# Cultural Heritage Impact Statement 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa



Image courtesy of Ten 2 Four Architecture

Report Prepared for: **Ten 2 Four Architecture Inc.**RMA Project No.: **17008**Date: **November 22, 2017** 

Report Prepared by:



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#### A. Introduction

Robertson Martin Architects (The Consultant) was retained in November 2016 by Ten 2 Four Architecture Inc. (the Client) to provide a *Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment* (CHIS) for a proposed development at 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa (*the Site*).

Section 4.6.1 of the City of Ottawa Official Plan has policies that outline when a CHIS is required, and which will evaluate the impact of a proposed development on cultural heritage resources when development is proposed that has the potential to:

- Adversely impact the cultural heritage value of properties designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA); and
- Adversely impact the cultural heritage value of districts designated under Part V of the OHA.

#### In addition:

- A CHIS may also be required for development applications adjacent to or within 35 meters of designated buildings and areas; and
- A CHIS is required when demolition is proposed.

The Uganda High Commission Church building located at 231 Cobourg Street is located within the northeast corner of the *Wilbrod Laurier Conservation District Part V* of the OHA. It is the impact of the development proposal within the district that has the potential to adversely impact a heritage resource - and is the basis for the requirement of this CHIS.

The Consultant has been provided with copies of the revised development proposal plans prepared by Ten 2 Four Architecture Inc., dated November 22, 2017. This CHIS has been revised with the understanding that the actual development proposal consists of the design as outlined in the drawings provided in *Annex B*.

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#### B. General Information

#### **Existing Zoning**

The client proposes the demolition of the existing (converted residential) office chancery building and the construction of a new purpose-designed small chancery building, on the footprint of the existing building. The City of Ottawa Comprehensive Zoning By-law (2008-250) designates the area of the subject property as **R4M[481]** (*Residential Fourth Density, Subzone M*). The *Exception 481* of the Zoning By law permits an office limited to a diplomatic mission subject to that office being restricted to a dwelling converted for that use. The demolition and reconstruction of this office would not meet the provision regarding conversion and will require relief from the by law through a Minor Rezoning Amendment.

The zoning has setback and height restrictions to ensure compatibility with surrounding areas.

#### **Heritage Designation**

The Chancery building falls under *Part V* of the OHA because it is located within the *Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District*. According to the City of Ottawa *Sandy Hill East Conservation District Building Evaluation Map*, the property is rated as a *Category 4*, although the *Sandy Hill Heritage Study* evaluates the property at 44/100 with *Category* 3 Heritage Status. The interiors of the building of the building are excluded from the evaluation.

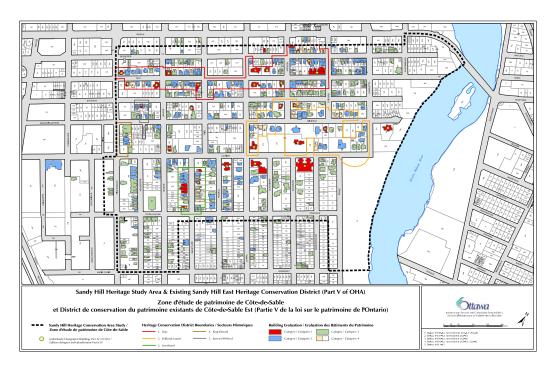


Figure 1: Sandy Hill Heritage Conservation District. (map courtesy of City of Ottawa)

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#### C. Current Conditions/ Introduction to Development Site

The property is a purpose-built apartment building dating from around 1945 that has been converted to office institutional embassy use c. 1985, which is reflected in the zoning provisions. The neighborhood character is primarily residential, interspersed with many embassy properties, including Austria, France, Guinea, China, Bulgaria, Russian Federation and the Sudan, among others.

The south side of Wilbrod Street, in the vicinity of the subject property, may be characterized as rather disjointed 3- 4 storey urban fabric, with no consistency in lot sizes, widths, setbacks, or building styles. There is a mix of large converted residential embassy buildings and, most notably, an anomalous 10-storey apartment building to the south east.

The north side of Wilbrod Street, in the vicinity of the subject property, has more intact urban fabric, with better consistency in lot sizes, widths, setbacks and more consistent 3-4 storey massing and building styles. Again, there is a mix of large converted residential embassy buildings and larger heritage homes, converted to residential apartments.

Cobourg Street terminates at Wilbrod at the south and extends northwards to Rideau Street. The subject property is on a very short section of street; the narrow end of the block. It faces across the street at the side yard of 455 Wilbrod, which is screened with tall cedar hedges and to the northwest at 228 Wilbrod, a 1920s red brick residence. To its immediate north at 225 Wilbrod, there is a simple 1970s era residential home, with materiality and detailing out of character with the neighborhood.

The existing two storey flat roofed building sits tight to the western side of the flat site, leaving little space for grassed landscaping and low shrubbery. An entrance canopy extends over the property line. To the north is a paved parking area. Along Wilbrod, two mature street trees screen the building, whose setback matches the adjacent properties. The eastern side abutting the neighbor has a cedar hedge screen.

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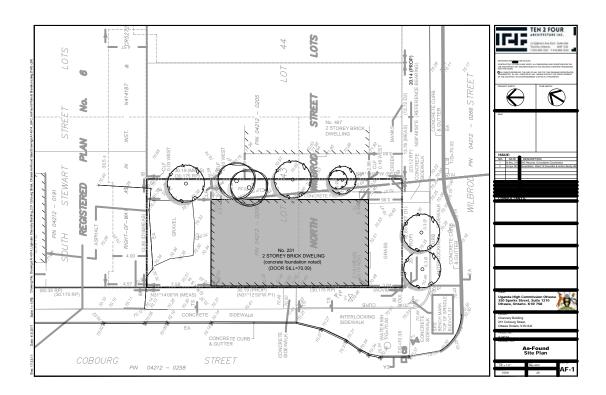


Figure 2: As Found Site Plan.

#### D. Background Research and Analysis

#### Research and Methodology

The methodology used in the preparation of this assessment includes review and reference to the following:

- Revised development drawings prepared by Ten 2 Four Architecture Inc., dated November 22, 2017;
- Visits to the site and surrounding areas;
- Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form, City of Ottawa, April, 2007;
- Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan, City of Ottawa, April, 2015;
- The City of Ottawa Official Plan;
- Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, Parks Canada; and
- A Guide to Preparing Cultural Heritage Impact Statements, prepared by the City of Ottawa, Draft, March 2012.

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#### Site Analysis and Evaluation

Sandy Hill is an important, primarily residential, neighborhood close to the downtown core of Ottawa. It is bordered by the Rideau River and the University of Ottawa on its east and west sides, by the Queensway to the south and Rideau Street to the north. The growth of the university and the resulting pressures on the adjacent stable mature neighborhoods, combined with the site's proximity to the downtown core of Ottawa, have attracted new development that, in some instances, is disruptive to the prevailing character.

Although the large portion of Sandy Hill community was studied for the *Conservation Study Area*, only certain portions were identified as *Heritage Conservation Districts* and, additionally, many *Category 2* and 3 plus some individually designated *Part IV* buildings fall outside these districts. The result is a rather patchwork effect of heritage protection. Currently, the City of Ottawa is undertaking a Phase II of the Sandy Hill Heritage Study, with additional areas under consideration for designation as *Heritage Conservation Districts*.

As indicated in the *Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form*, the existing building is assessed as 'modestly compatible with the block in which it sits', and somewhat out of character with the prevailing pitched roof structures along Wilbrod and Cobourg Streets. The two storey flat-roofed structure, constructed circa 1945, is not original to the District, itself having replaced an original smaller 2 ½ storey pitched roof structure dating to around 1912.

The red brick building style is fairly atypical, detailed in a symmetrical low-relief and Federal/Classical style. An entrance canopy has been clumsily added to the original classical entrance. Windows are simple 6-over-6 and 8-over-8 double-hung style framed with shallow decorative brick recesses and stone sills. Brick quoins and a corbelled parapet provide some relief in a mostly flat façade.

The Main Floor is elevated from the street approximately six risers; given the tight constraints of the Entry, the site and building configuration, providing barrier free access is highly problematic.

The existing building is in poor condition as indicated by a *Structural Assessment Report* and a *Designated Substance and Hazardous Materials Survey Report*. Geotechnical issues have resulted in differential settlement and cracking of the exterior masonry and mould throughout the building, arising from a breach in the building envelope, have been evaluated as significant and not practically correctable by the design team.

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#### **Existing Development Guidelines**

The City of Ottawa has many policies governing development of, and in proximity to, heritage resources. These are described in *Section 4.6.1* of the official plan. The policies relevant to this proposal are listed below:

- 1.c.(The proposal must) Demonstrate that the proposal will not adversely impact the defined cultural heritage value or the heritage attributes of the property;
- 9. When reviewing applications for zoning amendments, site plan control approval, demolition control, minor variance, or the provision of utilities affecting lands/properties adjacent to or across the street from a designated heritage resource, adjacent to or across the street from the boundary of a heritage conservation district, or within heritage conservation district, the City will ensure that the proposal is compatible by: [Amendment 14, September 8, 2004] [Amendment #76, OMB File #PL100206, August 18, 2011]
  - a. Respecting the massing, profile and character adjacent to or across the street from heritage buildings; [Amendment #76, August 04, 2010]
  - b. Approximating the width of nearby heritage buildings when constructing new buildings facing the street;
  - c. Approximating the established setback pattern on the street;
  - d. Being physically oriented to the street in a similar fashion to existing heritage buildings;
  - e. Minimizing shadowing on adjacent heritage properties, particularly on landscaped open spaces and outdoor amenity areas;
  - f. Having minimal impact on the heritage qualities of the street as a public place in heritage areas;
  - g. Minimizing the loss of landscaped open space;
  - Ensuring that parking facilities (surface lots, residential garages, stand-alone parking and parking components as part of larger developments) are compatibly integrated into heritage areas;
  - i. Requiring local utility companies to place metering equipment, transformer boxes, power lines, conduit equipment boxes, and other utility equipment and devices in locations that do not detract from the visual character or architectural integrity of the heritage resource.

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The Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan also outlines additional plan objectives:

- Identify and describe the cultural heritage value and heritage attributes of the HCD;
- Encourage the ongoing conservation and restoration of buildings of cultural heritage value in the HCD; and
- Provide a framework to manage change in the HCD in the future.

#### E. Statement of Significance

NOTE: The full list of heritage district attributes is available in *Annex E – Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan*.

#### Design (architectural) value:

231 Cobourg Street is an example of the Federal Classical style. Abbreviated from the *Heritage Survey Form*, the design value of the building is assessed on the following characteristics:

- symmetrical formal compositions;
- smooth facades with medium sized window apertures;
- brickwork with string courses, corbels and decorative patterns;
- wood double hung windows (6x6 and 8x8);
- Octagonal window above entry;
- classical detailing at entryway pediment.

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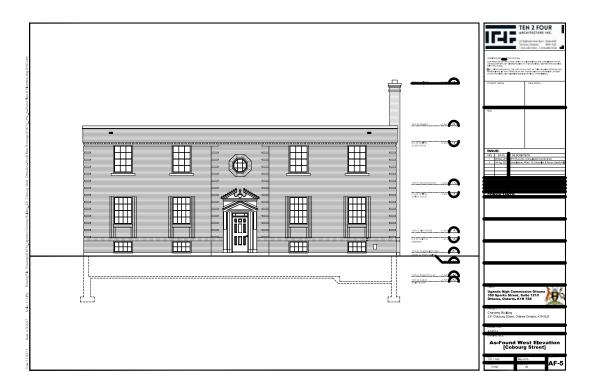


Figure 3: As Found West Elevation

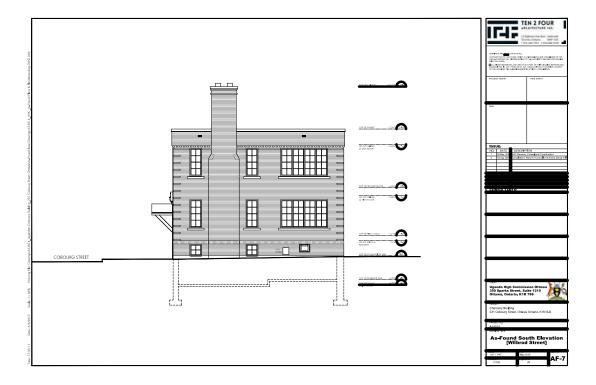


Figure 4: As Found South Elevation

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#### Cultural & Historical value:

Abbreviated from the Conservation District Plan, the cultural & historical value of the property is based on the following characteristics:

- Its association with the development of Sandy Hill into a desirable residential neighbourhood;
- An excellent example of residential neighbourhood with key features including historic street pattern, consistent house to lot ratios, generous front yard setbacks and tree lined streets;
- Although not mentioned in the City Heritage Survey Form, correspondence received from the Community Association asserts that the building was owned by the wife of Lester B Pearson in 1954 and was home to the Pearsons from 1955-1958. Mr. Pearson won the Noble Prize in 1957. To date, the Consultant has not been able to corroborate this assertion. The Consultant had asked for more information from the Community Association, without response.

#### **Heritage District Attributes:**

Abbreviated from the Conservation District Plan, the relevant heritage attributes of the property and district are based on the following characteristics:

- An eclectic mix of architectural styles;
- Primarily residential character;
- Predominantly two to three storey building height;
- Consistent use of building materials including red and buff brick, limestone and wood;
- Large covered, open front porches and verandas;
- Generous front lawns with shrubs and trees and some low front yard fences;
- Consistent side yard setbacks providing space between buildings;
- Historic street layout and lot pattern;
- Mature deciduous street trees and boulevards between the curb and street in some locations.

#### Contextual value:

Abbreviated from the heritage survey form, the contextual value of the building is based on the following characteristics:

- Atypical compatibility with surrounding pattern of development; and
- Moderate contribution to the history and architecture of the neighborhood.

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#### F. Description of the Proposed Development

The redevelopment proposes demolition of the existing building and replacement with one of virtually identical footprint that matches the existing southerly and northerly setbacks. The south façade will align with the adjacent prevailing front yard setback of the buildings to the east along Wilbrod Street. The east façade's set back from the property line will also provide a generous amount of landscaping behind the two existing mature trees to remain. Parking will be retained in the existing location but will be properly paved and contained with perimeter curbs.

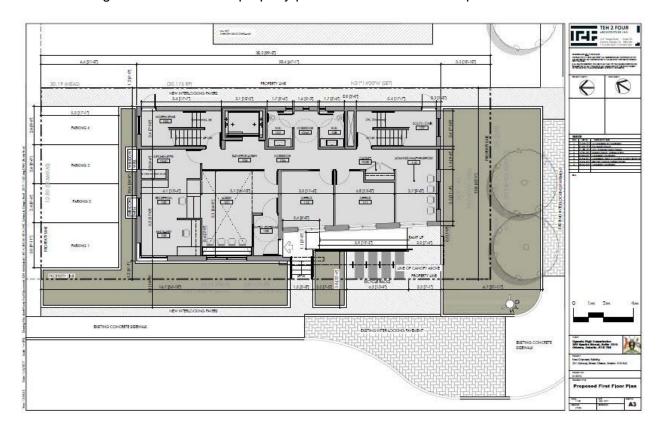


Figure 5: Proposed Site Plan

The two-storey flat roofed massing will be replaced with a three storey flat roofed massing slightly higher than adjacent buildings but still within the district's prevailing range of two to three stories. The two-storey red brick massing of the original building, characteristic of the neighbourhood, will be retained floor the first two stories; dark grey porcelain, set back from the brick, will clad the third storey to tie-in more closely with the grey shingling found throughout the neighbourhood. The rooftop terrace and elevator projection is located away from both primary facades, limiting its visual presence.

To further reduce the visual impact of the proposed third floor volume, it has been set back approximately 1 metre from the edge of the second floor parapet along the south, west, and

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north sides. The overhanging southwest angled corner serves to add an element of visual interest addressing the main intersection of Wilbrod and Cobourg streets.

An octagonal window echoes the original building feature on the west facade. Punched windows, based on a common module with protruding frames, and a small brise-soleil add a degree of shadow relief to the facades.



**Figure 6:** (Above) Proposed West Elevation **Figure 7:** (Below) Proposed South Elevation



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#### G. Impact of Proposed Development

Our assessment attempts to identify any positive and negative impacts the proposed development may have on the heritage value of cultural heritage resources. Assessment is made by measuring the impact of the proposed works on the significance and heritage attributes defined in the background documents, and outlined in *Section E* of this CHIS. Specific to this proposal, the design proposal will be assessed against all three categories for designation (design value, historical value, contextual value).

Extracted from the City of Ottawa CHIS template, positive impacts of a development on cultural heritage resources typically include, but are not limited to (we have highlighted in bold those items deemed most relevant for consideration in this CHIS):

- restoration of a building or structure, including replacement of missing attributes,
- restoration of an historic streetscape or enhancement of the quality of the place,
- adaptive re-use of a cultural heritage resource to ensure its ongoing viability, and
- access to new sources of funds to allow for the ongoing protection and restoration of the cultural heritage resource.

Negative impacts include, but are not limited to:

- Demolition of any, or part of any, heritage attributes or features,
- Alteration that is not sympathetic, or is incompatible, with the historic fabric and appearance of a building or structure,
- Shadows created that obscure heritage attributes or change the viability of the associated cultural heritage landscape,
- Isolation of a heritage resource or part thereof from its surrounding environment, context or a significant relationship,
- Obstruction of significant identified views or vistas within or from heritage conservation districts,
- Obstruction of significant identified views or vistas within or from individual cultural heritage resources,
- A change in land use where the change affects the property's cultural heritage value, and
- Land disturbances such as a change in grade that alters soils, and drainage patterns that adversely affect a cultural heritage resource.

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#### For the proposal:

The physical destruction of a heritage resource, in all or in part, is at all times the greatest risk to built heritage. In this sense, this development proposal does not fulfill this primary and most basic task of physical preservation per the *Standards and Guidelines*. However, the potential to positively impact, or not adversely impact, the defined heritage resource still exists within each of the categories of significance which have contributed to the conservation district.

#### Demolition

Demolition of the existing building is proposed. The identified structural issues from foundation settlement and subsequent breach of the building envelope, resulting in extensive water penetration and development of mold throughout the building, have meant that the structure has not been suitable for habitation since 2014.

The extent of abatement required to remediate hazardous materials and substances, the repair and replacement of interior building components, electrical and mechanical system upgrades and the inter-related complications of all these processes, results in costs that are extremely prohibitive.

Test boreholes for geotechnical purposes, with an aim of stabilizing the foundations and basement slab, have shown that no suitable bearing surfaces exist for approximately 20 m in depth. Additionally, the water table is high, further complicating the waterproofing challenges.

The HCD guidelines encourage retention and conservation of *Category 1, 2, 3* buildings. Although there seems to be a discrepancy between the HCD map and the individual scoring sheet as to whether 231 Cobourg is a *Category 4 or 3*, based on what we know and assess, we are of the opinion that the individual scoring sheet errs in its numbers (e.g. stylistic influence of 10/15 and development context of 8/15 and landmark status of 5/10) and that the final score should be lower and more properly a *Category 4* building. Overall, we are of the opinion that this is a marginal building in terms of contributing to the district's heritage character.

In general, there are health and safety concerns that do not allow practical, cost-effective remediation or 'heroic measures' that might be justified with a high-value exemplar building. Combined with the programmatic requirements for the diplomatic mission that are larger than the existing structure can support, demolition of the building and replacement with a new purpose-built structure that addresses all of the above concerns and requirements seems reasonable and defensible. It should be noted that this approach is not that different than the existing building which itself replaced an earlier building, as part of the evolution of the district and cultural landscape.

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#### Design (architectural) value:

231 Cobourg Street and its identified detailing and materiality is an example of the *Federal Classical* style, but the use of this style in the mid-1950s may be seen as a somewhat anomalous transplant from an earlier period (c. 1800) of architectural stylistic development in the United States and out of sync with the prevailing language in the conservation district. Although the Heritage Study gives *high-medium* scores under the architecture category, we are of the opinion that these are exaggerated and that the building features are not exemplars of either the period or the referenced style.

The reuse of an octagonal window above entry is seen as a small playful nod to the original building.

Similarly, the use of dark grey porcelain to clad the third floor is reminiscent of the predominant grey single roofing throughout the neighborhood and lends to the proposed development's thoughtful integration in the area.

Based on the proposed low profile and stepped massing on a corner lot, the shadow impacts are very minimal, contained to the rear yard of 467 Wilbrod.

#### Cultural & Historical value:

The proposal for demolition and replacement of the converted residential building with a purpose built small office building represents a break in the cultural & historical value of the property based on the following characteristics:

Whereas the existing building was formerly residential and converted to office use, the new
use will be a more permanent non-residential use in a primarily residential neighbourhood,
albeit a continuation of a use that has existed for over three decades.

When comparing the existing footprint and massing of the converted residential building to what is proposed, the cultural & historical value of the property is not diminished based on the following characteristics:

 The Sandy Hill example of a residential neighbourhood with key features including historic street pattern, consistent house to lot ratios, generous front yard setbacks and tree lined streets will be maintained and in fact improved, with increased side yard setback and landscaping,

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#### **Heritage District Attributes:**

The proposal for demolition and replacement of the converted residential building with a purpose built small office building, does not significantly diminish the heritage district attributes, based on the following characteristics:

- The eclectic mix of architectural styles will be maintained, with the replacement building a well detailed expression of contemporary design;
- The primarily residential character will be maintained, largely because the proposal maintains an existing (zoning exception) use;
- The predominantly two to three-storey building height in the district is maintained with the three-storey proposal;
- The consistent use of building materials including red and buff brick, limestone and wood is maintained in the replacement building;
- The proposal includes an open front porch along the west facade, albeit in a contemporary expression. This maintains the desirable streel level animation;
- Generous front lawns with shrubs and trees and site grading and landscaping will be maintained and improved;
- Consistent side yard setbacks, providing space between buildings, will be maintained;
- The proposal respects the historic street layout and lot pattern; and
- The mature deciduous street trees and boulevards between the curb and street will be maintained.

#### Contextual value:

The proposal for demolition and replacement of the converted residential building with a purpose built small office building is assessed as not significantly diminishing the heritage district contextual value, based on the following characteristics:

- The atypical compatibility with surrounding pattern of development is not impacted with the design of the existing building and is somewhat improved with increased side yard setbacks and landscaping; and
- The existing building's very moderate contribution to the history and architecture of the neighborhood is lost; however, it in itself is a replacement building constructed in approximately the mid-point of Sandy Hill's development. The new building, in this sense, may be seen as part of the normal evolution of a district, whereby over time buildings will be replaced and/or renovated.
- The consideration that the building may have been the home of Prime Minister Pearson for a short period is not seen as significant. To our knowledge, Pearson's home was not a

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factor in his work or figured prominently in his career accomplishments. It must be also noted that the *Events/Persons* component of a City Heritage Evaluation only accounts for 5 points out of 100; even if this this category were awarded the maximum, because of the Pearson association, the overall score would still be 48/100 (*Category 3*), due to low scores in other components of the overall heritage scoring.

#### H. Alternatives and Mitigation Strategies

The CHIS must assess alternative development options and mitigation measures in order to avoid or limit the negative impact on the heritage value of identified cultural heritage resources.

Taken from the City of Ottawa CHIS template, methods of minimizing or avoiding a negative impact on a cultural heritage resource(s) include but are not limited to (we have highlighted in bold those items that may be relevant for consideration in this CHIS):

- Alternative development approaches that result in compatible development and limit negative impacts,
- Separating development from significant cultural heritage resources to protect their heritage attributes including, but not limited to, their settings and identified views and vistas,
- Limiting height and density or locating higher/denser portion of a development in a manner that respects the existing individual cultural heritage resources or the heritage conservation district, and
- Including reversible interventions to cultural heritage resources.

#### For the proposal:

While the design proposal proposes demolition of the existing building, the replacement building's low massing, size and building features make significant efforts in relation to the existing heritage resource and its Design Value, Cultural & Historical Value, Heritage District Attributes, and Contextual Value.

The Consultant assesses that the primary risk to the heritage resource is the demolition and removal of the heritage resource from its context, and the disruption of its status as a converted residential building in a residential neighbourhood.

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For reasons discussed above, and based on professional assessment of structural, geotechnical and environmental issues, we are in agreement with the proposal that the existing building may be demolished without significant impact to the heritage conservation district. The focus must now turn to the larger district heritage character to ensure that the replacement building is compatible and can fit well in its context. There are some relevant recommendations in the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD Plan, especially under Section 4.5 Guidelines for Category 4 Buildings which cover Demolition, Section 4.6 Guidelines for Infill and Section 4.7 Guidelines for Streetscape and Public Realm. We are of the opinion that the proposed development adheres extremely well to these provisions.

Strategies which could mitigate impacts to the heritage resource's contextual value will also serve to mitigate the impacts to its design value. In this particular instance, the two categories are intrinsically linked through an overall appreciation of the proposed building's massing and facades.

<u>Recommendation 1:</u> Refinement of residential typology and scale at south.

