

# Report to **Development Permit Panel**

To:

**Development Permit Panel** 

Date:

March 13, 2003

From:

Joe Erceg

File:

DP 02-221010

Manager, Development Applications

Re:

Application by Polygon Development 140 Ltd. for a Development Permit at

7131, 7151, 7171, 7191, 7195, 7211, 7231, 7271 and 7291 Heather Street

# Manager's Recommendation

That a Development Permit be issued for 7131 to 7291 Heather Street that would:

- 1. Permit the development of 54 townhouses on a site zoned Comprehensive Development District (CD/126); and that would
- 2. Vary the provisions of the *Zoning and Development Bylaw* to:
- allow balconies to project a maximum of 1.2m (3.937 ft) into the 3m (9.843 ft) rear yard;
- allow pedestrian entry and garbage/recycling structures in the required 6m (19.685 ft) road setbacks; and
- reduce the number of visitor parking stalls from eleven (11) to eight (8).

Manager, Development Applications

AJ:blg Att.

### **Staff Report**

# Origin

Mr. Kevin Shoemaker, of Polygon Development 140 Ltd, has applied for a Development Permit for 54 townhouses on a site bounded by Heather Street, Turnill Street, and Sills Avenue in the McLennan South area. The site is expected to get final reading of rezoning to Comprehensive Development District (CD/126) on May 12, 2003. The text of CD/130 has been amended to permit 3 storey buildings if the site coverage does not exceed 34%.

A copy of the development application filed with the Urban Development Division is appended to this report.

# **Development Information**

Site Area:  $13,379 \text{ m}^2 (144,010.36 \text{ ft}^2) \text{ gross}$ 

 $12,785.34 \text{ m}^2 (137,620.23 \text{ ft}^2) \text{ net}$ 

Building Area: 8,811m<sup>2</sup> (94,844 ft<sup>2</sup>)

Site Coverage: 34% Allowed where buildings are three-storeys

34% Proposed

F.A.R.: 0.69 Allowed, plus 383.5 m<sup>2</sup> for covered areas(50 m<sup>2</sup> per dwelling)

0.69 Proposed, plus 344 m<sup>2</sup> total for covered areas

Parking: 92 Spaces Required including 11 for visitors

114 Spaces Proposed including 8 for visitors

#### **Findings of Fact**

Guidelines for form and character of Development Permits appear in Schedule 2.10D of Bylaw 7100, the *McLennan South Sub Area Plan*, part of the *Official Community Plan*. The following is a checklist of the guidelines, with areas where this project complies shown with a  $\boxtimes$ , and staff comments in **bold type** and the applicant's response in **bold italics**.

- 1. General guidelines for transition areas:
- ☑ Setback and landscape between housing types/neighbourhoods.
- Entry portals, etc. for transition. No vehicle gates.
- Edges between properties to be semi-private but open (no high fences). The plans indicate a 6 ft. high solid fence on the south property line. Instead, we suggest landscaping or maybe a picket fence. The applicants are now proposing a combination of 4' and 6' high fences.
- **2.** General architectural guidelines:

Building scale and form:

- ☑ Single-family form and massing.
- Reduce building scale by varied housing types and design.

	Reduce the apparent height of buildings. The end units could have the rooflines lowered to help bring down the scale. The architects have made changes to the end elevations to add bay windows.			
$\square$	Inset balconies - no large projecting balconies on street-front.			
Roof tre	eatment:			
$\square$	Pitched forms visible from the street.			
$\overline{\mathcal{Q}}$	Decorative elements such as dormers to complement the pitched form.			
$\overline{\square}$	Re-emphasize the pitch at the ground floor level, such as at front doors.			
$\square$	Materials should be natural or west coast.			
Windov	vs:			
Ø	Residential scale, operable, and with strong identity.			
$\square$	Not flat, but bays, box windows, French balconies, trim, shutters, or similar features.			
团	Visible at sidewalk level and clear glass for surveillance.			
<b></b>	Traditional character, not bubbles or skylights visible from the street.			
Entrand	ces:			
Ø	Direct grade access for front doors.			
	Visible from the street.			
$\square$	Emphasize ground-level entries – no two-storey entries.			
Ø	Minimize exterior staircases, except along arterial roads.			
Materio	als:			
$\square$	Use high-quality natural materials, or at least replica materials with wood trim.			
$\square$	Obviously synthetic materials (plexi-glass, etc.) should not be visible on the outside of buildings			
Colour.	S.:			
$\square$	Use muted, Heritage colours.			
$\square$	Less than 50% of any wall area to be a colour which "draws attention" to the wall.			
	Vary colours to reinforce smaller components and reduce the apparent scale of buildings.  Additional colour would help. The project is tasteful but dull, like a house decorated for sales appeal for people with a variety of furniture colours.			
3.	General landscape guidelines:			
Intent:				
	To preserve wood lots and hedgerows having mature trees.			

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Ø	Use lush vegetation and native plants to promote wildlife habitat.				
Tree ,	preservation:				
	Plan open spaces based on a tree survey, and group buildings around these spaces.				
Ø	Avoid fill and grading on existing tree roots, or use tree wells.				
Ø	Tree wells to be a minimum of 1.5 x the diameter of the tree's drip-line.				
Comr	non open space:				
	Coordinate contiguous blocks of existing mature trees on adjacent sites. Trees on adjacent site are now shown on the plans.				
Ø	Encourage privately owned, publicly accessible open space (POPAS).				
Ø	Landscape front yards to enhance the streetscape.				
Drive	eways:				
Ø	Locate and construct driveways and buildings so as to preserve existing trees.				
Ø	Use lanes for vehicle access, or else screen vehicle entrances from the road.				
V	No driveway access to arterial roads or entry roads.				
Retai	ning walls:				
Ø	Maximum height of retaining walls on street frontage to be 1 m, except for tree wells for existing trees.				
Water	r and habitat:				
	Enhance or create wildlife habitat using ponds or wetlands with native aquatic and terrestrial plants. None provided. A small pond natural pond could be introduced in the village green.				
4.	Special character guidelines for neighbourhood 'A': n/a.				
5.	Detailed guidelines for Area "B1":				
Build	ing types:				
Ø	3, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or two-storey townhouse, one-storey accessible townhouses, duplex, triplex and single detached units.				
Mana	aging transitions:				
	Tall coniferous trees in back yards. Back yards are fairly small, therefore its difficult to fit large conifers in. There are sufficient evergreen trees and shrubs in other areas.				
$\square$	6 m setback from General Currie Road, with formal planting. n/a.				
Archi	itectural Guidelines				
Build	ing scale:				
$\square$	Avoid overshadowing of the natural realm.				

	Minimum 4 m between buildings. Some buildings are only 8 ft.				
Ø	Minimum 6 m setback from the ring road.				
Ø	Maximum 6 units in a building, and 25 in a cluster of buildings.				
Balcon	Balconies, and private open spaces:				
Ø	Generally discouraged.				
☑	Along lanes, balconies may be on the second floor, if recessed.				
Materi	als:				
Ø	See general guidelines, but brick is discouraged, and stucco should be minimized.				
Lands	Landscape Guidelines				
	Plant Materials and Open Spaces:				
	50% evergreen plants.				
	Soften building edge along the street with a filigree of plants.				
Ø	Soften buildings along the street edge with vines and shrubs.				
Ø	One columnar tree per 10.7 m of frontage, and tall columnar trees in side yards.				
Parkin	g and driveway treatment:				
Ø	Parking screened with 2 m hedge or trellis.				
Retain	ing Walls, Planter Walls and Fences				
Ø	Retaining walls maximum 1 m, of stone or treated timber.				
Ø	Hedges maximum 1 m at the property line.				
$\square$	Fences not allowed in front setback.				

