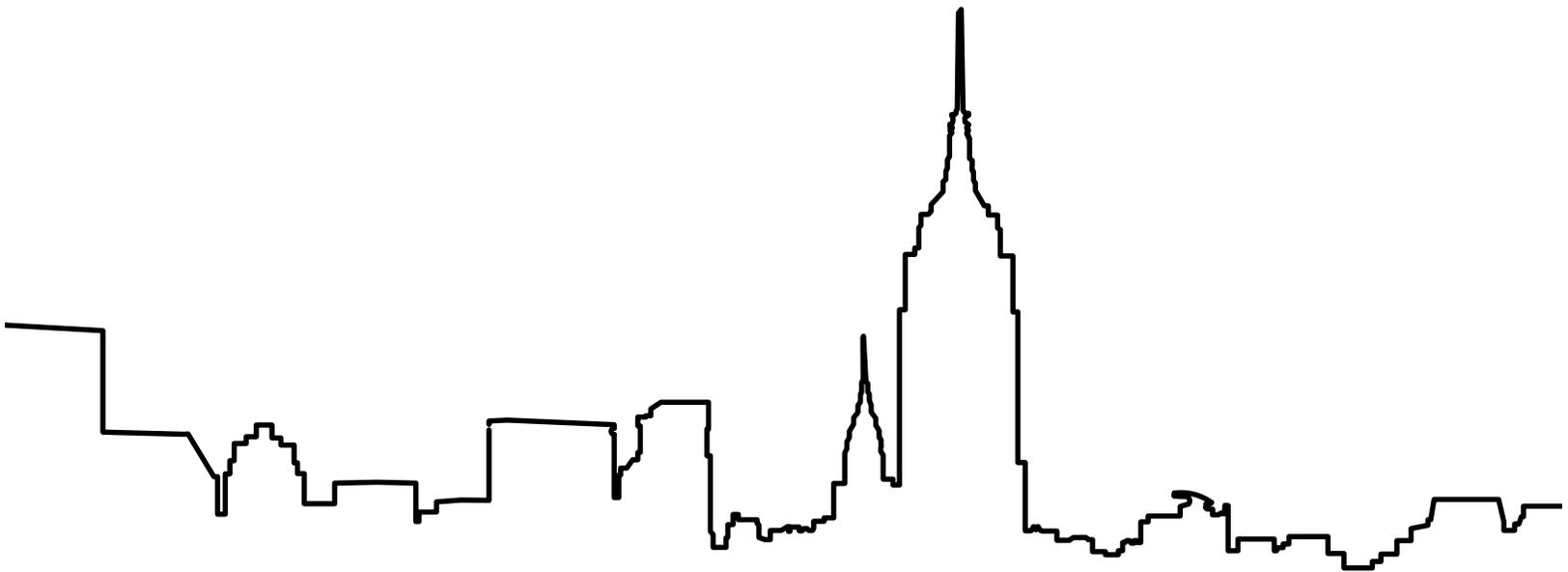


STOREFRONTS IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Application Guidelines





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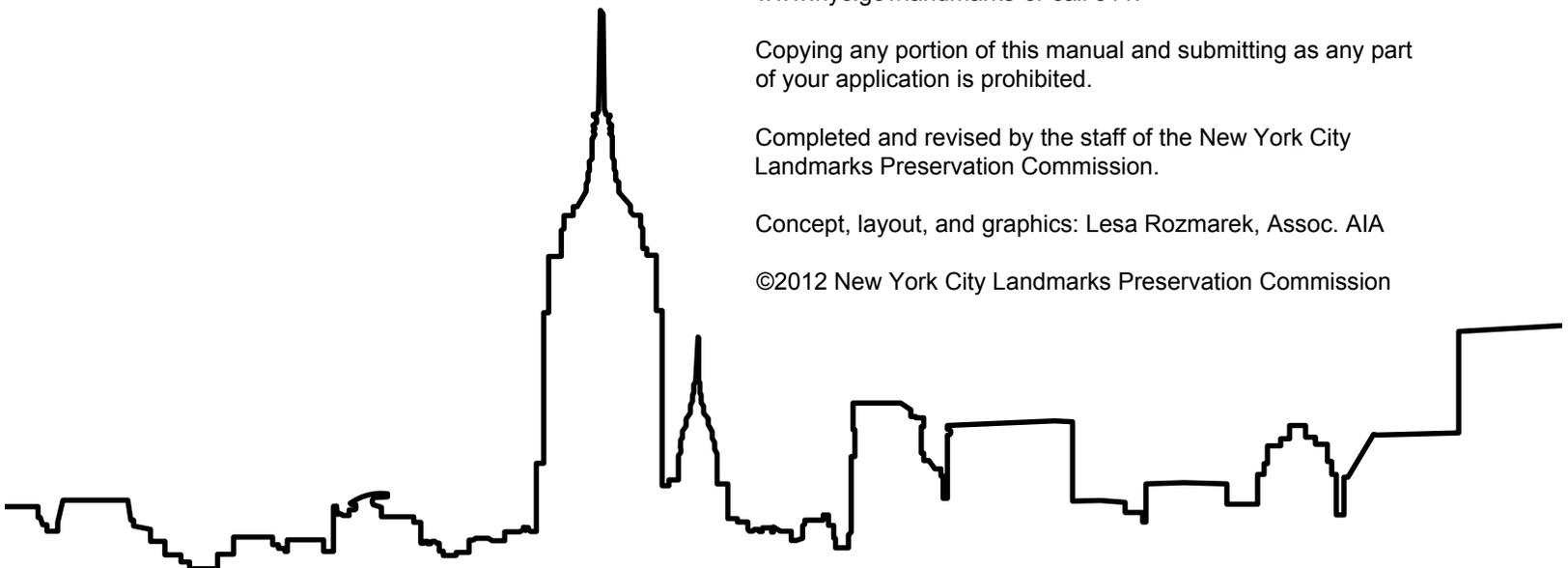
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Copying any portion of this manual and submitting as any part of your application is prohibited.

Completed and revised by the staff of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Concept, layout, and graphics: Lesa Rozmarek, Assoc. AIA

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STOREFRONTS IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Storefronts are a vital part of New York City's streetscapes, creating and reinforcing a vibrant dialogue with its busy thoroughfares. This is why any proposal to change them, regardless of whether it is contextual or contemporary, should relate well to the buildings and neighborhoods where they are located, and reflect the common characteristics of historic storefronts.

