East Boston, Massachusetts

Application for Article 80 Small Project Review Boston Redevelopment Authority
July 25, 2013

Owner/Developer: Pat Buonopane

Architect: Roche-Christopher Architecture LLC Legal Counsel: McDermott, Quilty & Miller, LLP

# **41-43 Saratoga Street** East Boston, Massachusetts

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#### McDermott, Quilty & Miller LLP

131 Oliver Street - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02110

> Telephone: 617-946-4600 Facsimile: 617-946-4624

July 25, 2013

#### VIA HAND DELIVERY

Peter Meade, Director Boston Redevelopment Authority One City Hall Square Boston, MA 02201 Attn: Raul Duverge

Re: Letter of Transmittal for Article 80 Small Project Review Application 41-43 Saratoga Street, East Boston

Dear Director Meade:

As counsel to Pat Buonopane, the owner-developer of the above referenced property (the "Project Proponent"), I am pleased to submit the enclosed application for Article 80 Small Project Review.

Located at 41-43 Saratoga Street in Boston's East Boston neighborhood, the proposed project seeks to remove two (2) existing residential buildings and a garage at 41-43 Saratoga Street and features the construction of a new four (4) story, 18 unit residential building with on-site parking and related improvements in open space, landscaping, and vehicular and pedestrian access to the site (the "Proposed Project"). The Proposed Project will consist of 18 residential rental units with 10 covered parking spaces and a roof deck. The two (2) existing residential buildings and the garage to be removed at the site are in a dilapidated condition and have no historic or architectural significance to the surrounding neighborhood.

The new residential building will be approximately 13,746 square feet of building, with 18 residential rental units on three (3) levels of building above a parking garage. Two (2) of the residential units will be designated affordable. The building will be architecturally designed to complement the neighborhood's character and unique elements. The trash storage will be located within the parking garage.

Prior to making this submission, the Project Proponent engaged in productive discussions with staff at the BRA as well as certain local elected and appointed officials regarding the Proposed Project. The Project Proponent has already met with its abutters

Director Peter Meade July 25, 2013 Page Two

and members of the surrounding community as well as the Eagle Hill Civic Association, the applicable neighborhood interest group. A copy of the Building Department refusal letter and the Project Proponent's related appeals for the proposed project are included in this application.

Thank you for your consideration of this application, and I look forward to working with you towards a successful outcome.

Very truly yours,

Stephen V. Miller, Esq.

Partner

cc: Pat Buonopane

Corinne Petraglia, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

District City Councilor Sal LaMattina

East Boston, Massachusetts

# **Development Team**

#### **Developer:**

Pat Buonopane 154 Broadway Somerville, MA 02145 617-628-4900

#### Legal Consultant:

McDermott, Quilty & Miller LLP 131 Oliver Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02110 Stephen V. Miller, Esq. 617-946-4600

#### **Architect:**

Roche-Christopher Architecture LLC 415 Neponset Avenue Dorchester, MA 02122 William Christopher 617-282-0030

East Boston, Massachusetts

### **Project Description**

Located at 41-43 Saratoga Street in Boston's East Boston neighborhood, the proposed project seeks to remove two (2) existing residential buildings and a garage at 41-43 Saratoga Street and features the construction of a new four (4) story, 18 unit residential building with on site parking and related improvements in open space, landscaping, and vehicular and pedestrian access to the site (the "Proposed Project"). The Proposed Project will consist of 18 residential rental units with 10 covered parking spaces and a roof deck. The two (2) existing residential buildings and the garage to be removed at the site are in a dilapidated condition and have no historic or architectural significance to the surrounding neighborhood.

The new residential building will be approximately 13,746 square feet of building, with 18 residential rental units on three (3) levels of building above a parking garage. Two (2) of the residential units will be designated affordable. The building will be architecturally designed to complement the neighborhood's character and unique elements. The trash storage will be located within the parking garage.

The following is a synopsis of the unit square footage and mix of unit types within the new building:

#### Unit Mix

Unit Type A (3 Units @ 451 sq. ft. each)	Studio, 1 Bath
Unit Type B (3 Units @ 617 sq. ft. each)	1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Unit Type C (3 Units @ 528 sq. ft. each)	Studio, 1 Bath
Unit Type D (3 Units @ 450 sq. ft. each)	Studio, 1 Bath
Unit Type E (3 Units @ 463 sq. ft. each)	Studio, 1 Bath
Unit Type F (3 Units @ 633 sq. ft. each)	1 Bedroom, 1 Bath

### Project Site/ Neighborhood Context

Located just outside of East Boston's Central Square, the Proposed Project site consists of approximately 5,300 square feet of land with direct vehicular and pedestrian access from Saratoga Street. The uses in the immediate area are primarily residential with a large commercial building located diagonally across the street.

### Public Benefits: Affordable Housing and Job Creation

The proposed project will result in the demolition and residential conversion of a number of

