Bethesda Downtown Design Advisory Panel

Meeting Minutes

PROJECT: 4824 Edgemoor Lane

DATE: June 24, 2020

The **4824 Edgemoor** project was reviewed by the Bethesda Downtown Design Advisory Panel on June 24, 2020. The following meeting notes summarize the Panel's discussion, recommendations regarding design excellence, and the exceptional design public benefits points. The project is in the Site Plan stage and the Design Advisory Panel will determine if comments from Sketch Plan have been incorporated and take the final vote for design excellence public benefit points. Should you have any additional questions and/or comments please feel free to contact the Design Advisory Panel Liaison.

Attendance:

Panel

George Dove

Karl Du Puy

Rod Henderer

Damon Orobona

Qiaojue Yu

Paul Mortensen, ex officio, Senior Urban Designer in the Director's Office

Staff

Gwen Wright, Planning Director
Robert Kronenberg, Deputy Director
Elza Hisel-McCoy, Area 1 Division Chief
Stephanie Dickel, Area 1 Regulatory Supervisor
Grace Bogdan, Planner Coordinator
Jonathan Bush, Planner Coordinator
Matthew Folden, Planner Coordinator
Emily Balmer, Area 1 Principal Administrative Assistant

Applicant Team

Pat Harris, Attorney Bill Bonstra, Architect Shawn Weingert, Developer Robert Kuentzel, Architect Wade McKinney Pat La Vay, Engineer

Discussion Points:



Staff: This project is at Site Plan, the Panel saw this project many times at the Sketch Plan stage, the main issue which was conditioned to be addressed at Site Plan is the treatment of the south façade and the relationship with the Chase Condominium. Also at Site Plan the Panel should be looking for a detailed analysis and conformance with the Design Guidelines.

