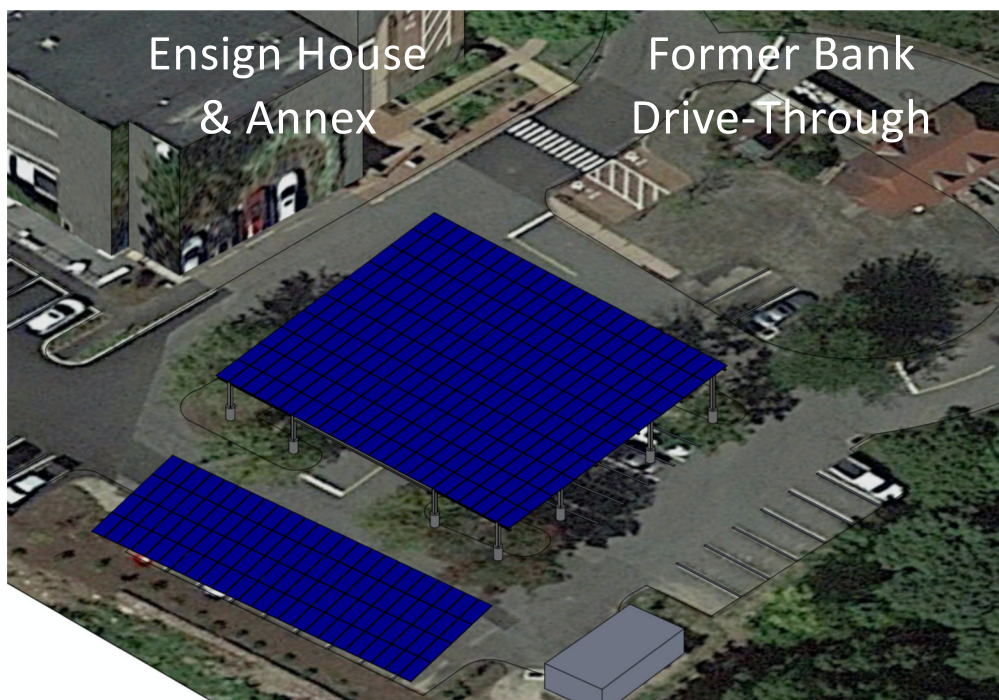


Proposed Solar Carports at 690 Hopmeadow Street

In restoring the Ensign House, our desire has always included preserving the building's historic and aesthetic character as well as reducing the environmental impact of the building's operation. An important part of this latter goal is to install solar to produce as much of the building's energy needs as possible. We believe that the proposed solar carports achieve this goal while not detracting from the beauty and character of the building. In addition to producing clean, renewable energy on-site, these solar canopies will provide protection to parked cars from the elements.

We have selected locations for the carports that do not block views of or from the building. The panels will slope away from the house, following the layoff the land, minimizing their visual impact. The two proposed carports are located behind the building and are not visible from Hopmeadow Street. From Drake Hill Road, there is an extremely narrow viewshed from which the top of one of the canopies is visible. These designs have received informal approval from the State Historic Preservation Office. On July 22, 2020, we received a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals for the location of the smaller carport along the southern border.

Included with this application is a site survey, showing the precise location of the structures. Below is a rough rendering of the placement of the canopies.



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Both carports will be built to high aesthetic standards, including painted structures, stone-faced footings, and translucent, bi-facial solar panels. No wires will be visible. Below are several pictures of designs similar to ours.