East Boston, Massachusetts

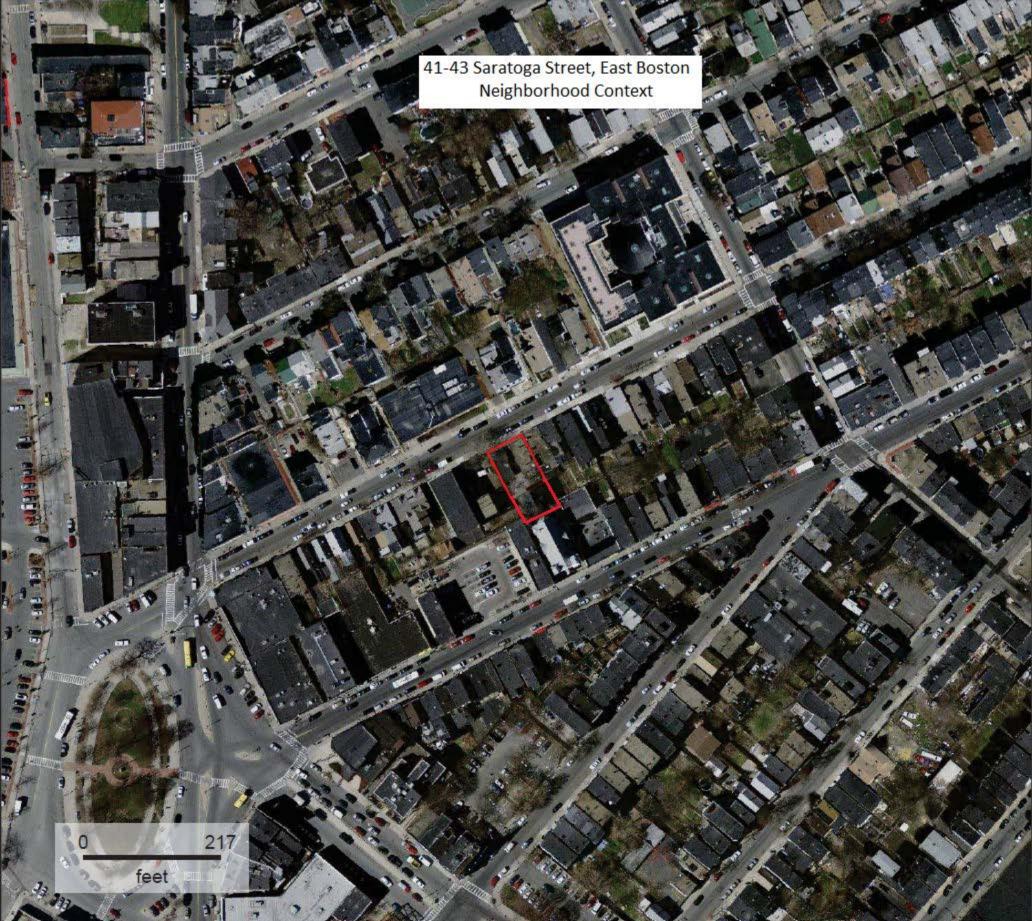
blighted and dilapidated structures. In particular, the project will provide much-needed residential rental housing in a manner that is consistent with and complimentary to the surrounding neighborhood, thereby enhancing the residential nature of the community. The rehabilitation and conversion of this property into much-needed residential housing will also designate two (2) of the residential units as affordable. In 2003, Mayor Menino announced the results of the highly successful *Leading the Way* initiative in which 7,913 new housing units were permitted exceeding the goal of 7,500 new housing units. In 2004 Mayor Menino launched a new housing plan – *Leading the Way II*. The new housing plan is a four year campaign that calls for the production of 10,000 new housing units. So far under the new plan, 10,484 new units of housing have been permitted, 2,111 of which are affordable. The proposed project will continue to build upon Mayor Menino's *Leading the Way II* initiative by creating new housing units.

In addition to the creation of housing and designation of certain affordable units, the proposed project will create a number of construction jobs as well.

#### Traffic, Parking and Vehicular and Pedestrian Access

As part of the proposed project, the new residential building will include off-street parking for 10 vehicles in order to mitigate potential parking and traffic issues associated with the project. The project site itself will be redeveloped with improvements in vehicular and pedestrian access to assure proper public safety and appropriate design.

Additionally, the project's close proximity to public transportation, including the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's ("MBTA") stations and along its bus line, help to further alleviate any potential negative impact on parking and traffic. In particular, the project site is within walking distance from Maverick Station of the MBTA's Blue Line and Bus Routes providing service options within the neighborhood and to points in downtown Boston. This close proximity to mass transit will help to mitigate any potential traffic impacts from the creation of the new housing units and also further the City's goal of promoting transit oriented development.



REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
<u> </u>	X-XX-XX	XXX



East Boston, Massachusetts

## **Zoning Analysis**

District: East Boston Neighborhood District – 2F-2000

Uses: Multi-family dwelling is a forbidden use.

Setbacks:	Required:	<u>Provided:</u>
Front Yard:	5'	1'6''
Side Yard:	5'	6"/3"/6"/5"
Rear Yard:	30'	5'

FAR Allowed: .8 FAR Provided: 2.59

Site Area: 5,300 sq. ft.

Total Building Area Allowed: 4,240 sq. ft. Total Building Area Provided: 13,746 sq. ft.

Height Allowed: 35' Height Provided: 49' Stories Allowed: 2½

Stories Provided: 4 (Includes Garage – More than 50% out of ground)

Parking spaces required: 2.0 spaces/dwelling unit required for 10 or more units (16 market rate residential units

requires 32 spaces)

.7 spaces/affordable dwelling unit (2 affordable residential units requires 1 (1.4)

spaces)

33 total required spaces.

Parking spaces provided: 10 spaces Open Space Required: None Open Space Provided: N/A

East Boston, Massachusetts

## Community Outreach and Anticipated Permits/Approvals

Pursuant to the requirements of Small Project Review under Article 80 of the Boston Zoning Code, the proposed project shall undergo public comment and community process. The proponent has already conducted significant community outreach with both the local elected officials, its direct abutters and the local neighborhood organization, the Eagle Hill Civic Association. Specifically, a public meeting was held with the Eagle Hill Civic Association on June 19, 2013 and the group voted in favor of the proposed project. Additionally, as a result of this extensive outreach, certain modifications to the building have been made to improve the design of the building and alleviate certain neighborhood concerns.

