

James Van Der Zee (June 29, 1886 - May 15, 1983) was an African-American photographer best known for his portraits of black New Yorkers. He was a leading figure in the Harlem Renaissance, and aside from the artistic merits of his photographs, Van Der Zee's produced the most comprehensive documentation of the period.

Around 1916, he opened his first studio, Guarantee Photos, in Harlem on 135th Street. VanDerZee's business flourished and he soon moved his studio to **272 Lenox Avenue** in Harlem, renaming it **G.G.G Photo Studio** after his second wife, Gaynella Greenlee, whom he had recently married. They would remain together until her death in 1976. It was from his two studios in Harlem that Van Der Zee took thousands of photographs that chronicled the life of African Americans in Harlem.

A significant portion of the original Van Der Zee, "**G.G.G Photo Studio**" signage remains and because of its historic and public interest the building's current owner wishes to keep the signage visible while also accommodating an awning over the entrance and window to his business office, as well as providing a canopy to the building's apartment entrance.

The proposed awning and canopy will be visible from the street, but will not over-hang the public thorough-fare.

A retractable awning is proposed at the business entrance and window and the canopy proposed for the building's apartment entry will be configured to resemble the canopy documented in early photographs from the period when Van Der Zee's studio occupied the building.



272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET
01

IN A

SECTION B

1/2" = 1'-0"

SECTION D

1" = 1'-0"



272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET

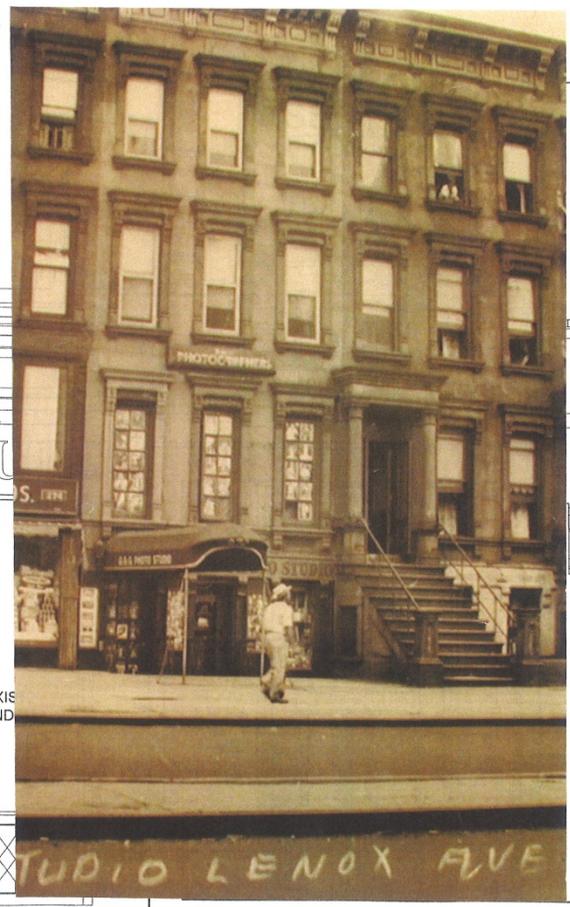
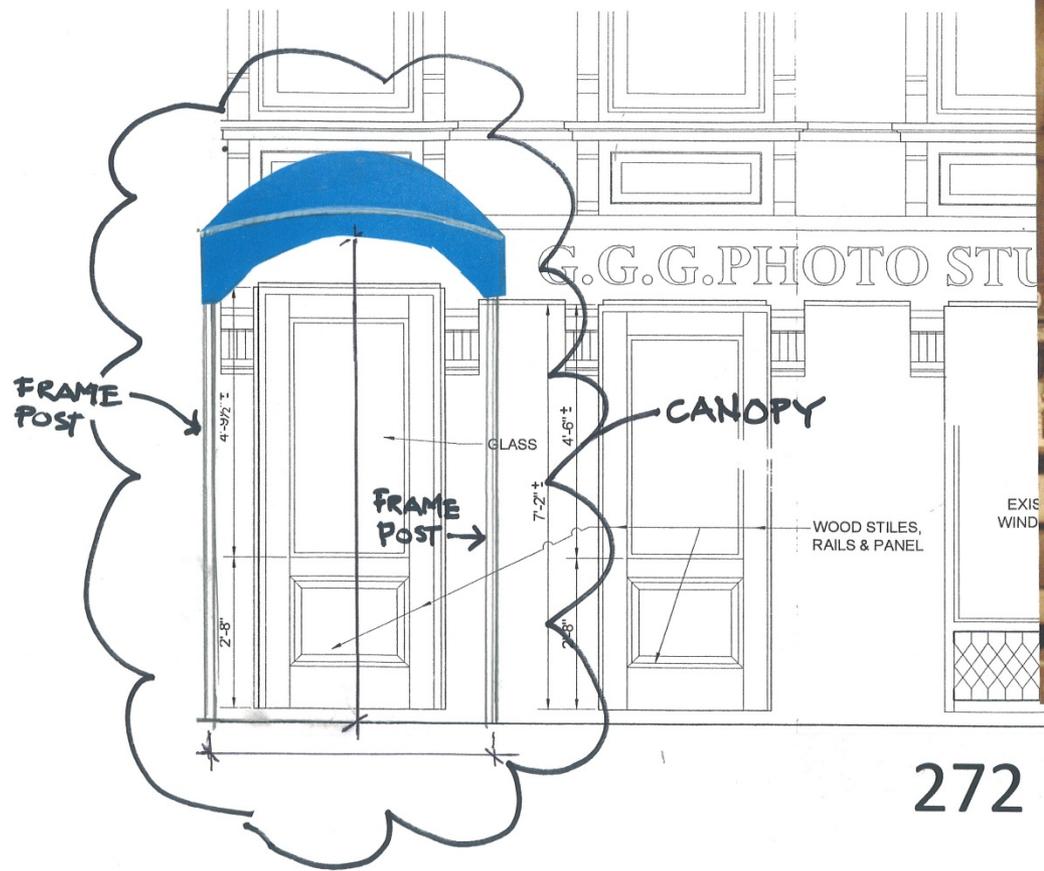
02



