Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment January 28, 2021

File:	A/051/20
Address:	3 Sir Ector Court – Markham, ON
Applicant:	Sasha Lazarou
Agent:	Building Experts Canada Ltd.
Hearing Date:	February 3, 2021

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East Team. The applicant is requesting relief from the following "Residential One (R1) Zone" requirements of By-law 1229, as amended as it relates to the proposed construction of a new two-storey detached dwelling, to permit:

## a) Infill By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (vi):

a maximum floor area ratio of 48.70%; whereas the By-law permits a maximum floor area ratio of 45.0%.

## BACKGROUND

This application was deferred by the Committee of Adjustment ("the Committee") on November 18, 2020, to provide the applicant time to address concerns as noted in the minutes extract (Appendix "C"), as summarized below. The applicant initially requested a maximum floor area ratio of 49.97%. A total of three area residents spoke at the initial hearing, citing the following concerns that:

- the mass and scale of the proposed development would not complement the existing neighbourhood;
- the three car garage is too large and can be reduced; and
- the building siting be revised to be more centred.

The Committee expressed concern with the size of the dwelling and its compatibility with surrounding dwellings.

# COMMENTS

The applicant submitted revised variance application plans on January 7, 2021, which propose a two-storey detached dwelling with a two car garage, and rear yard deck and walkup. The applicant is requesting a maximum floor area ratio of 48.70% which has been reduced by 1.27% from the previous request. The applicant has revised the location of the building to be more centred on the property, with side yard setbacks of approximately 2.0 m (6.56 ft) on the north side and 2.11 m (6.92 ft) on the south side which comply with the By-law requirements.

## Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Undertaken

The applicant has completed a new ZPR on January 6, 2021 to confirm the required variance for the revised drawings.

## Increase in Maximum Floor Area Ratio

The applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum floor area ratio of 48.70%, whereas the By-law permits a maximum floor area ratio of 45.0%. The variance will facilitate the

construction of a two-storey detached dwelling with a floor area of 298.63 m<sup>2</sup> (3,214.43  $ft^2$ ), whereas the By-law permits a dwelling with a maximum floor area of 275.94 m<sup>2</sup> (2,970.23  $ft^2$ ). This represents an increase of approximately 22.69 m<sup>2</sup> (244.20  $ft^2$ ).

Staff are of the opinion that the proposed floor area ratio will result in a dwelling that meets the intended scale of residential infill developments consistent with the neighbourhood, and have no objection to its approval.

## Tree Protection & Compensation

Mature trees and vegetation exist throughout the property, and along neighbouring property lines, as shown in the survey plan attached as Appendix "B". Urban Forestry staff have reviewed the application with respect to the proposed development. In the event of approval, staff recommend that tree protection and compensation conditions attached as Appendix "A" be adopted by the Committee.

## PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of January 28, 2021. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

## CONCLUSION

Planning staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended*, and are of the opinion that the variance request meets the four tests of the *Planning Act* and have no objection. Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the By-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the *Planning Act* required for the granting of minor variances.

Please see Appendix "A" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

## APPENDICES

Appendix "A" – Conditions of Approval Appendix "B" – Revised Plans Appendix "C" – Minutes Extract: November 18, 2020 Appendix "D" – Staff Report: November 6, 2020

PREPARED BY:

Aleks Todorovski, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

REVIEWED BY:

Stephen Corr, Senior Planner, East District

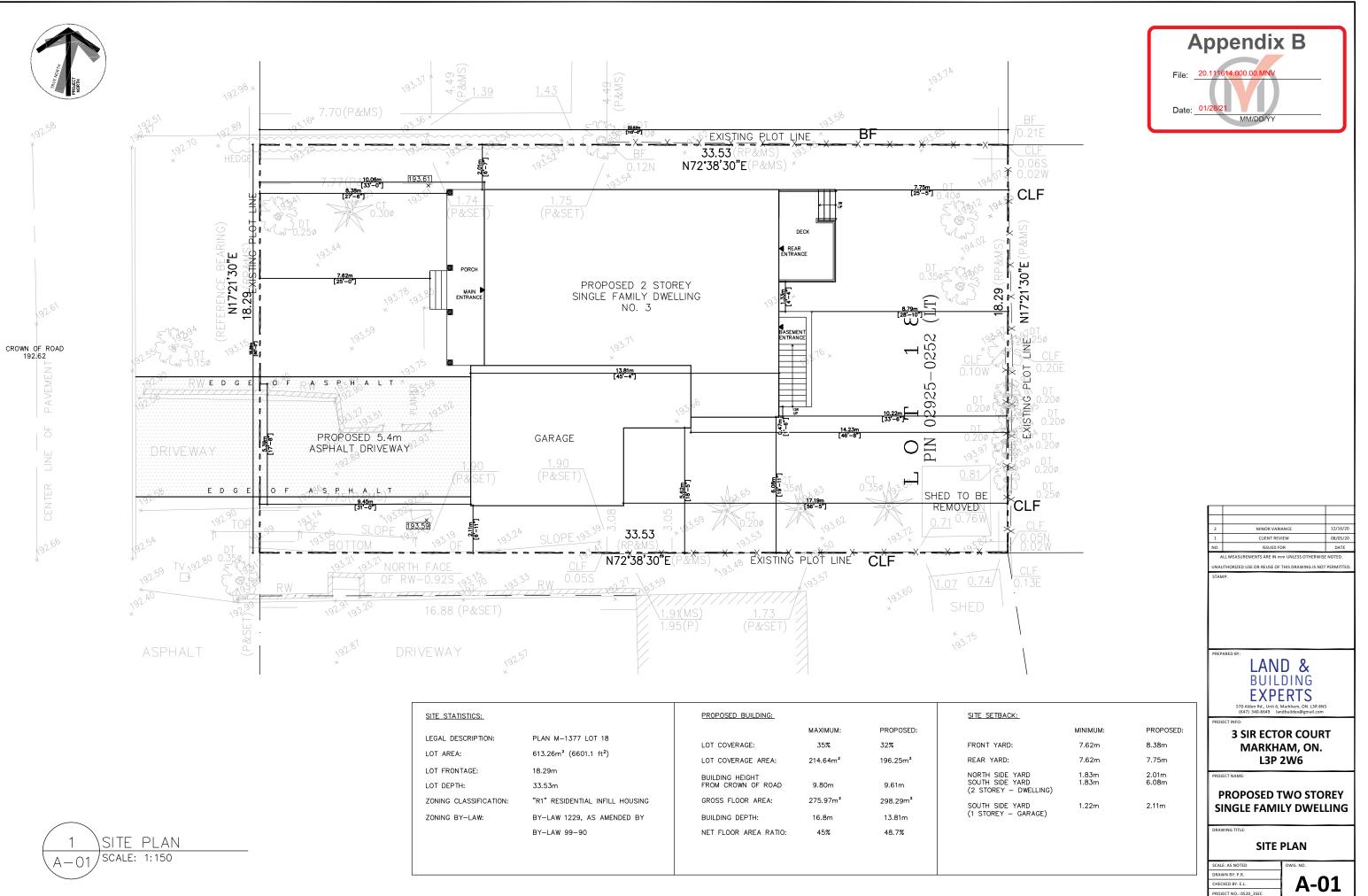
### APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/051/20

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains.
- 2. That the variances apply only to the proposed development, in substantial conformity with plans attached as Appendix "B" to this Staff Report with a batch stamped date of January 28, 2021, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.
- 3. Submission of a Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, prepared by a qualified arborist in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009), as amended, to be reviewed and approved by the City, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction, and that any detailed Siting, Lot Grading and Servicing Plan required as a condition of approval is consistent with the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan.
- 4. That prior to the commencement of construction or demolition, tree protection be erected and maintained around all trees on site including street trees, in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009), as amended, and inspected by City Staff to the satisfaction of the Tree Preservation Technician, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.
- 5. That tree replacements be provided to the City, if required, in accordance with the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Tree Preservation Technician, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.

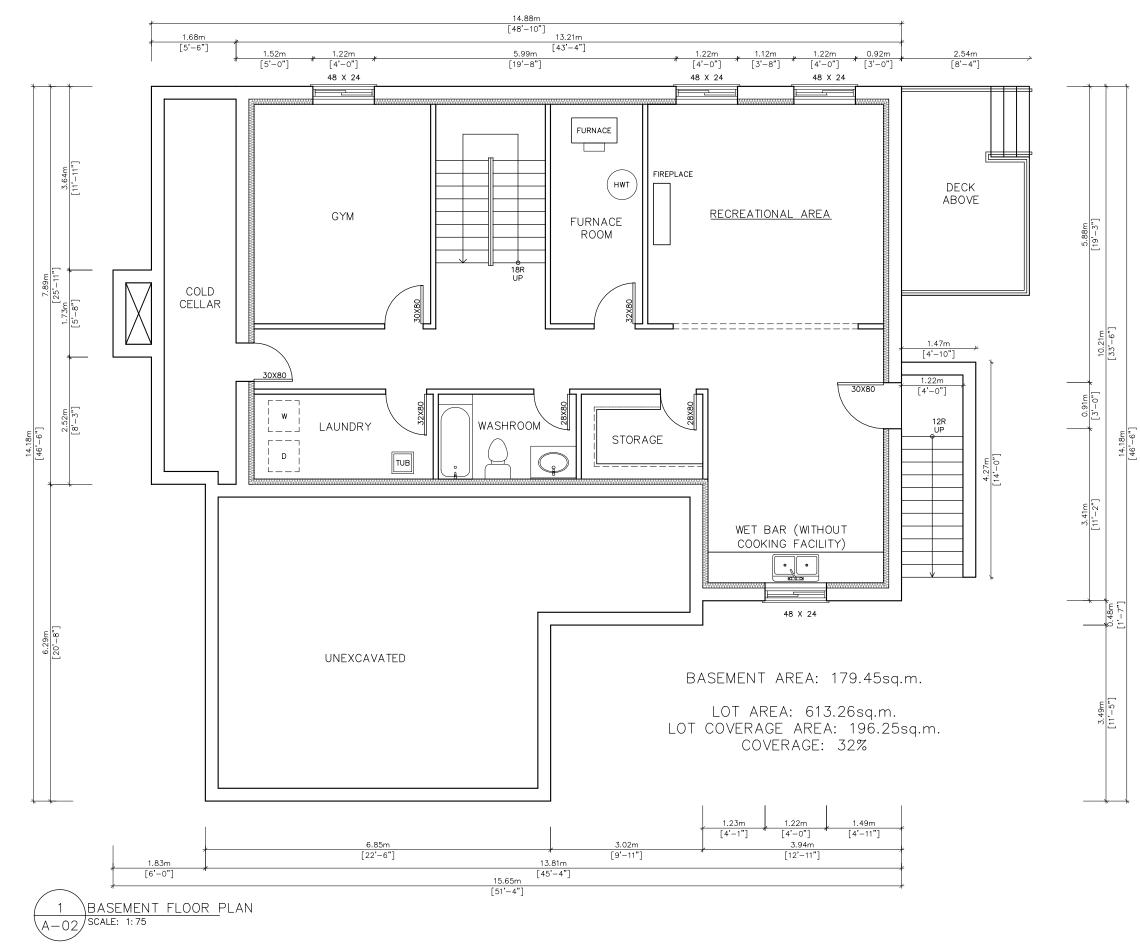
CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Aleks Todorovski, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