#### **Staff Comments**

## **Urban Development - Design**

The project is well designed and should fit nicely into this developing neighbourhood. The main areas that need some adjustments are the public walkway and some of the end elevations. The objective is to line up the walkway with the green space by rearranging blocks 12, 13 and 14, and improving pedestrian safety by narrowing the road and raising the walkway up to curb level. This also provides an opportunity for more landscaping. The architect has revised the plans accordingly except that rather than narrowing the road and raising the walkway up, they have added stamped concrete.

Consider more articulation of the end elevations, especially where exposed to view, by lowering the rooflines, using lower hip roofs and dormers, etc. This was successfully accomplished in the Leighton Green project currently under construction. Also, please design at least one (1) unit to be universally accessible, for example; by putting the parking on a pad and having the main living area and at least one (1) bedroom at grade. The 'C' unit would probably be suitable. Again, see Leighton Green for an example. The architect has revised the plans accordingly.

Plans to retain existing mature trees are commendable. We require that you retain an arbourist to monitor the trees during construction (starting with fencing immediately) and we request a letter from the arbourist indicating the health of the trees prior to our final inspection of the landscaping. We may retain the Letter of Credit for up to two (2) years if there is a question of survival of the trees. Each tree which is proposed to be removed must be replaced by two (2) 4 in. caliper trees (show on landscape plan). Add shrubs and more evergreens to the plant list. Prior to advancing this application to Council, we require a Letter of Credit for the landscaping. The landscape architect has revised the plans accordingly.

We understand that the developer will be participating in the Public Art program and will also be contributing to the neighbourhood park in lieu of providing an indoor amenity space.

Finally, we recommend removing the visitor parking from the village green. *The architect has revised the plans accordingly.* 

#### **Urban Development - Utilities**

All Development Application issues are being dealt with via the rezoning and Servicing Agreement applications. No concerns with the Development Permit.

#### **Urban Development - Transportation**

Generally no objections. Transportation staff feel that visitor parking variances are generally a zoning matter.

#### **Building Approvals**

If the buildings are four-storeys in height, they are required to be designed under Part 3 of the Building Code, i.e. four (4) level exiting--Complete code analysis required. The internal two (2) building--Fire Department access and hydrant location? *The applicants have addressed these concerns. The buildings are three-storey.* 

#### Fire Prevention, Detection and Protection

No comments received. Hydrant locations are noted.

#### **City Centre Planner**

The form and character of development is generally consistent with the area plan, and the proposed public walkway across the site via the project's common open space is an attractive feature that contributes to the project and the neighbourhood. At the Development Permit stage,

the developer should be strongly encouraged to introduce variety (rooflines, facade features such as porches and window treatments, colours, etc.) in order to create a more visually interesting streetscape and to avoid a conventional, repetitive, "project" look. (By this, I don't just mean that units along Heather Street should look different from units along Sills Avenue as proposed, but that along Heather Street for example, the appearance of the units should vary.) The applicants have generally addressed these concerns. There are two unit types along Heather. See also the McSouth Guidelines.

In addition, the quality of the landscape treatment will be critical to the success of the project in meeting the area plan objectives. The landscape should include a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees, both around the perimeter of the site and within it, together with significant shrubs/hedging. And while it is acceptable to fence yards with low decorative fences along the site's three (3) frontages, a repetitive pattern of fenced yards should be avoided by introducing a mix of treatments (fences, hedges, walls, retaining walls defining raised yards, open yards with feature trees and/or shrubs, etc.). The landscape architect has revised the plans in an effort to respond to some of these concerns.

# Garbage and Recycling

Please move the recycling bins out of the village green. We understand that you are proposing private door-to-door collection of garbage, but our experience has been that strata corporations often opt for bins, to save money. We therefore recommend that you indicate locations for "future garbage bins" (dot in on the site plan and landscape plan). Two (2) different—and more appropriate-recycling locations have been shown. Provision has been made for possible future garbage bins.

#### **Design Panel Comments**

The comments of the Panel were as follows:

- "that a real model would be preferred. A good project;
- the pathway connections across the main street were unclear; Ms. Chan responded that trellis elements were to be provided at key locations. The number of tree species, especially on the perimeter of the small site, was questioned. Ms. Chan responded that the number of species was a method of allowing individual unit identity, pedestrian scale trees for definition of the public walkway, and, individual character for the secondary walkway. In addition, the Parks Department had selected the street tree species;
- the overall plant volume was good; decorative paving would provide stronger connections to the internal road and the pedestrian walkways in addition to increasing traffic safety; the children's play equipment might be better placed in an open sun area, or, a combination of sun/shade areas; the north side of the east/west road was stark;
- a good project with variety; the minimal materials have been used handsomely; the computer model was helpful; the building six end elevations are the least articulated; the FSR is handled calmly ensuring the site looked simple and coherent as opposed to jammed; the landscaping was appreciated;

- a handsome project; good scale; the pedestrian crossings of the internal road would benefit from raised pavers to indicate the pedestrian use; more variety of colours could be explored; and, differentiating pavers at the main entry would benefit the project.
- Mr. Jamieson said that a good compromise had been achieved by the provision of a parking pad in front in which softened the front and reduced the amount of garage required.
- The consensus of the Panel was that the item move forward subject to the above-noted comments."

The applicants have revised the plans to address all of the Panel's comments.

#### **Variances**

The only variances are for the trellis pedestrian entry and recycling structures, projecting balconies, and some visitor parking stalls. The trellis structure enhances the entrance to the project. The project exceeds the bylaw ratio for overall parking, and there are 12 spaces on pads in front of garages, these later spaces being de-facto visitor spaces at least in some cases. Staff feel that to increase the visitor parking in the "green area" would detract from the ambiance of the area, and similarly to add parking in other locations will make the project look more crowded and reduce the amount of landscaping.

#### **Analysis**

This is a townhouse project similar to Polygon's nearby "Leighton Green", except that this one has a few different features (and a different architect). A row of two-storey duplex units along Heather Street help with the transition to the lower density neighbourhood to the east. These units also have single-car garages, which reduces the bulk of the building and allows for ample floor space at grade.

The applicants are participating in the Public Art program, making improvements to the street frontages, and providing a public walkway. A number of mature trees are being retained, including a large Oak in the common green space.

The applicants have responded to staff and Design Panel comments, and the design conforms to the guidelines.

#### Conclusions

Polygon Development 140 Ltd. is applying for a second townhouse project in the McLennan South area. The project is well thought-out and follows City regulations and guidelines. Some relatively minor variances are required. Staff recommend approval.

Alex Jamieson, Planner 2 - Urban Design

AJ:blg

There are conditions to be met: Prior to advancing the Development Permit to Council, a Letter of Credit is required for the landscaping; then Prior to a Building Permit, the existing trees must be fenced, and the applicant is to provide evidence of a contract with a professional who will supervise the tree management plan.



# Development Permit Application Development Applications Department

(604) 276-4000 Fax (604) 276-4052

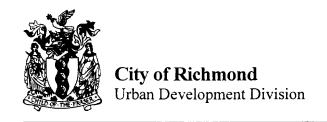
Please submit this completed form to the Zoning counter located at City Hall. All materials submitted to the City for a *Development Permit Application* become public property, and therefore, available for public inquiry.

