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Haymarket to the Heights: The Movement of Cleveland's Orthodox Synagogues From Their Initial Meeting Places to the Heights

Jeffrey S. Morris
jeffmorris74@gmail.com

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HAYMARKET TO THE HEIGHTS

Jeffrey S. Morris

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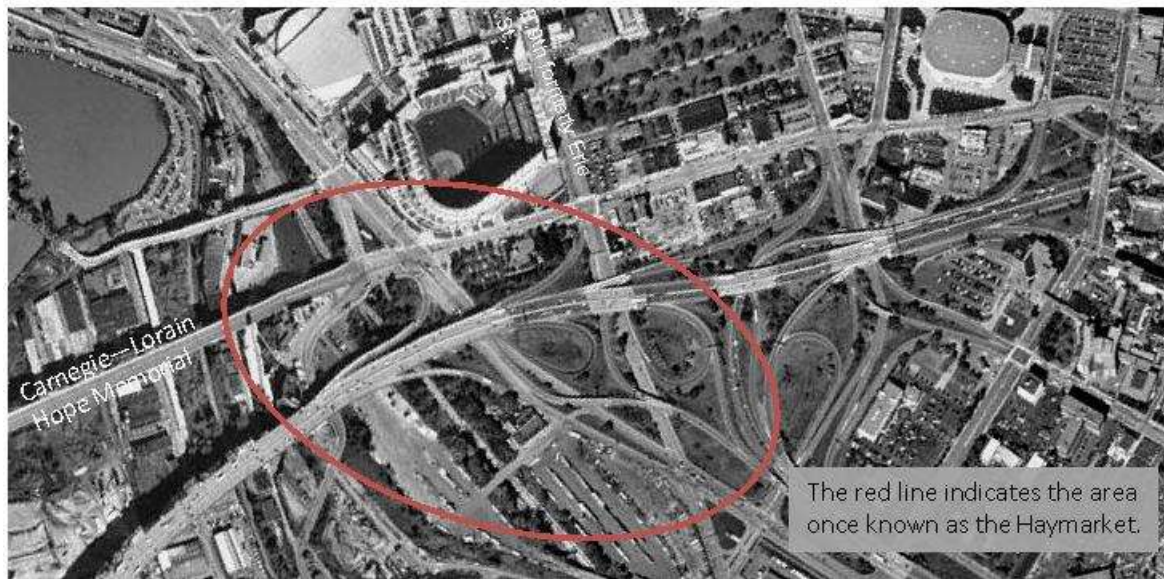


The Haymarket to the Heights
Written by Jeffrey S. Morris
2014

Newly-arrived Jews from Eastern Europe (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia) established synagogues, commonly referred to as “shuls” (rhymes with “schools”), that protected the religious practices of the Old World. Because those rituals and practices often varied by city or region many small neighborhood shuls were established to serve as continuity for the immigrant community.

Subsequent generations, working to assimilate as well as retain some of the traditions and rituals found the Reform movement in Judaism attractive. The establishment, mergers and transitions of the various shuls mirrored the migration of the Jewish community from the Haymarket area, the central core of Cleveland to Glenville to Mount Pleasant and then to the eastern suburbs of Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, and South Euclid.

This document traces the movement, growth and demise of those shuls by analyzing the real estate archives, and traces the land purchases and sales to the various congregations morphed over the decades. This analysis is one of several inputs used by urban study professionals in the study of “Place”, a phrase that was popularized in part by MIT Professor Kevin Lynch in his 1960 book *The Image of the City*.



Foreword

By John B. Hexter

Once again Jeff Morris explores the history of a community, this time centering on not one geographic area as he did with *Beechwood: the Book*, instead on the movement of the major elements of Jewish communal life. His natural curiosity, combined with a dogged determination that characterizes just about everything he tackles, has driven Jeffrey to do primary research worthy of a Ph.D. thesis in tracking down the migration of the Jewish congregations and synagogues in Cleveland, Ohio from the middle of the Nineteenth Century on. Known in the world of Urban Studies as a “Study of Place,” *Haymarket to the Heights* details the origins of every orthodox congregation formed in the early days of Cleveland that for the most part no longer exist.

The desire for accuracy drove him to search in numerous public depositories researching hand-written real estate transactions, some in musty bound books and some on aging microfilm, often with critical misspellings and factual errors. Tracking the official incorporations, dissolutions, mergers and splits of shuls whose origins derived from old-world customs and rituals has required patience and persistence.

Here finally, is a fully-documented and accurate picture of the migration of the local Jewish community from the central core (Haymarket) area, now a freeway interchange, east to Mount Pleasant and Glenville and then to the Heights. I was privileged to accompany Jeffrey on several excursions to inner-city churches that were once Jewish houses of worship and to interview the religious leaders occupying still-sacred space.

February 2014

A Note of Appreciation

This publication started out as an historical account of the movement and consolidations of synagogues relocating from Cleveland's Glenville and Mt. Pleasant neighborhoods of prior to the 1950's. As I compiled the data using primary sources, the project expanded to include the historical account of each of the prior locations, as far back as their incorporation, some as far back as the mid to late 1800's.

The good news, beyond finding most of the answers, was the opportunity to meet and work with many wonderful people. Before I mention those folks, allow me to thank long-time friend John B. Hexter for his words of wisdom and support. Mitch Wasserman, Maxine Margolis and David Payne added their technical assistance and willingness to review draft upon draft of the document. The assistance of Bill Barrow, the rock of Cleveland State University's Special Collections and his assistant Lynn Duchez Bycko were also invaluable to the completion of my work. A special thank you is due Mitchell Balk, Karen Leizman Moses, Allan Pearl, Richard Schanfarber, Ivan A. Soclof and both the Madorsky and Sperber families for their input.

The collection of data transitioned from a task to a journey allowing me the opportunity to meet people in both the public and private sectors including Dr. Judith G. Cetina at the Cuyahoga County Archives; and Tom Edwards in the map department and Margaret Baughman in the photo collection at the Cleveland Public Library. All of these folks not only provided needed direction, they also offered a deep interest in the project and support in uncovering additional supportive information.

My work with Martin Hauserman Chief City Archivist and Veronica Pierce Deputy City Archivist for the Cleveland City Council was one of several invaluable unintended collaborations that took place as I searched for information. Our friendship and mutual interest while working on this and other tasks will be cherished for years to come. In addition, the assistance provided by city planner Don Petit in the Cleveland Landmark Commission are examples of good people in government that are dedicated to their work.

While making inquiries at many of the former synagogues, I had the opportunity to meet several gracious leaders in the city's church community. These include: Mr. James Wright a resident of Glenville since 1947; Pastor Garry Washington at the Apostolic Faith Tabernacle; Pastor Edward McGhee at the True Vine Baptist Church and Pastor Julia Allen at the Integrated Faith Assembly.

My special thanks to Cleveland's Jewish history experts Nate Arnold and Arnold Berger for their assistance, along with Dr. Richard Klein for his input on my quest to refine my work as a Study of Place as it relates to Urban Studies.

With the gracious support of all these people came an abundance of copies, downloads and flash drives, which resulted in our home being taken over with files, copies of copies, plat maps and numerous directories. Therefore, I thank Gloria and Matthew for putting up with losing the dining room table, the basement and, at times, the kitchen table.

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Kinsman Jewish Center
N'vai Zedek
Ohel Jabneh Belchicks Shul
Shaker Lee Synagogue
Formerly Ohel Jacob Anshe
Sherith Jacob Eddy Road*
Sherith Israel of Mt. Pleasant*
Tifereth Israel of Mt. Pleasant
* Memorial Synagogue created by merger
of Sherith Jacob and Sherith Israel prior
to merger into Kehillat Yaakov

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Taylor Road Synagogue

Formerly Oheb Zedek

Oheb Zedek – Newberg & West
Agudat B'nai Israel
Agudath Achim
Chibas Jerusalem
Knesseth Israel
Shaarei Thora Askenasim
Savos Achim

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Heights Jewish Center

*Formerly Heights Jewish
Orthodox Congregation.*

Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno
Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel
Beth Israel – Chevra Kadisha
Ohavei Emuna *Formerly*
Ohavei Emuna of Russian Israelites

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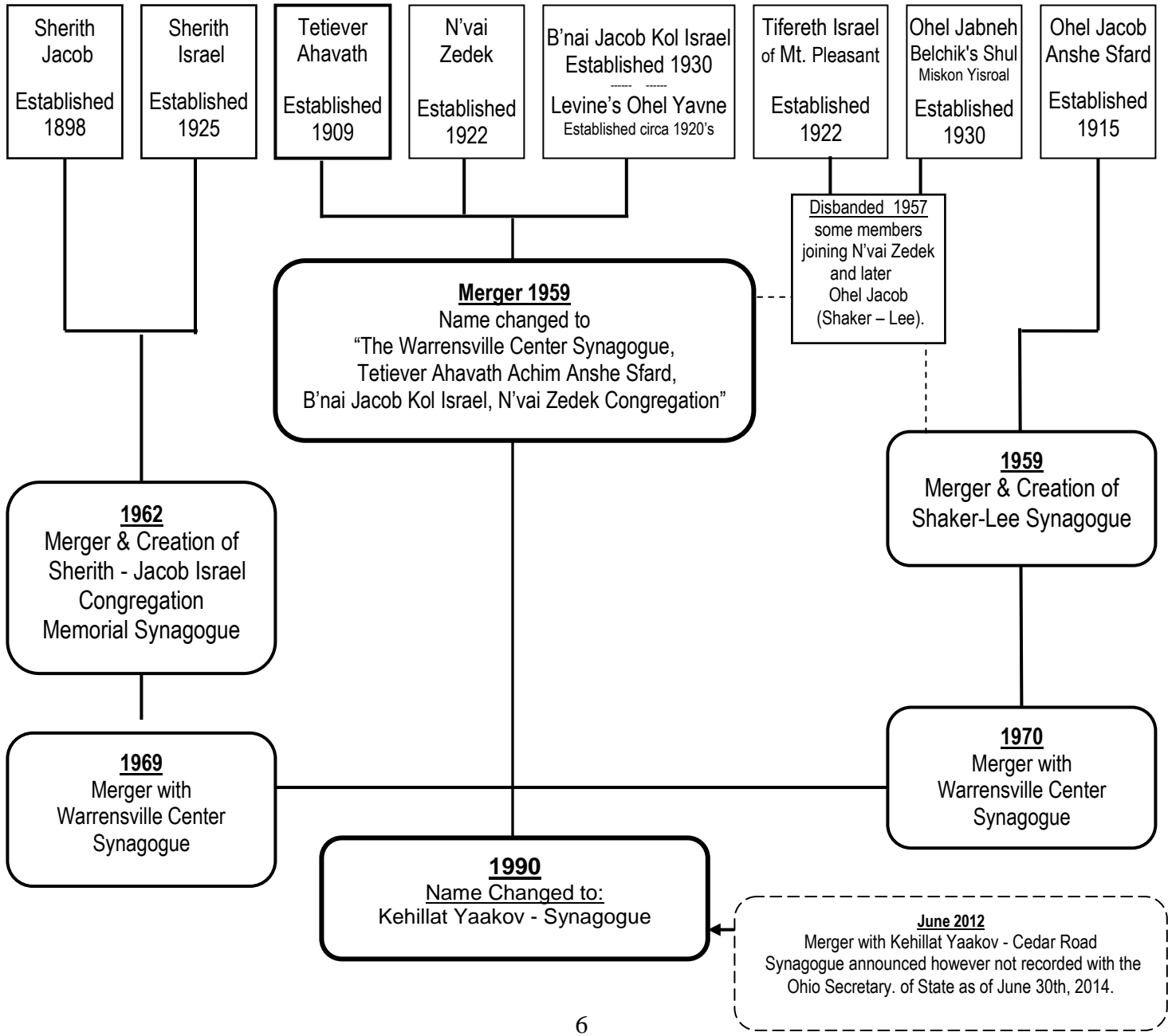
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All names and dates of Incorporation are based on the document filed with the Ohio Secretary of State at the time of Incorporation or last official name change filed with the Secretary of State.

Keep in mind this document focuses on the smaller Orthodox Congregations formed between 1850 and 1940.



The Tetiever's
Kehillat Yaakov
 Cedar Road Synagogue
 ©2014 Jeffrey Morris Cleveland Ohio
 Not for Duplication



Kehillat Yaakov (Congregation of Jacob) - the Cedar Road Synagogue was formed by members of the Tetiever Verein Society and members of the Tetiever Social and Benevolent Society in 1898. Tetiever is the name of the community in the Ukraine province of Russia that members had emigrated from. In 1909, the congregation officially incorporated as the **Tetiever Ahavath Achim Anshe Sfard Congregation [Lovers of the Sfard Tradition]**. Member's first met in the homes of fellow congregants until 1911, when a home at 2565 E. 40th was purchased. Three years later the house was remodeled to include a new facade. In 1926, the congregation purchased property at 954 Linn Drive in Glenville from Rose Ravitz and built a new synagogue. The E. 40th location was sold in 1927 and occupied for several years by the Second Church of God. In 1935, the property was cleared, along with neighboring properties for the construction of 557 housing units, as part of the country's first federally-funded public housing known as Outhwaite.

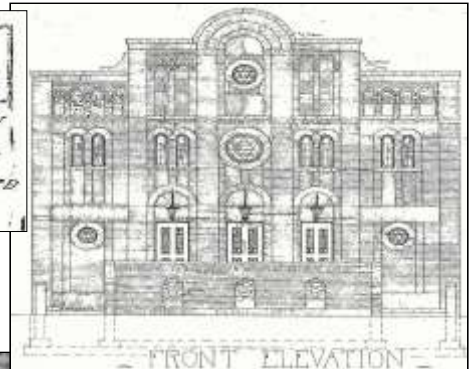


2565 E. 40th. The new façade (front) of the building provided a modern appearance for those passing by. This was a common practice as late as the 1950's. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections

The drawing below by Architect E.H. Golfein, dated 2/1914 shows the front elevation on blue prints filed with the city of Cleveland. Source, City of Cleveland, Council Archives

Plat maps provided detailed information of urban and adjacent rural areas for use by insurance companies to determine the risk of underwriting coverage. The information including lot sizes, roads, railroads, lakes, and streams along with the type of structure; wood or brick, number of floors, type of heat, and location of public utilities. In some cases address's and/or the original name of an allotment.

The maps were updated on a regular basis and sent out to subscribers as "paste over's". The two most popular publishers were G. M. Hopkins and Sanborn Insurance Map Co., both established in Philadelphia. Both companies produced plats from the 1860's to 1950. Sanborn continues to produce property data collection and mapping systems. This Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Cleveland Ohio, Vol. 2. 1912 - 1913. Indicating the location of the Tetiever's Synagogue (A). Note across the street is the Hebrew Relief Association (B) now known as The Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland Inc.



The congregation continued to prosper at the Linn Drive location well into the early 1950's, when a growing number of members were relocating "up the hill" into the Heights. In 1957, the congregation purchased land on Warrensville Center Road in South Euclid from both the Oakwood Club and Mrs. Florence Shaw. Well - known architect Sigmund Braverman designed the new synagogue that would be built in phases. While the new building was under construction the former Shaw farm house was used by members who were already living in the area. The farm house would continue to be used and, at times rented, out until it was demolished in 1965. The property on Linn Drive was sold to the **True Vine Baptist Church** previously located at 7916 Central Avenue in December 1994, True Vine continues to maintain the Linn Drive location and provide many outreach services to the community.