There are several Commission rules and master plans that allow staff-level permits to be issued for restorative work and storefronts in the Jackson Heights and Stone Street historic districts, and along Madison Avenue in the Expanded Carnegie Hill, Metropolitan Museum and Upper East Side historic districts.

[Section 2-17 of the Commission's rules](#), also known as the "Restoration Rule," enables LPC's staff preservationists to issue permits for proposals that replicate a missing historic storefront if the design is based on documented historic precedents, and the proposal does not involve the removal of historic fabric.

Permit applications that do not conform to the Restoration Rule or to the rules and master plans in the above historic districts, will require a review before the full Commission at a public hearing. Please visit LPC's website for a copy of the rules: <http://www.nyc.gov/test/lpc/downloads/pdf/pubs/rules.pdf>

Section 2-17 also allows for staff-level approvals of storefront designs, storefront security gates, housing, ventilating and equipment, as well as proposed designs that are not technically restorative, but are based on relevant historic precedents within the historic districts where the building is located, and feature the typical components of historic storefronts, including large display windows, bulkheads and transoms (for more information on these components, see Components of Historic Storefronts on page 3 of this chapter).



1930s Tax Photo from Brooklyn, NY

Design Guidelines

Please consider the following when submitting a storefront proposal:

- No significant historic fabric should be removed
- New storefront infill should be framed by the existing or historic piers and lintels
- If piers and lintels have been removed, a new opening should conform to the building's bay rhythm
- If the original storefront opening was reduced, it must be restored to its original size. If interior conditions prevent this, the storefront opening should be enlarged to the greatest extent possible, and the storefront surround should be consistent with the materials and details of the historic base of the building
- Proportions, configuration, details, materials, and finish of the storefront should be consistent with the age and style of the building
- Design of the storefront should be harmonious with other storefronts in the building and streetscape
- Modern storefronts may be approved if they evoke the scale and proportions of historic storefronts elsewhere in the historic district where the building is located
- Security gates must roll down on the interior of the storefront

A staff-level approval may be granted if:

- No significant fabric is removed
- Your proposal meets LPC's "Restoration Rule," (Section 2-17)
- You submit photographic evidence, physical evidence, or drawings documenting the authenticity of the proposed design of the restoration
- No evidence of the historic storefront is available and the applicant certifies a search was undertaken using the resources listed in the Restoring Architectural Features chapter of this manual; in this case, the design may be based on the designs of buildings of similar age and style
- The building is in the **Jackson Heights Historic District**, the **Stone Street Historic District** or along **Madison Avenue** in the Expanded **Carnegie Hill**, **Metropolitan Museum** and **Upper East Side** historic districts and meets the storefront rules or master plans for each of those districts, available by following the below links:

Jackson Heights Historic District:

<http://on.nyc.gov/zd6NIH>

Stone Street Historic District:

<http://on.nyc.gov/ArnYBe>

Madison Avenue in the Carnegie Hill Historic District Extension:

<http://on.nyc.gov/xrSzba>

Madison Avenue in the Metropolitan Museum Historic District:

<http://on.nyc.gov/wvxRle>

Madison Avenue in the Upper East Side Historic District:

<http://on.nyc.gov/zQyuLC>

A Commission-level approval may be granted if:

- Your presentation clearly shows the historic condition, the existing condition and the proposed changes
- Your proposal addresses the design guidelines at the top of this page

Components of Historic Storefronts

Historic storefronts are found in a variety of styles, including vernacular, high-style, and modern, in a variety of building types, from row houses and hotels to commercial lofts and department stores. Despite these differences, all historic storefronts feature common components:

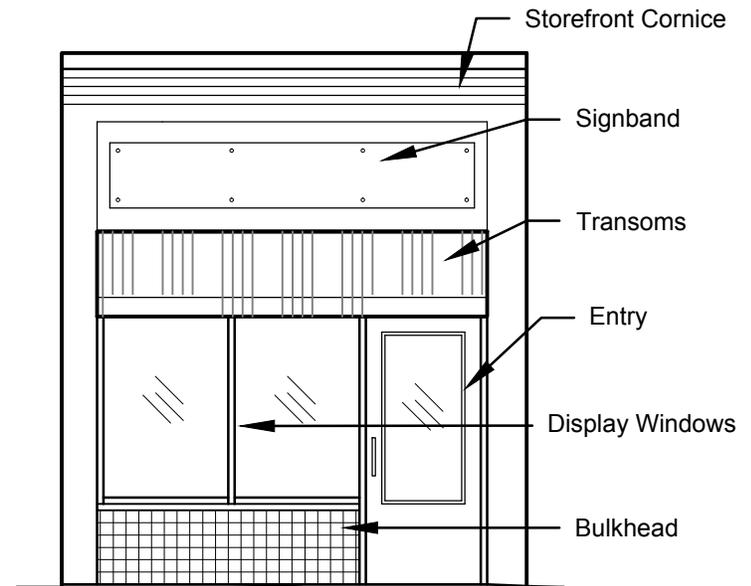
Bulkhead: Rarely absent, and usually flat or paneled wood or metal and approximately 12 to 24 inches high.

Display Windows: Always present outside of early vernacular storefronts. Depending on the age of the storefront, could be multi-paned, single paned, or projecting and the framing could be either simple metal or wood framing, decorative turned posts and columns.

Transoms: Usually present, often present above entry, even if not above display windows, transoms were generally standard rectangular and approximately 12 to 36 inches high. Depending on the age and building type, some storefronts featured tall, rectangular transoms that were approximately half the height of display window, decorative, square, or multi-paned transoms.

Entry: Entrances were centered, recessed, off-center, at the corner of the building, and featured either single or paired doors and sometimes sidelights. Recessed entrances could have splayed or straight returns.

Piers, Columns and Cornices: These features represent the structural bays of the façade, and the shape, size and proportions of storefront openings were defined by these elements. Pier styles typically found at storefronts include turned posts, large, square piers or columns at corners, round columns flanking entry, and square columns flanking each display window. Cornices were ornamental features that visually separated the storefront level from the rest of the building and varied in the level of ornament depending on the style of the building.