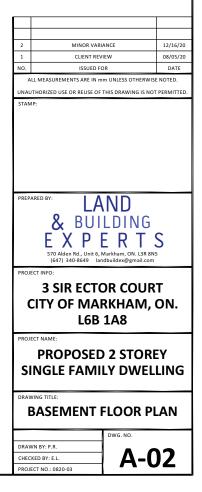
APPENDIX "B" REVISED PLANS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/051/20

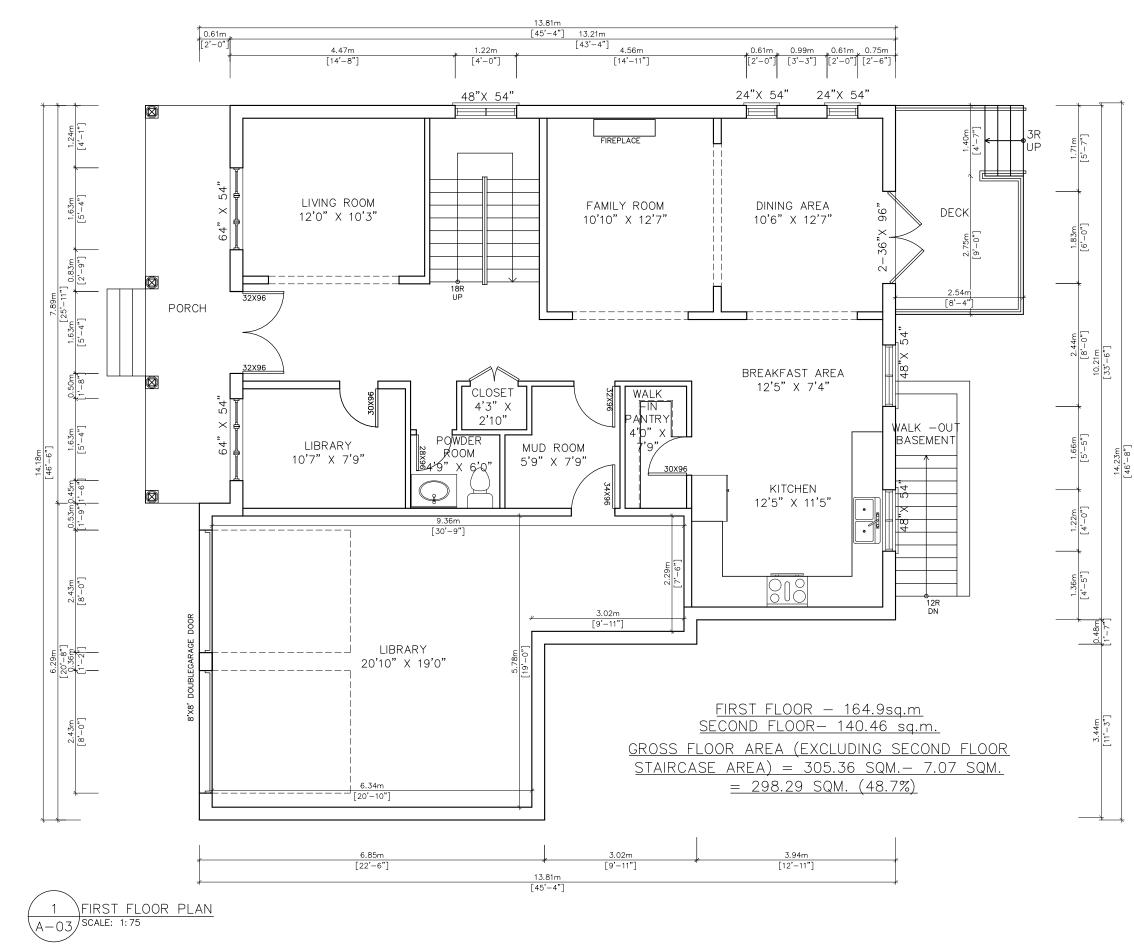


SHE STATISTICS:		PROPOSED BUILDING:			<u>311E</u>
			MAXIMUM:	PROPOSED:	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	PLAN M-1377 LOT 18	LOT COVERAGE:	35%	32%	FRO
LOT AREA:	613.26m² (6601.1 ft²)	LOT COVERAGE AREA:	214.64m²	196.25m²	REA
LOT FRONTAGE:	18.29m	BUILDING HEIGHT			NOR
LOT DEPTH:	33.53m	FROM CROWN OF ROAD	9.80m	9.61m	SOU (2 S
ZONING CLASSIFICATION:	"R1" RESIDENTIAL INFILL HOUSING	GROSS FLOOR AREA:	275.97m²	298.29m²	SOU
ZONING BY-LAW:	BY-LAW 1229, AS AMENDED BY	BUILDING DEPTH:	16.8m	13.81m	(1 S
	BY-LAW 99-90	NET FLOOR AREA RATIO:	45%	48.7%	