954 Linn Dr. former location of the "Tetiever Shul"
Photo taken by Jeff Morris April 2011



Above photo shows a portion of the first phase of the new building at 1508 Warrensville Center Road and the home used for worship services by the Tetiever's until the first phase of construction had been completed. Photo is thought to have been taken just prior to the demolition of the home in 1965. Source: Archives of Cuyahoga County office of the Auditor.

According to an article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer dated November 17th 1955 property owned by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns had been gifted 13 plus acres in the rural eastern community of Chesterland resulting in their pending sale of their then current site at Lee and Fairmount roads in Cleveland Heights to the Tetiever Congregation. The article indicated that the congregation had been worshipping in a former dwelling at 1508 Warrensville Center in South Euclid and agreed to purchase the site at Lee and Fairmount. The nuns had acquired the property which included a large home and extensive gardens from auto manufacturer Horace White twenty years earlier. Apparently the transaction did not take place and the nuns stayed at this location, building a new monastery in 1962

In the 1950's merger talks began with the smaller synagogues that remained in both the Glenville and Mt. Pleasant neighborhood. Knowing that a name change would be part of any merger the forward thinking leadership changed their name in 1952 to the "**Warrensville Center Synagogue**".



Kehillat Yaakov - Cedar Road Synagogue at 23749 Cedar Road Designed by Bialosky + Partners Architects. Photo from the congregations' Web site June 2010

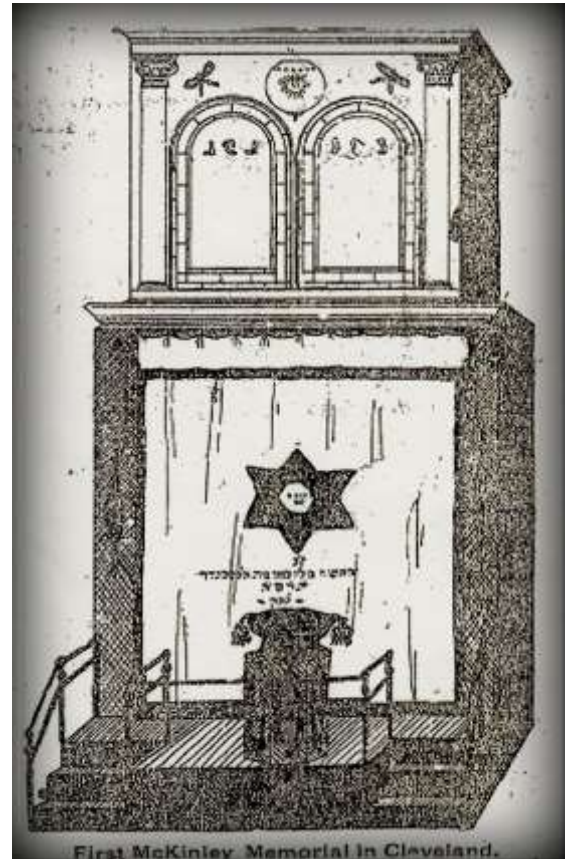
In 1990, following the death of long time Rabbi Jacob Muskin, the synagogue changed their name to "Kehillat Yaakov- Cedar Road Synagogue". In recognition of Muskins' leadership during the 1960's and 1970s, uniting the smaller congregations into the largest Orthodox Congregation in northeast Ohio.

With the orthodox community once again moving east, the congregation sold the Warrensville Center property to **Mosdos Dos Hatorah** a growing Orthodox Day School in 1996. This was done with an agreement allowing the synagogue to use the building until their new synagogue was opened on land they had purchased at 23749 Cedar Road in Lyndhurst. The Lyndhurst propriety included a well-maintained home built in 1934 and for many years occupied by James and Marilyn Kennedy. The congregation was unable to obtain a building permit until their attorney, Avery Friedman, convinced the city that the congregation had the right to build. One obstacle that was overcome with the assistance of the folks at the neighboring Good Shepherd Church was an agreement allowing the synagogue to utilize the church's parking spaces to meet the city's parking requirements.

The oldest of Cleveland's synagogues to join what is now "Kehillat Yaakov-Cedar Road Synagogue was **Sherith Jacob. [Gates of Jacob]** Incorporated in 1899, their first service was held at Bernstein's Hall at the northeast corner of Perry (E. 22nd) and Orange Avenue. In 1901, the congregation purchased the Irving Street Congregational Church located on the northeast corner of Irving (E. 25th) and Orange Avenue. This location became known as the Irving Street Shul.



Sherith Jacob first place of worship, The north east corner of Orange Ave and E. 25th (Irving Street) Source: Historical Sketches of the Twenty-five Churches and Missions of the Cleveland Congregational Churches 1896 Sketch to the right is from the September 22, 1901 Cleveland Plain Dealer announcing the memorial constructed by the congregation in memory of President McKinley



First McKinley Memorial in Cleveland.

Sherith Jacob Congregation.
Cedar & East 76th Street.

At the general meeting, held in the temple Sunday, October 19, the following officers were elected by acclamation for the ensuing year: Joseph Klein, president, son of the late Rev. Joel Klein, re-elected; N. Schiller, vice president; Joe Klein, treasurer; H. Feniger, S. Wiedder; L. Klapper, trustees; Jos. Zalzman, recording secretary, son of the late E. F. Zalzman; A. S. Appel, financial secretary; M. Weisberg, cantor, and H. Sacheroff, collector.

Announcement in the 1917 publication of local weekly paper "The Jewish Review & Observer" indicating the Cedar and E.76th location.

In 1914, the congregation relocated to a larger building at 7606 Cedar Road. Little is known about this building except that it was destroyed by fire in September 1919, on the eve of *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement), the most sacred of all Jewish holidays. In March 1920, after renting several halls to hold services, the congregation purchased the Hope Evangelistic Lutheran Church on the northwest corner of Olivet and Parkwood, in the growing Jewish neighborhood known as Glenville.

However, by the 1930's, members were moving east, many up the hill to Cleveland Heights or east to the Collinwood neighborhood just northeast of Glenville. In an effort to maintain membership for those relocating further east, space was rented at 822 Eddy Road and initially considered a branch. In 1932 the Eddy Road building was purchased and the Parkwood property was sold to an unincorporated group of parishioners of the Calvary Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Subsequently the building was purchased in October 1956 by the current occupant, **The New Fellowship Baptist Church**. The congregation replaced the building in 1968. An addition to the church in honor of their longtime leader Reverend A. I. Mays was dedicated August 1991.

In 1949, the Eddy Road location underwent a major renovation that included a sanctuary seating for over 400 and several classrooms. The congregation also made an unofficial name change to the Eddy Road Synagogue. A kick-off celebration took place on November 25, 1949 that included a speech by Cleveland's Mayor Frank J. Laushe and a letter of congratulations from President Harry S. Truman. Much of the congregation's growth and popularity could be attributed to Rabbi Hugo Klein.



1220 Parkwood Drive. Former home of Sherith Jacob Congregation. Photo taken April 1958. Source City of Cleveland, Board of Zoning Appeals



822 Eddy Road. Former home of Sherith Jacob's Eddy Road Synagogue. Photo taken April 1969 by the City of Cleveland Planning and Zoning Department. In the 1950's and 60's when an application is presented for a zoning variance the city would photograph the property in question and placed an X indicating the portion of the building subject to the request for the Review Board. Source City of Cleveland Board of Zoning Appeals. That request by the owner The East End Baptist Church to expand the building for a Day Care was denied.



Joseph D. Klein, President, Louis A Klopper, oldest member and Rabbi Hugo Klein at the entrance to the Eddy Road Synagogue November 6, 1947. Source: Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University, Special Collections.

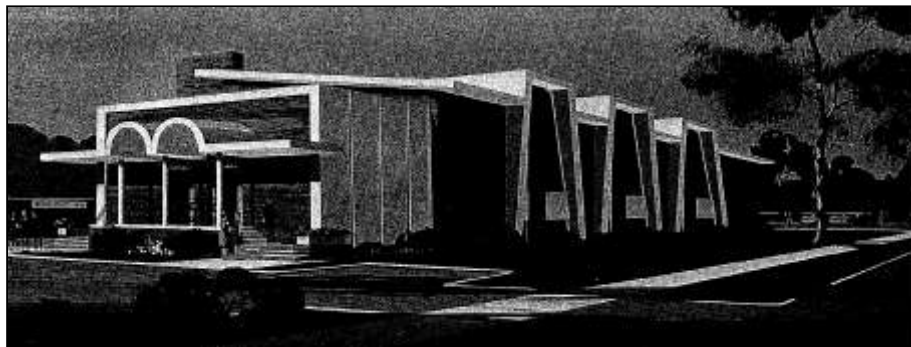


The above Hopkins Plat Map shows the name of the congregation, the boundaries of the lot and their measurements along with the lot number within the Sub Division as accepted and recorded by the County Recorders office. The sub division, (name not shown) is the Boulevard Drive Sub Division, number 1 55-12, and the lot number is 13. These are not what are known as a permanent parcel number.. The map also shows the address of the lot. The buildings shown in red indicate being constructed of brick. The washed out red indicates the structure (First Evangelist Church) being constructed of stone. While the Eddy Road Synagogue had portions built with brick the original center structure was wood.

As early as 1950, the congregation recognized the need to again relocate to either Cleveland Heights or South Euclid where so many of their Members' were now living. Land was purchased in June 1950, on the south side of Cedar Road between Washington Blvd and Barrington Road from the Church of the Redeemer. According to minutes of the University Heights zoning commission, which at that time met twice a year, there was strong opposition from residents living in the Cedar and Washington area. Subsequently, the property was sold to Associated Brokers.

With membership continuing to decline a new location was needed as soon as possible. Parallel to the search for new space, Sherith Jacob merged with **Sherith Israel**, a long-established Mt. Pleasant area synagogue that was also looking to relocate and regain membership. In 1962, the two congregations officially merged and became known as the Memorial Synagogue - Sherith Jacob Israel Congregation. The new name placed an emphasis on recognizing the many Jews that perished in the Holocaust. While searching for land to build, congregants met at Milliken Elementary School on the eastern edge of Cleveland Heights adjacent to the new Severance Shopping Center and used the Jewish Community Center located at 3505 Mayfield Road for High Holiday Services.

According to an article in the Plain Dealer dated July, 18, 1959 the Eddy road location was sold to Kalever Yeshiva day school under the direction of Rabbi Joseph Schonfeld. The building was again sold May 15, 1962 to the Cedar-Walnut Co, who would sell the property the same day to the Divinity Church. The building would continue to be used as a church until 1972 when fire destroyed the building, at that time occupied by the East End Missionary Baptist Church. Today the vacant land is now part of the City of Cleveland's' land bank.



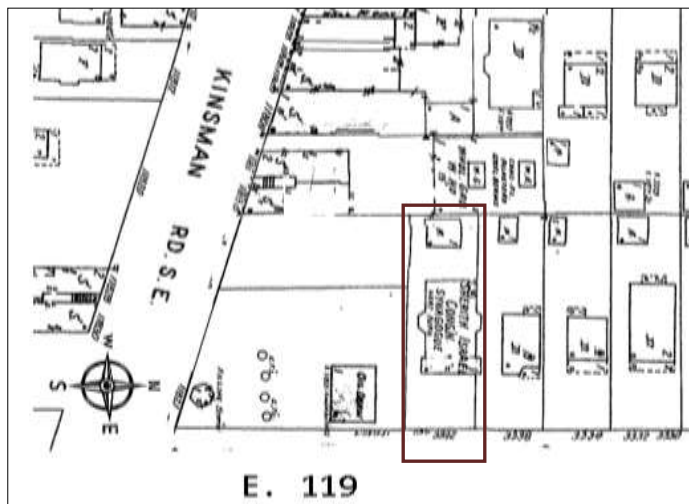
Proposed Memorial Synagogue to be built by the recently merged Sherith Israel and Sherith Jacob (Eddy) Congregation at Warrensville Center and Harwood roads in South Euclid. Drawn in 1962 and provided by Architect Irving Robinson.

A new site was found on the east side of Warrensville Center Road at Harwood Drive. However the City of South Euclid was unwilling to issue a building permit. In a public hearing January 3, 1962 the Planning Commission told Rabbi Klein that there was insufficient parking. Klein explained that most of the current seventy five members, and an anticipated additional one hundred and fifty, would be *walking* to the synagogue, The commission was not willing to accept his answer and rejected the plan with a recommendation that the members purchase additional parcels to meet the parking requirements. By 1970, membership had diminished to a point where a merger resulted with Warrensville Center Synagogue.

Sherith Israel [Remnants of Israel] incorporated in 1915 consisting of Russian Jews meeting in unconfirmed locations, most likely someone's home or a rented hall until February 1933 when land at 3342 E. 119th was purchased from Bella Weinberg. A simple brick building was built.



3342 East 119th street. Former home to Congregation Sherith Israel. Demolished in 1999 for the construction of a new house of worship for the Church of God Holiness. The expansion included the former gas station fronting Kinsman being demolished.. Source: Church of God Holiness. Exact date of photo is unknown, thought to be early 1980's.



In 1937, their beloved Rabbi Seelig Ginsberg passed away. With only 42 members, the congregation would continue to exist with either a guest Rabbi or a member of the congregation leading services. This was not uncommon as many of the smaller congregations known as Shuls would have services led by their elders. Keep in mind many of the Shuls were formed by small groups of men dissatisfied with the religious rituals followed during prayer. While a small congregation, a section of land was acquired in 1934 at the Lincoln Cemetery in Parma Ohio. The congregation also had an active sisterhood (women's club) for many years. However by 1962 the congregation faced the reality of a declining membership and joined with the Eddy Road Sherith Jacob congregation to form the Memorial Synagogue – Sherith Jacob Israel Synagogue. The building on E. 119th was sold in January 1961 to the **Church of God Holiness** that occupied the building until 1999, when it was torn down along with the neighboring City Services gas station to build a modern church that continues to serve the Mt. Pleasant area.



Sign over walkway to the Synagogues' "section" at the Jewish cemetery just east of W. 54th at Theota Ave. formerly known as Lincoln Street in Parma Ohio. The Cemetery is often known as the Workmen's Circle Cemetery. Take note of the sign added at the time of their merger with the Warrensville Center Synagogue. Photo Taken June 12, 2010 Jeff Morris

Tifereth Israel Anshe Sfard [Grace of Israel Sephardic Congregation] would often be listed in phone directories as the Mt Pleasant branch of Tifereth Israel; however this group of Polish Jews established their house of worship in 1922 at 3386 E. 119th and had no relationship with the popular Tifereth Israel (Reform) located at the that time on Ansel Road.



3386 East 119th. Former location of Tifereth Israel Anshe Sfard of Mt. Pleasant. Above photo taken in 1961 as part of a county wide survey by the County Recorder. Source of photo: Cuyahoga County Archives. Photo to the right taken by Jeff Morris March 2009

Temple The (Tifereth Israel)—E 105th and Ansel rd Rev A H Silver rabbi
 Temple on the Heights (B'nai Jeshurun)—3130 Mayfield rd (CH) Rev Herman Kohn rabbi
 Tifereth Ahavas Achim—954 Linn dr Rev Mortka Landa rabbi
 Tifereth Israel (The Temple)—E 105th and Ansel rd Rev A H Silver rabbi
Tifereth Israel—(branch) 3386 E 119th Rev Isadore Sapolsky rabbi

Above listing is from the **City Directory** published 1935. Indicates Tifereth Israel as a Branch



According to WPA (Works Progress Administration) records located at the Western Reserve Historical Society, this congregation was formed by former members of Oer Chodosh, however no other data to support this has been found. In April 1957 N'vai Zedek located just around the corner on Union Ave put their building up for sale and acquired the Teferith Israel Anshe Sfard building establishing a working relationship to share the E. 119th building until May 1959, when N'vai Zedek would join the **B'nai Jacob Kol Israel - Kinsman Jewish Center** in a merger with Warrensville Center Synagogue, now known as Kehillat Yaakov- Cedar Road Synagogue. The building at on E.119th was sold by the newly-merged group in December 1962 to the Bethesda Baptist Church, selling the building to the current Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in March 1974.



