

ORIGINAL



TOWN OF COVENTRY
Department of Planning & Development
1875 Flat River Road, Coventry, RI 02816

ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW APPLICATION



PROJECT INFORMATION

Application Type:

- ☐ Special Use Permit (See Zoning Ordinance, Section 430)
☐ Use Variance (see Zoning Ordinance, Section 450)
☒ Dimensional Variance (see Zoning Ordinance, Section 455B)
☐ Appeal of Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Decision (see Zoning Ordinance, Section 412)
☐ Time Extension Request

Project Name NEW CHURCH SIGN Plat AP45 Lot(s) 42
Street address /location 1081 MAIN ST., COVENTRY, R.I. 02816
Zoning District VMC
Width of Lot: 96' Depth of Lot: 135'6" Area (s.f.): 13,008 SqFT

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Note: An individual may represent him/herself before the Coventry Zoning Board with respect to any application involving his/her property. If the applicant is anyone OTHER than the landowner, or if the applicant is a limited partnership, corporation, LLC or other business, social or fraternal organization, then the owner/applicant must be represented by legal counsel.

Applicant Name George E. TABER Phone 401-787-4883
Company Cornerstone of Faith UMC Email gtaber45@verizon.net
Authorized Corp./LLC Officer George E. Taber - CHIEF TRUSTEE
DAVID J. DONOVAN - CHAIR ADMIN BOARD
Corp/LLC Contact Email _____
Corp/LLC Contact Phone _____
Company Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

OWNER INFORMATION (If NOT the Applicant)

Owner Name _____ Phone _____
Company _____ Email _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

ZONING ORDINANCE RELIEF REQUESTED

Specify the Zoning Code Reference for the relief sought, including the Zoning Ordinance Article, Section and Use Code (if applicable)

§ 255-1540E. Village Commercial Sign Regulations

- C - The area of the sign board shall not exceed 12 square feet
- D - The height of the lettering and numbers shall not exceed 6 inches
- E - The height of the top of the sign board shall not exceed 6 feet from the ground

Describe the proposed alterations, additions, new buildings or other activity requested (including size and height):

Be sure to explain the relief that is being requested and how it is different from the Zoning Ordinance



Section	Dimensions	Area
Upper Section	4' X 8'	32 Sq. Ft.
Lower Section	11" X 8'	7.33 Sq. Ft.
Top Section	Top Letters 4"	
	Lower Letters 6"	
Lower Section	4" Changeable letters	

The sign is 3 FT. Wider and 1' 5/8" Taller. The upper section increases the Sq. Ft. Area but is mostly blue board with the letters cut out. Upper letters 4" lower 6". The Methodist Syble is cut out in the center board. The upper board will be covered with a transparent covering and internally illuminated with LED lights.

Height of Sign from Ground 6' 9"

List other TOWN Committees or Boards that will review the proposal:

Boards and
Commissions

Describe the conditions or hardship that requires the applicant to deviate from the Zoning Ordinance, such as the physical condition of the property, loss of property use, effect on surrounding properties.

The Church was erected in 1831 and originally called Washington Episcopal Methodist Church and for years it was Washington United Methodist Church. In 2009 Washington Methodist and Centreville Methodist merged and the name changed to Cornerstone of Faith United Methodist Church.

The present original sign is 30+ years old, hard to read and not attractive. Working with Copy Cats and suggestions from our Pastor we wanted a sign that is easy to read, Bright, more Attractive, and Vibrant. We want to invite everyone into the Lord's House. The sign 6'9" but 3ft. wider than the original. It is still 13 Ft. back from the roadside boundary. This is all depicted in the layout drawing.

This sign will have no effect on the surrounding properties.

By signing this application, I understand that plans cannot be altered once the Board has approved or disapproved of them. They are incorporated as part of the decision and are final.

Applicant Signature:

George E. Fisher

Date:

July 30, 2026

Applicant Signature:

Mark J. Johnson

Date:

7/30/2026

Owner Signature:

Date:

Owner Signature:

Date:

8

WASHINGTON UNITED METHODIST
 CONERSTONE FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 1081 MAIN ST
 COVENTRY, RI 02816-

COVENTRY TAX COLLECTOR
 1670 Flat River Rd.
 Coventry, RI 02816
 (401) 822-9167

****TAXPAYER STATUS AS OF****DATE: 7/3/2026

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that as of today, taxes are: ☒ Paid up to date, ☐ Paid in Full, or ☐ DELINQUENT on Assessor's

Plat 45 Lot 42; up to and including 2026 taxes. These taxes are listed on the tax roll
 under the name listed above.

