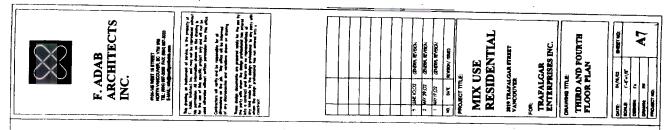


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SECOND FLOOR PLAN

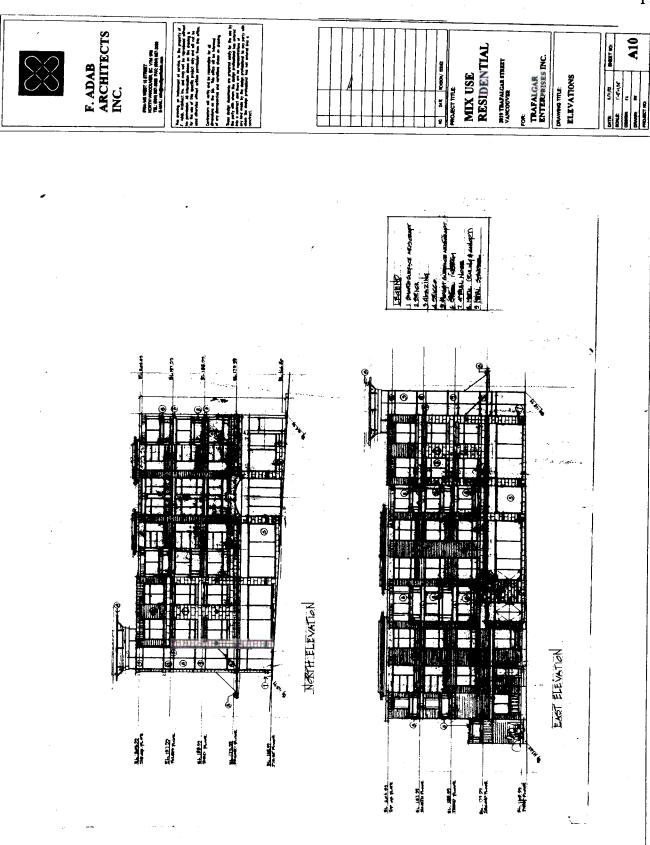


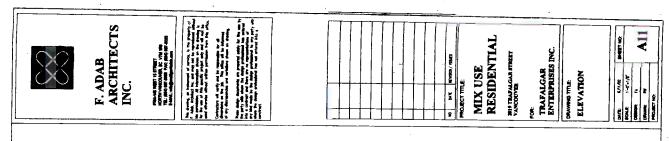


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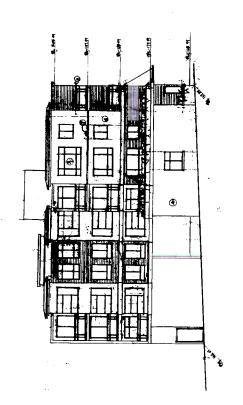
THIRD & FOURTH FLOOR PLAN











GAUTH ELEVATION

# **URBAN DESIGN PANEL MINUTES**

July 24, 2002

1. Address:

2015 Trafalgar Street

DA:

406810

Use:

Mixed (4 storeys)

Zoning:

C-2

**Application Status:** 

Complete

Architect:

F. Adab

Owner:

Trafalgar Enterprises Inc.

Review:

First

Delegation:

Fred Adab, Chetan Bagga, Randall Sharp

Staff:

Bob Adair

#### **EVALUATION: SUPPORT (4-2)**

• Introduction: The Development Planner, Bob Adair, presented this application in the C-2 zone. The site is at the southwest corner of 4th Avenue and Trafalgar Street. The proposal is for a 4-storey mixed-use building containing ground floor retail facing 4th Avenue, one residential unit at the corner of the lane and Trafalgar Street, and three storeys of residential above. Total residential density is 2.2 FSR and total overall density is 2.9 FSR. Proposed materials include Ariscraft, brick and stucco.