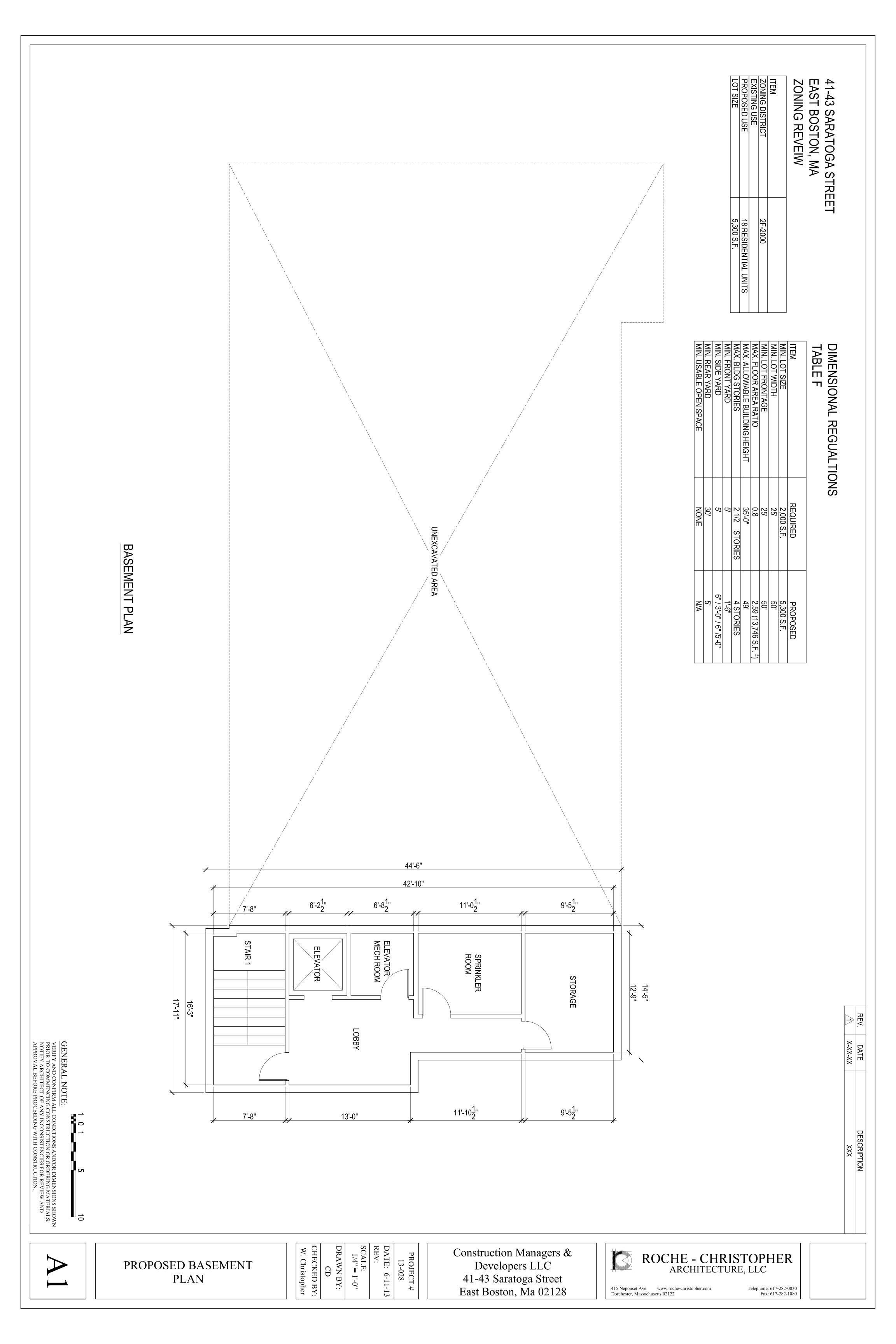
#### **Anticipated Permits and Approvals**

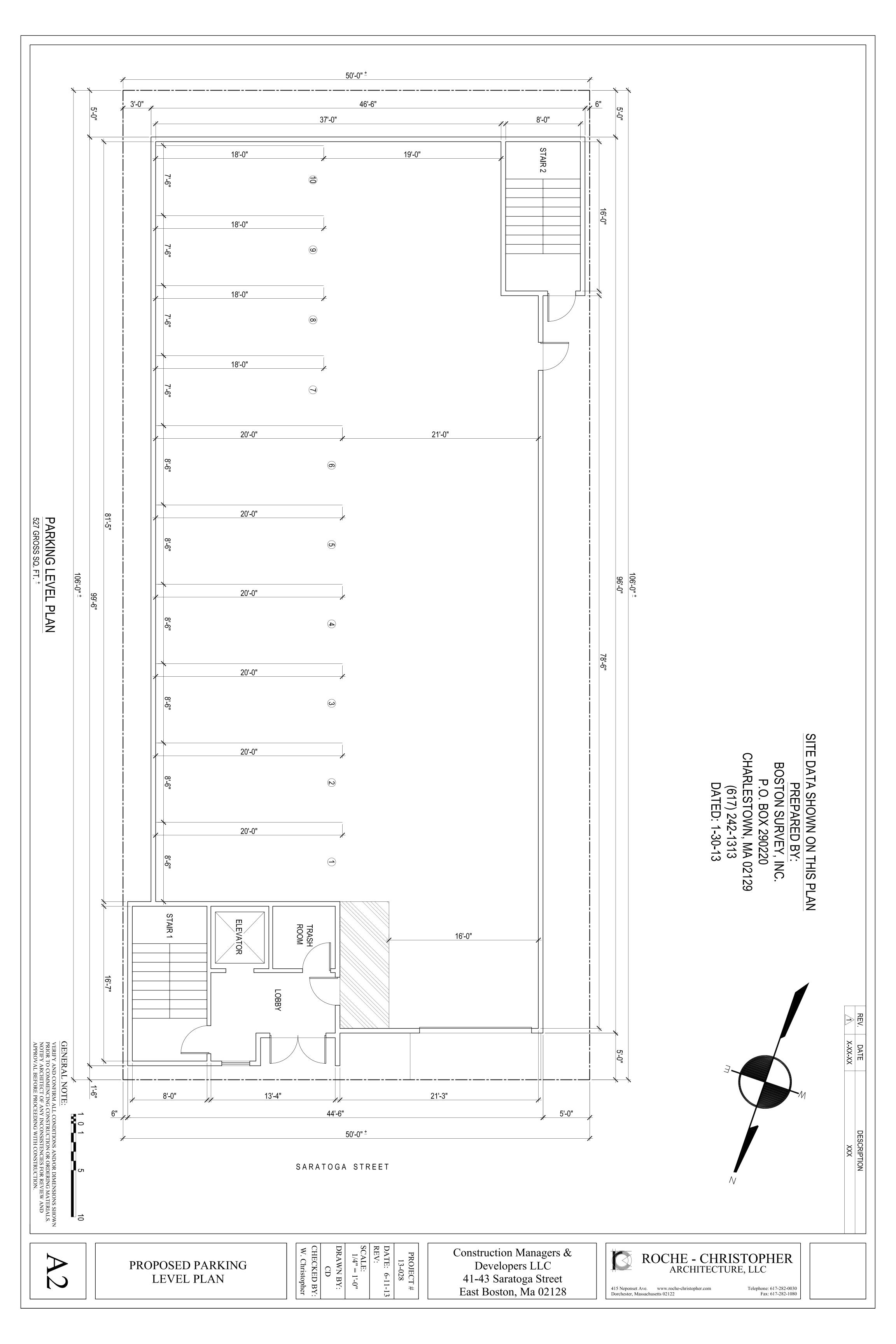
The table below lists the public permits and approvals that are anticipated to be required for the project.