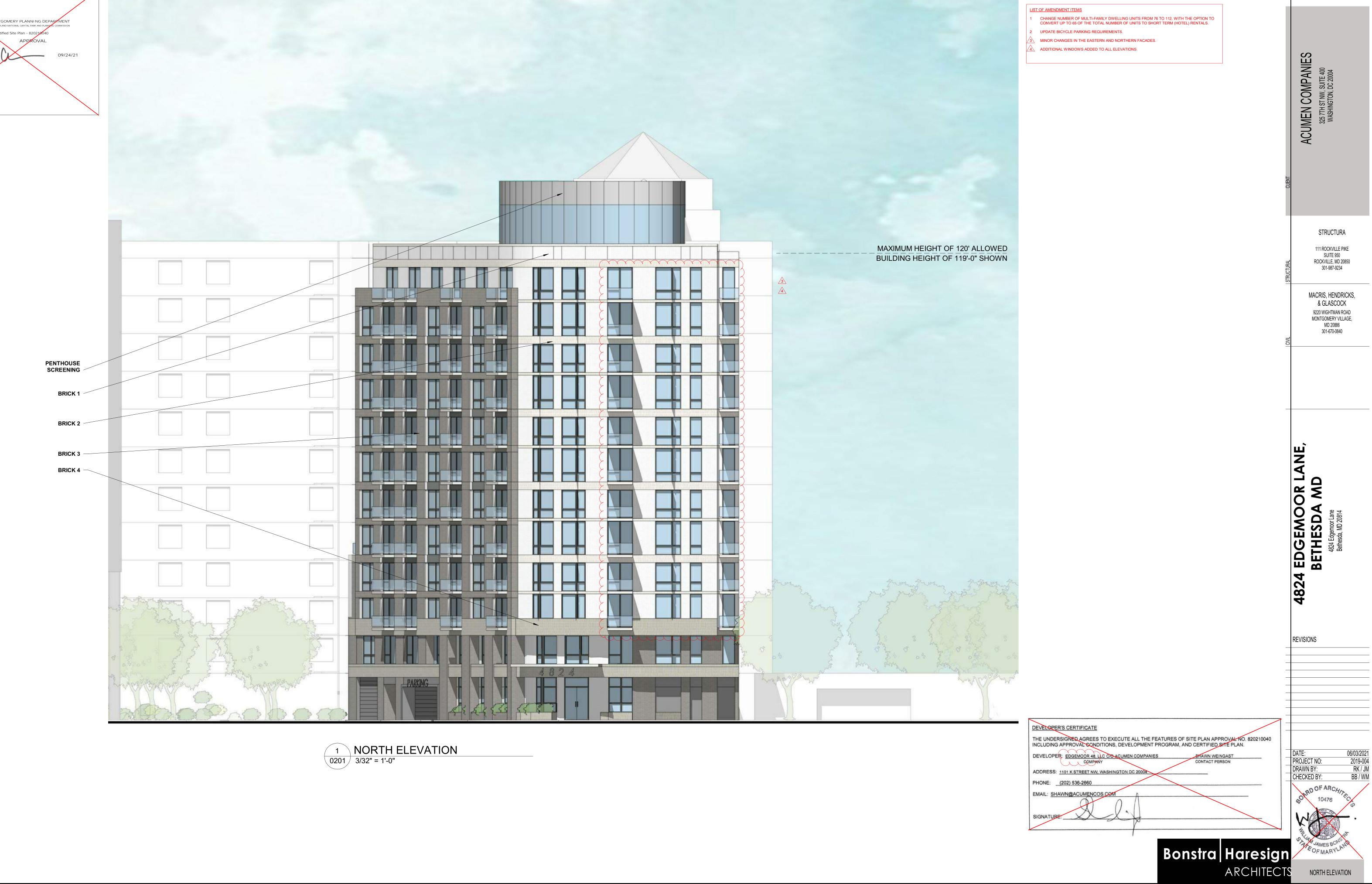
- I think the design has certainly improved on Woodmont and at the south facing façade. The
 evolution of this project has definitely moved in the right direction.
- Why do you have the wide two stories line above the base and then the additional two stories hight at the southern end of the east elevation? The integration seems awkward. I really like the top 6-7 stories, but the base doesn't seem to wrap the corner and relate to the Woodmont piece. I think it needs some attention and not convinced it needs the four-story base at the southern end.
 - Applicant Response: The thinking was Woodmont has the high 3-4 story base and use it as a transition for the tower.
- What is the material and role for the two-story spandrel at the corner?
 - Applicant Response: The whole building will be brick but the idea was this white mass would be distinct from the ground.
 - Applicant Response: We could continue the spandrel at the 2 stories to a 4 story level at the base to help frame the mural on the upper stories at the west elevation.
- I hear you and can understand the logic but concerned the two-story horizontal spandrels will defeat the verticality of the tower. I think eliminating the gray spandrel at the corner may allow continuity at the corner and will allow the tower to extend to the ground. It may be a rendering issue, but the spandrel seems very heavy at the 2nd story, and at the 4th floor it will be too high.
 - Applicant Response: What if the 4th level just became spandrel only? I hear what you're saying but we can refine it so its not so competing between vertical and horizontal.
- Agreed, breaking the spandrel would be an improvement and address comments we've had in the past, while making the corner more pronounced.

Panel Recommendations:

At Site Plan a final vote is taken to determine the amount of design excellence public benefit points to award the Project. The Applicant requests 15 points, the Panel voted 3-2 in support of the 15 points requested (2 in support of 10). The following condition should be incorporated and reviewed by staff during the Site Plan process.

 Simplify the façade at the prominent corner so the gray horizontal spandrel doesn't interrupt the vertical reading of the tower.





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1 NORTH ELEVATION

THE UNDERSIGNED AGREES TO EXECUTE ALL THE FEATURES OF SITE PLAN APPROVAL NO. 82021004A INCLUDING APPROVAL CONDITIONS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, AND CERTIFIED SITE PLAN.

