

## In the Glorious Past

Actually our Congregation was organized 67 years ago. In 1905, when the Congregation was seven years old, incorporation of the Temple took place and a Charter was granted by the State of New York.

The young Congregation held its religious services at various places including the second floor above a grocery store on the corner of Main Street and Niagara Avenue, Mayle's Hall on Third Street, and the Crick Building on the corner of Falls and Third Streets. The members, however, were not satisfied with using somebody else's buildings for the conducting of their religious services and wanted a Temple of their very own. With this in mind, a Land Committee was appointed in 1904 to find a plot of land on which a Temple could eventually be erected.

### **Incorporation of Temple**

The way was now clear for the purchase of the land on Cedar Avenue and almost immediately after the incorporation had taken place, the land was purchased for \$1600. The members could not raise the cash for the full purchase price and it was necessary to give a mortgage for \$500 for the balance. It was not until January 4, 1907, that final payment was made on the mortgage and the land was owned by the Congregation free and clear.

Almost from the first day the Congregation was organized the founding fathers had visions of a Temple of their own and worked dynamically and energetically toward that goal. Years of sweat and toil, fund-raising and planning, took place before the dream was to be realized. Finally, however, the day arrived when a contract was entered into, on June 15, 1910, for the building of the Temple.

### **Building of the Temple**

Probably the most dramatic and important day in the history of our Temple took place on a Sunday afternoon, May 11, 1911, when the cornerstone of our Temple was laid.

The fulfillment of the young Congregation's hopes and dreams, the completion of the Temple, took place in 1912 when the doors of the Temple were flung open for the first time to enable its members to participate in High Holiday services that year.

### **Early Financial Troubles**

The young Congregation soon discovered that the building of a Temple did not complete the work to be done, but that its work was just starting. There were always financial problems to be solved.

Limited funds made it very difficult to have both a Rabbi and a Hebrew School teacher at the same time, but many of the members kept up their insistence of Hebrew classes for the children of the Temple and in about 1915 regular Hebrew classes started.

As membership in the Temple steadily increased, so too did the number of young children increase. It soon became apparent that a permanent Sunday School was needed. There had been Sunday School classes through the previous years but never on a steady or permanently organized basis. 1926 was the start of a permanently organized Sunday School.

The first Sunday School graduation took place in 1931 and the first Confirmation took place in 1932.

The Congregation from its beginning called itself Orthodox, but had modern leanings. In 1931, the Temple affiliated itself with the United Synagogue of America and from that time on was officially a Conservative congregation.

### **Sisterhood**

No history of Temple Beth Israel can be recounted without adequate mention of its vital women's organizations, the Sisterhood. Its existence parallels that of the Temple itself, for it, too, came into being around the turn of the century. The Sisterhood has always lent an able and willing hand to the Sunday School and its functioning. The annual Children's Seder, the Succoth arrangements and Chanukah and Purim parties are instances of the Sisterhood's helpfulness to the Sunday School.

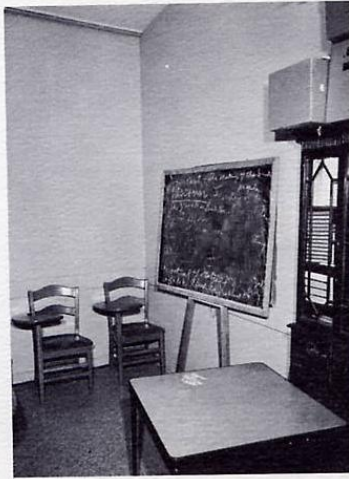
In more recent years, a splendid Nursery School, aided and abetted by the Sisterhood, has been established, and it serves our youngest generation very well.

Most important in our history, more important even than the constructing of the original building and its addition, was the founding of a religious Congregation to worship God in traditional custom. The early religious leaders of the Temple and those that followed, were primarily concerned with religious observances, training, and education. A magnificent structure alone without faithful religious observances would cause the founders of the Temple to feel that they failed in their mission.

Much could be written about people and events who made this history possible. The past was glorious . . . what about Temple Beth Israel 1965 and the future? Will you be a part of our future history?



## Today



Responsiveness to our needs dictates that we build again, Now — today. Serious space limitations impede the purpose and total program of our Congregation. The adjective “inadequate” best describes our Sanctuary and Vestry. What shall we say of facilities for our children geared to a youth program? What shall we do about a Nursery School?

