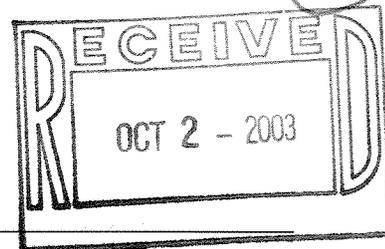


B-08 10/1/03 (20)

TOWN OF ACTON

Building Department

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION



To: Board of Selectmen

Date: October 1, 2003

From: Garry Rhodes, Building Commissioner

Subject: Religious Directional Sign, S. Acton Congregational Church

Attached is a request for a Religious directional sign under Section 4b of the Board's *Signs within the Right of Way Policy*. The sign is 6.72 square feet. The requested sign exceeds the maximum allowed square footage by .72 square feet and requires Board of Selectmen approval under Section 4e of the same policy.

Engineering and Highway have agreed upon the first location on the existing sign pole at Main Street and Railroad Street. See attached memos regarding same. The Historic Districts Commission has also approved both the location and design of the sign. See attached certificate.

As background, the South Acton Congregational Church had two directional signs one on either side of the bridge. Both were in place in October 1995. They were removed during the bridge construction. One of the signs was saved and is being replaced, under the policy, on the High Street side of the bridge. A new sign is being purchased for the Railroad Street side. The available choice of sign styles and sizes has changed and the 6.72 square foot style is the smallest available.

Please advise of your decision.

**TOWN OF ACTON
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION**

Date: September 29, 2003

To: Isabella V. Choate, Sign Coordinator

From: David F. Abbt, Engineering Administrator

D. Abbt

Subject: South Acton Congregational Church Directional Sign

We inspected the two proposed sign locations and feel that Location #1 would probably be acceptable with conditions; however, it is not the best location from the standpoint of sight distance for vehicles at the Main Street / Railroad Street Intersection. Location #1 will limit the view of southbound vehicles on Main Street for drivers exiting Railroad Street on a green signal. Most careful drivers, at least, will check to be sure that conflicting traffic has stopped before proceeding on a green signal.

If Location #1 is approved, we would recommend a condition that the forsythia bush at the intersection be pruned or removed as far back as the Dead End sign for Railroad Street. This would provide visibility on both sides of the proposed church directional sign, and should compensate for the loss in sight distance due to the sign. It appears that this bush does little to improve the aesthetics of the area and in fact limits the view of the Jones Tavern, as well as visibility at the intersection.

The proposed sign location for northbound drivers on Main Street is acceptable to the Engineering Department. It is in an area where sight distance for traffic will not be compromised.

Belle Choate

From: David Brown
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2003 6:56 AM
To: Belle Choate
Subject: Request for sign at Main and Railroad

Belle,

I prefer location # 1 and do not have a problem installing it under the PARKING sign. My concern would be working around the sign during snow removal but with the location shown it appears that it should not be a problem.

file

TOWN OF ACTON

Building Department

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

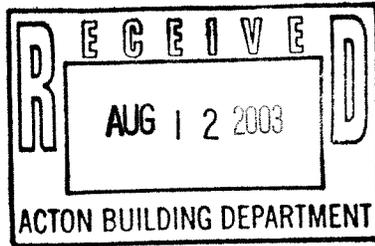
To: Highway and Engineering **Date:** September 15, 2003

From: Isabella V. Choate, Sign Coordinator *IVC*

Subject: Directional Sign Request- S. Acton Congregational Church

Please review the attached application for permission to install a directional sign under the Board of Selectmen Signs within the Right of Way Policy. This sign requires the approval of the Board of Selectmen because its size of 6.72 square feet exceeds the maximum of 6 square feet specified in the policy. A second sign meeting the 6 square feet size requirement is being installed on the other side of the bridge where a sign was located in 1995.

Please comment and return to me by Monday, September 29th.



Application # 0315

TOWN OF ACTON
472 Main Street
Acton, Massachusetts, 01720
Telephone (978) 264-9612
Fax (978) 264-9630

Signs within the Right of Way
as per Board of Selectmen Policy #

SIGNS IN A HISTORIC DISTRICT MUST HAVE PRIOR APPROVAL FROM
THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.

This application must be submitted 30 days prior to erecting the sign(s). Each application must be accompanied by the following: A scale drawing or photograph showing the proposed sign(s); dimensions and any other pertinent information necessary to accurately depict the proposed sign(s). For all signs (except banners) please attach a locus map (obtained from the Engineering Department) showing proposed location(s).

