

CHAPTER 13 - AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SIGNS WITHIN THE
VILLAGE OF CRAINVILLE

SIGN ORDINANCE.....3

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Effective Date

ORDINANCE NO. 97-12-02
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 96-11-01
ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SIGNS
WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF CRAINVILLE

Be it ordained by the President, and Board of Trustees of the Village of Crainville that "An Ordinance Regulating Signs Within The Village Of Crainville" be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Section 1. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Approved combustible materials means wood, or materials not more combustible than wood.

Approved combustible plastics means those which, when tested in accordance with American Society for Testing Materials standard method for test for flammability of plastics over 9.950 inch in thickness, burn no faster than, two and five-tenths (2.5) inches per minute in sheets of 0.060-inch thickness.

Awning sign means a sign on or attached to a temporary retractable shelter that is supported entirely from the exterior wall of a building. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Canopy sign means a sign on or attached to a permanent overhanging shelter that projects from the face of the building and is supported only partially by the building. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Combination sign means any sign which combines the characteristics of two (2) or more types of signs, including roof projecting and ground projecting signs.

Display surface means the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of a sign. However, such perimeter shall not include any structural elements lying outside the limits of such sign and not forming an integral part of the display.

Section 1. Definitions. (continued)

Electrical sign means any sign which has characters, letters, figures, designs, faces, backgrounds or outlines illuminated by incandescent or fluorescent lamps or luminous tubes as part of the sign proper, these light sources being either external or internal, or signs which have movable parts which are moved by electric force.

Facing means the surface of the sign upon, against or through which the message of the sign is exhibited.

Front yard means the area from one (1) side lot line to the other side lot line and from the main building to the front lot line.

Ground sign means a sign which is supported by one (1) or more poles, uprights or braces in or upon the ground, which are not a part of a building, other than pole or pylon signs as defined in this chapter. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Marquee sign means a sign which is attached to a fixed shelter used only as a roof which is entirely supported by the building to which it is attached. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Off-premises sign means any sign that advertises activities, goods, products, services or facilities that are not sold or offered upon the premises where the sign is located.

On-premises sign means any sign related to a business or profession conducted, or a commodity or service sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.

Political sign means a sign or poster announcing a candidacy for public political office.

Portable sign means any sign which is mounted on a trailer or its own wheels or is otherwise capable of being easily transported or moved from place to place, and includes such a sign even though the wheels of such sign have been removed and the remaining chassis is attached temporarily to the ground.

Projecting sign means a sign other than a wall sign suspended from or supported by a building or structure or steel column and projecting out therefrom. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Pylon or pole sign means assign supported by or suspended from a freestanding column or columns of structural steel pipe or poles. Such sign may be either an off-premises or on-premises sign.

Real estate sign means a sign advertising the sale or rental of the premises, or a part thereof, on which such sign is located. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Section 1. Definitions. (continued)

Roof sign means a sign erected upon or above a roof or parapet of a building. Such sign may be either an off premises or on-premises sign.

Sign means and includes every sign, billboard, ground sign, wall sign, roof sign, illuminated sign, projecting sign, temporary sign, pylon or pole sign, marquee, awning, canopy and street clock, and shall include any announcement, declaration, demonstration, display, illustrations or insignia used to advertise or promote the interest of any person, business, idea, activity, goods, product service or facility when the same is placed out-of-doors in view of the general public. This definition does not include any type of indoor sign or window display.

Sign setback means the minimum horizontal distance between the street right-of-way line of any portion of the sign, including its supporting framework or bracing.

Skeleton parapet sign means individual letters mounted on a parapet wall.

Street frontage means the horizontal distance of a piece of property which faces a street right-of-way or is accessible to the street right-of-way.

Structural trim means the molding, battens, cappings, mailing strips, latticing, platforms and letters, figures, characters or representations in cut out or irregular form which are attached to the sign structure.

Structure means the supports, uprights, bracing and framework for the sign or display.