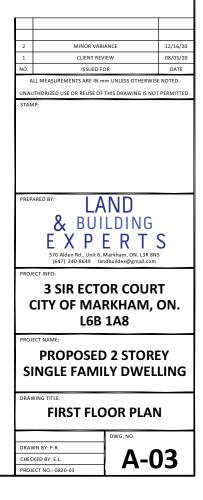


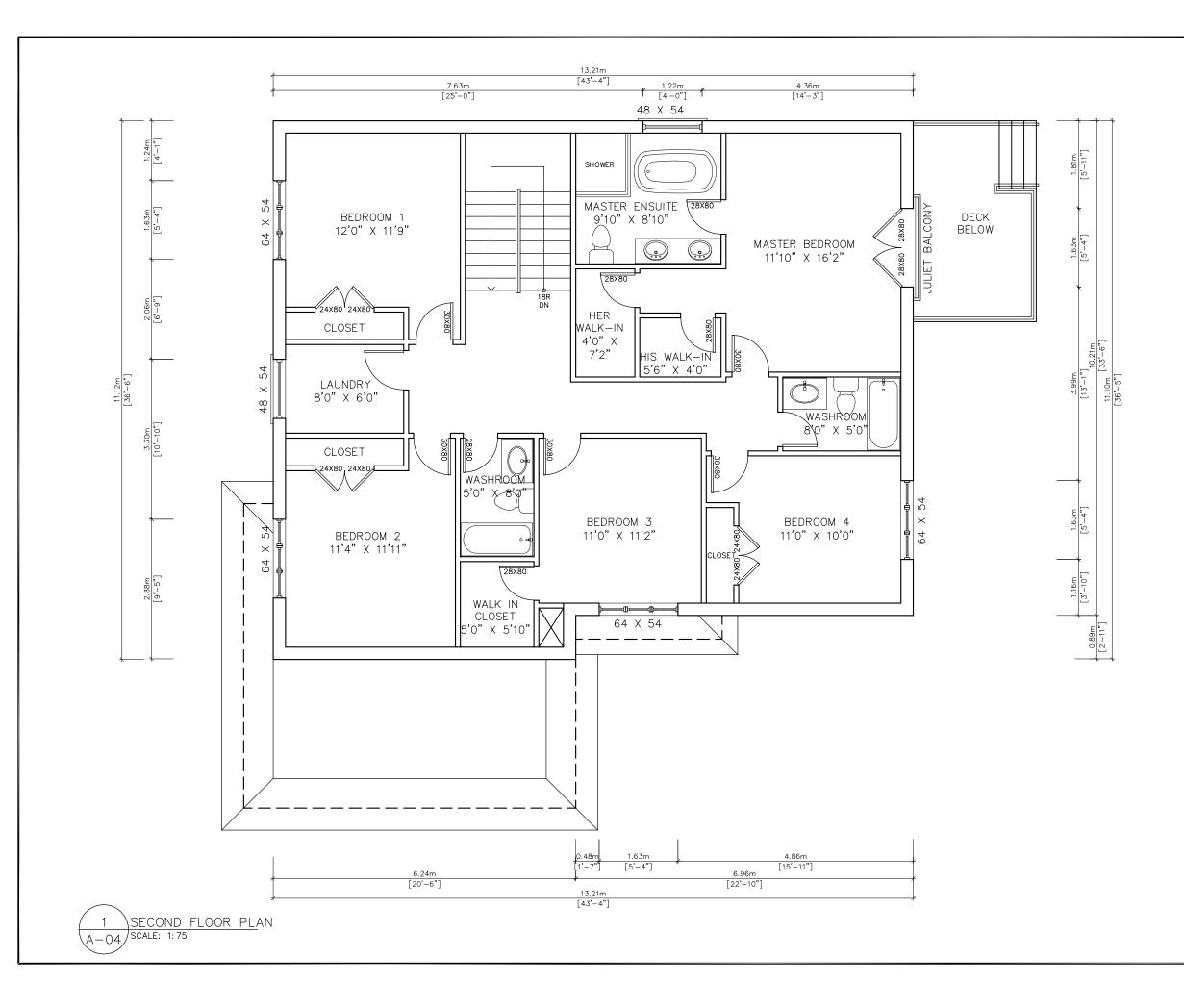


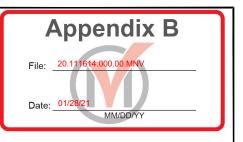




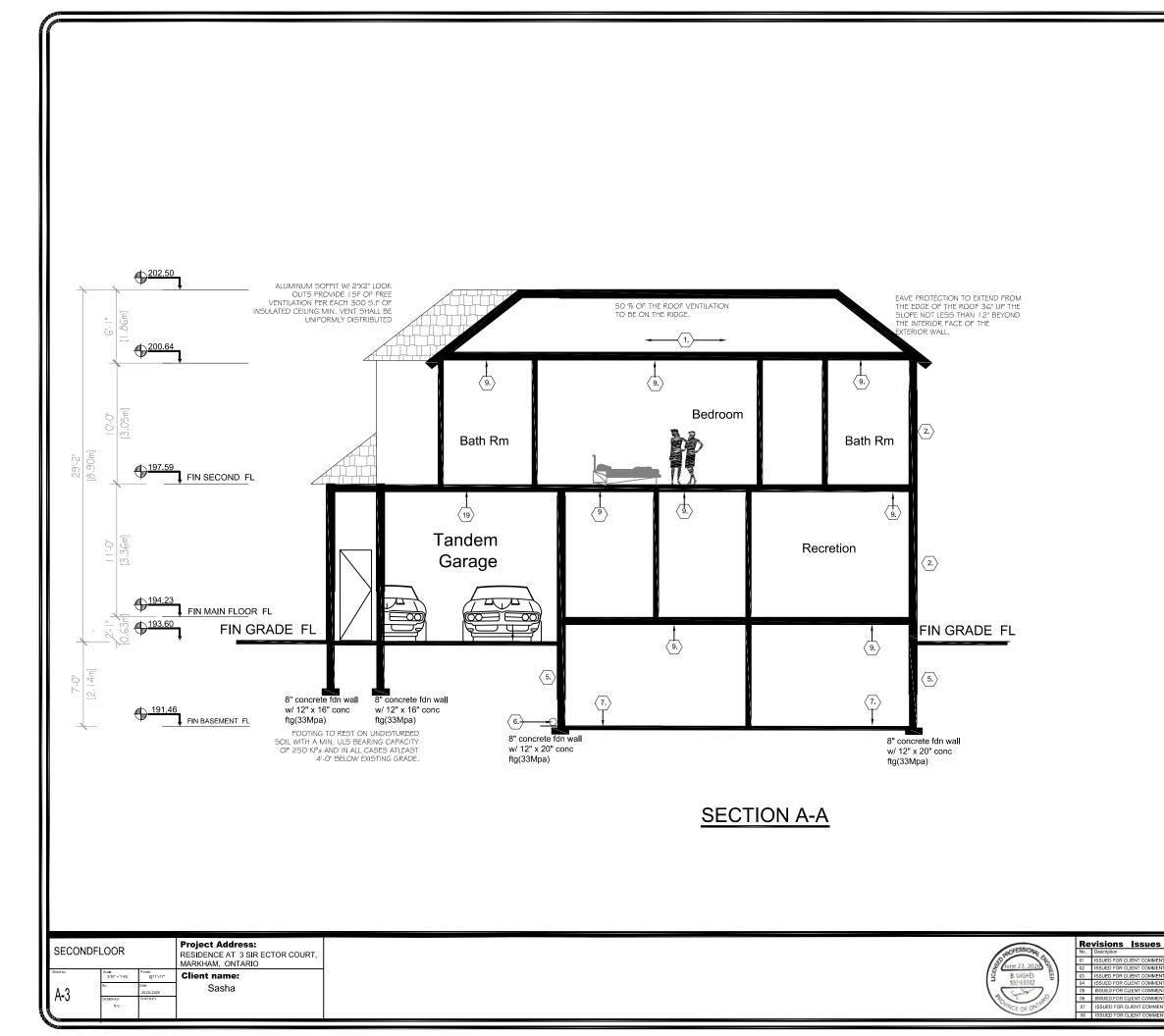












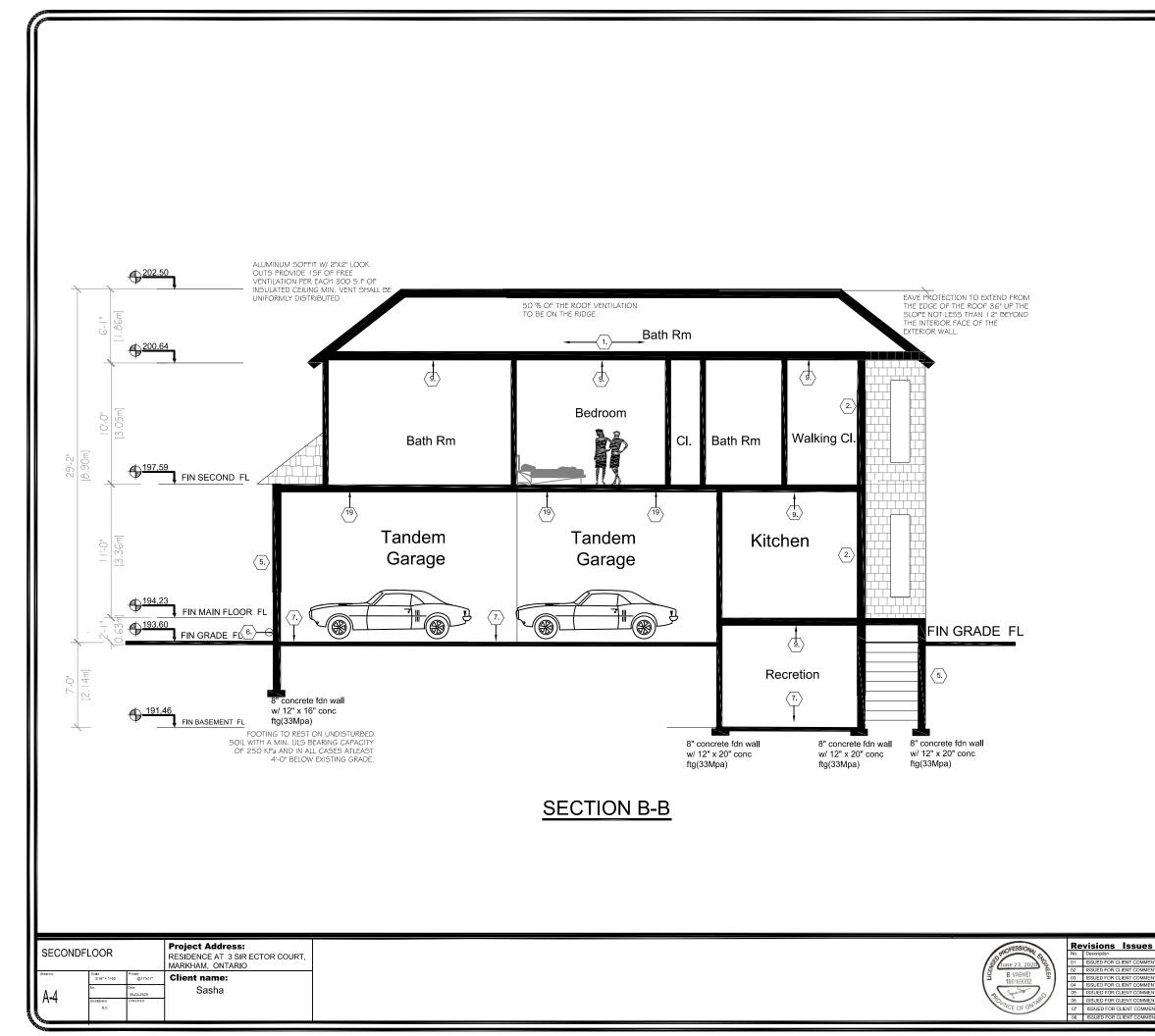




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- The Contractor must verify all dimensions and advise/report any discrepancies to the consultan any executions. <sup>2</sup> All drawings and specifications of DPE consultants, remain the property
- 3 No Variations or modifications to work shown shall be implemented without prior written approval.
- 4. This drawing must not used for construction until the stamp and sign appearing and dated by the Enginee on drawing.





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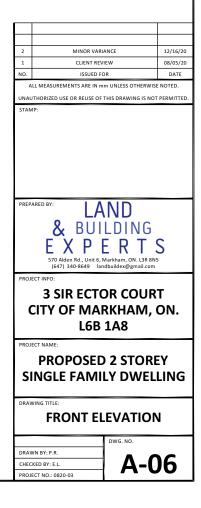


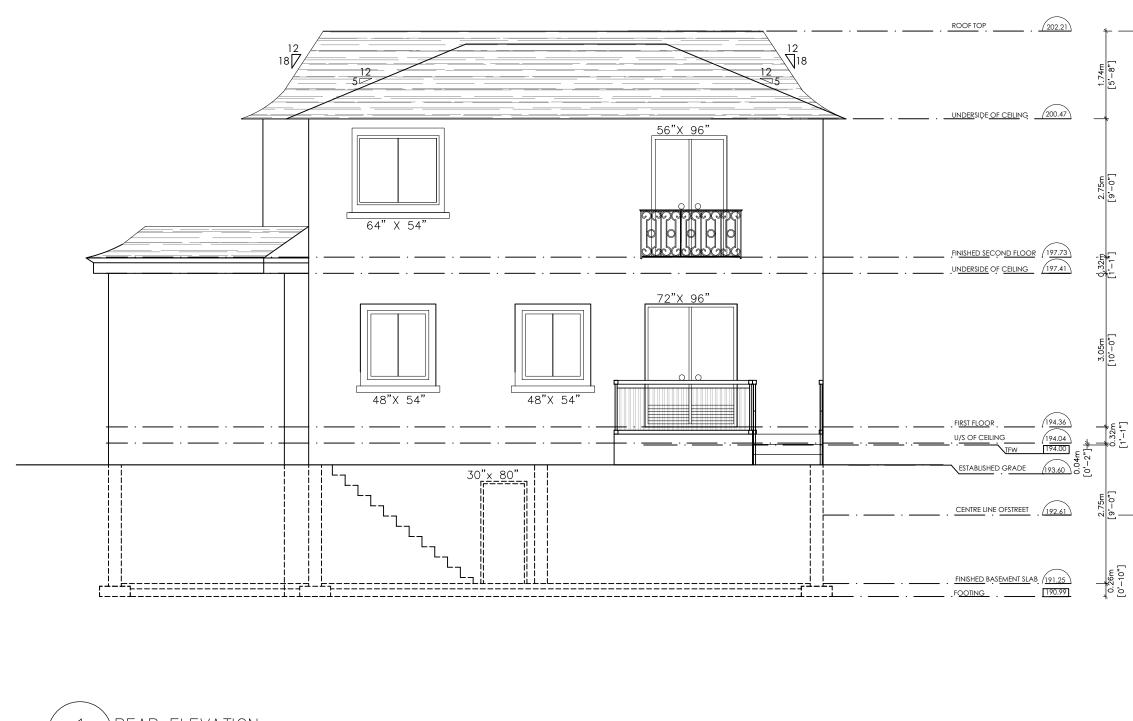
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- 4-This drawing must not used for construction until the stamp and sign appearing and dated by the Enginee on drawing.