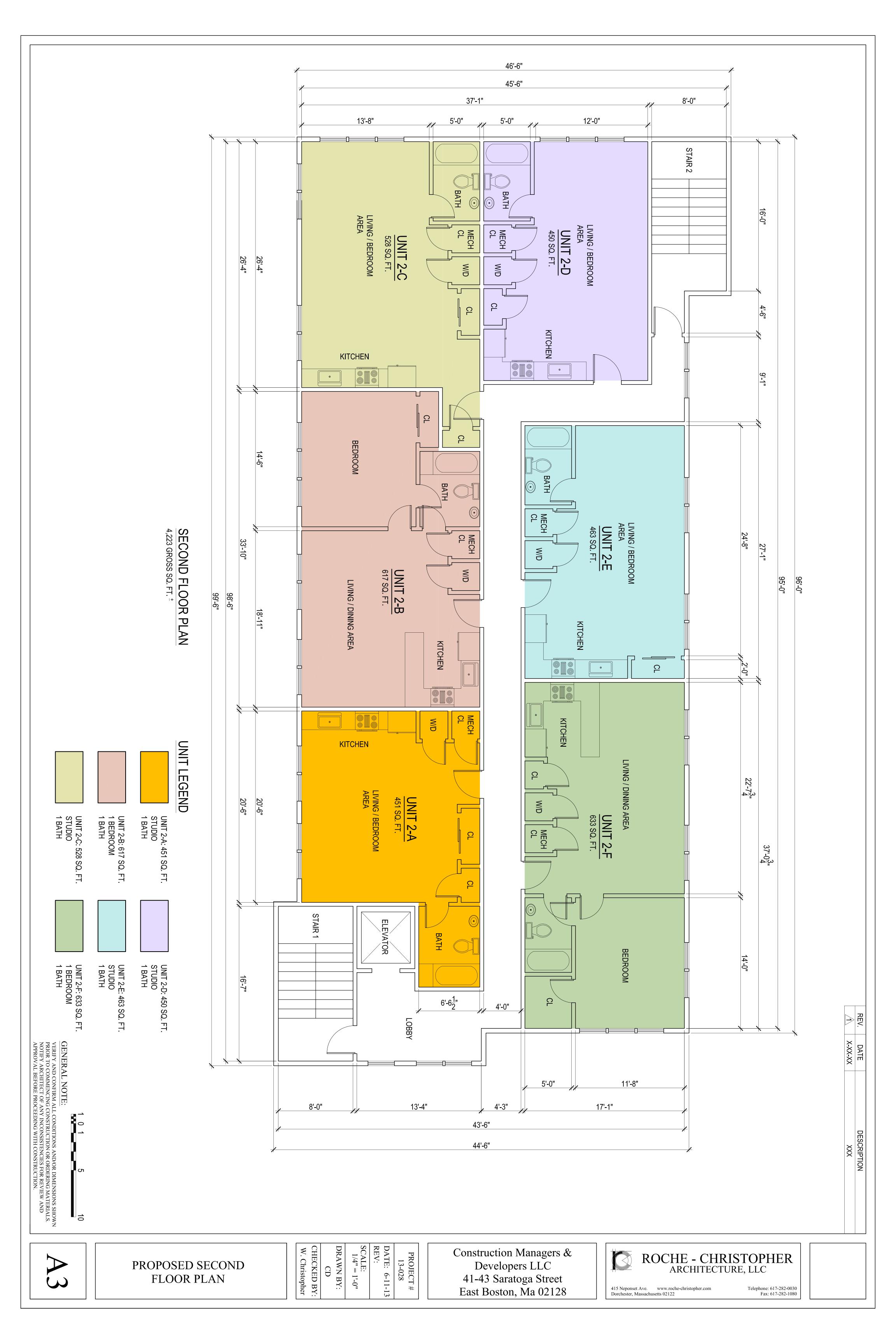
AGENCY		APPROVAL		
City	Boston Redevelopment Authority	•	Article 80 Small Project Review Application	
	Boston Transportation Department	•	Construction Management Plan (if required)	
	Boston Water and Sewer Commission	•	Site Plan approval for water and sewer connections	
	Public Improvement Commission	•	Specific repair plan approval Earth Retention System	
	Zoning Board of Appeals	•	Variances & Conditional Use	
	Boston Public Works Department	<b>*</b>	Curb Cut Permit (if required)	

East Boston, Massachusetts

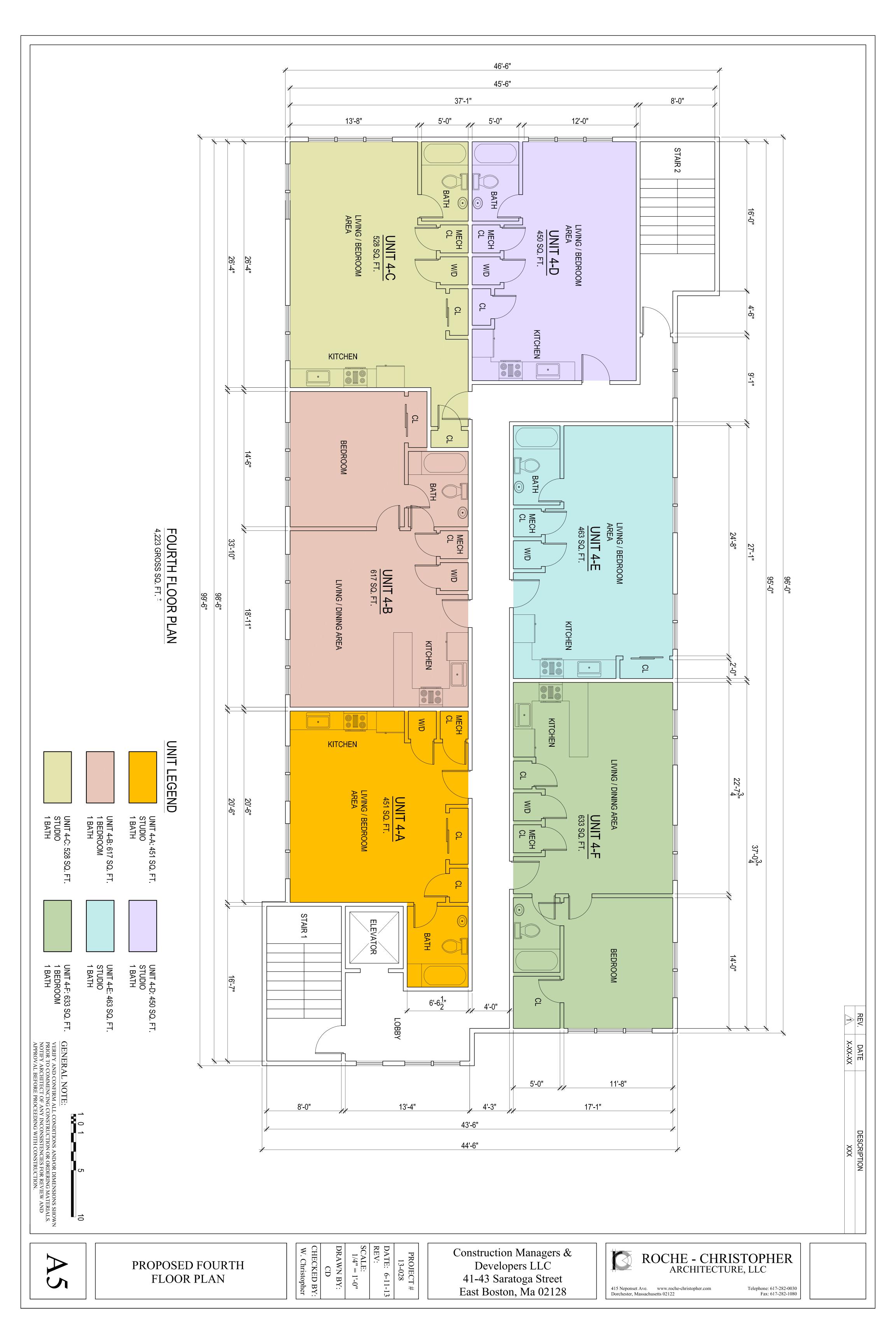
# Appendix A: Architectural Plans and Elevations