The institutional look of the design proposal on the south facade contrasts with the residential character on the block. Advancing the design to express a more distinctly residential typology, with some articulation to read at a residential scale, may help to preserve the residential character and improve the dialogue with the surrounding primarily residential context.

Recommendation 2: Consider further refinement of the third-floor and roof access materiality.

While the use of red brick for the lower floors is seen as appropriate and beneficial, the reinterpretation of dark grey materials for the third floor will need careful consideration to ensure the facade integrates well with the gray roofing materials of existing buildings in the surrounding neighbourhood. Additionally, the use of wood cladding for the roof access enclosure could use further refinement to ensure its visual compatibility with both the rest of the building and the surrounding neighbourhood. Further consideration and refinement of the material treatments in both of these areas is encouraged.

<u>Recommendation 3:</u> Consider material expression of Entry Stair and Ramp.

The current design evolution suggests a fairly thin exposed concrete retaining wall at the entry stair and barrier free ramp. The horizontal screen wall of the barrier free ramp appears to be an elegant way to hide the sloped ramp behind; however, some further consideration of the foundation wall, stair and ramp wall is encouraged to improve the appearance and/or make material connections to the stone foundations of adjacent houses.

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#### I. Conclusion

The proposed demolition of this former residential apartment structure, converted for office use over three decades ago, is regrettable but understandable given the structural, geotechnical and environmental issues, supported by thorough professional assessment.

The program of a small-scale office building, maintaining the same use as the existing, following the provisions of the *Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan* regarding *Demolition*, *Guidelines for Infill* and *Guidelines for Streetscape and Public Realm* is appropriate. We are of the opinion that the proposed development adheres extremely well to these provisions and the replacement building is assessed as being not detrimental to the cultural value of the larger conservation district heritage resource.

The overall massing of the development on a corner lot will maintain connections to the residential neighborhoods in the same manner as the existing building.

The increased westerly side yard setback, and maintaining northerly and southerly setbacks in alignment with the adjacent properties is appropriate and represent an improvement. The redesign of the entry stair landing forecourt contributes to landscaping and public realm space on this corner lot. All existing mature trees will be retained and additional landscaping added to what is a fairly bare flat site.

The material expression is contemporary in nature but makes references to prevailing material typologies in the district. The use of a red brick second floor datum line references the existing/original building, while demarcating the upper floor setback and material changes.

As the design is still quite schematic, further refinement of the design, prior to production of working drawings, is advised and specific recommendations are contained in this document.

Taken in balance and in its context, the development proposal is assessed as not being detrimental to District Character and overall, may be seen as a compatible approach for the heritage resource's identified Design (architectural), Cultural & Historical and Contextual Values.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this assessment.

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#### K. Glossary

#### Adversely impact

A project has the potential to "adversely impact" the cultural heritage value of a project if it; requires the removal of heritage attributes, requires the destruction of a cultural heritage resource, obscures heritage attributes, is constructed in such a way that it does not respect the defined cultural heritage value of a resource.

#### **Built Heritage**

Includes buildings, structures and sites that contribute to an understanding of our heritage and are valued for their representation of that heritage. They may reveal architectural, cultural, or socio-political patterns of our history or may be associated with specific events or people who have shaped that history. Examples include buildings, groups of buildings, dams and bridges.

#### **Cultural Heritage Resources**

Includes four components: Built Heritage, Cultural Heritage Landscapes, Archaeological Resources, and documentary heritage left by people.

#### **Cultural Heritage Landscape**

Any geographic area that has been modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people and that provides the contextual and spatial information necessary to preserve and interpret the understanding of important historical settings and changes to past patterns of land use. Examples include a burial ground, historical garden or a larger landscape reflecting human intervention.

#### Preservation

Preservation involves protecting, maintaining and stabilizing the existing form, material and integrity of an historic place or individual component, while protecting its heritage value.

#### Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation involves the sensitive adaptation of an historic place or individual component for a continuing or compatible contemporary use, while protecting its heritage value.

#### Restoration

Restoration involves accurately revealing, recovering or representing the state of an historic place or individual component as it appeared at a particular period in its history, while protecting its heritage value.

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### Annex A

# **Existing Conditions**

(Ten 2 Four Architecture)

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231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, ON.

#### **Background:**

Sandy Hill West architectural character is diverse, non-uniform and the collectivity of its buildings reflects the evolving nature of this area through scale, date of construction, design or architectural style and materiality. According to the Sandy Hill Heritage Study, the building located at 231 Cobourg Street was constructed between 1935 and 1947 and is designated under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act in the Wilbrod - Laurier Conservation District.

According to the heritage report on the property located at 231 Cobourg Street, the existing building makes a modest contribution to the heritage landscape (Group 3 according to the Sandy Hill East Heritage Study). It is significantly different in its muted federalistic architectural style to the many late-Victorian mansions with more heritage significance that have been converted for diplomatic use in the Sandy Hill neighbourhood. Having noted that however, it is to be emphasized here that we are very cognizant of the importance of this building and its contribution to the heritage character of this neighbourhood.

# **Commentary on Existing Conditions:**

Given the age of the building, structural issues from foundation settlement and subsequent breach of the building envelope resulting in extensive water penetration and development of mold throughout the building means that the it is not suitable for habitation. It is precisely in light of this that Uganda High Commission (UHC) took a decision to vacate the building in 2014.

Although rehabilitation of the building is a theoretical possibility, given the scale and complexity of the required structural stabilization and structural rehabilitation, the extent of abatement to remediate hazardous materials and substances, repairs and replacements of interior building components, upgrades to electrical and mechanical systems and the unquantifiable complications of all these processes, the costs by all indications would be extremely prohibitive. As indicated in the structural report prepared by Stephenson Engineering Limited, the quantifiable estimated costs for rehabilitation are in excess of \$1.6 million dollars not including mechanical and electrical upgrades.

The recently completed geotechnical report by AA Scientific Inc. (ASI) illustrates the difficulty that would be encountered for the scope of the structural undertaking that would be required for stabilizing the basement slab and restoring the foundations. In the test boreholes that were drilled, no bedrock was encountered even at a depth of 19.5 metres (approximately 64 feet). The report indicates that enough resistance was encountered at this depth and concludes that consistent with ASI experience in the Ottawa

region, refusal depth can be considered as bedrock with a thin layer of weathered bedrock (or clay fill) overlain. Structural stabilization would require the use of drilled piles to at least this depth of refusal which would be an extremely complicated and costly undertaking with side-effects that can't even be anticipated and would further complicate the process. This is further compounded by a very high water table measured at 3m (approximately 10 feet) off season in winter meaning that it will be even higher in the spring and summer from melting snow and precipitation. This would make repair and water-proofing of the severely cracked basement foundation walls and slab an extremely difficult not to mention costly undertaking.

Deflection of structural members due to settlement and extensive water penetration means that structural rehabilitation will also be substantial because of the compromised structural integrity of the framing members. In all likelihood, significant sections of the structure, if not all of it would have to be replaced. The amount of temporary shoring and bracing alone would be a significant cost.

We have also had a Designated Substance Survey (environmental) Report completed. Given the age of the building, it is no surprise that asbestos, lead, mercury and other hazardous materials are present. This essentially means that full abatement will be required and will have to precede all other rehabilitation operations. In addition to this being a significant cost in and of itself (estimated at \$150,000.00 according to our environmental engineer), it will affect the following items if rehabilitation was to be considered:

Plaster Repair/Replacement - complete interior refinishing with drywall will be required because all interior finishes will have to be removed during the abatement process.

Contaminated sections of the structure primarily due to mold infestation will have to be replaced. A time intensive and exhaustive assessment of the extent of mold infestation would have to be carried out through destructive investigation. An inventory of the affected structural items would then have to be catalogued and assessment made to determine which sections would require replacement. Major temporary structural intervention would be required to ensure that the building remains structurally safe. The time and expense associated with this exercise cannot be reasonably estimated due in large part to the concealed conditions requiring destructive investigation as previously mentioned but suffice to say that it would be prohibitive.

In all likelihood, mold has developed behind in the cavities of most of the interior partitions and exterior walls. This means that the entire building envelope – sheathing, insulation, vapour barrier, interior drywall finishes, etc. - would have to be completely replaced. Again, the scope of this in light of the aforementioned structural interventions would be significant.

The challenges at hand can be summarized as follows;

- 1. Through a combination of structural deficiencies and deferred or inadequate maintenance over the past few decades typical of buildings in the heritage significance category, the building has, unfortunately fallen into a terrible state of disrepair beyond the possibility of rehabilitation, largely due to the former issue of a failing structure, compounded by the compromised building envelope which probably resulted in inadequate maintenance due to prohibitive costs. To reiterate, the unstable foundation situation has led to settling which is responsible for the severely cracked basement slab and foundation walls. The corresponding stresses manifested through significant deflection of structural members and the ensuing breach of the building envelope. The results of the breach in the building envelope are water penetration into the building which has resulted in significant development of mold, especially in the basement areas and some wall cavities as evidenced through areas where wall finishes and plaster ceilings have collapsed. The other, more hidden danger is that of the possibility of radon gas infiltration into the building through the severely cracked basement slab and block foundation walls. Of paramount importance here are health and safety concerns that cannot be simply remediated due to astronomical costs and the primary reason for vacating the building.
- 2. The requirements of the diplomatic mission for adequate space to accommodate their program of functions necessitates a solution beyond the limitations of the existing structure given its challenges, especially the

prohibitive costs for rehabilitation clearly demonstrated in the structural report.

#### **Existing Condition Examples:**



Evidence of repairs and water infiltrationat cracked basement slab. Note new slab infill on the left side.



Cracked basement slab and water infiltration.



Evidence of repairs at extensive cracking in basement foundation wall.



History of crack repairs at basement foundation wall indicates ongoing problem of settlement. Note the concrete block replacements.



Exposed floor joists at collapsed drywall ceiling due to water infiltration.



Collapsed drywall ceiling due to water infiltration.



Evidence of water soaked exterior and interior walls. Structural settling and cracking of basement slab, foundation walls and subsequent breach of the building envelope has led to this condition.



Evidence of extensive cracking and repairs in exterior brick masonry due to failing structure.

### **Planning Rationale Summary:**

The case for demolition and replacement with a new, more energy efficient building and one that properly caters to the programming and functional requirements of UHC and is informed by the provisions of all governing statutes is not unreasonable and we would argue, justifiable and defensible under the circumstances.

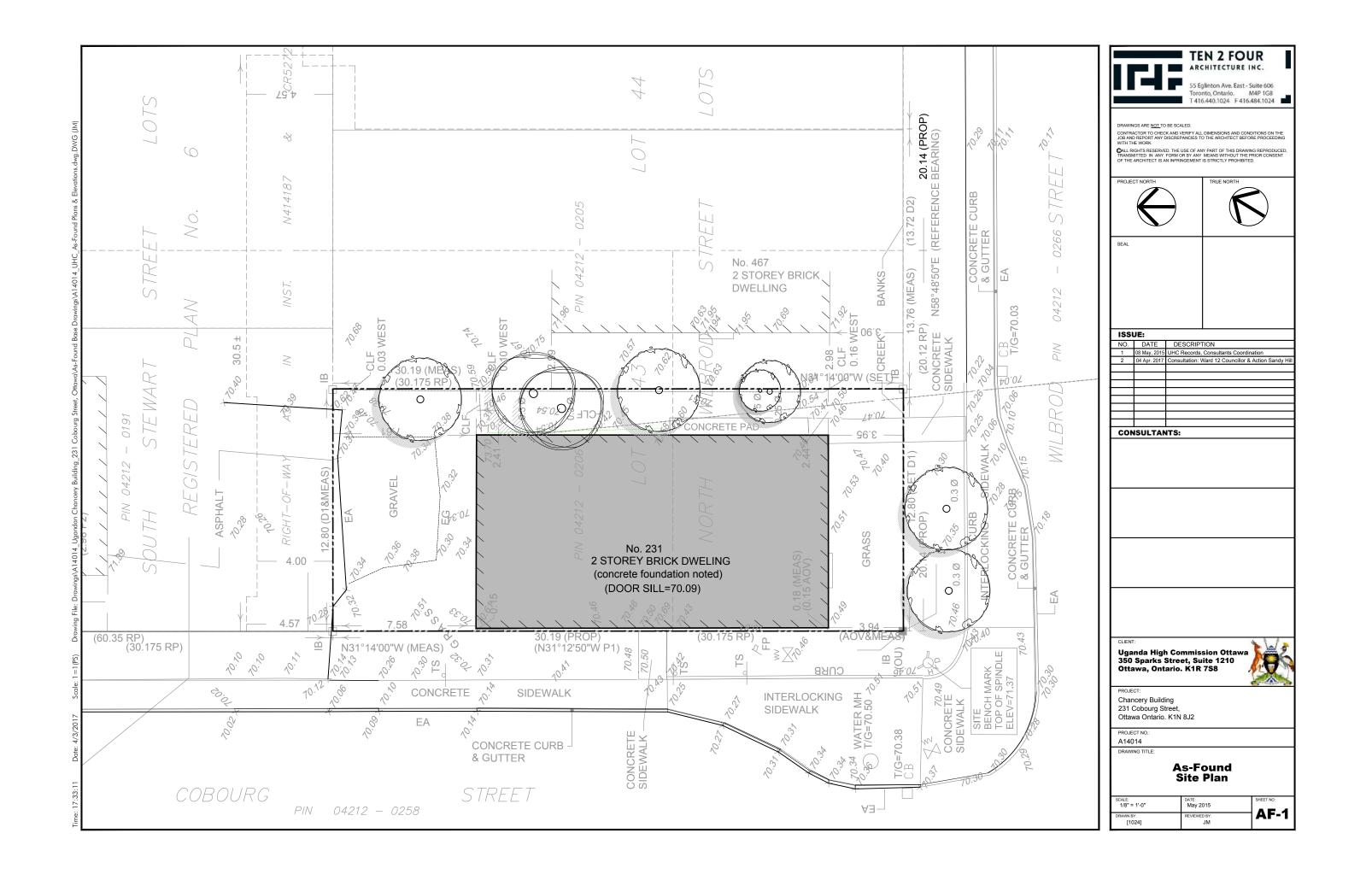
Our approach is to integrate the proposed building in this complex and diverse architectural tapestry of Sandy Hill in a manner that is not only contextually agreeable and palatable but also in a way that contributes to the evolving nature of the area, adding another chapter to the history of time, place and materiality that intertwines harmoniously with the existing character, however diverse it may be.

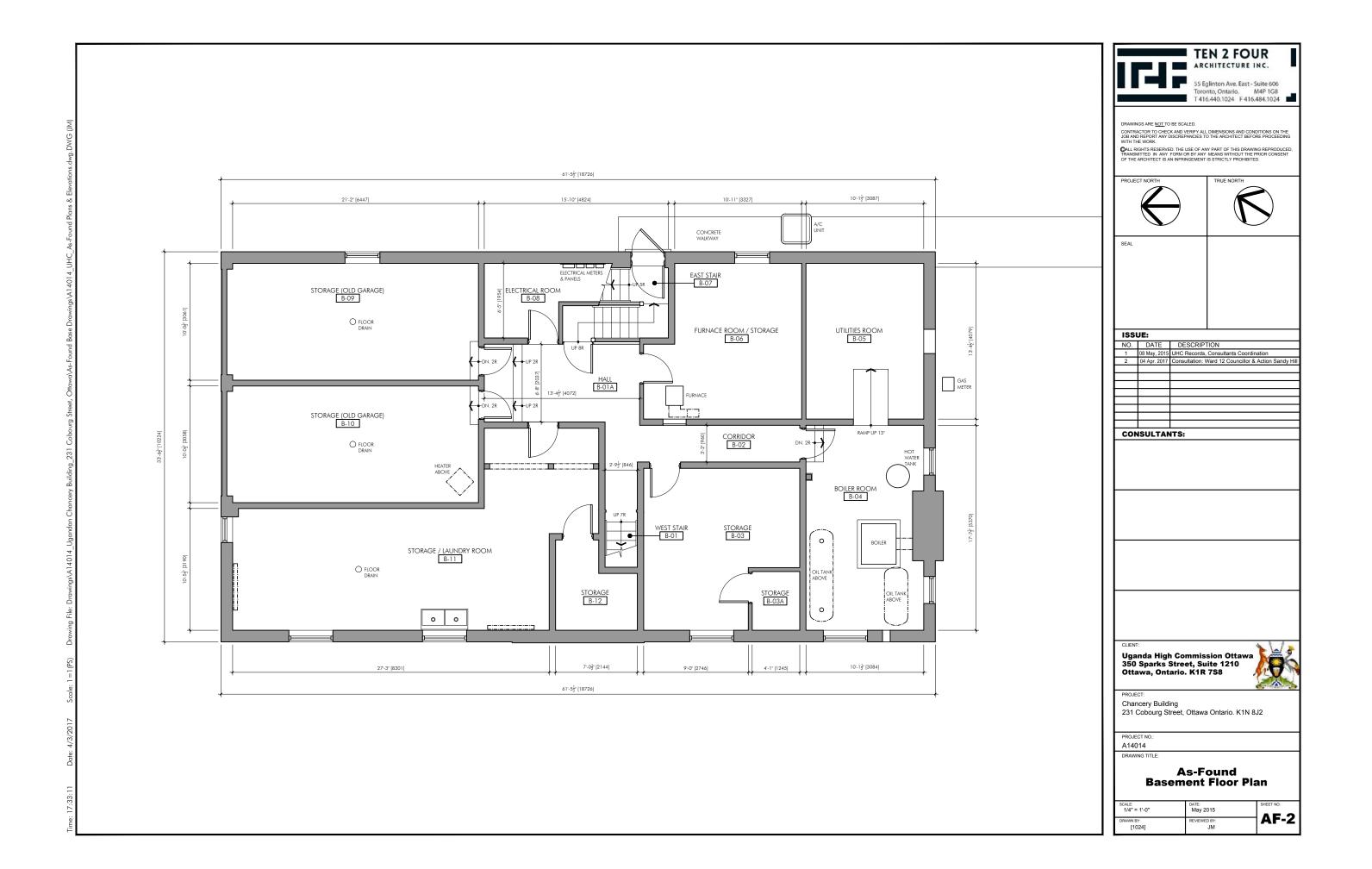
This has been addressed through strict adherence to the heritage overlay provisions - for scale, volume, materiality and fenestration pattern - and the urban design guidelines to ensure positive contribution to the character of the neighbourhood. This is consistent with the SHHSA's observation of the "evolving complexity of the existing character that clearly reflects the dynamic history of this sector of the City of Ottawa".

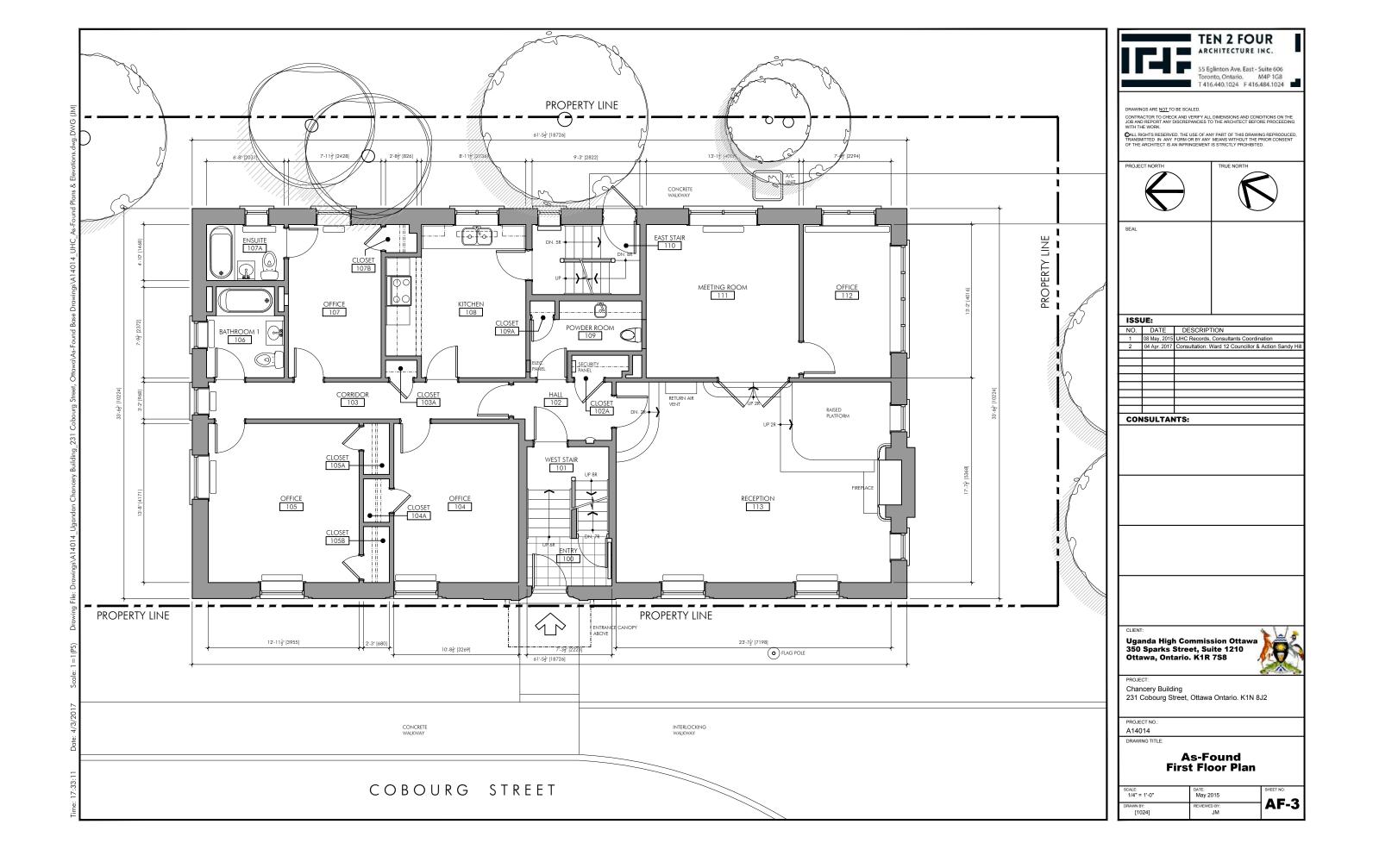
In conclusion, having exhausted the investigations for rehabilitation of the existing building and explored the possibilities for redevelopment through several consultations with Ottawa Planning and Heritage staff to ensure strict adherence to governing statutes and thorough review of the heritage overlay provisions and the urban development guidelines, we are of the opinion that our considered proposal for the redevelopment of the parcel at 231 Cobourg Street will not only be compatible within the diverse heritage fabric of Sandy Hill but will also add a delightful chapter in the evolution of this dynamic cultural landscape.

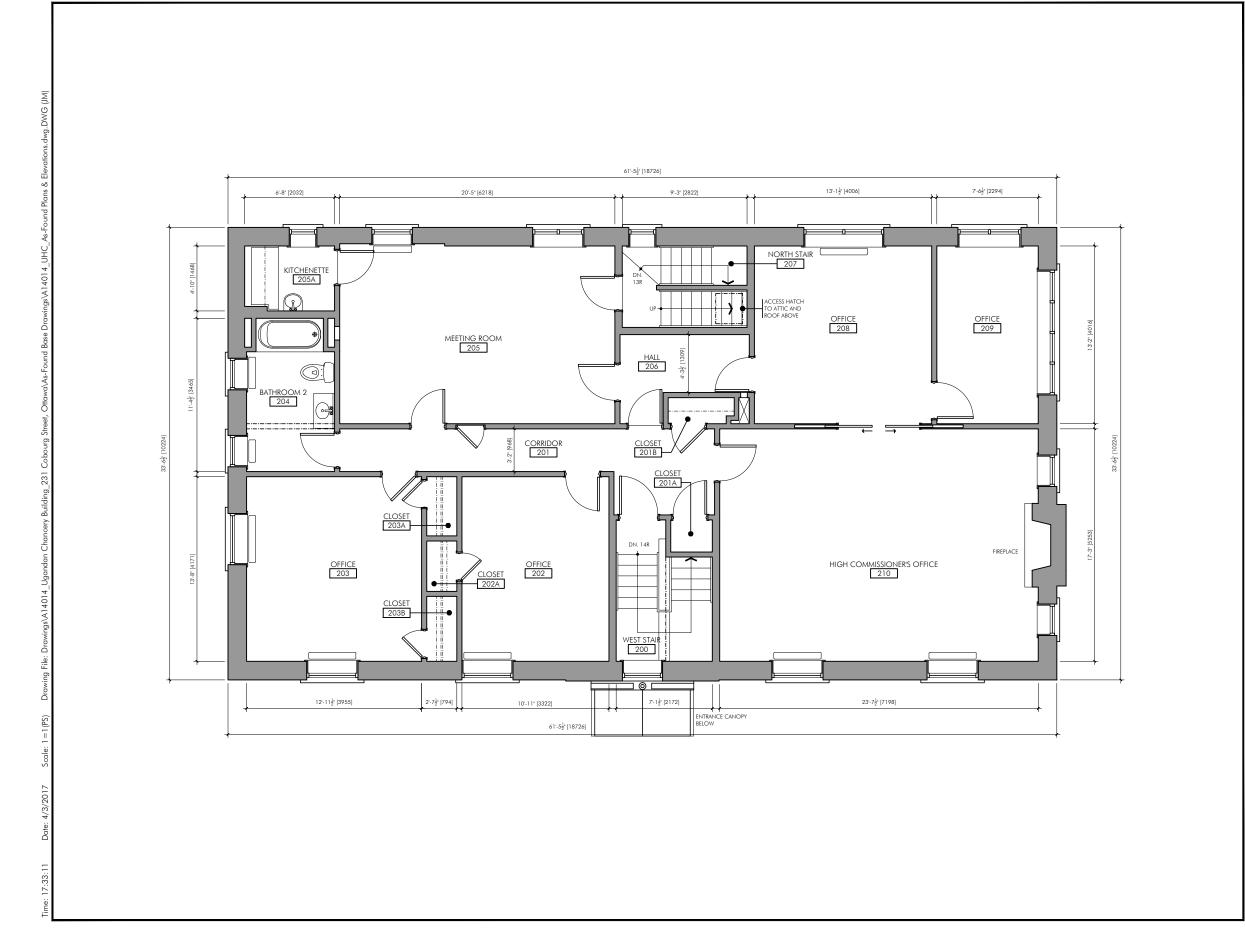
The extremely considered approach for the proposed redevelopment informed by the guidelines for infill developments and applicable statutes for zoning and development and heritage overlay requirements, is an honest attempt to revitalize and freshen the 231 Cobourg Street property in a compatible manner that looks forward in its design and environmental stewardship but also takes its cues from an established heritage context of the site

and the cultural heritage landscape that it inherits while addressing the programming and functional requirements of the Uganda High Commission.











