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BERGIN, FRAKES, SMALLEY & OBERHOLTZER

December 23, 2024

#### **SENT VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**

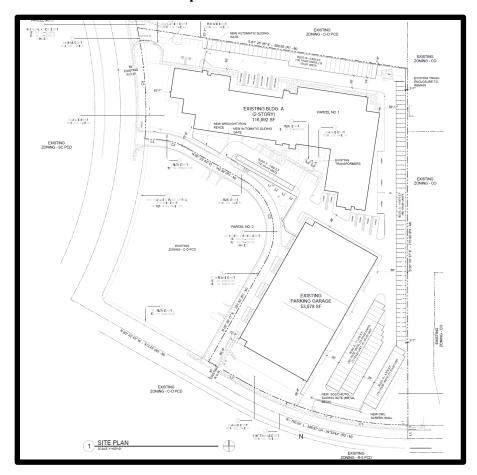
Meredith Tessier Planning & Development Department City of Scottsdale 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd Scottsdale, AZ 85251

> Re: 8-UP-2024; Proposed Conditional Use Permit for Internalized Community Storage at 10001 N 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Scottsdale, Arizona

Ms. Tessier,

Bergin, Frakes, Smalley & Oberholtzer PLLC submits this Conditional Use Permit ("UP") application for the reuse of an office building within the Commercial Office ("C-O") zoning district on an approximately 7.5-acre property located adjacent to the northeast corner of 92<sup>nd</sup> Street and Mountain View Road, also known as Maricopa Assessor's Parcel Number (APN 217-36-160A) (the "Property"). The Property contains a vacant, two-story office building that hasn't been occupied for several years, a two-story parking structure, and large landscaped parking areas. Approval of the CUP would facilitate the adaptive reuse of the office building into an indoor self-storage facility with vehicle storage permitted and screened within the parking structure. Non-conditioned, drive-up units will also be built in the existing parking area along the Property's north and east boundaries which provide for extra screening and utilization of spaces formerly used for uncovered parking in support of the prior office use. See the Conceptual Site Plan on the following page.

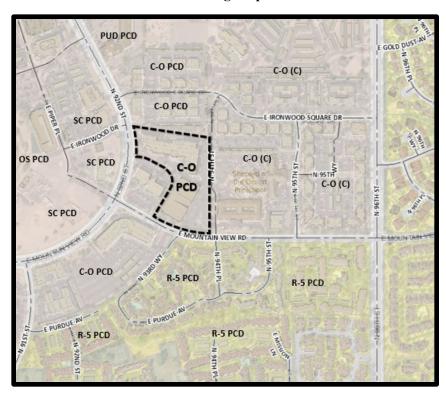
#### **Conceptual Site Plan**



This request runs concurrent with a Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment ("Amendment") application, case number 6-TA-2024, to modify the use permissions of Table 11.201A of the Scottsdale Zoning Ordinance ("Ordinance") to permit the adaptive reuse of Internalized Community Storage facilities with a UP in accordance with Section 1.401 in the C-O district. The proposed Amendment creates a narrowly tailored set of standards that applies only to existing office buildings with a maximum height of 36 feet on properties no greater than ten (10) acres in size.

Fewer by-right use permissions in the C-O district has impacted the ability of C-O zoned projects to respond to market conditions and attract commercial occupants, resulting in fewer development opportunities and higher vacancy rates. Introducing Internalized Community Storage as a limited use permitted with a UP will lend additional development potential to C-O zoned sites while also permitting uses no more intense than the office uses already permitted in this district. The Property's land use designation is 'Employment Office' in the 2035 Scottsdale General Plan, which, consistent with this request, encourages a broad and flexible variety of office uses generating low to moderate traffic volumes and building design elements which minimize negative impacts to adjacent neighborhoods. This Property is well suited for this use as it maintains the character of the employment area through the reoccupation of an existing office building without significant alterations to the structure or the type of business expected in a larger business park. The broader character of the area surrounding the Property reflects a mixture of

C-O and S-C PCD zoning and accommodates professional and medical office buildings of a similar scale and size.



**Zoning Map** 

The Property's visibility from adjacent streets is limited with only the existing parking structure visible from the Mountain View Road frontage and the narrow western office façade visible along the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street frontage. Mature landscaping on these frontages also helps to soften the massing of the existing buildings and solid CMU wall screening will be erected to conceal the drive-up units proposed in the southeast corner of the Property. No changes are proposed to on-site circulation or access. See below for an aerial of the Property in relation to adjacent properties and its visual appearance at ground level.

### **Property Aerial**



**View of Property from 92<sup>nd</sup> Street – Facing East** 



#### **View of Property from Mountain View Road – Facing Northeast**



Issuance of a Conditional Use Permit is subject to the criteria found in **Section 1.401** of the Ordinance and upon recommendation for approval from Planning Commission to City Council. The UP criteria are provided below. The following summarizes how this request meets the requirements of Section 1.401.

