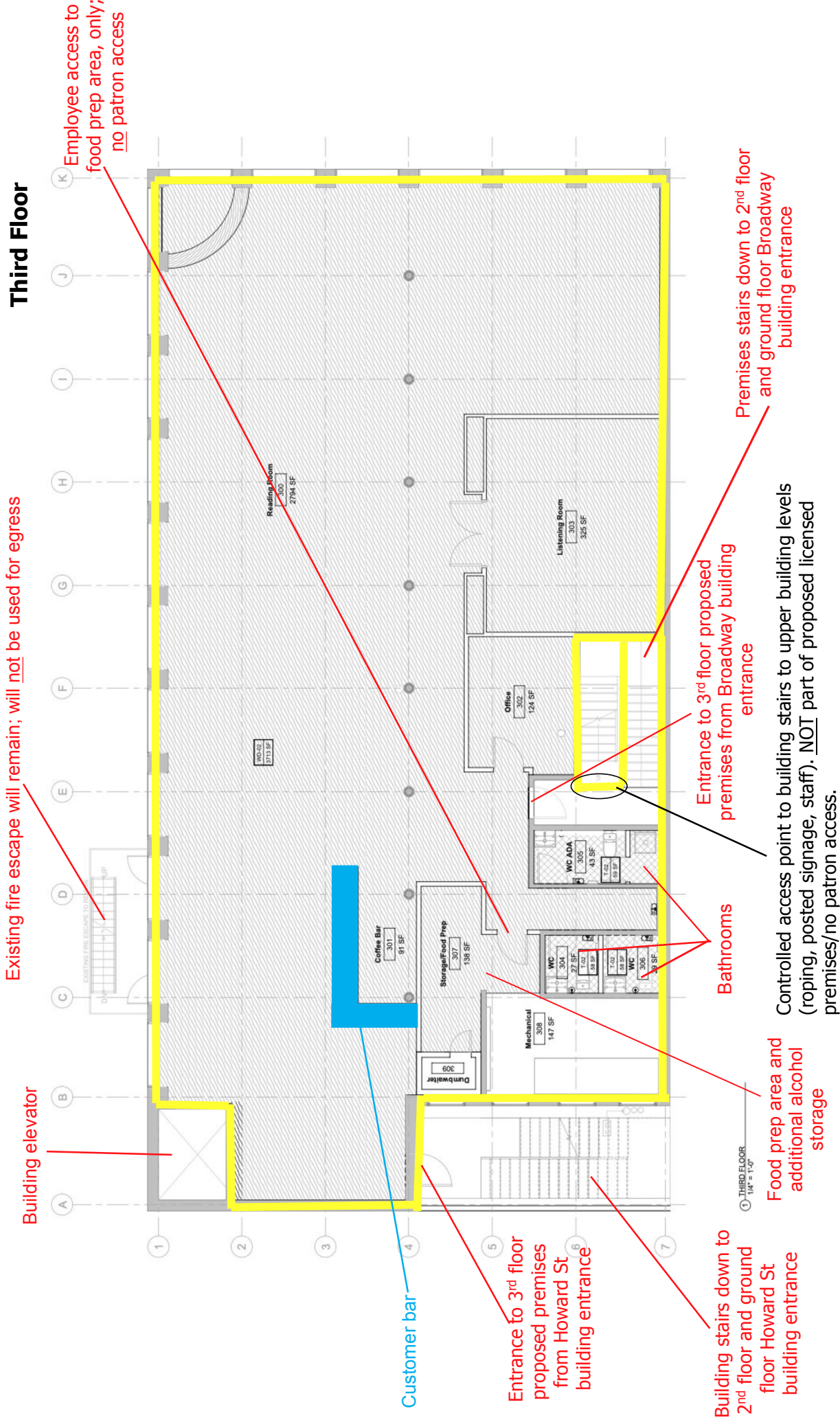
Food prep area

Entrance to 2nd floor
proposed premises
from Howard St
building entrance

Building stairs up to 3rd
floor and down to ground
floor building entrance
from Howard St