DEVELOPER: MACAW 100, LLC C/O ACUMEN COMPANIES
COMPANY

ADDRESS: <u>1101 K STREET, NW, SUITE 1000, WASHINGTON, DC 20005</u>

EMAIL: SHAWN@ACUMENCOS.COM

SIGNATURE:

Bonstra Haresign ARCHITECTS

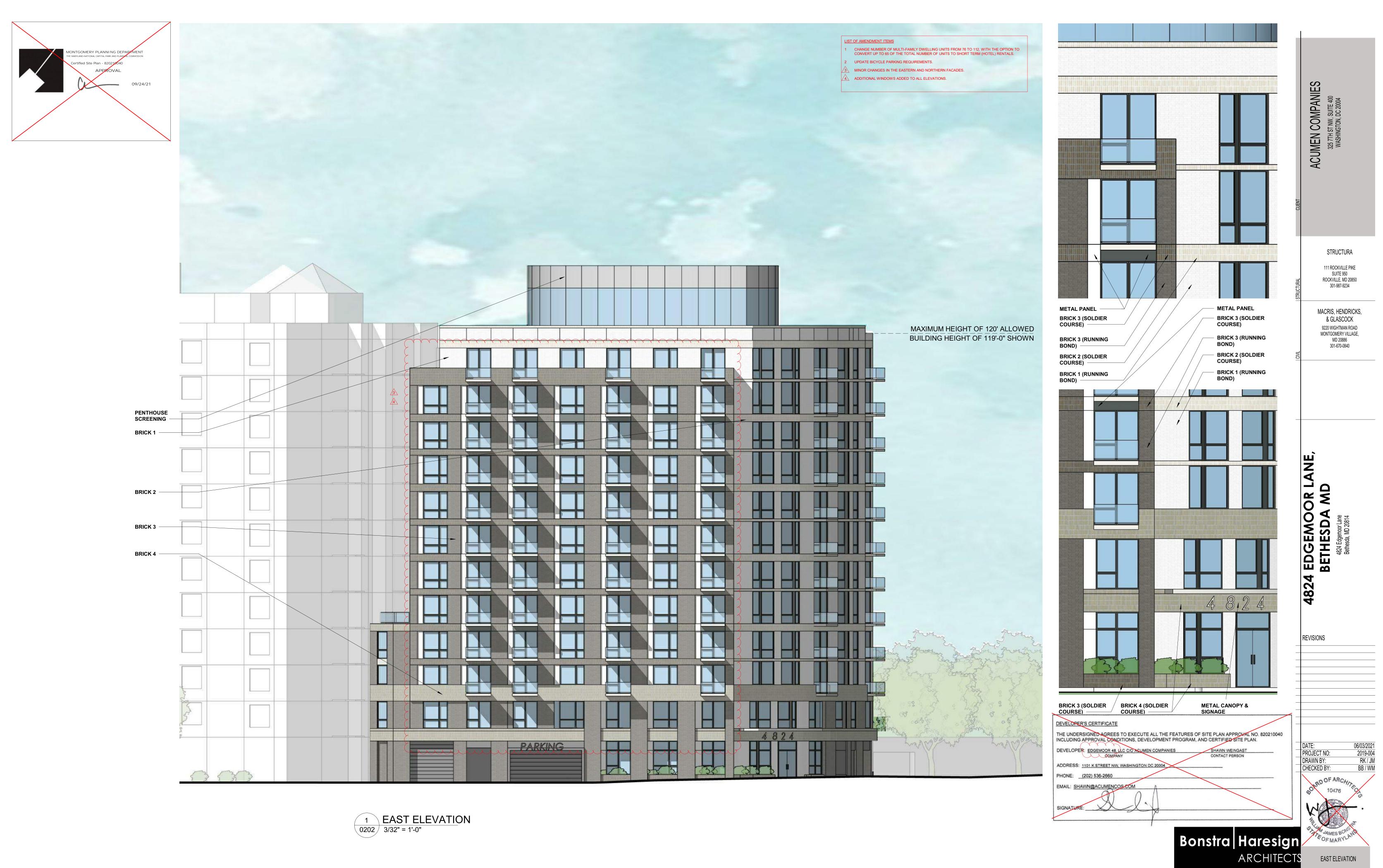
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PROJECT NO: DRAWN BY:

CHECKED BY:

06/03/2021 2019-004 RK / JM

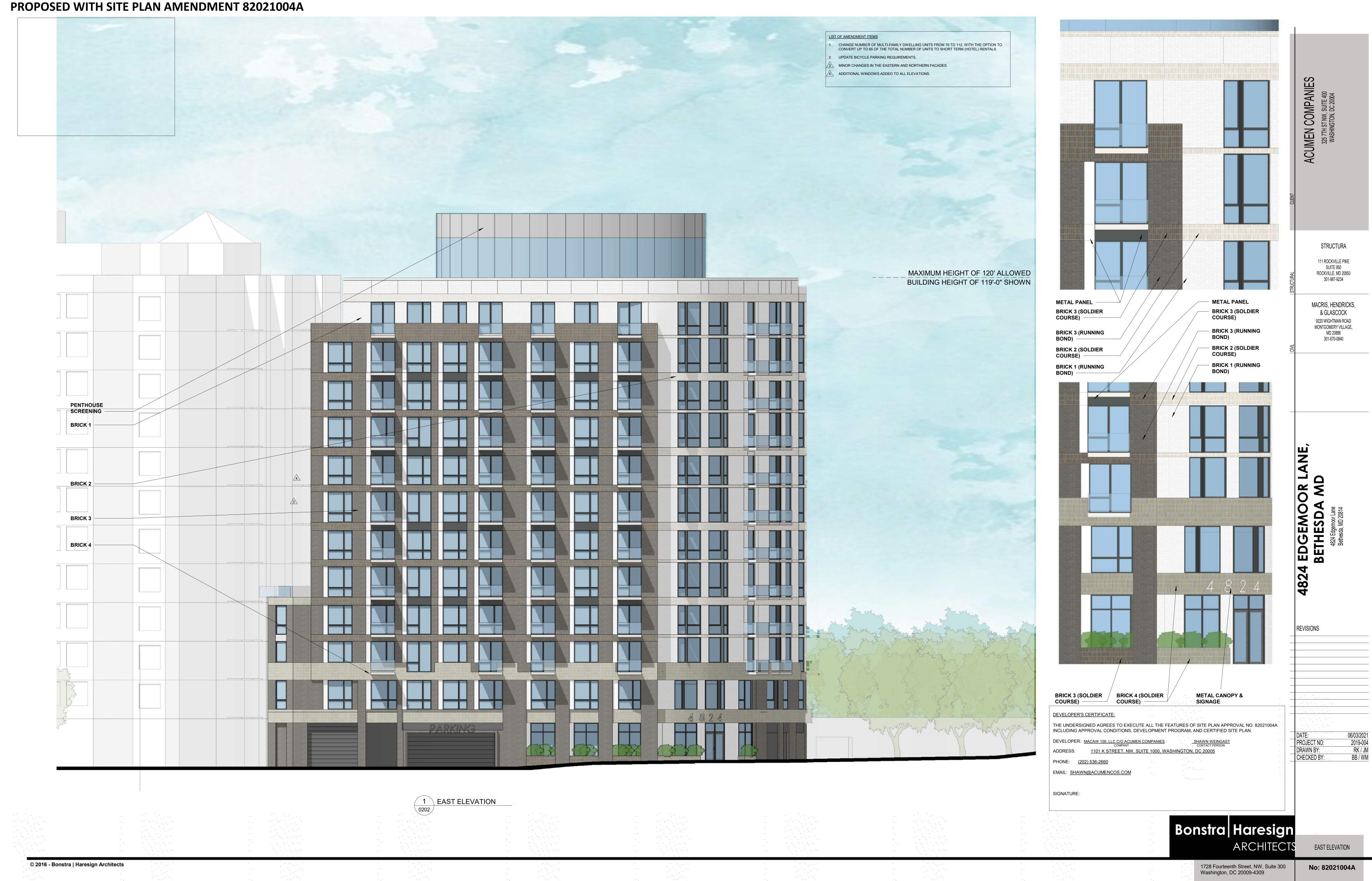