IN A

SECTION B

1/2" = 1'-0"



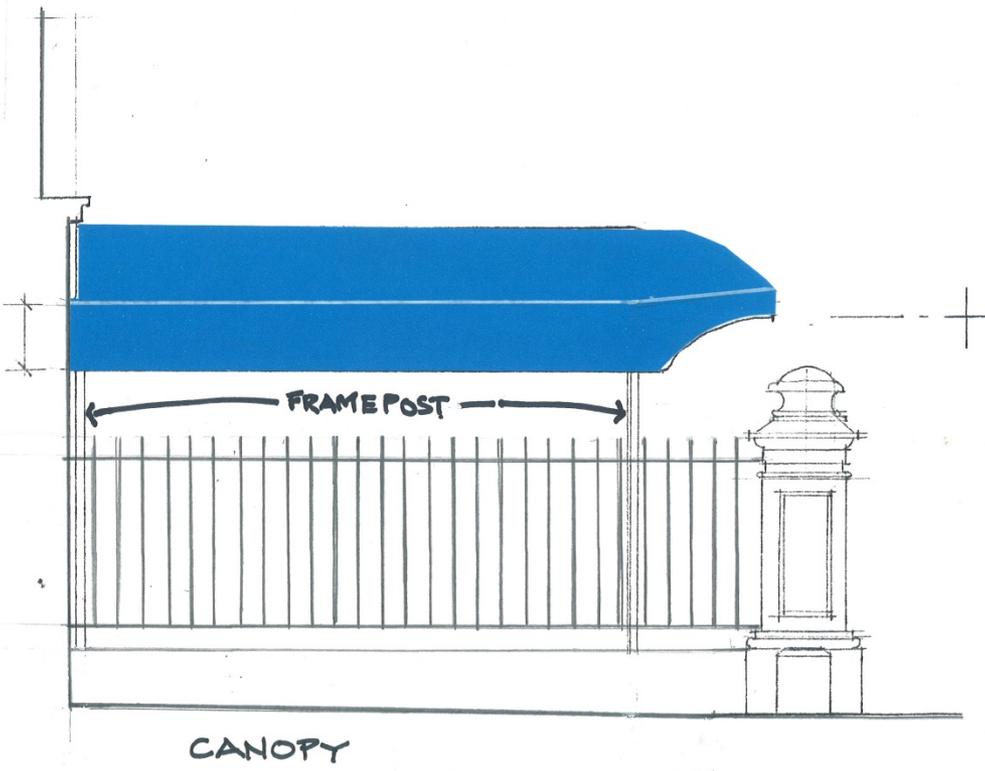
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EXIST. WINDOW

