

Docket Item # 6 & 7  
BAR CASE # 2013-0090/0091

BAR Meeting  
May 1, 2013

**ISSUE:** Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and Alterations

**APPLICANT:** American Medical Group by John Fisher, Fisher Architects, PA

**LOCATION:** 1 Prince Street

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and the Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations, with the condition that the balcony opening in the roof align with the brick piers and punched openings on the lower floors of the east facade.

**\*\*EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE:** In accordance with Sections 10-106(B) and 10-206(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, any official Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.

**\*\*BUILDING PERMIT NOTE:** Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Building and Fire Code Administration (including signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-838-4360 for further information.



**BAR2013-00090 & BAR2013-00091**



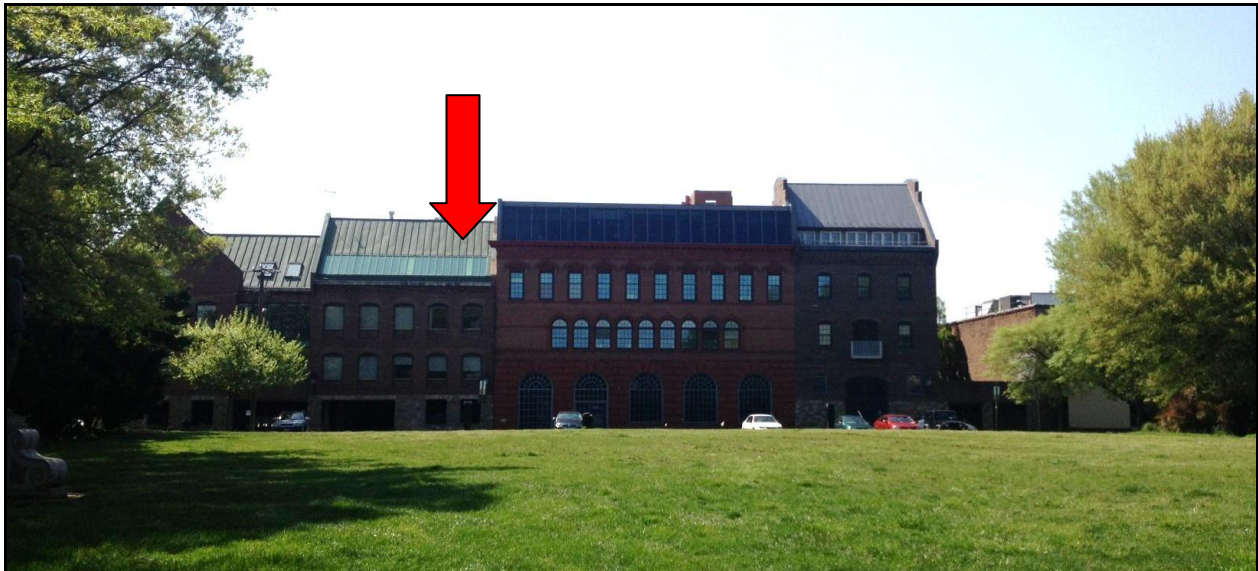
**Note:** Staff coupled the reports for BAR #2013-0090 (Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate) and BAR #2013-0091 (Certificate of Appropriateness) for clarity and brevity. This item requires a roll call vote.

### **I. ISSUE**

The applicant is requesting approval of a Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove a portion of the roof slope in order to create a balcony at the rear of 1 Prince Street. A 16 foot portion of the roof slope will be removed and a balcony will be created in the new space, which will have a horizontal dark bronze painted railing. The roof will terminate with a new metal gutter and fascia to match the existing roof. A new bronze storefront system will be installed, with a stucco finish in warm grey above the storefront to match the sign band at the building's entrance. If the existing roof structure can support it, the existing glazed skylights will be replaced with larger glazed panels with fewer muntins.

### **II. HISTORY**

The brick office building at 1 Prince Street, known The Strand Building, was approved by the BAR on two occasions in **1983**. The large commercial building is visually broken into separate building masses, each with a different style in order to minimize its size.



**Figure 1. The East Elevation of the Strand Building from Waterfront Park showing the proposed balcony location and the existing balcony on the building at the north end of the row.**

### **III. ANALYSIS**

The proposed project is in compliance with zoning ordinance requirements.

#### **Permit to Demolish**

In considering a Permit to Demolish, the Board must consider the following criteria set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, §10-105(B):

- (1) Is the building or structure of such architectural or historical interest that its moving, removing, capsulating or razing would be to the detriment of the public interest?
- (2) Is the building or structure of such interest that it could be made into a historic house?
- (3) Is the building or structure of such old and unusual or uncommon design, texture and material that it could not be reproduced or be reproduced only with great difficulty?
- (4) Would retention of the building or structure help preserve the memorial character of the George Washington Memorial Parkway?
- (5) Would retention of the building or structure help preserve and protect an historic place or area of historic interest in the city?
- (6) Would retention of the building or structure promote the general welfare by maintaining and increasing real estate values, generating business, creating new positions, attracting tourists, students, writers, historians, artists and artisans, attracting new residents, encouraging study and interest in American history, stimulating interest and study in architecture and design, educating citizens in American culture and heritage, and making the city a more attractive and desirable place in which to live?

In the opinion of Staff, none of the criteria for demolition and capsulation are met and the Permit to Demolish/Capsulate should be granted. The area proposed for demolition is not historic and the demolition will not compromise the overall integrity of the building. Although the area proposed is visible from the adjacent park, the area of impact is relatively small within the larger building mass.