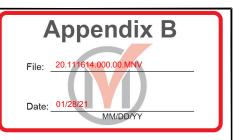
FRONT ELEVATION A-06/SCALE - 1:75





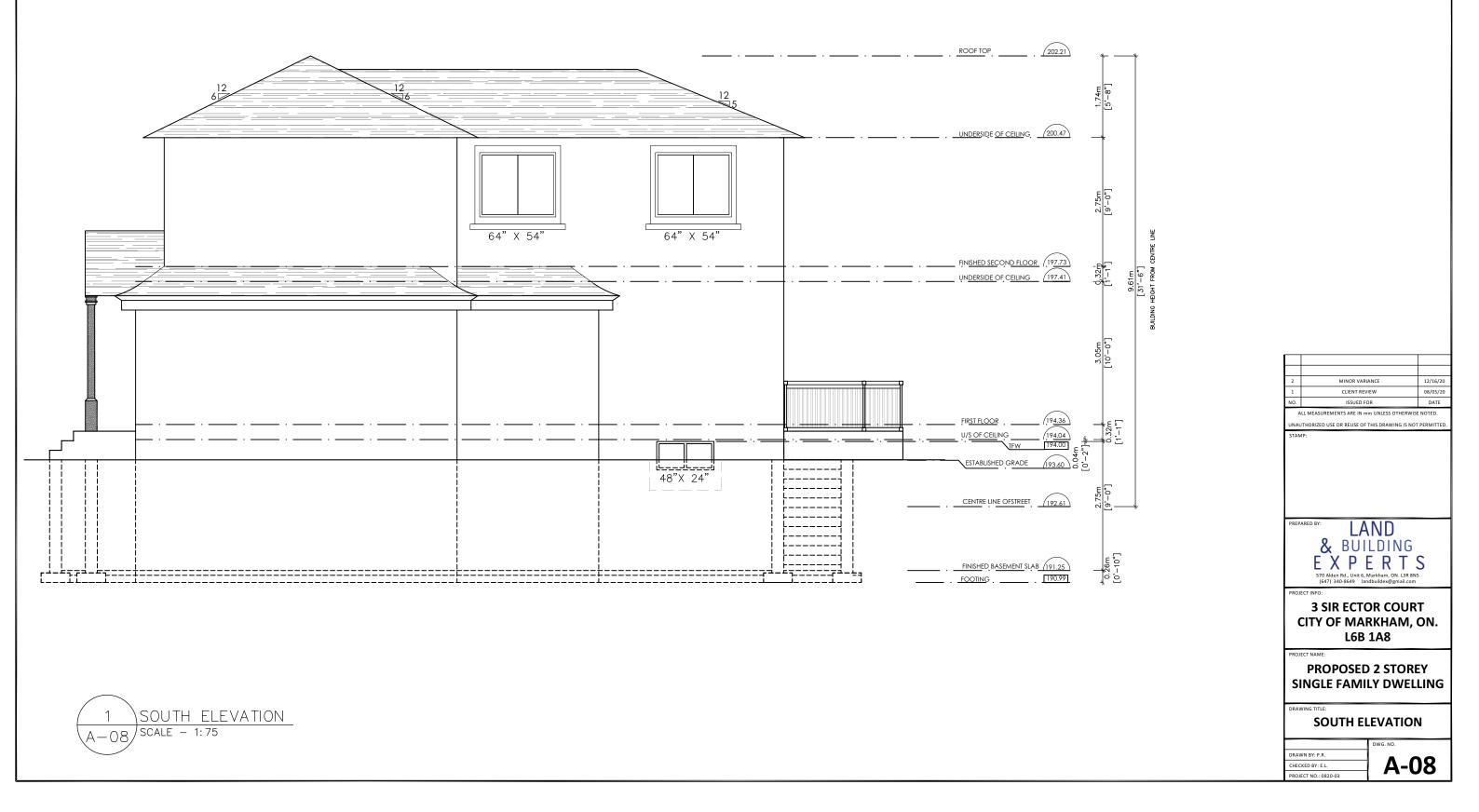


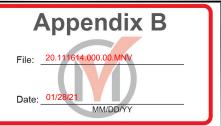
 $\frac{1}{A-07} \xrightarrow{\text{REAR ELEVATION}} 1$ 

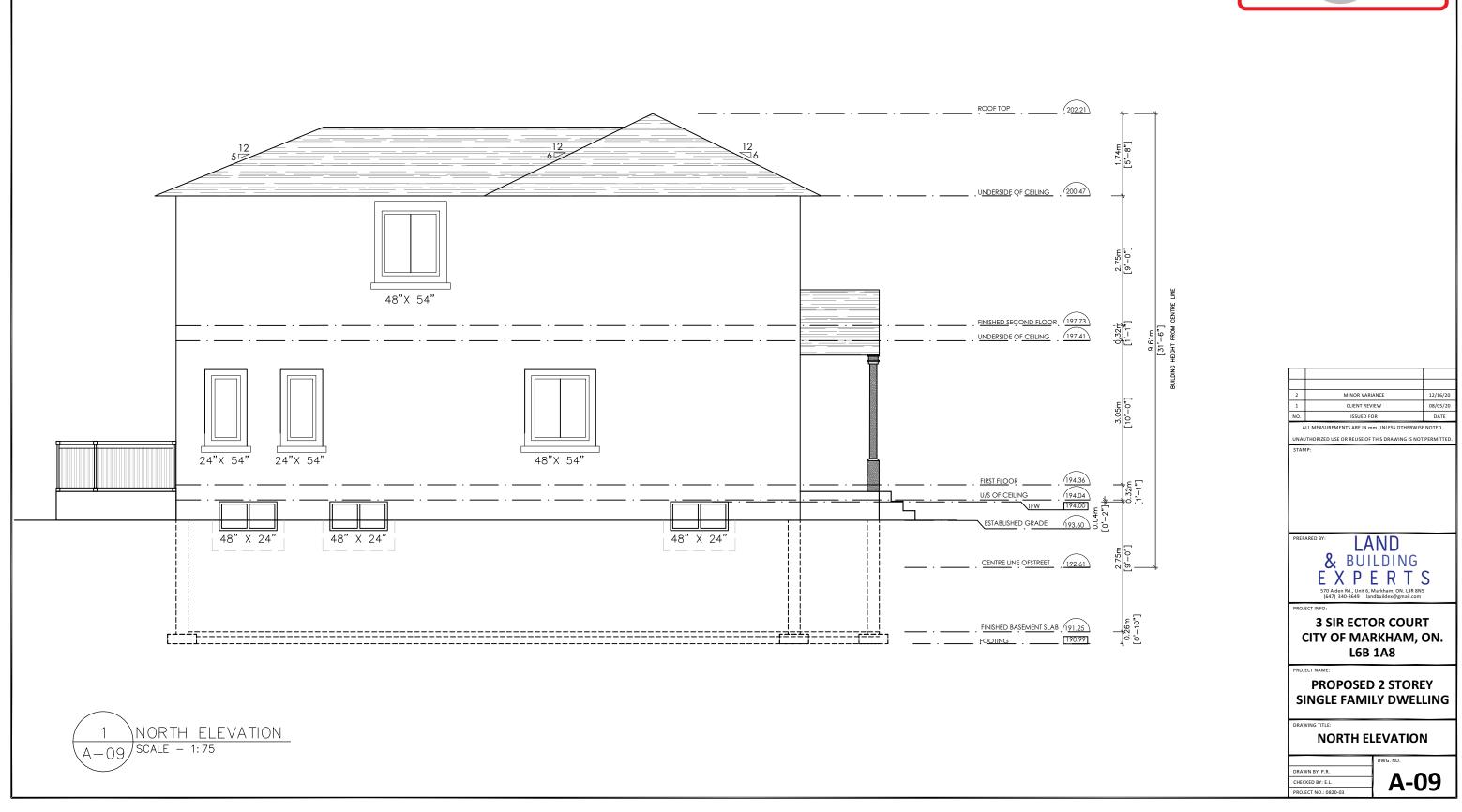




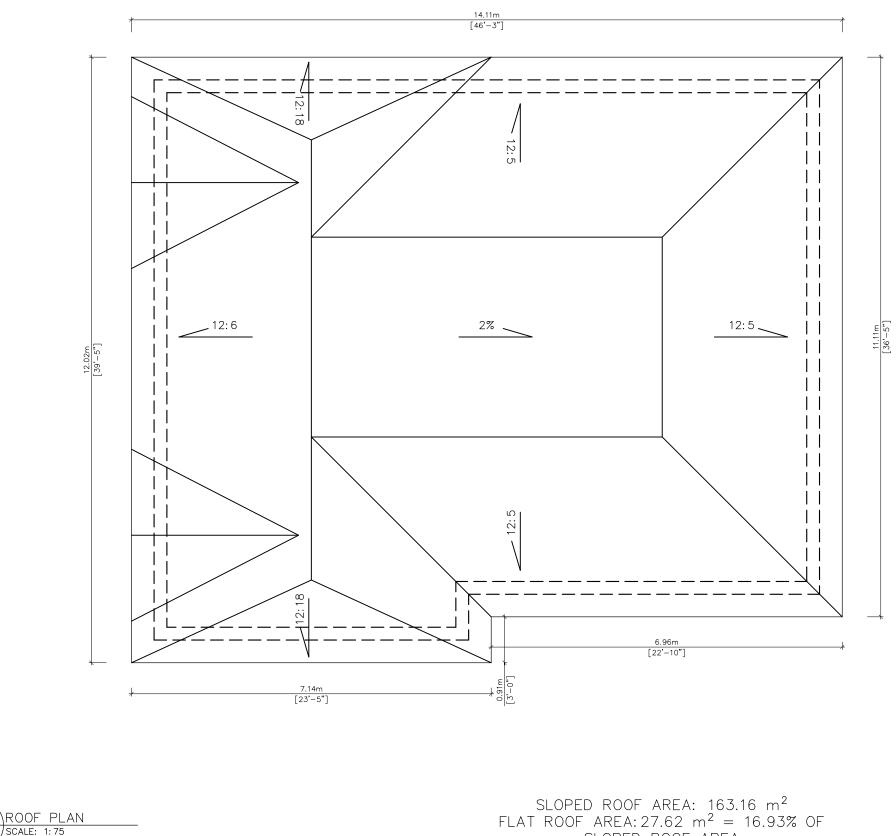








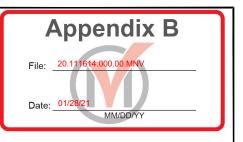




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A-05,

SLOPED ROOF AREA





## **APPENDIX "C"** MINUTES EXTRACT: NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Mr. Gu responded it was around 2010.

Committee member Jeamie Reingold stated that proximity to school may raise issues with allowing this secondary suite.

Mr. Gu stated there are 2-3 persons living in the basement and family of 4 on the first floor and doesn't believe there are substantial traffic issues.

Committee member Kelvin Kwok commented that the proximity of the secondary school is concerning.

Mr. Gu responded that he does not believe the suite will create negative impacts.

Committee member Sally Yan asked how many entrances to the basement apartment.

# Moved By: Patrick Sampson Seconded By: Sally Yan

THAT Application No. A/021/20 be approved subject to the conditions contained in the staff report.