Third Floor





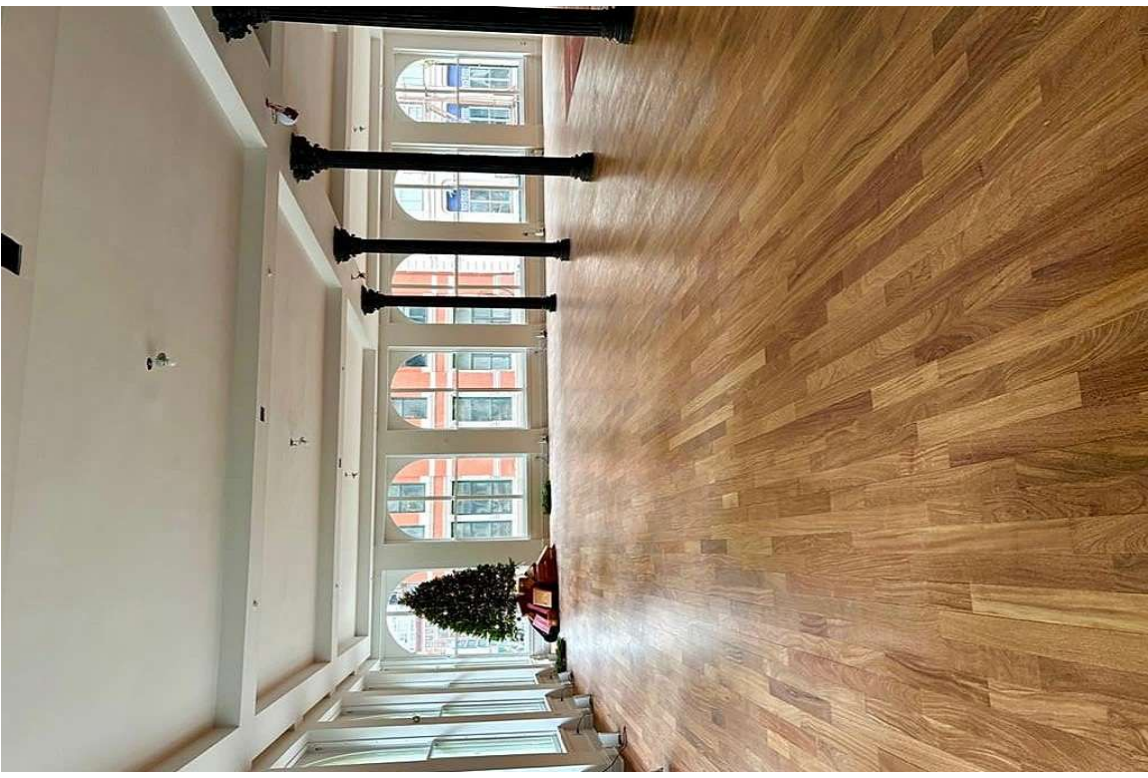
Proposed Premises - 2nd and 3rd Floors



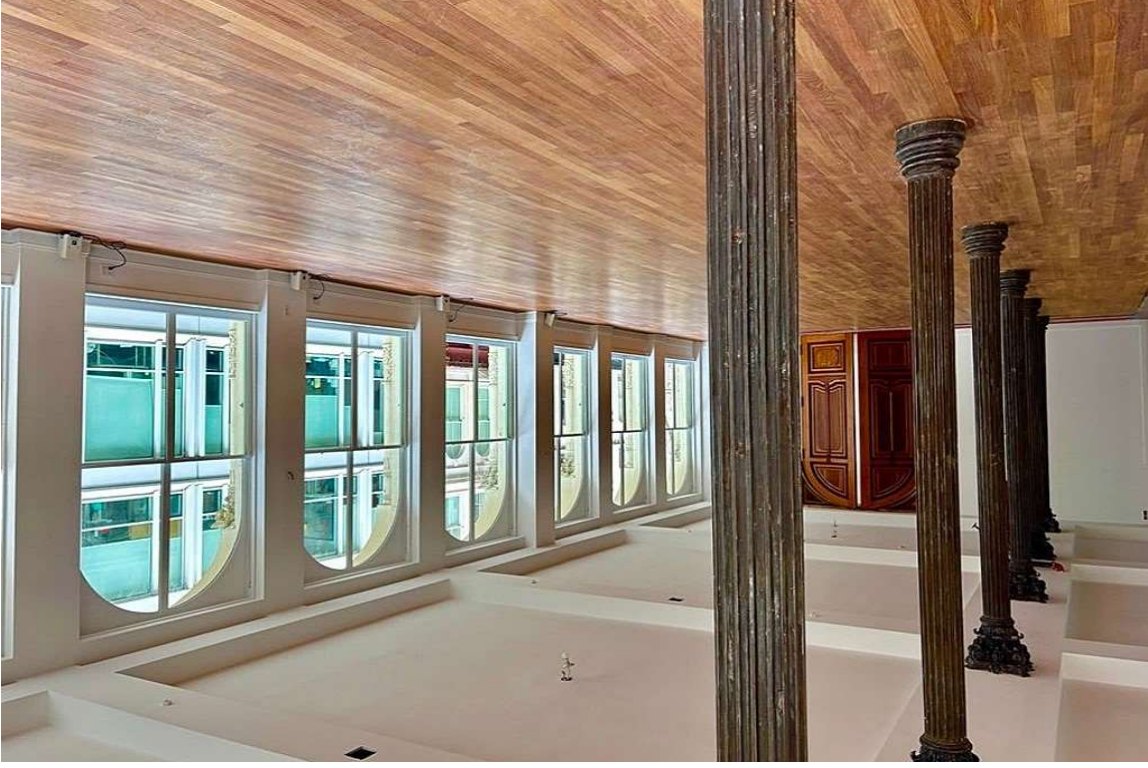
Building Entrance from 45 Howard Street



Building Entrance from 427 Broadway



2nd Floor



2nd Floor Cont.



3rd Floor

MENU

DIPS

- **Tzatziki** – pita, olives, crudités
 - **Guacamole** – taro chips
-

SMALLS

- **Shishito Peppers** – miso glaze – 12
- **Buffalo Chicken or Cauliflower** – 16 | 12
- **Crispy Brussels Sprouts** – 14
- **Burrata** – tomato, basil (v) – 18

SALADS (add vegan chicken 10 | chicken 10 | salmon 10)

- **Market Greens** – crispy onions, carrots, chia seeds – 17
 - **Ahi Tuna Poke Bowl** – avocado, cucumber, fresno, jasmine brown rice – 22
-

SANDWICHES

- **Southern Fried Chicken Sandwich** – cabbage slaw, pickle, Calabrian chili aioli – 20
 - **Cheeseburger** – cheddar, mustard, iceberg, tomato, pickles, fries – 21
 - **Vegan Burger** – lettuce, tomato, pickles, mustard mayo, sweet potato fries (pb) – 22
-

WOOD-FIRED PIZZA

- **Buffalo Mozzarella** – tomato, basil, oregano – 22
- **Mushroom** – goat cheese, pearl onion, dill (v) – 23
- **Salami** – tomato, mozzarella, mushroom – 24
- **Plant-Based** – artichoke, olive, hemp ricotta (pb) – 21