Please refer to the attached forms for details on application attachments and non-refundable application fees. $13\%$						
Property Address(es): 7131,7151,7171,7191,7195,7211,7231,7291 HEATHER ST.						
Legal Description(s): SEE ATTACHED DRAWNAS						
Applicant: KEVIN SHOEMAKER POLYGON DEVELOPMENT HO LTD.						
Correspondence/Calls to be directed to:						
Name: Keun Shoemaicer						
Address: PayGON HOME DEVELOPMENT HO LTD.						
SUTTE 900 - 1333 WEST BROADWAY V64 4CZ.						
Postal Code						
Te. No.: 604.871.4283 604.619.6223  Business & Residence						
E-mail Fax F2@ POLYHOMES. COM (604.816.760)						
Property Owner(s) Signature(s):						
A Villano						
Or						
Authorized Agent's Signature:  Attach Letter of Authorization  Please print years.  Please print years.						
For Office Use						

Only assign if application is complete

Date Received:

File No.:



# **Development Permit**

No. DP 02-221010

To the Holder:

POLYGON DEVELOPMENT 140 LTD.

Property Address:

7131, 7151, 7171, 7191, 7195, 7211, 7231, 7271, AND

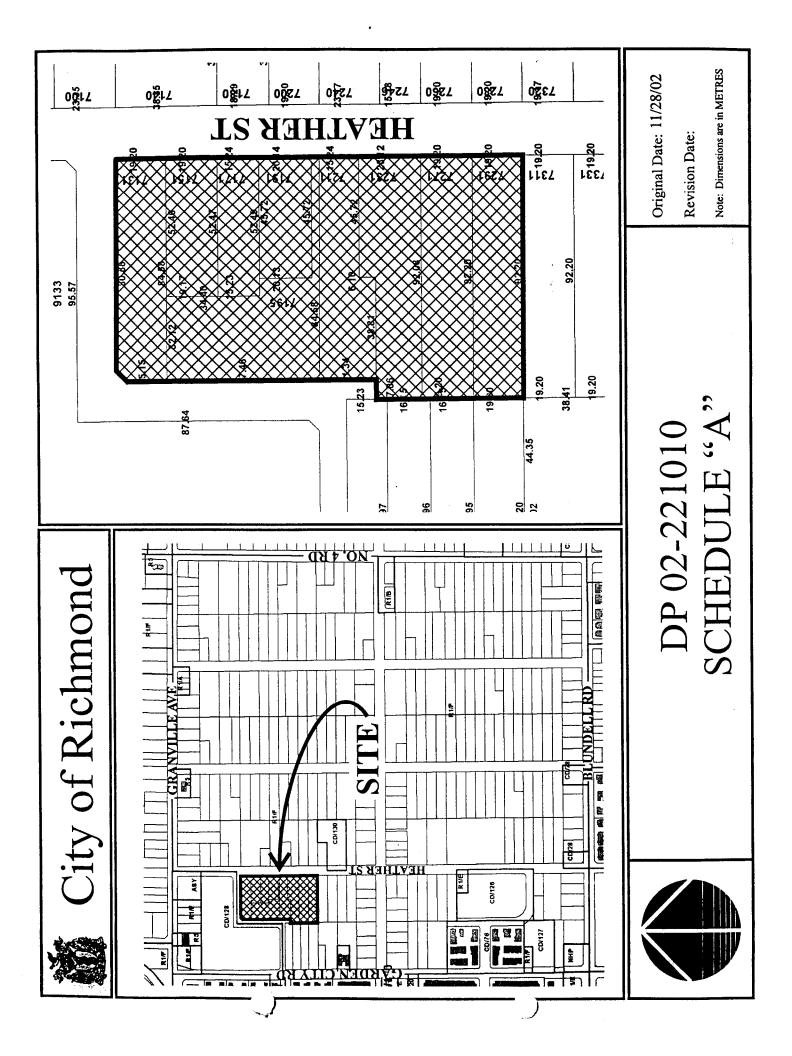
7291 HEATHER STREET

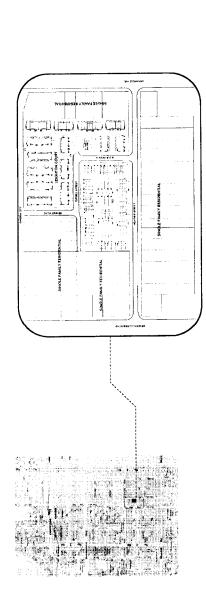
Address:

C/O MR. KEVIN SHOEMAKER, #900 – 1333 WEST BROADWAY VANCOUVER, BC V6H 4C2

- 1. This Development Permit is issued subject to compliance with all of the Bylaws of the City applicable thereto, except as specifically varied or supplemented by this Permit.
- 2. This Development Permit applies to and only to those lands shown cross-hatched on the attached Schedule "A" and any and all buildings, structures and other development thereon.
- 3. The "Richmond Zoning and Development Bylaw No. 5300" is hereby varied or supplemented as follows:
  - a) The dimension and siting of buildings and structures on the land shall be generally in accordance with Plan #1 attached hereto.
  - b) The siting and design of off-street parking and loading facilities shall be generally in accordance with Plan #1 and 2 attached hereto.
  - c) Landscaping and screening shall be provided around the different uses generally in accordance with the standards shown on Plans #2 to 5 attached hereto.
  - d) Roads and parking areas shall be paved in accordance with the standards shown on Plans #1 and 2 attached hereto.
  - e) Sanitary sewers, water, drainage, highways, street lighting, underground wiring, and sidewalks, shall be provided as required.
  - f) Subject to Section 692 of the Local Government Act, R.S.B.C., the building shall be constructed generally in accordance with Plans #6 to #11 attached hereto.
- 4. As a condition of the issuance of this Permit, Council is holding the security set out below to ensure that development is carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Permit. Should any interest be earned upon the security, it shall accrue to the Holder if the security is returned. The condition of the posting of the security is that should the Holder fail to carry out the development hereby authorized, according to the terms and conditions of this Permit within the time provided, the City may use the security to carry out the work by its servants, agents or contractors, and any surplus shall be paid over to the Holder, or should the Holder carry out the development permitted by this permit within the time set out herein, the security shall be returned to the Holder. The City may retain the security for up to one year after inspection of the completed landscaping in order to ensure that plant material has survived. In addition to other remedies, the City may cash the security in an amount equal to the value of any existing trees which are removed or die contrary to the permit.

To the Holder:		POLYGON DEVELOPMENT 140 LTD.			
Property Address:		7131, 7151, 7171, 7191, 7195, 7211, 7231, 7271, AND 7291 HEATHER STREET			
Address:		C/O MR. KEVIN SHOEMAKER, #900 – 1333 WEST BROADWAY VANCOUVER, BC V6H 4C2			
	There is filed accordingly	y:			
	An Irrevocable Lette	r of Credit in the am	ount of \$189,844.		
5.	The land described herein shall be developed generally in accordance with the terms and conditions and provisions of this Permit and any plans and specifications attached to this Permit which shall form a part hereof.				
6.	6. If the Holder does not commence the construction permitted by this Permit within 24 more of the date of this Permit, this Permit shall lapse and the security shall be returned in full.				
	This Permit is not a Buil-	ding Permit.			
	UTHORIZING RESOLUT AY OF ,	TION NO.	ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL THE		
DI	ELIVERED THIS I	DAY OF	,		
M.	AYOR				





PROJECT DATA & DESIGN RATIONALE CONTEXT PLAN & STREETSCAPE TREE RETENTION PLAN 'BLDG A' ELEVATIONS 'BLDG B' ELEVATIONS 'BLDG C' ELEVATIONS BLDG D' ELEYATIONS 'BLDG E' ELEVATIONS 'A UNIT PLANS 'B UNIT' PLANS SITE PLAN DP-06 DP-08 DP-02 DP-04 08-05 60-dd 10-40 DP-03 DP-07 DP-10 DP-11