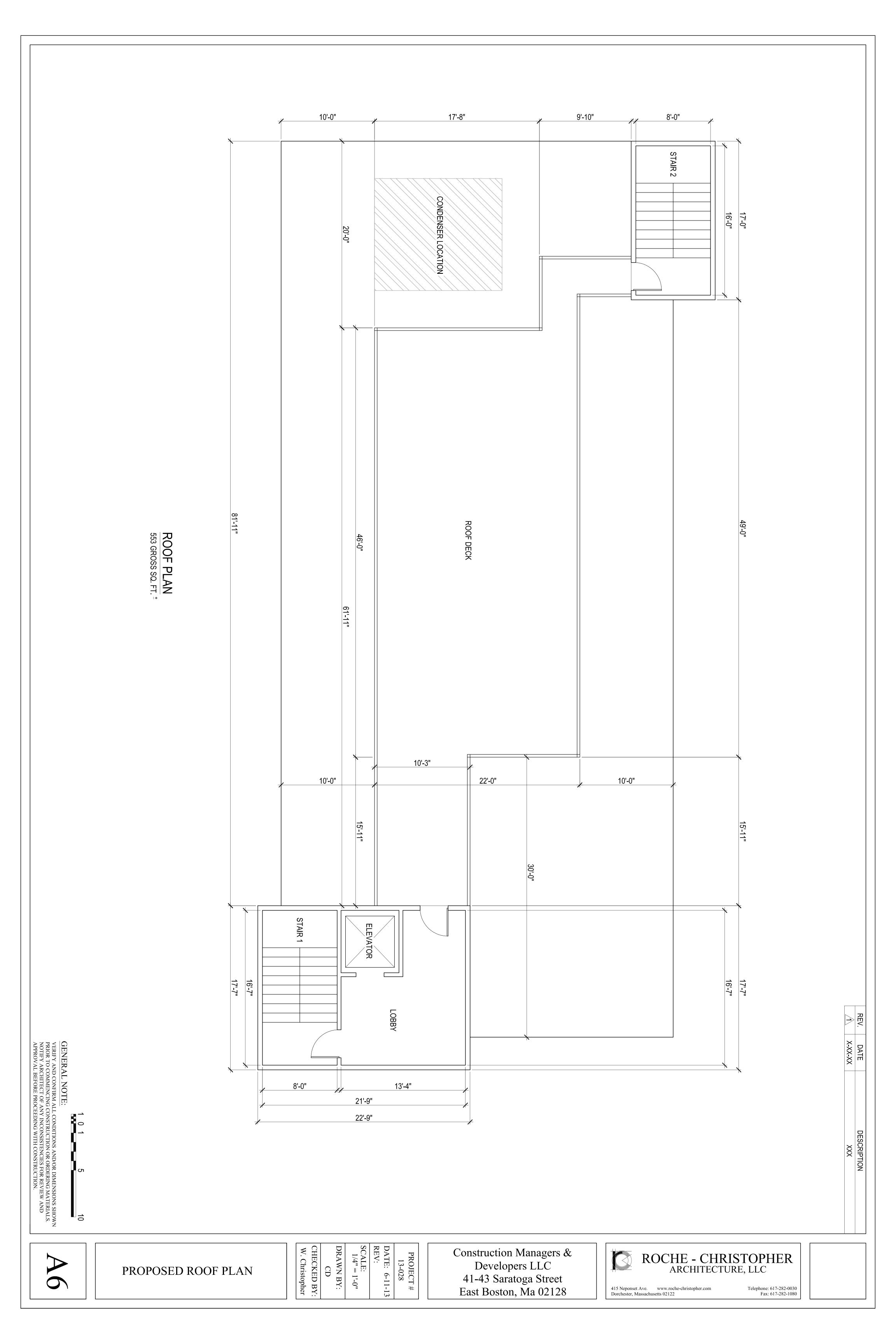


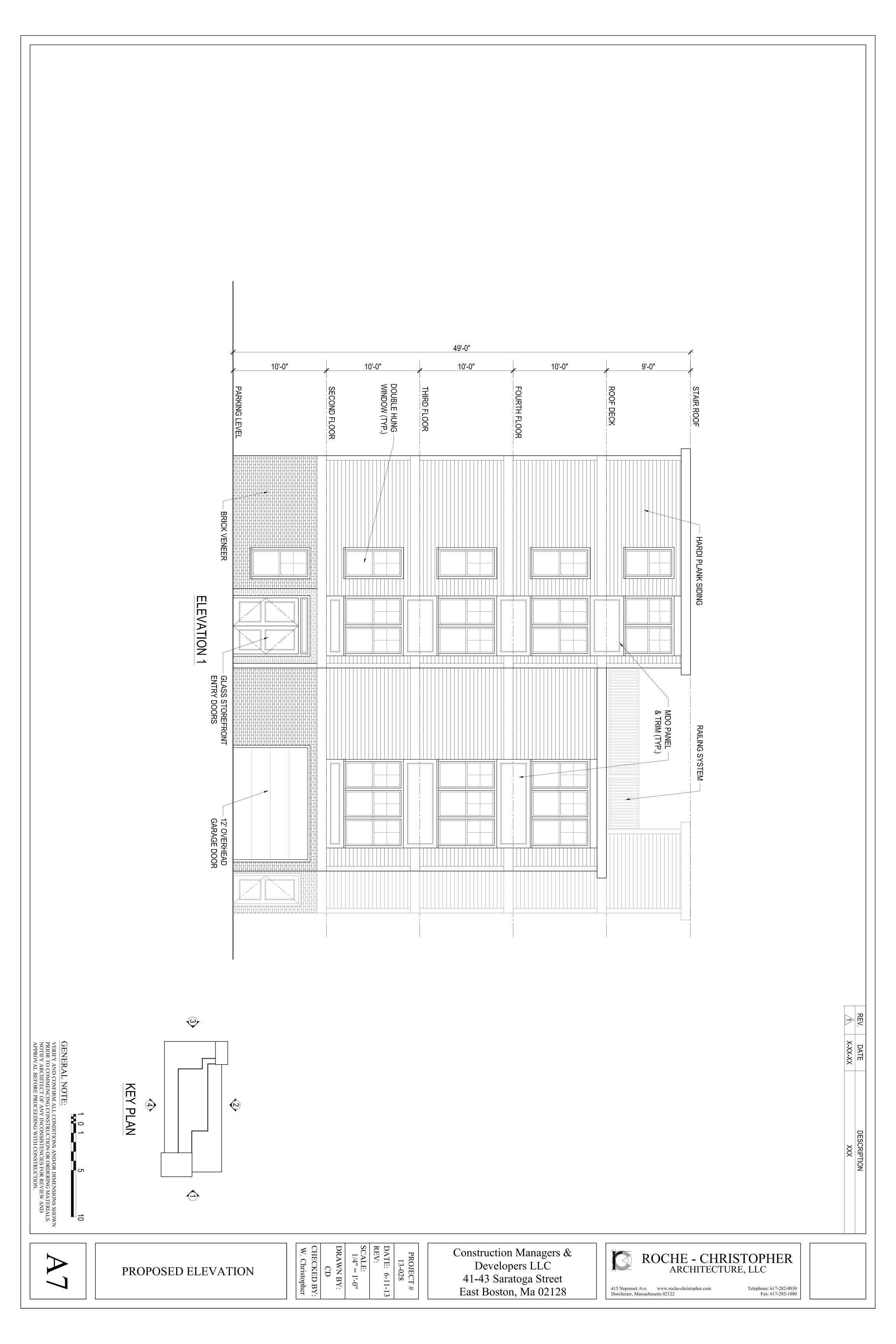


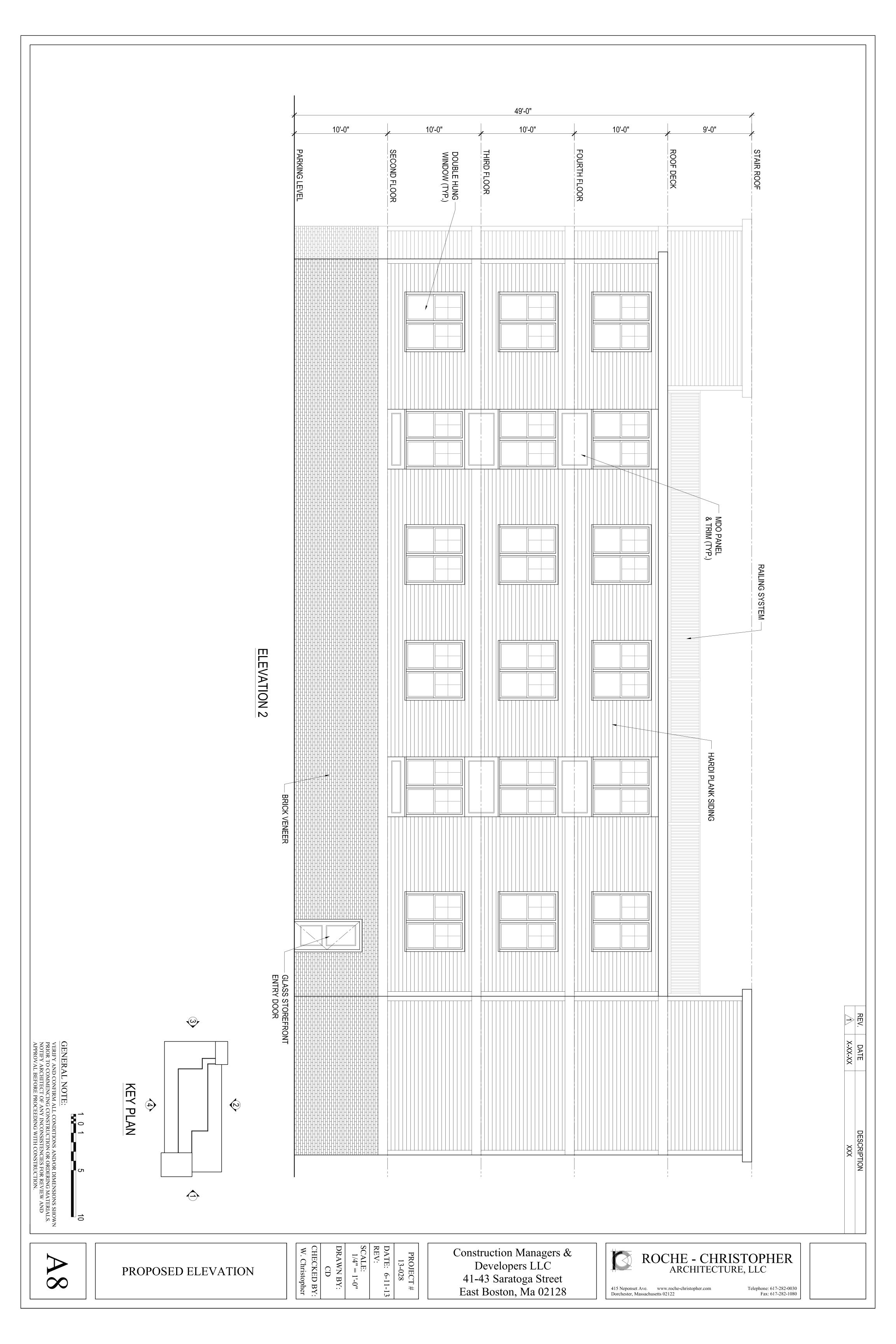




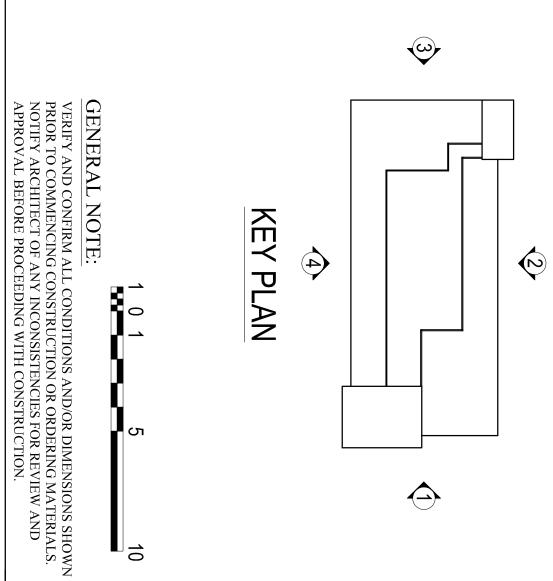












PROPOSED ELEVATION

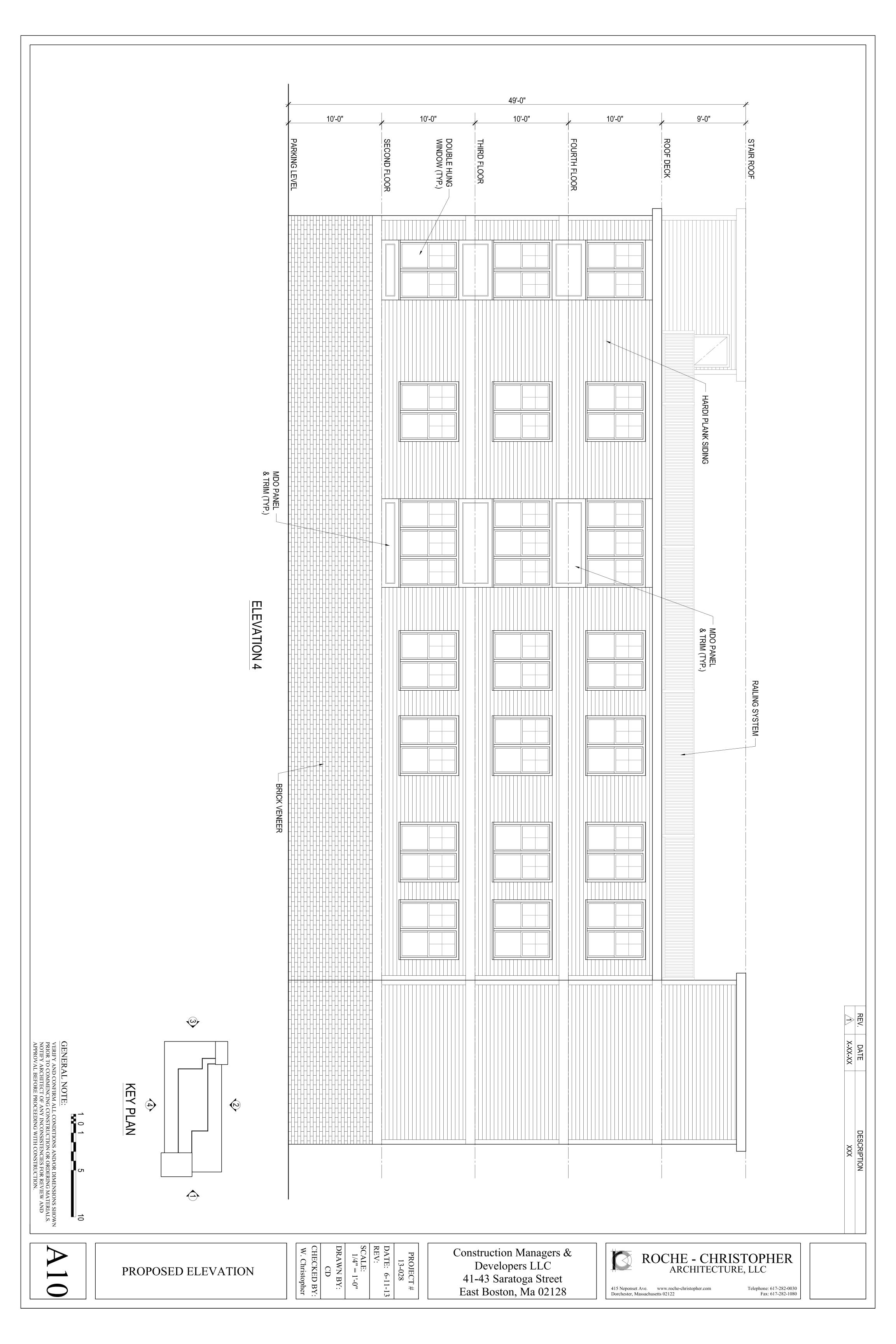
CHECKED BY: W. Christopher DRAWN BY: SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" DATE: 6-11-13 REV: PROJECT # 13-028

Construction Managers & Developers LLC 41-43 Saratoga Street East Boston, Ma 02128



415 Neponset Ave. www.roche-christopher.com Dorchester, Massachusetts 02122

Telephone: 617-282-0030 Fax: 617-282-1080



East Boston, Massachusetts

# Appendix B: Permitting Applications and Appeals

(See attached ISD Zoning and Building Code Refusals and Appeals regarding Permit Application # ERT241727.)