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NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	08 May, 2015	UHC Records, Consultants Coordination
2	04 Apr. 2017	Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy

CONSULTANTS:

ISSUE:

Uganda High Commission Ottawa 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1210 Ottawa, Ontario. K1R 7S8



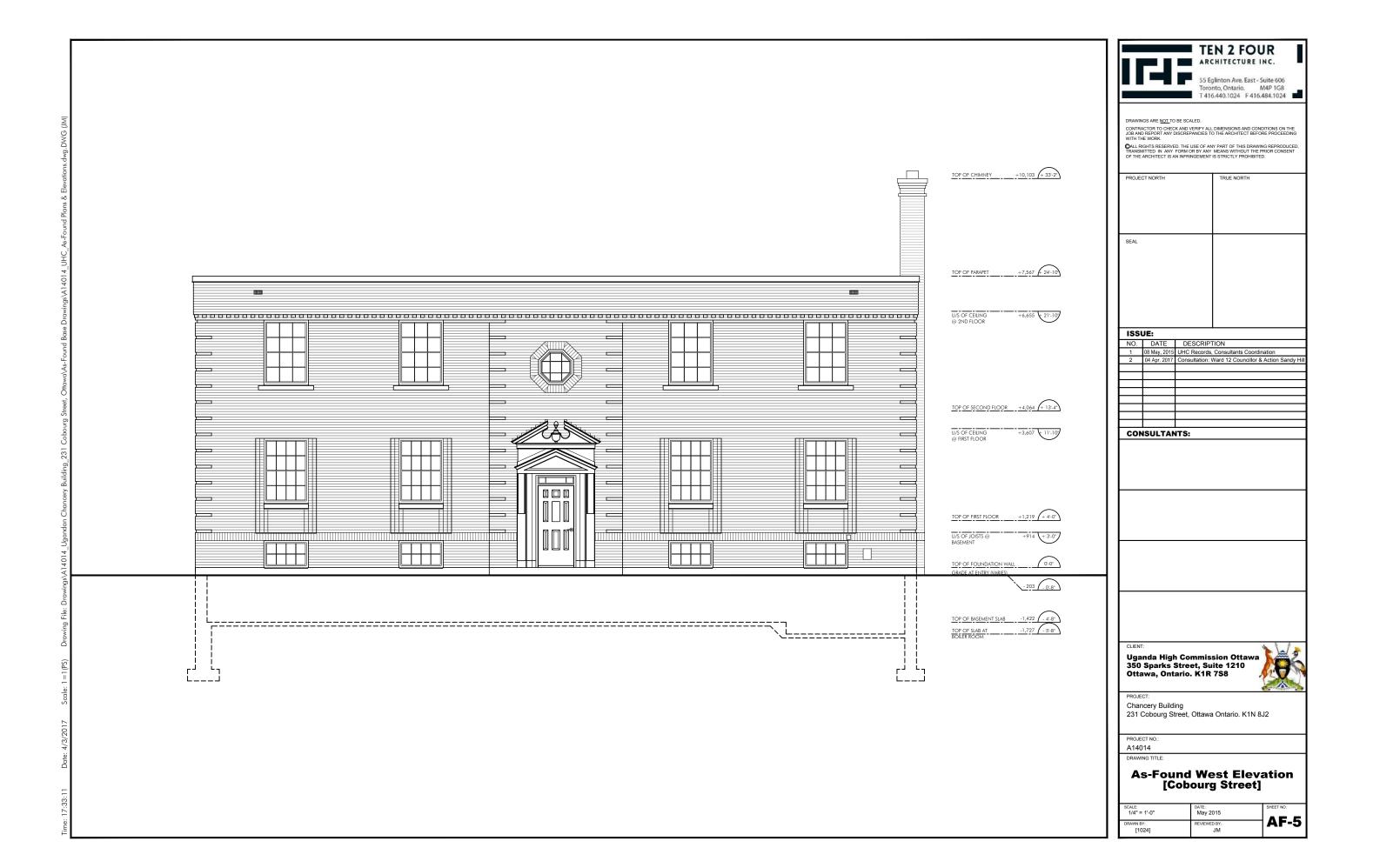
Chancery Building 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa Ontario. K1N 8J2

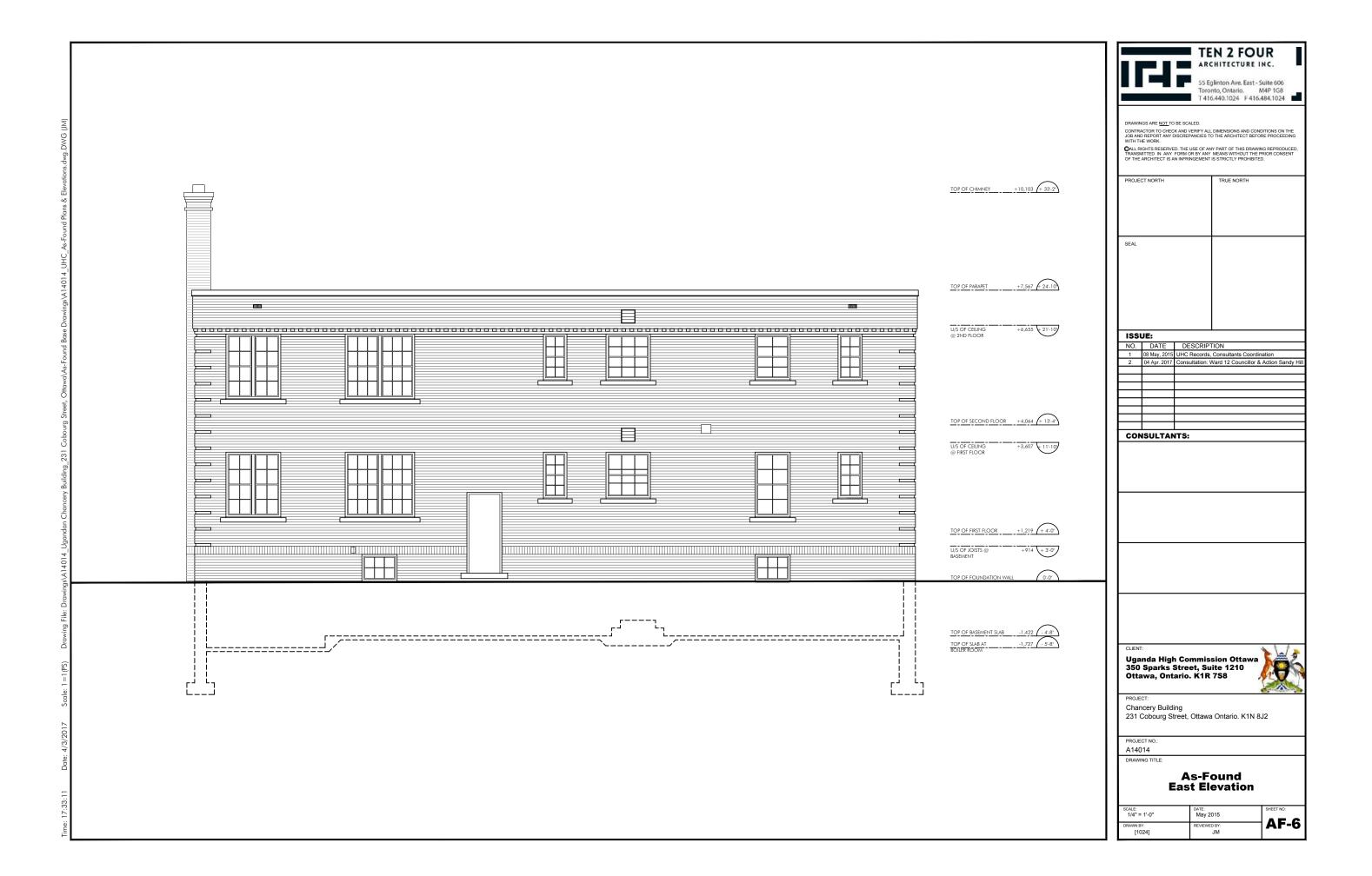
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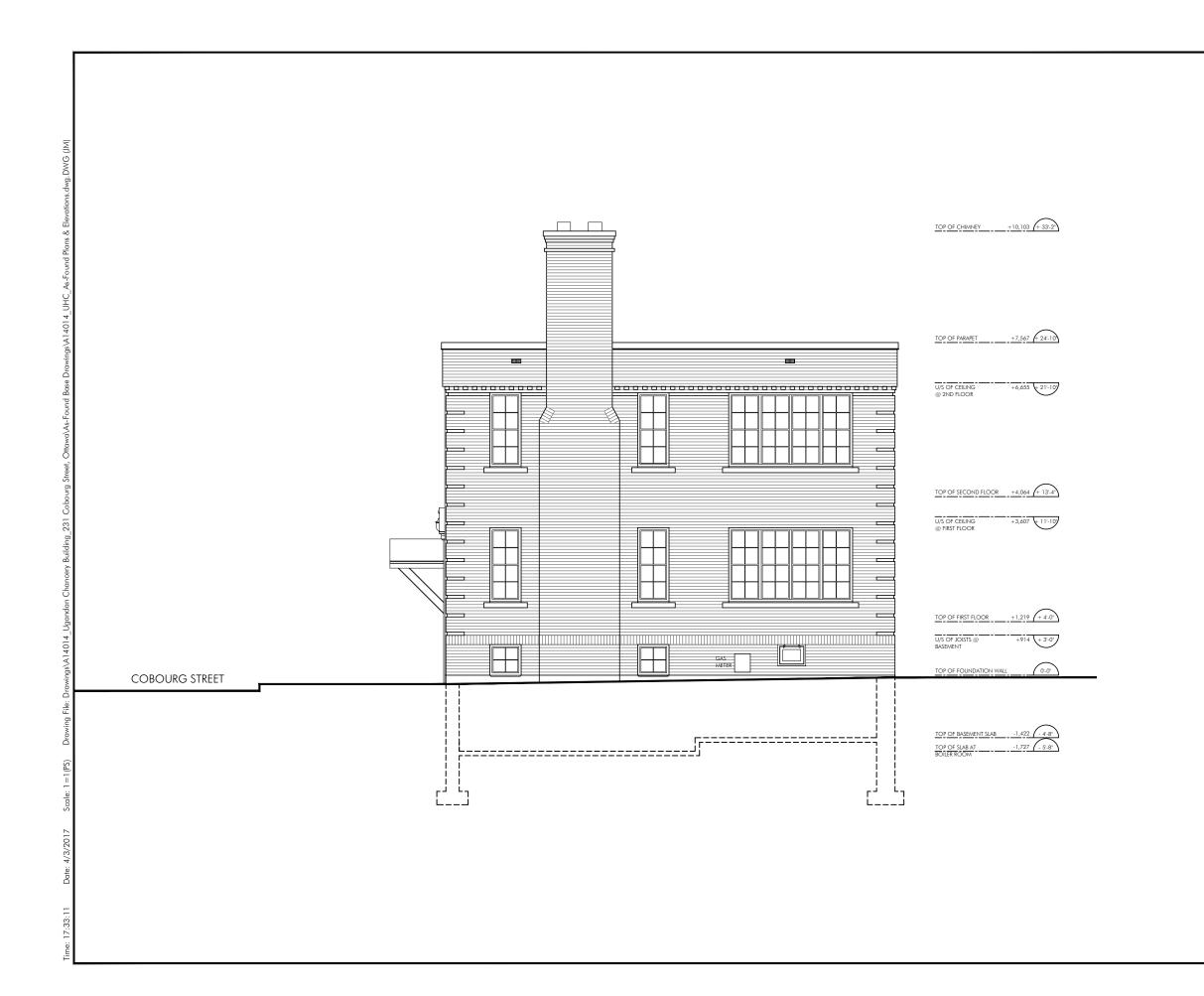
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# As-Found Second Floor Plan

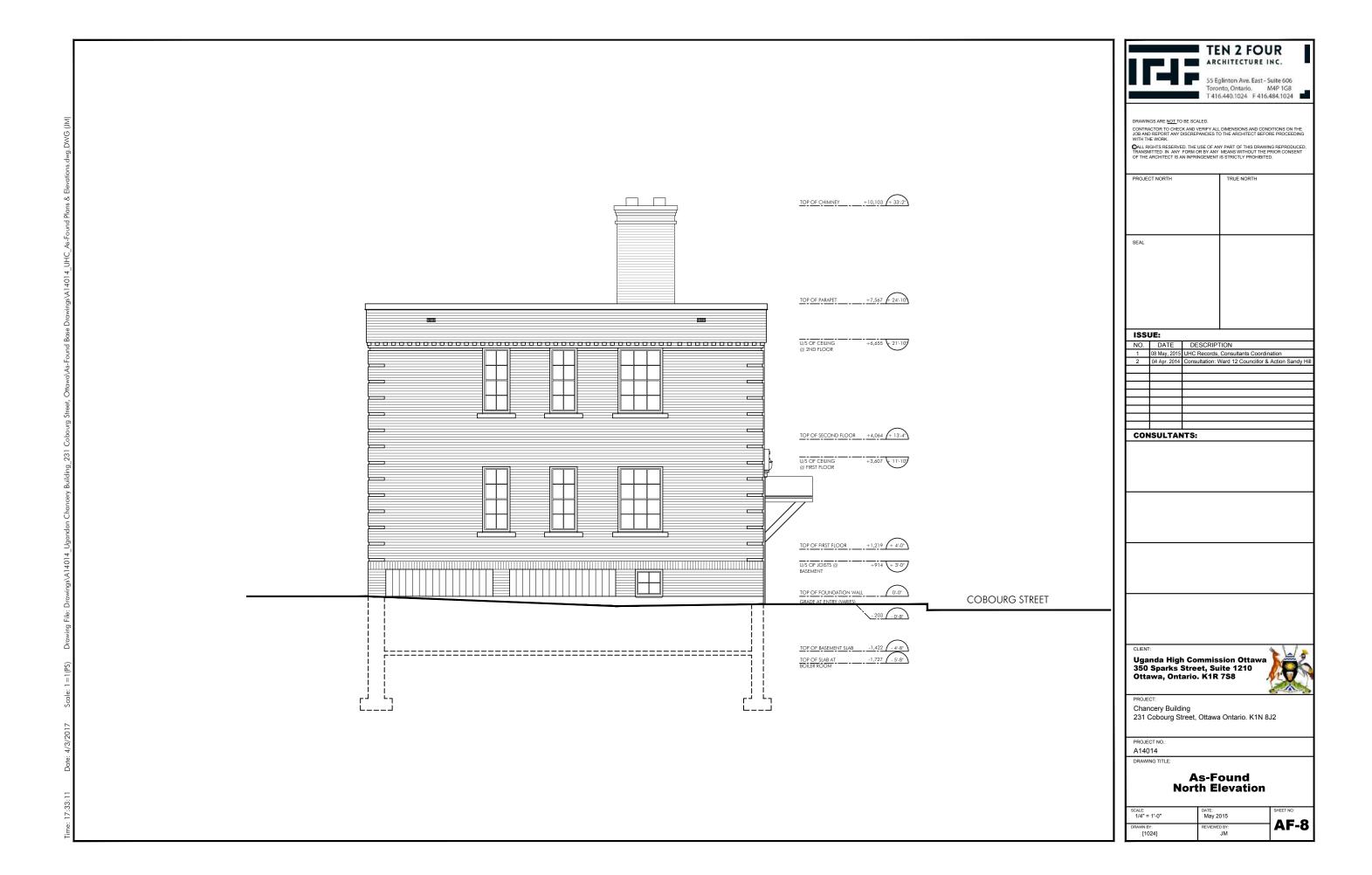
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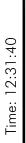






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231 Cobourg Street

1 \ EXISTING CONTEXT - Daly Ave. To Wilbrod St.- East Side A11 / SCALE: AS SHOWN



2 EXISTING CONTEXT - Wilbrod St. To Daly Ave. - West Side A11 SCALE: AS SHOWN



3 EXISTING CONTEXT - Augusta St. To Charlotte St. - North Side A11 SCALE: AS SHOWN



4 EXISTING CONTEXT - Charlotte St. To Augusta St.- South Side
A11 SCALE: AS SHOWN

**CONSULTANTS:** Uganda High Commission Ottawa 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1210 Ottawa, Ontario. K1R 7S8 Chancery Building 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa Ontario. K1N 8J2 A14014 **EXISTING CONTEXT**Streetscape Photographs SCALE: N.T.S. DATE: March 2017 DRAWN BY: [1024] REVIEWED BY:

**A11** 

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**ISSUE:** 

NO. DATE DESCRIPTION

55 Eglinton Ave. East - Suite 606

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Toronto, Ontario. M4P 1G8 T 416.440.1024 F 416.484.1024

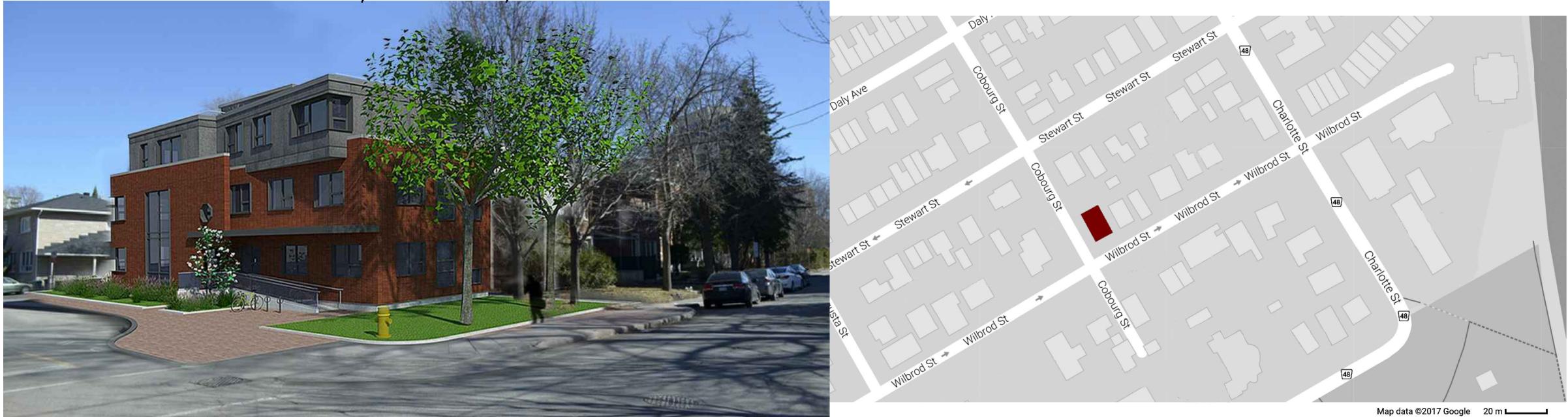
## **Annex B**

Design Package

(Ten 2 Four Architecture)

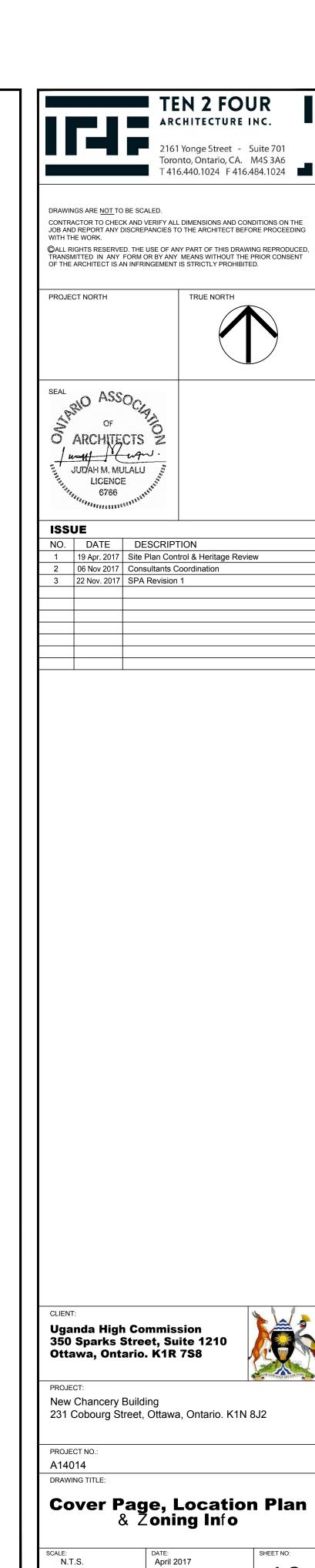
Robertson Martin Architects Annex B - 1

# PROPOSED CHANCERY BUILDING - UGANDA HIGH COMMISSION 231 COBOURG STREET, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1N 8J2