22/04/2 22/04/2 06/14/2 16/11/2 20 02/2 10/05/23

DRAWING LIST

'C UNIT' PLANS - ACCESSIBLE OPTION AREA DIAGRAMS DP-13 DP-14

'C UNIT' PLANS

DP-12

CONTEXT PLAN

CONTEXT M AP

Project:

WELLINGTON COURT

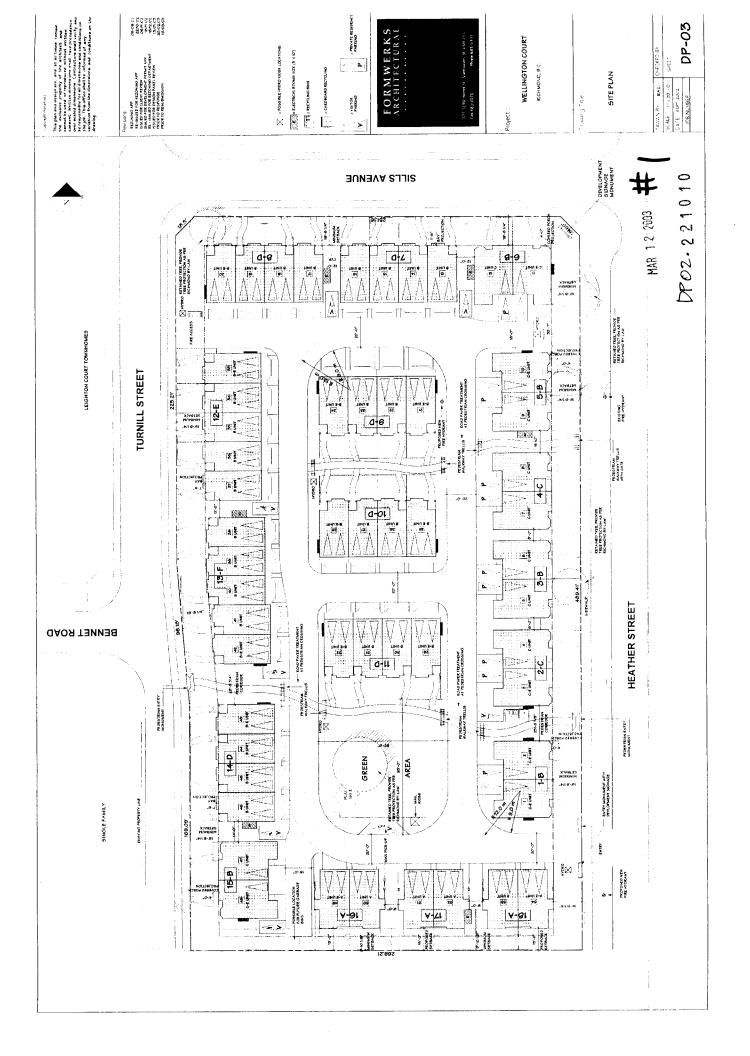
HEATHER STREET, RICHMOND B.C.

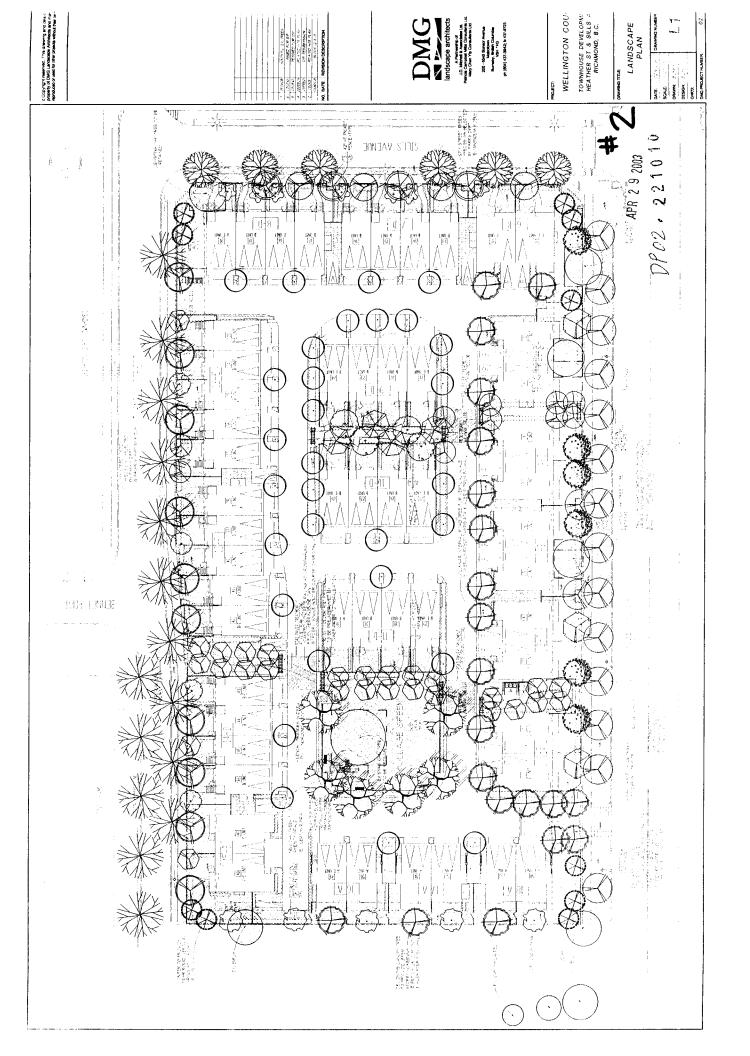
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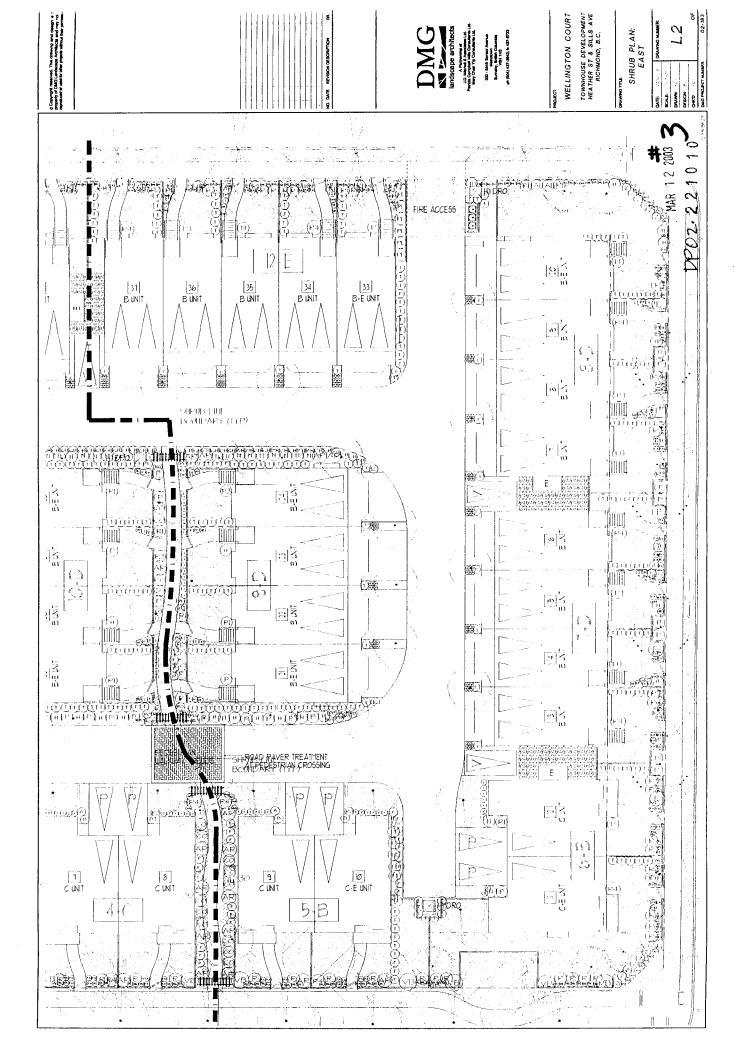
CONTEXT PLAN & STREETSCAPE