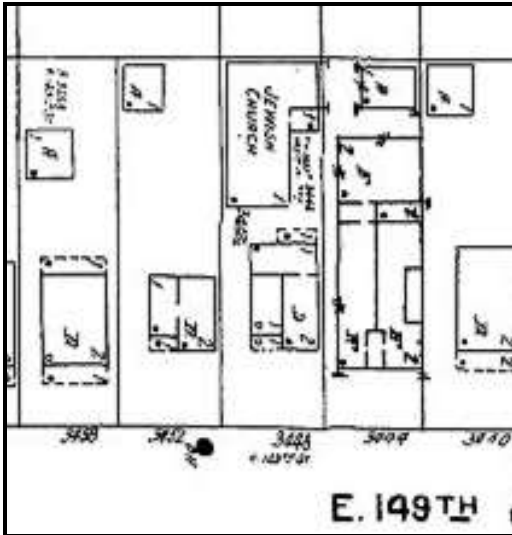
N'vai Zedek [Prophets of Israel] was established in 1918 by Lithuanian Jews and first met in the home of the Axelrod Family on E. 118th just north of Union Avenue. Officially incorporated in 1922, the congregation purchased a home at 11901 Union Avenue which they used until 1923 when a new building was designed by local Polish immigrant and architect, Meyer Altschuld.



One feature of the building was a *Mikvah*, located just behind the *bema* (podium or dais). N'vai Zedek sold the building in December 1957 to The Tabernacle Baptist Church. A condition of the sale included that the Synagogue hold a mortgage for \$20,000 to assist the church. with the purchase. The church continues to function and is an active part of the community. Today the Mikvah is used on a regular basis as a baptismal, with a curtain that opens up to the sanctuary. As previously mentioned, similar to other area synagogues, membership declined in the 1950's resulting in an unofficial merger first with its close neighbor Tifereth Israel Anshe Sfard of Mt Pleasant in April 1957, and then in May 1959 officially joining with B'nai Jacob Kol Israel to merge with Warrensville Center Synagogue, now known as Kehillat Yaakov - Cedar Road Synagogue.

A ***mikvah*** is a small pool or bath one can use to purify or cleanse one self. There are many requirements including the water being from a natural stream.

B'nai Jacob Kol Israel [**Sons of Jacob and Voice of Israel**] also known as the Kinsman Jewish Center was created in the 1920's by two separate groups of former members of the **Anshe Marmarasher B'nai Jacob Congregation** (Green Road Synagogue) when the congregation relocated to 1207 E. 105th. from E. 61st north of Kinsman Ave. The others group known as **Ohel Yavne Congregation** met in a modified garage in the rear of their part time spiritual leader Samuel Levine's home at 3448 E. 149th.



Above Plat Map published by Sanborn in 1921 (Vol 4) shows the garage being used as a "Jewish Church". At that time, the term "church" on maps and City Directories (precursor to the Phonebook) was common regardless of the religion.



Former home of Samuel Levine, 3448 E. 149th Street Photo taken by Jeff Morris February 12, 2011

The official incorporation of the two groups did not occur until July 1930 by trustees Daniel Weiss, King Solomon, Jack Friedman, D. Wasserman, D. Zalinsky, L. Pinkas and Sam Friedman. The unification with Levine's group was spearheaded by Daniel Weiss who had an unrelenting vision to bring the two groups together and build a complex that would be similar to the Glenville Jewish Center built in 1922.

In 1930 Weiss engaged well known architect Max Weis (aka White) to design the building to be known as the Kinsman Jewish Center. Unfortunately, the only portion built was the first phase which included the Sanctuary, a social hall and several classrooms.

The building was completed in late 1932, with a majority of the tradesmen being members of the Synagogue. It should be noted that many of the Jews living in the Mt. Pleasant area were laborers, including carpenters and painters. They were often strong supporters of the Labor Movement that gained popularity in the 1930 and 1940's.

According to the January 21, 1949 edition of the *Jewish Review and Observer*, one of several local Jewish newspapers, at a recent



View of The Kinsman Jewish Center from the southeast corner of Kinsman and east 147th.looking at the northeast corner. In 1998 the gas station was purchased by the New Sardis Baptist Church for an addition to the building. Source of Photo, Cleveland Press collection at the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University.

Annual Dinner of the membership synagogue President Dan Weiss announced an interest in relocating farther east. The dinner had been attended by 300 people with the guest speaker being local television personality Dorothy Fuldheim. Additional speakers included Honorable Judge Samuel Sibert and the synagogues' Rabbi David Genuth. According to the article the congregation's membership exceeded 1000. Rabbi Genuth became the spiritual leader in 1933 and would regularly attract 500 people when speaking at community events. However, the congregation would experience a major loss of membership in 1955 when Rabbi Genuth, after a disagreement with several board members established Temple Beth-El. They met in various rented halls until their new building was completed in September of 1957 at 15808 Kinsman in Shaker Heights.

Beth-El continues today with many of the children and grandchildren of founding members and is now located in the building previously occupied for many years by Sinai Synagogue at 3248 DeSota in Cleveland Heights. Gunuth's popularity along with a growing number of families moving east would result in the Kinsman Jewish Center building being put up for sale with the intent to move east on their own or consolidate with several of the smaller synagogues also experiencing diminishing membership. In an effort to continue with all due speed Rabbi Jacob Muskin was hired and the congregation met in rented space at 3596 Lee Road. Their former building at 147th and Kinsman was sold to the New Sardis Primitive Baptist Church. In 1959 after several years of negotiations the Kinsman Jewish Center joined with the Tetiever Synagogue which at the time was building a new synagogue on Warrensville Center Road in South Euclid. The consolidation agreement included the employment of Rabbi Jacob Muskin who would continue to lead the combined congregations and embrace several additional consolidations over the next ten plus years and serve the Jewish Orthodox community for decades.



3310 East 149th just south of Kinsman. Photo taken 1976. Source: Cleveland Public Library photo collection.

Ohel Jabneh, [Tent of Jacob or Yavne]

was located in a two -family house at 3510 E. 149th just south of Kinsman. Also known as **Bilchik's Shul**, the property was acquired in December 1929, by Solomon Sack, W Bram, Hyman Lichen, Dave Marcus, Boruch Botwin, Frank Brook, Jacob Paley, Ben Cristal and Samuel Bilchik. The group of Russian immigrants officially incorporated as **Ohel Jabneh**, in January 1930. In April 1935 the property

was acquired by a non profit religious group known as **Miskon Yisroal**. [**Tabernacle of Israel**]

Little is known about **Miskon Yisroal** beyond being listed at the same address in city directories from 1934 to 1940. On December 8th 1947 the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas ordered the property transferred from Mishkon Yisroal to Lillian and Elsie Bilchik the unmarried daughters of Samuel Bilchik. who had been the part time spiritual leader of Ohel Jabneh and lived on the second floor of the house until his death in March of 1948. With membership declining the remaining members joined with Yavne Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation to form the Shaker – Lee Synagogue at 3688 Lee Road in Shaker Heights. The Bilchik daughters sold the property in March of 1966. After several owners the property was acquired in 1993 by the Sheriff due to foreclosure. In 1997 the city acquired the land and resold it to the Evangelist Church of Christ with the agreement that the parcel along with adjoining parcels fronting Kinsman would be developed. The house was demolished by the Church within a year.

Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation, [Tent of Jacob Sephardic Congregation] incorporated in November of 1915 by Z. S. Talisman, M. Zaldman, S. Kramer, Hyman Dick, R. Gross, Harry Rosen and Nathan Shassin. The first known location was a rented hall on Scovill Ave at E. 38th. In 1918 a home at 5702 Scovill Road was purchased. By 1925 the congregation had grown to 50 families and like other Jews, was looking to move farther east. With the help of local architect Meyer Altschuld a new synagogue was built at 3473 E. 140th. The Scovill Road location was sold in 1925 to Agadath B’Nai Israel Anshe Sfard.



Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation acquired this home at 5702 Scovill from Harry Gross in 1922 and sold it in 1925 to Agadath B’nai Israel Anshe Sfard.

. Source: The photo is part of a survey completed by the County Recorder in June 1959 of all non-commercial properties. The numbers held up by the sign holder are the Permanent Parcel Number.

The Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation continued at the 140th street location until 1959 when the declining membership chose to merge along with former members of both Ohel Jabneh, *aka*, Bilchik’s Shul, and Tifereth Israel Anshe Sfard of Mt. Pleasant.



3473 E. 140th Former home of Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation
Photo taken April 1 2009 Jeff Morris



The newly merged group acquired and remodeled a building built by the Jewish Community Center (JCC) as a drama center in 1957 at 3688 Lee Road in Shaker Heights. While maintaining the congregations' corporate name of Ohel Jacob Anshe Sfard Congregation, the congregation was known as the **Shaker-Lee Synagogue**.

Rabbi Krislov who had lead several of the Kinsman congregation's at the same time would continue to lead the congregation through their merger into Warrensville Center Synagogue in May 1970. According to an article in the



Plain Dealer dated November 24th, 1970, a gift was made to the Israel Emergency Fund of the Jewish Welfare Appeal when the synagogue closed its doors. The gift consisted of ten thousand dollars received from the proceeds of the sale of the building and an additional fifteen hundred dollars from the congregation's sisterhood. The Shaker-Lee merger into Warrensville Center Synagogue completed the consolidation of the older Mt. Pleasant synagogues that existed for sixty years and were home to many if not most of the first and second generation Jews in the area.

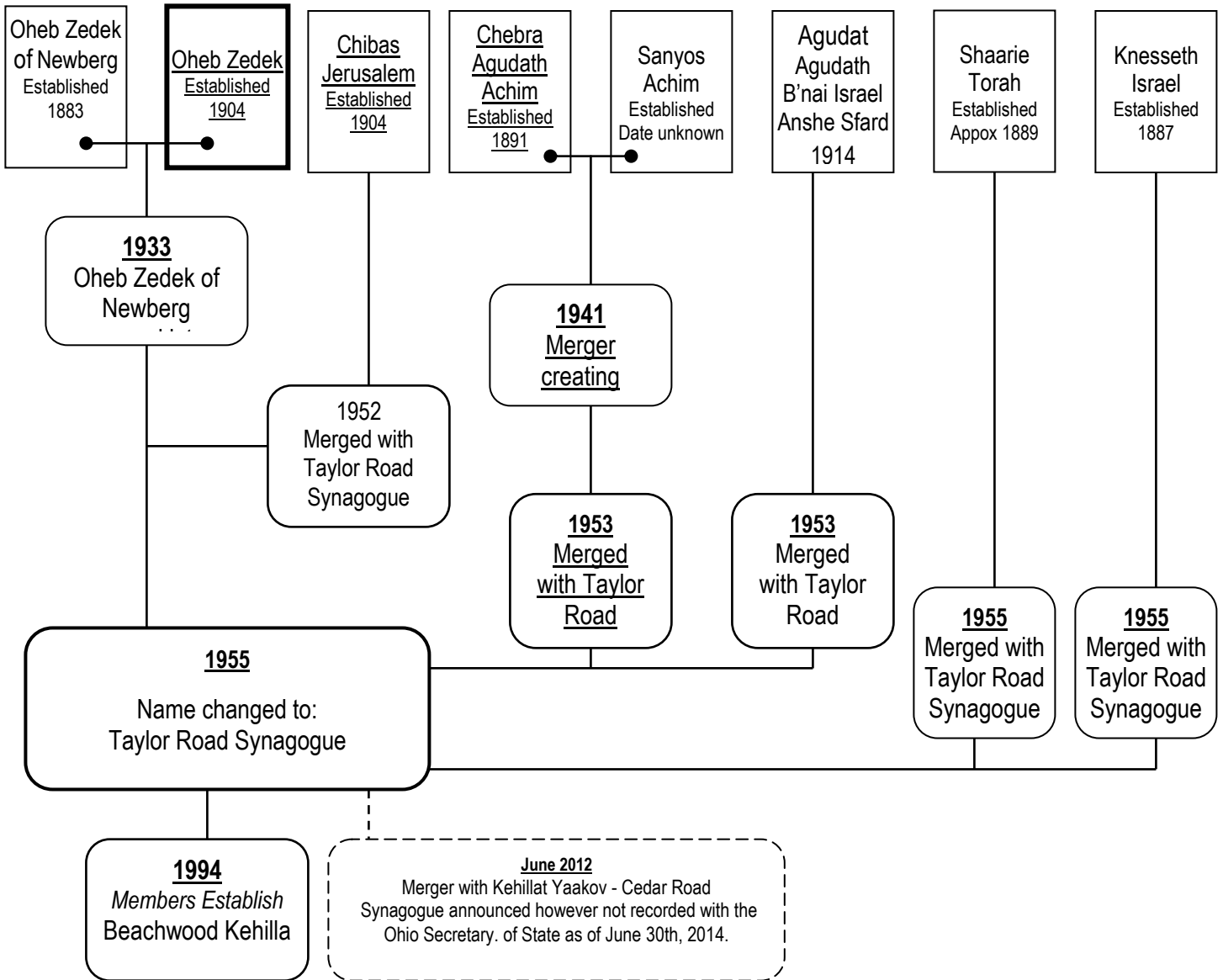
When was the JCC formed?

The Jewish Community Center (JCC) was incorporated in August of 1948. In 1953 the Council Education Alliance (incorporated in 1899) and Camp Wise (incorporated in 1907) merged with the JCC.

Today the "J" is known as the Mandel Jewish Community Center in appreciation for the support of the Mandel Families commitment to the Jewish Community.



Oheb Zedek
**Taylor Road
 Synagogue**
 ©2014 Jeffrey Morris Cleveland Ohio



At one time Cleveland had three synagogues with **Oheb Zedek - Lovers of the Righteousness** as part of their name. One was located on a corner of Lorain Road at W. 47th. Little information is known except that it existed between 1883 and 1890. **Oheb Zedek of Newburg** incorporated in 1884 and first met in several rented store fronts in the Harvard - Broadway area. City directories list them located at what is now 7700 Broadway from 1894 to 1905, in 1906 they moved to 8820 Broadway and for a short time after at the corner of Broadway and Harvard at the Opera Block building.

In 1909, the congregation of Bohemian Jews purchased the former Homestead Baptist Church, at 7820 Homestead just west of Broadway. The need for a neighborhood synagogue created one of the first movement of Jews beyond the lower Woodland (Haymarket) area. Many of the members were skilled laborers at the growing Newburg Steel Mill now known as American Steel and Wire located at Harvard and E. 49th. However, by 1933 the Great Depression forced the diminishing number of members living in the area to join with the larger Oheb Zedek which had just moved from E. 38th and Scovill to Parkwood Drive in Glenville.



7824 Homestead Ave former location of Oheb Zedek of Newburg Township June, 1933 Source: Cleveland Public Library, Photo Collection



Sanborn Plat Map 1911 - 1913 Vol. 7

A New Hebrew Congregation.
 A new Hebrew congregation has been formed on the West Side to be known as **Ohev Zedek** (Disciples of Justice) and money is being liberally subscribed toward a West Side synagogue. To further the cause an entertainment will be given on Tuesday evening, December 12th in Turn Hall on Mechanic street.