☒ Also, see Acct# SW-0490-02 for tangible sewer taxes associated with this plat / lot. - 2025 - paid up to date

John M. Poirier
 Tax Collector / Authorized Representative
 Town of Coventry

Interest as of	Principal	Interest	Total
07/03/2026	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Receivable Name	Bill Amount	Balance	Interest	Total Due
2026 RP Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Payments (0)

Tax Items (2)

Tax Item	Total Assessment	Tax Amount	Adjusted Bill Amount	Principal	Interest	Total Due
0045-042.000 at 1081 MAIN ST	768,000	\$9,949.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

DETAILS:

Tax Item	Total Assessment	Tax Amount	Adjusted Bill Amount	Principal	Interest	Total Due
Parcel ID	0045-042.000					
Location	1081 MAIN ST					
State Code	72					
Land	249,500					
Building	518,500					
Total Assessment	768,000					
Bank Code						
District	FD:7					

PAYMENTS:

Date	Type	Batch	Transaction #	Principal	Interest	Total	Method	Comments
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No results found

0064-234.000 at 86 DOOLITTLE ST		415,100	\$5,377.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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DETAILS:

Parcel ID	0064-234.000
Location	86 DOOLITTLE ST
State Code	72
Land	106,300
Building	308,800
Total Assessment	415,100
Bank Code	
District	FD:2

PAYMENTS:

Date	Type	Batch	Transaction #	Principal	Interest	Total	Method	Comments
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No results found

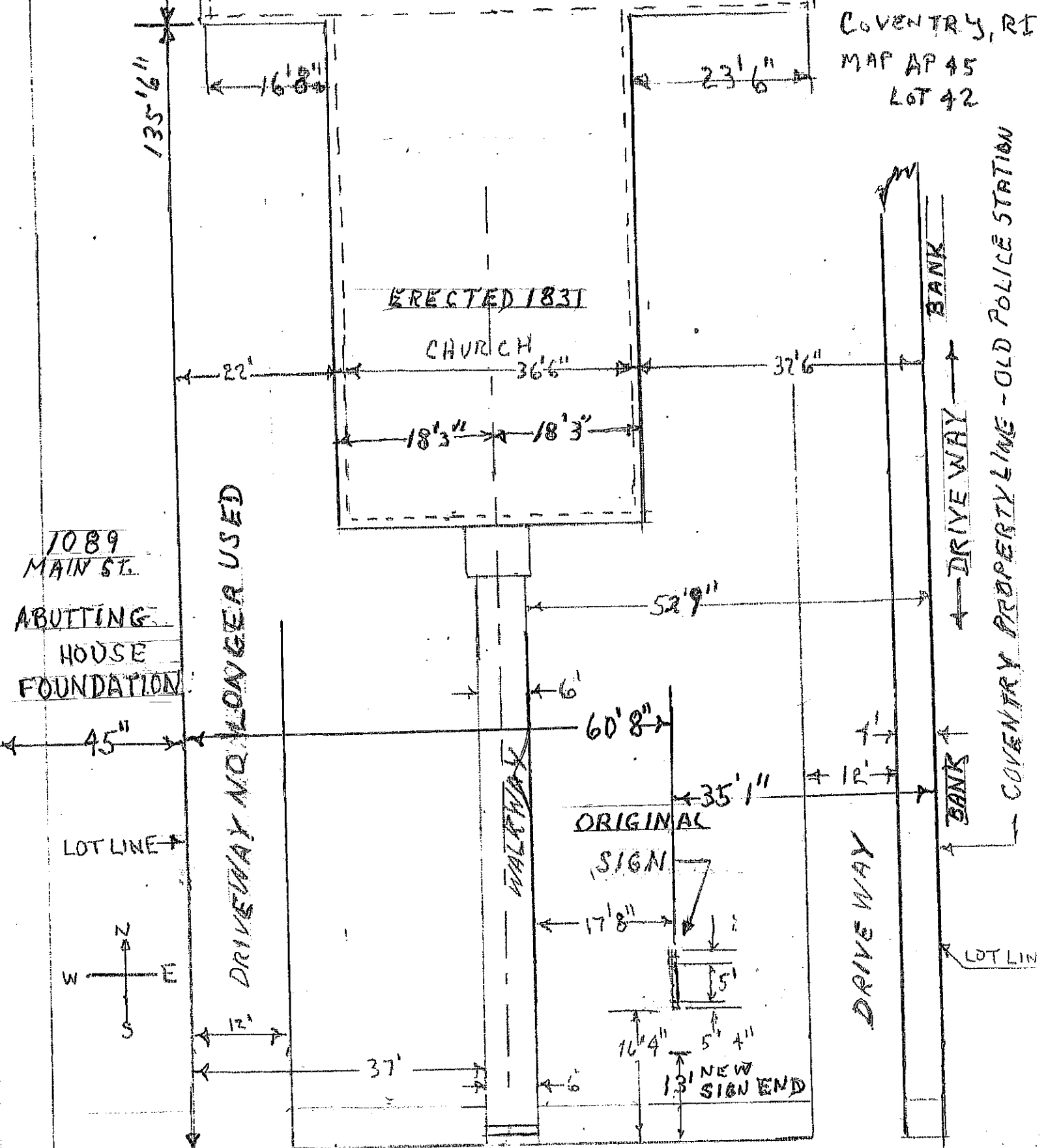
Exemption Items (0)