General Information:

Organization: So ACTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - 35 SCHOOL ST

Contact person: PETER S. ALLING

Mailing address: 318 DEPOT RD BOXBOROUGH 01719 Phone: 978-263-1391 (H)

Dates (if applicable) the sign(s) will be displayed: _____

For A-frames and Religious Signs only: Street address where the sign(s) will be displayed: MAIN ST. at RAILROAD ST.

Banners only: Please indicate which attachment location is being requested.
West Acton _____ Acton Center _____ South Acton _____

Signature: Peter S Alling Date: 7-6-03

official use only
approved by Engineering Department _____
approved by Highway Department _____
approved by Building Department _____

The signature of the Town Manager or his designee provides final Town approval

_____ Date

_____ Town Manager/Designee



TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
472 Main Street Acton, MA 01720

August 31, 2003

Peter Alling
318 Depot Road
Boxborough, MA 01729

Dear Peter:

Enclosed are the two Certificates of Appropriateness from the Historic District Commission which will be required for the church signs to be erected along Main Street in South Acton center. As you know, the application was approved by the Historic District Commission at its meeting on July 21, pending the notification of abutters. The abutter waiting period has now expired, and you may go ahead and take your proposal to the Selectmen for their approval.

In its decision, the commission members found that, if installed as described in the applications, the proposed signs will be compatible with the character of the South Acton historic district. In its decision on Application #0314, the commission made note of the fact that the approval is for the re-installation of a sign that was previously there. In regard to Application #0315, the decision included an approval for both of the possible proposed locations (either the north or south corner of Railroad Street,) with the finding that since questions of safety are outside the HDC's jurisdiction, all decisions regarding safety are deferred to the Board of Selectmen.

Thank you for your application. Please contact the commission if you have any questions.

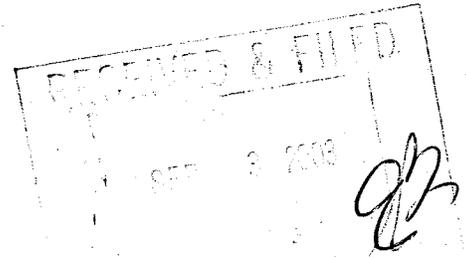
Sincerely,

Anne Forbes,
Vice-chair

cc: Garry Rhodes, Acton Building Commissioner
BoS/Manager

Application # 0315

TOWN OF ACTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
472 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720



APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE

Applicant _____ Telephone 978-263-1591
E-mail falling318@aol.com

Address  Peter S. Alling
318 Depot Rd
Boxborough, MA 01719

Property owner and address (if different from applicant) 50 ACTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 35 School St ACTON

Location of Work MAIN ST AT RAILROAD District: Center _____ West _____
No. Street South

Pursuant to Ch. 40C of the General Laws of Massachusetts, application is hereby made for issuance of a Certificate for work within a Local Historic District.

Description of Proposed work: _____ (See instructions for additional information required)
See attached

The undersigned hereby certifies that the information on this application and that any plans submitted herewith are correct, and constitute a complete description of the work proposed.

Signature of applicant Peter S Alling Date 6-27-03

Application received by _____ for HDC. Date 7/8/03

Certificate approved by [Signature] Date 8/31/03
for Historic District Commission

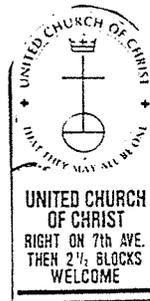
Certificate of appropriateness not required (Certificate of Non-Applicability issued) _____

for Historic District Commission.

South Acton Congregational Church
35 School Street

Directional sign ---(application # 0315) slightly larger than your spec of six (6) sq. ft.
Ours would be 21.5" wide x 45" high = 6.72 sq. ft.
(this is all that I could find available from three sources)

Note: This total square footage would really be less than 6.72 since the top of the sign measures 45" but since the configuration of the top portion is arched there is a portion to the right and left of the peak is missing, so that would reduce the overall size of the sign since the 6.72 figure is based on a rectangle.



This is illustrated by picture, showing design. The background color is white and the copy is blue with red trim. The copy under the logo would be "South Acton Congregational (left arrow) on School St."

Location:

1ST choice----mounted on post under Parking sign at Main St. and Railroad St. facing North. I have checked whether visibility from Railroad St. would be affected and my determination is that it would be high enough so as not to interfere. The forsythia should be pruned slightly so as it would be more visible. Mounting sign there would be neat since a second post would not be required.

Note photos of blue rectangle mounted under Park sign to simulate actual dimension of proposed sign.