Clipping from the Cleveland Plain Dealer
 December 2, 1882.
 No Other supportive material found.

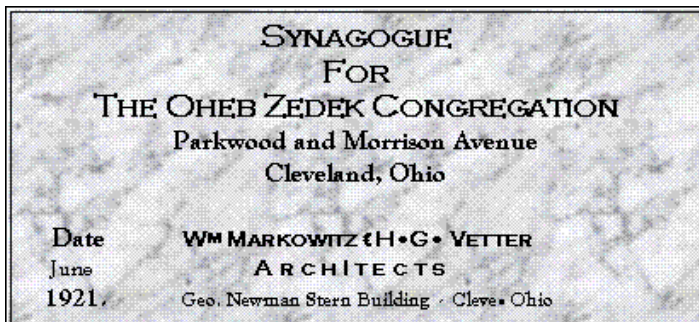
Oheb Zedek that continues to meet and is now known as **Taylor Road Synagogue** incorporated in 1904 by forty members of **B'nai Jeshurun** who opposed the decision to eliminate separate seating of men and women as part of the congregation's move from Orthodox to the growing popularity of the Reform movement of Judaism. By the end of 1905 the members of the congregation were able to meet in their new building at 3782 Scovill Ave.



3782 Scovill Ave. Remodeled and occupied by Oheb Zedek in 1904. Current home of The Tiedstone Baptist Church. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections

The land which included a building were purchased in March of 1903 from the Evangelist English Lutheran Church that acquired the building in 1883 after outgrowing their first location on Brownell (E. 14th) and Central. Local architect Albert Janowitz was hired to design the synagogue.

In May 1922, the Oheb Zedek building was sold to the current occupant, **Triedstone Baptist Church** which had been meeting nearby on Orange Avenue. Oheb Zedek purchased land on the northwest corner of Parkwood and Morison Drive in the Glenville neighborhood in April 1919 from Charles Himmerman and built a modern neoclassical building. That building continues to be one of Glenville's landmarks' with seating for 1000. For several years prior to the Glenville location being built, members already living in the area utilized rented space at the Savoy Theatre, E. 103rd and St. Clair Ave., and the former Wright Hospital at the northeast corner of E.105th and Hampden. In 1921, both locations were used for the High Holidays to ensure sufficient seating while the new Parkwood and Morison building was being completed. According to the *Plain Dealer* article July 14, 1922 construction costs were \$125,000.00. The building was first used on August 20th of that year with a dinner and dance attended by over 200 couples.



Re-created from original prints' located at the City of Cleveland, Council Archives. Little is known about Architects Markowitz and Vetter.

The Newman Stern, building built in 1921 was located at 12th and Walnut. The company was started by actor Paul Newman's father Arthur and his uncle Joseph. Over time the company moved from manufacturing toys and electronic devices to be a popular distributor of sporting goods.



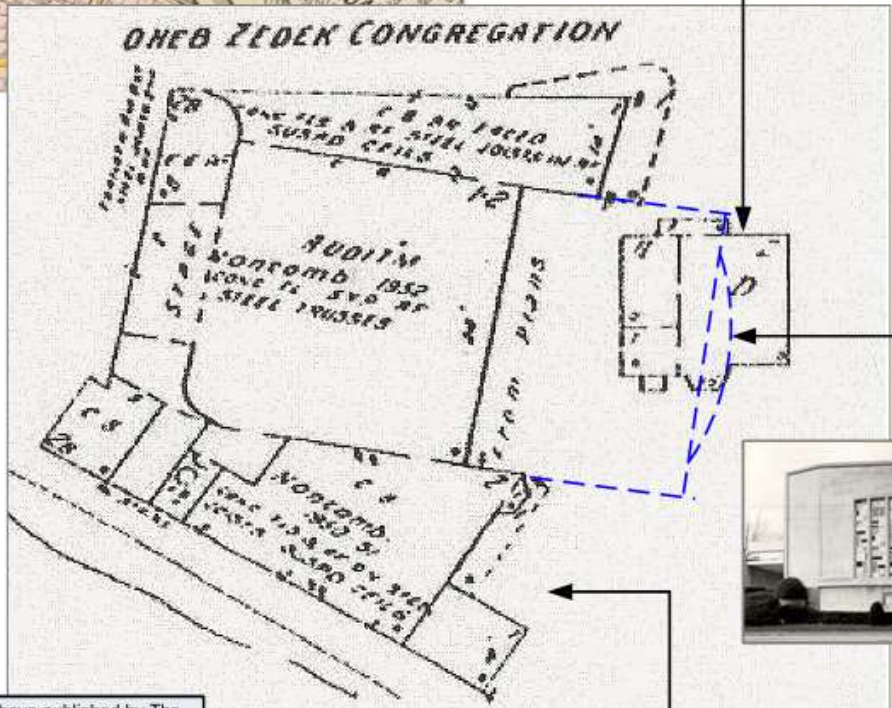
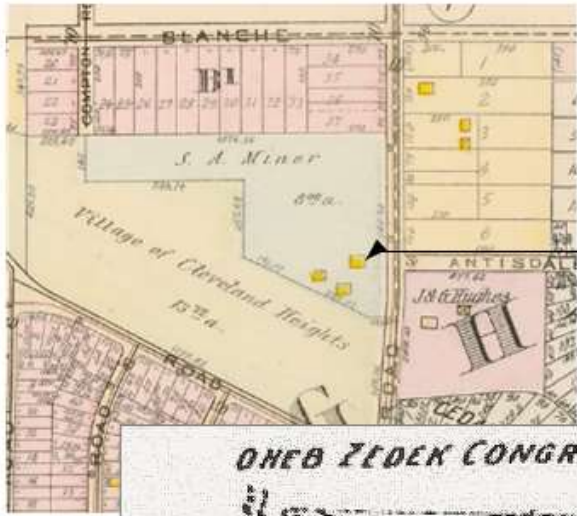
1937 Photo of Oheb Zedek. 10915 Parkwood Drive. Sign reads "Give Human Seeds – Community Fund Campaign" "Source of Photo, Cleveland Press collection at the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University.

The membership of Oheb Zedek would continue to grow and be an anchor of the Glenville community for many years. However, by the 1940's many of their members were heading east to the Taylor Road area of Cleveland Heights. According to records of the congregation archived at the Western Reserve Historical Society, The synagogue's leadership had several options, including purchasing land and building a new synagogue or merging with other orthodox synagogues including

The Heights Jewish Center or **Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Ohave Emuno Congregation**. While the discussions progressed to include drafting a purposed Articles of Consolidation with Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Ohave Emuno in 1946, the majority of the members of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Ohave Emuno voted against the merger.

In August 1944, the congregation purchased property from Amends Knudson on Taylor Road just north of Cain Park. The property included what is thought to be the original farm house of the Seth Minor family, one of the early settlers of the Western Reserve. An additional parcel of land was purchased from Sonia Goldstein in 1949 allowing for an exit from the rear lot to Superior Park Drive. The construction of the new Taylor Road location consisted of three phases. The first phase was completed in May 1952 and included several classrooms along with the bare essentials. Members continued to use the former farmhouse on the property during the initial phase, at the same time, the Morison Avenue location was still being used. The cornerstone for the second phase, of construction which included the Chapel, took place in June of 1952. Soon after, the farm house fronting Taylor Road was demolished. The third phase, which became the third of four phases, consisted of the main sanctuary or prayer hall and was completed in July 1957 with seating for 1200. An additional ten classrooms and a youth center, were added in November 1959. In the following years Taylor Road Synagogue would be one of the largest Orthodox congregations in Ohio and the host to many national and international speakers. The Morison Ave. location was sold in 1953 to the **Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church**. In July 1977 the building was acquired by the current occupant, **The Parkwood Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**.

Plat map published 1920 by Hopkins Publishing Co. shows the property once owned by S.A. Minor on Taylor Road. The yellow squares indicate the location of wooden structures on the property. If they were concrete or brick they would be pink.



The drawing above published by The Sanborn Plat Map Publishing Co. Vol 6 1959 shows their survey findings.
 The --- Blue lines to the east indicate the front addition completed after the survey.



In 1952, after several years of negotiations with five smaller Orthodox synagogues, there was sufficient logic in changing the Congregation's name from Oheb Zedek to one easily accepted by all; Taylor Road Synagogue. For the next 40 years, the building would be home to one of the largest Orthodox congregations in the Northeast Ohio.

The story is told that in the summer of 1987, Rachel Kessler and Sue Schmelzer along with their young family in strollers were walking nearly four miles each way from their homes in Beachwood to worship at Taylor Road Synagogue. After several years and many miles on the strollers a branch of the Taylor Road Synagogue was established closer to home at the Cleveland Hebrew Schools building at 25400 Fairmount Blvd. The building had been built in 1964 and also occupied Ganon-gil nursery school. The first Sabbath service took place in September 1987, continuing for seven years, until the 35 families utilizing the branch established an independent congregation, [**Community**].

In 1995, with a growing congregation a 4000 sq foot addition was designed by Lowenstein Durante Architects to the west side of the building, along with an overall change to the façade of the original building. The land for the addition once occupied a home sold by the family of long time Beachwood resident Cliff Soper. This house and a home demolished several years earlier just to the west are though to have been built circa 1910 and purchased from the popular Sears catalog.

The Taylor Road Synagogue continues to meet, however membership has declined and in 2003 they sold their property to the **Raintree Academy**. The sales agreement allows the congregation to use a limited amount of space for an extended amount of time. In October of 2006 Raintree sold the property to Taylor Road LLC. For several years the building had been used by the **Greater Heights Academy** a charter school.



Former Cleveland Hebrew School building at 25400 Fairmount Blvd. Portion of the building added by Beachwood Kehilla 1995 is located to the right (west) of the purple line. Photo taken by Jeff Morris June 2012

The History of the Beachwood Kehilla Property

Former Truscott Property Acquired by Cleveland Hebrew Schools in 1964



Former site of the two lots with homes built in the 1930's. There is a thought that the two homes were purchased from Sears, a popular source at the time for "ready to assemble" homes.
 Lot to the south (a) is now part of the Beachwood High School acquired in 2000. Lot (b) was acquired by Beachwood Kehilla in 2005 for the expansion of their building.

1949 Aerial photo taken by the Cuyahoga County Engineer Albert Porter

The photo to the right was taken in 1961 as part of a county wide survey of all residential properties under the direction of the County Recorder. The house is a close match to the home just to the east that was acquired by Beachwood Kehilla in 1995

The sign held by the young man is the County Recorder's Permanent Parcel Number for the lot which at that time was owned, since 1946 by the Utas Family. In 1973 the Shlachter Family purchased the property from Richard Utas

The property was then sold in 2000 to the Beachwood Board of Education and soon after torn down to straighten the drive from the High School to Fairmount Blvd.



A stick'l on the Permanent Parcel Number:

The first three numbers 741 is the number of the book the geographic area is listed in
 The second number 22 is the page number within that book
 The third number which is, 007 is the line number on the page.
 When a parcel is split or divided up, the Recorder determines the additional numbers to list on the page.
 When parcels are consolidated, the Recorder eliminates all and establishes a new number, or eliminates all but one number

The first of five Orthodox congregations in the Glenville neighborhood to merge with Oheb Zedek was **Chibas Jerusalem**. Incorporated in November of 1904 with a majority of the members being from Lithuania, the congregation first met at the Crystal Hall, located on Woodland at E. 39th. In June 1911, a house was purchased at 2329 E. 39th from the Christian Reform Church and occupied until a new building was built at 8324 Cedar Road. The property on E. 39th was sold in June of 1918 to Bella Smoot, a founding member of the **Christian and Missionary Alliance**, who would worship at that location until changing their name to the **Union Avenue Alliance Church** and relocating to 12700 Union Avenue in January, 1960. Their former location on East 39th was sold several times and in 1997 a new home belonging to Ulas Jones was constructed.

The 8324 Cedar Road property had been purchased from Rose Marsh by member and businessman Julius Gottlieb in 1917. The Architect Meyer Altschuld designed a simple brick structure. Often religious organization's feel an obligation to their faith, that the sale of religious property should not be made directly to an organization of a different faith. Thus, in this case, the property was purchased by an individual such as Gottlieb and then resold by Gottlieb to his synagogue. In many cases both deed transfers occurred on the same date. Some would think this was done because the seller would not sell to a person of the Jewish faith; and somewhat so, however, in this case Gottlieb is easily deciphered as a Jewish name. The congregation presumably remained at this location until a new building was completed in November 1924 on the land they purchased at 887 Parkwood Drive.

It is unclear as to when the congregation relinquished the Cedar Road property, however, according to Cuyahoga County records the property was sold to the **East End Community Center** by Union Properties in September 4th 1936. In March 1946 East End sold the property to the John E. Hubbard Memorial Hall. **The New Canaan Baptist Church** purchased the property from the Memorial Hall in January 1979.



8324 Cedar Road. Former home of Chibas Jerusalem. Source, Walter Leedy Collection held at the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University.

Chibas Jerusalem acquired the property on Parkwood Drive, again through Gottlieb, who had acquired the property just 10 days earlier from Minni Glaser who purchased the land on the same day from six owners. They were Celia and Nathan Fine, Gussie and Samuel Horwitz and Jennie and Julius Geller



877 Parkwood Drive. Former home of Chibas Jerusalem. Photo taken Oct. 2010 Jeff Morris

The front of the building has a modified byzantine look including two copper domes and leaded glass on both the front and sides of the building. Along with the stunning entrance, the main sanctuary's ceiling included skylights and three large chandeliers down the center. The wooden benches included a Star of David carved out of each end. The rear of the building consisted of a social room known as Carmel Hall. In 1928 the congregation's leadership convinced Rabbi Yehudah Heschel Halayvi Levenberg to relocate his Connecticut - based *Yeshiva School of Jewish Studies* to Cleveland. The congregation converted part of Carmel Hall into a dormitory for 35 students. The Yeshiva utilized the Parkwood site while raising funds to relocate two years later just around the corner to 880 Lakeview Drive where they would stay until the early 1940's when the Yeshiva relocated back to Connecticut.



877 Parkwood Drive. Photo taken September 2011 showing years of neglect to the once beautiful Synagogue and Church. The drop ceiling shown was added after rafters were added that span the balcony. Those two ceilings are below a second drop ceiling that spans the high ceiling consisting of sky lights that were installed when the building was built in 1924. Demolished November, 2013

In 1949 Chibas Jerusalem purchased the property just to the north of their building from the **Orthodox Jewish Orphans' Home** that had recently ended its fifty-five years of existence. The children were relocated to Bellefaire at, 22001 Fairmount Boulevard in Shaker Heights. The newly acquired building had a rich history starting with the original owner, architect Morris Glieman who acquired the land in 1895 and constructed a Swiss chalet style home.

With a diminishing number of members remaining in the Glenville neighborhood, the leadership chose to consolidate with Oheb Zedek in 1952, where many of their fellow parishioners had already joined when they moved east.



