Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment February 09, 2024

File:	A/207/23
Address:	111 Grandview Avenue, Markham (Thornhill)
Owner:	Brian Lap Yan Tsang
Agent:	DIGITECH DESIGNS INC (Andre Grisolia)
Hearing Date:	Wednesday, February 21, 2024

The following comments are provided on behalf of the West District.

The Applicant is requesting relief from the following "Fourth Density Single Family Residential (R4)" zone requirements of By-law 2237, as amended, as it relates to a proposed rear covered cabana. The variance requested is to permit:

# a) By-law 2237, Amending By-law 101-90, Section 1.2 (iv):

a maximum building depth of 20 metres, whereas the by-law permits a maximum building depth of 16.8 metres;

# BACKGROUND

## **Property Description**

The 975.43 m<sup>2</sup> (10,500 ft<sup>2</sup>) Subject Lands are located on the south side of Grandview Avenue, east of Jewell Street, and west of Highland Park Boulevard (refer to Appendix "A" – Aerial Photo). The Subject Lands are located within an established residential neighbourhood comprised of a mix of one and two-storey detached dwellings. The surrounding area is undergoing a transition with newer dwellings being developed as infill developments.

There is an existing 228.89  $m^2$  (2,463 ft<sup>2</sup>) two-storey detached dwelling on the Subject Lands which was constructed in 2015, according to assessment records. Mature vegetation exists on the property including one large mature tree in the rear yard.

# Proposal

The Applicant is proposing to construct a new rear covered cabana with a gross floor area of 31.49 m<sup>2</sup> (339 ft<sup>2</sup>), as shown in Appendix "B".

# Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18) The Subject Lands are designated "Residential Low Rise", which permits low rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.3.5 of the Official Plan outlines development criteria for the "Residential Low Rise" designation with respect to height, massing and setbacks. This criteria was 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 approval in a "Residential Low Rise" area, which includes variances, infill 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. Planning staff have had regard for the requirements of the infill development criteria in the preparation of the comments provided below.

## Zoning By-Law 2237, as amended

The Subject Lands are zoned "Fourth Density Single Family Residential (R4)" under Bylaw 2237, as amended, which permits a single detached dwelling.

## Residential Infill Zoning By-law 101-90

This property is also subject to the development standards of Residential Infill Zoning Bylaw 101-90. The intent of this By-law is to ensure the built form of new residential construction will maintain the 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 building depth.

## Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The Applicant has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the Applicant has received comments from the building department through their permit process (HP 23 114307) to confirm the variances required for the proposed development.

## COMMENTS

The Planning Act states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, 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 Building Depth

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum building depth of 20.0 m (65.62 ft), whereas the By-law permits a maximum building depth of 16.80 m (55.12 ft). This represents an increase of approximately 3.20 m (10.50 ft).

Building depth is measured based on the shortest distance between two lines, both parallel to the front lot line, one passing though the point on the dwelling which is the nearest and the other through the point on the dwelling which is the farthest from the front lot line.

The variance includes a rear covered cabana which adds approximately 3.87 m (12.70 ft) to the overall depth of the building. The main component of the dwelling, excluding the front covered porch, has a depth of 16.13 m (52.92 ft), which complies with the By-law requirements. The requested building depth variance is entirely attributable to the proposed rear covered cabana, which provides covered amenity space. Staff are of the opinion that the variance request is minor and therefore have no concern with the requested variance.

### Tree Protection and Compensation

The Subject Lands contain mature vegetation and mature trees. During the review of the application, the City's Tree Preservation Technician indicated concern with potential injury to the mature neighbouring trees at 111 Grandview Avenue. Staff recommend that the tree related conditions, as outlined in Appendix "C", be adopted by the Committee to

ensure the Applicant installs the appropriate tree protection barriers, if necessary. Staff note the Applicant is required to apply for and obtain a tree permit from the City for any proposed injury to, or removal of any trees that have a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 20.0 cm (7.87 in) or more on the subject property or neighbouring properties. Further mitigation through these processes may also be required to ensure the protection of certain trees is achieved.

## PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of February 13, 2024. 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 requested variance 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 zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the *Planning Act* required for the granting of minor variances.

Please refer to Appendix "C" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

PREPARED BY:

Nohannad

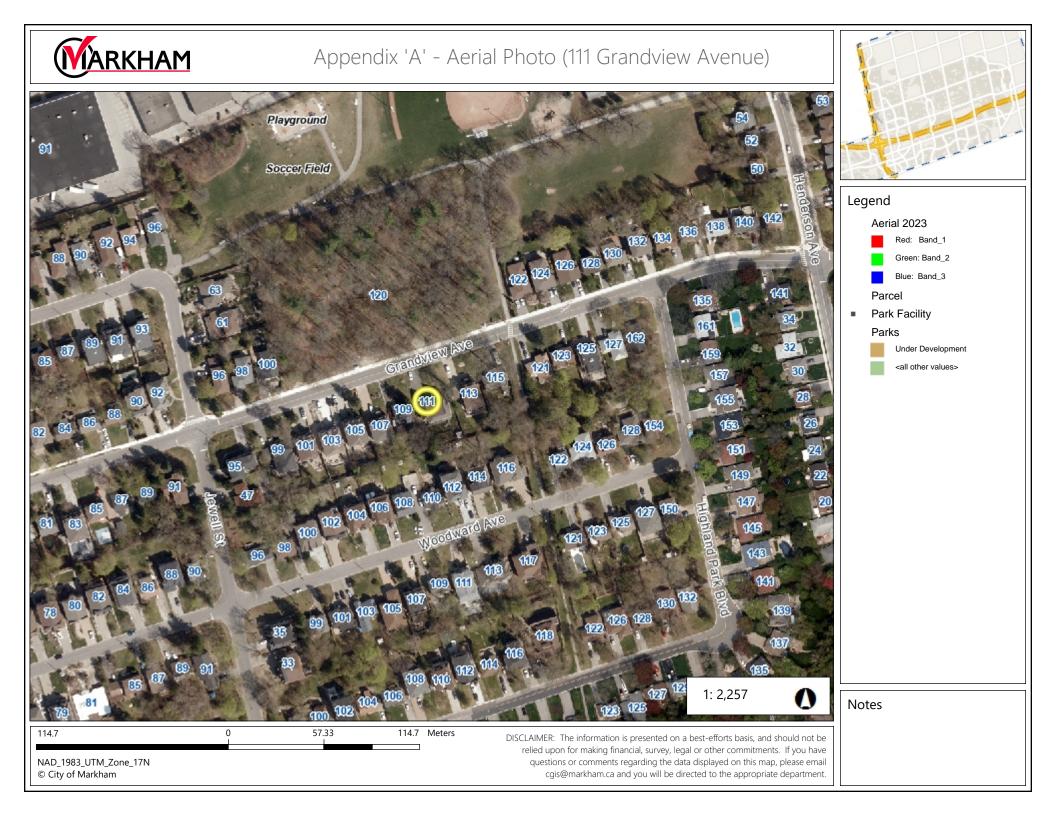
Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office