# **ZONING INFORMATION:**

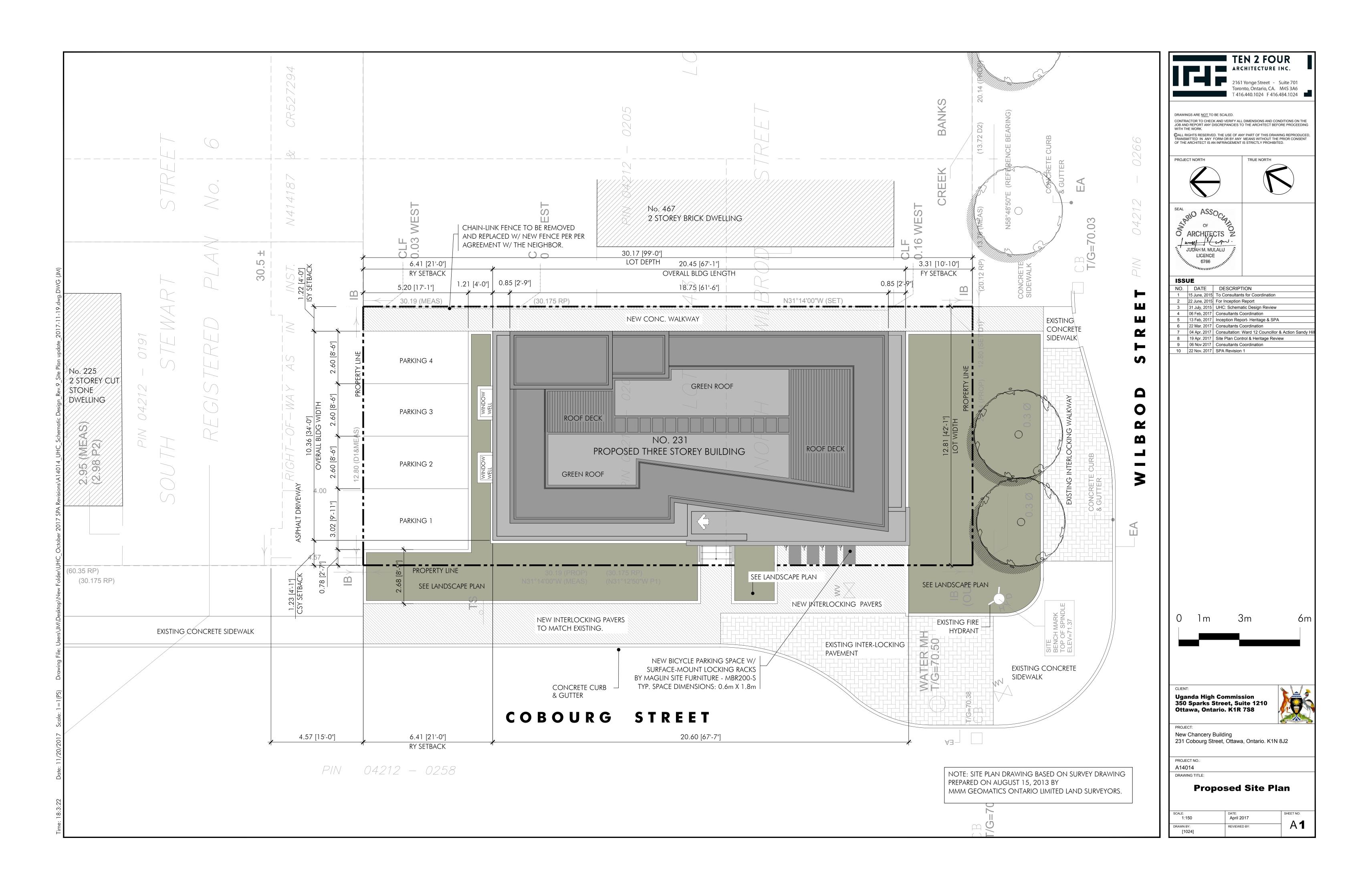
	ZONING REQUIREMENTS:	existing	PROPOSED	ZONING BYLAW REFERENCE NOTES:
1. ZONING DESIGNATION		R4M [481] - Subject to Heritage Overlay (Sec.60)	Zoning By-Law Amendment Application is in Progress	City of Ottawa Zoning By-law 2008-250 Consolidation - Principal dwelling type per highest density use permitted: Low rise apartment Building
2. GROSS FLOOR AREA	N/A	283 m <sup>2</sup>	320 m <sup>2</sup>	Part1-Admin. & Interp. (Sec. 54) - Gross Floor Area Definition
3. LOT AREA	Min. 540 m <sup>2</sup>	386 m²	386 m²	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162A – R4-M Subzone Provisions
4. LOT WIDTH	Min. 18 m	12.8 m	12.8 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162A – R4-M Subzone Provisions
5. LOT DEPTH	N/A	30.2 m	30.2 m	
6. LOT COVERAGE	N/A	49%	52%	
7. BUILDING HEIGHT	Max. 14.5 m	7.7 m	10.44 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162A – R4-M Subzone Provisions
8. FRONT YARD SETBACK (Wilbrod Street)	MIN. 3 m	3.94 m	3.31 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162A – R4-M Subzone Provisions
9. CORNER SIDE YARD SETBACK (Cobourg Street)	MIN. 3 m	0.15 m	1.23 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162A – R4-M Subzone Provisions
10. INTERIOR SIDE YARD SET BACK (East)	1.5 m	2.44 m	1.22 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162B – Additional Provisions- Endnote #3(a)
11. REAR YARD SETBACK (North)	Min. VARIES, Max. 7.5m	7.58 m	6.41 m	Part 6 – Residential Zones - Table 162B – Additional Provisions- Endnote #3
11.a FURTHER YARD ABUTTING INTERIOR LOT LINE AND REAR LOT LINE	Min. Total area equal to 30% of lot depth by 30% of Lot Width = 35 m <sup>2</sup>	97 m <sup>2</sup>	82 m <sup>2</sup>	Part 6 — Residential Zones - Section 161-12.1(iii)
12. TOTAL LANDSCAPED AREA (SOFT AND HARD LANDSCAPING & ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS COMBINED)	30%	35 %	32 %	
13. PARKING (SPOTS)	1 PER 100 $m^2$ of GFA = 3.1	2	4	Part 4 – Parking, Queuing and Loading Provisions- Table 101- Area X on schedule 1A - N59 - OFFICE
14. BICYCLE PARKING	1 PER 250 $m^2$ of GFA = 2	0	4	Part 4 – Parking, Queuing and Loading Provisions- Table 111A- Land Use (e)
15. VEHICLE LOADING SPACE REQUIREMENT	GFA less than 350 m <sup>2</sup> = 0	0	0	Part 4 – Parking, Queuing and Loading Provisions- Table 113A- Land Use (b)
16. PARKING FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED	Public Parking Area less than 1-19 spaces = 0	0	0	City of Ottawa traffic and parking by-law 2003-530 - Part C- 122. (1)

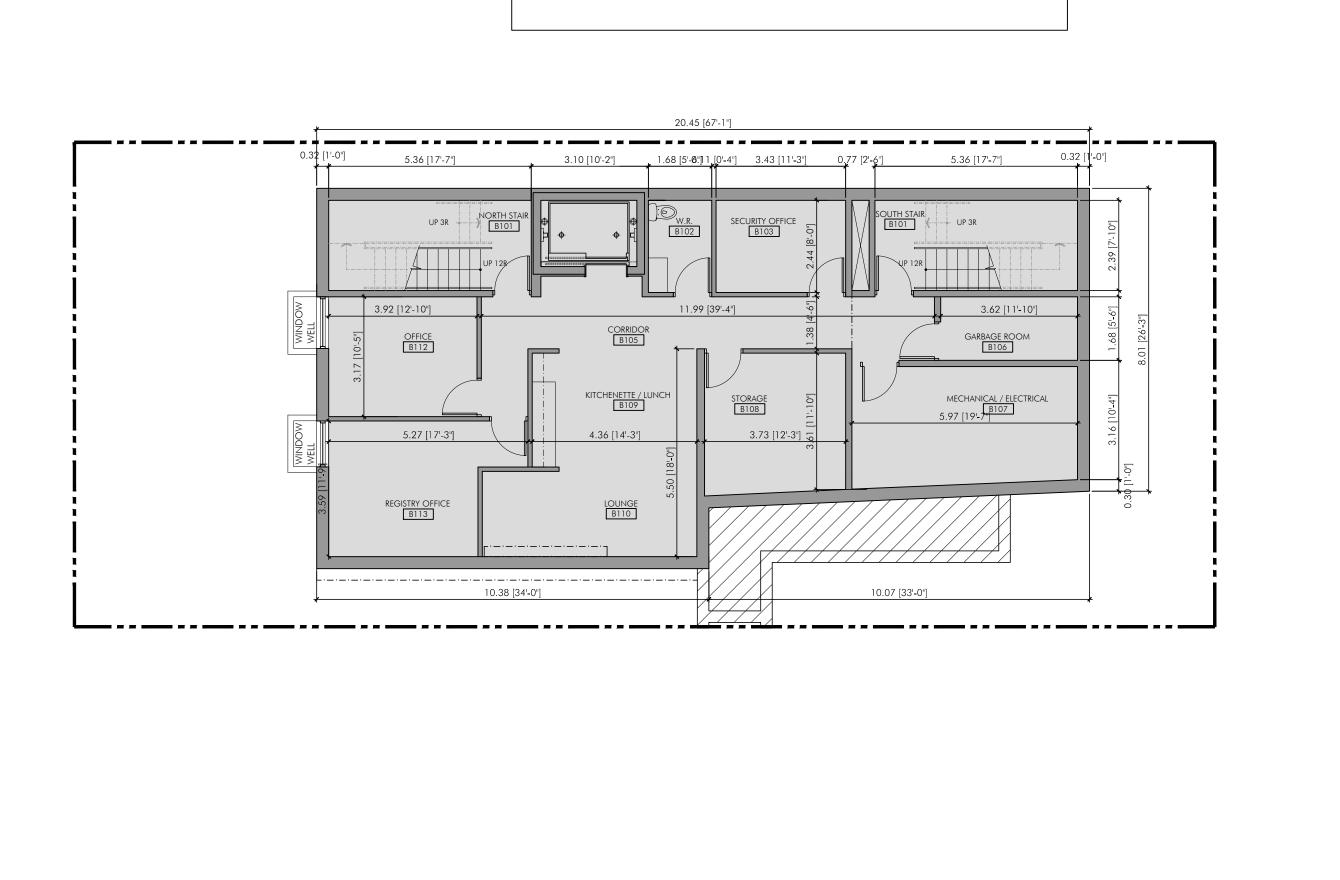


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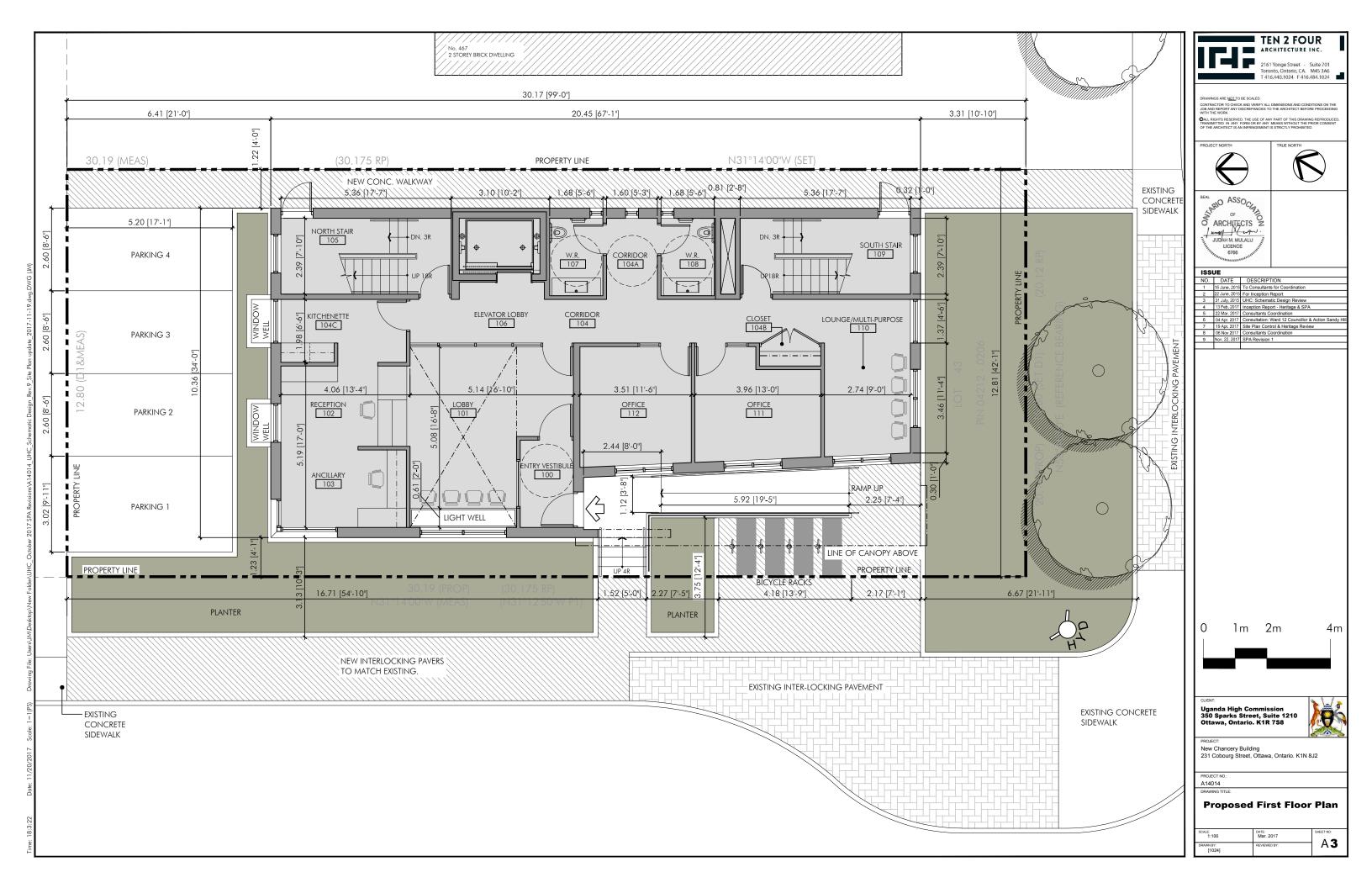


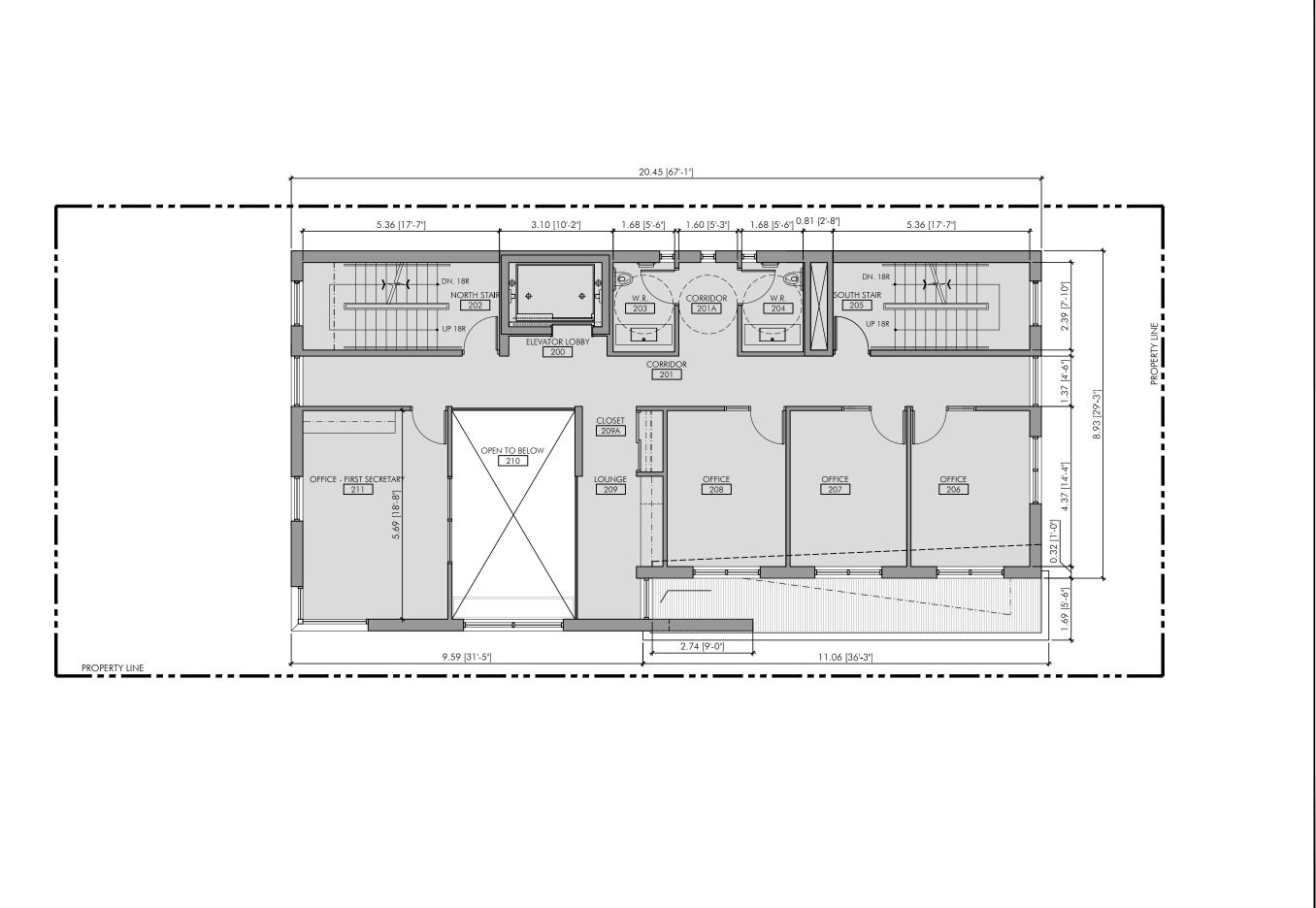
New Chancery Building 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1N 8J2

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Proposed Basement Floor Plan

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2 22 June, 2019 For Inception Report
3 31 July, 2015 UHC: Schematic Design Review
4 06 Feb, 2017 Consultants Coordination
5 13 Feb, 2017 Inception Report - Heritage & SPA
6 22 Mar. 2017 Consultants Coordination
7 04 Apr. 2017 Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi
8 19 Apr. 2017 Site Plan Confrol & Heritage Review
9 06 Nov 2017 Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi
10 Nov. 2017 Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi
10 Nov. 2017 Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi
10 Nov. 2017 Consultation Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi
10 Nov. 22, 2017 SPA Revision 1



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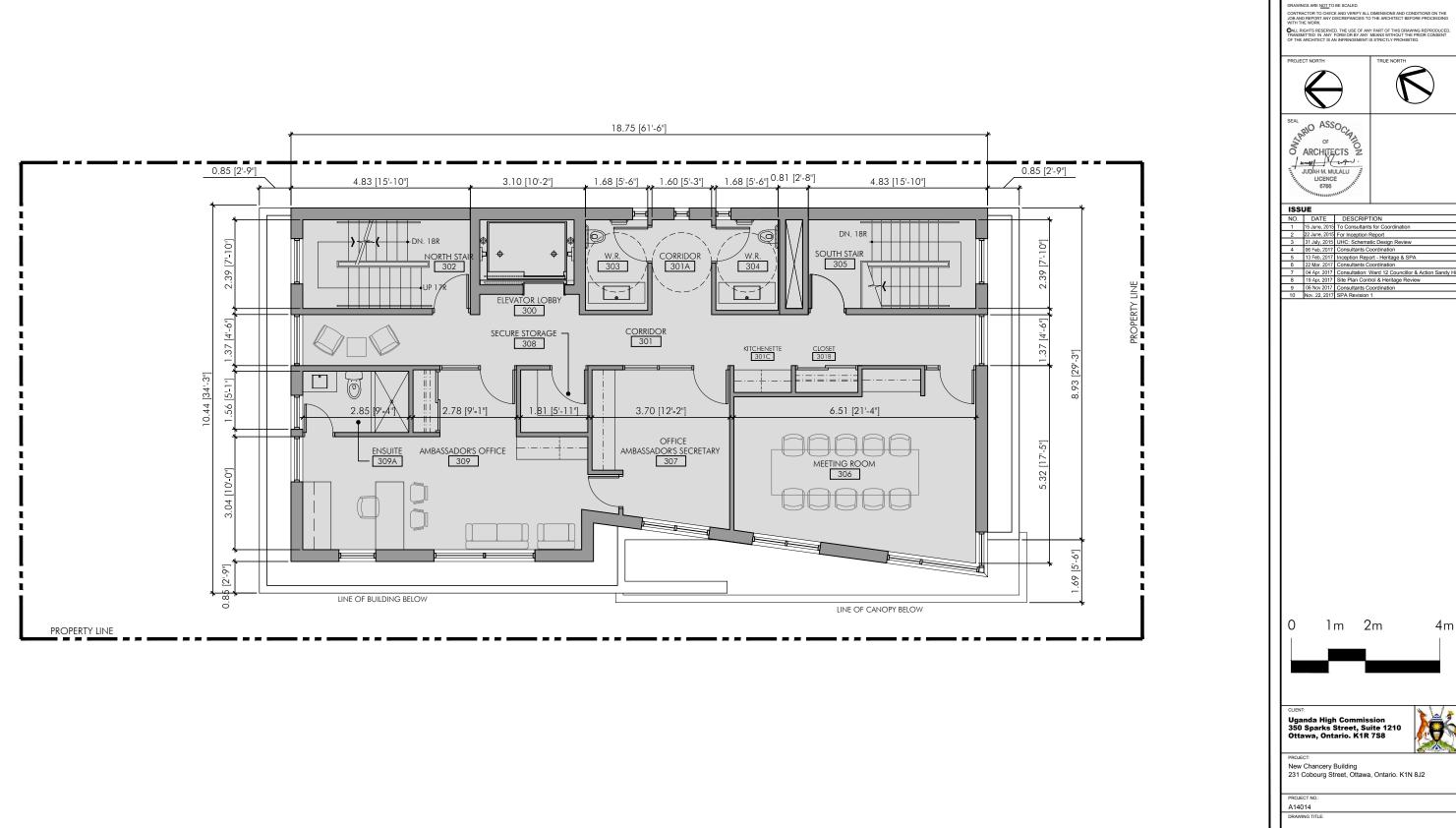


New Chancery Building 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1N 8J2

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Proposed Second Floor Plan

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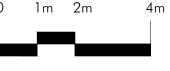
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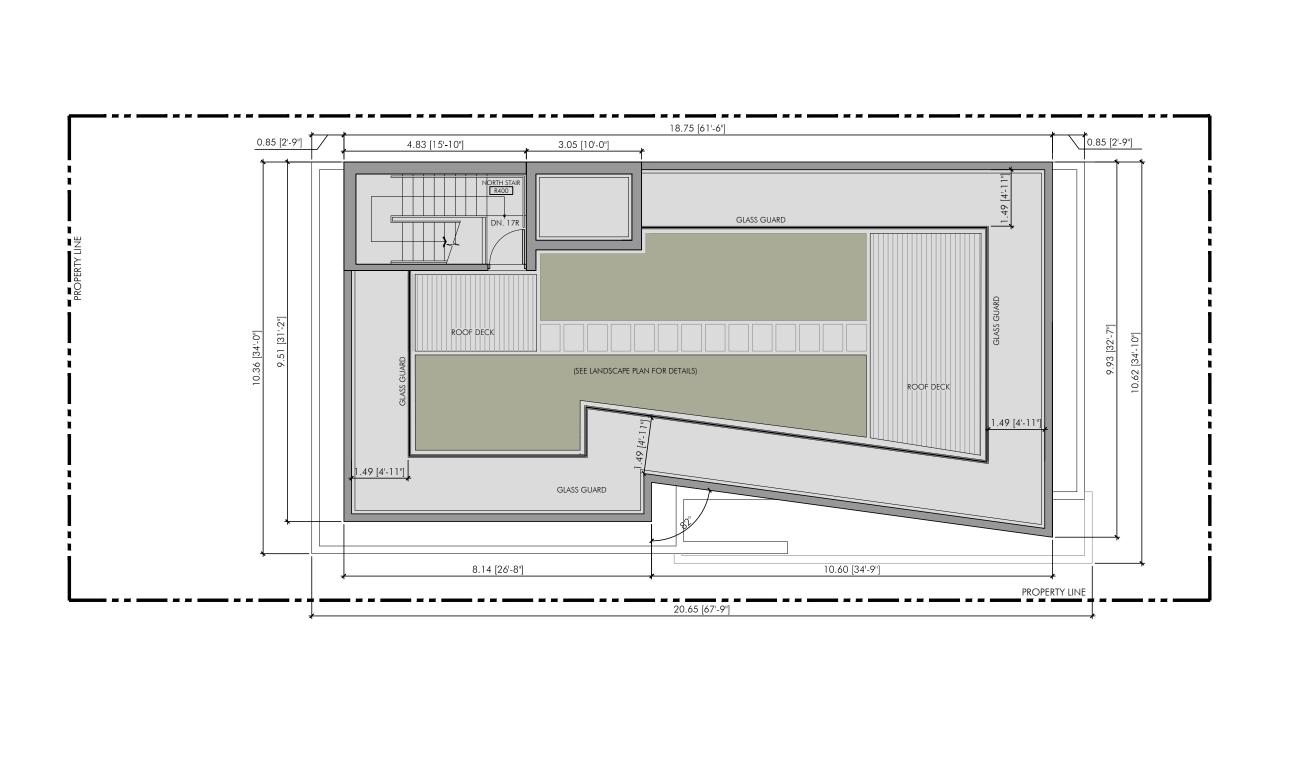


Uganda High Commission 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1210 Ottawa, Ontario. K1R 7S8

New Chancery Building 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1N 8J2

Proposed ⊺hird Floor Plan

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3	31 July, 2015	UHC: Schematic Design Review	
4	06 Feb, 2017	Consultants Coordination	
5	13 Feb, 2017	Inception Report - Heritage & SPA	
6	22 Mar. 2017	Consultants Coordination	
7	04 Apr. 2017	Consultation: Ward 12 Councillor & Action Sandy Hi	
8	19 Apr. 2017	Site Plan Control & Heritage Review	
9	06 Nov 2017	Consultants Coordination	
10	Nov. 22, 2017	SPA Revision 1	