#### Alterations

Staff finds the design of the new roof balcony to be perfectly appropriate for this modern commercial building, in concept. Balconies cut into the roof slope exist on several late 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings in the district, the office building just to the north which also overlooks Waterfront Park. There is another example at the southwest corner of Cameron and Saint Asaph Streets.



However, the specific location of the balcony – driven primarily by the interior layout – does not relate to the regular symmetrical bays of the fenestration on the brick building below, making it look like an afterthought.

Staff recommends approval of the new balcony, provided that the width of the balcony is adjusted very slightly to align with the brick piers and punched windows on the floors below, so that it looks like it was designed as an integral part of the original building.

If feasible, Staff also supports the replacement of the smaller skylights with larger glazed panels.

**STAFF**

Stephanie Sample, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning  
Al Cox, FAIA, Historic Preservation Manager

#### **IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS**

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F- finding

##### **Code Administration**

- F-1 The review by Code Administration is a preliminary review only. Once the applicant has filed for a building permit, code requirements will be based upon the building permit plans. If there are any questions, the applicant may contact Ken Granata, Plan Review Services Division Chief at ken.granata@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4193.
- C-1 Building and trades permits are required for this project. Five sets of construction documents that fully detail the construction as well as layout and schematics of any alterations made to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. If a design professional prepares drawings for the project the plans must bear the seal of the design professional in accordance with the Code of Virginia Section 54.1-410B.
- C-2 Any proposed alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC).
- C-3 Before a building permit can be issued on any proposed alterations, a certification is required from the owner or owner's agent that the building has been inspected by a licensed asbestos inspector for the presence of asbestos.
- C-4 Prior to the permit issuance a rodent abatement plan shall be submitted to Code Enforcement that will outline the steps that will be taken to prevent the spread of rodents from the construction site to the surrounding community and sewers

##### **Transportation and Environmental Services**

###### **FINDINGS:**

- F1. No Substantial Improvement as defined by ordinance. No Floodplain Comments. (T&ES)
- F2. This parcel is NOT in the RPA. No comment. (T&ES)

###### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- R1. Applicant shall be responsible for repairs to the adjacent city right-of-way if damaged during construction activity. (T&ES)
- R2. All improvements to the city right-of-way such as curbing, sidewalk, driveway aprons, etc. must be city standard design. (T&ES)
- R3. No permanent structure may be constructed over any existing private and/or public utility easements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify any and all existing easements on the plan. (T&ES)
- R4. The building permit must be approved and issued prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition. (T&ES)

**CITY CODE REQUIREMENTS**

- C-1 Roof, surface and sub-surface drains shall be connect to the public storm sewer system, if available, by continuous underground pipe. Where a storm sewer is not available, the applicant must provide a design to mitigate impact of stormwater drainage onto adjacent properties and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. (5-6-224) (T&ES)
  
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
  
- C-3 All secondary utilities serving this site shall be placed underground. (Sec. 5-3-3) (T&ES)
  
- C-4 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). (T&ES)
  
- C-5 Any work within or performed from the right-of-way requires a separate permit from T&ES. (Sec. 5-2) (T&ES)

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

*1 – Supporting Materials*

*2 – Application for BAR2013-00090 & BAR2013-00091 at 1 Prince Street*



PROPOSED  
BALCONY

# 1 Key Plan

1" = 80'-0"

