Freedom Fellowship of Northeast Ohio - 500 VFW Parkway Kent, Ohio 44220

City of Kent, Ohio Building Department
930 Overholt Road
Kent, OH 44240

Building Department,

Freedom Fellowship of Northeast Ohio has recently acquired the building and property located at 500 VFW Parkway. It has become apparent that the current fire suppression system, a dry type sprinkler, is beyond repair. As such, due to the changing use of the building, the sprinkler system should be removed. It is understood that removing the fire suppression system will limit the building occupancy to 299 persons or less in total. The building's primary use as a study center and base for church functions will not challenge the occupancy number. A typical use case would consist of:

- Cafe study area: 40 people
- Main gathering room: 120 people
- Classroom 1: 10 people
- Classroom 2: 10 people
- Conference room: 10 people

Total: 190

Freedom Fellowship of Northeast Ohio is a home church planting movement, prioritizing small groups that meet in houses where congregants live. Each house church is a fully functioning entity consisting of it's own leadership and members. As such, the goal is not to create an ever growing main meeting where the building needs would ever increase. Instead, the main meeting would split into separate groups meeting at different times. The limited occupancy of the building fits well with our mission.

Please review enclosed plans.

Respectfully,

The Elders of Freedom Fellowship of Northeast Ohio

Keith McCallum
Joel Hughes
Greg Morscher
Kyle McCallum
Neil Brooks

Dear Mr. Robert Nitzsche

In reference to our meeting on site at the former VFW building located at 500 VFW Pkwy, Kent, OH 44240 on July 29th. We informally offer the following responses or clarifications to address the items of concern pertaining to the existing sprinkler system and its requirements stipulated.

Please see code citations below for reference:
The existing building is an A-2 (Assembly) use with a bar and banquet facilities. As such, the building is fully equipped with a sprinkler system. The proposed changes would revise the building to an A-3 (Assembly) use for religious services with the removal of the sprinkler system.

Per Table 506.2:

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	SEE FOOTNOTES	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION								
		TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE	TYPE V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
A-1	NS	UL	UL	15,500	8,500	14,000	8,500	15,000	11,500	5,500
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	34,000	56,000	34,000	60,000	46,000	22,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	25,500	42,000	25,500	45,000	34,500	16,500
A-2	NS	UL	UL	15,500	9,500	14,000	9,500	15,000	11,500	6,000
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	38,000	56,000	38,000	60,000	46,000	24,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	28,500	42,000	28,500	45,000	34,500	18,000
A-3	NS	UL	UL	15,500	9,500	14,000	9,500	15,000	11,500	6,000
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	38,000	56,000	38,000	60,000	46,000	24,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	28,500	42,000	28,500	45,000	34,500	18,000

The allowable area per table 506.2 without a sprinkler system is 6,000 sf.

506.2.1 **Single-occupancy, one-story buildings.** The allowable area of a single-occupancy building with no more than one story above grade plane shall be determined in accordance with Equation 5-1:

$A_a = A_t + (NS \times I_f)$ **(Equation 5-1)**

where:

A_a = Allowable area (square feet).

A_t = Tabular allowable area factor (NS, S1, or S13R value, as applicable) in accordance with Table 506.2.

NS = Tabular allowable area factor in accordance with Table 506.2 for nonsprinklered building (regardless of whether the building is sprinklered).

I_f = Area factor increase due to frontage (percent) as calculated in accordance with Section 506.3.

506.3.3 **Amount of increase.** The area factor increase based on frontage shall be determined in accordance with Equation 5-5:

$I_f = [F/P - 0.25]W/30$ **(Equation 5-5)**

where:

I_f = Area factor increase due to frontage.

F = Building perimeter that fronts on a public way or open space having minimum distance of 20 feet (6096 mm).

P = Perimeter of entire building (feet).

W = Width of public way or open space (feet) in accordance with Section 506.3.2.

Per equation 5-5:
If = [F/P - 0.25]W/30

W = 60 ft. We are 60 ft. from the property line along the public way.
W/30 maximum way set to 1

F/P = 1. The building is completely free standing.