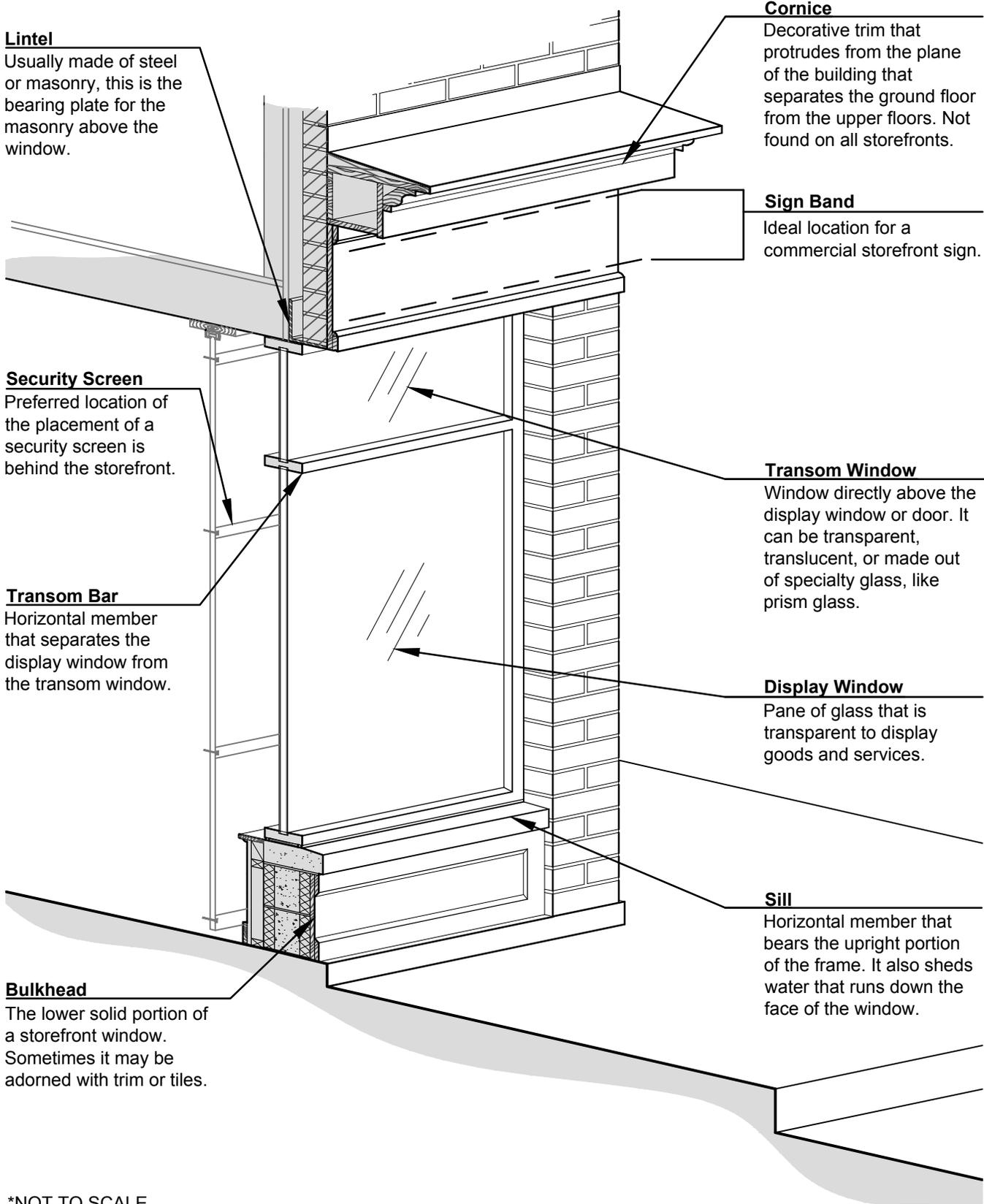


Common Characteristics of All Storefront Types

- Standard form and elements with variations
- Elements proportional to one another
- Level of transparency--display windows dominate streetwall; clear glass
- Oriented to sidewalk and pedestrian traffic
- Use of transom, awnings, and emerging technology to control light, climate
- Signage zones limited to windows, signband and spandrel area
- Altered over time

Variation in Detail

- Level of architectural detail
- Arrangement of entry and display windows
- Bulkhead height and material
- Display window proportions
- Transom proportions and configuration
- Door placement and type
- Piers and columns
- Storefront cornice



Lintel
Usually made of steel or masonry, this is the bearing plate for the masonry above the window.

Cornice
Decorative trim that protrudes from the plane of the building that separates the ground floor from the upper floors. Not found on all storefronts.

Sign Band
Ideal location for a commercial storefront sign.

Security Screen
Preferred location of the placement of a security screen is behind the storefront.

Transom Window
Window directly above the display window or door. It can be transparent, translucent, or made out of specialty glass, like prism glass.

Transom Bar
Horizontal member that separates the display window from the transom window.

Display Window
Pane of glass that is transparent to display goods and services.

Sill
Horizontal member that bears the upright portion of the frame. It also sheds water that runs down the face of the window.

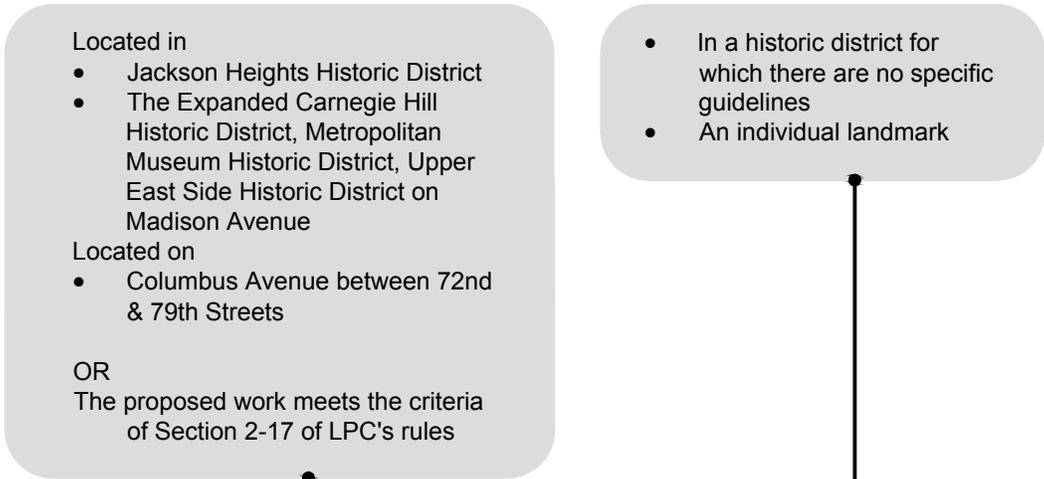
Bulkhead
The lower solid portion of a storefront window. Sometimes it may be adorned with trim or tiles.