Staff believe the project is generally well thought out and organized, and seek the advice of the Panel in the following areas:

- use, noting that to achieve the maximum residential density of 2.2 FSR, high standards of architectural design and materials are required.
- height: maximum permitted height is 40 ft. (with an additional 5 ft. allowed for sloping sites); the
  application seeks a relaxation of 2 ft. in the northeast corner and 4 ft. in the southwest corner.
  The site slopes about 7 ft. from northeast to southwest. Height relaxations require Council
  approval.

The Development Planner noted there was a previous development permit on this site which did not proceed to building permit. It sought a 2.5 ft. height relaxation, which was achieved by stepping the residential floors.

- massing at the rear: the C-2 guidelines call for 15 ft. setback from the property line for residential on the second floor. Because of the circumstances of an older building occupying the southern half of the lane, both this application and the previous application set back the building approximately 8 ft. from the rear property line to achieve manoeuvring space in the lane.
- quality of materials at the southeast corner of the building and whether some reduction in mass at the upper floor of this corner might be a better response to the lower neighbouring building.
- corner residential unit: staff support residential at grade in locations adjacent to neighbouring residential use across the lane but question the livability of this unit.
- overall detailing.

- Applicant's Opening Comments: Fred Adib, Architect, noted the adjacent building to the south has an east-west orientation with no major side windows. He described the areas in which the application seeks the height relaxation as a result of the slope of the site. He briefly reviewed the overall design rationale. In response to a question from the Panel, the landscape architect, Randall Sharp, confirmed the intention is to retain the existing large mature tree on Trafalgar Street. It is on City property.
- Panel's Comments: The Panel supported this application. There was general support for the use, massing and height. Most Panel members also thought the standard of design and materials earned the relaxations being sought, although with some reservations about the detailing.

### Height

The height relaxation was supported, noting it causes no view or shadow impact on neighbouring buildings.

#### **Rear Massing**

The 8 ft. setback from the property line was considered appropriate, and additional stepping of the building at the rear property line was thought to be unnecessary. A comment was made that the vocabulary of this building does not lend itself to further stepping, in any direction.

### Standard of Design

In general, the materials chosen are very good but careful attention will need to be given to detailing to ensure the success of the building. Concerns were expressed about the stucco at the rear, and in particular the transition from brick to stucco at the southeast corner which will be difficult to detail. Suggestions were made to change the stucco to brick as it turns to the back of the building. One Panel member also recommended reconsidering the colour of the stucco.

Some members of the Panel questioned the corner element on the building and felt it detracted from the overall design. It was suggested the building would be more successful if this element was toned down or eliminated altogether.

### **Ground Floor Residential Unit/Southeast Corner**

The Panel had no concerns about the ground floor residential use at the southeast corner. However, serious concerns were expressed about the livability of this unit. Concerns included the transition from retail to residential at the lobby area, the bedroom window next to the main entry, and treatment of the two windows on the lane side. A suggestion was made to frame the windows with brick and to provide built-in planters for the residents. Another recommendation was to consider an enclosed porch around the unit.

Noting the exposure of the building created by the setback of the building across the lane, a suggestion was made to return whatever major material is chosen to at least as far as the first major break before the loading area. The blank wall on the lane will be very visible from 4th Avenue, calling for careful attention to the quality of material and detailing.

## Residential Entry

A number of concerns were expressed about the main residential entry needing to respond to privacy access issues, both from the street and the internal lobby. While much articulation is provided on the retail frontage, access to the residential off Trafalgar seems to have been ignored. As well as being difficult to identify, the size of the lobby is too small.

# **URBAN DESIGN PANEL MINUTES**

July 24, 20

# **Existing Tree**

One Panel member took issue with the fact that the existing mature tree, which is a major asset of the site, has been ignored in the presentation, and it appears the project has been conceived without input from an arborist.

• Applicant's Response: Mr. Adab said most of the Panel's areas of concern can be addressed. He agreed the ground floor residential can be considerably improved.