- **A.** That the granting of such Conditional Use Permit will not be materially detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare. In reaching this conclusion, the Planning Commission and the City Council's consideration shall include, but not be limited to, detriments posed by the following factors:
  - 1. Damage or nuisance arising from noise, smoke, odor, dust, vibration or illumination.

The proposed self-storage use will not produce any damaging noise, smoke, odor, dust, vibrations, or illumination that would negatively impact or damage surrounding properties. The re-occupation of the building will require very little in the way of construction, and after re-opening, the use is a passive, very quiet neighbor with far less daily activity than an office use. The proposed facility is compatible with its surrounding professional and medical office uses as a low-impact and low-traffic use that is well buffered on all sides from residential uses and public rights-of-way. No hazardous substances that generate smoke, odor, contamination, or are detrimental to public health or safety will be contained on-site. Additionally, no machinery will be operated that produces vibrations.

2. Impact on surrounding areas resulting from an unusual volume or character of traffic.

Self-storage facilities generate fewer trips than uses already permitted in the C-O district, reducing the need for expanded infrastructure or additional access points to accommodate traffic. For comparison, our traffic statement highlights that a medical office in the footprint of the existing building would generate approximately 4,885 daily trips, contributing 360 trips to the morning peak and 470 trips to the evening peak. A self-storage facility in the same footprint would only generate 3% of that total, or approximately 168 daily trips, a reduction by almost 4,500 trips. Lower trip counts and a traffic pattern unbound by the morning/evening peak hours characteristic of the medical and office uses in the area ensure the impact of a storage facility to adjacent roadways is not only negligible but an improvement over alternative uses.

**B.** The characteristics of the proposed conditional use are reasonably compatible with the types of uses permitted in the surrounding areas.

Adding self-storage as a limited use permitted by a UP will be no more intense than the non-office uses (Day Cares, Places of Worship, Schools, and Residential Health Care Facilities) permitted in the same district that have the potential to generate more traffic and change the office character of an area. The proposed use will not require substantial exterior modifications to the existing building or parking areas. As such, the site will remain appropriately scaled and separated from adjacent properties, ensuring minimal disruption to the surrounding area. The proposed use is anticipated to generate low traffic counts that will be hardly noticed on the adjacent street network while accommodating a need that benefits both businesses and residents within the immediate community. Like the neighboring medical and professional uses, self-storage is contained indoors and will neither generate hazardous impacts nor store materials that would harm the welfare of the community. Given the low-impact and low-profile nature of self-storage, the proposed use embodies the desired type of development characterized within an Employment-Office designated area of the 2035 General Plan.

C. The additional conditions specified in <u>Section 1.403</u>, as applicable, have been satisfied.

The additional conditions specified in Section 1.403 are imposed upon select conditionally permitted uses under the Ordinance and are not applicable to the proposed use. Though such conditions are inapplicable to the Internalized Community Storage use, appropriate limitations are proposed for the Internalized Community Storage use in the Amendment as Footnote 16 of Land Use Table 11.201.A. Footnote 16 prevents this use on properties of more than 10 acres and in buildings of more than 36' in height and places additional limitations on non-conditioned drive-up units and vehicle storage. This request for the Property conforms to the limitations on use proposed by the Amendment as specified in Footnote 16.

Given that this UP request will not be materially detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, and the characteristics of this use are reasonably compatible with the types of uses permitted in the surrounding area, we request that approval of this UP to allow for Internalized Community Storage on the Property.