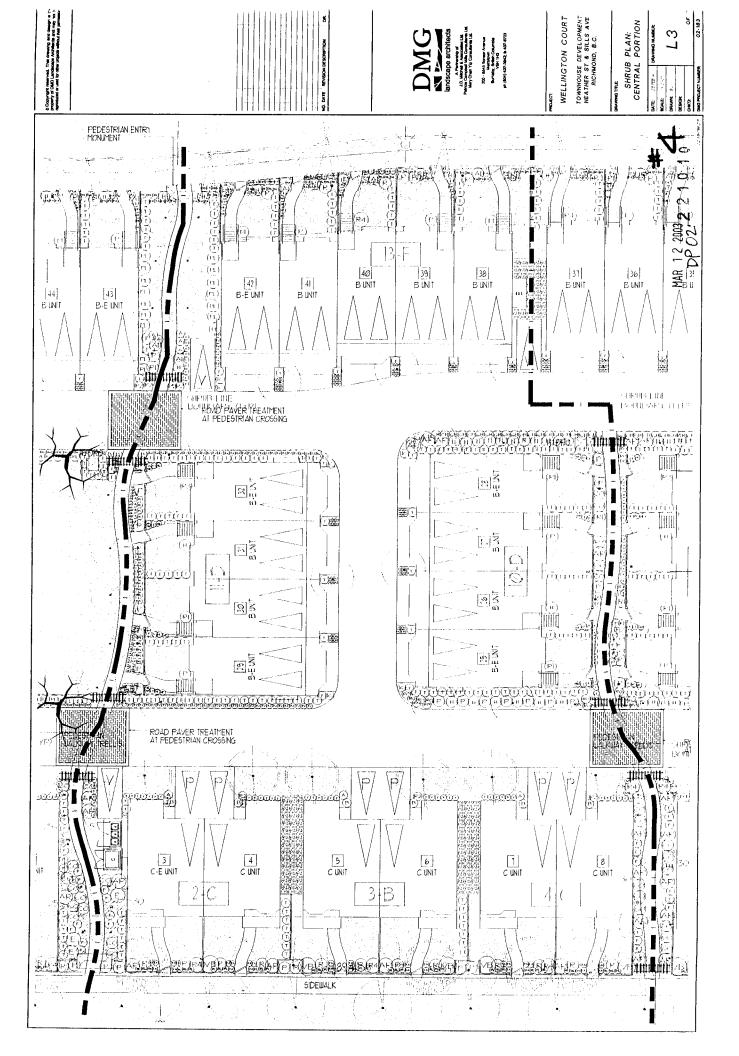
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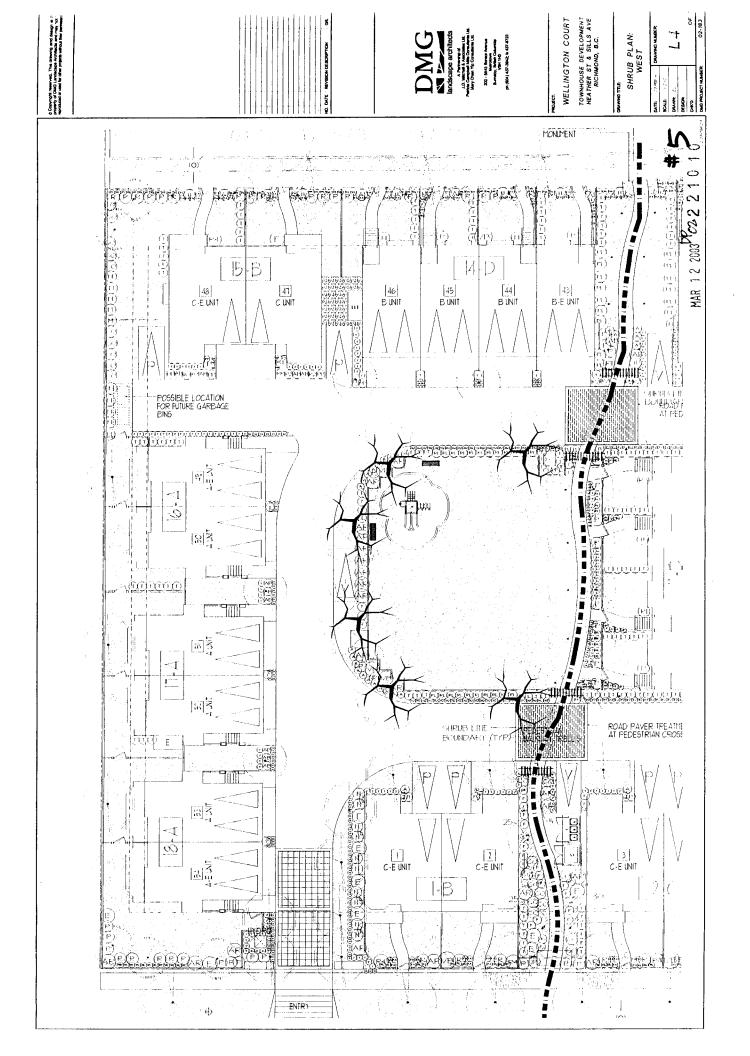
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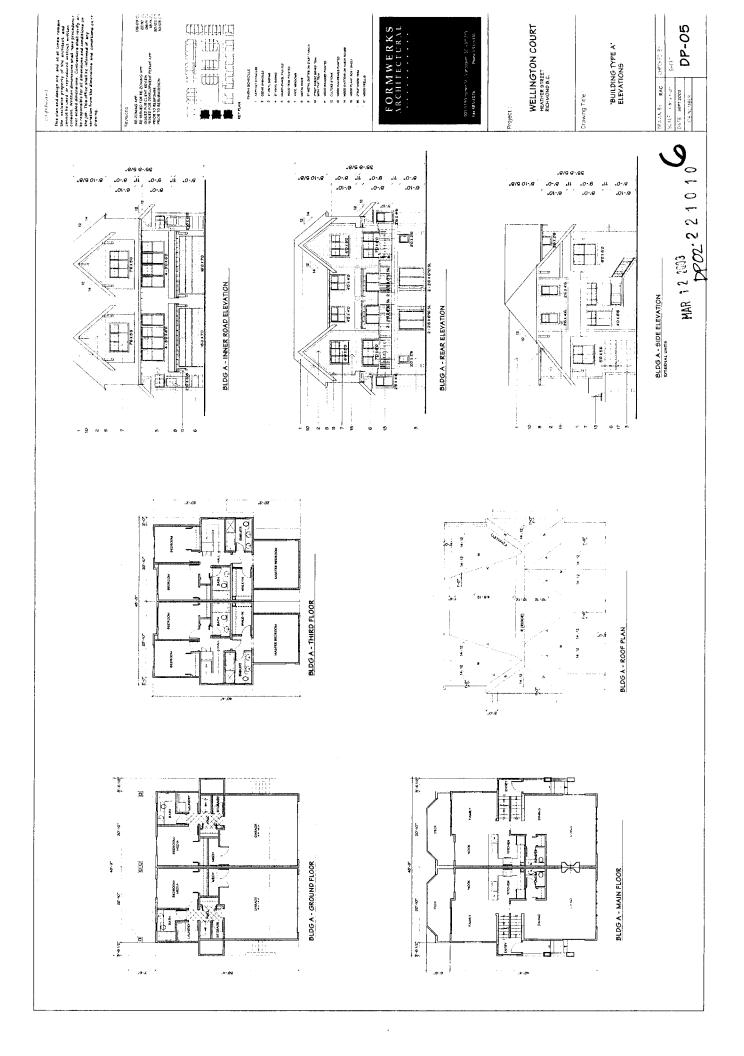