# SK2



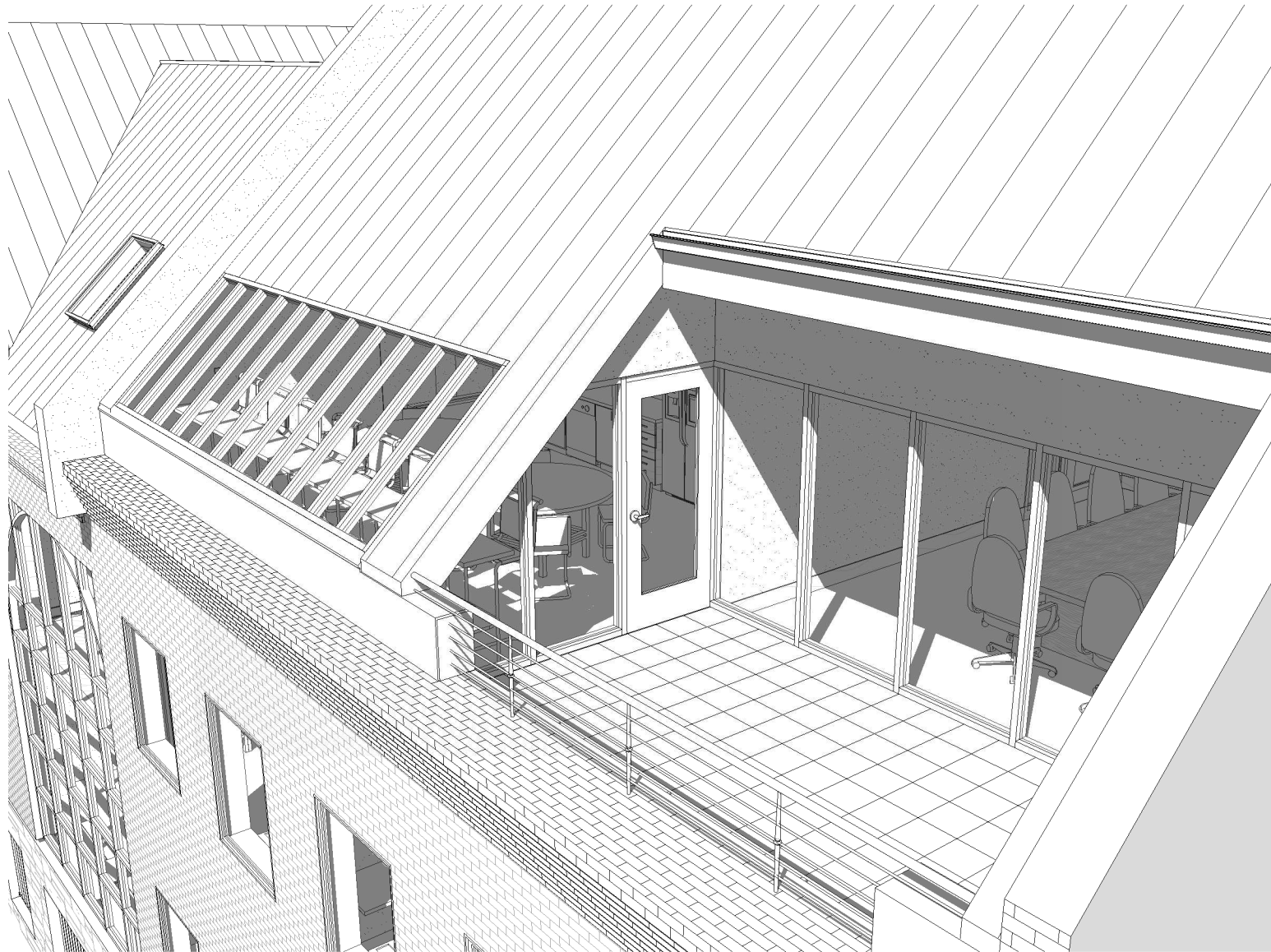
## 1 Street View

# SK3



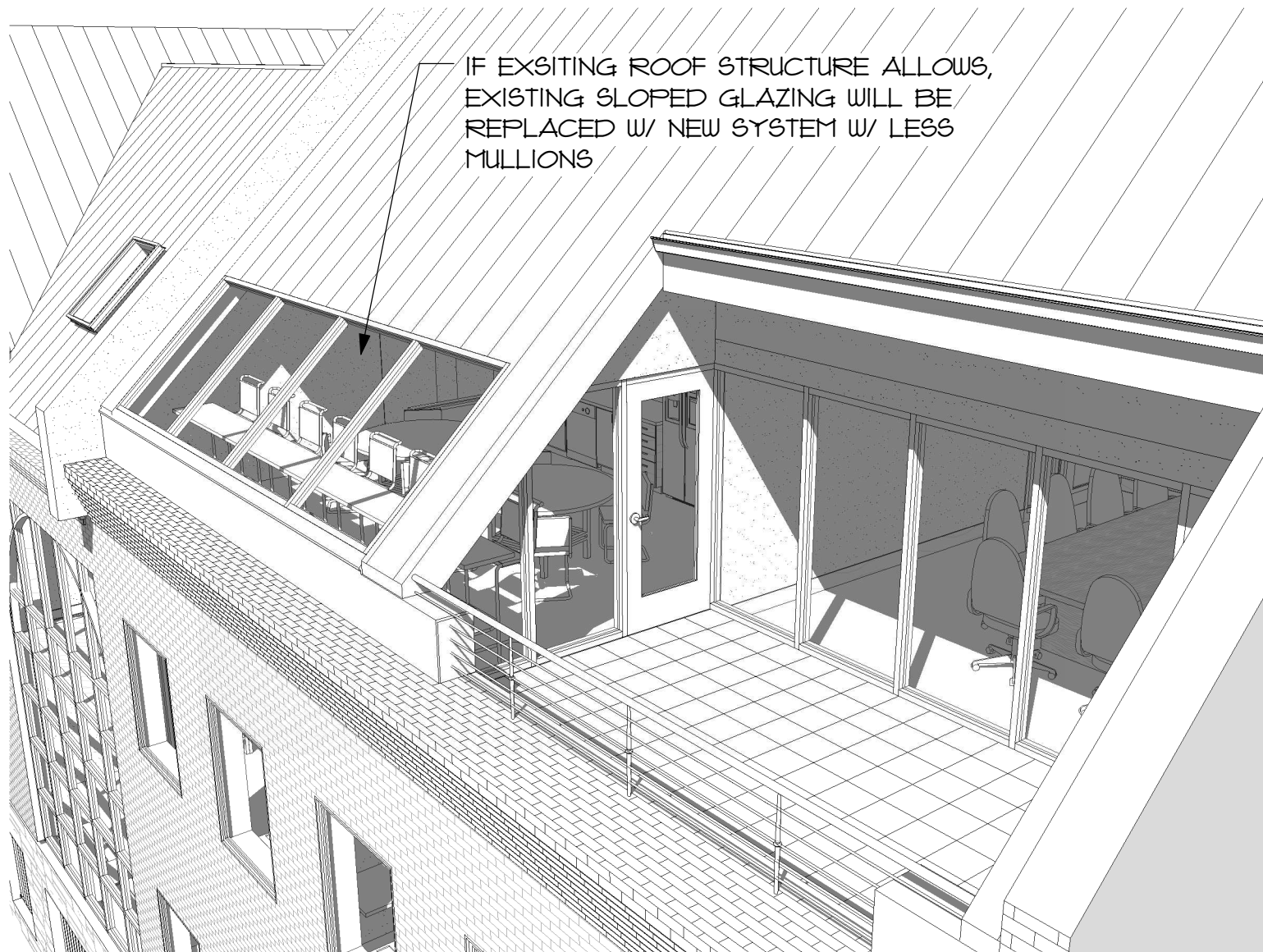
## 1 Street View

# SK4



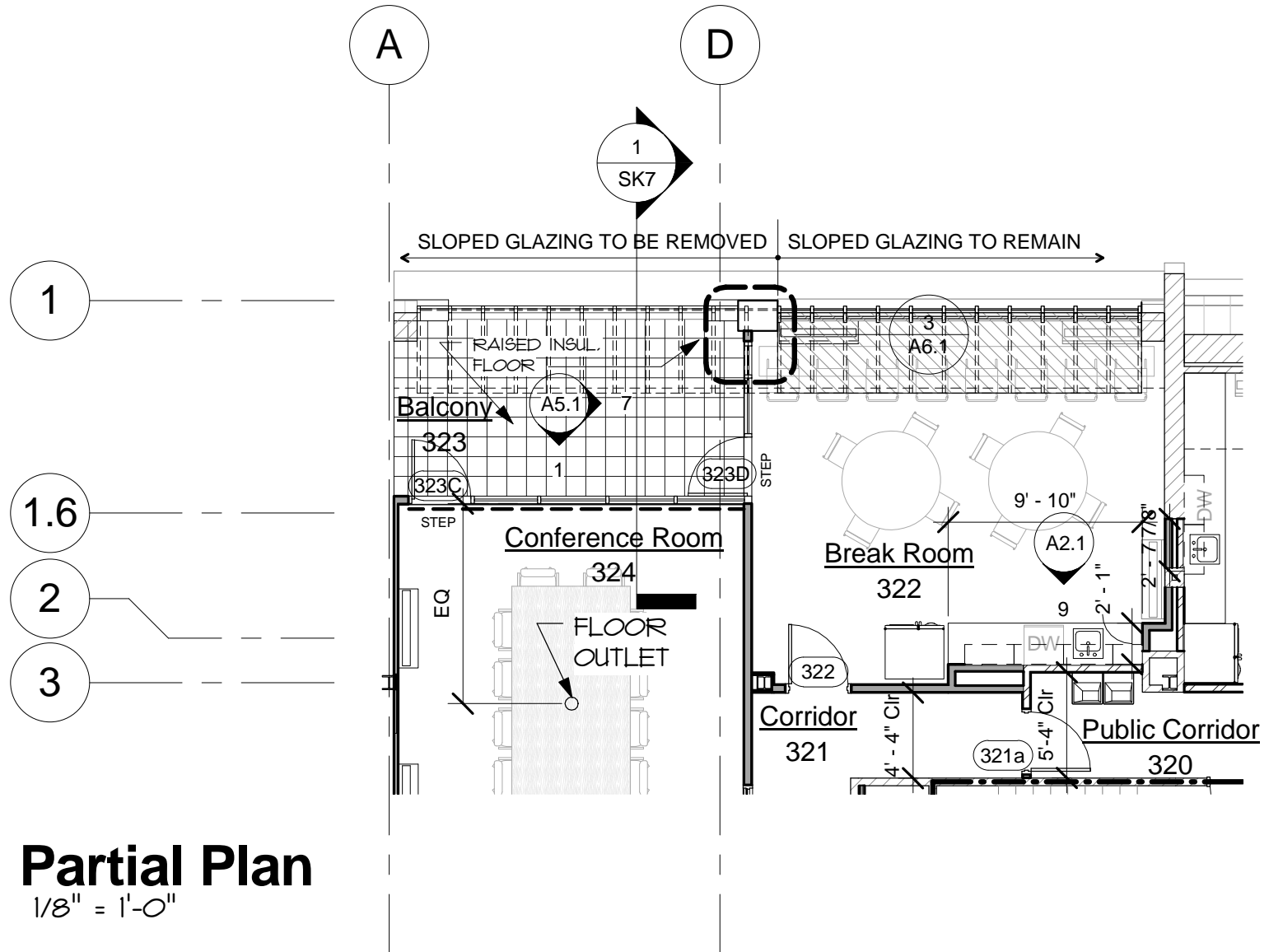
## 1 Bird's Eye View

# SK4-b



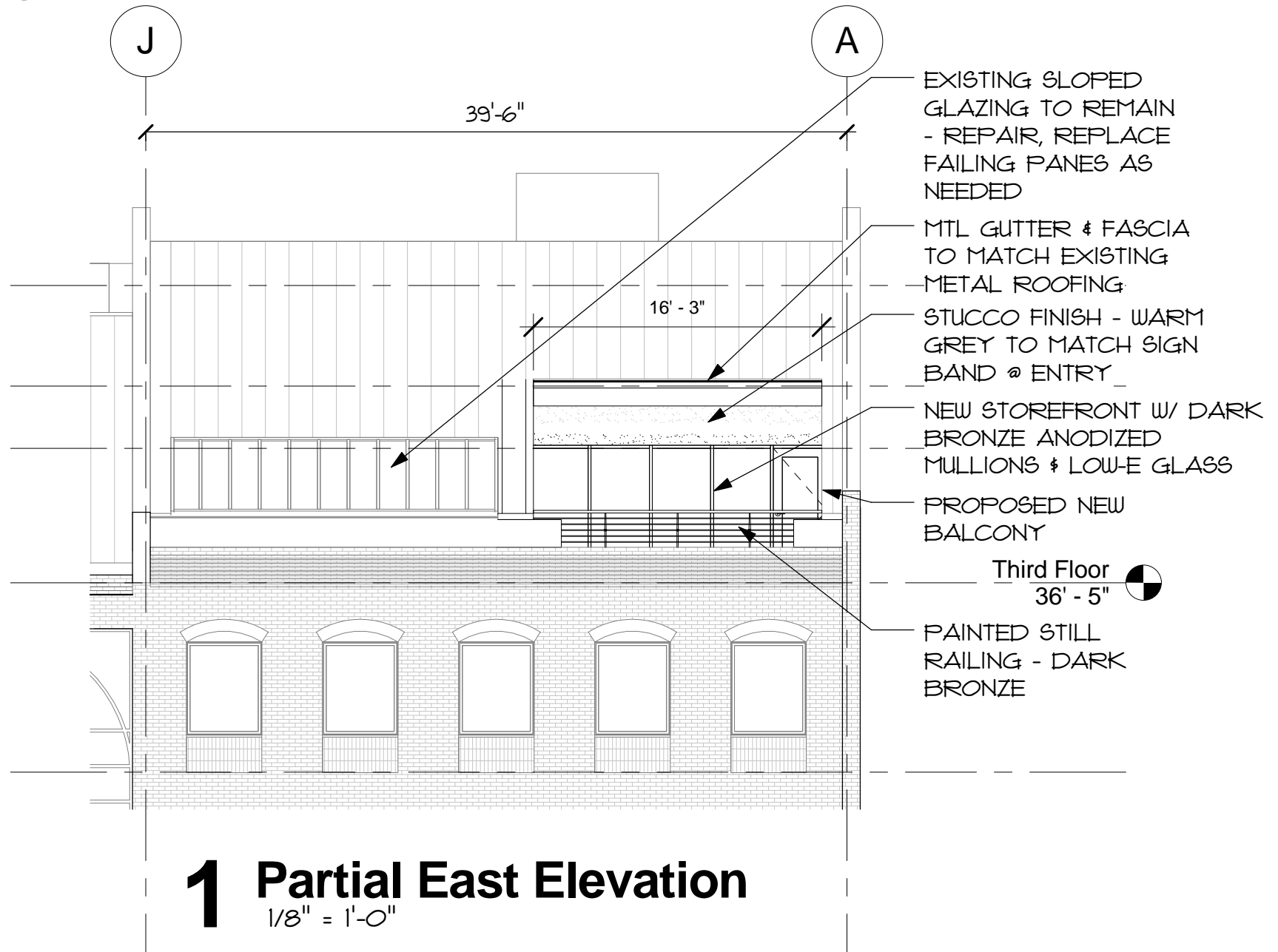
## 1 Bird's Eye View - Option

# SK5

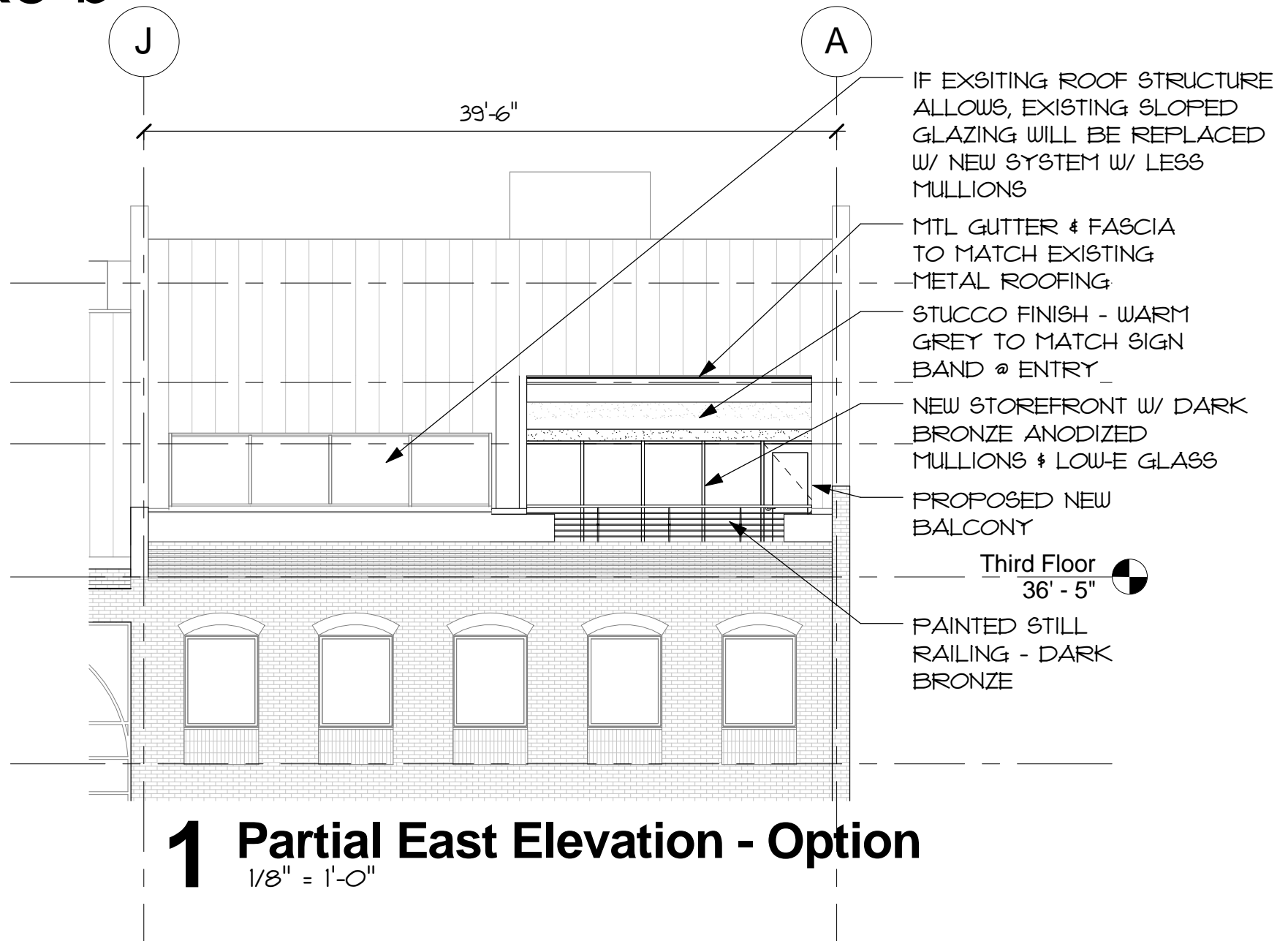


**1** Partial Plan  
 $1/8" = 1'-0"$

# SK6

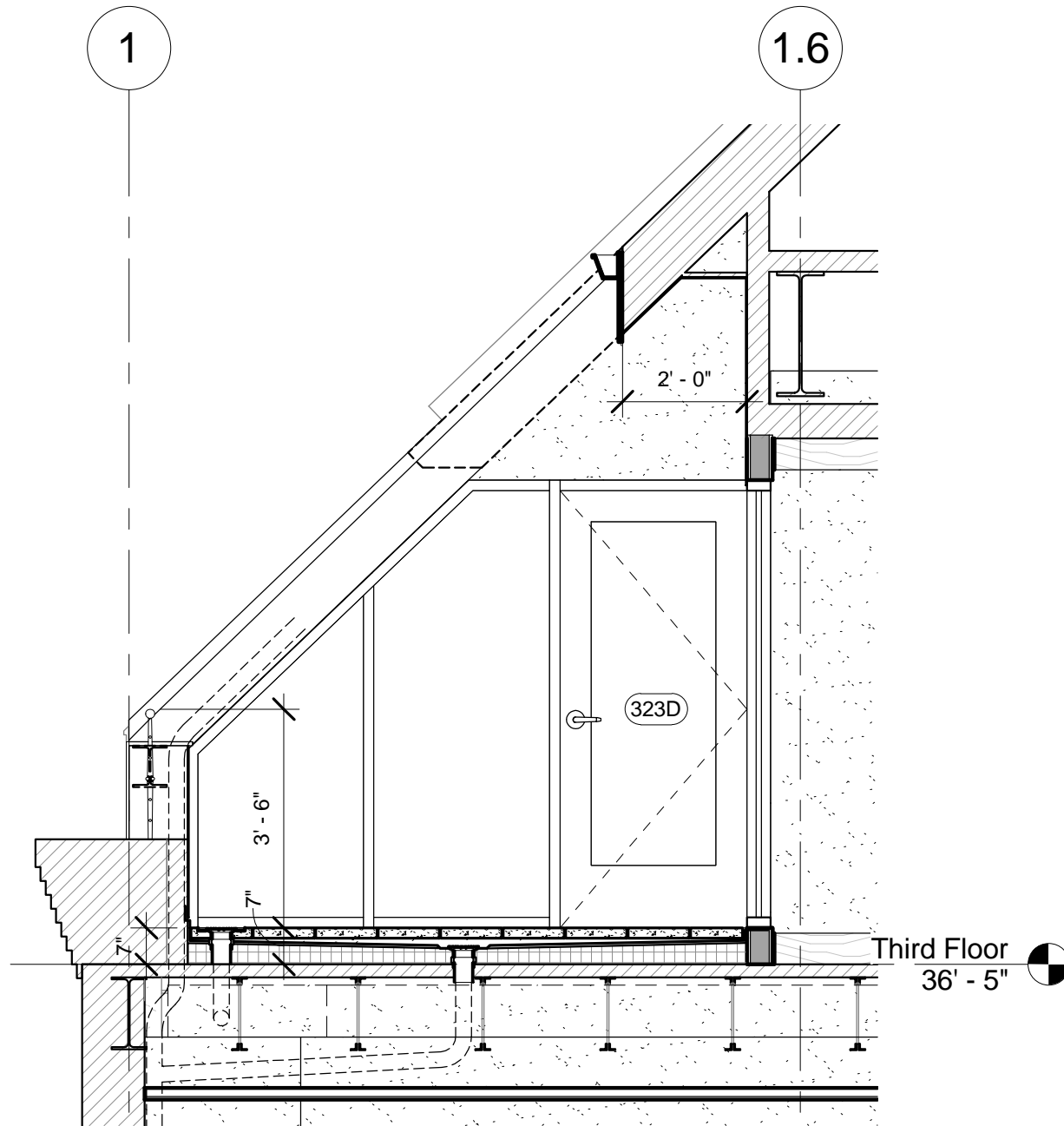


# SK6-b



**1 Partial East Elevation - Option**  
 1/8" = 1'-0"

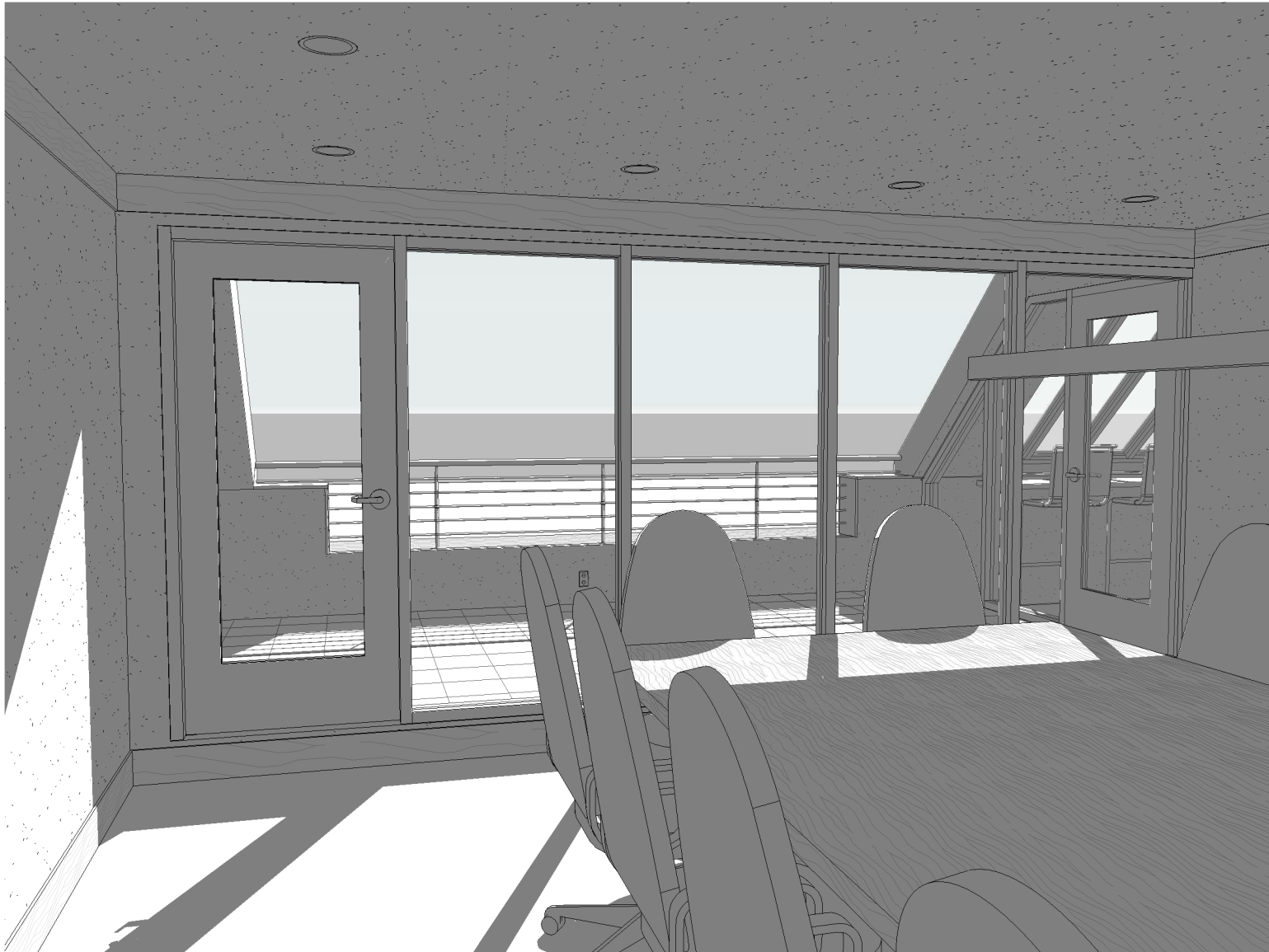
# SK7



## 1 Balcony Section

$\frac{3}{8}'' = 1'-0''$  16

# SK8



## 1 Balcony from Conf. Room

BAR Case # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS OF PROJECT: 1 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA  