Temporary sign means a sign of cloth or other combustible materials with or without a frame (which is usually attached to the outside of a building on a wall or storefront) for a period of not more than thirty (30) days. This definition does not include any off-premises sign.

Wall sign means a sign attached to or erected against the wall of a building or structure, with the exposed face located approximately parallel to the plane of the wall. Such sign may be either an on-premises or off-premises sign.

Section 2. Applicability.

This chapter shall relate to outdoor signs in the village.

Section 3. Statement of purpose and legislative findings.

a. The Village Board finds and declares that these regulations on outdoor advertising signs are necessary to preserve, protect and promote the public health, safety, morals, aesthetic beauty and general welfare of the village.

b. The sign regulations, controls and provisions set forth in this article are made in accordance with an overall plan and program for the public safety, area development, preservation of property values, and the general welfare of the village, and are intended to aid in traffic control and traffic safety; preserve and protect property values; lessen congestion of land and air space; provide against undue concentrations of signs which distract and endanger traffic safety and traffic flow; establish reasonable standards for commercial and other advertising through the use of signs in order to maintain and encourage business activity and area development; avoid uncontrolled proliferation of signs; recognize the rights of the public in roads, streets and highways; preserve the wholesome and attractive character of the village; and to recognize that the general welfare includes a community plan that provides for a community that shall be beautiful as well as healthful, spacious as well as clean, and well balanced in its growth and development.

Section 4. Zoning districts.

The zoning districts shall be as defined in the zoning ordinance adopted by the village.

Section 5. Penalties.

Any person violating, disobeying, neglecting or refusing to comply with, or resisting enforcement of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of an offense.

Section 6. Exemptions.

This chapter shall not apply to the following types of signs:

- (1) A temporary sign displayed for less than thirty (30) days and not otherwise covered in this chapter,
- (2) Signs placed or installed by the village or the state.
- (3) Signs consisting of paint or similar substance applied directly to a window.
- (4) A sign painted directly onto the surface of a wall of a building.
- (5) Noncommercial signs whose dominant theme is not to propose a commercial transaction.

Section 7. Sign area.

The area of a sign shall be measured by the smallest square, rectangle, triangle, circle or combination thereof which will encompass the entire sign facing.

Section 8. Nonconforming sign.

Any sign in existence on the date this ordinance was passed, which does not comply with the provisions of this chapter, may continue such time in existence until alterations are made to the sign or a new sign is needed.

Section 9. Alterations.

A sign which was erected before the date this ordinance was passed, shall not be rebuilt, relocated, enlarged or extended without conforming to the requirements of this chapter. Such a sign, however, may be repaired and maintained. The changing of movable parts or the repainting or reposting of display matters shall not be deemed an alteration.

Section 10. Maintenance.

All components of a sign shall be kept in good repair at all times. The building inspector may order the removal of any sign that is not maintained in accordance with the provisions of this chapter

Section 11. Housekeeping.

The immediate premises occupied by the sign shall be kept free and clear of all sign materials, weeds, trash, debris and other refuse by the owner or lessee of such sign.

Section 12. Installation.

(a) No sign shall be erected, constructed or maintained so as to prevent free passage from one (1) part of a roof to any other part thereof.

(b) No signs shall be attached in any manner to any fire escape; or erected, constructed or maintained so as to obstruct such fire escape.

(c) No sign shall be placed in a manner so as to interfere with required light and ventilation openings (windows, doors, vents or similar devices).

(d) No sign shall be erected, constructed or maintained which closes off the effective use of any required wall opening.

(e) No portion of any sign shall be located closer than eighteen (18) inches from any property line.

(f) Signs located on corner lots and within thirty (30) feet from the intersection (corner of property) shall not have any portion of the sign face, structure or pole in the area between a height of two and one-half (2 1/2) feet and ten (10) feet above the top curb line grades of intersecting streets or between a height of three (3) feet and ten and one-half (10 1/2) feet above the edge of the pavement grade where no curb is present. The foregoing restrictions shall apply to situations existing as of the effective date of this section, as well as situations arising thereafter.