*NOT TO SCALE

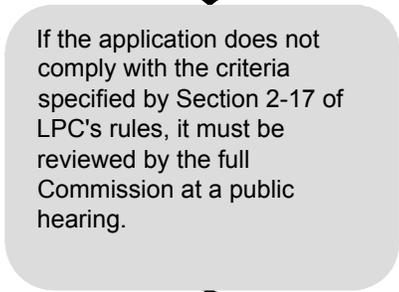
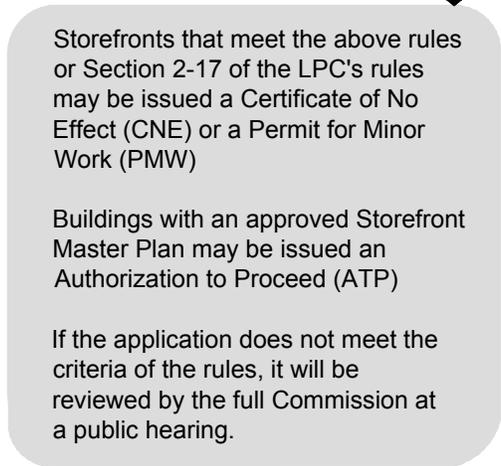
STOREFRONTS

What to Expect: Storefront Review Process

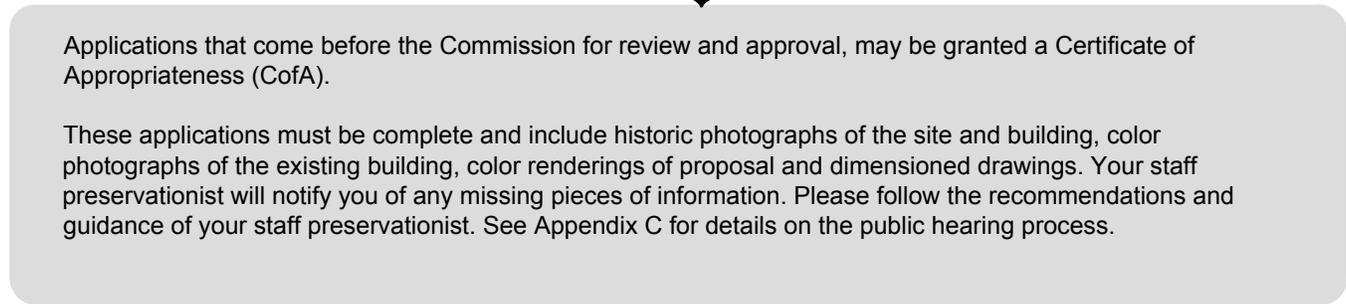
My Building is



LPC Staff Level Approvals



Public Hearing Approvals



Application Checklist for Storefronts

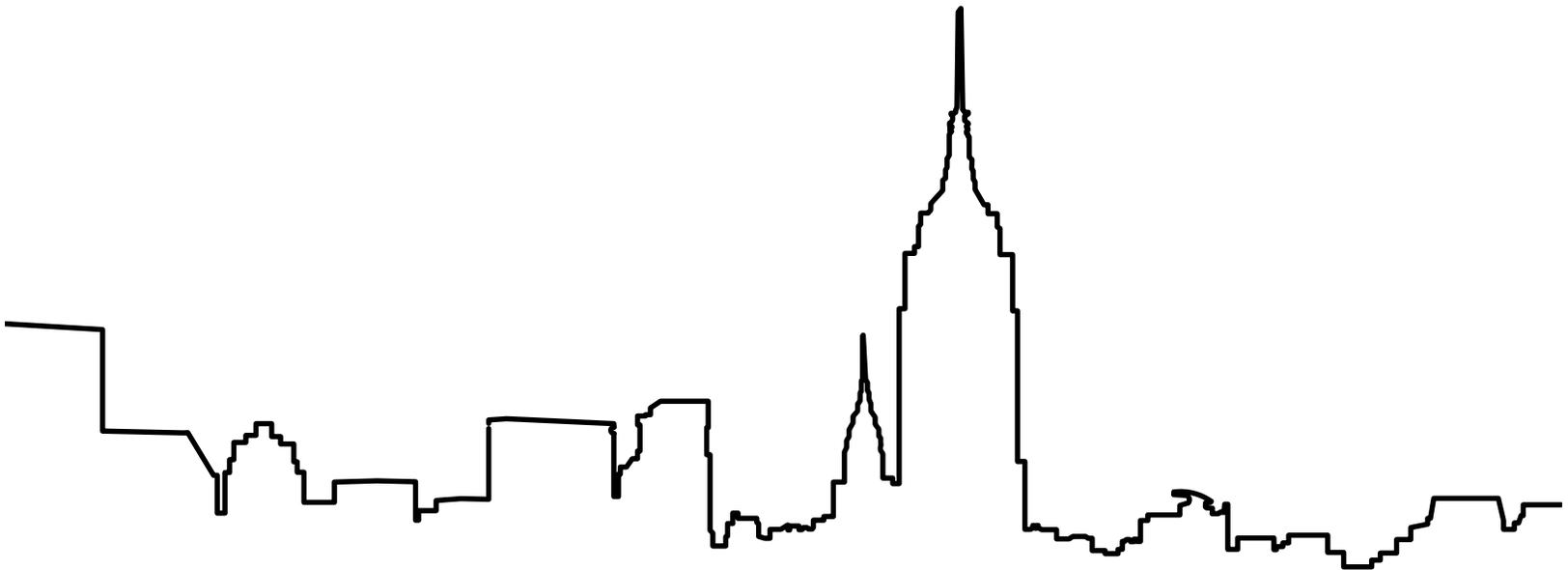
Below is a list of required descriptive materials for your storefront proposal. These materials will help the Commission evaluate the impact of your proposal on the associated landmark site.

- Permit application signed by the building owner
- Color photographs of the building and close-ups of the existing storefront
- Elevation drawings of the existing and proposed storefronts and an overall building elevation
- Large-scale section details of the head, jamb, bulkhead and sill
- Enlarged floor plan of storefront area
- Large-scale partial plan showing the plane of the storefront in relation to building wall drawings of signage, lighting and security
- Color and material sample(s)
- If you have met all of the requirements and staff has confirmed you are able to receive a staff-level approval, you must submit two sets of filings drawings signed and sealed by a licensed architect or engineer if the proposed work requires a Department of Buildings permit before the LPC approval may be issued

An LPC staff preservationist will contact you if additional materials are required.