Basic Congregational needs require that we respond once more with faith in ourselves, faith in our children and faith in our future as an outstanding Conservative Congregation. Building is an act of faith requiring dedication and courage. Let us make our new Home a reflection of our love for our God, our children and the community in which we share our lives and our aspirations. Let us provide for the future by meeting the challenge of the present.

True to our tradition, we will respond and build.

# The Challenge

During the forty years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness they carried with them the Ark of the Covenant, containing the two tablets of the Law. The Talmud comments, "Not only did the Israelites carry the Ark on their journey in the wilderness, but the Ark carried its bearers." . . . and so it had been throughout all the years. Not only did the Jew support the Synagogue but the Synagogue supported him. From the Talmudic Age, to the Gaonic Period, down through the Dark Ages to the persecutions of our very own day — the Synagogue has been the pillar of support to the Jew. To him the presence of the Synagogue in his midst was a symbol of his Faith — that he and his people will live on. In every generation the Jew feels himself impelled to repeat this Act of Faith.

## Place of many joys

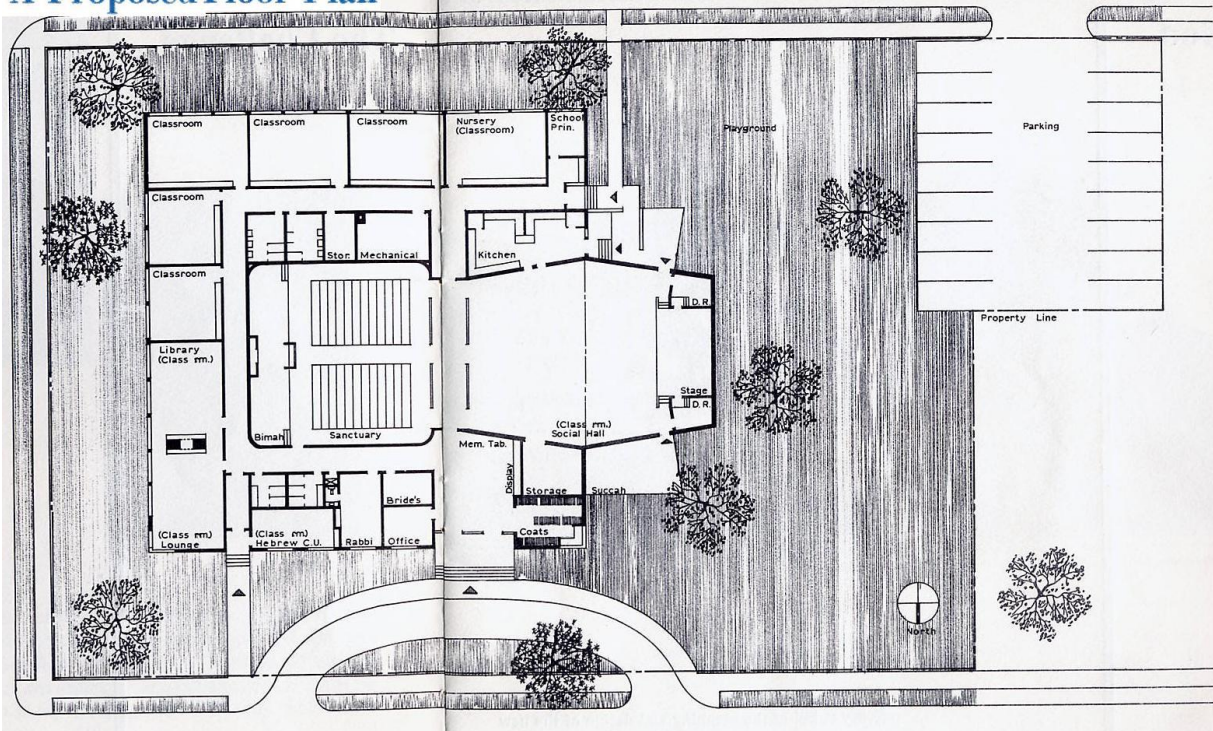
A synagogue is a place of many joys. When we join in prayer and hear the majesty of God's eternal voice, our very lives attain meaning and inspiration. When our children acquire wisdom and grow spiritually in our Synagogue, it is cause for happiness. The hours of fellowship which the Synagogue provides through social activities are a source of deep pleasure.