0.75 = [1 - 0.25] 1

Per equation 5-1:
Aa = At + (NS x If)

10,500 sf = 6,000 sf + (6,000 sf x 0.75)

The maximum area allowing area of the A-3 building without a sprinkler system is 10,500 sf. The area of the existing building is 8,800 sf.

903.2.1.3 **Group A-3.** An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for fire areas containing Group A-3 occupancies and intervening floors of the building where one of the following conditions exists:

1. The fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet (1115 m^2).

2. The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.

3. The fire area is located on a floor other than a level of exit discharge serving such occupancies.

1.The fire area is less than 12,000 sf. (PASSES)
2.The fire area has a occupant load greater than 300 (FAILS)
3.The fire area is located on the level of exit discharge (PASSES)

None of the exceptions apply to us.

As such, we are proposing to reduce the occupancy of the building to a maximum of 300 occupants, with proper signage explaining such.

We understand this leads to a number of specific limitations and are fully willing to accept those terms as our understanding of them currently. After completing our code study (as shown in this letter for reference) we see it as possible to limit ourselves to a maximum of 300 occupants and not require a sprinkler system at our building square foot.

Thank you and looking forward to your favorable review.

If you need further clarifications or documentations, please feel free to give us a call anytime. Thanks again.

Respectfully
Freedom Fellowhip

FFNEO_007

FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

NOTES:

1. ALL AREAS ARE EXISTING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
2. DRAWING IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION.

REV. NO.	REV. BY	REVISION	DATE	REF. NO.	REFERENCE DESCRIPTION
1					

FREEDOM FELLOWSHIP

Technical Excellence Team

FREEDOM FELLOWSHIP OF NORTH EAST OHIO

COVID LAYOUT 3

KENT, OHIO 44240

DR. BY RWY DATE 9/04/2020

CHD. BY DATE

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" APP'D.