This form must be completed and signed by the owner-of-record, their attorney and/or authorized agent. If form is not signed by property owner, please attach a signed letter of authorization designating the authorized agent.



#### APPEAL

\$ 900

under Boston Zoning Code

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Boston, Massachusetts ...... 13

	• -	Inspection Services Department the author	ized agent		
The und	The undersigned, being		authorized agest		• •
	41-43	Saratoga Street	One	East Boston	
of the lot at	number	street	ward	district	• •

hereby appeal(s) under St. 1956, c. 665, s. 8, to the Board of Appeal in the Inspectional Services Department of the City of Boston the action taken by Inspectional Services Commissioner as outlined in the attached refusal letter.

#### DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE REASON(S) FOR THIS APPEAL

This appeal seeks permission to erect a new building for fifteen (15) residential units by combining two parcels, Lot 1 of 1,575 square feet of land and Lot 2 of 3,725 square feet of land to be a total of 5,300 square feet of land.

#### STATE REASONS FOR THIS PROPOSAL

The allowance of the within appeal will enable the Appellant to appropriately and reasonably re-develop the subject premises by combining two (2) parcels of land for the purpose of erecting a new residential building containing fifteen (15) units.

#### PROVIDE REASONS WHY BOARD SHOULD GRANT RELIEF

Appellant submits that the Board should grant the requested relief, as to do so will create no detrimental effect on the surrounding neighborhood, but rather provide quality residential units to the East Boston neighborhood.

#### **COMMENTS**

For these and other reasons more precisely enumerated at the public hearing before the Board, the Appellant respectfully requests the allowance of the within appeal.