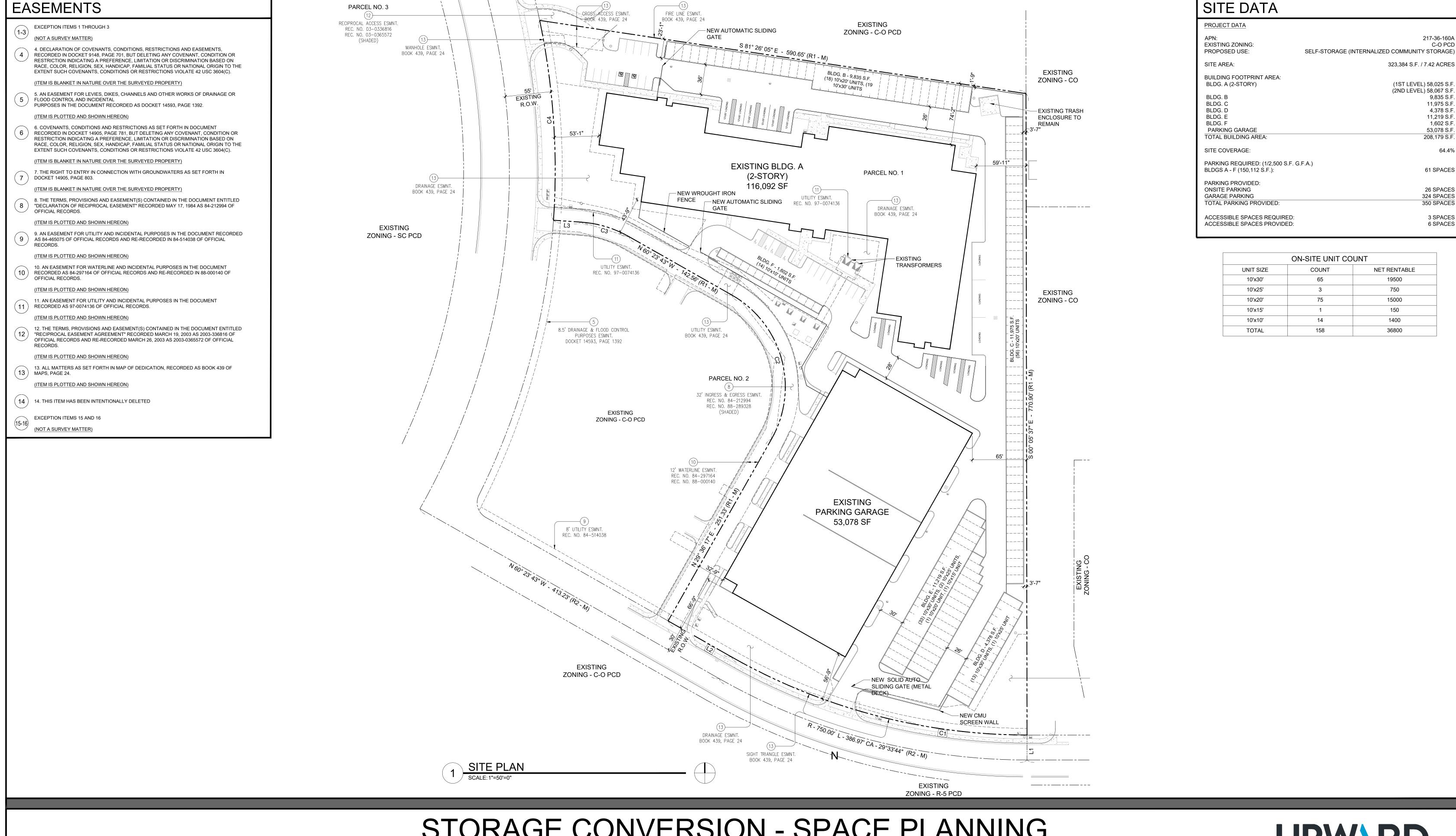
Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Oberholtzer