## May we be equal to the task

In every age the Jew has stood at Sinai and has echoed the words of his forefathers, "We will do and we will hearken." Now it is our turn to accept the responsibilities, the heritage and the nobility of our past. It is our turn to build a Synagogue; that we may in turn build ourselves as human beings and pass on that heritage to our children.



## A Proposed Floor Plan



The new Temple will be used for many, many generations to come. What better way to dedicate a living tribute than by sharing in this purpose. The facilities of the Synagogue will be dedicated by family groups and by individuals. Life will flow from these tributes.

The floor plans illustrate units which may be sponsored by donors to this campaign. Whether these tablets are Memorials or Honorials, they will witness the generosity of those whose names they bear. These names will be in the hearts and minds of all who enter, in all the years to come, to learn and to worship in devotion to living Judaism.

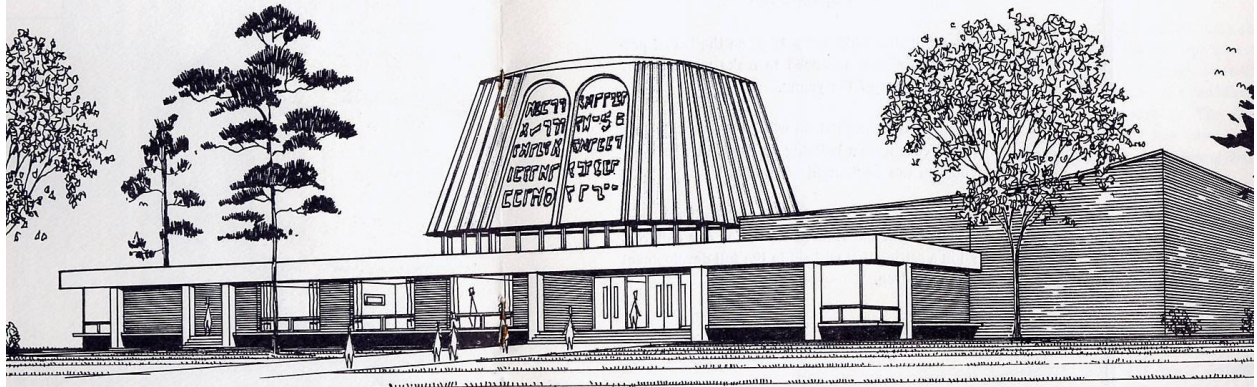
The drawings presented herein are design studies and, as such, are diagrammatic. They depict a possible arrangement of spaces, and forms within the requirements of the preliminary building program.

It is our object in the design of the Temple Beth Israel to enhance the spirit of tradition and the established ritual requirements, without falling to acknowledge the accumulated findings of the past.

We have noted that Judaism has little pomp and pageantry. There is no mysticism, but rather Judaism is a religion of light. It elevates men to a position of equals regardless of wealth and stature. It is, therefore, our purpose and goal architecturally to blend these principles in your House of Worship.

M. James Bazemore & Associates - Architect, A.I.A.

*"Let them build me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst"*



Every detail of the planning and design of the new Temple has taken into consideration the purpose of this Synagogue in this community. The buildings and grounds merge into a single entity, an enclosed area combining the lovely gardens with the strikingly handsome buildings of a restrained modern feeling. Thus with singular unity, our Architects, James Bazemore & Associates, have succeeded in blending the tradition of our fathers

with the vigor of our times and the vision of our children.

By any standards, Temple Beth Israel will be a distinguished house of worship. Most of all — it will be distinguished by the feelings of spirituality and service, with which it fills all of us who have been privileged to have a hand and a heart in making a dream come true.