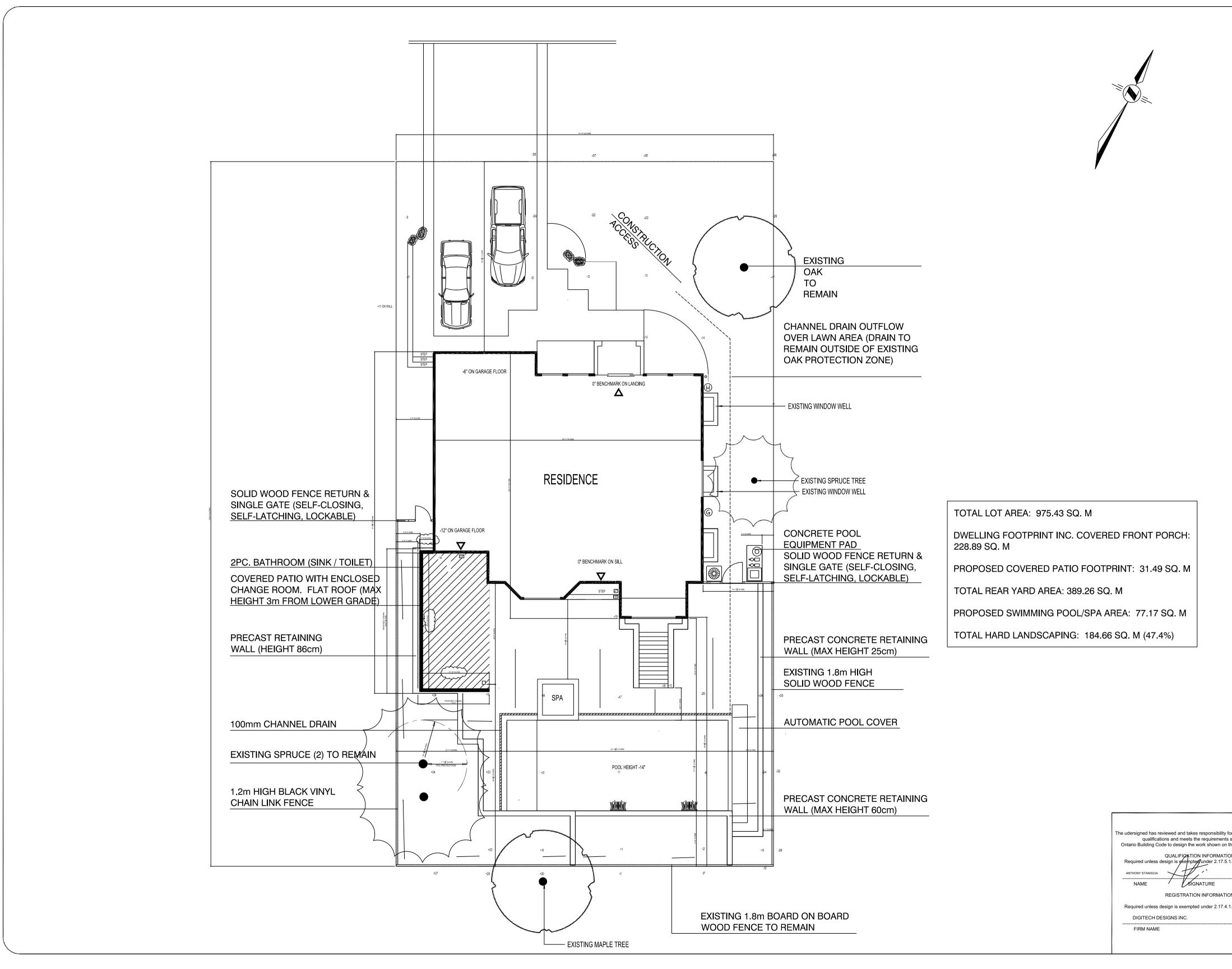
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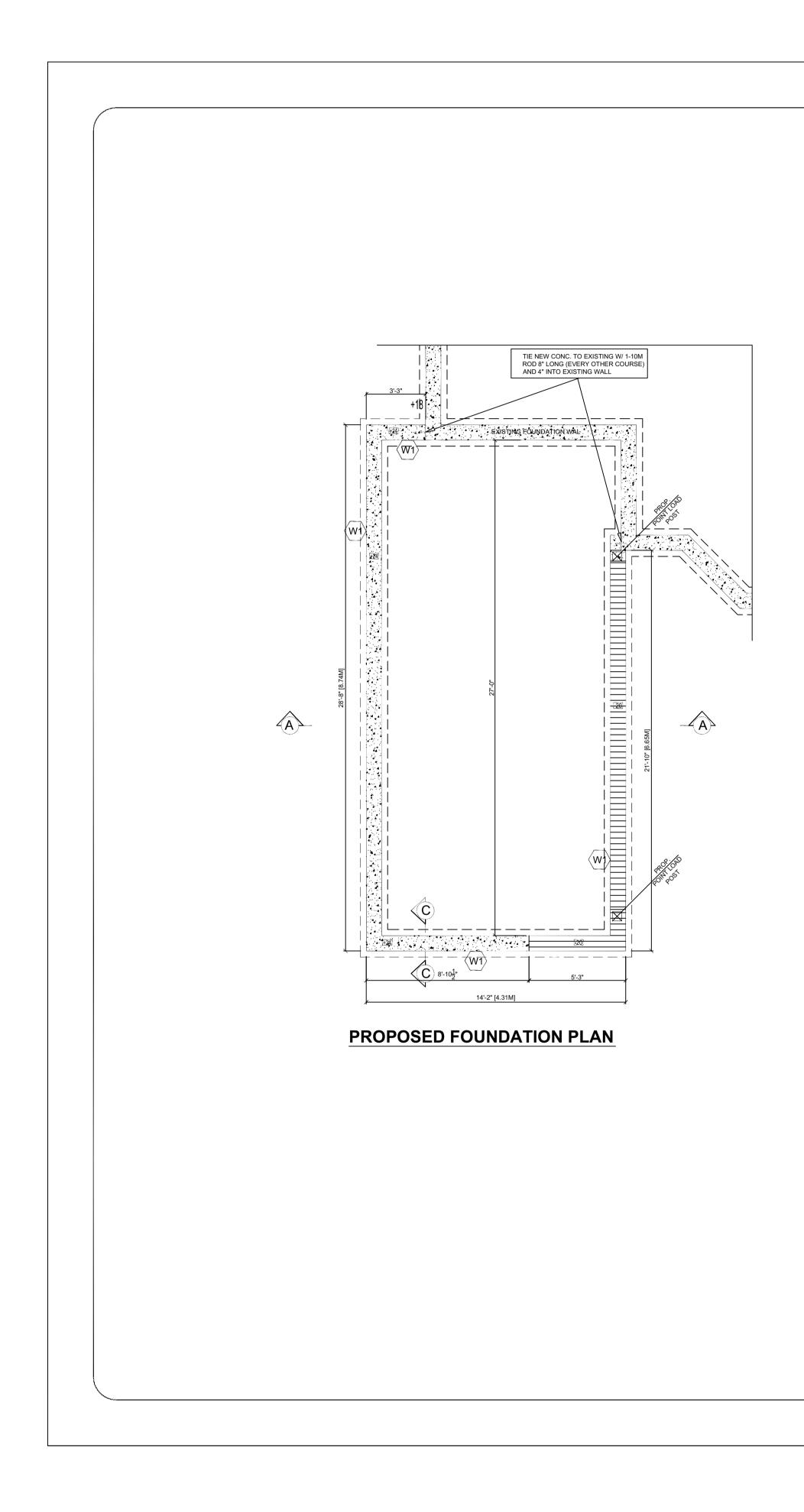
Rick Cefaratti, MCIP RPP, Senior Planner, West District

