



Alfred Stieglitz  
American, 1864 - 1946

# *From the Back- Window—291—Building in Construction*

1916

platinum print

image: 24 × 18.9 cm (9 7/16 × 7 7/16 in.)

sheet: 25.2 × 20.3 cm (9 15/16 × 8 in.)

mat: 52.2 × 37.9 cm (20 9/16 × 14 15/16 in.)

Alfred Stieglitz Collection 1949.3.404

Stieglitz Estate Number 13B

Key Set Number 426

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## KEY SET ENTRY

Related Key Set Photographs



Alfred Stieglitz  
*From the Back-Window—291—Wall  
Closing In*  
1916  
platinum print  
Key Set Number 427



Alfred Stieglitz  
*From the Back-Window—291—Wall  
Closing In*  
1916  
platinum print  
Key Set Number 428

## Remarks

"I have done quite some photography recently. It is intensely direct. Portraits, Buildings from my back window at 291, a whole series of them, a few landscapes and interiors. All interrelated. I know nothing outside of [David Octavius] Hill's work which I think is so direct, and quite so intensely honest. It is all 8 × 10 work. All platinum prints. Not a trace of hand work on either negative or prints. No diffused focus. Just the straight goods. On some things the lens stopped down to 128. But everything simplified in spite of endless detail" (Stieglitz to R. Child Bayley, 1 November 1916 [YCAL]).

The building under construction is 136 Madison Avenue, at the northwest corner of Madison and 31st Street.

## Lifetime Exhibitions

A print from the same negative—perhaps a photograph from the Gallery's collection—appeared in the following exhibition(s) during Alfred Stieglitz's lifetime:

1921, New York (no. 52, as *Building in Construction*, 1915, from the series "From the Back-Window—291")

*From the Back-Window—291—Building in Construction*

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## INSCRIPTION

by Georgia O'Keeffe, on mount, upper left verso, in graphite: 13 B

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## PROVENANCE

Georgia O'Keeffe; gift to NGA, 1949.

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## EXHIBITION HISTORY

1983 Photographs by Alfred Stieglitz, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, February 3–May 8, 1983; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, June 17–August 14, 1983; The Art Institute of Chicago, October 18, 1983–January 3, 1984

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1983 Greenough, Sarah, and Juan Hamilton. *Alfred Stieglitz: Photographs and Writings*. Washington, 1983: no. 48, pl. 19.
- 2002 Greenough, Sarah. *Alfred Stieglitz: The Key Set: The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Photographs*. Washington, 2002: vol. 1, cat. 426.
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