FFNEO_007

1 OF 1

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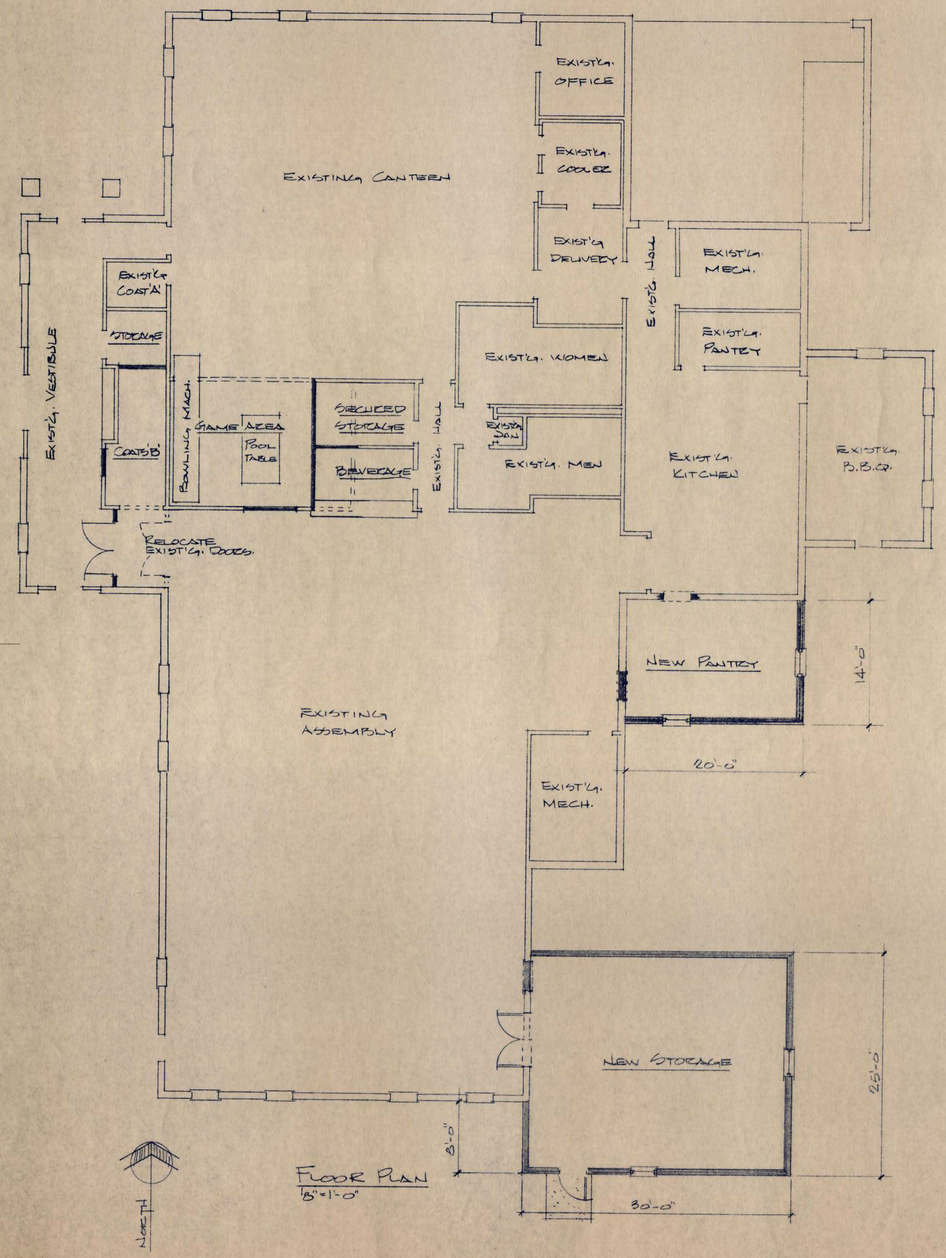
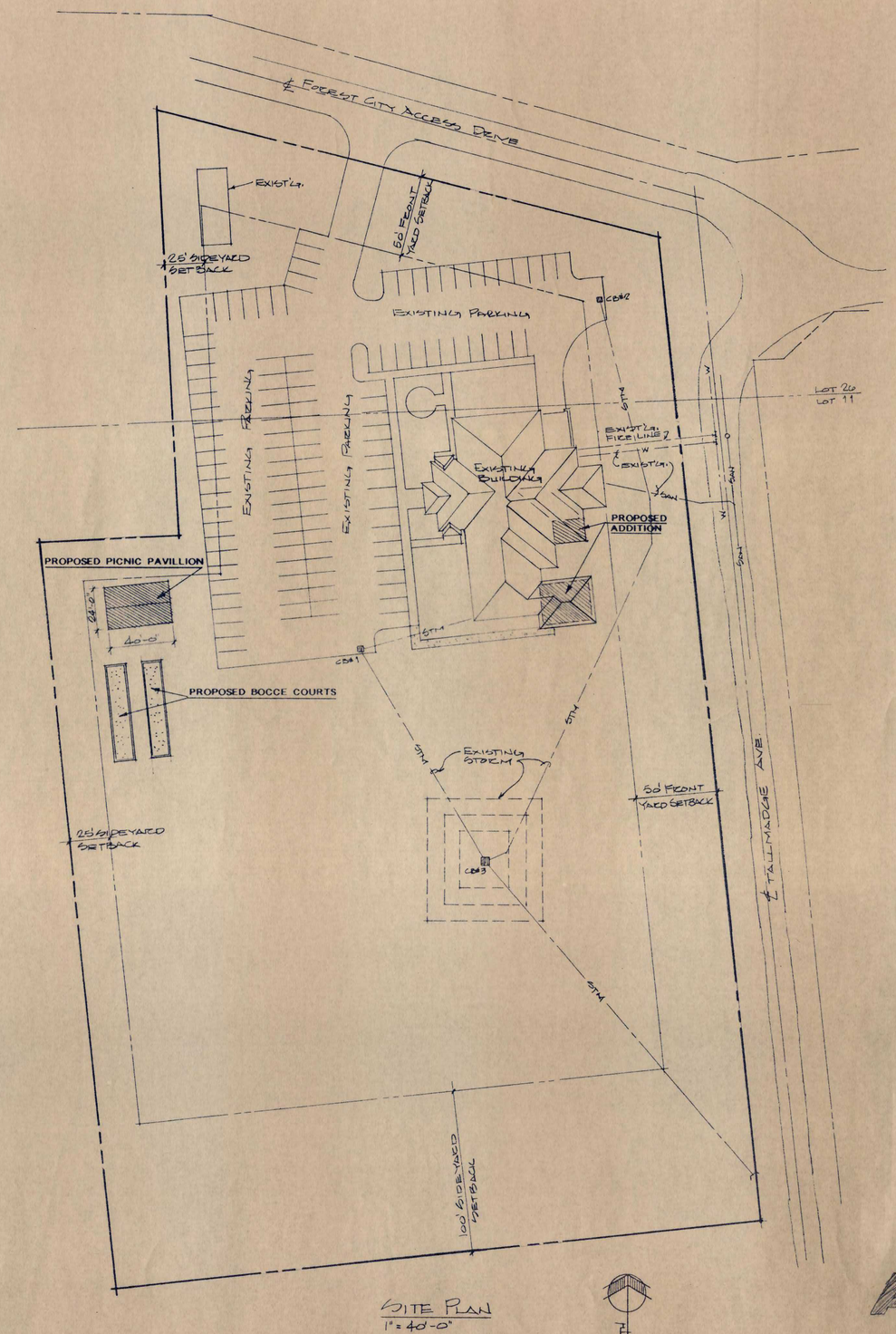