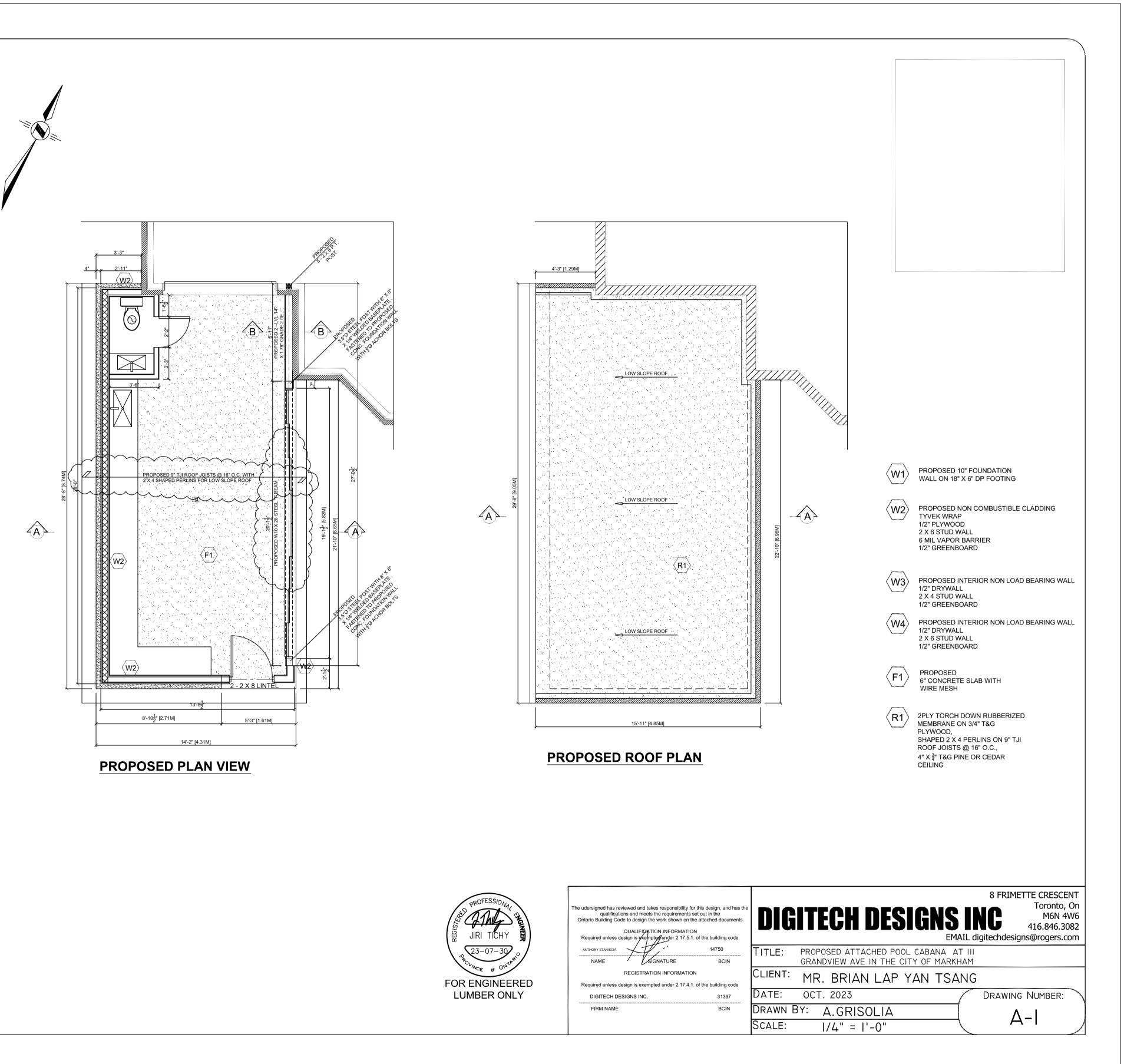
APPENDICES Appendix "A" – Aerial Context Photo Appendix "B" – Plans Appendix "C" – A/207/23 Conditions of Approval