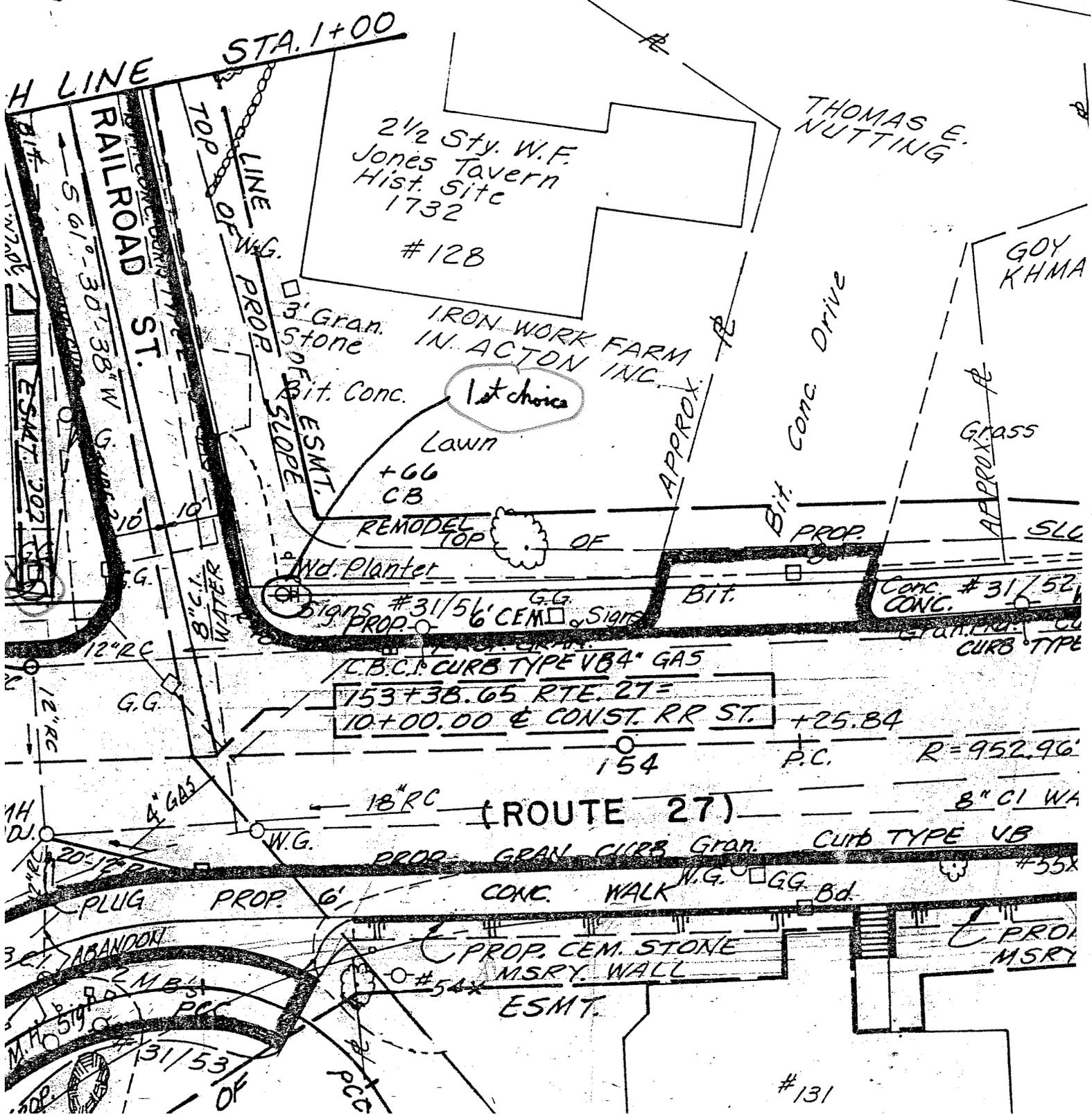
2nd choice---mounted on a new post on opposite (southerly) Railroad St. corner, a few inches west and south of stoplight (so as not to restrict view of light) at a height under that of light. Erection of sign here, however, would add to clutter of corner---hence, it is the less preferred location.

New sign post for 2nd location, if required, would be steel U-channel with green baked enamel, no higher than six and one half (6/12) feet.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS
SEE SHEET NO.

T
ST.
TION
63
6

MAIN STR	
STATE	FED. AID PI
MASS.	N.F.
PROJECT F	



RAIL ROAD STREET		
OFFSETS & SURVEY TO &		
STATION	OFFSET (FT.)	&
	RIGHT	
0+50		10+
1+00	1.94	11+0
	0.30	