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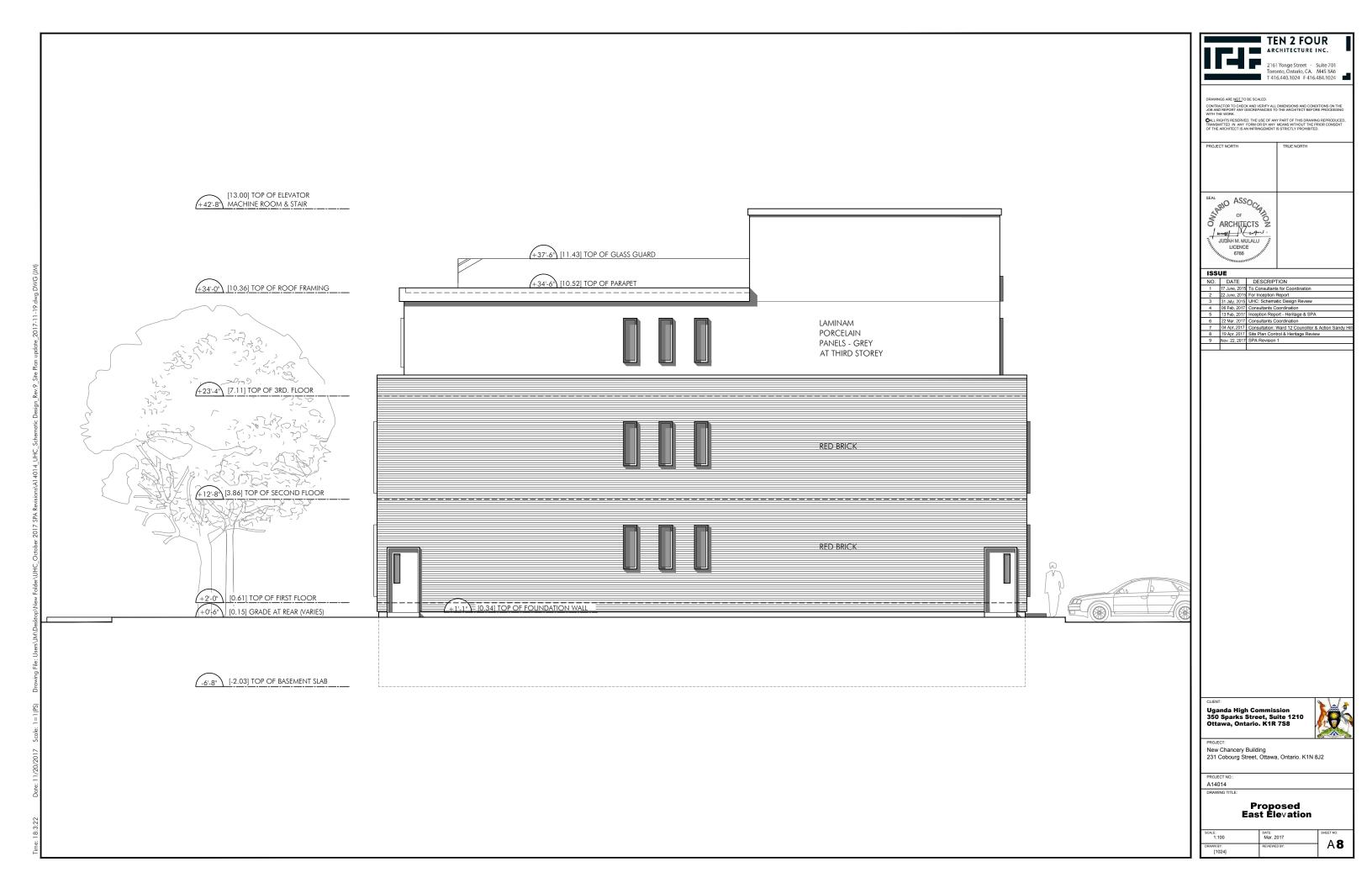
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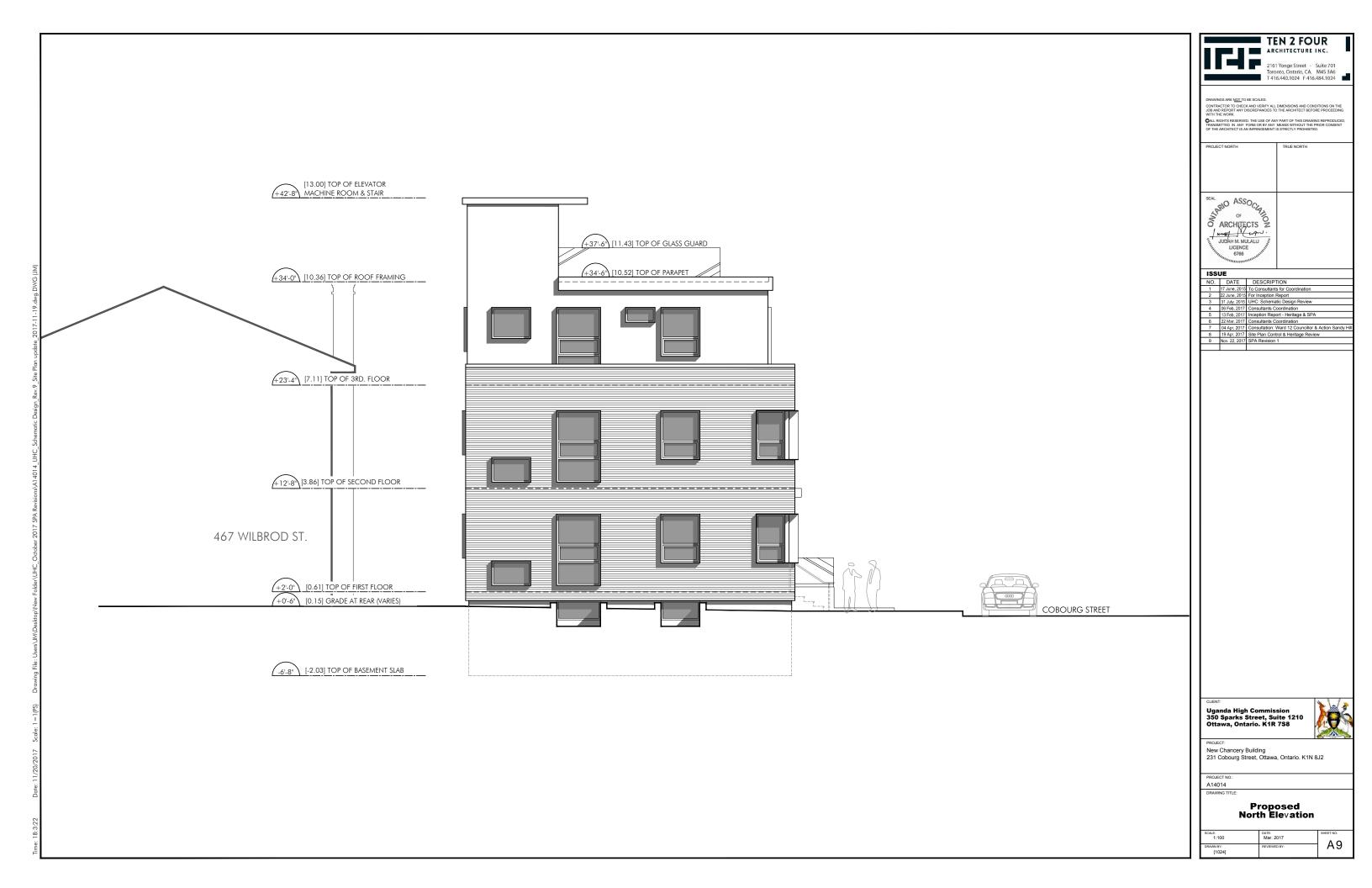
**Proposed Roof Plan** 

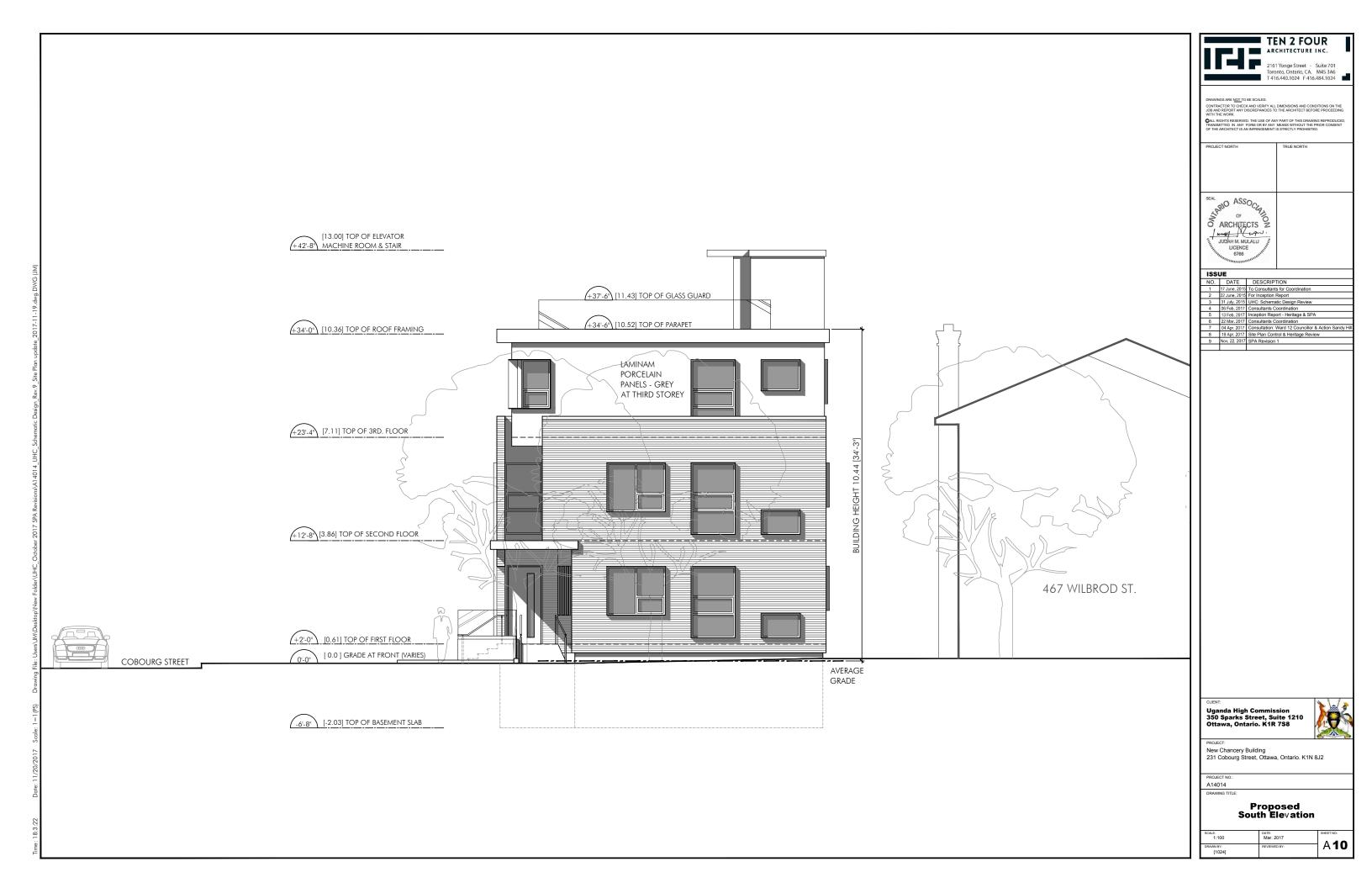
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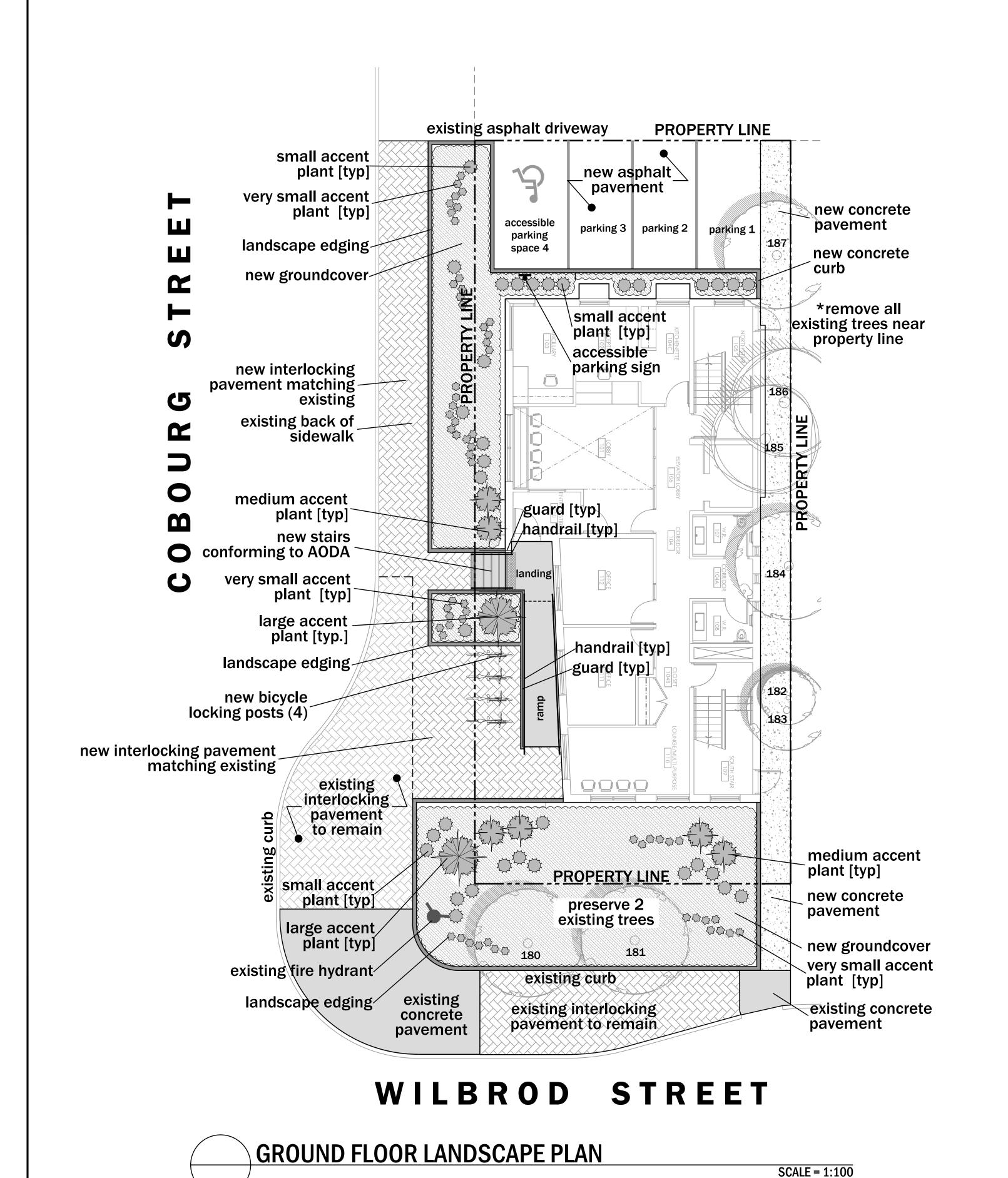


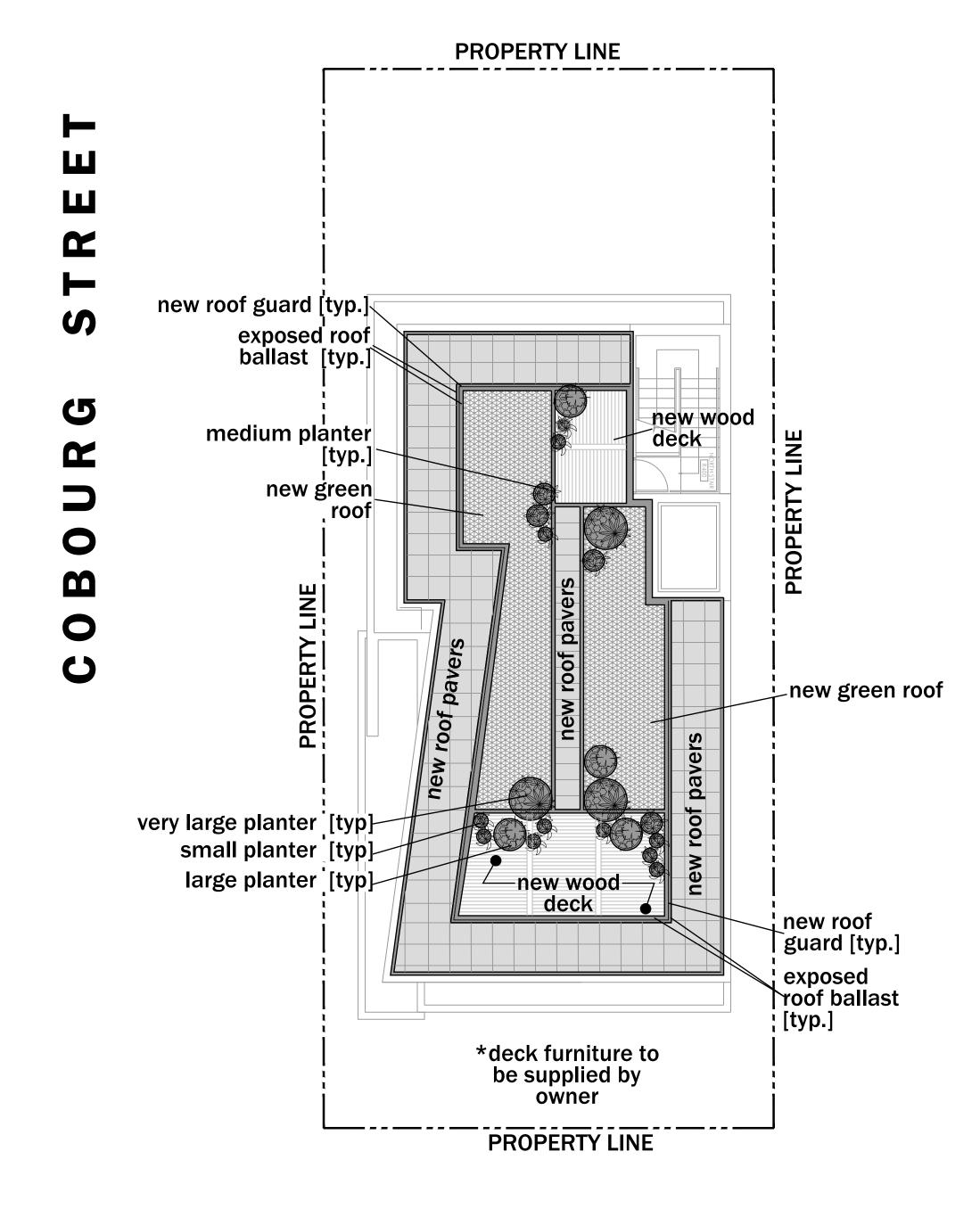
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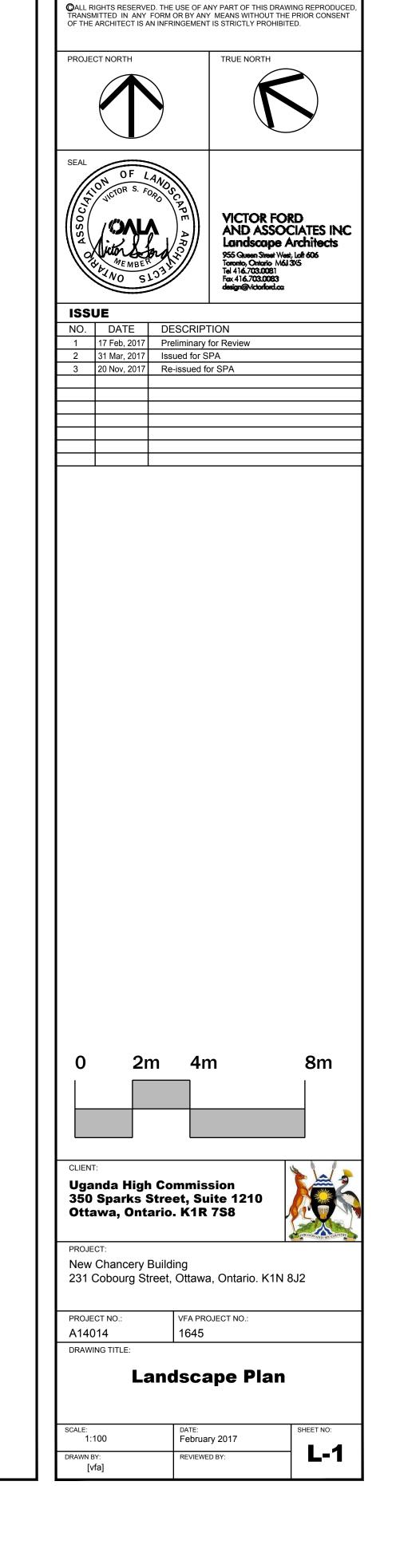




# WILBROD STREET

GREEN ROOF LANDSCAPE PLAN

SCALE = 1:100



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# **Landscape Notes:**

## 1. PROPOSED PLANT MATERIAL

Abbrev	Botanical Name	Common Name	Hardiness	Exposure	Form	Landscape Characteristics	Notes
roundco							
tv	Ajuga tenorii 'valfredda'	Chocolate Chip Bugleweed	zone 4	full sun to full shade	prostrate mat	dark-green to purple coarse foliage, small blue flowers	may be sold as an Ajuga reptans variety
c	Euonymus fortune 'coloratus'	Purple-leaf Wintercreeper	zone 4	full sun to full shade	spreading/climbing	emerald to dark green, medium- texture	
ccent Pla	ants:		•				
xv	Philadelphus x viginalus	Mock Orange	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	2 metre height, fountain-shaped	fragrant white double flowers, medium-texture emerald green leaves	large accent
ai	Hydrangea arborescens 'abetwo'	'Incrediball' Hydrangea	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	1.5 metre height, mounding form	large white flowers, medium-texture emerald green leaves	large accent
lsd	Miscanthus sinensis 'dixieland'	Dixieland Fountain Grass	zone 5	full sun	1.2 metre height, densely tufted	green leaves with white stripes, turns to tan after frost, flowers mature to silver plumes	medium accent, consider hardier alternates
/Ism	Miscanthus sinensis 'morning light'	Morning Light Fountain Grass	zone 5	full sun	1 metre height, upright, arching leaves	fine-textures variegation giving grey- green effect	medium accent, consider hardier alternates
dn	Paeonia 'duchesse de nemours'	'Duchesse de Nemours' Peony	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	1 metre height	large white flowers with ruffled central petals	medium accent, consider hardier alternates
⁄g	Yucca glauca	Spanish bayonet	zone 3	full sun	80 cm height and width	spiky silver-grey leaves, tall panicles of creamy-white flowers	small accent
а	Festuca amethystina	Tufted Fescue	zone 4	full sun	50 cm tufted clump	evergreen, slender blue-ish leaves, flowers on spikelets vary in colour	small accent
gb	Festuca glauca 'blaufuchs'	'Blue Fox' Fecue	zone 4	full sun to partial shade	dwarf, 25cm tufted clump	evergreen, slender blue-ish leaves, flowers on spikelets vary in colour	very small accent
Bulbs:							
gc	Iris germanica 'crowned heads'	'Crowned Heads' Bearded Iris	zone 3	full sun	60 cm tall	blue flower, green-blue foliage	plant individuals or small, odd-numbered groups within groups of daffodils and tulips
gi	Iris germanica 'immortality'	Immortality' Bearded Iris	zone 3	full sun	60 cm tall	white flower, green-blue foliage	plant individuals or small, odd-numbered groups within groups of daffodils and tulips
lmh	Narcissus 'breck's colossal'	'Breck's Colossal' Daffodil	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	50 cm tall	large yellow flowers	plant in large groupings
sg	Tulipa sun gold jumbo'	Sun Gold Jumbo' Tulip	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	60 cm tall	large yellow flowers	plant in large groupings
lanters (	oof):		•				
xv	Philadelphus x viginalus 'snowbelle'	"Snowbelle" Mock Orange	zone 4	full sun to partial shade	semi-dwarf cultuivar, 1.5 metre height, upright mounding	fragrant white semi-double flowers, medium-fine texture green leaves	Permanent anchor plant for extra-large planters
ai	Hydrangea arborescens 'abetwo'	'Incrediball' Hydrangea	zone 3	full sun to partial shade	1.5 metre height, mounding form	large white flowers, medium-texture emerald green leaves	Permanent anchor plant for extra-large planters
if	Cortaderia selloana 'ivory feathers'	"Ivory Feathers' Pampas gras	n/a	full sun	2 metres tall	large white fluffy plumes	Annual anchor plan for large planters
ig	Canna	Select Canna Lilly cultivars from the "Italian group"	n/a	full sun	varies	varies	Annual anchor plan for large planters
	nor plan for medium planters			select and submit seasonal, coordinated blends of annual plants such as: Nicotiana, Phormium (new zealand flax), Rosmarinus (rosemary), Trachelospermum (star jasmine)			
Medium and small annuals for filling out pots:				select and submit seasonal, coordinated blends of annual plants such as: Alyssum, Artemesia (ie Dusty Miller), Bacopa, Geranium, Pelargonium, Salvia, Solanum (potato vine), Tagetes (marigold), etc.			
reen Roc	f System						
Green roof				Complete "extensist conditions	ve green roof" system featuring a cor	ntinuous cover of pre-grown sedum, per	ennial, and grass plants selected for suitability to local

## 2. EXISTING TREES

Tree	Species	DBH (cm)	Condition	Category	Comments	Suitability for Conservation	Recommendation	CRZ (M)
180	Acer platanoides	37	Fair	4	- deadwood - encroached upon by <2%	Good	Preserve	3.7
181	Acer platanoides	33	Fair	4	<ul><li>deadwood, storm break</li><li>clear of proposed construction</li><li>shall retain its existing root structure</li></ul>	Moderate	Preserve	3.3
182	Ulmus americana	26	Fair	1	- deadwood - heavily encroached upon by proposed construction	Moderate	Remove	2.6
183	Ulmus americana	15	Poor	1	- deadwood, in decline, low LCR - heavily encroached upon by proposed construction	Poor	Remove	1.5
184	Ulmus americana	44	Poor	1	- deadwood, in decline, 70% dead - heavily encroached upon by proposed construction	Poor	Remove	4.4
185	Thuja occidentalis	30	Fair	1	- deadwood - in conflict with proposed construction	Moderate	Remove	3.0
186	Thuja occidentalis	33	Fair	1	- deadwood - in conflict with proposed construction	Moderate	Remove	3.3
187	Ulmus americana	57	Fair	1	<ul><li>deadwood, poor union, storm break</li><li>heavily encroached upon by proposed construction</li></ul>	Moderate	Remove	5.7
C1	Acer platanoides	33	Fair	4	<ul><li>deadwood, in decline, decay evident</li><li>clear of proposed construction</li><li>shall retain its prescribed CRZ</li></ul>	Moderate	Preserve	3.3