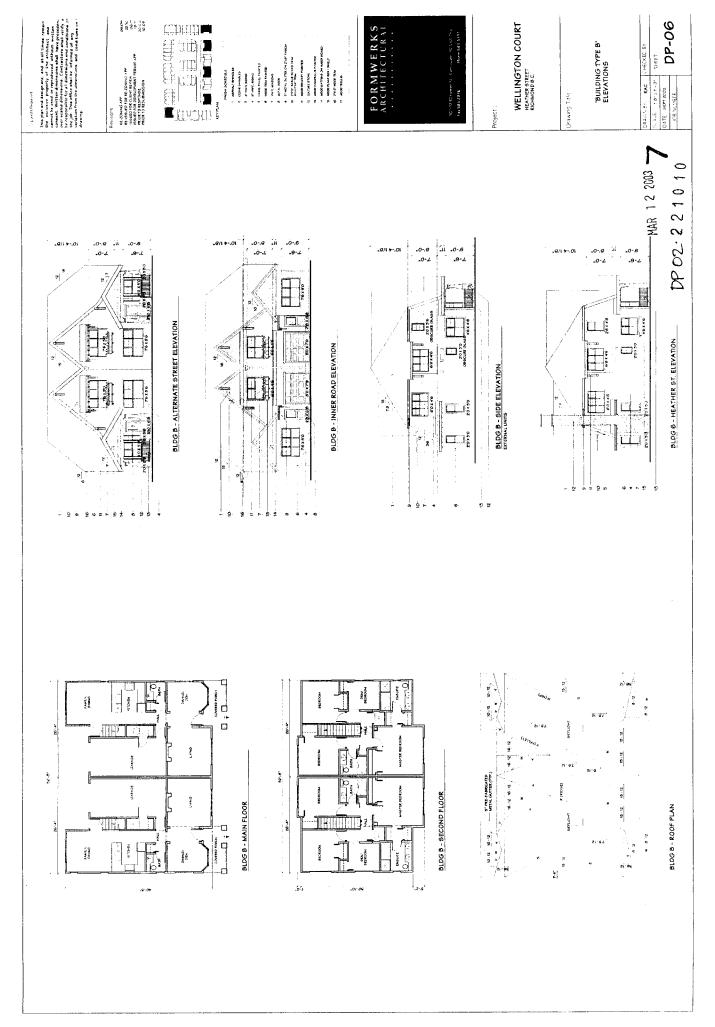


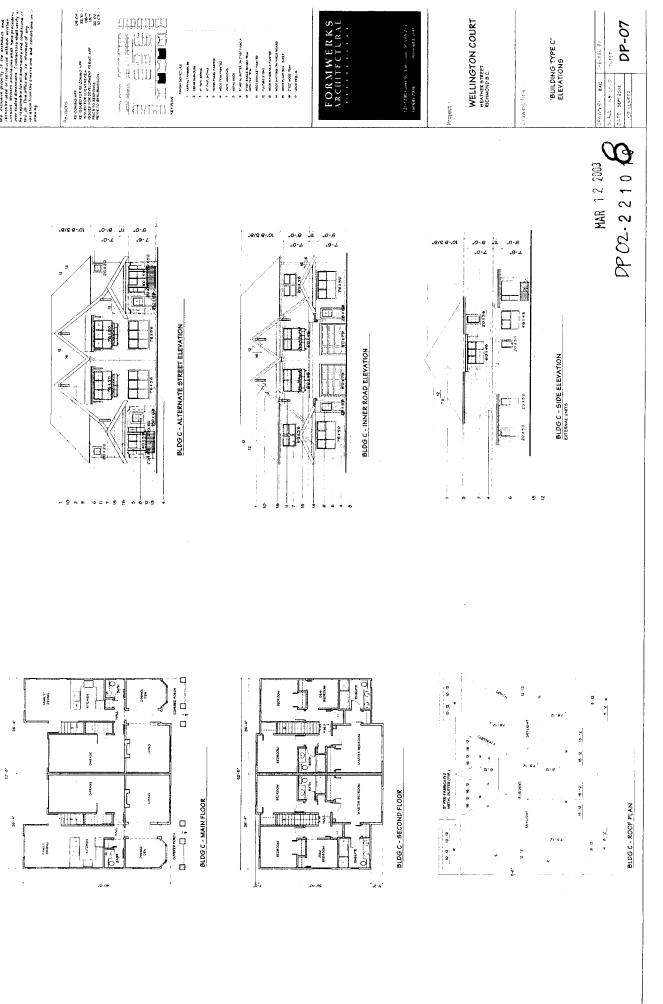


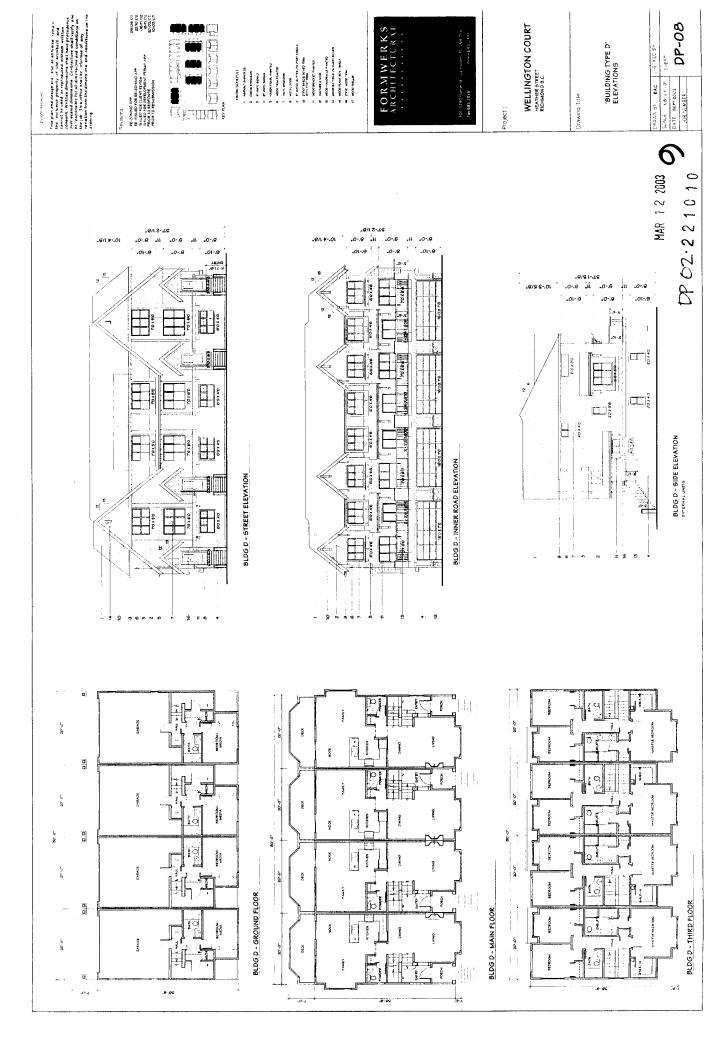