STOREFRONTS IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Sample Application Materials





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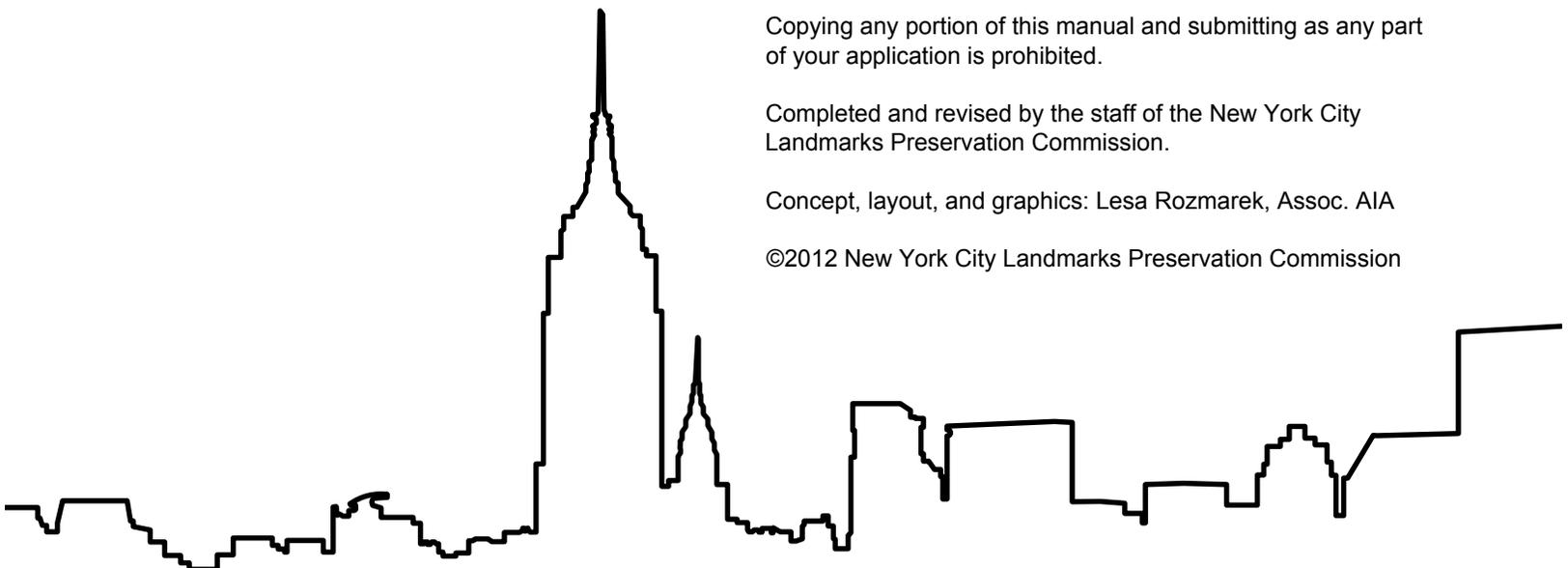
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Label the photograph or on the back of the photograph denote which elevation the photograph is representing; i.e. Howard Street Elevation.



Elevation View from Howard Street



Elevation View from Intersection of Howard Street and Crosby Street



View from Crosby Street

Label the photograph or on the back of the photograph denote which elevation the photograph is representing; i.e. Crosby Street Elevation.



Adjacent Buildings on Howard Street (both photos)

Label the photograph or on the back of the photograph denote which elevation the photograph is representing; i.e., Howard Street Elevation.



Adjacent Buildings on Crosby Street

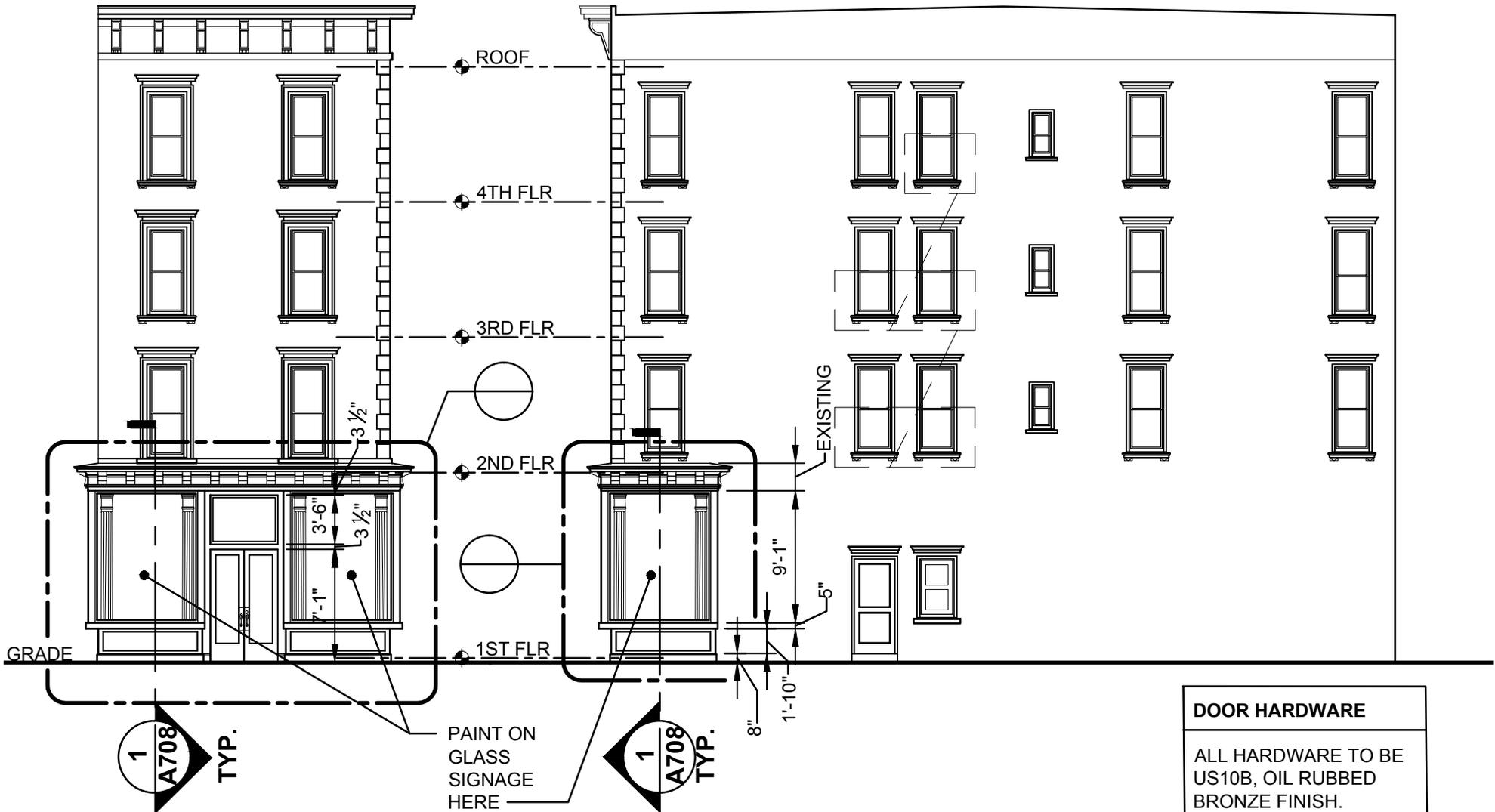
Label the photograph or on the back of the photograph denote which elevation the photograph is representing; i.e., Crosby Street Elevation.