FLOOR PLAN
1/8" = 1'-0"



SITE PLAN
1" = 40'-0"

1-17-97

ADDITION TO:
VETERAN'S OF FOREIGN WARS
CAPTAIN BRADY POST 3703
500 TALLMADGE AVE.
KENT, OHIO 44240

David L. Sommers, AIA
Architects
136 N. Water st. Kent, Ohio 44240
Suite 208
330-678-6144

REVISIONS

JOB NO. 9661
SCALE NOTED
DRAWN BY RPS
CHKD BY DLS
DATE

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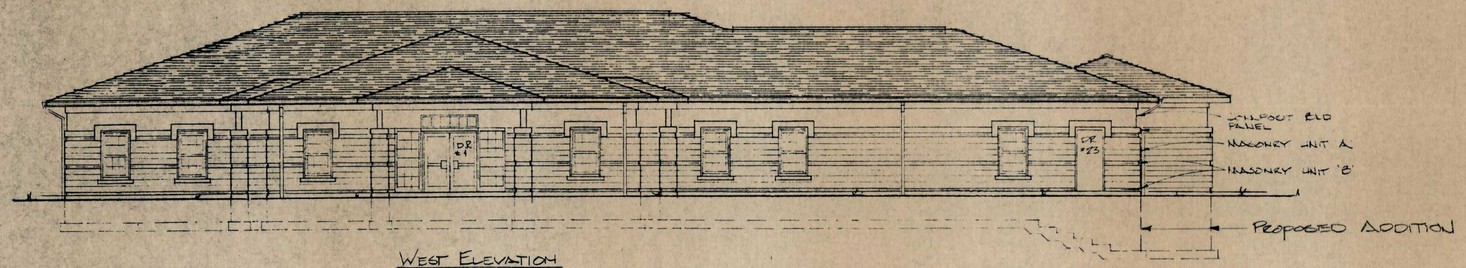
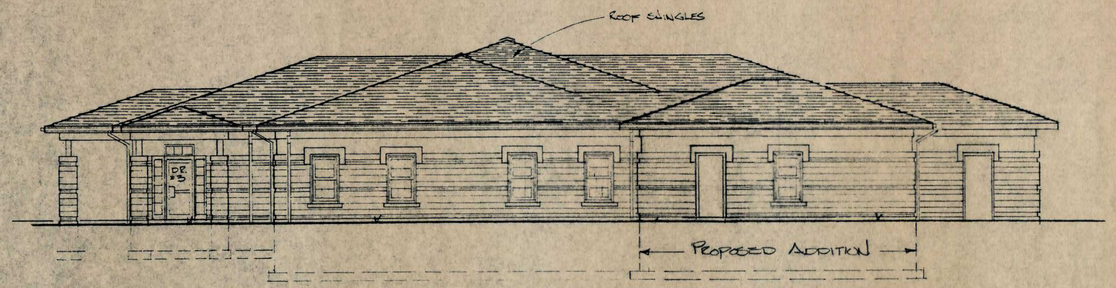
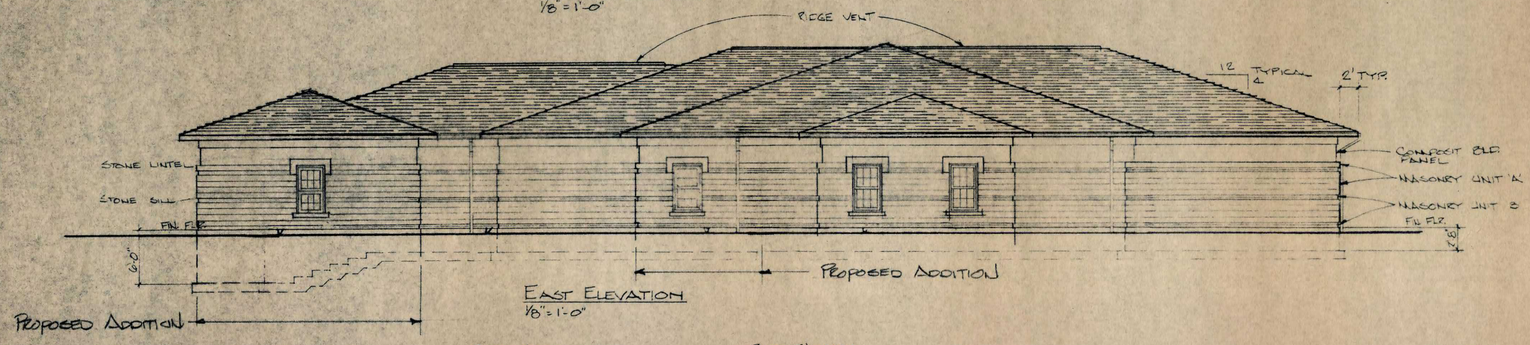


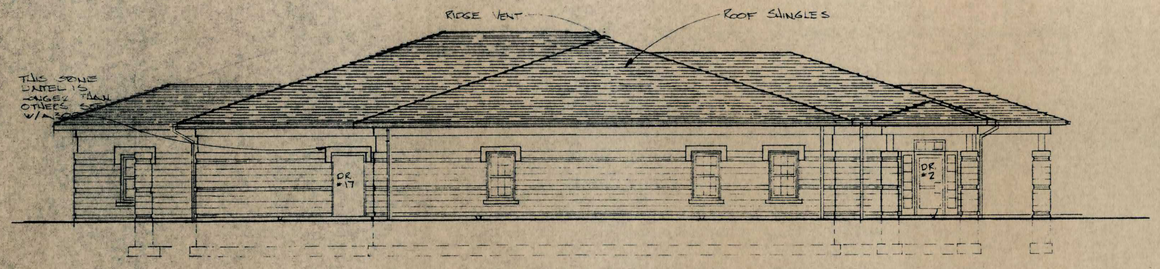
WEST ELEVATION
1/8" = 1'-0"



SOUTH ELEVATION
1/8" = 1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION
1/8" = 1'-0"



NORTH ELEVATION
1/8" = 1'-0"

1-17-97

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REVISIONS

JOB NO. 9 002
SCALE AS NOTED
DRAWN BY GFH
CHKD BY DLS
DATE

A201