About Morris Gleichman

Born in 1880, arriving in Cleveland at the age of 6 from Austria-Hungary, Morris Gleichman attended Cleveland Public Schools first working as an architect for Edward Ruprect. According to records maintained by the City of Cleveland Landmark Commission. Gleichman, was the architect and designer of a one-thousand foot high Tower of Babel for the Paris Exposition of 1900. He was a member of the Forest City Blue Lodge Masons and the Scottish Rite and politically he was a Republican. In 1914 he moved to New York City where he practiced architecture until 1930. He died in 1931 and is buried in New York. His Cleveland home at 877 Parkwood that he named Marville Cottage was considered by his peers to be the best designed residence for miles. The property was purchased by the Orthodox Children's Asylum in 1919. The building was demolished in 1968 and at that time was the home to the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

The Parkwood location would be used for several years for remaining members living in the area. The Synagogue and the former Orthodox Children's orphanage were sold April 1956 to Jack Kelman He sold the property the same day to the Pentecostal Church who occupied the building until 1982 when they relocated to Chester and E.105th and sold the property to the Holy Temple Church. Sadly the building fell into disrepair and for many years remained uninhabitable until November of 2013 when the roof fell to the ground resulting in the structure being demolished.



Photo taken November 4th 2013. The building was demolished within a few days Photo taken by Jeff Morris



The photo above was taken circa 1960 of Gleichman's former home when occupied by The Pleasant Grove Church. Photo to the right, taken from the rear of the property shows the addition built in 1943 by the Children's Orphanage, and the "breezeway" built connecting the two structures.

Agudat (Agudath) B'nai Israel Anshe Sfard Romania – [Union of Children of Israel People of Sephardic Romania] established 1914, first met in a home at 2621 E.51st. In December 1925 the members purchased the property at 5702 Scovill Ave from Ohel Jacob Ashe Sfard, a congregation that is now a part of the Cedar Road Synagogue. Agudath B'nai Israel Anshe Sfard Romania congregation

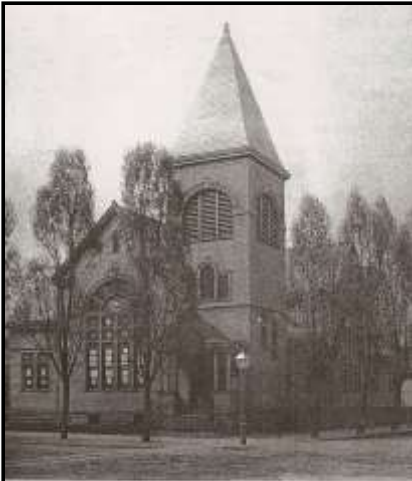


5702 Scovill Road. Purchased by Agudath B'nai Israel Anshe Sfard Romania in 1925. Sold in 1928. Source: The photo is part of a survey completed by the County Recorder in June 1959 of all non-commercial properties. The numbers held up by the sign holder are the Permanent Parcel Number.

sold the home three years later to Antino Mancusso.

Research shows some inconsistencies as to where the congregation relocated and when. In August 1934 the congregation purchased the home at 10512-14 Massie from **Bois Mordchai** congregation who had acquired the home in June 1929 from **Shomrei Hadath**. Other than this land transaction and their incorporation as a non profit, no additional information could be found regarding the Bois Mordachi organization. Shomre Hadath

was created by members of **B'nai Jeshurun** congregation living in the Buckeye - Mt Pleasant area. Shomre Hadas merged with Young Israel in September 1973. Agudath B'nai Israel Anshe Sfard Romania sold the Massie Road property to Isador Steinberg in 1947. Steinberg lived on the 2nd floor of the 2 family home and the lower level was used by the congregation for prayer services. According to a *Plain Dealer* article dated December 12th 1950 there was a fire at the home the previous day and the occupant was Rose Weisingar. By 1959 records indicate that the property moved back and forth several times between Steinberg and Weisinger. The property changed hands in 1981 and was demolished for parking by the neighboring Cleveland Church of Christ. Ultimately, Agudath B'nai Israel merged into Taylor Road Synagogue in May 1953, under the leadership of long time member Harry Weintraub.



Former home of the First German Methodist Episcopal Church at the northwest corner of Sterling and Scovill purchased and occupied by Agudath Achim from 1908 - to 1918. Prior to 1906 E. 30th was known as Sterling Avenue. About the same time the "e" in Scoville was dropped. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections

Prior to merging with Oheb Zedek (Taylor Road) in 1953 the **Chebra Agudath Achim [Union of Brothers]** congregation had been formed in August 1941 when Chebra Agudath Achim Congregation (incorporated in April 1891 by Russian Immigrants), and **Sayoas Achim Congregation** (date of organizing is unknown) consolidated into one.

Their first known location was in the Haymarket District at 85 Hill St from 1894 to 1898. The building had been the prior home to congregation **Beth Israel Chebra Kadisha**. In 1899, Chebra Agudath Achim relocated to 217 Orange Avenue until 1908 when the congregation purchased the **First German Methodist Church** built just ten years earlier at the northwest corner of Scovill and E. 30th. The congregation stayed at this location until 1918 when the building was sold to Rose Feldenkris who, within six months, sold the property to Washington Page an elder of the **Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church**. It was in this building that the church established the

nationally known *WINGS OVER JORDAN CHOIR*, one of American's early nationally - broadcasted gospel radio programs. The church relocated to E. 79th, just north of Chester Avenue in March 1953, when their Scovill location was acquired by the Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority for the construction of low-cost housing.

With members moving east, Chebra Agudath Achim congregation purchased property at 6411 Quincy Avenue from Meyer Dworken in April 1917 and constructed a new building. However, it is unclear as to why and when, the congregation stopped using the building in the late 1920's. The building was owned and occupied by the **Olivet Institutional Baptist Church** from 1931 to 1936.

Who was Philo Scovill?

Philo arrived in Cleveland with his parents in 1816. Along with owning several businesses he served on the city council and as a county commissioner., Philo died in 1875 and is buried at the Erie Street Cemetery. and had owned numerous parcels of land surrounding the city. Why the 'E' I do not know.



6411 Quincy built in 1917 for the Agudath Achim Congregation. Photo to the right shows the new façade that was added as part of a renovation in the mid 1960's by the current owner The Pentecostal Tabernacle



In October 1936 the Quincy Avenue property was purchased by the **Gospel Tabernacle Church** from **Union Properties**, a holding company established by the State of Ohio to liquidate the loans held by Union trust, one of the local banks that failed in the Great Depression of 1929. **Gospel Tabernacle** sold the building in 1964 to the current owner, the **Tabernacle Pentecostal Church**. The building underwent a major renovation in the early 1960's that included a new façade, removal of the balcony and the reconstruction of a complete second floor.



10511 Elgin Ave. Located just east of 105th st. Garage to the left was part of filling station facing E.105th. Photo taken November 20, 1956. Source Cleveland Public Library Photo Collection

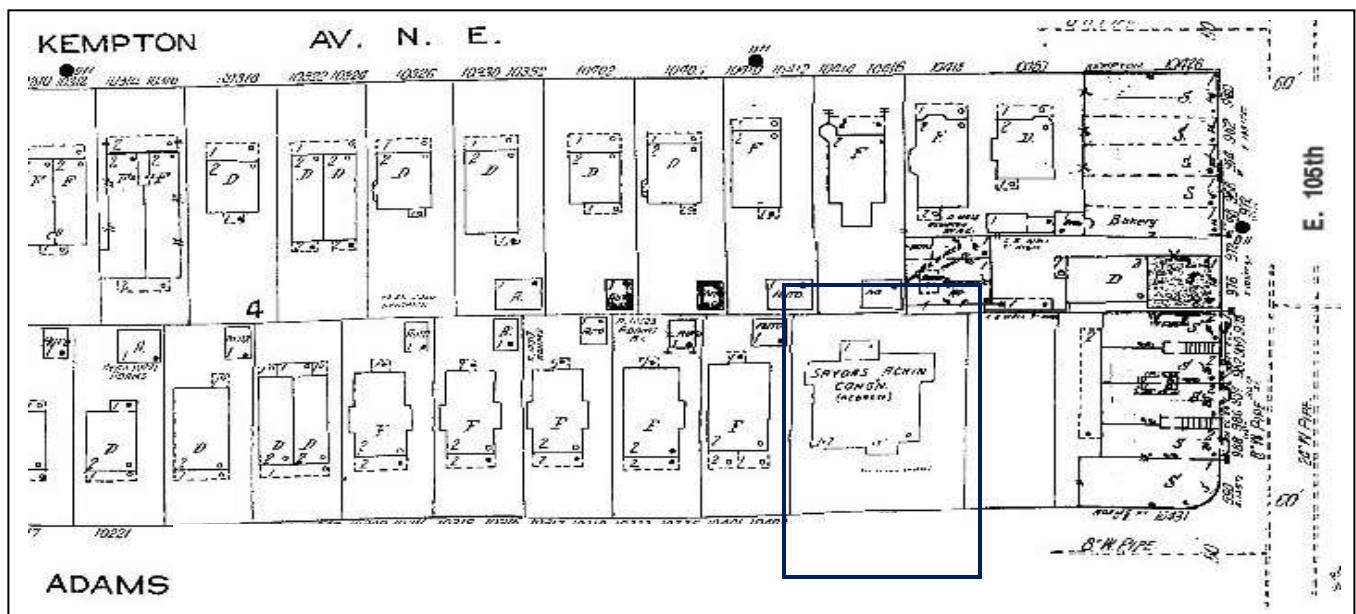
From 1918 through 1923 Chebra Agudath Achim was inconsistently listed in the Cleveland City Directory at the Quincy location, and from 1921 to 1930 at a two family home 10511 Elgin Avenue in Glenville. The house was the first house on the north side of Elgin after a corner gas station. Today the property is part of the parking lot for the adjacent **New Life Church**.

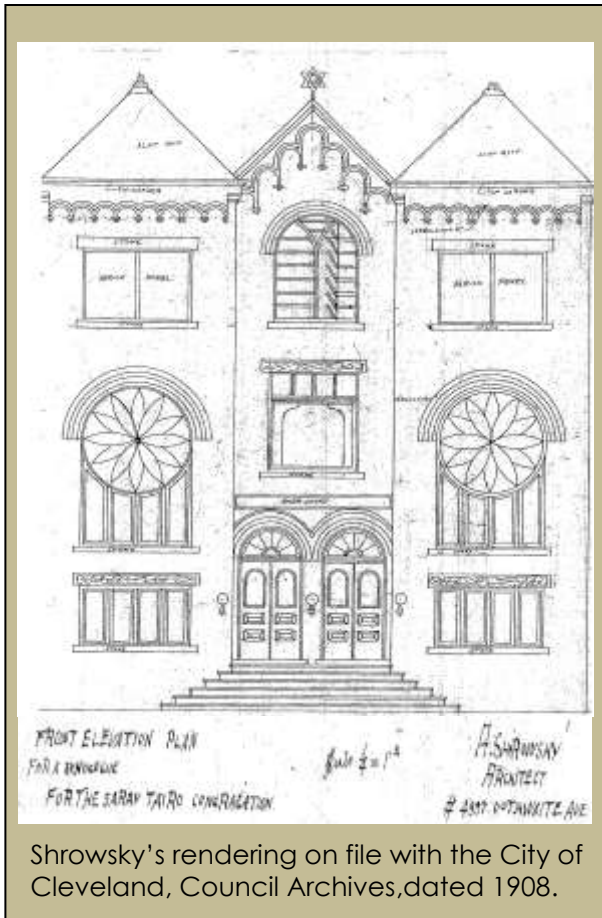
Limited documentation could be found about Chebra Agudath Achim's merger partner Sayoas Achim. Cuyahoga County records indicate Sayoas Achim purchased the **Calvary Lutheran Church** located at 10407 Adams Avenue in July 1932. In addition, the merger agreement filed with the Ohio Secretary of State dated Aug 17, 1941 states that Sanyos Achim was incorporated as a non-profit organization; however, the Secretary of State has no record of Sanyos. There is mention in the Sanborn Plat map shown below published 1921 – 1951 Vol. 4. Revised 1951.



State dated Aug 17, 1941 states that Sanyos Achim was incorporated as a non-profit organization; however, the Secretary of State has no record of Sanyos. There is mention in the Sanborn Plat map shown below published 1921 – 1951 Vol. 4. Revised 1951.

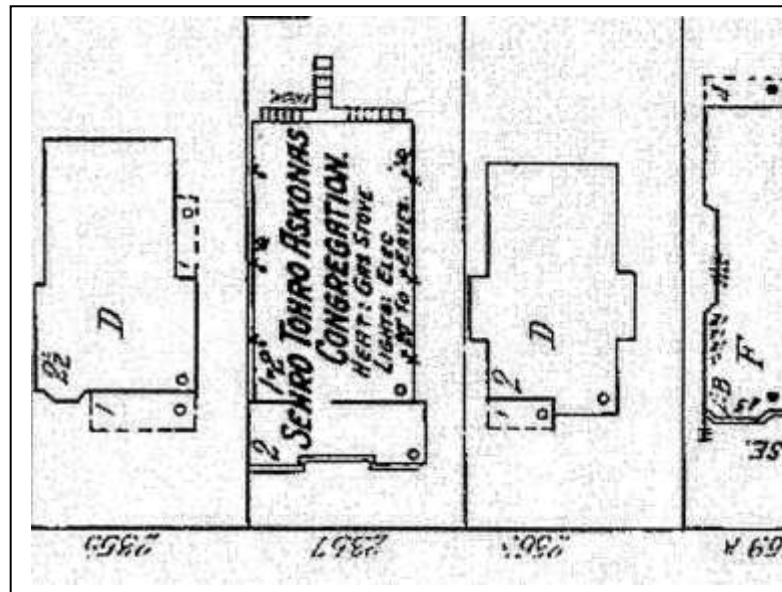
10407 Adams Ave. Above photo is the former home of Calvary Lutheran Church acquired by Sayoas Achim in 1932. Photo to the right is the current building constructed at 10407 Adams Ave. by the Church of Christ. Taken by Jeff Morris April 2013





Shrowsky's rendering on file with the City of Cleveland, Council Archives, dated 1908.

The official Incorporation of **Shaarei Torah [Gates of Torah]** founded by Ashkenazi Jews is unknown. No official record could be found. However, according to the archives published by the American Jewish Committee's 1899 was the first year of the congregation's existence. While many religious and ethic organizations are listed with various spellings including legal documents, this congregation had many including Sarrie Toro, Shaarek Tora, Shari Torah, and Sharray Torah. Their first known meeting place was 2335 Orange Avenue in a home purchased from Aaron Arnson in April 1906.



Sanborn Plat Map Vol.3 published 1920. Note the plat map's spelling of the congregation vs. the architect's' drawing.



2355 & 57 East 55th. The above photo was taken August 30, 1937 by the Cleveland Press. The photo to the right was taken in 1942 by the City of Cleveland Planning and Zoning Department.



In April 1911, the mansion built in 1882 for Leonard Loomis at 2357 E. 55th was purchased from Jacob Seinfeld who had acquired the property from the Loomis's Estate in 1889. It is unclear if Seinfeld and his wife Fanny ever lived in the house. A *Cleveland Plain Dealer* article dated April 22, 1909, mentions a property damaged by high winds the day before and identifies the property as the Cleveland Sanitarium. The assumption is that Seinfeld leased the property to the owner of the Sanitarium. It is unclear as to when the congregation actually moved into the building. The architectural drawings completed by Albert Swrasky and on file with the City of Cleveland – Council Archives are dated 1906. Also unclear is the date when the congregation stopped using the building. Records indicate the congregation selling the E. 55th property in November 1937 through a Trustee, Meyer Rapport, to Draza Goldwasser, the spouse of businessman Joseph Goldwasser who had been using the former synagogue as a warehouse for his tire business known as Peerless Rubber Company next door at 2355 East 55th until August 1937 when that building burned.