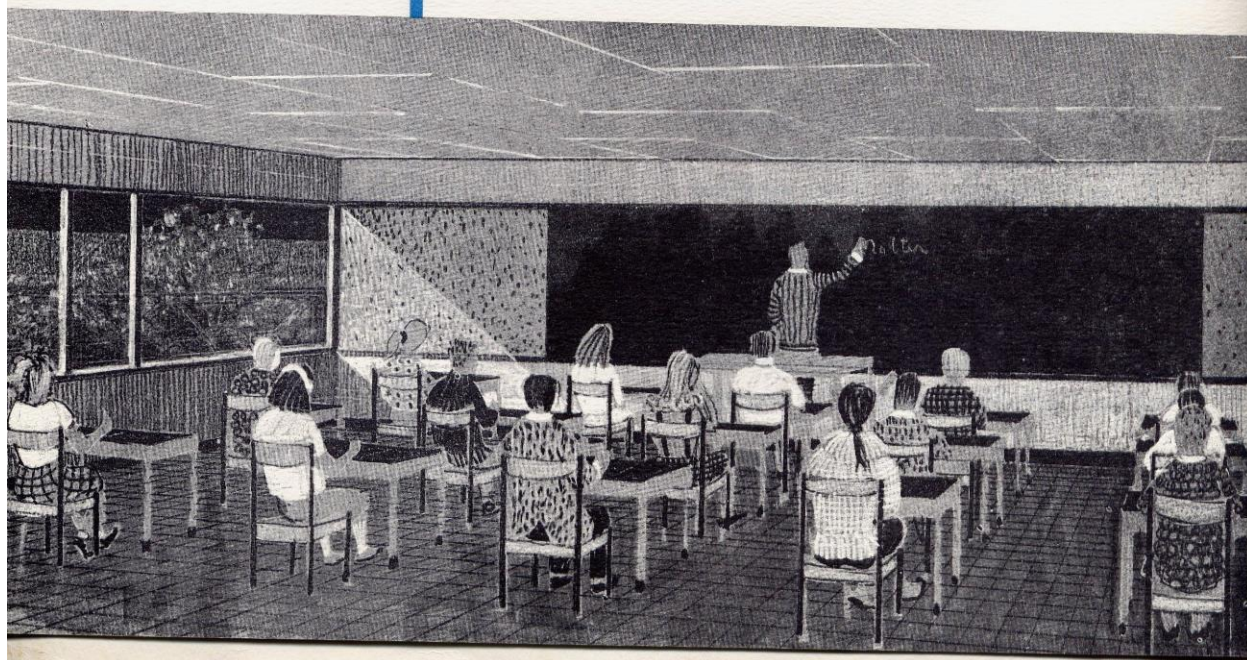
## For Our Children

*"And Thou shalt teach them diligently unto  
Thy Children"*

Thus runs the Holy Writ. High on the list of prescribed duties is the need to make provision for the education of the young.

The new Religious School will be a complete unit, it will constitute a building by itself, in which our children can be "taught of the Lord."

Wide corridors, ample lobbies and hallways, constructed with the view of safety for our children, all in a setting that will aid in the full development of all children.





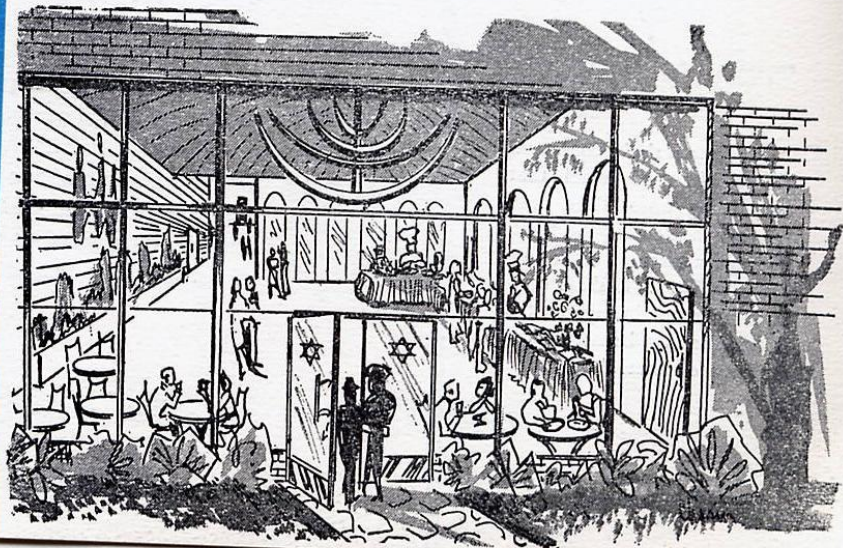
## For Ourselves

### *We Must Create A House of Assembly*

Throughout the ages the Synagogue not only served as the House of Worship, but has also been the center of communal, social and family festivities. The appropriate place to rejoice at a wedding or Bar Mitzvah is in the Synagogue. The varied memorial and social events of the congregation and its affiliated organizations all properly belong within the Synagogue.