TAX MAP AND PARCEL: 075.01-05-07 ZONING: CD

APPLICATION FOR: (Please check all that apply)

- CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
- PERMIT TO MOVE, REMOVE, ENCAPSULATE OR DEMOLISH  
(Required if more than 25 square feet of a structure is to be demolished/impacted)
- WAIVER OF VISION CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT and/or YARD REQUIREMENTS IN A VISION CLEARANCE AREA (Section 7-802, Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)
- WAIVER OF ROOFTOP HVAC SCREENING REQUIREMENT  
(Section 6-403(B)(3), Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)

Applicant:  Property Owner  Business (Please provide business name & contact person)

Name: American Medical Group

Address: 1 Prince Street

City: Alexandria State: VA Zip: 22314

Phone: 703-838-0033 E-mail: WMORRIS@AMEA.ORG  
X-351

Authorized Agent (if applicable):  Attorney  Architect  \_\_\_\_\_

Name: JOHN FISHER / FISHER ARCHITECTS, PA Phone: 828-253-8265  
X-303

E-mail: JSF@FISHER-PA.COM

Legal Property Owner:

Name: American Medical Group

Address: 1 Prince Street

City: Alexandria State: VA Zip: 22314

Phone: 703-838-0033 X-351 E-mail: WMORRIS@AMEA.ORG

- Yes  No Is there an historic preservation easement on this property?
- Yes  No If yes, has the easement holder agreed to the proposed alterations?
- Yes  No Is there a homeowner's association for this property?
- Yes  No If yes, has the homeowner's association approved the proposed alterations?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please attach a copy of the letter approving the project.

**NATURE OF PROPOSED WORK:** *Please check all that apply*

- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- EXTERIOR ALTERATION: *Please check all that apply.*
  - awning                       fence, gate or garden wall     HVAC equipment                       shutters
  - doors                               windows                               siding                                       shed
  - lighting                               pergola/decks                       painting unpainted masonry
  - other Balcony within roof structure
- ADDITION
- DEMOLITION/ENCAPSULATION
- SIGNAGE

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK:** *Please describe the proposed work in detail (Additional pages may be attached).*

Proposed alteration involves converting of a portion of existing sloped glazing within roof structure to a balcony. A section of the glazing and part of the roof will be removed. The new balcony area will be surrounded with new aluminum storefront system and will receive a raised waterproof floor with appropriate drainage system. All surfaces exposed to elements will receive exterior finishes consistent with overall look of the building. If existing roof's structural system can be easily modified the remainder of the sloped glazing will be replaced with a new system with less mullions.