SCOPE OF WORK INCLUDES:
 REMOVAL OF EXISTING SECURITY SCREENS, CORNICE RESTORATION, INSTALLATION OF NEW INTERNAL SECURITY SCREEN, INSTALLATION OF NEW EXTERIOR TILE ENTRY FLOOR, PAINTING OF CORNICE, STOREFRONT, AND WOOD TRIM, INSTALLATION OF NEW CUSTOM WOOD DOORS.

STOREFRONT REHABILITATION TO INCLUDE: SELECTIVE DEMOLITION OF EXISTING STOREFRONT TO EXPOSE POSSIBLE HISTORIC FABRIC. NEW TEMPERED LAMINATED GLASS WINDOWS SET IN ALUMINUM STORE FRONT FRAMING WITH WOOD SURROUND.

IF HISTORIC FABRIC REMAINS: FABRIC TO BE EVALUATED FOR REUSE AND THE STOREFRONT SHALL BE RECONSTRUCTED BASED UPON EVIDENCE.



1
A707 Proposed Howard Street Elevation
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

2
A707 Proposed Crosby Street Elevation
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

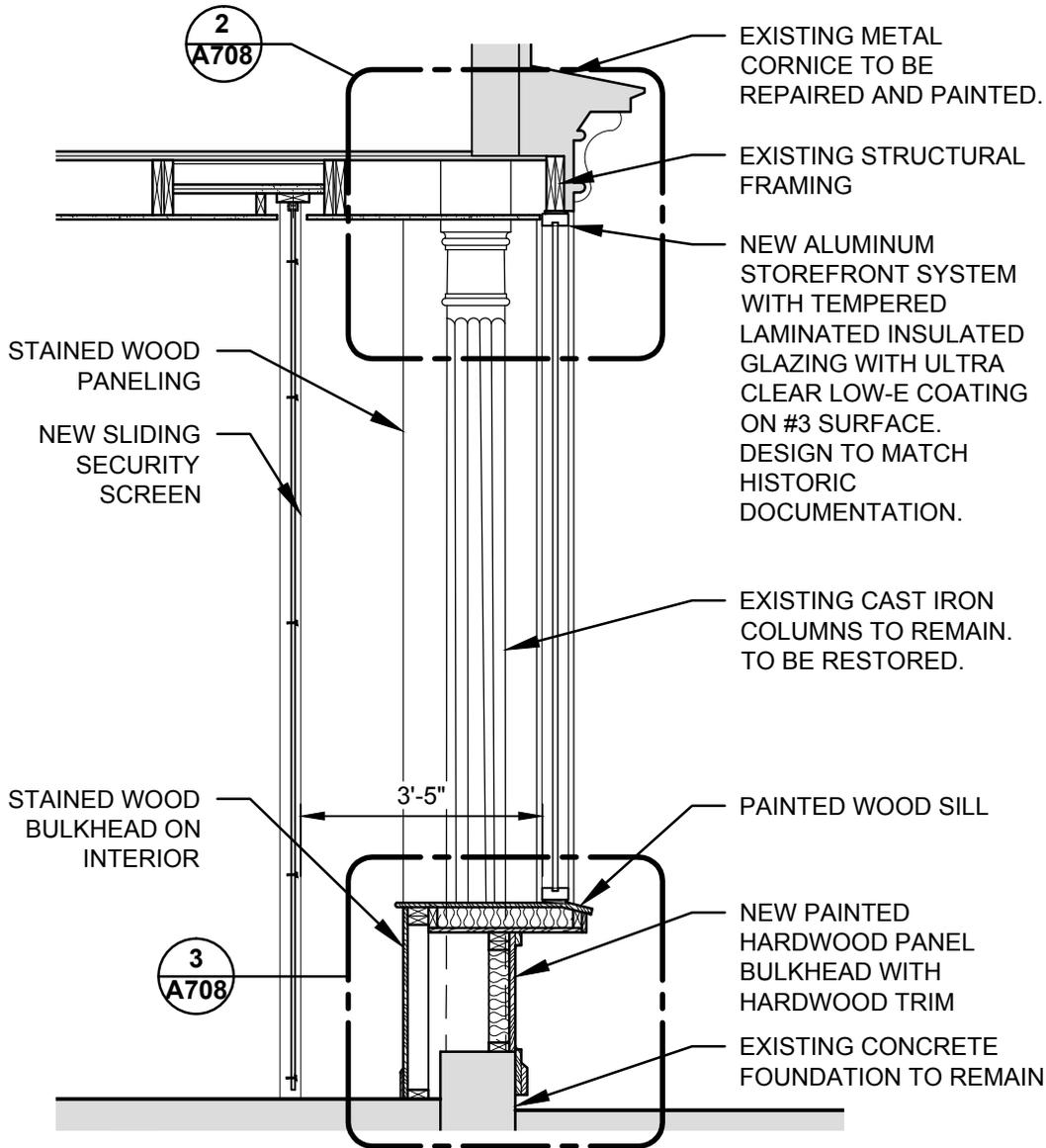
DOOR HARDWARE

ALL HARDWARE TO BE US10B, OIL RUBBED BRONZE FINISH. MANUFACTURER'S CUT SHEETS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE FOR DESIGN REVIEW.