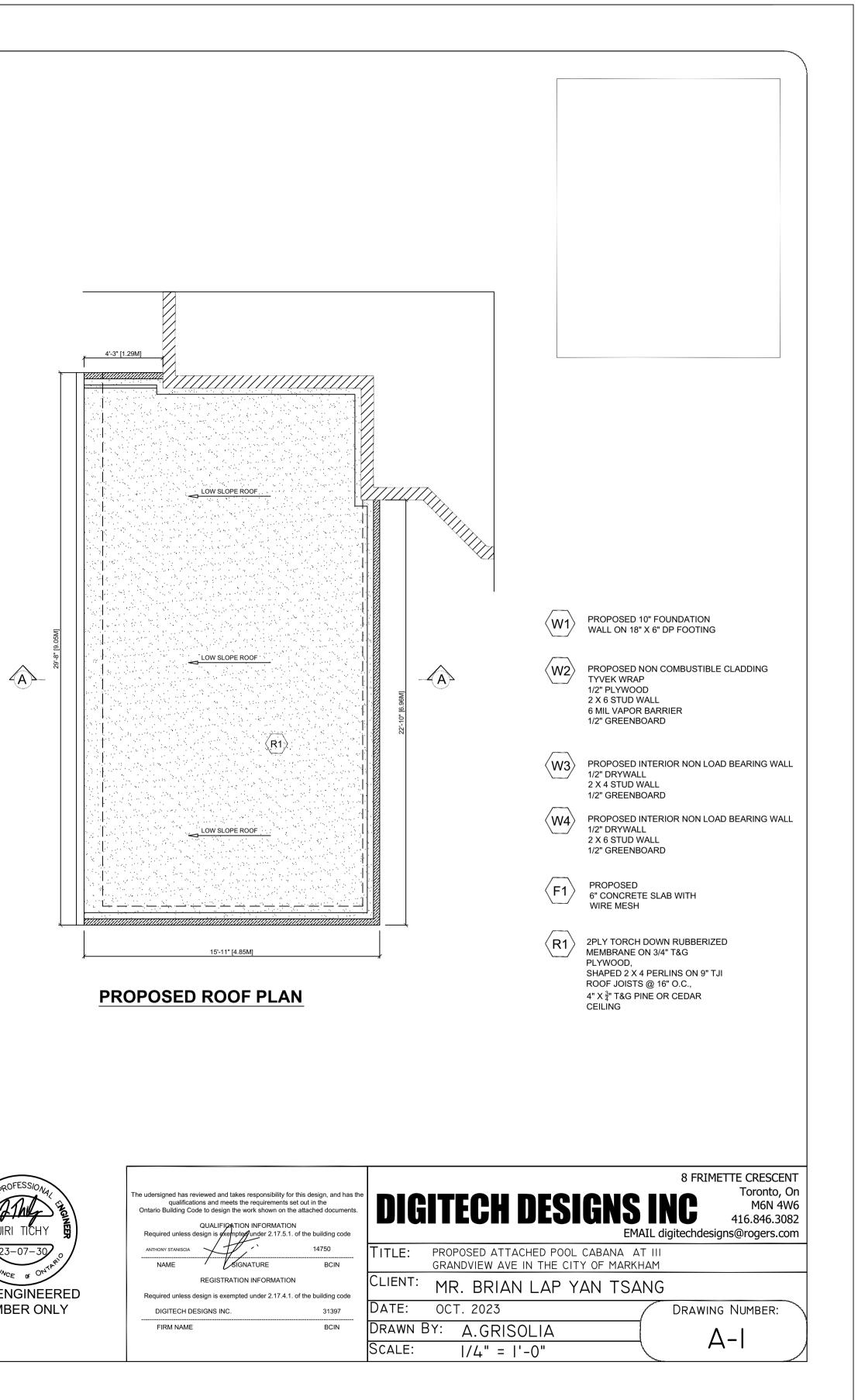


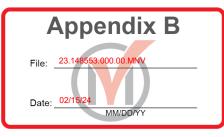


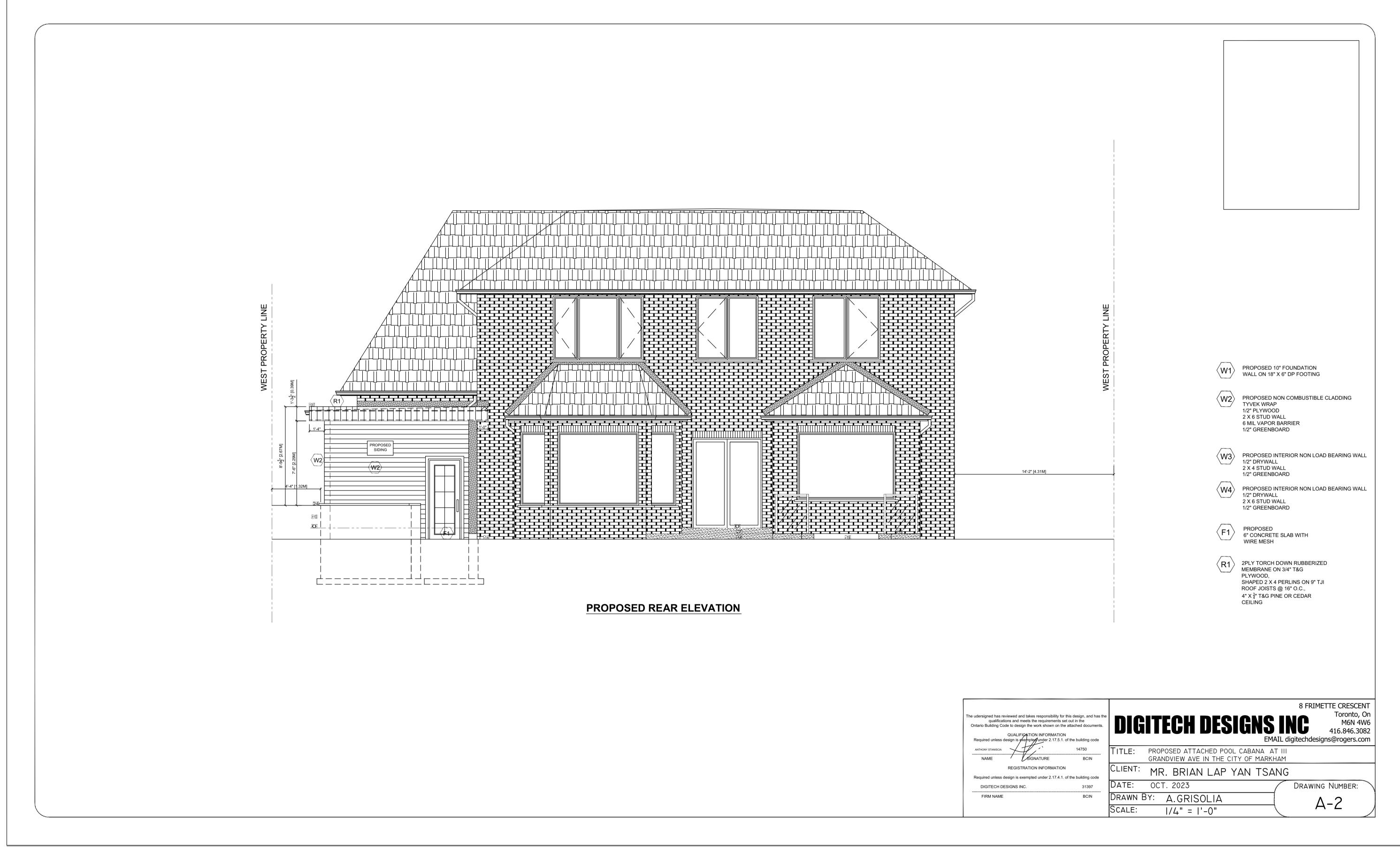
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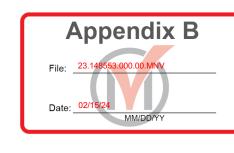