Refer to Arborist Report and Tree Preservation Plan completed by The Tree Specialists Inc. on February 15, 2017

# 3. FURNISHINGS

- 3.1 Deck furniture to be supplied by owner
- 3.2 Planting pots: modern design in dark grey-colour; three sizes (extra large, large, medium), each size to be provided in a range of 2 to 3 proportions/heights; lightweight materials
- 3.3 Guards (ramp and stair): clear glass with discreet, stainless steel hardware; conforming to OBC and AODA where applicable
- 3.4 Guards (roof): clear glass with discreet, stainless steel hardware; conforming to OBC and AODA where applicable; provide gates where required
- 3.5 Handrails: stainless steel, conforming to OBC and AODA
- 3.6 Planter edging: shall be cast-in-place concrete where adjacent to parking spaces; shall be dark-coloured stone or pre-cast concrete pavers placed on-end to create a 150mm tall barrier between 50 and 75mm thick with tight butt joints; at least two-thirds of the units shall be buried
- 3.7 Landscape lighting: tbd

# 4. SURFACES

- 4.1 Cobourg Street frontage and area between accessible ramp and preserved trees: pre-cast concrete pavers in herringbone pattern to match existing (ie Unilock Hollandstone in 'rustic red' colour)
- 4.2 Walkways, ramps, stairs and landings: natural grey concrete with broom or sandblast non-slip finish
- 4.3 Stair and ramp accessibility features: stair nosings, tactile surfaces, etc. to conform to AODA using stainless steel or dark-grey coloured materials
- 4.4 Parking spaces: asphalt
- 4.5 Planting areas: all new planting areas shall be provided 50mm of shredded hardwood mulch dyed black over 450mm depth of new, high-quality planting soil; within tree protection areas, the surface shall be top-dressed to depth allowed by arborist and covered in noted mulch
- 4.6 Decking (roof): Eastern white Cedar, "select patio" grade, untreated
- 4.7 Pavers (roof): Large-sized, light-coloured stone or pre-cast concrete pavers complete with pedestal system intended for rooftop pedestrian use
- 4.8 Roof ballast: where exposed, roof ballast materials shall be an ornamental, black, granite pea gravel of approximate 10 to 20mm size and containing no fines; where not exposed, roof ballast shall be as determined by the structural engineer



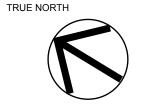
55 Eglinton Ave. East - Suite 606 Toronto, Ontario. M4P 1G8 T 416.440.1024 F 416.484.1024

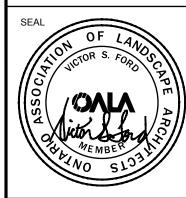
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PROJECT NORTH







VICTOR FORD AND ASSOCIATES INC Landscape Architects

ISS	UE	
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	17 Feb, 2017	Preliminary for Review
2	31 Mar, 2017	Issued for SPA
3	20 Nov, 2017	Re-issued for SPA
	1	

**Uganda High Commission** 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1210 Ottawa, Ontario. K1R 7S8



VFA PROJECT NO.:

New Chancery Building

231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1N 8J2

PROJECT NO.: A14014 DRAWING TITLE:

**Landscape Notes** 

1645

SCALE:	DATE: February 2017				
	1 columny 2017				
DRAWN BY:	REVIEWED BY:				
[vfa]					





2161 Yonge Street Suite 701,

Toronto, Ontario, M4S 3A6



































## **Annex C**

**City of Ottawa Review Comments** 

Robertson Martin Architects Annex C - 1

Date: August 30, 2017

#### VIA E-Mail

To / Destinataire: Judah Mulalu, Principal

**Ten 2 Four Architecture** 

55 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 606C

Toronto, ON M4P 1G8

From / Expéditeur: Simon M. Deiaco, MCIP, RPP

Planner III

**Development Review, East Branch** 

Subject / Objet: Consolidation of Review Comments

231 Cobourg Avenue

Ward 12 - Rideau-Vanier, Councillor Mathieu Fleury

#### Planning, Urban Design and Heritage

Landscape Plan, L-1

- 1. The amount of hard surface needs to be reduced, particularly along the Cobourg Street frontage to reflect the residential character of the street and read less as a public staging area or gathering area. A treatment that is more in keeping with the residential feel and character of the area and existing streetscape should be considered.
- **2.** The proposed bicycle racks should be located on private property.
- 3. Requested Zoning By-law Amendment

For the purpose of reviewing the required yards:

- Wilbrod Street is considered the Front Yard of the site.
- Cobourg Street is considered the Corner Side Yard.
- The yard abutting the residence at 467 Wilbrod is an Interior Side Yard.
- The yard abutting the proposed parking is the Rear Yard.

As noted in your rationale, Section 130 of By-law 2008-250 states that non-residential uses in residential zones must comply with the zone regulations that apply to the highest density use permitted, which in this case is a low rise apartment building.

Provisions	Required (m)	Provided (m)	
Height	14.5 (max)	11.3	
Front Yard	3	3.94	
Interior Side Yard	2.5	1.03	
Rear and Corner Side	30% of depth = 9	To be confirmed	
Yard	30% of width = $3.9$		
(see Section 161, sub	Total area equivalent to 35 square		
12.1(iii) - for any lots with a	metres		
lot depth greater than 25			
metres: an area equal to			
30 per cent of the lot depth			
by 30 per cent of the lot			
width, at a minimum.	200/	400/	
Landscape Requirements	30%	42%	
Alternative Accessory Structure Provisions:			
Structure Provisions.			
17(b)	Where located on the roof of the	To be confirmed	
(0)	uppermost storey, roof-top	10 00 00111111100	
	landscaped areas, gardens and		
	terraces must be located a minimum		
	of 1.5 metres in from any exterior		
	wall of the building.		
17(d)	Where located on the roof of the	Height of roof	
	uppermost storey, a roof-top access	access is 2.49m	
	must be setback a distance equal to		
	its height from the exterior front wall	Front Yard	
	and exterior rear wall, not exceed a	appears to	
	total area of 10.5 square metres	conform,	
	where located on the roof of the	however the rear	
	uppermost storey, not exceed 3	yard does not at	
	metres in height, and not have eaves	0.0m	
	that project more than 0.6 metres		
	beyond the exterior walls of the		
	access.		

4. Consider repositioning the roof-top terrace to reduce the view from the street. It the railing was pulled back out of view from the street if would also reduce the visual impact of the guard rail.

- **5.** Consider a single staircase along the Cobourg Street entrance. The second set of stairs seems to remove other opportunities for landscaping.
- 6. If the ground floor is lowered (even to grade) the ramp length can be reduced by half or altogether, significantly reducing its impact on the streetscape. Currently the entrance to the ramp is in a location farthest from the main entrance and parking which means that access could be restricted in the winter months because wheelchairs would no be able to travers the snowy sidewalks between the parking and the ramp;
- 7. If the second and third floors of the building are shifted over the current parking area on piloti, the rooftop amenity could be shifted to a portion above the second floor as a walk-out deck facing Wilbrod street;
- 8. The basement window locations of could feature window wells if the building is lowered to reduce the ramp length. The current design has a large number of small over-hanging corners of the cladding which will likely lead to increased construction costs:
- 9. With respect to the material and colour of the third floor, since the existing fabric of older brick houses in the heritage conservation district consists of dark grey roofs and only small details of white, perhaps using a more sympathetic colour for the third floor (i.e. dark grey) will better tie in the building to its context (see attached images for examples);
  - Staff would be available to meet and discuss these design elements over the phone or have a short meeting.
- 10. It is anticipated that the report under the Ontario Heritage Act to allow the demolition of the building and the construction of a new high commission will proceed to the Built Heritage Subcommittee before the Planning Committee at which the zoning bylaw amendment will be considered, so that both reports can be considered at the same time by members of Planning Committee. The heritage planner on the file (Sally Coutts), is aware of the above comments on the building's design, and looks forward to discussing how to make the building fit into the existing heritage conservation district.

#### **Right of Way Approvals**

- **11.** Proposed infrastructure
  - a. Maintenance and Liability Agreement should be acquired for all landscaped elements in the right of way.

On the landscape plan, the existing hydrant is not show on the drawing (corner of Cobourg & Wilbrod), the applicant should ensure that the proposed landscaping/tree planting does not impact accessibility to the existing hydrant

- b. Are tree soil cells being processed?
- c. What material is proposed for landscape edging?
- d. Possibly consider revising landscape edging / planter size on Cobourg street (adjacent parking lot at rear of building); the planter projects to the back edge of sidewalk and could potentially be impacted by snow clearing equipment due to the narrow sidewalks on Cobourg Street at this location

#### **City Surveyor**

**12.** Site plan requires a note stating where the underlying property boundary information as derived from and how it was referenced to the topographic detail

#### <u>Zayo</u>

**13.** No comments

#### **Building Code Services**

- 14. Item of concern: The limiting distance show for the east elevation is less than 1.2m (indicated at 1.03m), no windows are permitted with a limiting distance less than1.2m. Part 9 of the Ontario building Code section 9.10.14.4 does not permit openings with a limiting distance less than 1.2m, and also limits the unprotected openings to 7% of the exposed wall face at 1.2m limiting distance.
- 15. Please be aware that as show on the drawings submitted for Site Plan Control Approval, the location of the building on-site may require shoring during the construction stage and possibly permanent encroachment consent. If so, please contact The ROW Permit Office (Right of Way) at 613-580-2424 x 16000 to enquire/obtain a temporary and/or permanent encroachment letter as the shoring is to be adjacent to city property.
- 16. Please insure that the shoring details are included in the building permit application. Shoring details between private properties will also be reviewed by Building Code Service Branch at time of building permit application submission and will require permission(s) from the neighbouring property(s) owners if any portion of the shoring is located on the neighbouring property.

#### Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

- 17. Stormwater Management: Water Quantity / Water Quality:
  - a. The Conservation Authority supports the Stormwater management plan prepared for this site for the protection of water q2uality and aquatic habitat in the receiving watercourse. We will rely on the City of Ottawa to ensure that the storm water site management plan is consistent with the design assumptions for the receiving municipal storm sewer.

#### **18.** Conclusion:

- a. No objections to Zoning By-law Amendment application
- No objections to Site Plan Control application, subject to the following condition:
  - i. The Site Plan Agreement contains a clause whereby the Owner acknowledges and agrees to implement all recommendations, design parameters and controls in accordance with the "Function Servicing Report" dated March 2017, prepared by Lithos Group Inc.

#### **Planning Forester**

- **19.** Given the development plan for this site, further tree retention is not possible.
- **20.** The ownership of trees 182-187 should be determined. If any portion of the trunk touches or crosses the property line with 467 Wilbrod, that tree would be considered co-owned by both property owners. Co-owned trees require the permission of both property owners to remove.
- **21.** A tree permit is required prior to the removal of any tree 10cm or larger in diameter- one will be made available upon site plan approval.

#### City Forester

**22.** With respect to tree #180, any roots that are encountered they are to be cut cleanly off and are to be kept moist with a filter cloth until the area is backfilled.

The installation of tree protection fencing (hoarding) around the trees located on Wilbrod (180 and 181 shown on the plan) is required. Tree protection fencing must be installed prior to the commencement of construction/demolition and the applicant is to contact Forestry staff (Tracey Smith or Shawn O'Neill) for

approval. The applicant is to adhere to the mitigation measures that are prescribed in the Arborist Report.

#### **Environmental Planning**

23. The Scoped EIS is accepted. Please note there is a timing window on work associated with the chimney with the work to be completed after October 31 and before April 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Transportation**

- **24.** Permanent structures such as curbing, stairs, retaining walls, and underground parking foundation also bicycle parking racks are not to extend into the City's right-of-way limits. The bicycle racks are to be located on private property.
- 25. The proposed four parking spaces are depicted as having access from the adjacent neighbour's private driveway. The City cannot approve the proposed parking spaces unless there is written agreement from the adjacent property owner allowing the developer access through his property.
- **26.** For the interlock pavers, landscaped areas and public art on City's road right-of-way the developer has the sign a "Maintenance Agreement" with the City to cover any claims.

#### **Hydro Ottawa**

- **27.** Applicant is advised that the responsibility for all costs for feasible relocations, protection or encasement of any existing Hydro Ottawa plan resides with the requesting party.
- 28. Hydro Ottawa requires to be pre-consulted before approving any proposed reduction to the City of Ottawa 3m minimum standard setback prior to designing the electrical servicing, as it may affect the electrical servicing design timeline for installation and cost. This includes any proposed overhang encroachment into the 3m setback space.
- 29. Owner shall contact Hydro Ottawa to arrange for disconnecting the service from the distribution system and removal of all Hydro Ottawa assets at least 10 business days prior to demolition/removal of the serviced structure.

- **30.** Owner shall enter an Installation and Service agreement with Hydro Ottawa.
- **31.** Owner is to contact Hydro Ottawa if the electrical servicing of the site is to change in location or in size. A load summary will be needed for the technical evaluation.
- 32. Owner shall comply with Hydro Ottawa's Conditions of Service and thus should be consulted for the servicing terms. The document, including referenced standards, guidelines, and drawings, may be found at: http://www.hydroottawa.com/residentail/rates-and-conditions/conditions-of-service/. The Owner should consult Hydro Ottawa prior to commencing engineering designs to ensure compliance with these documents.

### Le Conseil des écoles catholique de Centre-Est (CECCE)

**33.** No objections.

#### Rogers

**34.** No comments or concerns. Please contact Martin Proulx at 613-688-2191 or email at martin.proulx@rci.rogers.com for Rogers Site servicing if approved.

#### **Enbridge**

**35.** This response does not constitute a pipe locate or clearance for construction.

The applicant shall contact Enbridge Gas Distribution's Customer Connections department by emailing SalesArea60@enbridge.com for service and meter installation details and to ensure all gas piping is installed prior to the commencement of site landscaping (including, but not limited to: tree planting, silva cells, and/or soil trenches) and/or asphalt paving. If the gas main needs to be relocated as a result of changes in the alignment or grade of the future road allowances or for temporary gas pipe installations pertaining to phase construction, all costs are the responsibility of the applicant.

In the event that easement(s) are required to service this development, the applicant will provide the easement(s) to Enbridge Gas Distribution at no cost. The inhibiting order will not be lifted until the application has met all of Enbridge Gas Distribution's requirements.

The applicant will contact Enbridge Gas Distribution's Customer Connections department by emailing SalesArea60@enbridge.com prior to any site construction activities to determine if existing piping facilities need to be relocated or abandoned. Enbridge Gas Distribution reserves the right to amend or remove development conditions.

### **Engineering**

- **36.** The geotechnical report is missing ground water information. How will the ground water be dealt with during construction and post-construction?
- **37.** Will the neighbouring property be affected by the proposed development?
- **38.** Main Issue with Servicing Drawing:
  - a. A Stormceptor is required to address storm water quality control.
  - b. The Weeping tile connection should be located after the ICD control devices.

#### **Summary of Public Comments**

No effort has been made to up-keep the property for years and now they want to demolish it. Sounds like neglect. Was this the plan all along? Why such a massive structure needed? What of the heritage/history of the building?

I am writing in regard to the proposal for the Ugandan embassy.

Initially I didn't mind so much the 3rd storey or boxiness because it corresponds somewhat to the 2 buildings to the right of it on Wilbrod. However, upon reflection, I thought that the bylaw for neighbourhood conformity required correspondence with more than just 2 nearby buildings on the street? Shouldn't they strive for a more historical appearance even slightly? The rest of the street is largely more historical. Wilbrod is one of the nicest historical streets in the Sandy hill heritage district and any new re-development should take this into consideration -- building up to conformity with this higher standard, rather than repeat the mistakes of the 70's/60s.

Also it seems to me it should have more of a setback from the street and make more of an effort to put greenery in front?

Currently it has concrete proposed for the front lower entrance and given some stone foundations in the vicinity I think they could also make more of an effort to face the concrete entrance with a more historical stone. This is smack dab in the heritage district.

\_\_\_\_\_

I have given further thought to the reconstruction of the Ugandan High Commission's building at 231 Cobourg Street

With judicious expansion of the footprint to include available space to the North, East and South I think the new office space would obviate the proposed third floor and thus eliminate both the esthetic and sun-blockage problems. The building could then be fitted with a mansard roof to greatly improve its appearance and compatibility. In the event the extra height is approved, the mansard roof could be fitted with dormer windows and the interior space used for offices. This could be done whether or not the footprint were expanded.

We need to discuss these alternatives with the architects, the High Commission and your goodself.

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the Planning Department for the City of Ottawa and the Heritage Committee are interested in receiving comments regarding the subject property with respect to an application for a demolition permit. I lived on Wilbrod street My grandfather bought a mansion on that spot in about 1941, had it demolished and built three duplexes.

Lester Pearson was living at 231 Cobourg in 1963 when he won his first minority government on April 22 1963. As he was not certain to remain Prime Minister for long, he initially refused to move to 24 Sussex.

I recall very clearly that he had a grey and black 2 door 1956 Mercury. He had no body guard or chauffer. At that time 231 Cobourg had a garage under the house accessible by a steep hill from the laneway (to the North of the building). It was very difficult to get out of the garage when there was a snow storm. Often, our Prime Minister would be stuck in his laneway and my dad would call my 2 brothers and I to go out and help push Mr. Pearson's car. A few times, Mrs Pearson would yell out of the bathroom window; "Lester, Lester, your heart".

I recall that the Pearsons lived there for almost all of 1963 while Prime Minister.

Other notable residents at 231 Cobourg were George Hees, Minister of Defence. Mrs Bronson also lived there (apparently from Bronson street clan).

I hope that this helps.

I live around the corner from the property at 231 Cobourg and I know the neighbourhood well. I think the proposed new building for the Uganda High Commission is appropriate in mass, architectural style and materials. If the existing building is impossible to keep, the proposed new one will fit in well with the neighbourhood.

The one suggestion I would like to make is that the low decorative wall proposed for the front yard be extended to shield the parking spaces from the sidewalk. This would complete the frontage in a consistent way and hide the cars from the sidewalk. The driveway to the parking spaces should be kept to the narrowest possible width.

In all other ways the proposed new building relates well to the sidewalk and edges out this street corner in a competent way. I have no problem with it and support the rezoning application.

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. Deiaco,

I am writing to oppose the demolition of 231 Coburg Street and the design for the redevelopment of the property.

- The building is in a heritage conservation district and should be protected.
- The existing structure is the appropriate size and scale for Coburg Street and is a better fit for the historic neighbourhood than the proposed redevelopment.
- The duplex is of historical significance-having once been the home of Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson and his residence when he won the Nobel Peace Prize.
- If torn down, 231 Coburg Street will be another successful example of "demolition by neglect".

I read that the current owners of 231 Coburg Street have asked for permission to tear down the building because, according to their architects, it is in need of significant renovation. (I have not been able to find the City's independent assessment of the state of the building and its estimated cost of repairs.) If indeed the building is in need of major repairs, should the owners who abandoned it for several years not be held accountable for their neglect and be obliged to restore it? If not, it signals to developers and owners that not maintaining properties in Ottawa is an acceptable process to have them demolished. 231 Coburg Street is not an isolated case. I fear 334 Daly Avenue will face a similar fate, as it is being left to rot, despite neighbours repeated calls to the City to investigate.

231Coburg Street should be protected because of its historical significance. It is the former home of Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson. Pearson was living there when he won the Nobel Peace Prize. The duplex is located near Prime Ministers Row <a href="https://pmr-apm.ca/">https://pmr-apm.ca/</a> and, if saved, could become part of the historic street museum.

I also oppose the design of the building proposed to replace 231 Coburg Street. The redevelopment is not in scale with the surrounding homes on the street. Not only is the proposed building one story higher, the design has an institutional appearance that is not in keeping with the old homes and tree filled gardens that surround it. Furthermore, the significant increase in the size of the proposed building may result in more traffic and parking for the people who will occupy the new, larger space.

I applaud the city for recognizing outstanding achievements in heritage conservation. I sincerely hope 231 Coburg Street will join the growing list of buildings that have been preserved and restored to remind us of our past and provide a greater understanding and appreciation of our history.

We are in total support of the proposal of the Ugandan High Commission to demolish the existing structure at 231 Coburgh and replace it with the new structure depicted on the sign you have placed outside the existing building. Thank you for your consideration. Carleton Condominium Corporation is opposed to the rezoning application for 231 Cobourg Street. While we are sympathetic to the challenges presented by the deteriorated condition of the structure, we believe that allowing its demolition and replacement by a new structure would set a very poor precedent for the heritage conservation district in which it is located.

With respect to the zoning changes proposed for 231 Cobourg Street property, I'm sending my comments on why these changes shouldn't be allowed in order for the property to be demolished and in fact, it should be preserved as a significant heritage site.

First, as per below article on 231 Cobourg St, from

OttawaCommunityNews.com<http://ottawacommunitynews.com/>, dated June 1st 2017), Chad Rollins, Action Sandy Hill's president states that:

"Pearson's ownership and residency in this building does not seem to be reflected in either the City's assessment of the heritage value of the building, or in the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement prepared for the Ugandan High Commission. We hope that City staff <u>can correct this oversight</u> and reassess the scoring of the heritage significance of this building.."

2- In reference to the City Heritage Survey Form, it states:

"Although not mentioned in the City *Heritage Survey Form*, correspondence received from the Community Association asserts that the building was owned by the wife of Lester B Pearson in 1954 and was home to the Pearson from 1955-1958. Mr. Pearson won the Noble Prize in 1957. To date, the Consultant has not been able to corroborate this assertion. The Consultant had asked for more information from the Community Association, without response."

I can attest that the residence on 231 Cobourg St was once owned and occupied by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson and his wife Maryon as my family were their neighbours.

I remember well as a child seeing Mr Lester B. Pearson, all dressed up and always wearing a bow tie and his wife with her distinctive style of chapeau.

Mr. Pearson was first Minister of External Affairs in 1948. As a diplomat to the UN won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for his efforts during the Suez Crisis. He then became the Leader of the Liberal Party in January 1958, and Prime Minister in 1963 to 1968.

I would like to add one of family stories about the Pearsons. Whenever he was stuck in snow, his wife would yell from the window: "Lester, you are going to have a heart attack!" My brothers would get out to help him.

As we know Mr Pearson lived on to become one of the finest Prime Ministers of Canada. He left a huge legacy which is still very important to this day: Canada Pension Plan, Medicare, a new flag, to list a few.

3-Personally, I'm very concerned about how this property hasn't received the recognition that it deserves. Now many residents living around 231 Cobourg St are transient renters and embassy staff, which makes it difficult to receive more local input about the long term effect of the proposed zoning changes. If a plaque on site had been installed previously on this property, like the one on 243 Augusta St, perhaps current Sandy Hill neighbours would have been able to appreciate its historical importance. This would certainly provide more support to save this building. I doubt very much if the present owner knows or cares about the historical relevance of this building. This could explain why they have no incentive to keep the original building. After all, they are presently the applicant requesting for this zoning variance so they can build a new modern building. Perhaps this also explains why the building is in such a deteriorated state.

The City has an obligation here to preserve the heritage character of 231 Cobourg building as part of the Sandy Hill community and recognize its value historically. Pearson was definitely a high point in Canada's peace efforts and respectful in formed diplomacy.

- 4- The proposed building by the Ugandan High Commission has no style of architecture that fits well in a neighbourhood said to be of a heritage importance, such as "Wilbrod-Laurier Heritage Conservation District". We know already that Augusta house which was one of Pearson residences is protected under guidelines of Cultural Heritage. It's unfortunate that the property of 231 Cobourg assessed and classified category 3 does not get that same protection. It's regrettable because it should be recognized not only by the City of Ottawa registrar but as well to all Canadians.
- 5- According to: **Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment** 231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, which evidently is included with this City information link for application for input to this rezoning of 231 Cobourg,

there are strict development guidelines on any property designated a classification of 1, 2 and 3. The property of 231 Cobourg is a category 3.

Therefore, it's assumed that we should follow the "Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment "recommendations as per the property's classification which basically states that it shouldn't be demolished but maintained: as I quote below:

"The Guidelines for Category 1, 2, and 3 buildings <u>encourage retention and</u> <u>conservation of existing historic buildings and provide guidance on alterations</u> <u>and additions to historic buildings.</u> The Guidelines for Category 4 buildings provide guidance on alterations and demolition of non-contributing buildings in the HCD."