The fire made the front pages of the local papers as the road was closed due to the amount of fire fighting equipment and smoke from the fire blanketed the neighborhood. Goldwasser would remodel the former synagogue and change the business name to Peerless Department Store. According to newspaper articles Goldwasser took great pride in employing the growing number of African American relocating to Cleveland from the south. His life ended at the young age of 52 when he died of a heart attack while at work in his office.

Additional information on Goldwasser's support of civil rights can be found in the Life Magazine dated January, 24th 1949. The article includes Goldwasser trip to Georgia to force an indictment of two men that had committed the lynching of a young man.

Records also show the congregation bought a house at 776 East 105th in May of 1937 from the Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno Congregation who had purchased the property from Wolf Blasberg in December 1927. There are no records that Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno used the house as they were located just down the street at 1151 E. 105th from 1931 to 1955. They then merged into the **Heights Jewish Center**. Shaarei Torah stayed at this location until merging with Taylor Road Synagogue in 1955. The property was sold in September. 1955 to Saul and Harry Kumin the well known and respected undertakers located just to the south of the synagogue. Today the building is well maintained and used by the **All My Heart Pre-school**.



776 East 55th Photo taken April 2007

Knesseth Israel [House or Congregation for the Israelites] was established by disenchanted members of B'nai Jeshurun in 1887. The congregants first met in the home on E. 9th and Sumner Court belonging to Rev. L. Klein and then in a building at the 1600 block of Woodland Avenue that was purchased from Joseph and Louis Koblitz in July of 1893. The congregation would stay at this location until selling the property to N Komito and S. Fertell in July 1906.



2555 East 46th. Street. Former Knesseth Israel. Source: Architect drawing published by Ohio Architect Magazine Jan. 1906



840 E. 105th. Former Knesseth Israel. Photo taken by Jeff Morris June 12, 2012

For a short period of time a rented home on E. 14th (Brownell Street) was utilized until land was purchased at 2555 E. 46th from George and Sara Walther The architect Harry A. Cone's design was similar to the one he had recently done for B'nai Jeshurun's at E.55th and Scovill. The Knesseth Israel building was featured in the *Ohio Architect and Builder Journal* as an example of one of Cone's work.

In November 1920, land was acquired in Glenville at the southwest corner of E. 105th and Columbia Avenue had been owned by a trust of Mary McLaughlin and had a wooden structure thought to have been built in the 1860's. A Sanborn Plat map dated 1896 indicates a church titled **East 105th Street Church of God** on the parcel. In 1922 the new two story brick building was constructed.

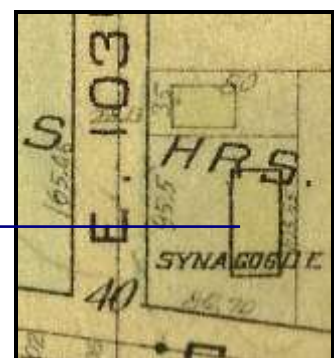
Timeline of Multiple Locations	1908	1910	1912	1914	1916	1918	1920	1922	1924	1926	1928	1930	1932
E 46 N. of Woodland	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u				
E. 103 at Buckeye							u	u	u				
E. 105 at Columbia							u	u	u	u	u	u	u

A third location at 10303 Buckeye Road was purchased in February 1920 from The Presbyterian Union of Cleveland. Four years later the property was sold to Shomrie Hadath a recently formed congregation consisting of mostly Hungarian Jews. In just two short years Shomrei Hadath then constructed a new building around the corner at E.123rd and Parkhill Ave and sold the Buckeye location to Ande Horning.

The property was later sold in May 1944 to the Irwin & Company, a local upscale office furnishings company who maintained an upholstery shop in the building until 1948. The building would have several additional owners including the, American Slovak Business Professional Club who used the building as their social club. In 1968 the neighboring Qua Buick, (at the purchased the property and for some time used the building for distribution of tires. In 1969 Qua Buick engaged Architect Howard Green to design a new state of the art retail tire center on the property that would adjoin the 2story brick building to the west. However the Board of Zoning Appeals was unwilling to agree to an easement. The building was demolished circa 1970.

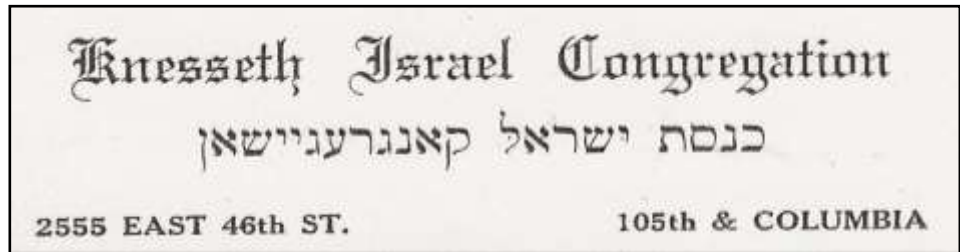


10303 - 07 Buckeye Rd. Photo taken in 1969 by the City of Cleveland Board of Zoning Appeals (file 69-502M request by Qua Buick to build a new Tire Center.) Note the X on the photo indicates the property within the appeal.



1920 Hopkins Plat Map showing location of Synagogue.

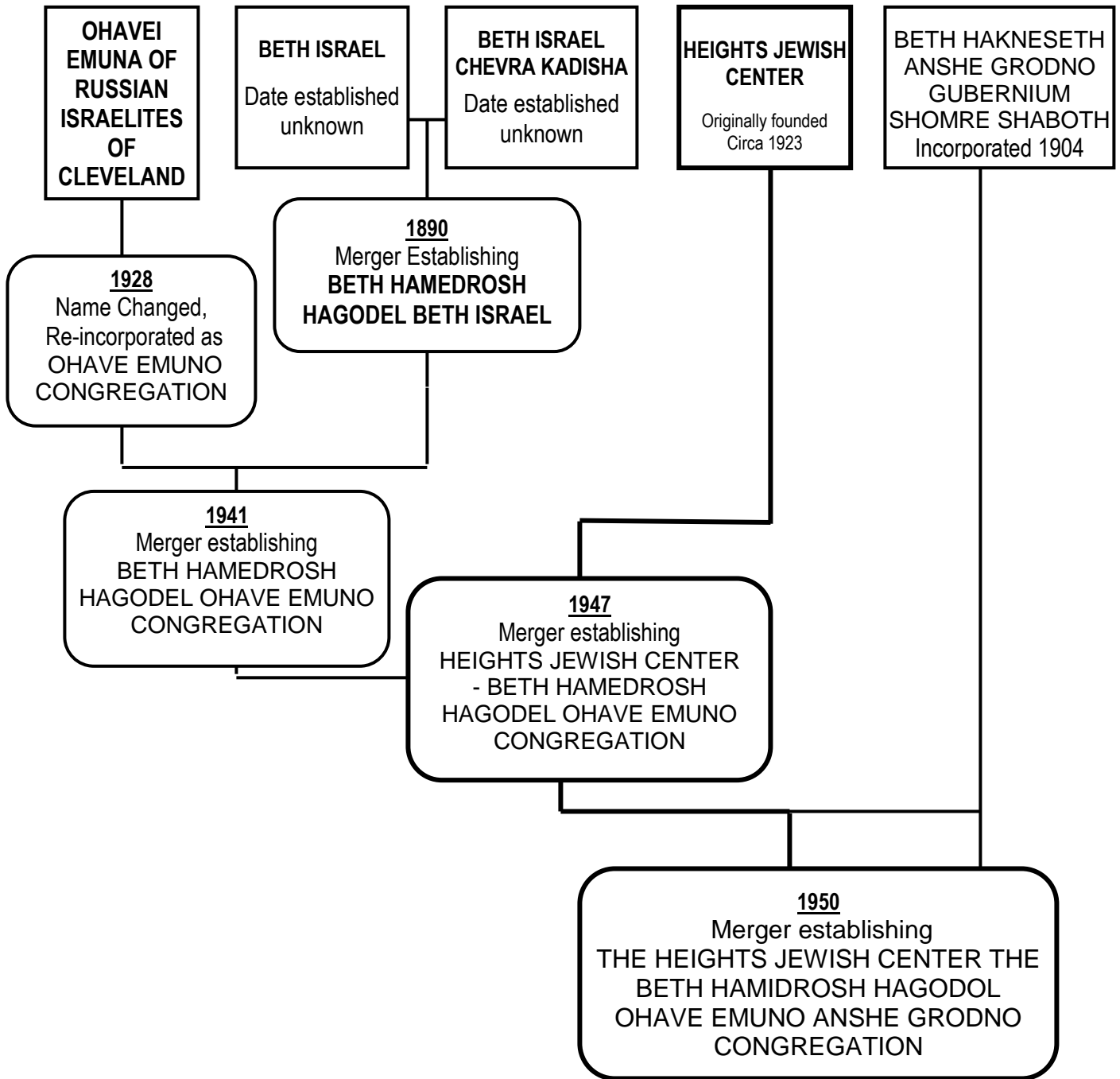
In May 1927, the Knesseth Israel congregation chose to sell the property on E. 46th to Ida Frankel. After the passage of the Federal



Public Housing Act, the land was acquired for of the country’s first federally funded housing “projects” known as Outhwaite consisting of 557 units. The E. 105th and Columbia location continued to be used through 1955 when the congregation merged with the Taylor Road Synagogue. The property was acquired by the **Apostolic Faith Tabernacle** in 1959 under the direction of the late Elder Garry F. Washington, Sr. and his son the late Bishop Garry F. Washington, Jr. Today Pastor Lee P. Christian Jr. leads the congregation and attracts parishioners from both the Glenville area and surrounding suburbs.

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Heights Jewish Center



In the 1950 merger, the spelling of Hamedrosh changes to Hamidrosh. Hagodel changes at times to Hagogol

Established in 1923 as **The Heights Jewish Orthodox Congregation** members first met in the home of Jacob and Mina Makoff located on Euclid Heights Blvd. in Cleveland Heights, with the High Holidays services held at the Heights Theatre which had been built by Makoff. In 1928 the congregation was able to hire its first Rabbi, Seymour M. Zambrowsky who would serve for the next ten years before relocating to Canada. With the financial help of the Makoff family a home was acquired January 4, 1928, at 14274 Superior Ave. That same year their name changed to **The Heights Jewish Center**. That home was built in 1909 by Moritz Stone and just prior to being acquired by the congregation, had been known as the Rest Haven Sanitarium.

The late 1940's saw a substantial influx of Jews, including the Orthodox, relocating to the Heights. At that time, The Heights Jewish Center was the only Orthodox congregation in the area until 1953 when **Beth Hamedrosh Anshe Galicia** changed its name to **Sinai Synagogue** and relocated to the corner of DeSota and Euclid Heights Blvd.

The growth in membership due in part by a merger January of 1947 with **Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Ohave Emuno**, then located in Glenville, compelled the leadership to look at expanding the current facility on Superior Ave. or relocating. They decided to add an auditorium and social hall to the western portion of the building. Completed in early 1948, the non-descript, however functional building was built by member Hyman Epstein. At the same time (1947) Rabbi Israel Porath a long-time leader in Cleveland's Orthodox Community became their rabbi and served 27 years until his death in 1974.

In 1954 there were merger talks with **Shaarei Thora** also located in Glenville however; the last known document between the two is a letter from Charles C. Goldman then President of The Heights Jewish Center dated Nov 23rd 1954, indicating a vote was to take place by members of both congregations on December 14th. It is unknown if the vote took place and no further documents have surfaced. Shaarei Thora merged a year later with the **Oheb Zedek -Taylor Road Synagogue**.



14274 Superior Road. the building in the front was the original home purchased in 1928. The addition was built in 1948. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library, Special Collections Dept.



After the merger in 1950 with **Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno** Congregation also located in Glenville would necessitate the need to once again expand, or find a new location in the Heights area. By 1957 one location that came close to reality, was less than a mile east at the corner of Mayfield Road and Cleveland Heights Boulevard from

the estate of William Hoge. However, the plan was rejected by the zoning commission. A second plan which included adding several classrooms to the existing site was approved with the stipulation that an adequate number of parking spaces contiguous to the site be included in the plan. One of the traditions of Orthodox Jews is to avoid operating equipment on the Sabbath; hence, the need to have an additional parking was unnecessary however, that reasoning was not compelling enough to the rigid zoning commission.

In 1978 with an aging property and no space to expand the Masonic Lodge at 14270 Cedar Road was purchased. The lodge was completed in 1954 on a portion of land consisting of 3 acres acquired in late 1952. This parcel was a small portion of a “Truck farm” owned by Martin Hoge and wife Martha Prasse Hoge.

Under the direction of long - time stewards Alex Adelman and Morris Sudman, the property underwent extensive renovation with a traditional procession in October 1981 carrying the Torahs from the Superior Ave location to the new location on Cedar. An addition to the Cedar Road location completed in July 1991 includes multi-purpose space, an extension of the social hall and a *milchige* (dairy) kitchen. The Superior Road property was sold to Jaguar Cleveland in 1979 with an agreement allowing the Synagogue to continue to use the building for a period of time. In 1980 the Superior road property was then sold to the city of Cleveland Heights. The original building, (former sanitarium) was demolished, and the lot used for parking, while the main building now supports a variety of functions used by the Police Department including a firing range.

The oldest of congregations' to become part of Heights Jewish Center was **Congregation Ohavei Emuna of Russian Israelites, [Lovers of Righteous Belief of Russian Israelites]**. Incorporated in 1882 various spellings included Ohavu Amunah, Ohaveh Emuan and Oaive Emuno. *The Jewish Independent* of August 12th 1921 indicates that congregation's first meeting place was a rented hall on Erie St (E.9th) near Central Ave. In October 1883, the congregation purchased a building at 115 Hill Street from Mr. David Heller.

The **Haymarket** was originally that, a market to purchase fresh food and amongst other staples, hay for the horses that were kept in nearby stables located just south of what is now **Tower City** formerly the **Terminal Tower**. The Haymarket ran south beyond Carnegie Rd. to the east up to East 14thth St. The western border would essentially be the Cuyahoga River and Canal St.