(g) All signs shall be constructed or installed in accordance with the applicable requirements of the BOCA Basic Building Code and the NFPA National Electrical Code.

Section 13. Relocation.

Any sign that is moved to another location, either on the same or other premises, shall be considered a new sign; and a permit shall be secured for any work performed in connection therewith.

Section 14. Display of unauthorized signs, signals or markings.

(a) No sign shall be constructed which resembles any official marker erected by the Village or any other governmental agency.

(b) No person shall place, maintain or display upon or in view of any street or highway or any unauthorized sign, signal, marking or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles any official traffic-control device, railroad sign or railroad signal, or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic.

(c) No person shall place, maintain or display upon or in view of any street or highway any sign which hides from view or interferes with the movement of traffic, or inhibits the effectiveness of any traffic-control device, railroad sign or railroad signal.

(d) No person shall place or maintain upon any street or highway any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising.

ARTICLE II. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Section 1. Appeals.

An appeal of the sign ordinance requirements may be requested by any person affected. Such an appeal shall be taken to the board of zoning appeals. The regulations for the board of zoning appeals (board) shall be followed. The plaintiff in an appeal from the board of zoning appeals shall pay to the board of zoning appeals the costs of preparing and certifying the record of proceedings before the agency.

Section 2. Board-Powers

The board shall have the power to:

- (1) Hear and decide appeals by the sign permit applicant where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the building inspector in the enforcement of this article.
- (2) The granting of the requested variance would not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare.
- (3) The granting of the variance would not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of the other property in the immediate vicinity nor substantially diminish or impair property values within the adjacent area.
- (4) The unusual conditions applying to the specific property do not apply generally to other buildings or properties in the village.
- (5) The granting of the variance will not be contrary to the general objectives set forth in this ordinance.

Section 3. Same-Criteria for decision.

The board shall grant a variance from the provisions or requirements of this article only where:

- (1) The literal interpretation and strict application of the provisions and requirements of this article would cause undue and unnecessary hardship to the sign user because of unique or unusual conditions pertaining to the specific building or property in question.
- (2) The granting of the requested variance would not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare.
- (3) The granting of the variance would not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity nor substantially diminish or impair property values within the adjacent area.
- (4) The unusual conditions applying to the specific property do not apply generally to other buildings or properties in the village.
- (5) The granting of the variance will not be contrary to the general objectives set forth in this ordinance.

Section 4. Same-Determination of conditions.

In granting a variance, the board may impose such conditions regarding location, character, or other features of the proposed sign as it may deem necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of this article.

Section 5. Reserved

DIVISION 2. PERMIT

Section 6. Required.

No person shall install, erect, repair, alter, relocate, demolish or dismantle a sign without first obtaining a permit from the building inspector and paying the appropriate fee.

Section 7. Application.

Application for a permit under this division shall be made upon a form provided by the building inspector and shall include the following information:

- (1) Name, address and telephone number of the property owner.
- (2) Address or location of property where sign is to be installed or removed.
- (3) Zoning of property where sign is to be installed.
- (4) Description of sign to be erected.
- (5) Location of sign in relation to the building, structure or lot to or upon which it is to be erected or removed.
- (6) Name, address and telephone number of person, firm or corporation installing or removing the sign, if different from the owner.
- (7) Evidence that the person who will install or remove the sign has the appropriate insurance.

Section 8. Additional electrical permit.

Signs requiring electrical power shall obtain the appropriate electrical permit in addition to the permit required by this division.

Section 9. Fees.

- (a) There shall be no charge for on-premises signs.
- (b) Permit fees for the installation or erection of off-premises signs shall be charged as follows:

For the first 50 square feet	No charge
50 square feet to 100 square feet	\$25.00
100 square feet to 300 square feet	\$75.00
Each additional 300 square feet or part thereof	\$75.00

- (c) Such fee shall be paid prior to the issuance of the permit. Such fees shall be due annually.

Section 10. Insurance.