And from the same source above referred, it states:

"4.4 Category 4: 0-39

Guidelines for Category 1, 2 and 3 Buildings

Category 1, 2, and 3 buildings are considered to be contributing buildings in the heritage conservation district and <u>are important to maintaining the overall character of the</u> **HCD.**"

It states, key passages are again highlighted:

"4.4.1 General Guidelines":

- Ongoing maintenance of contributing buildings is <u>strongly encouraged</u> as it prevents deterioration of heritage attributes and is the most cost-effective means of preserving heritage character.
- 2. Repair and restoration of heritage attributes is preferable to replacement.
- 4.4.13 Additions to Category 1, 2 and 3 Buildings
- 1. Additions to contributing buildings <u>must be sympathetic to the existing building</u>, subordinate to, and distinguishable from the original. Additions should be compatible with the historic building in terms of massing, facade proportions, rooflines and fenestration patterns. <u>Falsifying a past architectural style in a new addition is strongly discouraged.</u> "

Obviously, it's very important for me as a long time and proud Ottawa resident, especially during our nation's 150th birthday, for us to understand why it's imperative to make all efforts to support and keep as many historical & cultural buildings that we have in our Nation's Capital.

That's why I'm sending my feedback to support and preserve the heritage status, classification of the building of 231 Cobourg St. and its preservation. I truly hope the

City does not act too quickly to later regret poor decisions made and not being able to save 231Cobourg.

Good day Mr. Simon Deiaco,

1. Ref. the Uganda's embassy location plan to build a new complex there, there are two mature maple trees on the South side, or Wilbrod - if the plan goes ahead, will these trees be destroyed, and if so, what is the contractors' obligations with respect to replacing of these the trees?

Thank you for your assistance

Dear Mr. Deiaco,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed redevelopment of the Ugandan embassy. I attempted to send my comments using the online form, however the website gave me several errors. I hope that providing my comments in e-mail form is acceptable.

I would like to say, up front, that I do not oppose a tear down and rebuilding of the embassy. I view the proposal as preferable than other redevelopments that have recently occurred on Stewart street, where single family homes and duplexes have been replaced with high density student housing.

That said, I have a few concerns about the proposal as presented:

- 1) Landscaping: the proposal includes removal of existing mature trees, with no replacements. I would like to see a requirement to replace trees, and to add additional landscaping along the street front sides of the property. I particular, it appears that the new proposal increases the area of paving options, and reduces lawn and landscaping area. In keeping with a residential area, lawn area should be maintained or landscaped with site appropriate plantings.
- 2) setbacks I was unable to determine from the proposal if the new building will be closer to Stewart and Coburg streets than the current building. The current building is in line with adjacent buildings, and the current setback should at least be maintained.
- 3) Entry way: the entry way, as proposed above street level, is imposing. Integration of an office building with the surrounding environment would be greatly enhanced if the entrance were maintained at street level. A street level entryway would also look better for landscaping purposes.

- 4) Height: A three story flat topped roof is acceptable, and in line with the height of several nearby residences with windows on large third level/roof level floors. However, the proposal appears to include an elevator housing element which would, in essence, be at the fourth floor. This is in addition to a basement level that appears to have a significant portion above grade. As such, the proposed building is too high. Permitting fourth level construction would contribute to the continuing encroachment on the neighborhood character by large and tall developments. I would be concerned that this would create precedent for three story apartments below the attic level, with basement suites and additional attic space, that are significantly taller than surrounding buildings.
- 5) Precedent: there are a number of Embassies in the Sandy Hill area which are housed in old homes and buildings which may suffer from structural or other problems that are expensive to fix. It would be dangerous to set a precedent where old homes could be demolished for office (embassy) buildings simply because repairs are expensive. The Ugandan Embassy is a special case in my mind, because it is already a box building with no residential character. Steps should be taken to ensure that this proposal is not precedent setting for other embassy redevelopments as boxy office buildings. If necessary, I would support rejecting the proposal on this ground alone. However, if some limitations are available to limit the precedent, they could be considered. For example:
- A requirement to maintain the existing street front facades.
- Requirement to rebuild in the same style as the existing building.
- Requirements to construct the building such that it could be converted to residential space if vacated by the embassy.

I would be pleased to discuss elements of my comments at your convenience.

Action Sandy Hill (see attachment)



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T: 416.440.1024 F: 416.484.1024

November 22, 2017.

To: Simon M. Deiaco, MCIP, RPP

Planner III

Development Review, East Branch

Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department

City of Ottawa

110 Laurier Avenue West. Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1

Re: **Consolidated Technical and Public Comments** 

231 Cobourg Street, Ottawa, ON. K1R 7S8

Ward 12 - Rideau-Vanier, Councillor Mathieu Fleury

Mr. Deiaco,

Further to your correspondence dated August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (consolidated technical and public comments) and our review meeting of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 we have the following comments/observations in response for your consideration;

### Planning, Urban Design and Heritage

Landscape Plan, L-1

1. The amount of hard surface needs to be reduced, particularly along the Cobourg Street frontage to reflect the residential character of the street and read less as a public staging area or gathering area. A treatment that is more in keeping with the residential feel and character of the area and existing streetscape should be considered.

The building has been lowered and the front entrance has been reworked to have one stair accessing the building instead of the two stairs. Consequently, the amount of green space has been significantly increased and has been revised accordingly. Please refer to architectural drawings A1 - Proposed Site Plan and A-3 Proposed First Floor Plan (Issue No's 9 and 10 respectively, dated Nov. 22, 2017), and landscape drawings L-1 Landscape Plan and L-2 Landscape Notes (Issue No. 3, dated Nov. 20, 2017).

2. The proposed bicycle racks should be located on private property.

> Revised, please refer to architectural drawings A1 – Proposed Site Plan and Proposed First Floor Plan (Issue No. 15, dated Nov. 22, 2017), and landscape drawings L-1 Landscape Plan (Issue No. 3, dated Nov. 20, 2017).

3. Requested Zoning By-law Amendment

For the purpose of reviewing the required yards:

Wilbrod Street is considered the Front Yard of the site. Cobourg Street is considered the Corner Side Yard.

The yard abutting the residence at 467 Wilbrod is an Interior Side Yard. The yard abutting the proposed parking is the Rear Yard.

As noted in your rationale, Section 130 of By-law 2008-250 states that non- residential uses in residential zones must comply with the zone regulations that apply to the highest density use permitted, which in this case is a low rise apartment building.

Zoning information has been revised. Please refer to drawing A0 - Cover Page, Location Plan and Zoning Info (Issue No. 3, dated Nov. 22, 2017).

- 4. Consider repositioning the roof-top terrace to reduce the view from the street. It the railing was pulled back out of view from the street if would also reduce the visual impact of the guard rail.
  - Roof top terrace has been revised to 1.5 meters from the edge of the parapet thus reducing the visual impact of the guard rail. Please refer to architectural drawings A6 Proposed Roof Plan (Issue No. 10, dated Nov. 22, 2017)
- Consider a single staircase along the Cobourg Street entrance. The second set of stairs seems to remove other opportunities for landscaping.
   Revised see note response to Comment 1 above.
- 6. If the ground floor is lowered (even to grade) the ramp length can be reduced by half or altogether, significantly reducing its impact on the streetscape. Currently the entrance to the ramp is in a location farthest from the main entrance and parking which means that access could be restricted in the winter months because wheelchairs would not be able to traverse the snowy sidewalks between the parking and the ramp;

  The ground floor has been lowered and the ramp has been substantially reduced. The ramp entrance is now significantly closer to the main entrance and has a better relationship to the front of the building. Please refer to architectural drawing A3 Proposed First Floor Plan (Issue
- 7. If the second and third floors of the building are shifted over the current parking area on piloti, the rooftop amenity could be shifted to a portion above the second floor as a walk-out deck facing Wilbrod street;

  This move would substantially change the intent of the project and contravene both the

heritage overlay provisions and the urban design guidelines for context and character.

No. 9, dated Nov. 22, 2017)

- 8. The basement window locations could feature window wells if the building is lowered to reduce the ramp length. The current design has a large number of small over-hanging corners of the cladding which will likely lead to increased construction costs;

  Basement windows on the north side have been revised to incorporate window wells. Please refer to architectural drawing A3 Proposed First Floor Plan (Issue No. 9, dated Nov. 22, 2017)
- 9. With respect to the material and colour of the third floor, since the existing fabric of older brick houses in the heritage conservation district consists of dark grey roofs and only small details of white, perhaps using a more sympathetic colour for the third floor (i.e. dark grey) will better tie in the building to its context (see attached images for examples);

  Revised as noted. The third-floor and stair volume façades have been revised to utilize durable Laminam porcelain panels in a dark grey finish. Please refer to elevation drawings A7, A8, A9 and A10 (Issue No. 9, dated Nov. 22, 2017) as well as revised conceptual renderings.

10. It is anticipated that the report under the Ontario Heritage Act to allow the demolition of the building and the construction of a new high commission will proceed to the Built Heritage Subcommittee before the Planning Committee at which the zoning bylaw amendment will be considered, so that both reports can be considered at the same time by members of Planning Committee. The heritage planner on the file (Sally Coutts), is aware of the above comments on the building's design, and looks forward to discussing how to make the building fit into the existing heritage conservation district.

Noted. Ms. Coutts was present at our meeting of October 19th and subsequently presented the revised schematic images to the heritage team meeting of October 31, 2017 with positive feedback.

### **Right of Way Approvals**

- 11. Proposed infrastructure
  - Maintenance and Liability Agreement should be acquired for all landscaped elements in the right of way.

On the landscape plan, the existing hydrant is not show on the drawing (corner of Cobourg & Wilbrod), the applicant should ensure that the proposed landscaping/tree planting does not impact accessibility to the existing hydrant.

In compliance. Hydrant has been added to plans.

- b. Are tree soil cells being processed?No.
- c. What material is proposed for landscape edging?
  Planter edging: shall be cast-in-place concrete where adjacent to parking spaces; shall be dark-coloured stone or pre-cast concrete pavers placed on-end to create a 150mm tall barrier between 50 and 75mm thick with tight butt joints; at least two-thirds of the units shall be buried.
- d. Possibly consider revising landscape edging / planter size on Cobourg Street (adjacent parking lot at rear of building); the planter projects to the back edge of sidewalk and could potentially be impacted by snow clearing equipment due to the narrow sidewalks on Cobourg Street at this location.

The planter has been offset 610mm from the back of the sidewalk.

# City Surveyor

12. Site plan requires a note stating where the underlying property boundary information as derived from and how it was referenced to the topographic detail.

Derivation information for the property boundary information has been added to Site Plan drawing A1 (Issue No. 9 dated Nov. 22, 2017). Referenced survey drawing has been reissued.

# <u>Zayo</u>

13. No comments Noted.

### **Building Code Services**

- 14. Item of concern: The limiting distance show for the east elevation is less than 1.2m (indicated at 1.03m), no windows are permitted with a limiting distance less than1.2m. Part 9 of the Ontario building Code section 9.10.14.4 does not permit openings with a limiting distance less than 1.2m, and also limits the unprotected openings to 7% of the exposed wall face at 1.2m limiting distance.
  - The building has been shifted slightly to the west to comply with the 1.2 meter setback on the east side and the window area has been reduced significantly to comply with the requirement for unprotected openings based on this limiting distance. As a result, the windows previously serving stairwells on the east facade have been relocated to the north and south facades of the stairwell volumes accordingly.
- 15. Please be aware that as show on the drawings submitted for Site Plan Control Approval, the location of the building on-site may require shoring during the construction stage and possibly permanent encroachment consent. If so, please contact The ROW Permit Office (Right of Way) at 613-580-2424 x 16000 to enquire/obtain a temporary and/or permanent encroachment letter as the shoring is to be adjacent to city property.
  - The location of the building on site has been adjusted per item 14 above but we will consult with the ROW Permit Office as required.
- 16. Please ensure that the shoring details are included in the building permit application. Shoring details between private properties will also be reviewed by Building Code Service Branch at time of building permit application submission and will require permission(s) from the neighbouring property(s) owners if any portion of the shoring is located on the neighbouring property.
  - Noted. Shoring details will be prepared and submitted as part of the building permit application.

### Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

- 17. Stormwater Management: Water Quantity / Water Quality:
  - a. The Conservation Authority supports the Stormwater management plan prepared for this site for the protection of water quality and aquatic habitat in the receiving watercourse. We will rely on the City of Ottawa to ensure that the storm water site management plan is consistent with the design assumptions for the receiving municipal storm sewer.

Noted.

- 18. Conclusion:
  - a. No objections to Zoning By-law Amendment application
  - b. No objections to Site Plan Control application, subject to the following condition:

    The Site Plan Agreement contains a clause whereby the Owner acknowledges and agrees to implement all recommendations, design parameters and controls in accordance with the "Function Servicing Report" dated March 2017, prepared by Lithos Group Inc.

Noted.

# **Planning Forester**

- Given the development plan for this site, further tree retention is not possible.
   Noted.
- 20. The ownership of trees 182-187 should be determined. If any portion of the trunk touches or crosses the property line with 467 Wilbrod, that tree would be considered co-owned by both property owners. Co-owned trees require the permission of both property owners to remove. We will consult with the owners of 467 Wilbrod for permission.
- A tree permit is required prior to the removal of any tree 10cm or larger in diameterone will be made available upon site plan approval.
   Noted.

### **City Forester**

22. With respect to tree #180, any roots that are encountered they are to be cut cleanly off and are to be kept moist with a filter cloth until the area is backfilled.

The installation of tree protection fencing (hoarding) around the trees located on Wilbrod (180 and 181 shown on the plan) is required. Tree protection fencing must be installed prior to the commencement of construction/demolition and the applicant is to contact Forestry staff (Tracey Smith or Shawn O'Neill) for approval. The applicant is to adhere to the mitigation measures that are prescribed in the Arborist Report.

Noted.

### **Environmental Planning**

23. The Scoped EIS is accepted. Please note there is a timing window on work associated with the chimney with the work to be completed after October 31 and before April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Noted.

### **Transportation**

- 24. Permanent structures such as curbing, stairs, retaining walls, and underground parking foundation also bicycle parking racks are not to extend into the City's right-of-way limits. The bicycle racks are to be located on private property.
  - Revised. Please refer to architectural drawings A1 Proposed Site Plan and A-3 Proposed First Floor Plan (Issue No's 9 and 10 respectively, dated Nov. 22, 2017), and landscape drawing L-1 Landscape Plan and L-2 (Issue No. 3, dated Nov. 20, 2017).
- 25. The proposed four parking spaces are depicted as having access from the adjacent neighbour's private driveway. The City cannot approve the proposed parking spaces unless there is written agreement from the adjacent property owner allowing the developer access through his property.
  - Please refer to attached official conveyance document/deed including the use of the right of way for the property at 231 Cobourg Street.

26. For the interlock pavers, landscaped areas and public art on City's road right-of- way the developer has the sign a "Maintenance Agreement" with the City to cover any claims.

Noted.

### **Hydro Ottawa**

- Applicant is advised that the responsibility for all costs for feasible relocations, protection or encasement of any existing Hydro Ottawa plan resides with the requesting party.
   Noted.
- 28. Hydro Ottawa requires to be pre-consulted before approving any proposed reduction to the City of Ottawa 3m minimum standard setback prior to designing the electrical servicing, as it may affect the electrical servicing design timeline for installation and cost. This includes any proposed overhang encroachment into the 3m setback space.

  Noted.
- 29. Owner shall contact Hydro Ottawa to arrange for disconnecting the service from the distribution system and removal of all Hydro Ottawa assets at least 10 business days prior to demolition/removal of the serviced structure. Noted.
- 30. Owner shall enter an Installation and Service agreement with Hydro Ottawa.

  Noted.
- Owner is to contact Hydro Ottawa if the electrical servicing of the site is to change in location or in size. A load summary will be needed for the technical evaluation.
   Noted.
- 32. Owner shall comply with Hydro Ottawa's Conditions of Service and thus should be consulted for the servicing terms. The document, including referenced standards, guidelines, and drawings, may be found at: http://www.hydroottawa.com/residentail/rates-and-conditions/conditions-of-service/. The Owner should consult Hydro Ottawa prior to commencing engineering designs to ensure compliance with these documents.

  Noted.

### Le Conseil des écoles catholique de Centre-Est (CECCE)

33. No objections. Noted.

### Rogers

34. No comments or concerns. Please contact Martin Proulx at 613-688-2191 or e- mail at martin.proulx@rci.rogers.com for Rogers Site servicing if approved.

Noted.

### **Enbridge**

35. This response does not constitute a pipe locate or clearance for construction.

The applicant shall contact Enbridge Gas Distribution's Customer Connections department by emailing SalesArea60@enbridge.com for service and meter installation details and to ensure all gas piping is installed prior to the commencement of site landscaping (including, but not limited to: tree planting, silva cells, and/or soil trenches) and/or asphalt paving. If the gas main needs to be relocated as a result of changes in the alignment or grade of the future road allowances or for temporary gas pipe installations pertaining to phase construction, all costs are the responsibility of the applicant.

In the event that easement(s) are required to service this development, the applicant will provide the easement(s) to Enbridge Gas Distribution at no cost. The inhibiting order will not be lifted until the application has met all of Enbridge Gas Distribution's requirements.

The applicant will contact Enbridge Gas Distribution's Customer Connections department by emailing SalesArea60@enbridge.com prior to any site construction activities to determine if existing piping facilities need to be relocated or abandoned. Enbridge Gas Distribution reserves the right to amend or remove development conditions.

All noted.

### Engineering

36. The geotechnical report is missing ground water information. How will the ground water be dealt with during construction and post-construction?

Table 1 in the geotechnical report shows ground water level at the time of soils investigation at 4.2 m in BH1 and 4.8 m in BH2, below existing ground. The ground water elevation is lower than 1 m below the proposed basement slab elevation of 2.03 meters therefore no permanent discharge is required.

Similarly, for temporary discharge during construction, the groundwater elevation is still lower than 1 meter below the basement slab elevation therefore no permanent discharge is required.

- 37. Will the neighbouring property be affected by the proposed development?
  - The existing drainage pattern is being maintained, therefore the neighboring properties are not affected by the proposed development.
- 38. Main Issue with Servicing Drawing:
  - a. A Stormceptor is required to address storm water quality control.
     A Stormceptor (STC300) has been provided in the updated drawing set/report, as required.
  - b. The Weeping tile connection should be located after the ICD control devices. The weeping tile has been connected to MH1, after the ICD control device.



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# **Summary of Design Revisions:**

Following is a summary of the architectural design revisions that are a result of responses to the aforementioned comments as well as feedback from the meeting of October 19<sup>th</sup>;

- The building has been lowered resulting in a significant reduction in the length of the accessible ramp (less than half of that in the previous version). The ramp entrance is now more closely related to the main entrance of the building which is a significant improvement consistent with the Human Rights Code and the Provincial Policy Statement as relates to accessibility.
- Window wells have been introduced to allow for daylighting in the basement area on the north side.
- The front entrance has been reworked to have one stair accessing the building instead of the two in the previous iteration.
- With the revision of the entrance stair along Cobourg Street, the amount of green space has been significantly increased, especially with the agreement with planning staff to extend the edge of the landscaped areas along Cobourg Street beyond the property line and into the right of way. The surface treatment sees an extension of the existing interlocking paving into the area of bicycle parking and ramp entrance as well as along the west property line (replacing the section of existing concrete sidewalk). This extension serves to homogenize the paving treatment in front of the building by rendering it in a material that is more visually interesting than a concrete sidewalk. It is understood that the edge treatment will be designed to minimise tripping hazards and that an agreement will be entered into with the Right of Way department for maintenance. Details for edge treatment as well as planting list have been revised accordingly in the landscape drawings.
- The roof top terrace has been revised to 1.5 meters from the edge of the third floor parapet thus reducing the visual impact of the guard rail if not completely hiding it as viewed from street level.
- To further reduce the visual impact of the proposed third floor volume, it has been set back approximately one metre from the edge of the second floor parapet along the south, west and north sides. As discussed, the overhanging south-west angled corner serves to add an element of visual interest addressing the main intersection of Wilbrod and Cobourg Streets. As well, the materiality of the third floor facade has been revised from white porcelain panels to dark grey to tie-in more closely with the predominant third floor grey shingle roofing typical of the neighbourhood. The materiality of the stair volume will adopt the same dark grey porcelain panels for consistency.
- The extended canopy with a proposed wood soffit protects the entrance ramp and landing.
- Bicycle parking has been relocated (from the right of way) to within the boundary of the property line.

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- The building has been shifted slightly to the west to comply with the 1.2 metre setback on the east side and the window area has been reduced significantly to comply with the requirement for unprotected openings based on this limiting distance. As a result, the windows previously serving stairwells on the east facade have been relocated to the north and south facades of the stairwell volumes accordingly.
- Additional windows have been introduced in the south elevation in order to address Wilbrod Street as a main and fronting street to comply with planning directives.
- The two big windows serving the double volume lobby and reception area (on the Cobourg Street side) have been consolidated into one big window as suggested by planning to reflect the use of the building. A horizontal band at the second floor that would matches the height of the wide horizontal band of the overhang over the main entrance divides the big window as suggested by heritage staff.

See the following pages for revised schematic images.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further information and or clarifications.

Yours Sincerely,

Judah Mulalu, M. Arch., TSA, MRAIC, OAA

Principal

# **Annex D**

**Heritage Survey Form** 

Robertson Martin Architects Annex D - 1



# Sandy Hill Heritage Study

# **Descriptive sheet**

# 231 Cobourg St

Municipal Address	231 Cobourg Street	Building name		231 Cobourg St
Legal description		Lot:	Block:	Plan:
Age/Date of	1935-1947	Original use		
Construction		Present use		



Source: Ron J. Roy Date: 2006/27/10

# **Heritage Status**

Existing heritage building	Name:		
Existing heritage building	Bylaw / date:		
Existing heritage district	Name:		
Existing heritage district	Bylaw / date:		
Potential Heritage Building:	not defined		
Potential Heritage District:	not defined		
Comments:			

# **Phase 2 Evaluation Results**

Prepared by: Date:

Score	100 - 70	69 - 55	55 - 40	39 - 0
Group			3	

### 231 Cobourg St

**History** 

Prepared by: Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst Date: 2007/04/17

### Age/Date of Construction (Factual/Estimated)

Between 1935-47.

M1878: Area not covered by map. M1888(1901): Area not covered by map.

First building:

M1902(1912): 2 1/2 storey brick dwelling with shingled roof, front porch.

M1902(1922): Same

Second building (same as current):

M1948: 2 storey building, brick on concrete with tar & gravel roof.

M1956: Same

### **Events**

### Persons/Institutions

D1923-Not listed D1934-Not listed D1948 - Apartments (all occupants) Bell and Vera M. MacKintosh 1 - Patterson G. Murphy

2 - J. Leslie and Dorothy Elvidge

### **Developmental Context**

This apartment building reflects increased later demand for more modest, multi-unit residential development on Cobourg Street in the 30s and 40s. .

### Summary/Comments on historical significance

The historical significance of this building lies in its its role in continuing the residential development of Cobourg Street.

### **Historical sources**

- •June 1878 Insurance Plan of Ottawa, Ontario. National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- •January 1888 Key Plan of Ottawa and Vicinity. (Revised 1901). National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- •September 1902 Key Plan of the City of Ottawa, Ontario. Volume 1 (Revised 1912). National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- •September 1902 Insurance Plan of the City of Ottawa, Ontario. Volume 1 (Revised 1922). National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- •November 1948 Fire Insurance Map, Ottawa, Ontario. Volume 2. National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- October 1956 Fire Insurance Map, Ottawa, Ontario. Volume 2. National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada.
- The Ottawa City Directory, 1934, 1948.

231 Cobourg St

Architecture Prepared by: Chris Wiebe Date: 2007/02/08

### Architectural characteristics and design

Property characteristics: Single use institutional. Detached, 2 storey with rectangular plan, center entry and occupied basement. Site features consist of parking lot at side.

Exterior elements: Flat roof of unknown material; 1 brick chimney. Decorative roof elements include a raised parapet. Exterior brick wall with string courses, brick corbels, stone sills, quoins of brick and decorative brick patterns. Parged foundation.

Windows and doors: Rectangular wood double hung 1 x 1 8 x 8 windows. Metal storm windows. Octagonal window on upper storey. Single metal front door with transom window in door.

Other features: 1 storey wood porch with flat roof, pediment and wood brackets.

### **Architectural Stylistic Influences**

Federal stylistic influences

### Designer/Builder/Architect

N/A

### **Architectural integrity**

Medium to high: Non-original door, storm windows, and some other windows affect integrity.

### Other

### Summary/Comments on architectural significance

This is one of a small number of purpose-built apartment buildings in Sandy Hill dating from the middle years of the 20th century. It is somewhat atypical in its modest Federal stylistic influence, characterized by the broken pediment at the door surround surmounted by an octagonal window. The symmetrical composition, the double hung windows with divided lights, and the implied Classical detailing of the brick quoins and cornice are all significant elements of the facade and should remain in future renovations.

Context Prepared by: Date:

Existing heritage building	Name:	
	Bylaw / date:	
	Name:	
Existing heritage district	Bylaw / date:	



Source: Ron J. Roy Date: 2006/27/10

# Compatibility with surroundings:

Pattern of site use: Atypical (corner site facing Cobourg, rather than Wilbrod)

Use: Typical (residential)

Height/Volume: Typical

Materials: Typical (brick)
Typology: Type 8 (apartment)

### Community context/Landmark status

This property makes a moderate contribution to the history and architecture of the neighbourhood.