**Enclosures** 

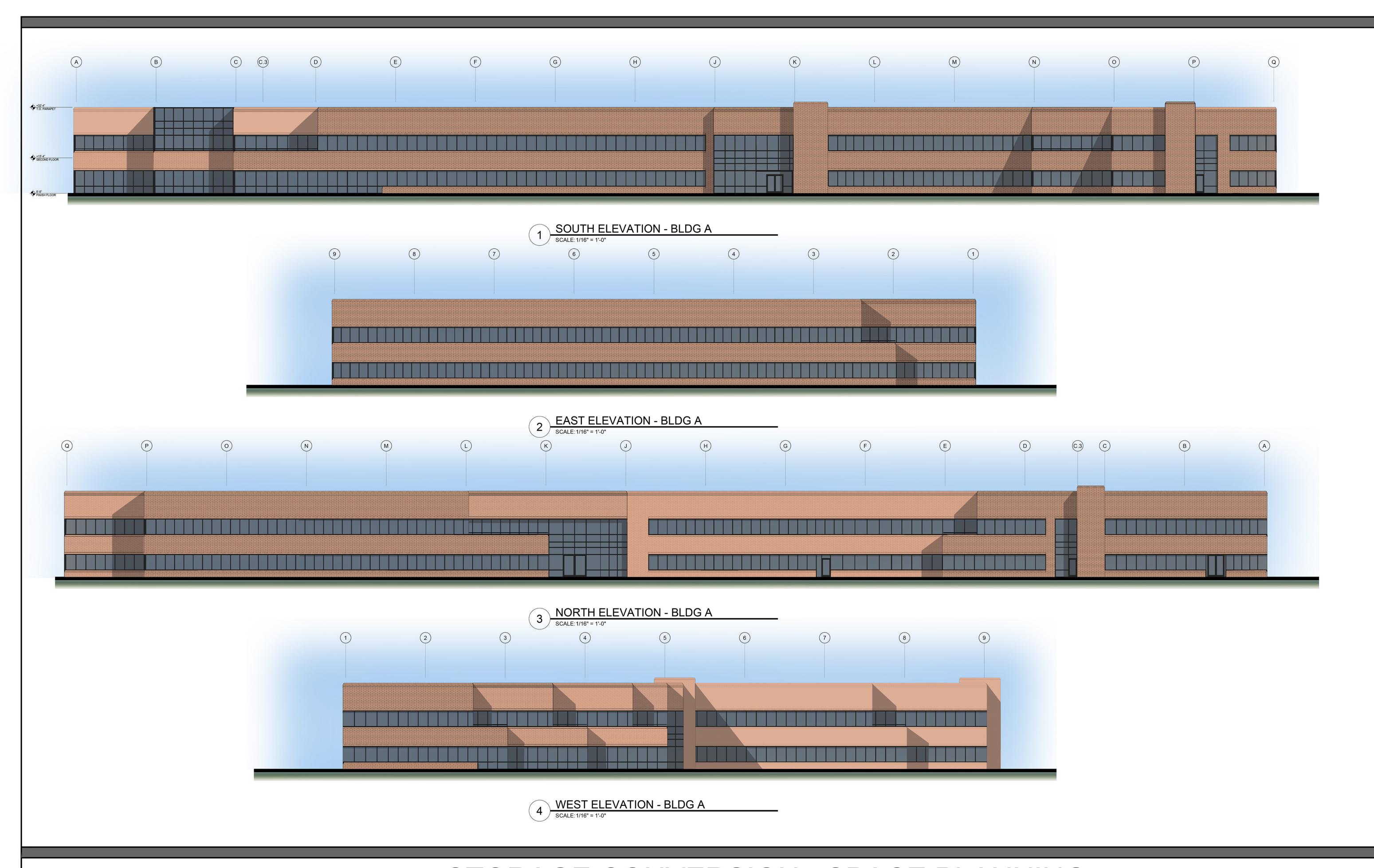
**CUP Application Materials** 



## STORAGE CONVERSION - SPACE PLANNING

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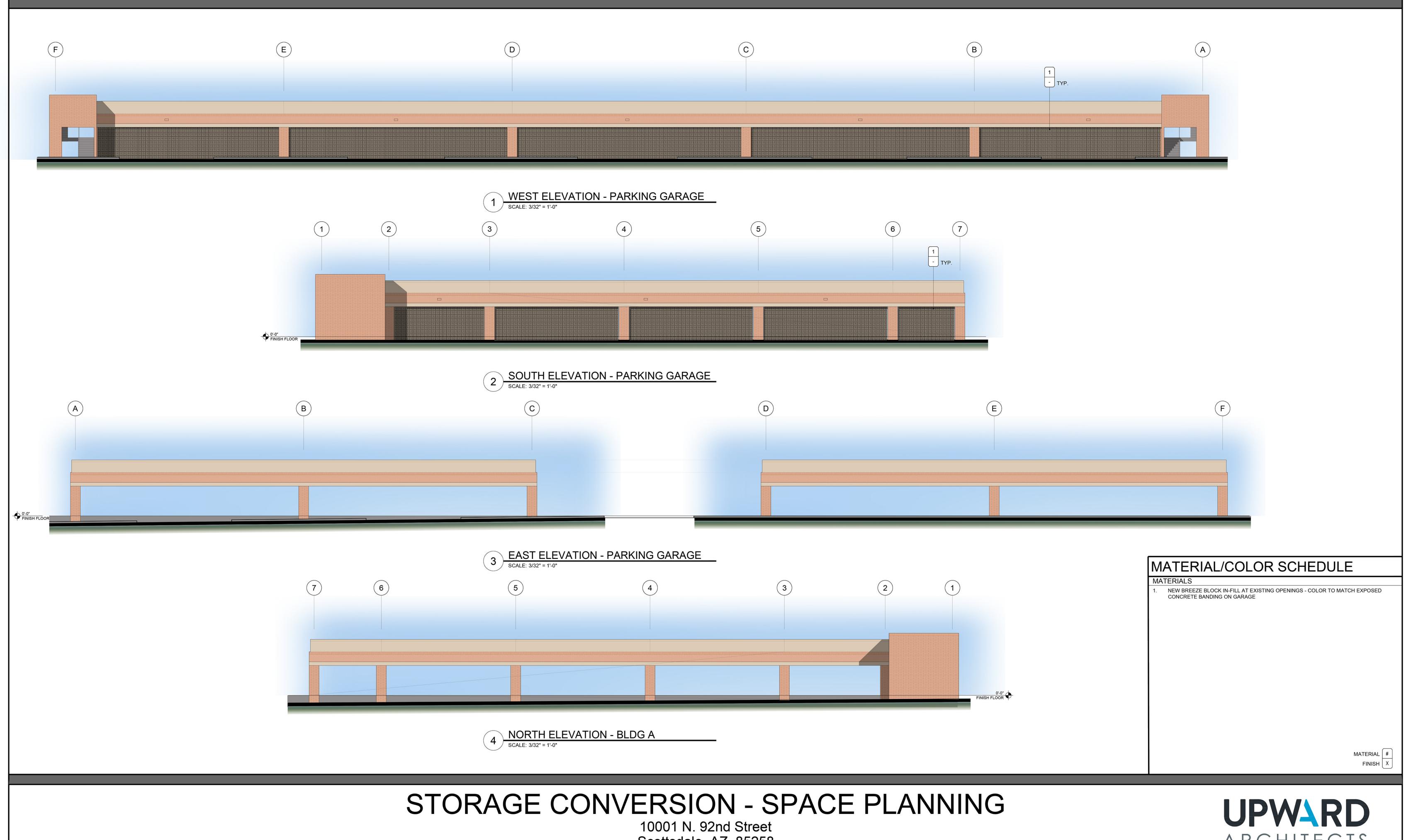