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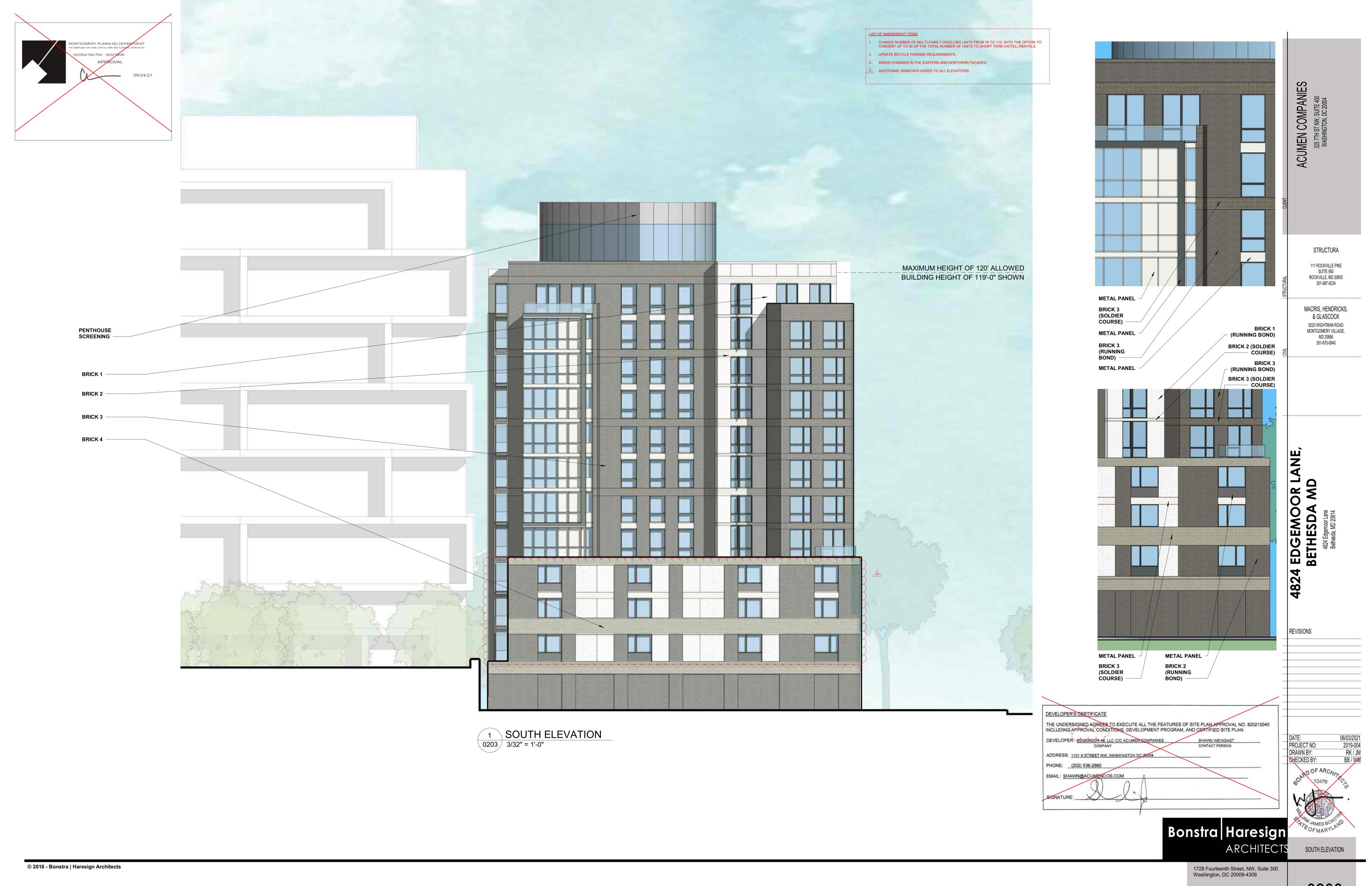