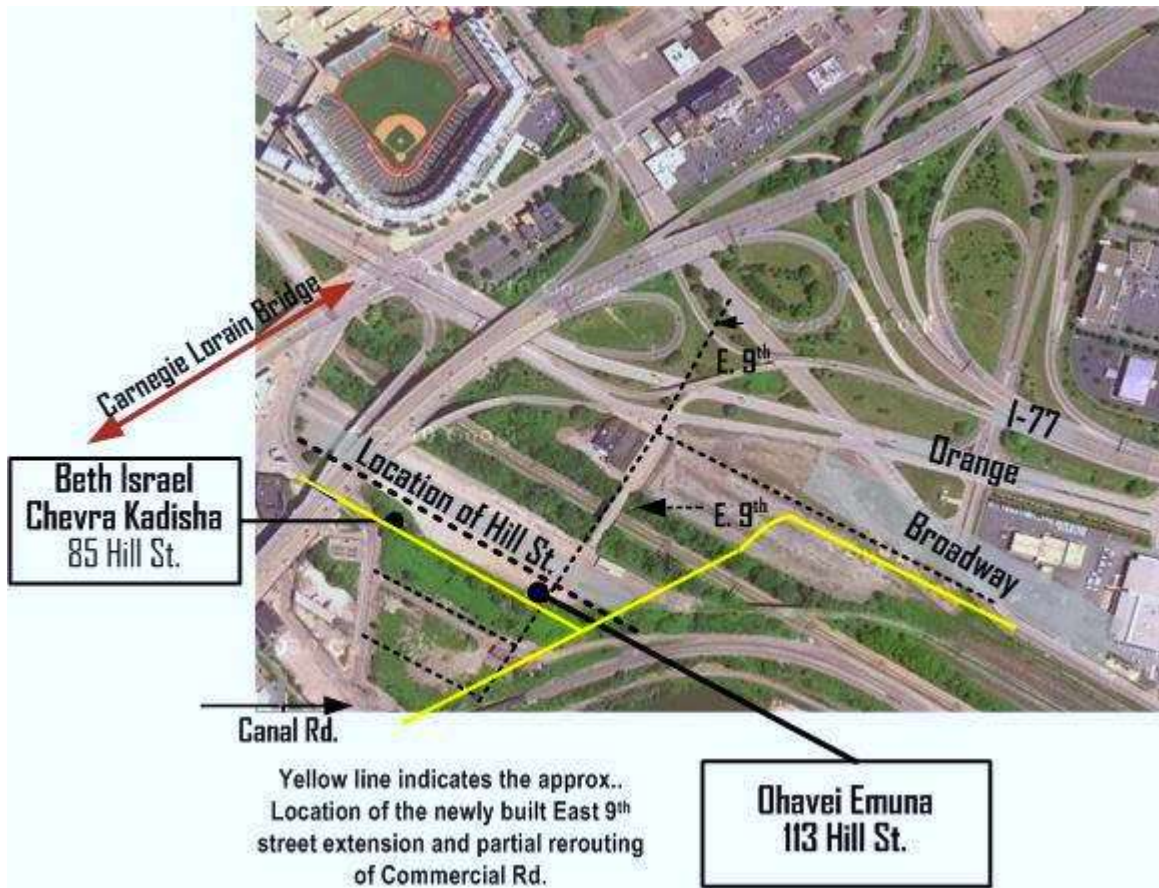
From 1860's to the 1890's many Jewish and Italian immigrants lived and worked in this area. By the very early 1900's this area had become the home to vagrants, prostitutes and undesirables.



Photo of the 500 block of Hill St., taken April 1924 in preparation for the construction of train tracks into the rail station beneath the Terminal Tower. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections

On July 18th 1884 Abraham Brown, A.S. Friedberg and James Jackson trustees of the congregation received approval from the Court of Common Pleas to allow the congregation to sell the property.

The process of asking the court to review and grant approval of a resolution to sell property owned by religious or fraternal organizations based on the by-laws of the organization was commonplace. By doing this the Board of Directors of the organization can easily fight off any member in disagreement from taking legal action to delay or stop the transaction.



In 1885 property at 280 Perry Street, (now 2530 E.22nd) was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Weil. It is unclear if the property included an existing structure or a new building was built. However, it is known that renowned architect and member of the congregation, Morris Gleichman, was involved in the project, and at the time of the dedication the President of the congregation was George Laufman. The congregation stayed at this location until 1908 when a move east to Scovill and E. 37th occurred. The Perry property was sold in 1908 to David Lifshitz owner of The Eagle Grocers Supply Company, one of several food service suppliers to consolidate in 1956 to form one of the region's largest wholesale food distributors, Seaway Foods. The property would stay in the Lifshitz (Lipson) family until November of 1960, when the City of Cleveland acquiring the land for the redevelopment commonly known as the St Vincent triangle. The property remained undeveloped until the early 1990's when the Visiting Nurse Association acquired a portion of the land and built their new headquarters.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map
1890 Vol. 2
shows Jewish Synagogue
Wooden structure

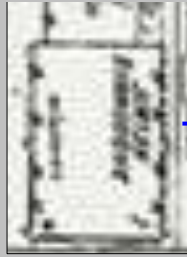
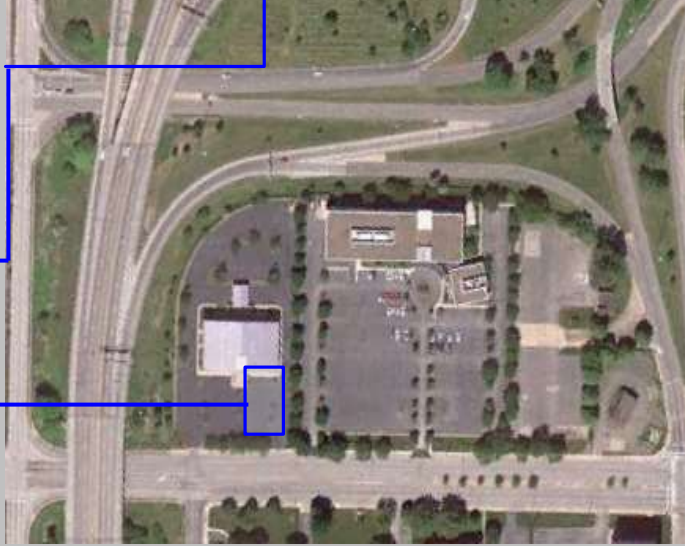
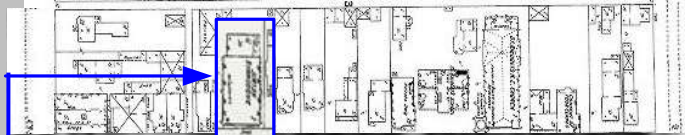


Photo taken 1951
by the Cuyahoga County
Engineer shows brick building
known as
Eagle Wholesale Grocery Inc.



Google Earth view of E. 22nd former location of Dhavie Emuna Mar. 2011

Property's address had been 280 Perry Street until 1906 when the City revised the numbering of the address and changed North South roads to numbered streets
The new address of this property became 2530 E. 22nd.



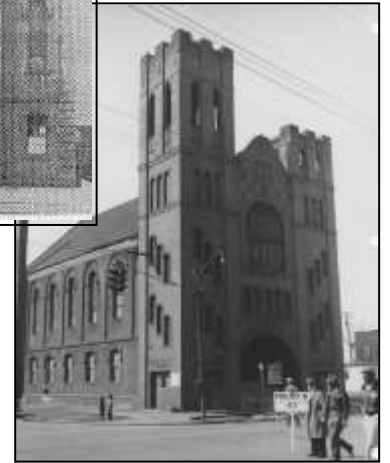
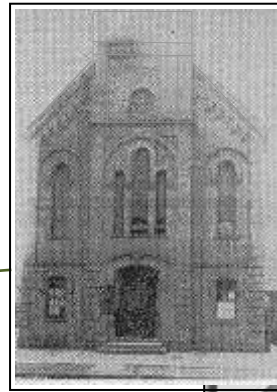
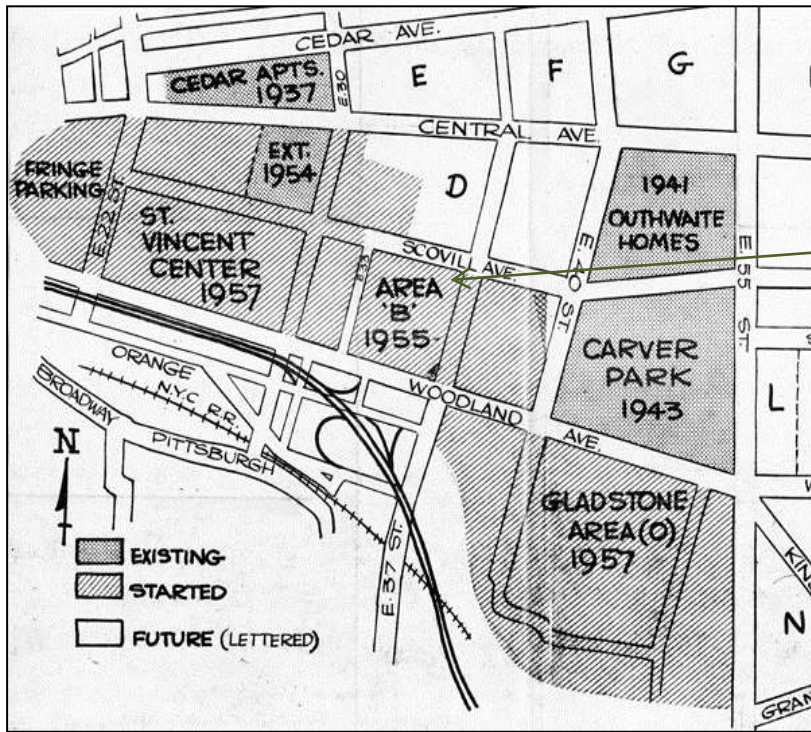
Photo of 2530 E.22nd taken by the City of Cleveland June 1960 in preparation of their acquisition of parcels for the St. Vincent Triangle as part of the overall urban renewal project.

Take note the sign held by photographers assistant indicated the Project number being R-13 and asset number 505

Source: City of Cleveland, Archives of the Council. Cleveland Ohio

The congregation relocated in 1908 to the **First German Baptist Church** at the south west corner of Scovill and E.37th. Twelve years later in December of 1920, the Congregation sold the property to member M. Bruml. The same day Bruml would sell the property to Mary Spiegle, would then sell the property in April 1922 to pastor Anderson Hawkins of the **Friendship Baptist Church**. The building was the home to the Friendship congregation until August 1943 when they sold the property to the **Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church**. Friendship had moved to its current location in 1940, that being; the former Tifereth Israel building on E.55th and Central. In 1954 the Abyssinian congregation was forced to relocate for the construction of the Longwood Estates; a government funded housing project. The Abyssinians' congregation acquired the former Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel location at 1161 E. 105th in 1947 as the congregation prepared for their merger into the Heights Jewish Center. This is a perfect example of many where structure moves from one religion to another and back again.

It should be noted that in October 1928 a second Article of Incorporation were filed and acknowledged by the Ohio, Secretary of State by the congregation with the spelling being **Ohave Emuno Congregation**. From that point on the spelling appears to be consistent as Ohave Emuno.



The above map published by the Cleveland Press Jan 4th 1957. Caption reads as follows: "Central area rebuilding which started in the 1930s with Cedar Apartments public housing project is scheduled to move faster in 1957. City officials hope to begin clearing slums for St. Vincent Center and Gladstone Industrial project and to start building in Area B."

Top Photo was published in the 1914 Jewish Blue Book indicating Ohavei Emuna's building at E.37th and Scovill Ave. Source Siegel College of Jewish Studies. Cleveland Ohio

The photo (above right) is the same structure with a new façade thought to be added in 1923 by then owner The Friendship Baptist Church. The photo was taken by Cleveland Urban Renewal Agency, (CURA) a federally funded oversight department to assist the City of Cleveland's Division of Slum Clearance and Blight Control conduct a full inventory and establish the value of property acquired for the construction of Longwood Estates and the surrounding area

The photo to the right taken June 1959 shows the demolition of the building. Source: Cleveland State University, Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections At this point in the demolition the former front of the building when owned by the Synagogue can be seen and appears to match the photo above from Jewish Blue Book published in 1914.



Photo to the left is the southwest corner of Scovill Ave. now known as Community College Drive and E. 37th taken June 2012. Source Jeff Morris

Note: The housing shown in the photo is not the original Longwood Housing project built in 1959. Those properties were replaced in 2001 – 2006 and remarketed as Arbor Park Village.

Ohave Emuno's next location was a new building at 7115 Cedar Rd. designed by Meyer Altschuld and built by M. Wittenberg. According to news clippings and plat maps, one could surmise that an older home at the rear of the property was used as a temporary meeting place until the new building was completed. According to documents filed with the Cuyahoga County Clerk of Court, Sheriff, Martin O'Donnell sold the property December 16th 1938 as required by law due to the

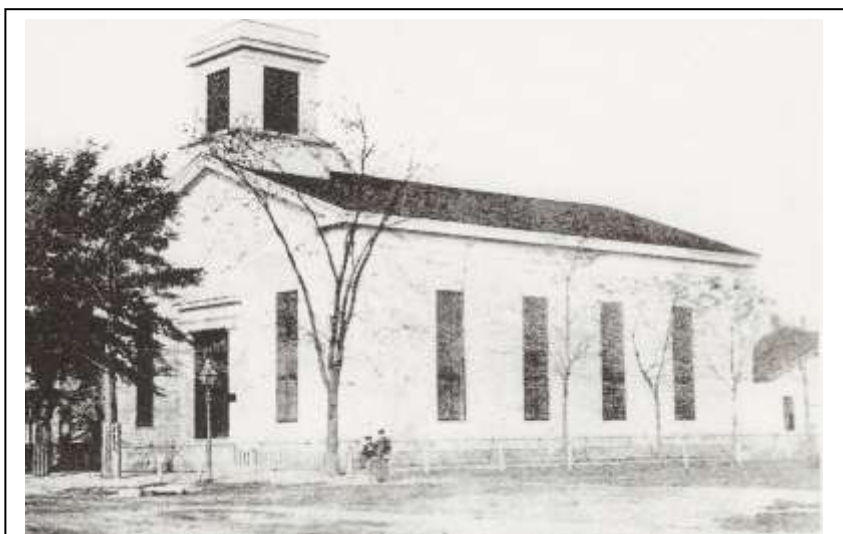


synagogue defaulting on their loan to Union Bank and trust in the amount of \$18,400. Limited data could be found regarding events of the congregation from the time they moved from Scovill and E.30th and their merger in April 1941 with Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel then located at 1161 E.105th The newly merged group would be known as **Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Ohave Emuno.**

The current owner, Sardis Baptist Church, acquired the property in 1941 from Union Properties Inc. a corporation created by the State of Ohio's banking regulators to liquidate the assets of the Union Trust Bank, a victim of the Great Depression of their defaulted outstanding loans along with the Union Trust's own assets.

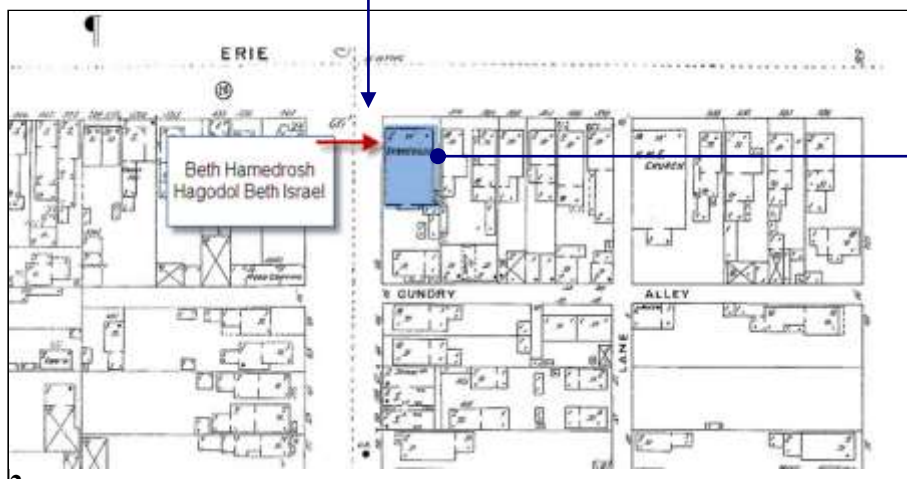
Beth Hagodel Hamedrosh Beth Israel [Great House of Israel] was incorporated in 1890 when **Beth Israel Chevra Kadisha** and **Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel** merged. Beth Israel Chevra Kadishahad been formed by Russian immigrants in 1869 and first met in rented space on Erie Street (E. 9th) and Central Ave. until 1873 when property was purchased from David Heller at 85 Hill Street in the heart of the Haymarket. That property would be sold to Louis and Nettie Sachroff in April of 1891. In 1898 the property would again be acquired by Orthodox Jews establishing the first meeting place of Congregation Agadath Achim.