# **Resolution Carried**

# 2. A/051/20

Owner Name: Sasha Lazarou 3 Sir Ector Crt, Markham PLAN M1377 LT 18

The applicant is requesting relief from the requirements of By-law 1229 as amended to permit:

# a) Infill By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (vi),

a maximum net floor area ratio of 49.97%; whereas the by-law permits a maximum of 45%.

as it relates to the proposed new dwelling. (East District, Ward 4)

The Secretary-Treasurer introduced the application.

The agent Miaoyi Xue spoke on behalf of the application. They are only requesting the floor area ratio variance.

Elizabeth Brown of 65 Lincoln Green Drive spoke in opposition to the application. She believes the variance request is misleading and does not genuinely depict the overall impact of the building footprint at the street level. She contends the mass and scale does not complement the character of the existing neighbourhood.

Phil Brown of 8 Sir Ector Court spoke on the application. He believes any infill in the area needs to be done appropriately. The 3 car garage could be reduced to 2 car garage. He believes there can be changes to the proposal that can make it more complimentary to the neighbourhood.

Janice DeRoy of 5 Sir Ector Court asked if the building siting could be changed to be more centered.

Councillor Rea spoke on the application. She indicated this is the first infill house of the neighbourhood so careful consideration of the proposal needs to be done.

Mia explained that other than the variance request, attempts have been made to make the proposal complimentary. The 5 bedrooms is due to the applicants growing family.

The Chair commented that he believes the house is too large for this lot. He also is concerned about the numbers on the drawings.

Committee member Jeamie Reingold stated that this is the first infill house, and they want to achieve a successful proposal. She believes further work on the proposal is appropriate.

Committee member Sally Yan raised concerns that the proposal is too large for this lot.

## Moved By: Jeamie Reingold Seconded By: Sally Yan

THAT Application No A/051/20 be deferred sine die.

**Resolution Carried** 

3. A/079/20

Owner Name: Tracy Ng Agent Name: KCCL Architect Inc (Kelvin Lo) 15 Bellcroft Ln, Markham PLAN 65M4013 LOT 114

## APPENDIX "D" STAFF REPORT: NOVEMBER 6, 2020

# Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment November 6, 2020

File:	A/051/20
Address:	3 Sir Ector Court – Markham, ON
Applicant:	Sasha Lazarou
Agent:	Building Experts Canada Ltd.
Hearing Date:	November 18, 2020

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East Team.

The applicant is requesting relief from the following requirements of the "Residential One (R1) Zone" under By-law 1229, as amended ("the By-law"), as it relates to the proposed construction of a new two-storey detached dwelling, to permit:

## a) Infill By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (vi):

a maximum net floor area ratio of 49.97%; whereas the By-law permits a maximum net floor area ratio of 45.0%.

## BACKGROUND

## **Property Description**

The 613.26 m<sup>2</sup> (6601.08 ft<sup>2</sup>) subject property is located on the east side of Sir Ector Court, north of Parkway Avenue, south of Ramona Boulevard, and west of Wootten Way North. There is an existing single detached dwelling on the property, with existing mature vegetation across the property, including one street tree. Sir Ector Court can be described as a street that is generally stable consisting of the original housing stock built in the 1970's. The surrounding area is undergoing a transition with newer dwellings being developed as infill redevelopments.

## Proposal

The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing detached dwelling, and construct a new two-storey detached dwelling. As submitted by the applicant, the proposed dwelling would have an approximate ground floor area of 166.20 m<sup>2</sup> (1,789.61 ft<sup>2</sup>), a second floor area of approximately 158.19 m<sup>2</sup> (1,702.74 ft<sup>2</sup>), for a total gross floor area of 324.39 m<sup>2</sup> (3,491.71 ft<sup>2</sup>).

## **Official Plan and Zoning**

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18) The subject property is designated "Residential Low Rise", which provides for low rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.3.5 of the 2014 Official Plan outlines development criteria for the "Residential Low Rise" designation with respect to height, massing and setbacks. This criteria is established to ensure that the development is appropriate for the site and generally consistent with the zoning requirements for adjacent properties and properties along the same street. In considering applications for development is required to meet the general intent of these development criteria. Regard shall also be had for retention of existing trees and vegetation, the width of proposed garages and driveways and the overall orientation and sizing of new lots within a residential neighbourhood.

## Zoning By-Law 1229, as amended

The subject property is zoned "Residential One (R1)" under the By-law, which permits one single detached dwelling per lot.

## Residential Infill Zoning By-law 99-90

The subject property is also subject to the Residential Infill Zoning By-law 99-90. The intent of this By-law is to ensure the built form of new residential construction will maintain the general character of existing neighbourhoods. It specifies development standards for building depth, garage projection, garage width, net floor area ratio, height, yard setbacks and number of storeys. The proposed development does not comply with the Infill By-law requirements with respect to the maximum floor area ratio of 45.0%.

## Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Undertaken

The applicant has completed a ZPR to confirm the initial variances required for the proposed development. The applicant submitted revised drawings on October 30, 2020 to reduce the requested floor area ratio variance from 62.80% to 49.97%, but has chosen not to complete a second ZPR to confirm the accuracy of this revision. Staff have encouraged the applicant to complete a ZPR for the revised plans (Appendix "B"), as there may be inaccuracies as follows:

- the floor area ratio appears to not include the internal stairs area within the dwelling; and
- the stairs shown in the rear yard may require an additional variance to permit them to encroach within the required rear yard setback.

Notwithstanding, the applicant has confirmed that if the requested floor area ratio variance is approved, revisions to the plans would be made at the building permit stage to comply with the By-law.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application has accurately identified all the variances to the By-law required for the proposed development. If the variance request in this application contains errors, or if the need for additional variances is identified during the Building Permit review process, further variance application(s) may be required to address the non-compliance.

## COMMENTS

The *Planning Act* states that four tests must be met in order for a variance application to be granted approval by the Committee of Adjustment ("the Committee"):

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure;
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained;
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

### Increase in Maximum Floor Area Ratio

The applicant is requesting a maximum floor area ratio of 49.97%, whereas the By-law permits a maximum floor area ratio of 45.0%. The variance will facilitate the construction of a two-storey detached dwelling with a maximum floor area of approximately 306.42 m<sup>2</sup>

(3,298.27 ft<sup>2</sup>), whereas the By-law permits a dwelling with a maximum floor area of 275.94  $m^2$  (2,970.23 ft<sup>2</sup>). This is an increase of 30.48  $m^2$  (328.04 ft<sup>2</sup>).

As noted, the proposed floor area ratio may be incorrect as it does not include internal stairs within the proposed dwelling. Inclusion of these stairs adds approximately 18.01 m<sup>2</sup> (193.85 ft<sup>2</sup>) to the total floor area. Should Committee approve the application, the applicant will be required to either make adjustments to the size of the dwelling to comply with any approved variance at the building permit stage, or make an additional variance application to address non-compliances.

Staff do not anticipate that the proposed development would adversely impact neighbouring properties, and do not object to the requested variance.

### PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of November 6, 2020. Additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

### CONCLUSION

Planning staff have reviewed the application against the four tests under Section 45(1) of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended*, are of the opinion that the proposed development meets the four tests of the *Planning Act.* Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

Staff also remind Committee that the plans submitted (Appendix "B") may not correctly reflect the proposed floor area ratio, and that an additional variance may be required to permit stairs to encroach within a required rear yard setback. The applicant has requested this application to proceed. However, staff consider it appropriate to defer this application so that the applicant can resolve these technical matters, and ensure any approved variances accurately reflect the proposed development.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the By-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the *Planning Act* required for the granting of minor variances.

Please see Appendix "A" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

### APPENDICES

Appendix "A" – Conditions of Approval Appendix "B" – Plans

PREPARED BY:

Aleks Todorovski, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

REVIEWED BY:

Stephen Corr, Senior Planner, East District

## APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/051/20

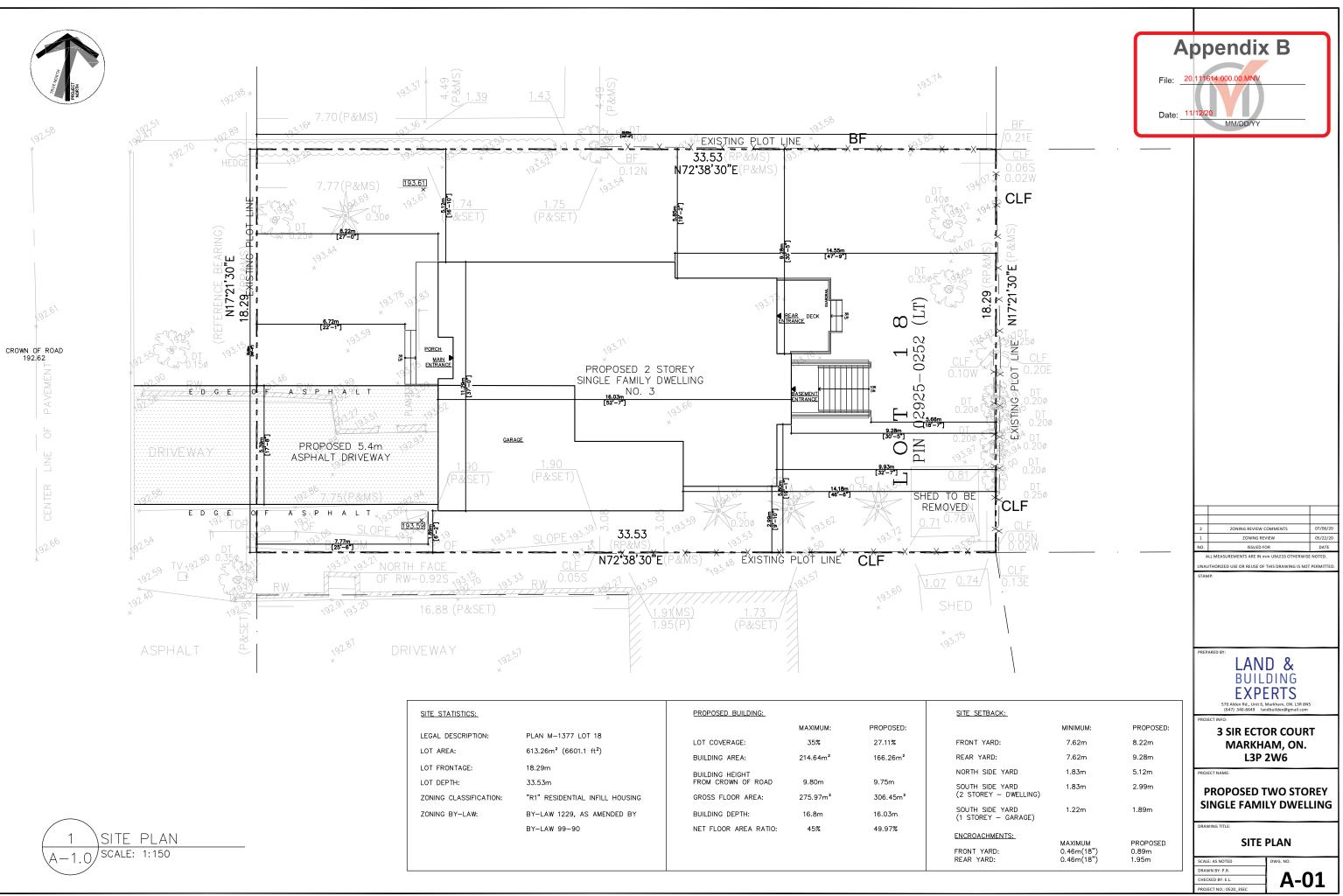
- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains.
- 2. That the variances apply only to the proposed development, in substantial conformity with the batch stamped plans attached as Appendix "B" to this Staff Report, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.
- 3. Submission of a Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, prepared by a qualified arborist in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009), as amended, to be reviewed and approved by the City, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction, and that any detailed Siting, Lot Grading and Servicing Plan required as a condition of approval reflects the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan.
- 4. That prior to the commencement of construction or demolition, tree protection be erected and maintained around all trees on site including street trees, in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009) as amended, and inspected by City Staff to the satisfaction of the Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.
- 5. That tree replacements be provided to the City, if required, in accordance with the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.