Installments (4)

2025 RP Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2024 RP Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2023 RP Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2022 RP/Tng Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2021 RP Tng Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2020 RP Tng Tax Roll	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

ADDITION - 1957 FELLOSHIP HALL

CORNER STONE
OF FAITH UMC
1081 MAIN ST,
COVENTRY, RI
MAP AP 45
LOT 42



DRAWN: GEORGE TABER TRUSTEES

SIDE WALK

1081 MAIN ST. - RT 117

7/3/2026 REV. A.

ORIGINALLY
WASHINGTON
METHODIST CHURCH





COPYCATS

ESTIMATE / INVOICE

Attn: George Taber

Phone: 401-787-4883

To: Cornerstone Church

Date: 7/28/2026

1081 Main St., Coventry, RI 02816

gtaber45@verizon.net

(1) 4 x 8 x 14"

Double sided custom fabricated cabinet, All aluminum welded structure, .040
Aluminum skin & moulding
illuminated with low input / High output LED's

**2) 4 x 8 custom cut Polycarb (Lexan) faces Lettered to customer specs. Using
High performance 3M vinyl laminated with UV Protection**

**1) 18" x 96" x 10" deep double sided non illuminated cabinet with faces
And tracking using extruded aluminum, welded construction, allupanel
with 2 lines of tracking on each side**

2) Hinged top clear poly vandal covers with locks and keys

2) boxes of 100 premium 4" (non bendable) letters

Cabinet Primed and painted blue to match

2) 3" x 3" x 1/8" x 12 foot steel poles primed and painted

Installation

Does not include acquisition and/or permit fees

RECEIVED By: _____ Date: _____

Copycats
440 Providence Street
West Warwick, RI 02893



Phone: 401-828-2830
Fax: 401-826-4690
Email: mike@copycatsri.com
Website: www.copycatsri.com

Net 30 days. Finance charge of 1 1/2 per month (18% annum) will be charged on unpaid balances.
Also, subject to any attorneys fees and court costs if necessary.
ALL SALES FINAL, NO CASH REFUNDS

Application for a Dimensional Variance from the Zoning Code

Rhode Island General Law §45-24-41 states that "An application for relief from the literal requirements of a zoning ordinance because of hardship may be made by any person, group, agency, or corporation by filing with the zoning enforcement officer or agency an application describing the request and supported by any data and evidence as may be required by the zoning board of review or by the terms of the ordinance."

There are four criteria that the Zoning Board of Review will take into consideration when reviewing an application for a Dimensional Variance. Please note that all four criteria must be answered. Failure to do so may result in an application being deemed incomplete.

§45-24-41(d)(1): "That the hardship from which the applicant seeks relief is due to the unique characteristics of the subject land or structure and not to the general characteristics of the surrounding area; and is not due to a physical or economic disability of the applicant, excepting those physical disabilities addressed in § 45-24-30(a)(16)":

Washington Methodist Church was erected in 1831. The name changed to the Washington Episcopal Methodist Church in 2009 it merged with Centreville United Methodist Church, and the name was changed to Cornerstone of Faith United Methodist Church. We are seeking a Variance from the town standards as the Present sign is 30+ year old and not easily readable. Even though the present sign is internally illuminated with 2- 4" lg fluorescent bulbs it is not easily readable at night. The new sign is brighter, more readable and slightly longer. It is internally illuminated with LED lights. The original sign was less than 12Sq.Ft. The new sign would be more Attractive and Vibrant. We want to invite everyone to the Lords House.

§45-24-41(d)(2): "That the hardship is not the result of any prior action of the applicant":

This hardship is not the result of any prior action of the applicant.

§45-24-41(d)(3): "That the granting of the requested variance will not alter the general character of the surrounding area or impair the intent or purpose of the zoning ordinance or the comprehensive plan upon which the ordinance is based.":

The New Sign will start at the original North end of the original sign next to the 110Volt AC power supply. The New Sign will be 3'4" Wider than the original and still be 13' back from the front roadside boundary. The new sign will be more appealing and vibrant.

§45-24-41(e)(2): "In granting a dimensional variance, that the hardship suffered by the owner of the subject property if the dimensional variance is not granted amounts to more than a mere inconvenience, meaning that relief sought is minimal to a reasonable enjoyment of the permitted use to which the property is proposed to be devoted. The fact that a use may be more profitable or that a structure may be more valuable after the relief is granted is not grounds for relief."

' The purpose of the New Sign, it is more Attractive and Vibrant as compared to the Old Sign which might be more inviting to the House of the Lord.