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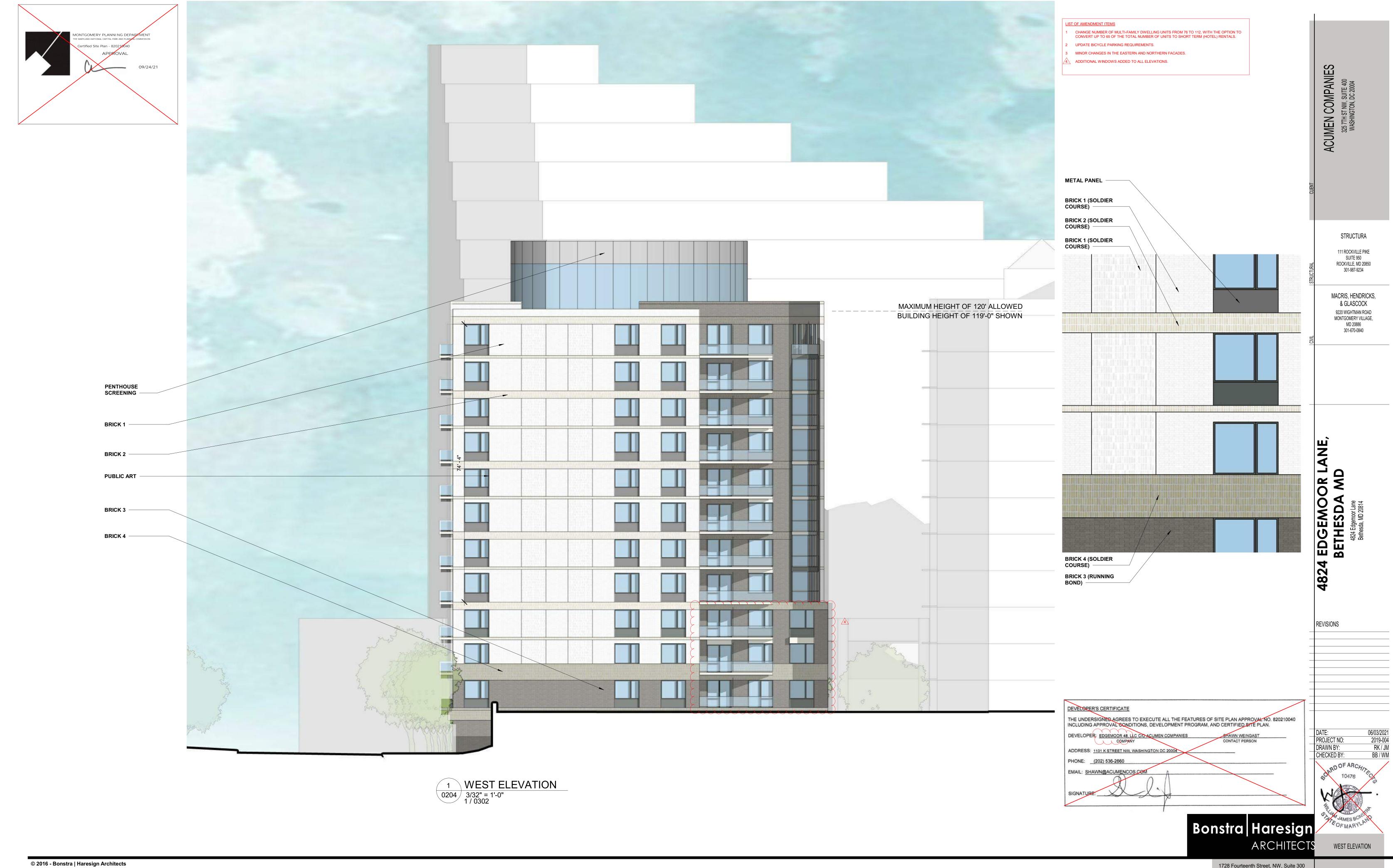
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