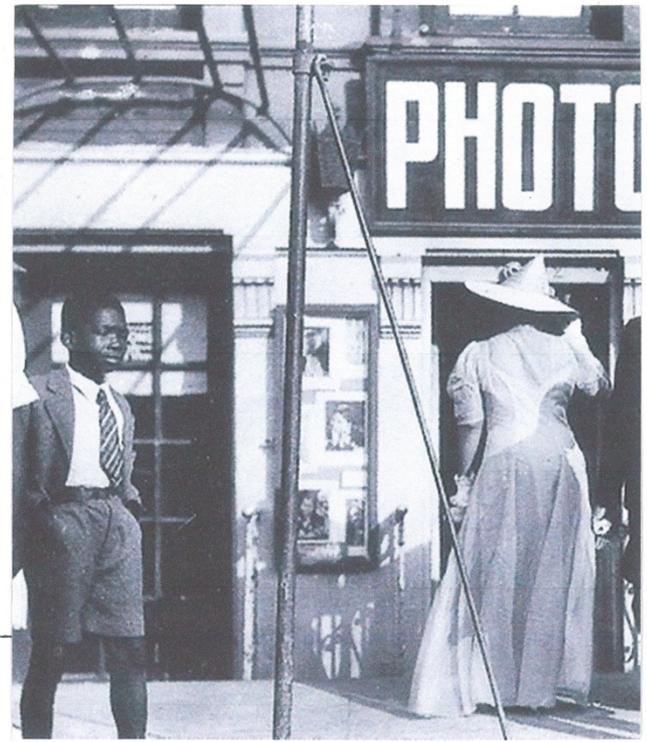
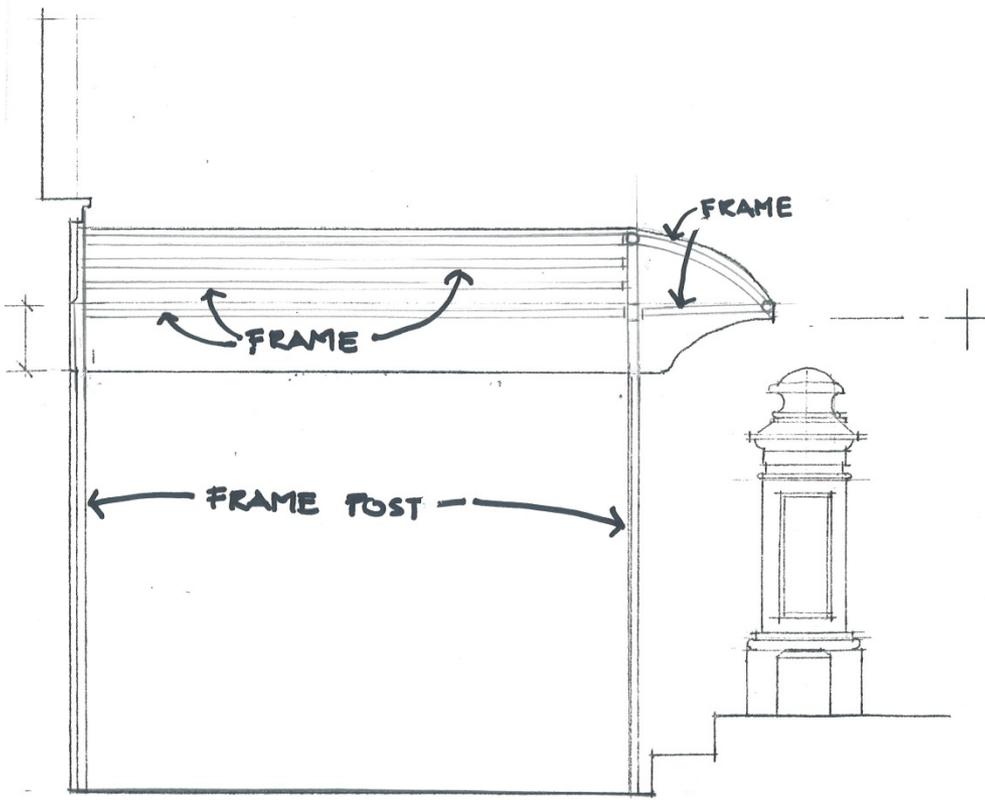
272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET
04