(a) Every person applying for a sign permit to install or erect a sign shall file with the Village Clerk a policy or certificate of insurance from a company authorized to do business in the state.

(b) Such policy or certificate of insurance shall insure the applicant for public liability and property damage in an amount not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) for any one (1) person injured or three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) for all persons injured and not less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for property damage sustained in any one (1) accident.

(c) Such policy or certificate of insurance shall not be canceled or amended in any manner except after thirty (30) days written notice has been given to the building inspector.

(d) Such policy or certificate of insurance shall indicate coverage for the installation, erection and maintenance of the sign.

Section 11. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF SIGNS

Section 12. Awning, canopy or marquee sign.

(a) No awning, canopy sign or marquee sign shall have less than seven (7) feet of clearance between its lowest projection and the ground surface.

(b) Awning signs, canopy signs or marquee signs shall not project out from the face of the building by more than nine (9) feet.

Section 13. Ground sign.

(a) The height of a ground sign of which any portion is located closer than ten (10) feet from any front lot line shall not extend above three (3) feet from the ground level.

(b) Ground signs located on corner lots and of which any portion is within thirty (30) feet from the intersection (corner of the property) shall not have any portion of the sign face above two and one-half (2 1/2) feet above the top curb line grades of intersecting streets, or above a height of three (3) feet above the edge of the pavement grades where no curb is present. The foregoing restrictions shall apply to situations existing as of the effective date of this section, as well as situations arising thereafter.

Section 14. Flashing sign.

(a) Flashing signs shall not be used in a manner that will create a traffic hazard or where there use may be confused with traffic-control devices or emergency vehicle signals.

(b) Revolving beacons shall not be used where they will conflict with traffic signals or emergency vehicles.

(c) The flashing bulb in a flashing sign shall not be larger than a forty-watt incandescent bulb.

(d) The bulb in a traveling light sign shall not be greater than a forty-watt incandescent bulb.

Section 15. Illuminated sign.

- (a) All illuminated signs shall be constructed in accordance with the "Standard for Electric Signs (U.L. 48) of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc."
- (b) All electrical material used in any illuminated sign shall bear the label of the Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc.
- (c) No sign shall be so illuminated that it interferes with the effectiveness or obscures an official traffic sign, signal or device.
- (d) Signs which are not effectively shielded to prevent beams or rays from being directed at any portion of traveled ways and are of such intensity or brilliance to cause glare or impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle or which otherwise interfere with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle are prohibited.

Section 16. Off-premises signs.

(a) Legislative finding and declaration. The Village Board of the Village finds and declares that this section regulating off-premises signs is enacted for the purpose of regulating excess signage, encouraging the positive economic development of the village, promoting the safety of the traveling public, protecting existing property values in both residential and nonresidential areas, preventing the overcrowding of land, promoting a positive community appearance as part of a concentrated village-wide effort to protect and enhance the aesthetics of the village for the enjoyment of all citizens of the village.

The regulations are designed to prevent the over concentration, improper placement, and excessive height bulk, number, and area. It is recognized that, unlike on premises identification signs which are actually a part of a business, off-premises signs are a separate and distinct use of the public thoroughfare. With a view to this distinction, outdoor advertising signs are regulated differently from on-premises signs. It is intended that the off-premises signs be located away from residential areas, and that such signs be regulated to protect the character of the area where off-premises located, and to signs are conserve property values in these areas.

(b) Definitions.

- (1) **Off-premises sign** means a sign which is supported by one (1) or more poles, uprights, or braces in or upon the ground which are not part of a building, but other than pole or pylon signs as defined this and advertises in chapter, activities, services goods, products, or facilities that are not sold or offered upon the premises where the sign is located.

Section 16. Off-premises signs. (continued)

- (2) **Back-to-back sign** means a structure with two (2) parallel and directly opposite signs with their faces oriented in opposite directions located not more than fifteen (15) feet apart. A back-to-back sign shall constitute one (1) sign except for permit fee purposes. There shall be a maximum of two (2) sign faces.
- (3) **V-type sign** means a sign in the shape of the letter "V" with an angle no greater than forty five sign (45) degrees. A V-type sign shall constitute one (1) sign except for permit fee purposes.
- (4) **Single-faced sign** means a sign with copy on one (1) side only.