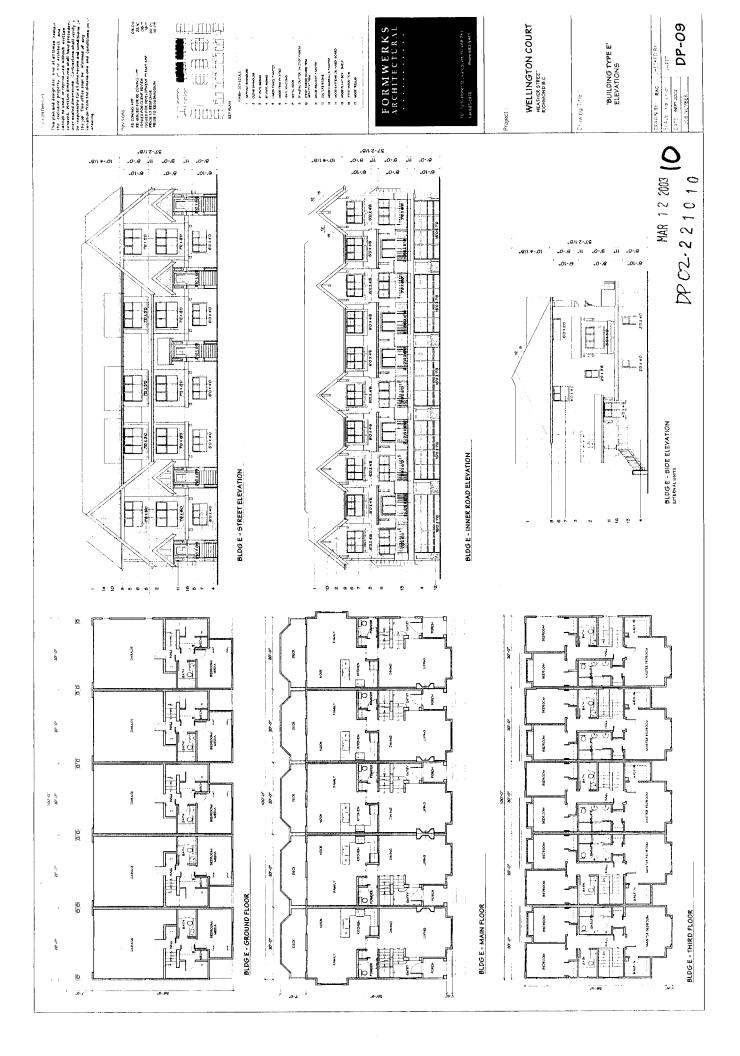


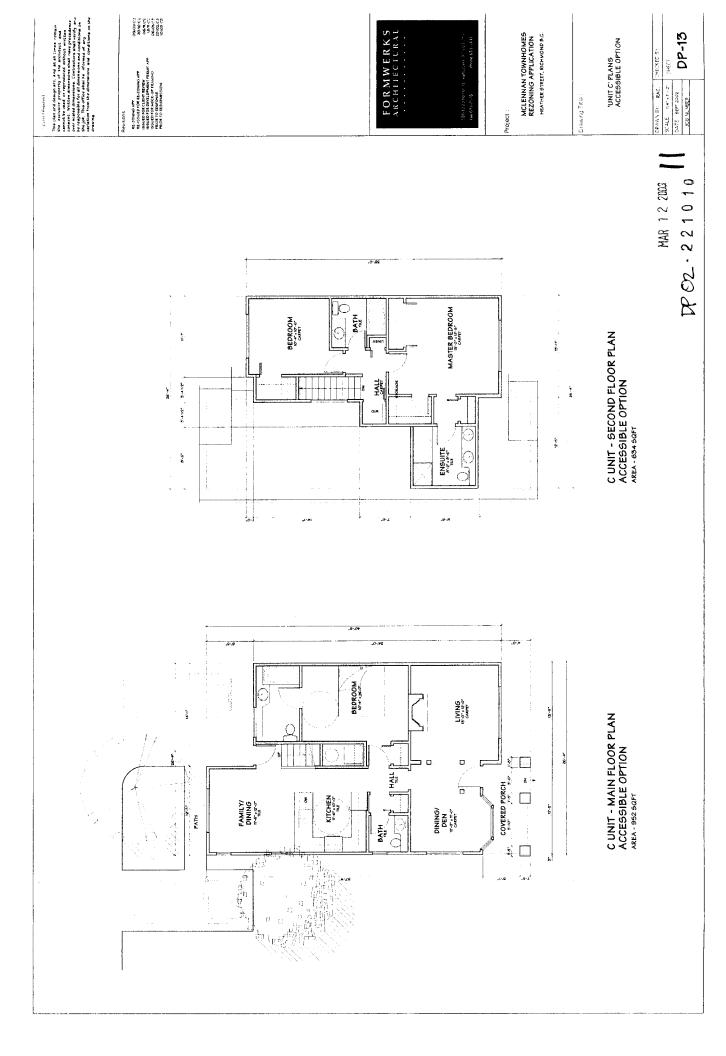


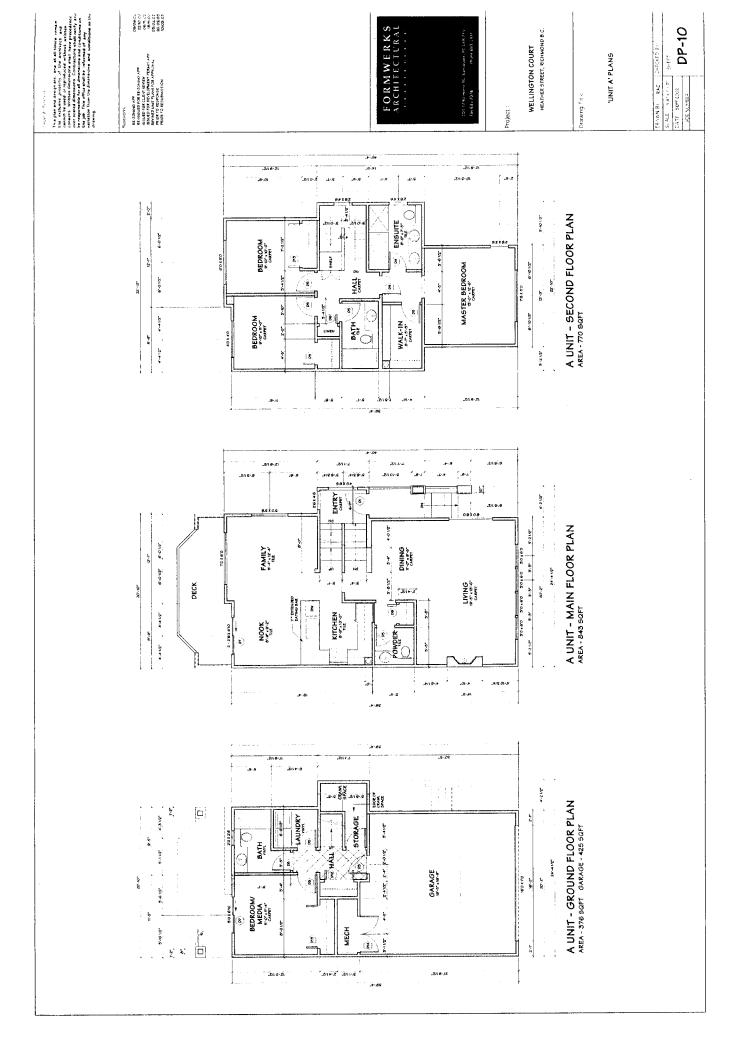


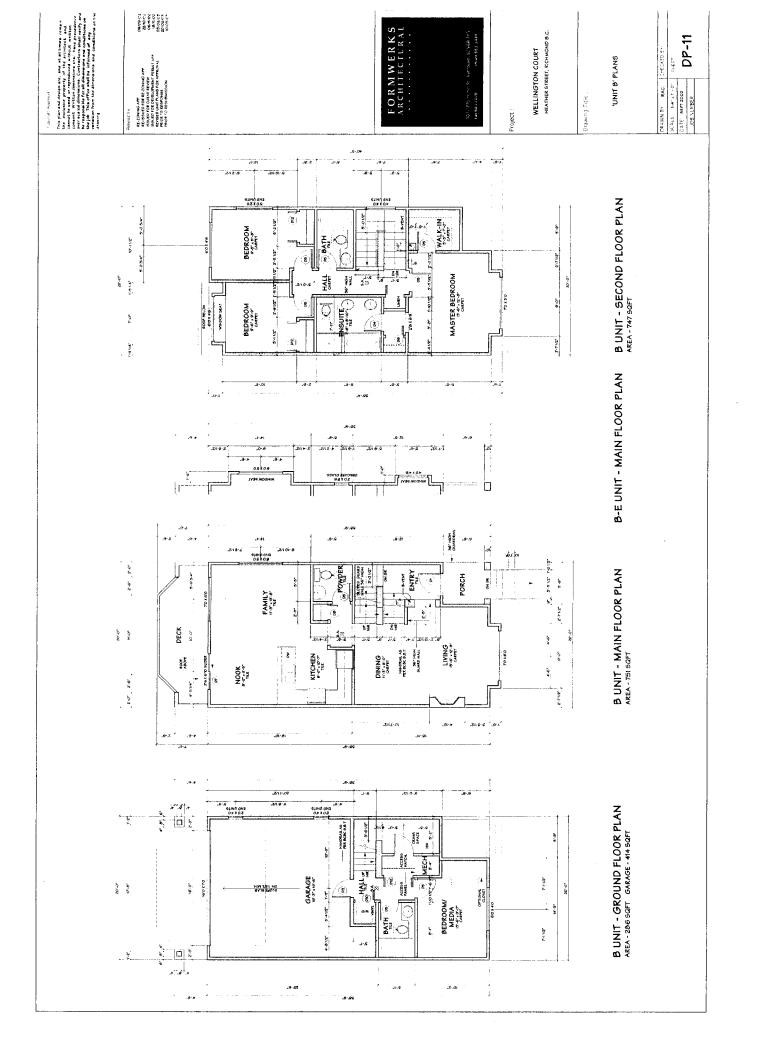