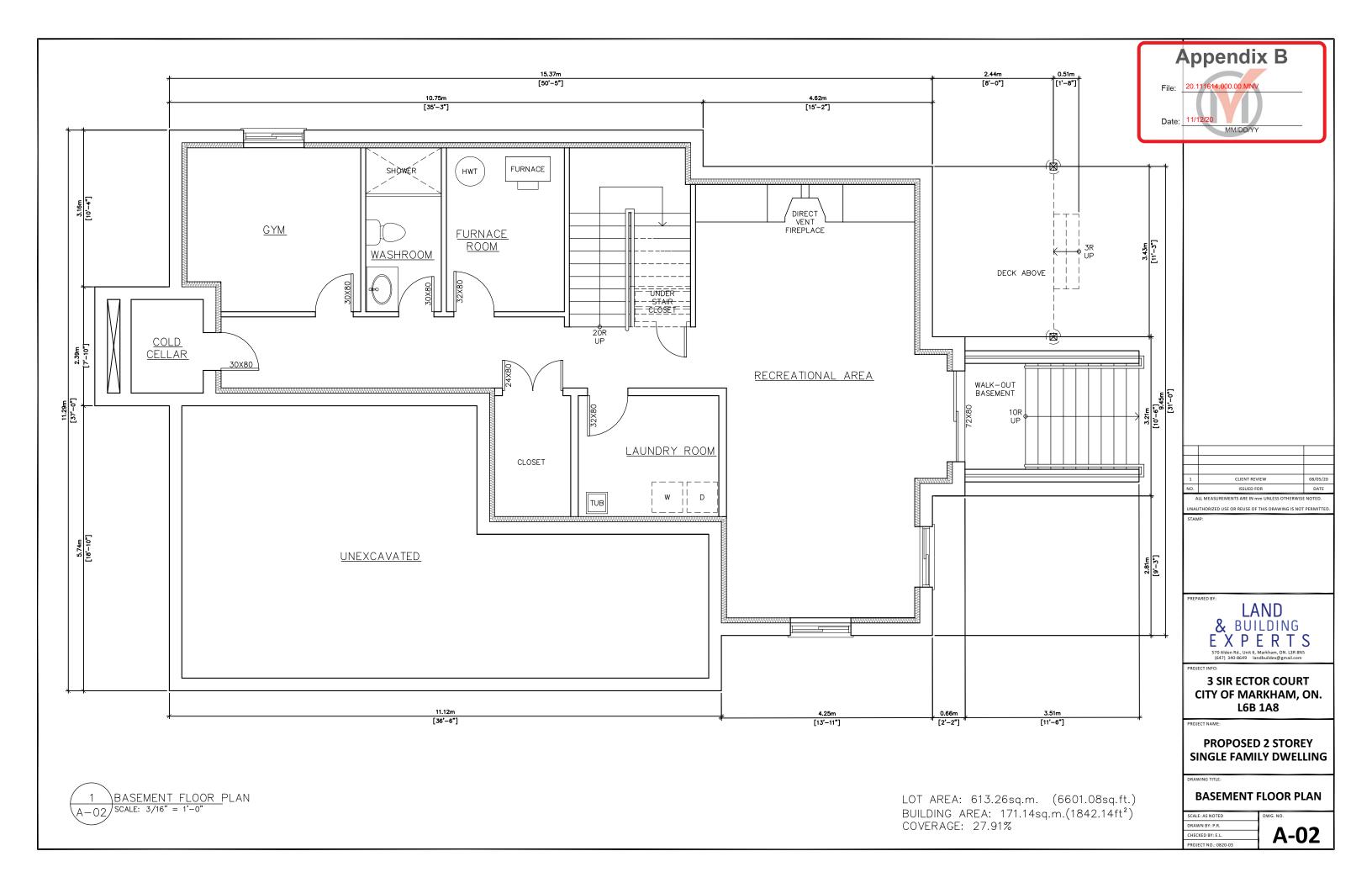
CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

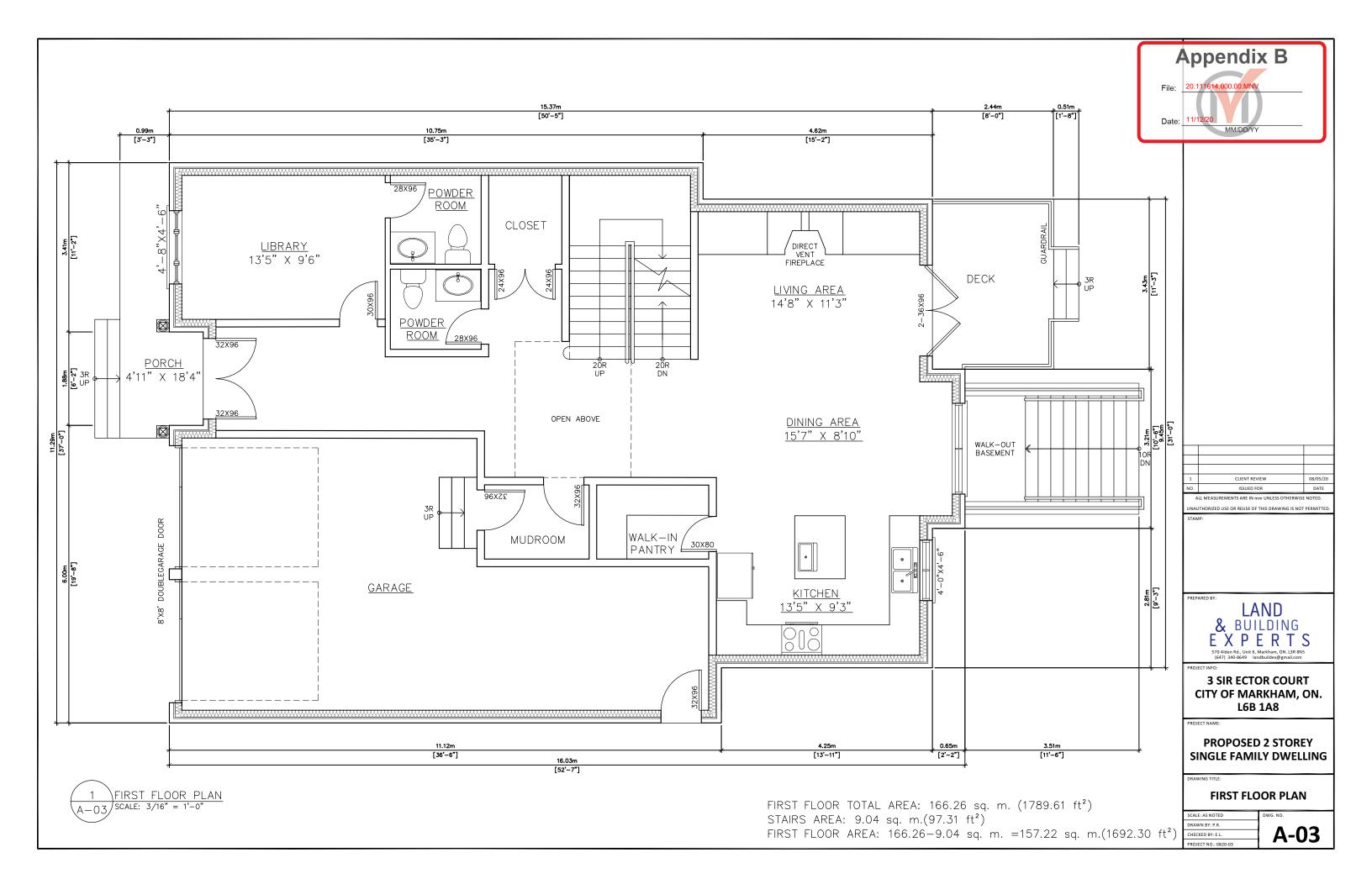
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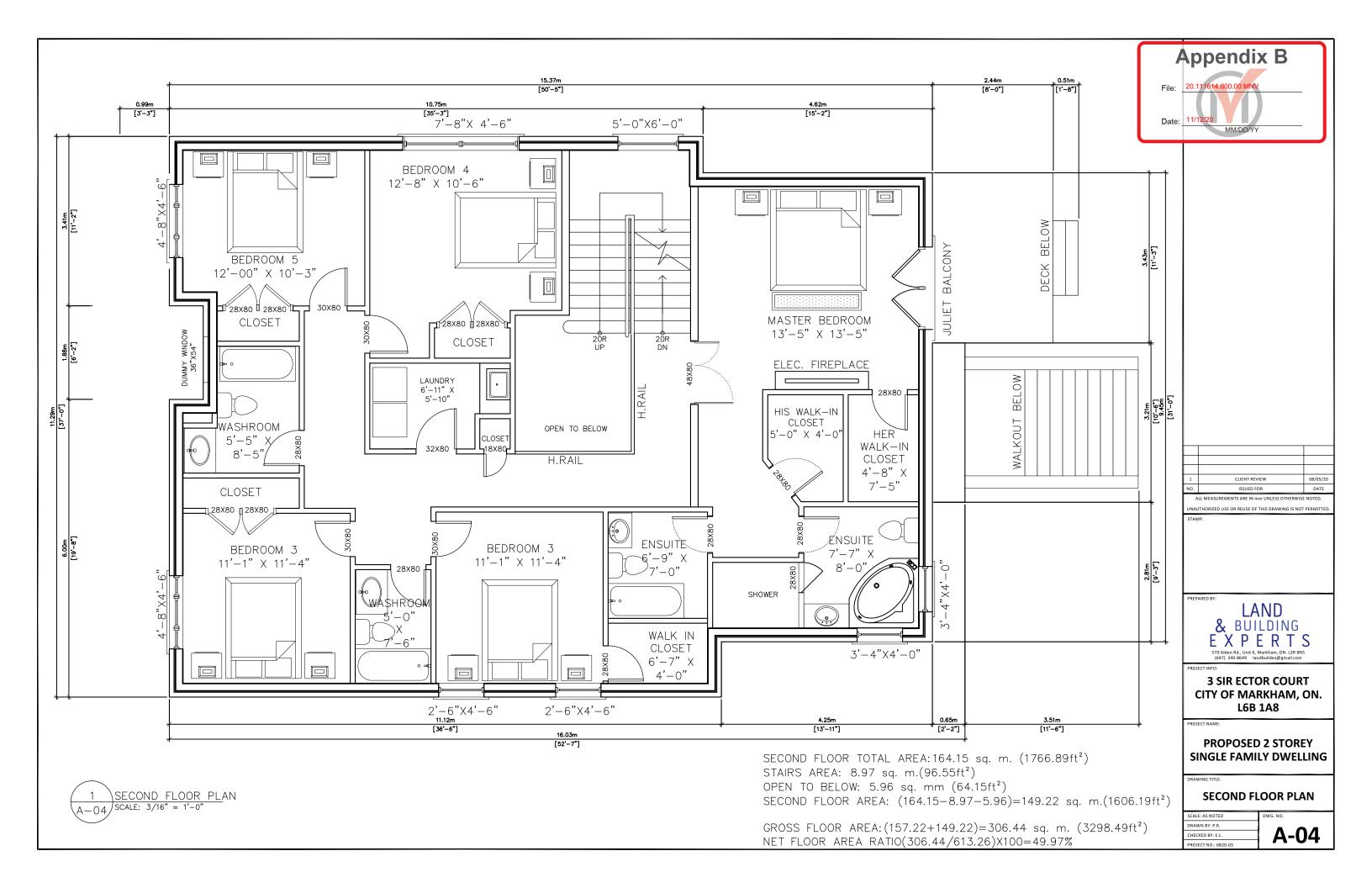
Aleks Todorovski, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