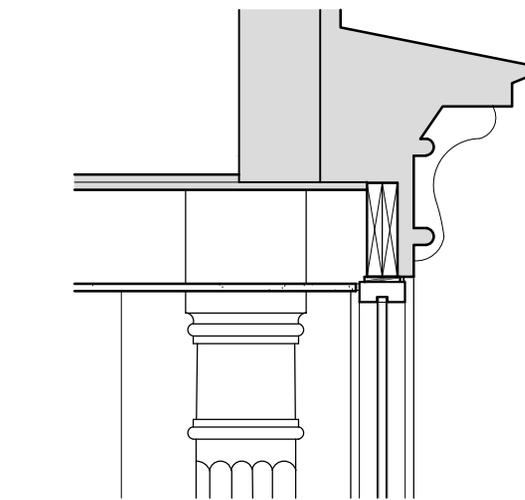
STOREFRONT INSTALLATION
311 HOWARD ST., NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Elevations

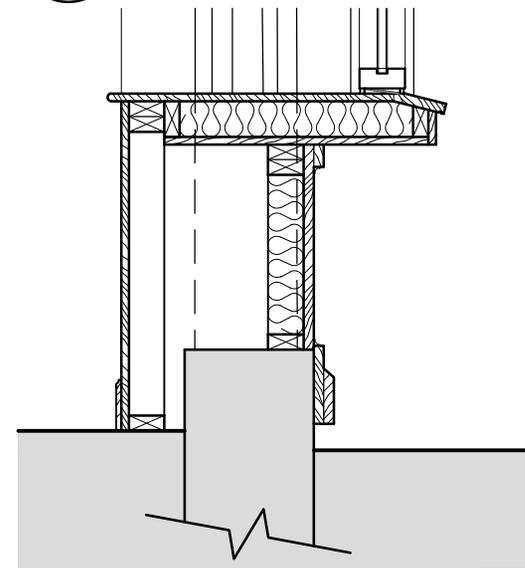




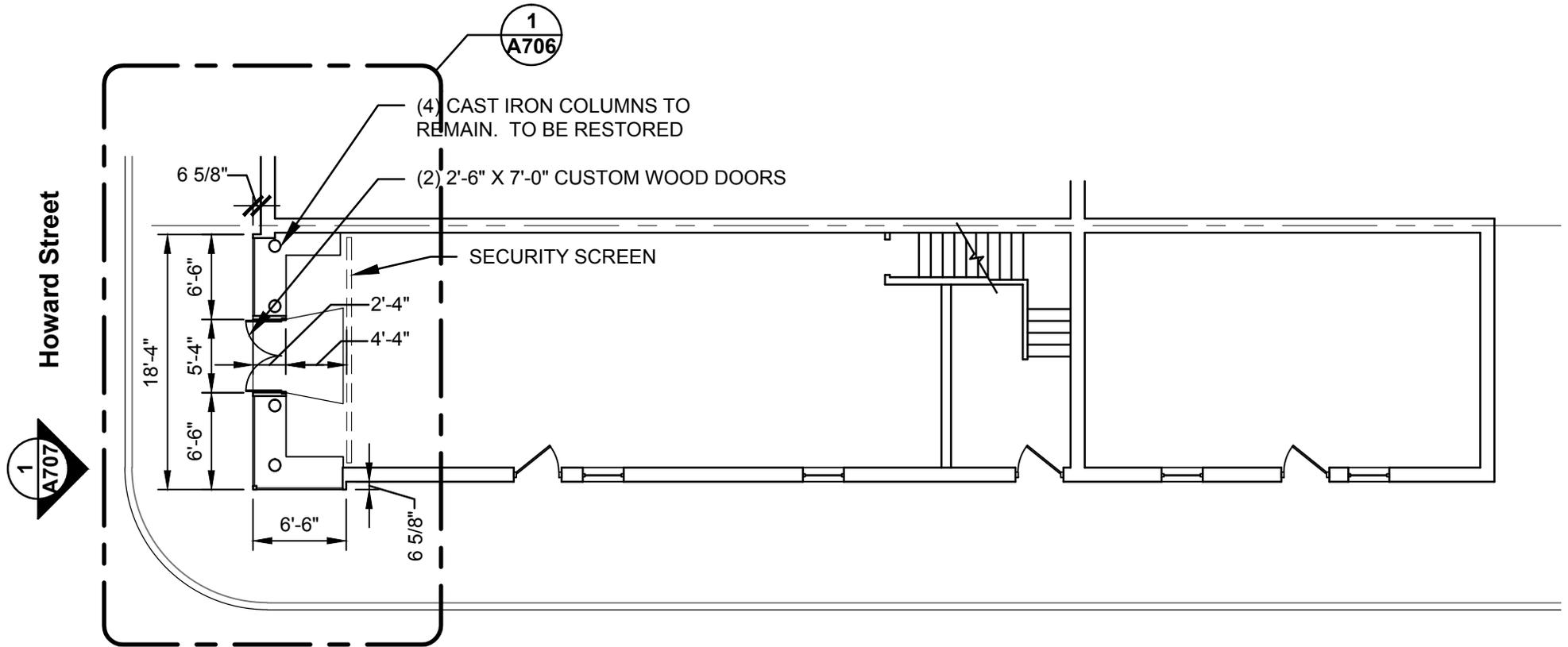
1 Section Through Storefront w/ Security Screen
A708 Scale: 1"=1'-0"