Until now we at Temple Beth Israel have been unable to meet the family needs of our congregation and the community. Our one "all purpose" room is neither adequate nor desirable for social functions and ceremonies. We are forced to look elsewhere to celebrate a Simchah.

The time has come to build a House of Assembly, an auditorium and social hall which will enable us to observe all joyous occasions within the confines of our Temple.





## Time To Remember



“לְהַעֲלוֹת נֵר תָּמִיד”

“And Thou shalt command the children of Israel that they bring unto Thee pure olive oil beaten for the light, to cause a lamp to burn continually . . . it shall be a statute forever throughout the generations on behalf of the children of Israel!”

*“To everything there is a season,  
And a time to every purpose  
Under the heaven; a time to plant  
And a time to build.”*

We have but to lift up our eyes and look around us to see evidence of growth all about our home community. And it is heartening to note that as we have grown, so has our spiritual and cultural center kept pace. We may well take pride in the steady development of our Temple. Its growth in activities and spiritual leadership is unquestioned.

But, now the time has come when the physical building of our Temple must begin to match our family and future growth; when we must contribute of our material wealth to a new physical edifice needed, on the one hand, to provide room for our religious, cultural and educational activities and, on the other hand, to rise as living testimony to our pride in our ancient heritage and our belief in our growth as a needful contribution to the spiritual betterment of our free America.

Here, in the new Temple Beth Israel will stand proof that in the continuing endeavor of each of us to provide ever-improved living for his family, we have never forsaken the need to provide a fittingly beautiful and spacious home for the ancient and venerable religious heritage upon which each of our lives and each of our homes are built.

# Dedication and Memorial Opportunities

## SCHOOL WING

Library - Library Furnishings . .	\$25,000
Youth Lounge . . . . .	25,000
Classrooms, each . . . . .	15,000
Trophy Case . . . . .	2,500
Bulletin Boards, each . . . . .	2,000
Drinking Fountains, each . . . . .	1,250
Classroom Equipment, each . . . . .	3,000
Educational Director's Office . .	10,000
Nursery . . . . .	15,000

## ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

Rabbi's Study . . . . .	\$18,000
Gift Shop . . . . .	5,000
General Office . . . . .	5,000
Office Supply Room . . . . .	3,500

## EXTERIOR OF BUILDING

Ten Commandments Tablets . .	\$25,000
Memorial Garden . . . . .	25,000
Cornerstone . . . . .	35,000
Exterior Symbols . . . . .	10,000
Parking Area . . . . .	5,000
Flag Pole . . . . .	2,500
Succah . . . . .	5,000
Playground . . . . .	7,500

## SANCTUARY

Ark . . . . .	\$25,000
Vestibule . . . . .	12,500
Bimah . . . . .	15,000
Eternal Light . . . . .	20,000
Lecterns, each . . . . .	7,500
Menorahs, each . . . . .	6,000
Pulpit Chairs, each . . . . .	5,000
Windows, each . . . . .	5,000
Flower Urns, each . . . . .	1,500
Seats, each . . . . .	1,000
P.A. System . . . . .	2,000
Air Conditioning . . . . .	2,500

## MAIN ENTRANCE

Main Entrance . . . . .	\$10,000
Main Lobby . . . . .	15,000
Cloak Room . . . . .	4,000
Past President's Plaque . . . . .	10,000
Dedication Plaque . . . . .	7,500
Yahrzeit Tablet . . . . .	5,000

## VESTRY

Reception Area (Hall) . . . . .	\$50,000
Kitchen . . . . .	25,000
Kitchen Equipment . . . . .	15,000
Stage . . . . .	7,500
Stage (Lighting) . . . . .	2,500
Stage (Curtain) . . . . .	3,000
Brides Room . . . . .	15,000

***Campaign Goal - - \$400,000***



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# **“A TIME TO BUILD”**

## **NAMES THAT LIVE**

*It is the deep concern for the memorable, the vital, the rewarding deeds in this life which characterizes the Jewish people throughout its history. It is this enlightened concern which draws you now to action, while you are in the mood to review your goals and to measure your achievements. This capital funds campaign provides an opportunity to create a living tribute—a call to contribute wisely and well to the everlasting purpose of Judaism. Moments like these are not easy to come by; but now you may help to perpetuate Judaism and merit honor among the names to be inscribed in the new school or sanctuary.*

# **Temple Beth Israel**