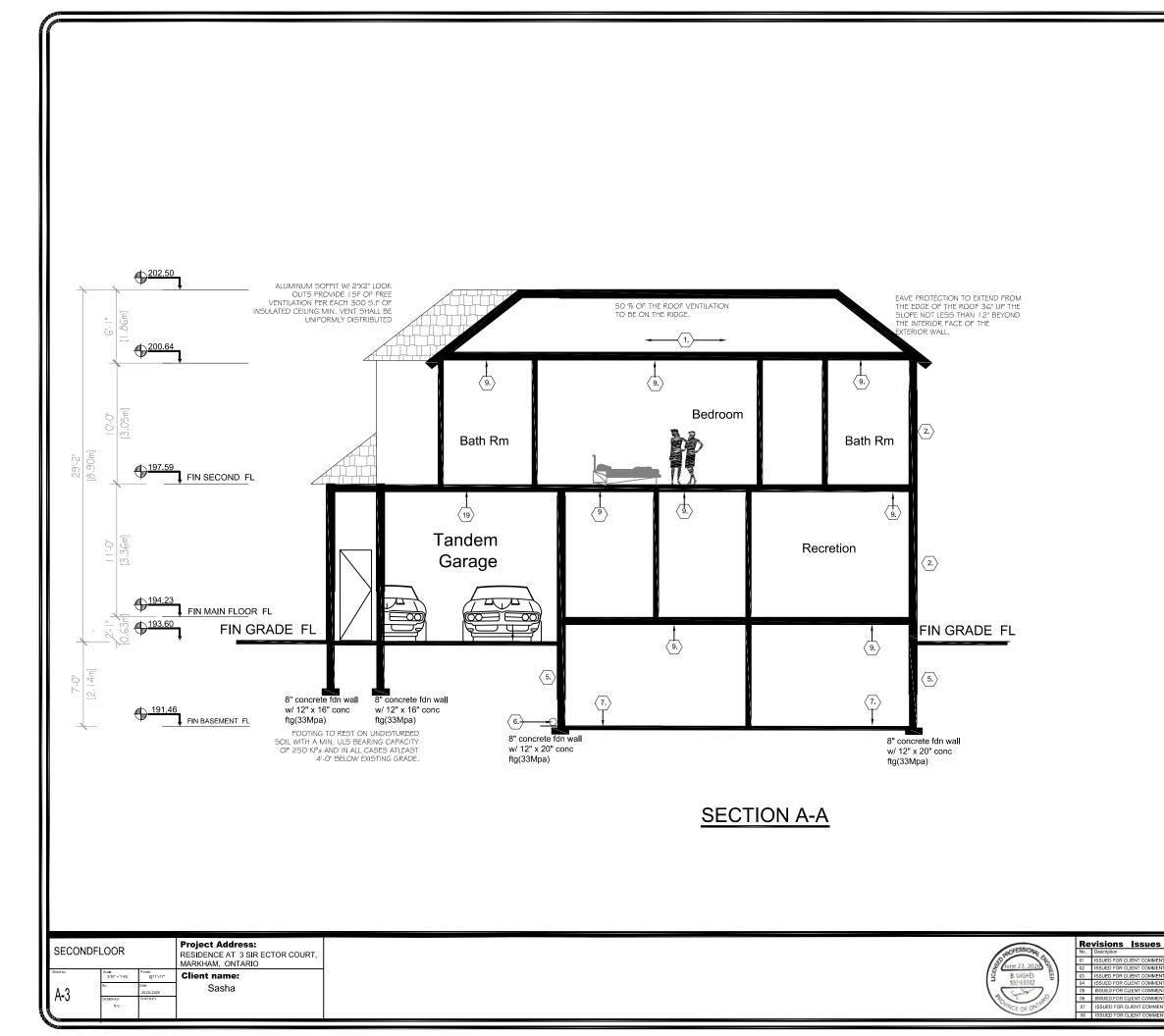
APPENDIX "B" PLANS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/051/20

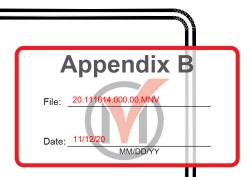










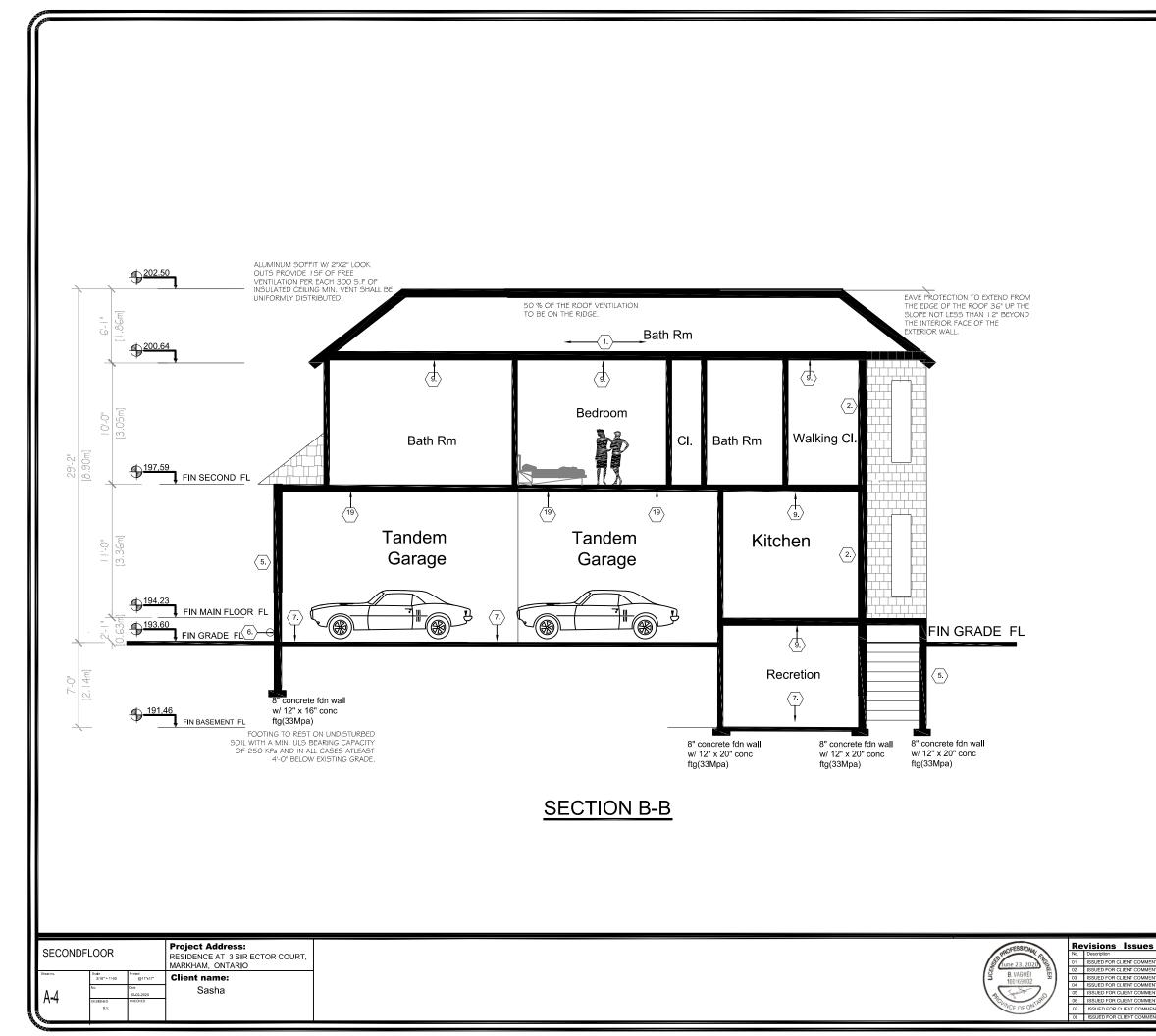




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- The Contractor must verify all dimensions and advise/report any discrepancies to the consultan any executions. <sup>2</sup> All drawings and specifications of DPE consultants, remain the property
- 3 No Variations or modifications to work shown shall be implemented without prior written approval.
- 4. This drawing must not used for construction until the stamp and sign appearing and dated by the Enginee on drawing.