(c) Spacing of off-premises signs.

- (1) On all streets and highways within the jurisdiction of this article, no off-premises sign shall be established within two thousand six hundred and forty (2,640) feet of any other off-premises sign, on the same side of the same street, or within two thousand six hundred and forty (2,640) feet on the opposite side of the same street.
- (2) Freestanding off-premises signs shall established within seventy-five (75) feet, measured radially, of any freestanding on-premises sign on the existing lot or applicable adjacent lot(s). This shall be measured from the closest sign base.
- (3) The minimum distance between off-premises signs shall be measured along the nearest edge of the pavement between points the directly opposite center of signs the side the along each of highway. This is considered a lineal measurement.
- (4) Off-premises signs not be established within one hundred fifty (150) feet of a residential zoning district, measured radially, from the base of the sign.

Section 16. Off-premises signs. (continued)

- (d) Other requirements.
 - (1) All off-premises signs, and the area around the base of the signs, shall be maintained in a neat and clean appearance. All structures and poles shall be maintained in an upright position and all papers shall be firmly attached to the sign face. Any grass at the base shall be no higher than six (6) inches.
 - (2) Off-premises illuminated signs shall not be illuminated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. if situated with a display surface closer than five hundred (500) feet, measured linearly along the street frontage, from the nearest lot line of a property zoned for residential use.
 - (3) Off-premises signs shall not be located within five hundred (500) feet, measured linearly along the closest frontage, any park, of street playground, church or school.
 - (4) No off-premises ground sign shall be erected, the bottom of which is less than ten (10) feet above the ground.
- (f) Concrete settings. Off-premises signs shall be set in concrete footings of sufficient size and weight to prevent overturning the signs.
- (g) Nonconforming signs. Any sign in existence on the date this ordinance was passed, which does not comply with the provisions of this section, may continue in existence until such time as alterations are made to the sign or a new sign is needed. Specifically, assign shall not be rebuilt, relocated, enlarged or extended without conforming to the requirements of this section. Such however, repaired and assign, may be maintained. The changing of moveable parts or the repainting or reposting of display matters shall not be deemed an alteration.

Section 17. On-premises freestanding sign (pole, pylon, etc.).

- (a) On-premises freestanding signs shall be set in concrete footings of sufficient size and weight to prevent overturning the signs.
- (b) Projections from on-premises freestanding signs shall be placed at least seven (7) feet above the ground surface, if any portion of the sign is located closer than ten (10) feet from any front lot line.

Section 17. On-premises freestanding sign (pole, pylon, etc.). (continued)

- (c) On-premises freestanding signs located on corner lots and of which any portion is within thirty (30) feet from an intersection (corner of the lot property) shall not have any portion of the sign face, structure or pole below ten (10) feet above the top curb line grades of intersecting streets, or below ten and one-half (10 ½) feet above the edge grades where there is no curb present. The foregoing restrictions shall apply to situations existing as of the effective date of this section, as well as situations arising thereafter.
- (d) Freestanding on-premises signs shall not be established within seventy-five (75) feet measured radially of any freestanding off premises signs on the existing lot or applicable adjacent lot(s).

Section 18. Projecting sign.

- (a) A clear space of not less than eight (8) feet shall be provided between the lowest portion of the sign and the ground surface.
- (b) Projecting signs shall be securely attached to building or structure by bolts, anchors, chains, rods or guys.
- (c) No nails or staples shall be used to secure any projecting sign to a building or structure.

Section 19. Roof sign.

- (a) All roof signs shall be secured to masonry bearing walls, columns, girders or roof joists.
- (b) A roof sign shall not extend above the roof line or top of a parapet wall by more than fifteen (15) feet.

Section 20. Wall sign.