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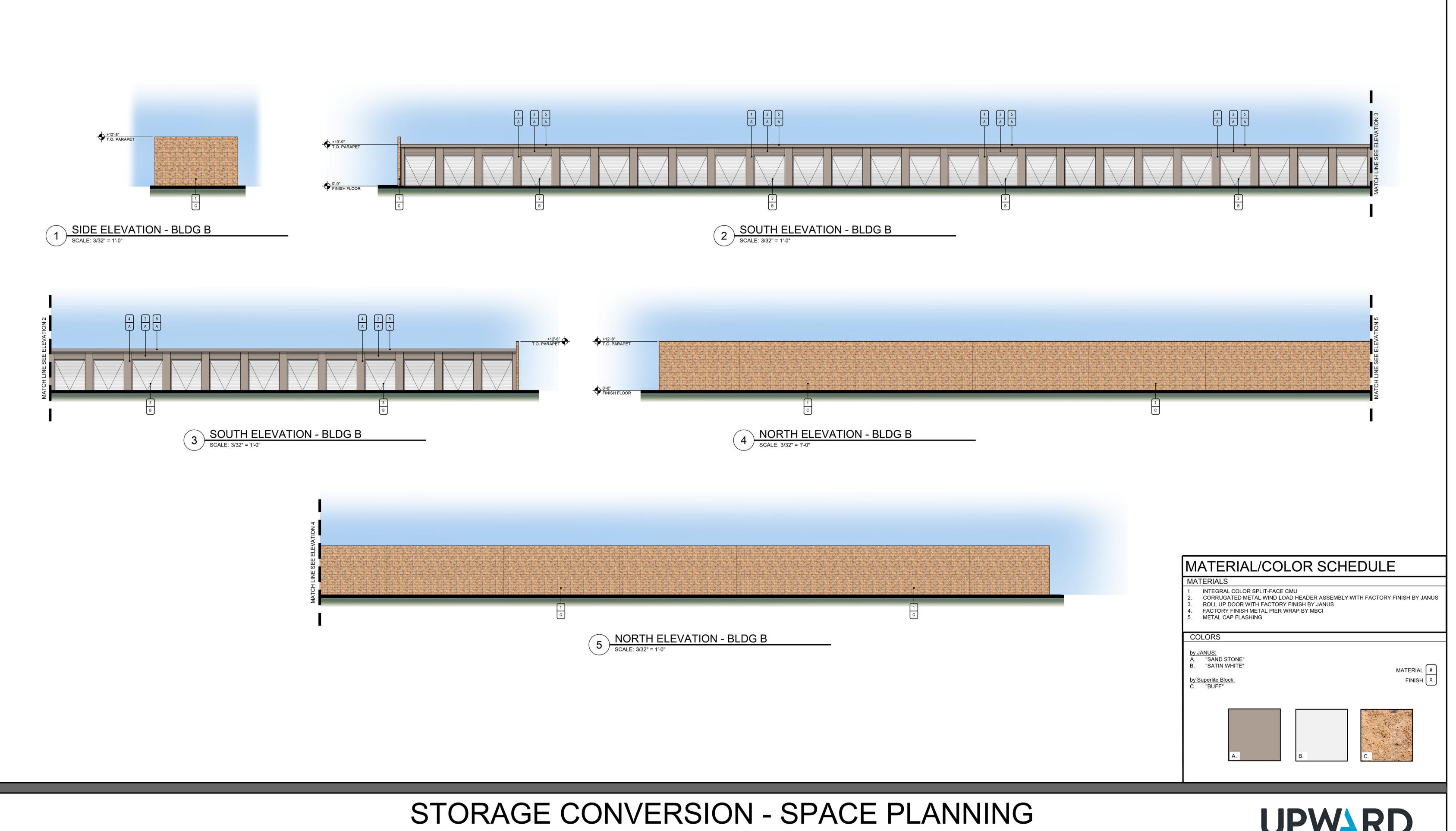
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