OWNER	Patrick Buonopane
AUTHOR	Patrick Buonopane  War Some ARW  IZED AGENT Karen D. Simao, Esq.
	McDermott, Quilty & Miller, LLP
	Boston, Massachusetts 02110
TELEPH	ONE (617) 946-4600
FAX (61	7) 946-4624

BD 504a Revised 2005



Mayor

#### **Boston Inspectional Services Department** Planning and Zoning Division

1010 Massachusetts Avenue Boston, MA 02118 Telephone: (617) 635-5300

#### **ZONING CODE REFUSAL**

Gary P. Moccin inspector of Buildings

ANTHONY VIRGILIO 172 SALEM STREET BOSTON, MA 02113

May 17, 2013

Location:

41-43 SARATOGA ST EAST BOSTON MA 02128

Ward:

Zoning District:

East Boston

Zoning Subdistrict:

2F-2000

Appl.#: Date Filed:

**ERT241727** May 07, 2013

Purpose:

**Violation** 

Erect New Building for Eighteen Residential Units by combining two parcels; lot one of 1575 sf and

Violation Comments

lot 2 of 3725 sf to be a total of 5300 sf land.

Violation Description

YOUR APPLICATION REQUIRES RELIEF FROM THE BOARD OF APPEAL AS SAME WOULD BE IN VIOLATION OF THE BOSTON ZONING CODE TO WIT: CHAPTER 665, ACT'S OF 1956 AS AMENDED:

Article 53 Section 56	Off street Parking	Off Street Parking Insufficient.
Article 53 Section 8	Uses	Mulitfamily Use, Forbidden
Article 53 Section 9	Dimensional Regulations	Front Yard Insufficient.
Article 53Section 9	Dim Reg Applic in Res Sub Dist	Floor Area Ratio Excessive.
Article 53Section 9	Dim Reg Applic in Res Sub Dist	Rear Yard Insufficient,
Article 53Section 9	Dim Reg Applic in Res Sub Dist	Building Height (Stories & Feet) Excessive.
Article 53 Section 9	Dim Rog Applic in Res Sub Dist	Side Yard Insufficient.
Notes		1. This building is required to have sprinkler protection. 2. All of the units will be required to meet 521 CMR Access Regulations Group 1 Dwelling Units. This will need to be confirmed before the permit can be issued. 3. The submitted drawings were insufficient to complete a State Building Code review. When a complete set of construction drawings are received additional items requiring relief may become apparent.

ANTHONY VIRGILIO 172 SALEM STREET BOSTON, MA 02113

May 17, 2013

Location: 41-43 SARATOGA ST EAST BOSTON MA 02128

Ward: 01

Zoning District: East Boston
Zoning Subdistrict: 2F-2000
Appl. #: ERT241727
Date Filed: May 07, 2013

Purpose: Erect New Building for Eighteen Residential Units by combining two parcels; lot one of 1575 sf and

lot 2 of 3725 sf to be a total of 5300 sf land.

THIS DECISION MAY BE APPEALED TO THE BOARD OF APPEAL WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 665 OF THE ACTS OF 1956, AS AMENDED. APPLICATIONS NOT APPEALED WITHIN THAT TIME PERIOD WILL BE DEEMED ABANDONED. IF YOU HAVE INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NEIGHBORHOOD PROCESS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AT

617-635-3485.

Kenheth Morin (617)961-3280

for the Commissioner

Refusal of a permit may be appealed to the Board of Appeal within 45 days. Chapter 802, Acts of 1972, and Chapter 656, Acts of 1956, Section 19.



#### **Boston Inspectional Services Department Building and Structures Division**

1010 Massachusetts Avenue Boston, MA 02118 Telephone: (617) 635-5300

\$150 WF

Gary P. Moccia

## BUILDING CODE REFUSAL

May 17, 2013

ANTHONY VIRGILIO 172 SALEM STREET BOSTON, MA 02113

B-33

Re:

Application #: Date Filed:

ERT241727 May 07, 2013

Location:

41-43 SARATOGA ST EAST BOSTON MA 02128

Ward:

Purpose:

Erect New Building for Fifteen Residential Units by combining two parcels; lot one of 1575 sf and lot 2

of 3725 sf to be a total of 5300 sf land.

Your application requires Building Code Relief, as same would be in violation of Massachusetts State Building Code 780 CMR -Eighth Edition, Chapter 802, acts of 1972, as amended to wit:

Violation:

(4. 7)

- (m)

Violation Description:

**Violation Comments:** 

8th 780CMR705.8

Opening of EXTERIOR WALL

Openings in sides of the building violate the maximum openings allowed in Table

Note:

The drawings for submitted with this application are only preliminary and cannot be used for a complete State Building Code review. When a complete set of construction drawings are submitted additional items requiring relief may

become apparent.

for the Commissioner

(617)961-3280

Refusal of a permit may be appealed to the Board of Appeal within 45 days. Chapter 802, Acts of 1972, and Chapter 656, Acts of 1956, Section 19.

Page 1 of 1

#### This form to be filed in duplicate with the Inspectional Services Department (Form A)



#### APPEAL

May 29

**19** 2013

TO THE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES COMMISSIONER OF THE CITY OF BOSTON:

The undersigned hereby appeals to the Board of Appeal from the following decision of the Inspectional Service Commission made May 17 19°2013

Re: Application Number ERT 241727

Date Filed: May 7, 2013

Location: 41-43 Saratoga Street, East Boston, MA 02128, Ward 1

Purpose: To erect a new building for fifteen (15) residential units by combining two (2) parcels, lot 1 of 1,575 square feet of land and lot 2 of 3,725 square feet of land to be a total of 5,300 square feet of land.

Your application requires Building Code Relief, as same would be in violation of Massachusetts State Building Code 780 CMR - Eight Edition, Chapter 802, acts of 1972, as amended to wit: 780 CMR 705.8 Opening of EXTERIOR WALL: Openings in sides of building violate the maximum openings allowed in Table 705.8.

The appellant Patrick Buonopane

here states briefly the

grounds of and reasons for his

appeal from the decision of the Inspectional Services Commissioner

above referred to The Appellant hereby appeals the referenced violations, as the scope of the work associated with this appeal is the most practical, appropriate and safe means to design and erect the subject structure. In this regard, the Appellant submits that the proposed work is consistent with the spirit and intent of the Building Code, and is aimed at designing and developing a contextually appropriate building that will become part of the fabric of the neighborhood. For these and other reasons more precisely enumerated at the public hearing before the Board, the Appellant respectfully requests the allowance of the within appeal.

/ McDermott, Quilty & Miller, LLP

rized Agent for Patrick Buonogan sss .131. Oliver Street, 5th Floor......

Boston, MA 02110

850 - 2Br B-33 Engle HIL Courc Assoc