- (a) All wall signs shall be securely fastened to a wall by means of metal anchors, bolts, expansion screws or similar connectors.
- (b) A wall sign which is attached to a wood wall must be anchored with wood blocks used in connection with bolts and screws.
- (c) An unbraced parapet wall shall not be used to entirely support a wall sign.
- (d) The ends of a wall sign shall not extend beyond the ends of the wall surface.
- (e) A wall sign shall not project out more than fifteen (15) inches from the wall surface.
- (f) The top of a wall sign shall not extend above the top of the wall.

ARTICLE IV. RESTRICTIONS BY ZONING DISTRICTS

Section 21. R districts.

The following signs shall be permitted in residential when erected in accordance with the following standards:

- (1) Real estate sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per property.
 - b. Maximum sign area of eight (8) per side.
 - c. Maximum of two (2) sides per sign.
 - d. Sign shall be located on the premises and not in the public right-of-way.
 - e. Must be removed within fourteen (14) days after the sale, lease or rental.
 - f. Must be nonilluminated.
 - g. No permit required.

Section 21. R districts. (continued)

- (2) Contractor or developer sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per development.
 - b. Maximum sign area of thirty-two (32) square feet per side.
 - c. Maximum of two (2) sides per sign.
 - d. Minimum setback from property line of ten (10) feet.
 - e. Permitted only during time construction or development.
 - f. Must be nonilluminated.
 - g. No permit required.

- (3) Home occupation sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per dwelling unit.
 - b. Maximum sign area of one (1) square foot per side.
 - c. Maximum of two (2) sides per sign.
 - d. Must be affixed to wall of building or to yard light.
 - e. Must be nonilluminated.
 - f. No permit required.

- (4) Sign or bulletin board for church, public and semipublic buildings, hospitals, nursing homes, institutions and public and parochial schools.
 - a. Maximum of two (2) signs per facility.
 - b. One (1) wall sign of no greater than five (5) percent of the wall area on which the sign will be placed.
 - c. One (1) freestanding sign or bulletin board of no greater than thirty-two (32) square feet per side with a maximum of two (2) sides per sign.
 - d. Minimum set back from property line of ten (10) feet.

Section 21. R districts. (continued)

- (5) Subdivision or mobile home park entrance sign.
 - a. Maximum of two (2) signs per entrance.
 - b. Maximum sign area of twenty (20) square feet per side.
 - c. Maximum of two (2) sides per sign.
 - d. Minimum setback from property line of ten (10) feet.
 - e. Shall only be utilized for identification purposes only (subdivision or mobile home park name only).

- (6) Apartment building (over eight units) sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per building.
 - b. Maximum sign area of twelve (12) square feet.
 - c. Shall be affixed to building (wall sign).
 - d. Shall be nonilluminated or illuminated by indirect lighting.
 - e. Shall only be utilized for identification purposes only (name and address only).

- (7) Apartment complex (two (2) or more structures with a total of at least eight (8) units) sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per complex.
 - b. Maximum sign area of twelve (12) square feet.
 - c. Minimum setback of ten (10) feet from property line.
 - d. Shall be wall (affixed to building) or ground sign.
 - e. Shall be nonilluminated or illuminated by indirect lighting.
 - f. Shall only be utilized for identification purposes only (name and address only).

Section 21. R districts. (continued)

- (8) House and building sign number.
 - a. One (1) sign per dwelling.
 - b. Characters shall be at least three (3) inches high.
 - c. Shall be affixed to structure.
 - d. No permit required.
- (9) Nonconforming business use sign.
 - a. Maximum of one (1) sign per business.

Section 22.

This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No. 97-12-02 of the ordinances of the Village of Crainville, Illinois, and shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, recording, and publication in accordance with law.

APPROVED: William Wiggs
President

ATTEST: Evelyn Horsley
Village Clerk

FOR: 4
AGAINST: 0
PASSED: 12-9-97
APPROVED: 12-9-97
RECORDED: 12-9-97
PUBLISHED: 12-12-97