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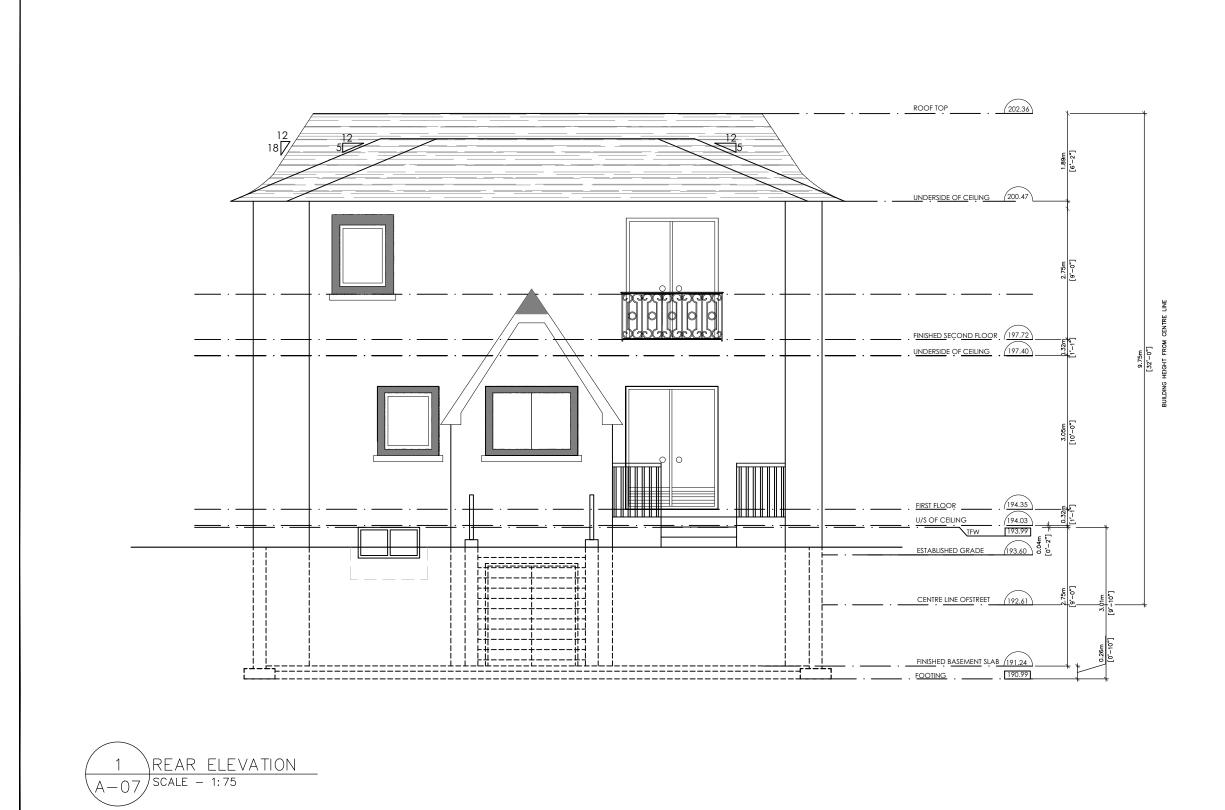


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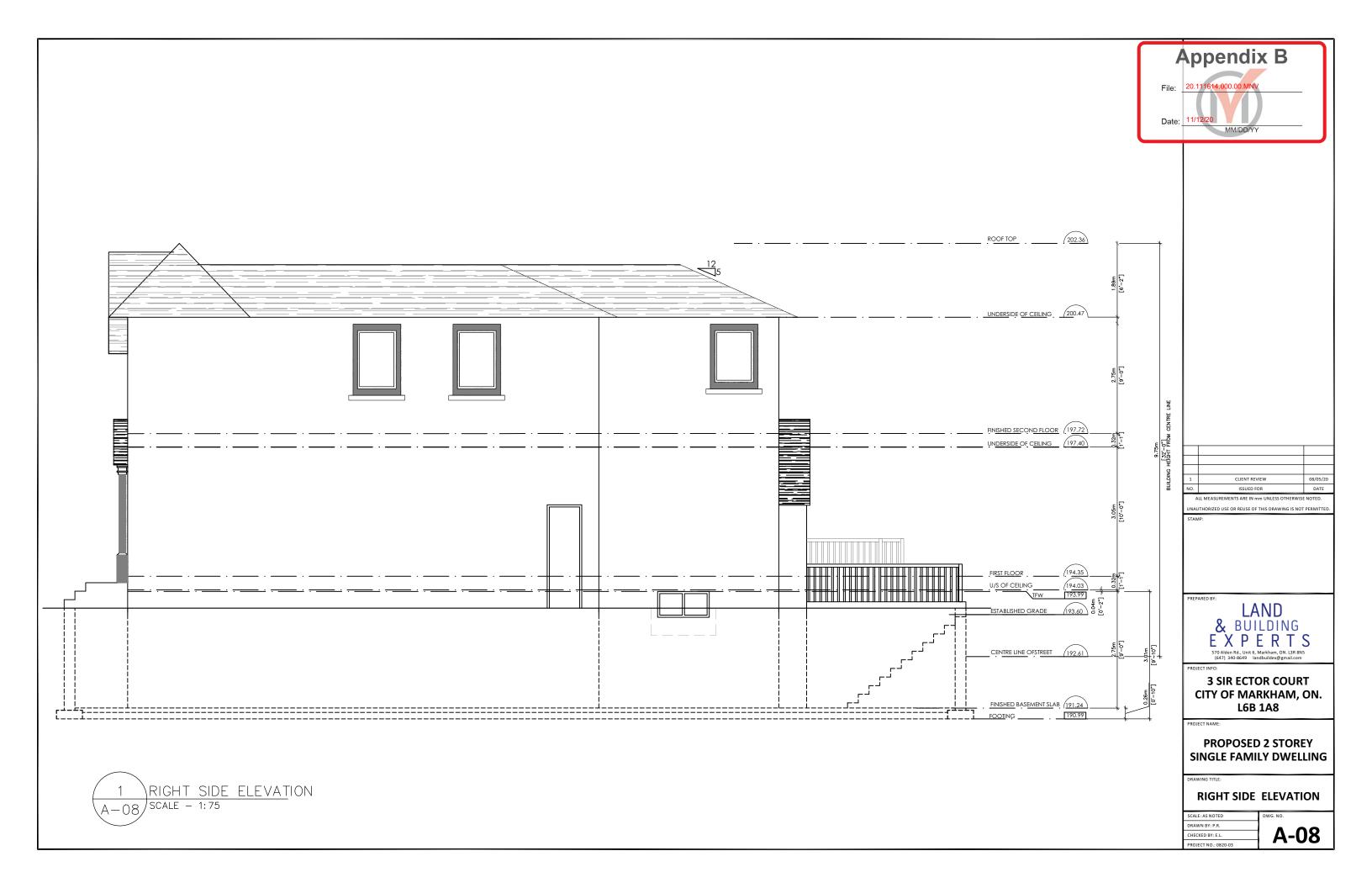


1 FRONT ELEVATION A-06 SCALE - 1:75

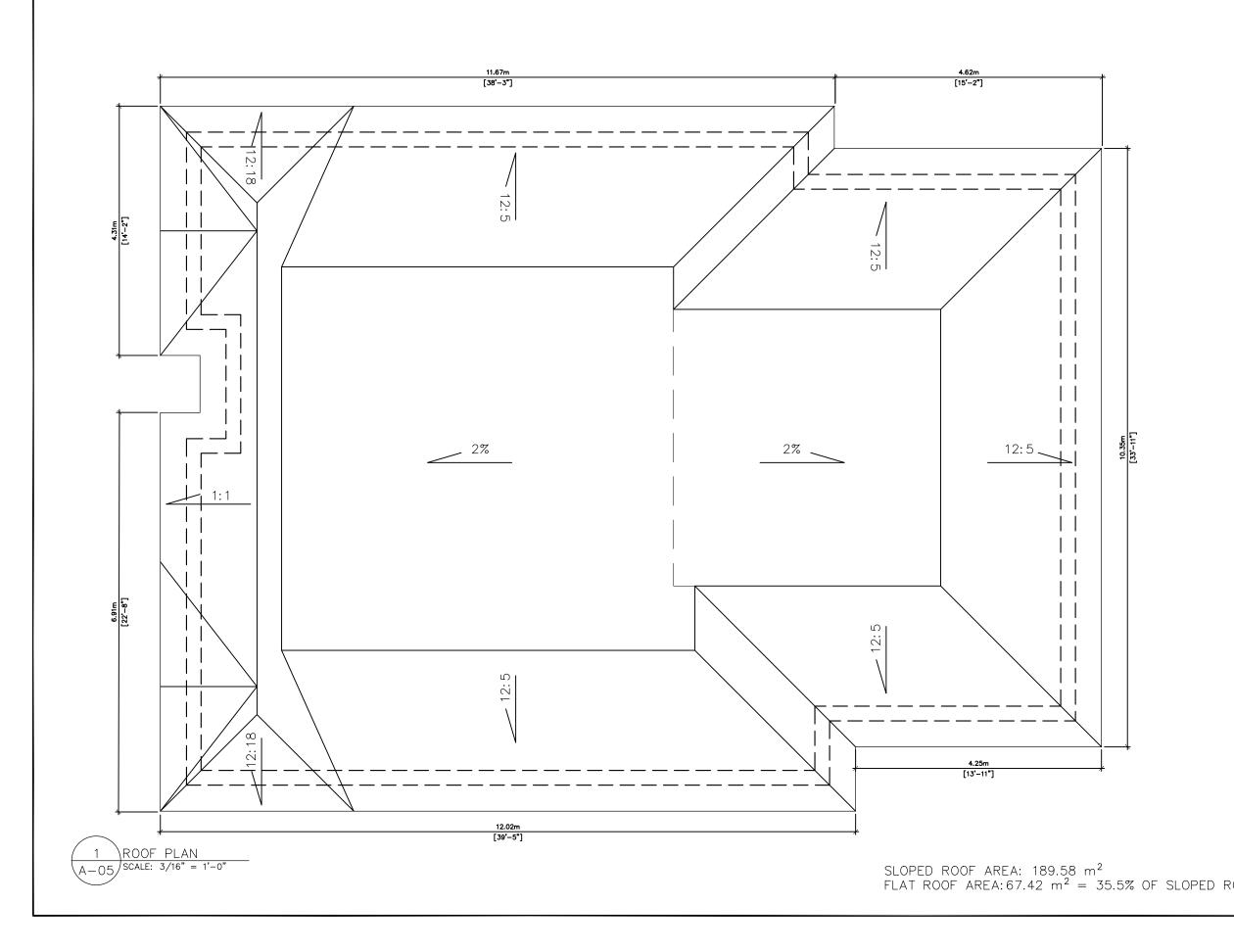
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