2 Storefront Detail
A708



3 Storefront Detail
A708

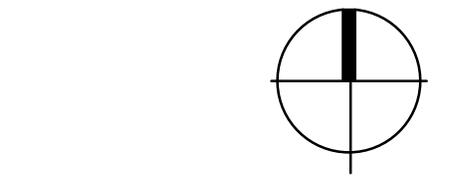


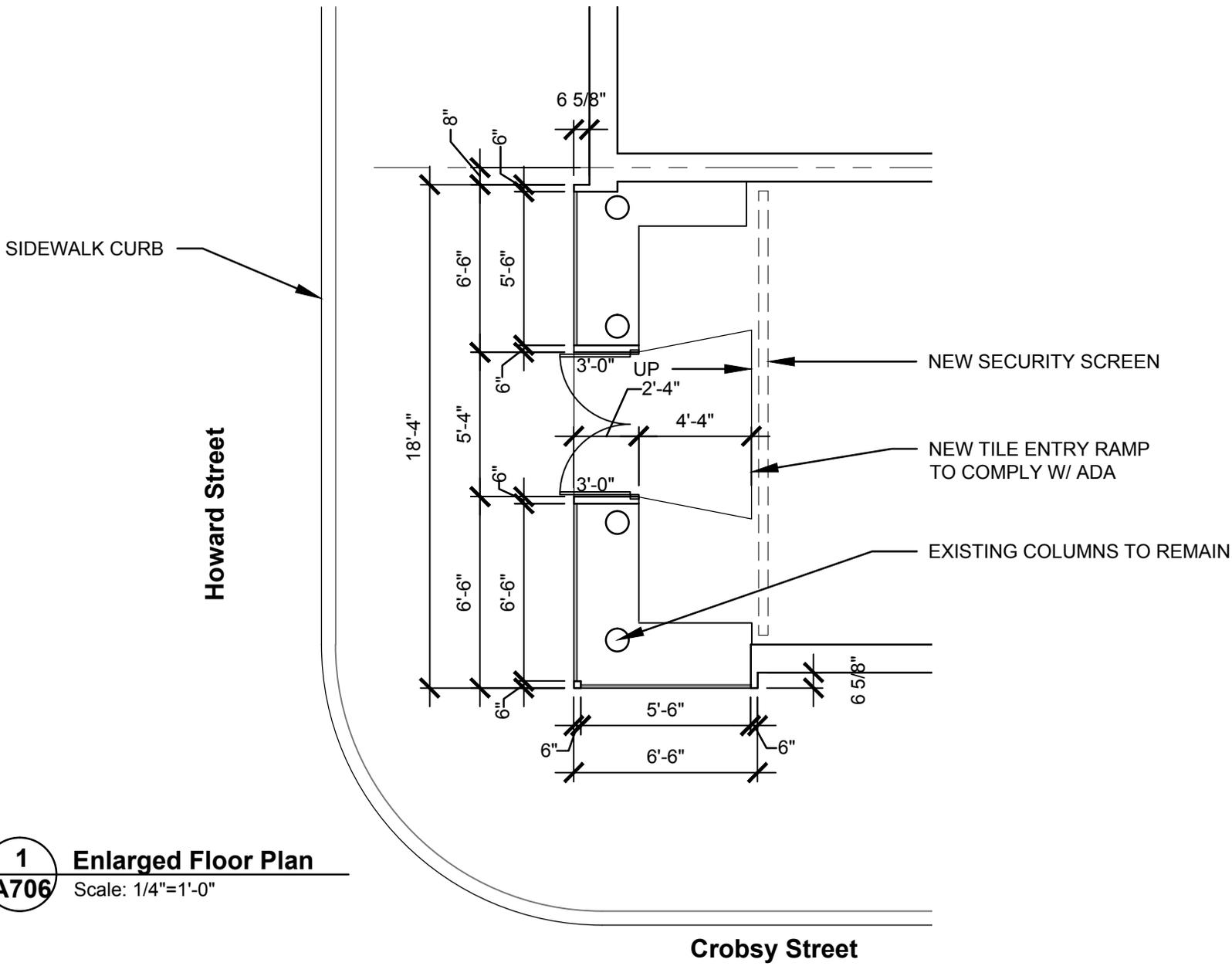
1
A705

Proposed Floor Plan
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

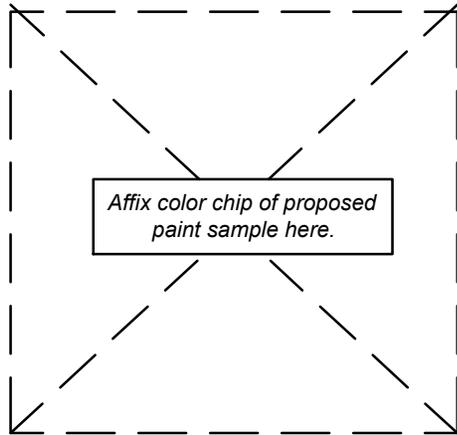
STOREFRONT INSTALLATION
311 HOWARD ST., NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Floor Plan & Site

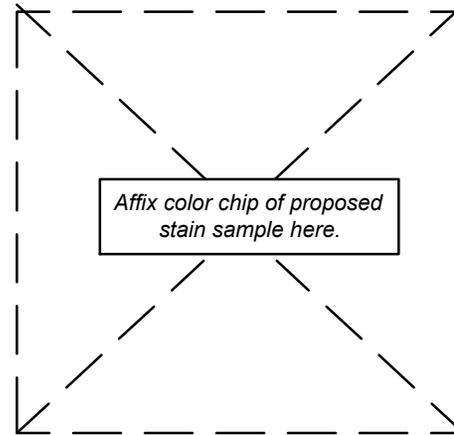




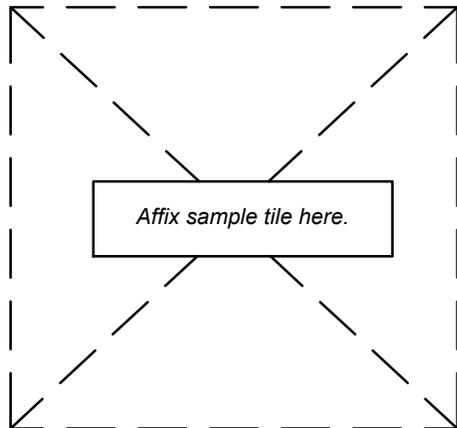
1 Enlarged Floor Plan
A706 Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"



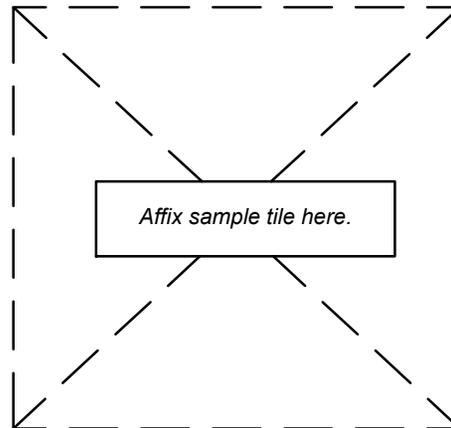
Exterior Sash and Frame Color: Paint Company X, Color: Darkest Ocean Blue, BG-1066.



Interior Bulkhead and Trim Color: Paint Company X, Color: Aged Walnut, ST-1492.



Bulkhead Tile: Clay or Bust Inc., Style: Non-Slip Modern Funk Hexagon, Color: Pearl Essence.



Bulkhead Tile: Clay or Bust Inc., Style: Non-Slip Modern Funk Hexagon, Color: Onyx.