# Summary/Comments on environmental significance

This property is modestly compatible with the block in which it sits.

		Pre 1890	1891 - 1900	1901 - 1910	1911 - 1925	1926 - 1950	1951 +	Score
	Age/Date of Construction	10	8 - 9	6 - 7	4 - 5	√ 1 - 3	0	2/10
≿				High	Medium	Low	N/A	
HISTORY	Events / Persons			4 - 5	3	√ 1 - 2	0	1/5
Ξ				High	Medium	Low		
	Developmental Context			11 - 15	<u></u> 6 - 10	1 - 5		8/15
	Total							11/30

		Proportion/Scale	Detail/Craftsmanship	Coherence	Score
	Architectural characteristics	3/5	3/5	3/5	9/15
1.1		Strong	Medium	Weak	
ARCHITECTURE	Stylistic Influence	11 - 15	<b>⊘</b> 6 - 10	0 - 5	10/15
EC		Renowned	Known	Unknown	
CHI	Designer / Builder / Architect	3 - 5	1 - 2	<u></u> 0	0/5
¥		High	Medium	Low	
	Architectural Integrity	4 - 5	<b>⊘</b> 2 - 3	0 - 1	3/5
	Total				22/40

		Sets example	Reinforces pattern	Compatible with pattern	Incompatible with pattern	Score
EXT	Compatibility with surroundings	15 - 20	10 - 14	<b>⊘</b> 5-9	0 - 4	6/20
CONTE		Strong	Moderate	Weak	No	
ខ	Community Context/Landmark Status	7 - 10	<b>⊘</b> 4 - 6	1 - 3	0	5/10
	Total					11/30

Phase II score	44/100

Heritage Status	Group	3

# **Annex E**

Wilbrod/Laurier HCD Plan

Robertson Martin Architects Annex E - 1





# Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan









April 2015







# Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District Plan

# 1.0 Background

The Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District (HCD) was designated in 1982 by the former City of Ottawa for its cultural heritage value. It is one of the earliest heritage conservation districts designated in Ontario and one of the first designated in Ottawa. At the time of designation, there was no heritage conservation district management plan or statement of heritage character adopted by Council. As a result, the management of change in this district for the past 30 years has been on a case by case basis using best practices in heritage conservation.

Changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 2005 provided municipalities with the ability to adopt heritage conservation district plans by by-law to assist in the management of change in HCDs. For existing HCDs, a management plan can be adopted by a new by-law that does not change the boundaries or designation of the existing HCD.

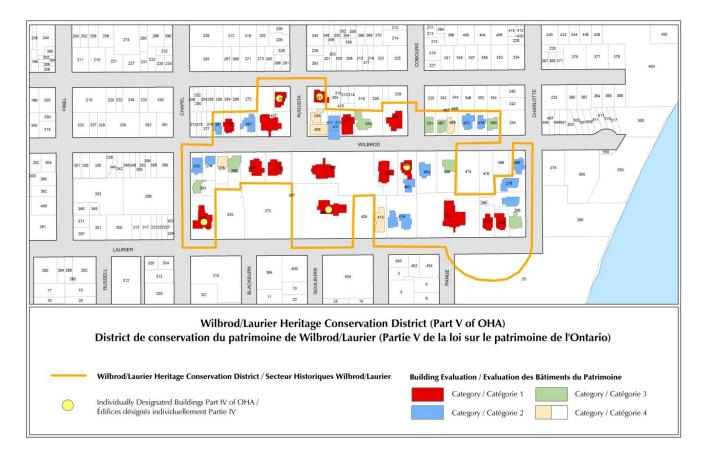
In 2007, the City of Ottawa initiated the Sandy Hill Heritage Study (SHHS) with the goal of evaluating all of the buildings in the study area and proposing mechanisms to protect and enhance the heritage character of the neighbourhood. One of the outcomes of the SHHS is the creation of HCD plans for the five existing districts in the study area. This document is the management plan for the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD.

### 2.0 Boundaries

The boundaries of the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD are irregular, but generally follow Wilbrod Street and the north side of Laurier Avenue from Chapel Street west to Charlotte Street. A small portion of Strathcona Park is also included. The detailed boundaries are shown in the map below:







# 3.0 Policy Framework

The Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District is regulated by both municipal and provincial policies. These include Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the City of Ottawa Official Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.

# Ontario Heritage Act

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (the *Act*) regulates the protection of cultural heritage resources within the province. A property that has been formally protected under the provisions of the *Act* is referred to as a "designated" property. According to Section 41.1 (2) of the *Act*, a municipality may pass a by-law adopting a heritage conservation district plan for any districts designated prior to 2005.

# City of Ottawa Official Plan

Section 2.5.5 of the Official Plan provides direction regarding the protection of cultural heritage resources in the city. Policy 2.5.5 (2) states that:





Individual buildings, structures, sites and cultural heritage landscapes will be designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Groups of buildings, cultural landscapes, and areas of the city will be designated as Heritage Conservation Districts under Part V the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The Wilbrod/Laurier HCD was designated by City Council in 1982 and the purpose of this document is to enhance the protection for the existing HCD by implementing an HCD plan to guide change in the district.

Provincial Policy Statement, 2014

The purpose of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), issued under the *Planning Act*, is the provide municipalities in Ontario with policy direction on matters related to land use planning and development. Part V, Section 2.6 of the PPS provides direction regarding cultural heritage resources. It states:

- Significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved; and
- Planning authorities shall not permit development and site alteration on adjacent lands to protected heritage property except where the proposed development and site alteration has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that the heritage attributes of the protected heritage property will be conserved.

# 4.0 Heritage Conservation District Plan

According to Section 41.1 (5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, a heritage conservation district plan shall include a statement of the objectives of the plan, a statement of cultural heritage value, a description of the attributes of the district, policy statements, guidelines and procedures for achieving the objectives of the plan and managing change and a description of the types of alterations that are minor in nature and can be undertaken without a permit.

# 4.1 Statement of Objectives

The objectives of this plan are:

- Identify and describe the cultural heritage value and heritage attributes of the HCD;
- Encourage the ongoing conservation and restoration of buildings of cultural heritage value in the HCD; and
- Provide a framework to manage change in the HCD in the future.





# 4.2 Statement of Heritage Character: Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District

# Description of Place

The Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District (HCD) is a residential area within the Sandy Hill neighbourhood that was designated for its cultural heritage value under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* by the former City of Ottawa through By-law 307-82 and amended by By-law 262-83. The boundaries of the district are irregular, but generally run along Wilbrod Street and Laurier Avenue between Chapel Street and Charlotte Street. Two properties on the south side of Stewart Street and the Strathcona Fountain and its associated landscape on the south side of Laurier Avenue in Strathcona Park are also included

# Cultural Heritage Value

The cultural heritage value of the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD lies in its association with the development of Sandy Hill in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is significant for its association with the early development of Ottawa as the national capital, its rich architectural character and for its many prominent citizens.

The Wilbrod/Laurier HCD was originally part of the lands granted by Colonel John By to Lieutenant René-Leonard Besserer in 1828. Besserer died suddenly after the land grant and his brother, Louis Besserer, a veteran of the War of 1812 and a businessman in Quebec City inherited his estate. Besserer relocated to Ottawa in the 1830s to develop his estate. Besserer's land was first subdivided beginning in 1834 by his agent, William Stewart, who laid out the street plan for the estate. Development was slow until after Ottawa was named the capital of Canada in 1857. The influx of politicians and civil servants upon the completion of the Parliament Buildings in1865 triggered the transformation of Sandy Hill from a sparsely populated neighbourhood at the edge of the city to a sought-after upper-middle class residential neighbourhood.

The Wilbrod/Laurier HCD is an excellent example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century upper-middle class residential neighbourhood. Identifying features include its historic street pattern, consistent house to lot ratios, generous front yard setbacks and tree lined streets. The HCD features a mix of architectural styles popular during the period of development from the 1870s until the 1920s including examples of Gothic Revival, Second Empire, Queen Anne Revival, Edwardian Classicism and Tudor Revival. Some of the largest, most elaborate buildings in Sandy Hill are located in the HCD, including Stadacona Hall which represents the provision of large lots for "villa residences" at the time of subdivision and illustrate the early character of the neighbourhood in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.





The Wilbrod/Laurier HCD is significant for its association with the development of Sandy Hill as an upper-middle class neighbourhood that was home to many politicians and senior civil servants. In particular, the HCD was the home of several Prime Minister including Sir John A. MacDonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, William Lyon MacKenzie King and Lester B. Pearson.

Description of Heritage attributes:

The following heritage attributes embody the heritage value of the Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District as an example of the early residential development of Sandy Hill:

- Eclectic mix of architectural styles including Queen Anne Revival, Italianate, Gothic Revival, and Edwardian Classicism;
- · Primarily single detached residential character;
- Predominantly two to three storey building height;
- Consistent use of building materials including red and buff brick, limestone and wood;
- Large covered, open front porches and verandas;
- Generous front lawns with shrubs and trees and some low front yard fences;
- Consistent side yard setbacks providing space between buildings;
- Historic street layout and lot pattern;
- Mature deciduous street trees and boulevards between the curb and street in some locations;
- Large "villa residences" including Stadacona Hall, 395 Laurier Avenue East, 400 and 407 Wilbrod Street, 453 Laurier Avenue East; and
- Strathcona fountain in its associated landscape at the top of a hill in Strathcona Park.

# 4.3 Management Guidelines

The Wilbrod/Laurier Heritage Conservation District has been designated since 1982 and has retained much of its historic fabric. The management guidelines in this section are intended not only to retain historic fabric, but also to manage the change that is inevitable in the HCD. The guidelines are arranged into four sections:

1. Guidelines for Category 1, 2 and 3 buildings.





- Guidelines for Category 4 building.
- 3. Guidelines for Infill.
- 4. Guidelines for Streetscape and Public Realm.

The Guidelines for Category 1, 2, and 3 buildings encourage retention and conservation of existing historic buildings and provide guidance on alterations and additions to historic buildings. The Guidelines for Category 4 buildings provide guidance on alterations and demolition of non-contributing buildings in the HCD.

Presently, there are no vacant lots in the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD but vacant lots could be created through demolition of non-contributing buildings, fire or other disaster. The guidelines for infill are intended to guide new development in the HCD or new buildings on properties left vacant through the loss of an historic building to fire or natural disaster.

Finally, the streetscapes of Wilbrod Street and Laurier Avenue are important in defining the heritage character of the HCD and the guidelines for streetscape and public realm provide guidance in alterations and enhancements to these areas.

### **Technical Guidance**

The City of Ottawa adopted the Parks Canada Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in 2008 and these will be applied in conjunction with the guidelines in this document.

Additional technical guidance for restoration projects can be found online in the United States National Parks Service Preservation Briefs which provide detailed 'how-to' briefs on various elements of restoration (ie. Masonry, woodwork, metal).

Staff in the Heritage Section can also provide guidance and advice on specific projects.

# **Building Evaluation**

A building by building inventory of all buildings in the HCD was completed and all buildings were given a score. The score ranges for each category are:

Category 1: 70-100

Category 2: 55-69

Category 3: 40-54





Category 4: 0-39

# 4.4 Guidelines for Category 1, 2 and 3 Buildings

Category 1, 2, and 3 buildings are considered to be contributing buildings in the heritage conservation district and are important to maintaining the overall character of the HCD.

### 4.4.1 General Guidelines

- Ongoing maintenance of contributing buildings is strongly encouraged as it prevents deterioration of heritage attributes and is the most cost-effective means of preserving heritage character.
- 2. Repair and restoration of heritage attributes is preferable to replacement.

# 4.4.2 Demolition and Relocation

- 1. Demolition of contributing buildings will not normally be supported.
- Any application to demolish a building in the HCD must be accompanied with plans for a replacement building.
- 3. Where a building is approved for demolition, the building must be recorded at the direction of Heritage staff and the information should be deposited at the City of Ottawa Archives. In addition, consideration should be given to salvaging historic materials as the building is demolished.
- 4. The relocation of contributing buildings will not be supported except in extraordinary circumstances.

# 4.4.3 Roofs and Chimneys

- 1. Every effort should be made to retain original roofing materials (ie. cedar, slate) where possible.
- 2. Where the original roofing material is missing, property owners are encouraged to restore the roof to its historic material.
- 3. Where historic roofing materials cannot be retained, modern roofing materials such as asphalt shingles may be considered.
- 4. Original rooflines (gable, hip, gambrel, flat, etc.) must be maintained.
- 5. New dormer windows should be located on the rear roof slope possible.





- 6. The addition of solar panels may be permitted. Wherever possible, solar panels should be installed in a manner that will not impact the heritage fabric of the building if they are removed. In addition, solar panels should be located on the rear slope of the roof or on a flat roofed portion of the building so that they are not obvious from the historic streetscape.
- 7. New eaves troughs and downspouts may be permitted if required to solve drainage issues, but should be located in an inconspicuous location and installed in a way that does not damage the building. Property owners must consult heritage staff prior to installation.
- 8. Chimneys are important heritage attributes of historic buildings. Historic chimneys should be retained and maintained on a regular basis. Non-functioning chimneys should be capped and retained.

# 4.4.4 Cladding

- 1. Original cladding should be conserved and maintained. Restoration of historic cladding is preferable to replacement.
- 2. If cladding requires replacement it must be replaced in kind. The material, form, dimensions should all be replicated. Only deteriorated portions should be replaced. Replacement with modern cladding material (ie. vinyl or metal) is not permitted.
- 3. Removal of inappropriate cladding material (ie. vinyl siding) and restoration of the historic cladding material is encouraged.
- 4. Wood siding should be painted.
- 5. Historic stucco should be repaired or replaced in kind with a traditional three coat application. Replacement synthetic stucco or Exterior Insulation Finishing System (EIFS) is not acceptable.
- 6. The repointing of historic masonry is complex and must be undertaken by an experienced mason. New mortar must match the original in colour, pointing method and composition (soft, lime rich mortar rather than a cement based mortar).
- 7. Existing unpainted brick should not be painted.
- 8. Cleaning of brick and stone buildings should be undertaken using gentle and nonabrasive methods. Sandblasting is not an appropriate method to clean brick or stone. Property owners must consult with heritage staff prior to cleaning of masonry.





# 4.4.5 Windows

Windows are an integral part of the historic character of a building. The size and placement of windows are known as the fenestration pattern. The material and profile of individual windows is also important. The profile includes the construction, operating mechanisms, sill profile and width and design of the window frame. Some windows have been replaced over time, but where original windows remain, they should be retained.

Well maintained historic windows can last much longer than contemporary replacements. There are practical and economical approaches that can be taken to repair historic windows including painting, re-puttying or caulking, and weather stripping. Heritage staff can provide advice on appropriate methods of restoration for historic windows and appropriate replacement windows as necessary.

- Original wood windows and storm windows should be retained. Energy efficiency can be achieved with existing windows through the restoration of the windows and the installation of weather stripping and appropriate exterior or interior wooden storm windows.
- 2. Repair and restoration of historic windows and doors is preferable to replacement. Only those windows or doors that are beyond repair should be replaced.
- 3. Replacement windows should match the historic windows in size, shape, materials and divisions. Where no documentary evidence of the original windows exists, replacement windows should be based on local examples in similar houses as opposed to falsely replicating windows to evoke a particular historic style.
- 4. The replacement of inappropriate newer windows and doors with more compatible units is encouraged.
- 5. Vinyl windows will not be permitted. Metal clad wood windows may be approved in special circumstances.
- 6. The shape and size of existing window and door openings should be retained.
- 7. The fenestration pattern must be maintained. Where a new window opening is required, it must be located in a discreet area and follow the rhythm and scale of the historic pattern.

### 4.4.6 Doors and Entrances

1. Existing historic doors should be retained and repaired.





- 2. The size, scale and proportions of existing doors and door openings will be preserved.
- 3. Where replacement is required, replacement doors must replicate the historic door as closely as possible.
- 4. The pattern and arrangement of the entrance must be retained including doors, sidelights and transom windows.
- 5. New entrances should not be introduced on the street facing façade.
- 6. The replacement of inappropriate modern doors with historically accurate doors is encouraged.

### 4.4.7 Foundations

- 1. The original foundation material should be maintained and conserved. Repair and restoration of original material is preferred over replacement.
- 2. New surfaces or coatings such as parging that alter the appearance of the foundation are not permitted.
- 3. Repointing of stone foundations is complex and must be undertaken by an experienced mason. New mortar must match the original in colour, pointing method and composition (soft, lime rich mortar rather than a cement based mortar).

### 4.4.8 Porches and Verandas

- Front porches are an integral part of the heritage character of the HCD. All elements of an historic porch including decorative elements such as brackets and railings should be conserved and maintained.
- 2. The complete removal of historic porches will not be permitted.
- 3. Where a porch has been neglected or is badly deteriorated, it should be restored rather than replaced. If it is beyond repair, it should be replaced in kind with the same materials, style, and size. For instance, the replacement of a wood column with a fibreglass column is not appropriate.
- 4. All wood should be painted.
- Where a component of the porch such as a bracket, railing, post, baluster or column has deteriorated beyond repair, it should be replaced in the same style, material, and proportions.





- 6. If a property owner wishes to reinstate a missing porch, the design should be based on documentary evidence (ie. historic photographs). If no such evidence exists, the porch should take cues from local examples on similar buildings.
- 7. If changes to railing heights are required to meet the standards of the Building Code, additions should be made to existing railings in the form of a contrasting but sympathetic horizontal railing. Property owners are encouraged to contact a heritage planner for guidance.

### 4.4.9 Decorative Features

The architectural styles of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries featured extensive use of decoration including decorative bargeboard (gingerbread) in the gable ends of a roof, finials, decorative brick work and terra cotta. These elements contribute significantly to the overall style of a building and ongoing maintenance can ensure their protection and longevity.

- Decorative architectural features that contribute to the heritage value of the building should be restored and retained wherever possible.
- 2. Decorative wood elements should be maintained regularly to ensure that areas of water penetration are found and repaired.

# 4.4.10 Garages and Accessory Buildings

- 1. Historic carriage houses and garages are present in the HCD and should be retained and restored wherever possible.
- New garages and accessory buildings should be located in the rear yard and should be designed to complement the heritage character of the HCD.

### 4.4.11 Paint Colour

Paint colour is not regulated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* but this section provides advice on choosing appropriate paint colours.

- If the original exterior colour scheme of the building is still intact it should be retained.
   Repainting should be with colours based on the original.
- 2. If a property owner wishes to determine the original colours of their house, paint scrapings from inconspicuous areas may reveal the history of the paint on the house.
- 3. Only colours associated with the era in which the building was built should be used. For colour palettes, contact a Heritage planner.





- 4. Many buildings feature two or three paint colours to highlight various details in the decoration. Typical colours included cream, white, olive green, gold, pale green, gray, and ochre red.
- 5. Historical colour palettes are available from some of the major paint manufacturers. These colour schemes are largely based on research in the United States but can provide a starting point for colour choice in Canada. Advice on specific colours can be provided by staff in the Heritage Section.

# 4.4.12 Landscape and Setting

- 1. Properties in the HCD were frequently delineated with low front-yard fences. Fences two metres and lower are appropriate to the HCD and should be constructed of painted wood or decorative metal or as a stone wall topped with metal or wood.
- 2. Linear walkways perpendicular to the sidewalk are common in the HCD. These walkways are generally narrow (approximately one metre) and lead directly to the bottom of the front steps. Where a grade change is present concrete or stone steps are a typical characteristic of this walkway. Existing walkway patterns should be retained and restored where appropriate.
- 3. Front yards consist of primarily soft landscaping, typically a lawn. To maintain this character, patios or other hard surfacing in the front yard are strongly discouraged.
- 4. Lot sizes in the HCD are generous and there are a number of significant "villa residences" found in the HCD. The setting of a grand house in a landscaped setting contributes to the heritage character of the HCD. The existing lot pattern and landscape should be protected in any future development.
- 5. Driveways are present throughout the HCD but should not overtake or detract from the front elevation of the house. New driveways or widened driveways are discouraged.

# 4.4.13 Additions to Category 1, 2 and 3 Buildings

 Additions to contributing buildings must be sympathetic to the existing building, subordinate to, and distinguishable from the original. Additions should be compatible with the historic building in terms of massing, facade proportions, rooflines and fenestration patterns. Falsifying a past architectural style in a new addition is strongly discouraged.





- New additions will not result in the removal or obstruction of heritage attributes of the building or the HCD.
- 3. The height of any addition to an existing building must not exceed the height of the existing roof.
- 4. Additions should generally be located in the rear yard.
- 5. New additions should respect the existing wall to window ratio and proportion of the existing building.

# 4.4.14 New multiple units in existing single family houses

Heritage designation cannot regulate the use of a building, and generally, the conversion of an existing single family house in the HCD does not affect the cultural heritage value of the HCD. The adaptive reuse of large historic single detached houses into multiple dwelling units is often a good way to protect and give new life to significant heritage buildings. However, additions or modifications to a house that increase the floor area for conversion to a multiple unit dwelling must be approached with caution, as these can fundamentally change or destroy heritage character.

The use of buildings is regulated through the Zoning By-law. The section below is intended to provide guidance regarding exterior changes that might be required to convert a single family house into a multi-unit dwelling. The intention of these guidelines is to ensure that the conversion will not negatively impact the architectural character of the building.

- 1. Exterior alterations to the building that are required to convert the building to a multiunit dwelling must not result in the loss of heritage fabric or negative impacts on the heritage character of the building or the streetscape.
- Alterations to the building, as required by the Ontario Building Code must be
  accommodated within the interior of the building wherever possible. Where new
  exterior staircases or doors are required, they should be located at the rear of the
  building and designed in a manner that is sympathetic to the character of the HCD.
- 3. New utility metres added to the exterior of the building must be discreetly located and should not obstruct the front facade of the building.
- 4. If an addition is proposed as part of the conversion, the addition must meet the guidelines outlined in section 4.4.13.





# 4.5 Guidelines for Category 4 Buildings

Buildings identified as Category 4 do not contribute to the cultural heritage value of the heritage conservation district. These buildings may be newer buildings or historic buildings that have been significantly and irreversibly altered over time. Guidelines for these buildings are necessary because alterations or demolition of these buildings has the potential to impact the cultural heritage value of the HCD.

# 4.5.1 Demolition

- 1. Generally, there is no objection to the demolition of Category 4 buildings where an appropriate replacement building is proposed.
- 2. Any application to demolish a building in the HCD should be accompanied with plans for a replacement building.

### 4.5.2 Alterations and Additions

- 1. Alterations and additions to non-contributing buildings should contribute to and not detract from the heritage character of the District.
- 2. Alterations and additions to non-contributing buildings should be of their own time and not attempt to recreate a historical architectural style.
- Alterations and additions to non-contributing buildings should be designed to be compatible with the contributing buildings of the District and in particular the streetscape, in terms of scale, massing height, setback, entry level, materials and windows.
- 4. If the roof profile of a Category 4 building is altered the new profile should be designed so that the apparent height of the building is compatible with that of its neighbours.

# 4.6 Guidelines for Infill

Presently, there are no vacant lots in the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD but vacant lots could be created through demolition of non-contributing buildings, fire or natural disaster. The guidelines in this section are intended to ensure that new buildings in the HCD contribute to its character and are consistent with the goals of the HCD.

 New buildings will contribute to and not detract from the heritage character of the district.





- New building should be of their own time and not attempt to replicate a historic style, but must be sympathetic to the character of the HCD in terms of massing, facade proportions, rooflines, cladding materials and the fenestration pattern.
- Any new residential development in the Wilbrod/Laurier HCD should be in keeping with the traditional scale of residential buildings in the district. New construction should match the immediate neighbours in terms of setback, footprint, and massing.
- 4. Windows in new buildings should be vertically aligned from floor to floor in keeping with the historic character of the HCD.
- 5. White vinyl windows and horizontal sliding windows are not appropriate to the character of the HCD and should not be used.
- 6. Cladding materials should reflect the character of the HCD. Appropriate materials include stucco, brick, natural stone, wood siding or fibre cement board.

# 4.7 Guidelines for Streetscape and Public Realm

- 1. Existing block and street patterns must be retained in any new development.
- 2. Existing street trees should be preserved and new street trees of appropriate species should be planted to ensure the continuity of the streetscape.
- 3. Boulevards should be planted with trees and grass but other low shrubs or flowers that are subordinate to the adjacent street trees may be appropriate.
- **4.** Historically, street lighting in Sandy Hill consisted of electric light fixtures extending from wooden poles. New street lighting should be contemporary in design but should reflect the historic street lighting in the neighbourhood.

# 4.8 Alterations that do not require a heritage permit

The following are minor alterations that do not require a Heritage Alteration Permit under the Ontario Heritage Act:

- Interior alterations.
- Painting/paint colour.
- Regular on-going building maintenance such as repointing and foundation repairs.





- Repair or restoration, using the same materials, of existing features including roofs, exterior cladding, cornices, brackets, columns, balustrades, porches and steps, entrances, windows, foundations and decorative wood, metal or stone.
- Alterations to soft landscaping.