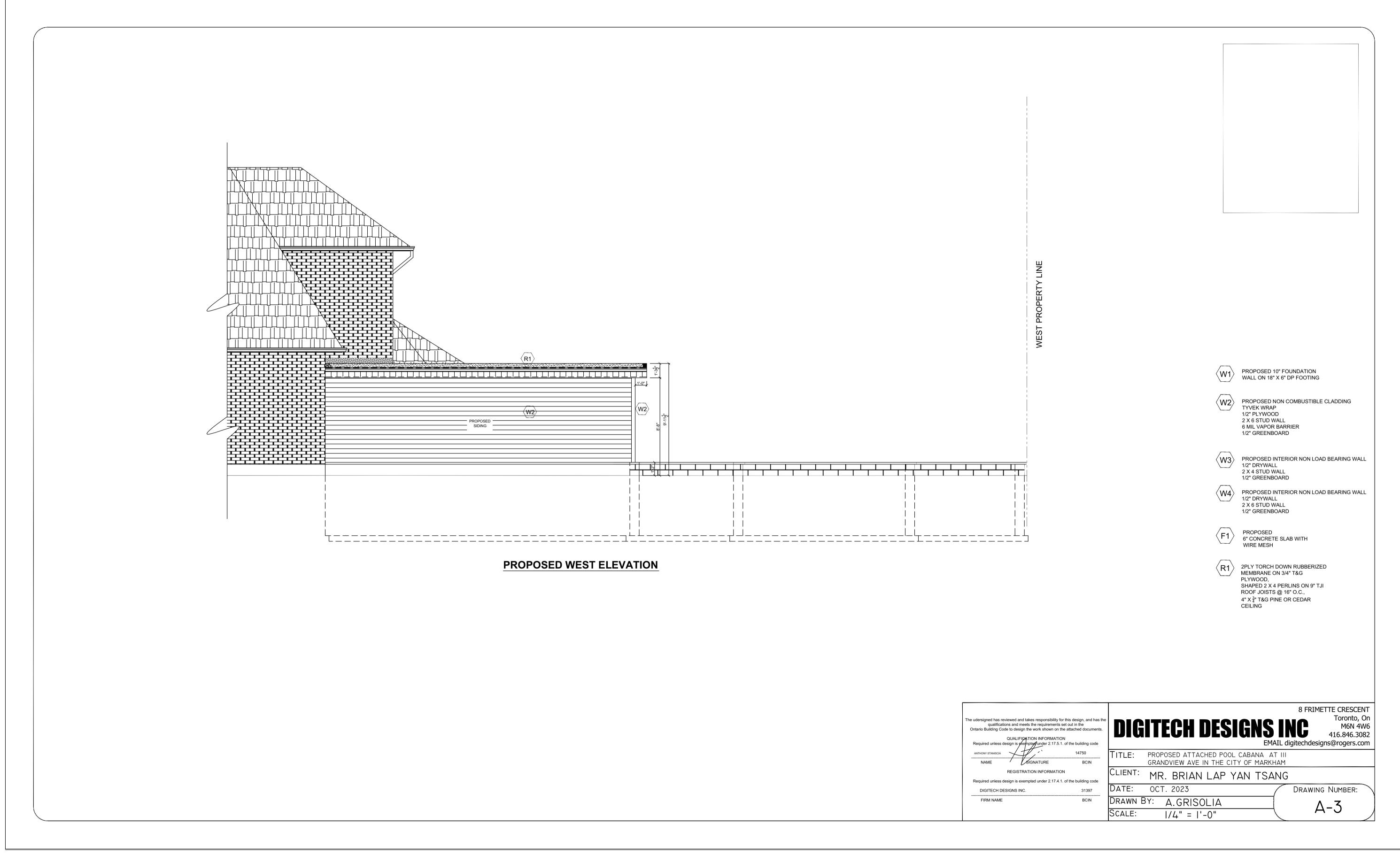


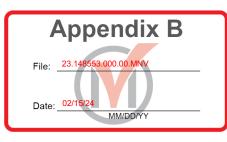


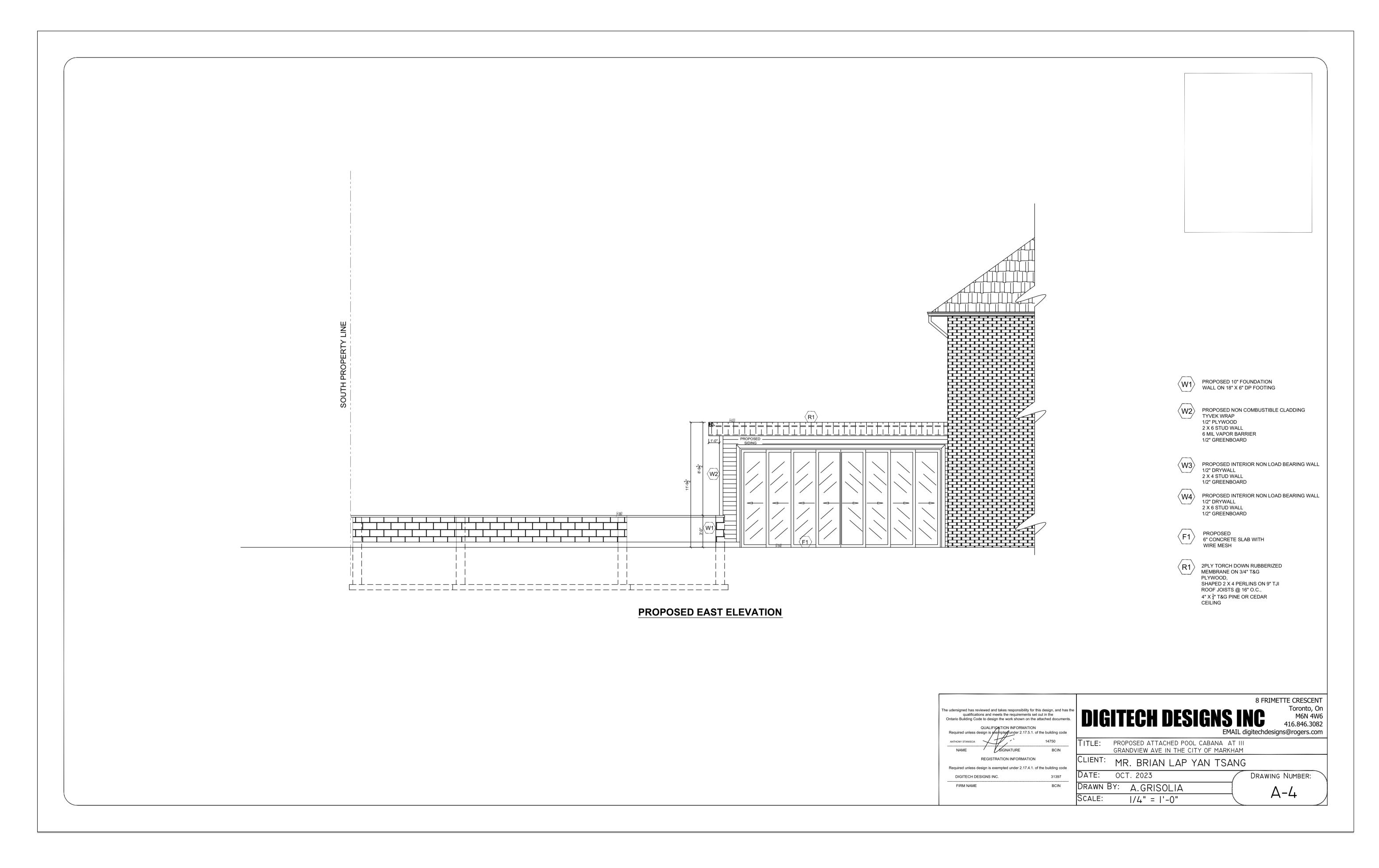


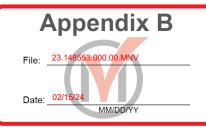


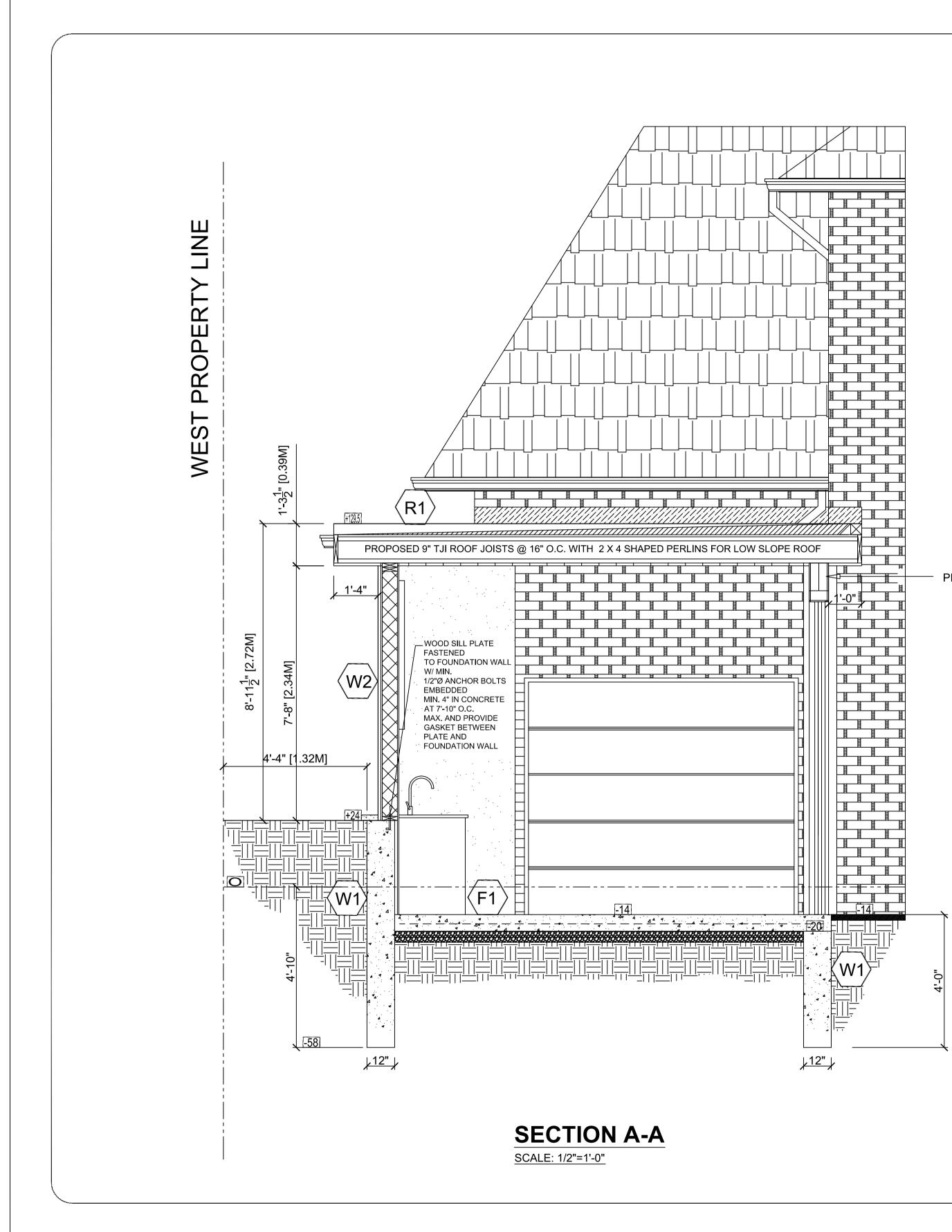




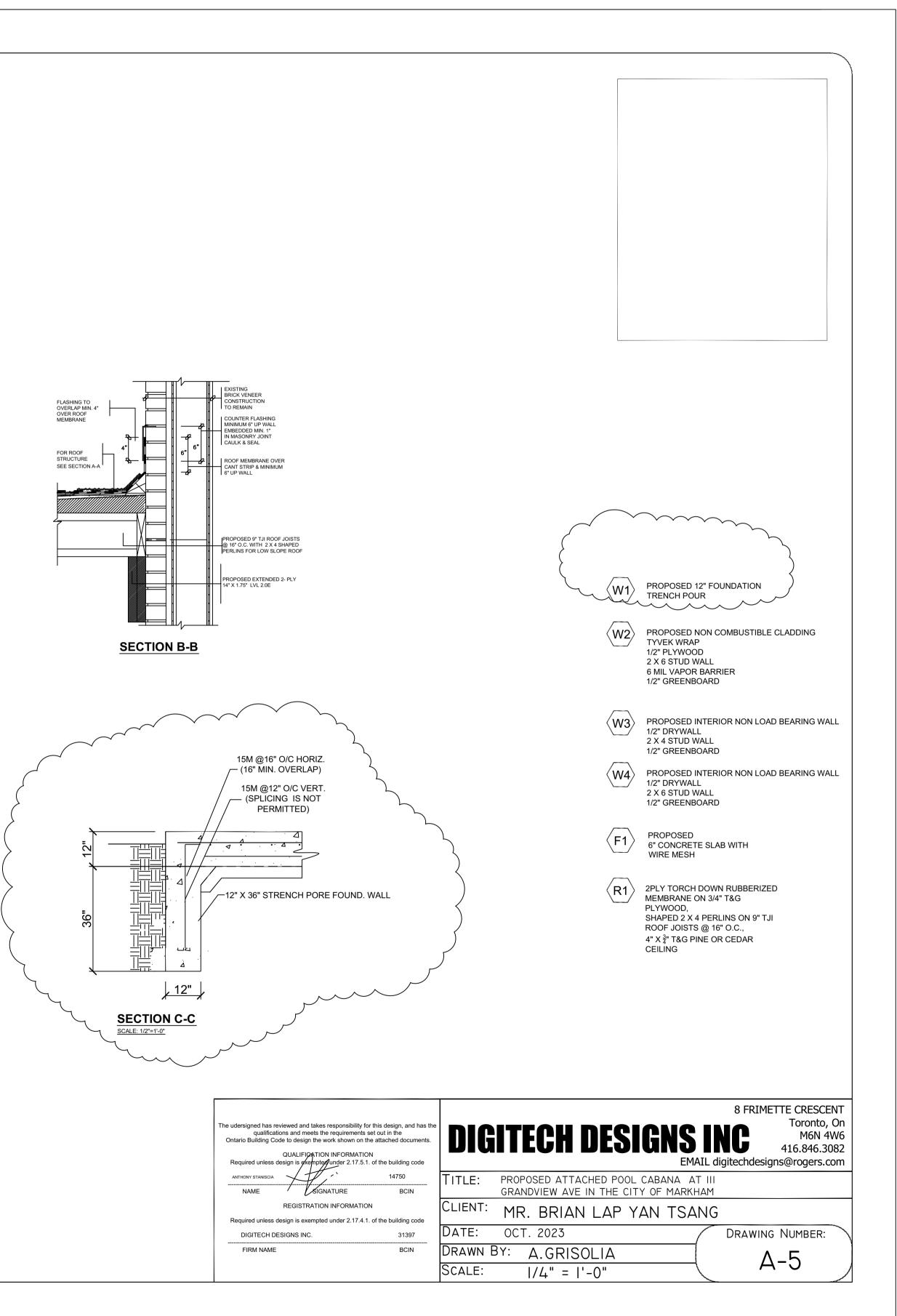


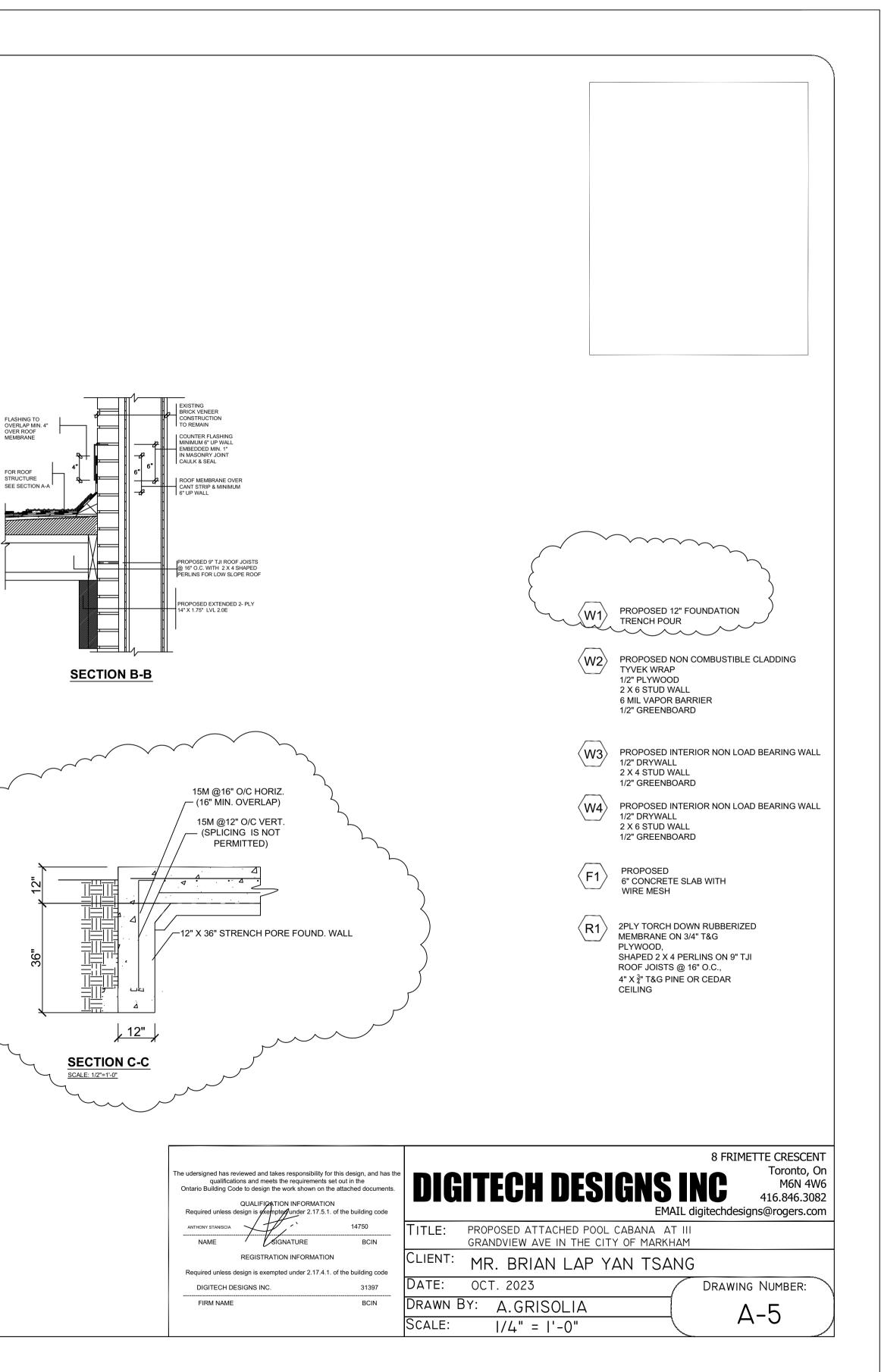


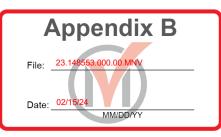