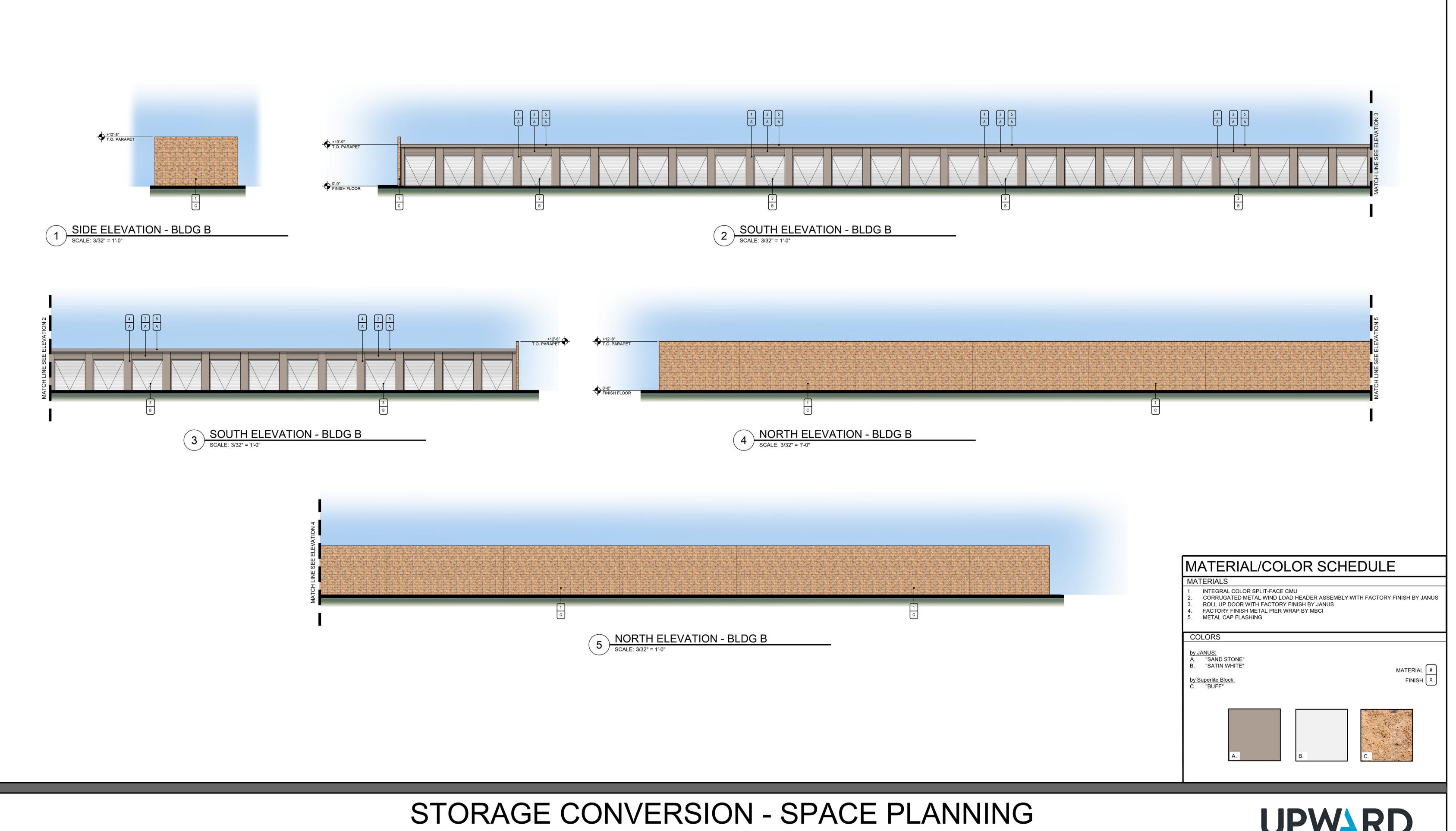
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ARCHITECTS