---



---

**SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Items listed below comprise the **minimum supporting materials** for BAR applications. Staff may request additional information during application review. Please refer to the relevant section of the *Design Guidelines* for further information on appropriate treatments.

Applicants must use the checklist below to ensure the application is complete. Include all information and material that are necessary to thoroughly describe the project. Incomplete applications will delay the docketing of the application for review. Pre-application meetings are required for all proposed additions. All applicants are encouraged to meet with staff prior to submission of a completed application.

Electronic copies of submission materials should be submitted whenever possible.

**Demolition/Encapsulation :** *All applicants requesting 25 square feet or more of demolition/encapsulation must complete this section. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- <sup>N/A</sup> Survey plat showing the extent of the proposed demolition/encapsulation.
- Existing elevation drawings clearly showing all elements proposed for demolition/encapsulation.
- Clear and labeled photographs of all elevations of the building if the entire structure is proposed to be demolished.
- Description of the reason for demolition/encapsulation.
- Description of the alternatives to demolition/encapsulation and why such alternatives are not considered feasible.

**Additions & New Construction:** Drawings must be to scale and should not exceed 11" x 17" unless approved by staff. All plans must be folded and collated into 12 complete 8 1/2" x 11" sets. Additional copies may be requested by staff for large-scale development projects or projects fronting Washington Street. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- <sup>N/A</sup> Scaled survey plat showing dimensions of lot and location of existing building and other structures on the lot, location of proposed structure or addition, dimensions of existing structure(s), proposed addition or new construction, and all exterior, ground and roof mounted equipment.
- FAR & Open Space calculation form.
- Clear and labeled photographs of the site, surrounding properties and existing structures, if applicable.
- Existing elevations must be scaled and include dimensions.
- Proposed elevations must be scaled and include dimensions. Include the relationship to adjacent structures in plan and elevations.
- Materials and colors to be used must be specified and delineated on the drawings. Actual samples may be provided or required.
- Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- For development site plan projects, a model showing mass relationships to adjacent properties and structures.

**Signs & Awnings:** One sign per building under one square foot does not require BAR approval unless illuminated. All other signs including window signs require BAR approval. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- <sup>N/A</sup> Linear feet of building: Front: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary front (if corner lot): \_\_\_\_\_
- Square feet of existing signs to remain: \_\_\_\_\_
- Photograph of building showing existing conditions.
- Dimensioned drawings of proposed sign identifying materials, color, lettering style and text.
- Location of sign (show exact location on building including the height above sidewalk).
- Means of attachment (drawing or manufacturer's cut sheet of bracket if applicable).
- Description of lighting (if applicable). Include manufacturer's cut sheet for any new lighting fixtures and information detailing how it will be attached to the building's facade.

**Alterations:** Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- <sup>N/A</sup> Clear and labeled photographs of the site, especially the area being impacted by the alterations, all sides of the building and any pertinent details.
- Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- Drawings accurately representing the changes to the proposed structure, including materials and overall dimensions. Drawings must be to scale.
- An official survey plat showing the proposed locations of HVAC units, fences, and sheds.
- Historic elevations or photographs should accompany any request to return a structure to an earlier appearance.

**ALL APPLICATIONS:** *Please read and check that you have read and understand the following items:*

- I have submitted a filing fee with this application. (Checks should be made payable to the City of Alexandria. Please contact staff for assistance in determining the appropriate fee.)
- I understand the notice requirements and will return a copy of the three respective notice forms to BAR staff at least five days prior to the hearing. If I am unsure to whom I should send notice I will contact Planning and Zoning staff for assistance in identifying adjacent parcels.
- I, the applicant, or an authorized representative will be present at the public hearing.
- I understand that any revisions to this initial application submission (including applications deferred for restudy) must be accompanied by the BAR Supplemental form and 12 sets of revised materials.

---

The undersigned hereby attests that all of the information herein provided including the site plan, building elevations, prospective drawings of the project, and written descriptive information are true, correct and accurate. The undersigned further understands that, should such information be found incorrect, any action taken by the Board based on such information may be invalidated. The undersigned also hereby grants the City of Alexandria permission to post placard notice as required by Article XI, Division A, Section 11-301(B) of the 1992 Alexandria City Zoning Ordinance, on the property which is the subject of this application. The undersigned also hereby authorizes the City staff and members of the BAR to inspect this site as necessary in the course of research and evaluating the application. The applicant, if other than the property owner, also attests that he/she has obtained permission from the property owner to make this application.

**APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Signature: 

Printed Name: JOHN S. FISHER, AIA

Date: 3.26.2013

**OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Use additional sheets if necessary

**1. Applicant.** State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than ten percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. American Medical Group Association	1 Prince Street Alexandria, VA 22314	100%
2.		
3.		

**2. Property.** State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the property located at 1 Prince Street (address), unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than ten percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.


Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. American Medical Group Association	Same	100%
2.		
3.		

**3. Business or Financial Relationships.** Each person or entity listed above (1 and 2), with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property is required to disclose any business or financial relationship, as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance, existing at the time of this application, or within the 12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review.

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
1. Tom Hulfish	Realtor	Member of BAR
2.		
3.		

**NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.**

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.

3/27/13      Ronald W. Fisher        
 Date                      Printed Name                      Signature