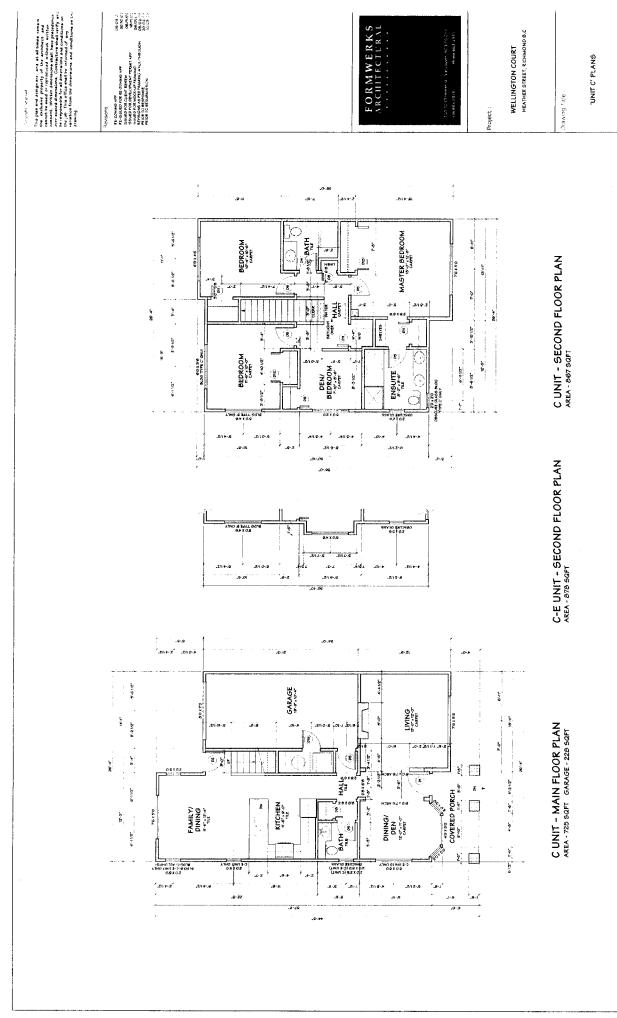








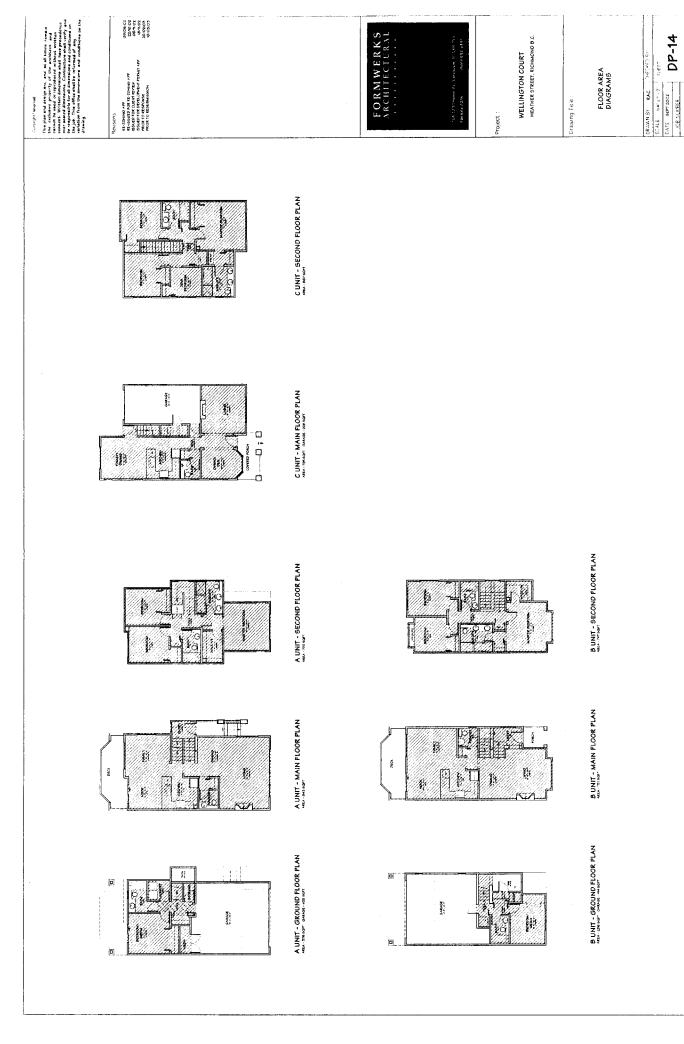




DP-12

DATE: SEPT 2002

RAC CHECKED BY:



DP-14