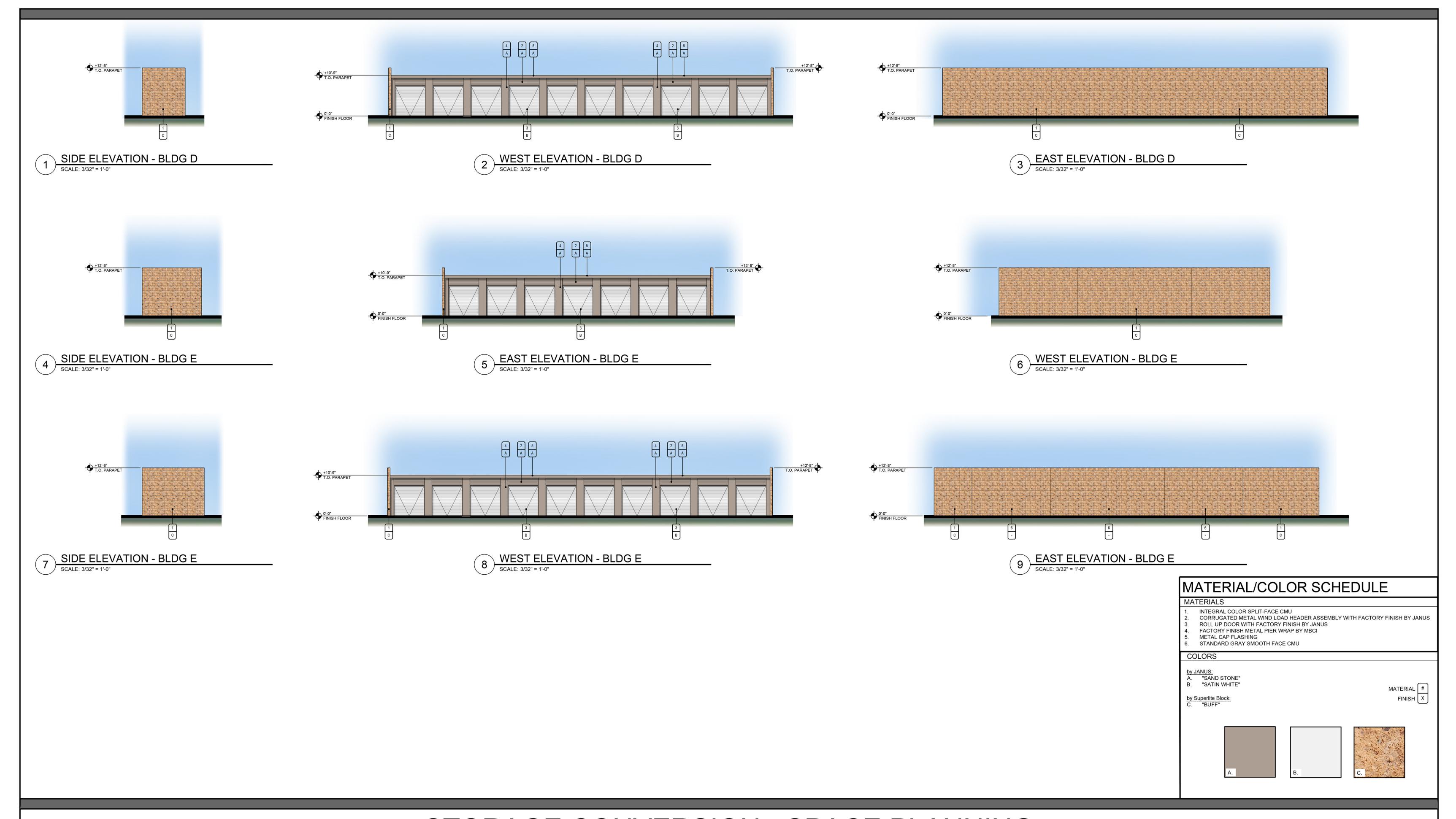
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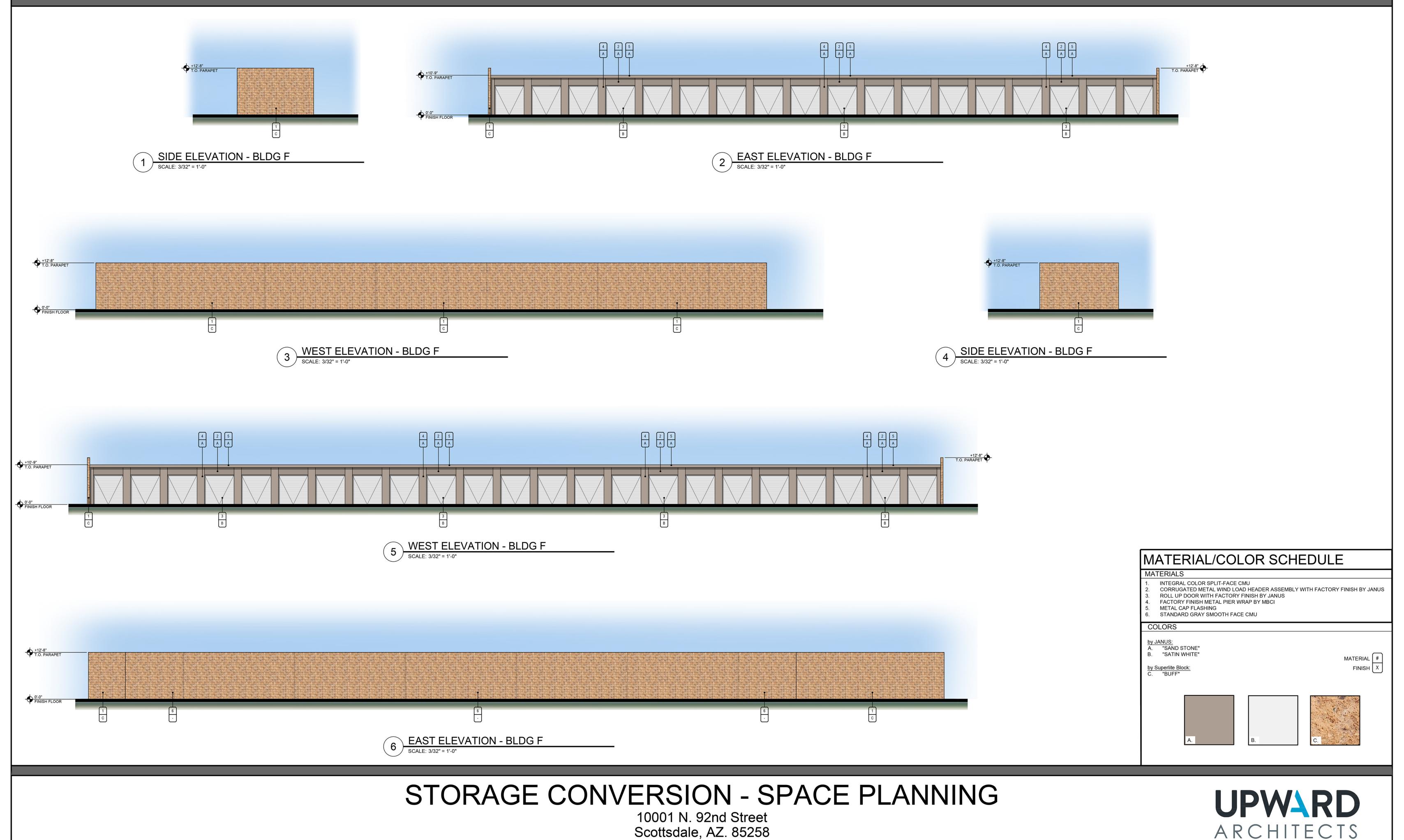