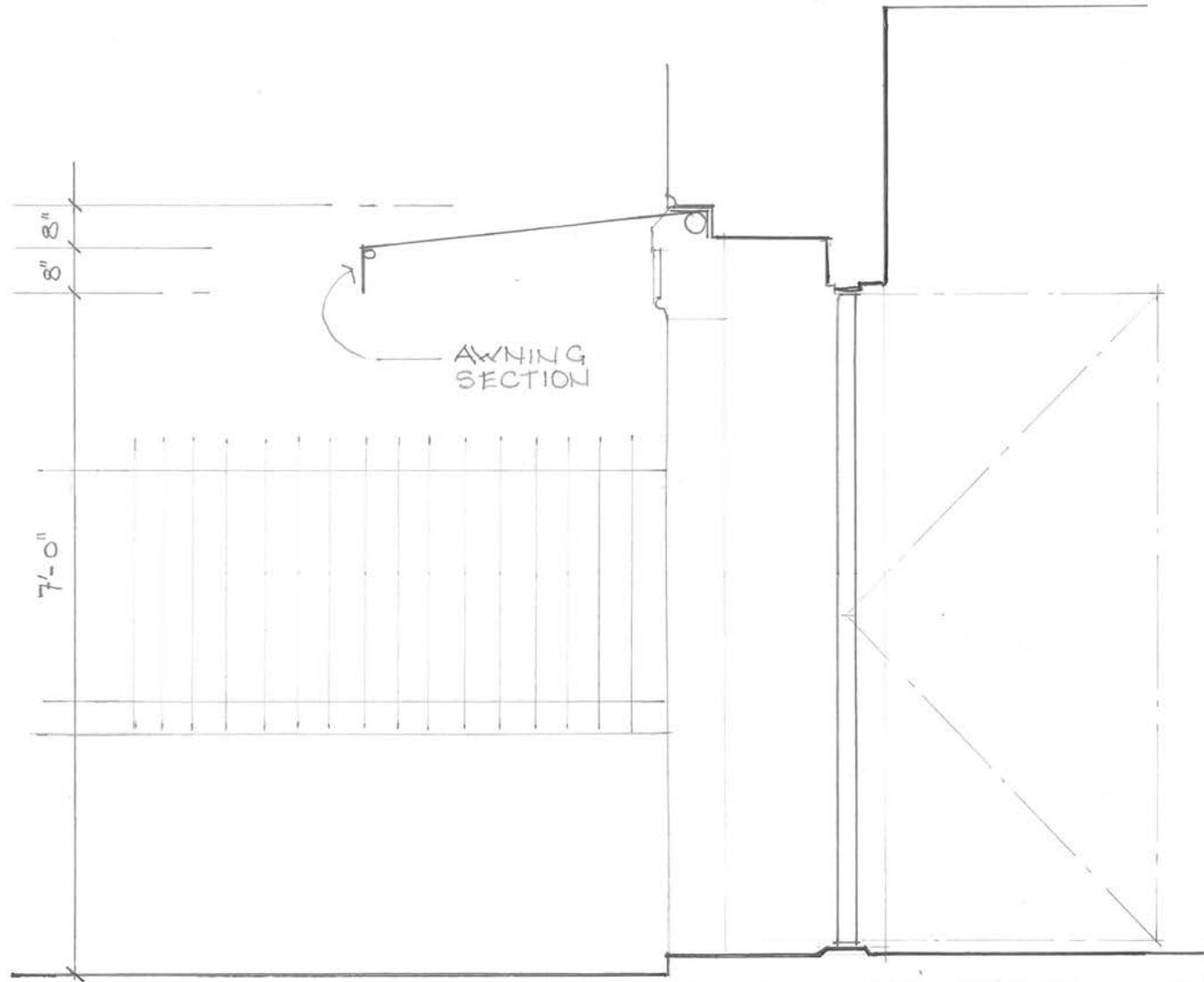
272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET
05



272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET
06



272 LENOX AVENUE

SHEET
07