- PROPOSED W10 X 26 STEEL "I" BEAM



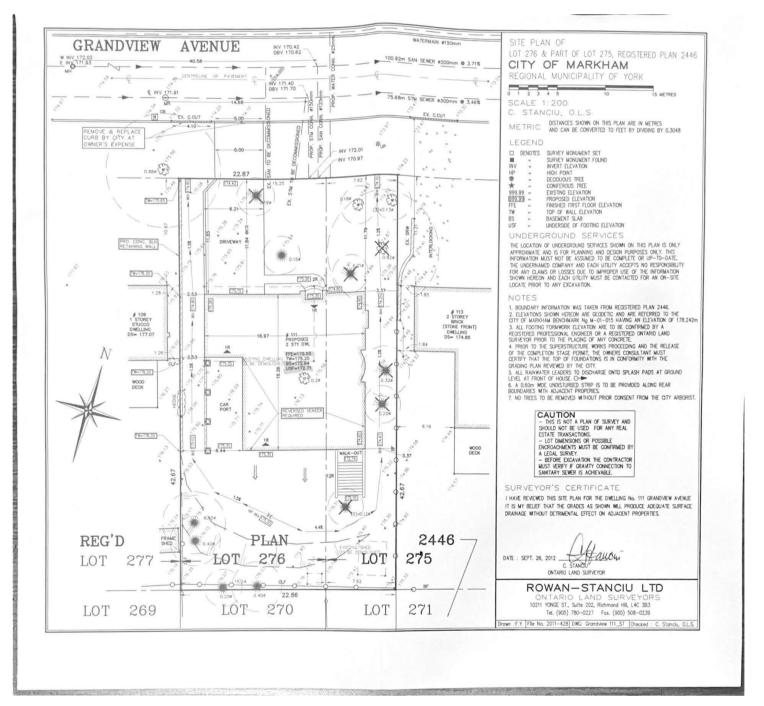




 Appendix B

 File:
 23.148553.000.00.MNV

 Date:
 02/15/24



# APPENDIX "C" – A/207/23 Conditions of Approval

# CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/207/23

- The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains;
- That the variances apply only to the subject development, in substantial conformity with the plan(s) 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 Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations that this condition has been fulfilled to his/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 in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual, 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,
- 5. That tree replacements be provided and/or tree replacement fees be paid 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.

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Mohammad

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office