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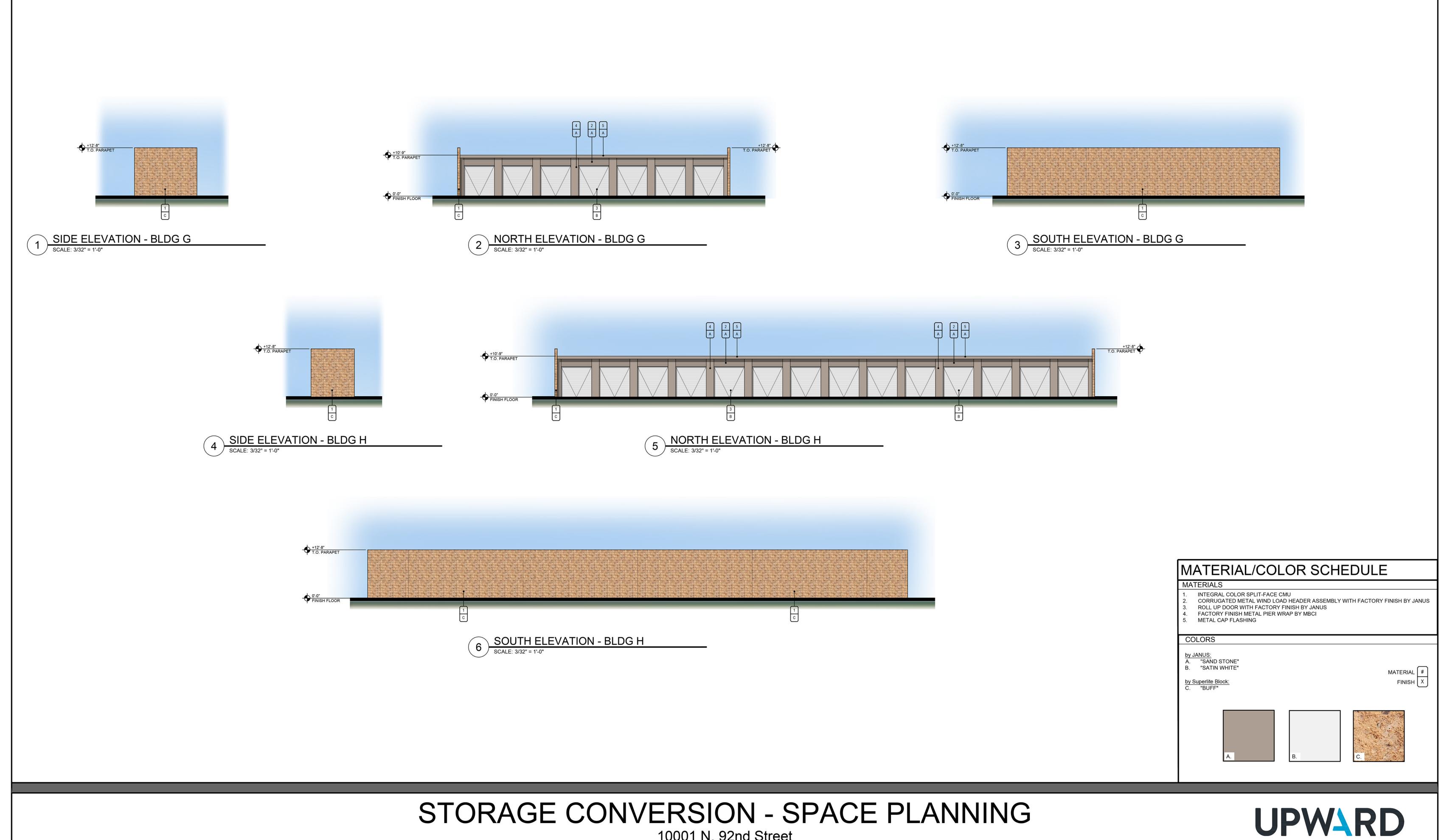
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09.19.2024 PROJECT NO. 24088





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