Little is known about the first meeting place or when the members of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel



House of worship at the S.W. corner of Erie street (E.9th) and Eagle Ave. Purchased by Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel in 1890 from the Salem Evangelistic Church. Date of Photo unknown Source: Cleveland Public Library, Photo Collection

organized. The first document to identify both congregations having some form of consolidation is the deed that listing both congregations as one purchasing the **Salem Evangelist Church** in August 1890, located on the southwest corner of Erie St. (E.9th) and Eagle Ave. Their official incorporation as Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel and is dated May 13,1890.



The congregation would stay on Erie Street until property on the southeast corner of Woodland and E. 27th was purchased in 1899 from the Estate of John Erwin, one of Cleveland's early settlers. The local papers covered the groundbreaking of this 1000 seat Synagogue on Sunday, July 9th, of the same year. The journalists covering the event were able to report firsthand the unexpected collapsing of the platform over the freshly dug cellar sending several dignitaries to the nearby St. Vincent Hospital. News clippings indicate the cost of the building being \$15,000.00. The Erie street property was sold in 1904 to the Salvation Army who constructed a five story structure known as the "Citadel." This five story building was the first reinforced concrete constructed building in Ohio and was used by the Salvation Army's Harbor Light Center until the mid 1970's

According to deeds filed with the county between 1905 and 1911 several members took ownership of the Woodland Ave. property by purchasing specific seats. The synagogue would take the ownership back in June 1919, allowing the property to be sold one month later to the Maurice Company. According to an article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer dated June, 11, 1920 The Maurice Co, 1104 Woodland Ave sold the church property to Max Greenhut for an undisclosed term then leasing the property to The "Mexclson" Tobacco Co. for several years. One can conclude that the name "Mexclson" Tobacco was an incorrect spelling for Mendelsohn Tobacco, one of Cleveland local cigar manufactures.

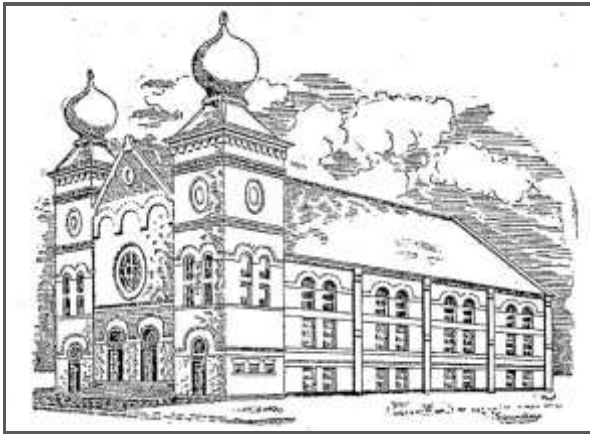


Estate of John Erwin. Woodland Ave at e. 27th formerly Jackson Street. Per his will John Erwin's home was torn down. This was not all that uncommon amount the early aristocratic leaders during that time period.

Source Cleveland State University, Michael Schwartz Library. Digitized image from the Atlas of Cuyahoga County, from actual surveys by and under the direction of D.J. Lake Co. Publisher 1874 Titus Simons and Titus.

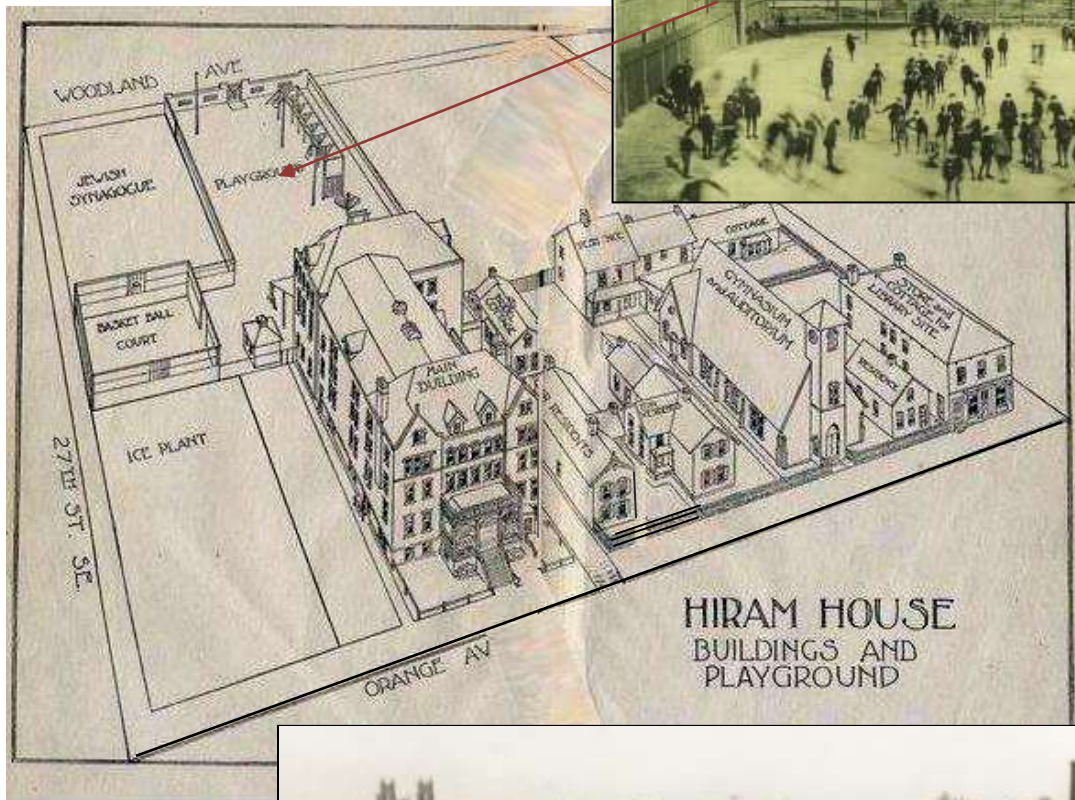


A pictorial story in the September 11th, 1929 edition of the Cleveland Plain Dealer shows a photo of women making cigars with the caption reading "CIGAR MAKERS at work at the plant of M & N Cigar Manufacturing Company, 2700 Woodland Avenue"



Drawing to the left of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel at the southeast corner of Woodland and E. 27th (Jackson) was published in the Cleveland Plain Dealer June 8th 1899

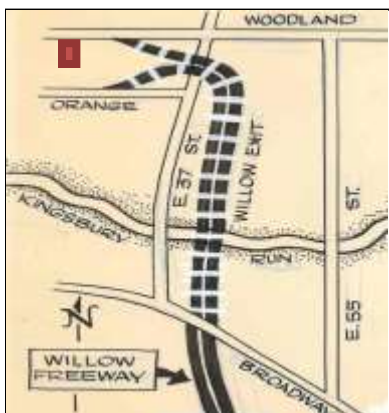
Photo and drawing below shows the east side of the Synagogue and the adjacent Hiram House Playground. Source: Hiram House 1913 Annual Report.



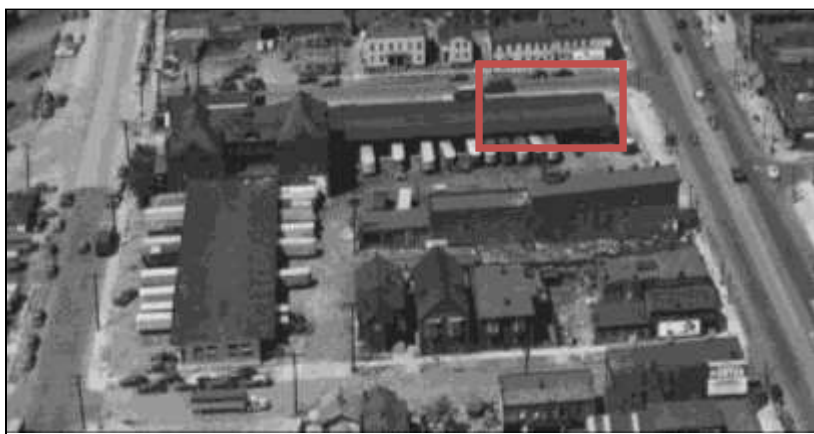
Looking north on E. 27th (Jackson) provides a view of Beth Hagodel Hadodosh Beth Israel from the south. Photo taken from Pittsburg Avenue. Hiram House is to the right. The photo also shows the former location of Congregation Sherith Jacob at the n.E. corner of Orange and E. 25th. The photo is from the center portion of a panoramic photo taken 1916ca. using a Cirkut Camera No. 10. Source Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections

According to an article in the Plain Dealer dated July 12th 1930 the production line at that facility was being relocated as a result of their recent merger with Newman Cigar Co., located at 922 Woodland Ave. The building continued to be owned by Max Greenhut and his family including his daughters' Viola Berk and Lily Mendelsohn. In July 1936 the Sheriff sold the property on behalf of Central National Bank as part of the process when a bank forecloses on a loan in default. In October 1938 the bank sold the property to the former synagogue's neighbor to the south Hiram House. The property was subsequently sold by Hiram House in April 1941, along with their adjacent properties to Wenham Transportation for their new freight terminal. It is unknown when the former synagogue was demolished. The new terminal built by A.M. Higley and Co., would utilize the former Hiram House for offices and freight storage with a newly built cross dock extending north to Woodland, and several years later an additional cross dock extending east along Orange Ave.

By the 1940's the neighborhood from the former Haymarket area (Ontario and Broadway) east to 30th street and south of Woodland Road had been transitioning over the last 20 years from a sparse amount of dilapidated homes built before the 1900's, along with miles of train tracks for both passenger and freight trains to a neighborhood of truck terminals and supportive industries. Wenham would stay at this location until 1961 when the property was purchased by the State of Ohio for the construction of the I-77 interchange into I-90, often known as the "inter-belt". Wenham relocated to a facility at 3200 East 79th Street. The business filed bankruptcy in 1979, several years after the Wenham family sold the business to local inventors.



Drawing from the Cleveland Press April 5, 1957, showing the route the will extend the Willow Freeway (I-77) into Downtown Cleveland and connect with what is commonly called the Inter-belt, which is I-90.



View (looking west) Hiram House in upper left corner of photo, Taken Sept 1946. Location of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel is to the right where Wenham Transportation's freight terminal appears in the photo. Source of the photo: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections
Note :the red box indicates the location of the Synagogue.

The Congregation like so many others relocated to the Glenville neighborhood purchasing a former church in August 1919 at 1151 East 105th. The building was built in 1906 by the Trinity United Brethren Church; this location would be commonly known as the “**Tacoma Shul**” as it was on the corner of E. 105th and Tacoma.



1151 E. 105th. Formerly Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel. Now owned by the Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church. Photo Taken circa 1980. Source of Photo: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections.



Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Beth Israel would change their name when they merged with the smaller Ohave Emuno congregation in 1941 and formed **Beth Hamedrosh Hagodel Ohave Emuno**. The newly merged group would continue to be one of several orthodox congregations to sustain its membership through the years of World War II. In 1946 the congregation would consider a merger with Oheb Zedek (Taylor Road Synagogue) also located in Glenville and looking to relocating to Cleveland Heights. However, the preferred merger occurred in February of 1947 with The Heights Jewish Center already located in Cleveland Heights. The building was used by the newly merged congregation until sold in June of 1958 to **The Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church** who continues to occupy the building.



2546 East 39th. Photo taken in 1954 in preparation for the demolition of over 300 homes for the Government funded, Longwood Estates. Source Cleveland Public Library, Photo Collection

In 1907 a home at 2546 E. 39th was purchased from M.L. Levenson and occupied by the congregation until December 1918 when it was sold to the Sweet Pilgrim Baptist Church until August 1955 when, like other property owners in the area, the property was acquired for the Longwood Estates housing development.

The last congregation to join the Heights Jewish Center was **Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno** [The **Congregation of the People of Grodno, Guardians of the Sabbath**] established in 1904 by immigrants from Grodno, a province of the Russian Empire. According to the *Cleveland Encyclopedia* members first held their prayer meetings in the home of Benjamin Zelling, and then in a rented hall on Perry Street (E. 22nd) near Orange Ave.



2350 East 55th. Source Mt. Sinai Baptist Church Date unknown

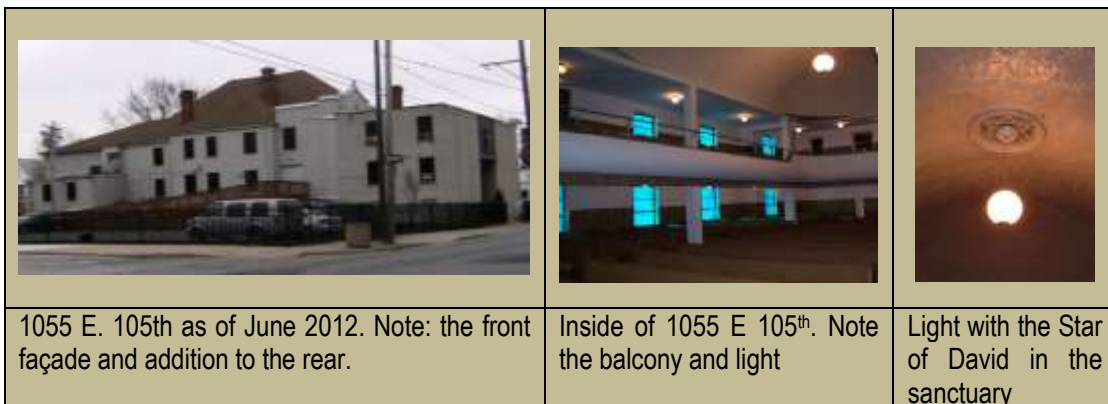
In July 1918 the congregation purchased property at 2350 E. 55th from Levenson. It is unclear if the purchase included a house or building, however it appears from a photo taken in the 1920's that the two story brick building could have been built circa 1900. The property was sold in March of 1936 to the **Second Mt. Sinai Baptist Church**. In January 1940 the property was acquired by the U.S. Department of Housing for construction of the Outhwaite Public Housing Project. The church relocated to 2690 E. 75th street until 1976 when again forced by yet another urban renewal project known as Garden Valley, now known as Heritage View to relocate, resulting in the church building a beautiful new structure at 7510 Woodland Ave that continues to attract members from both the neighborhood and the suburbs.



1055 E. 105th street. Date unknown. Source Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library, Special Collections. Car is thought to be a 1927 Ford.

In 1931, the Congregation purchased a building at 1055 E. 105th from Joe Attenson that had been built in 1907 for the Presbyterian Church. The congregation would remain at this location until merging in August of 1950 with the Heights Jewish Center Beth Hagodol Hamedrosh Ohave Emuno.

Prior to selling the property, attorney Charles Goldman advised the newly consolidated congregation that the property could not be sold until the deed was properly prepared, as it had 17 “clouds” preventing a proper deed transfer to a buyer. The more serious issues an encroachment to the north, several incomplete deed transfers over the prior decade and a mortgage remaining to Mr. Barnet Berman who had disappeared several years earlier in California. After several years, and approval of the court Goldman was able to provide the proper document in order to sell the building in June of 1956 to The Greater Cleveland Friendship Baptist Church. The church would change hands again in 1972 to The Cleveland Church of Christ, Citadel of Hope Ministries under the direction of Bishop Lincoln C. Haughton, III. Over the next few decades the Church would remodel the building including a new façade at the entrance on E.105 along with acquiring several properties next to, and behind the building. The Cleveland Church of Christ would continue reinventing in the community constructing a new house of worship and community service building on the northeast corner of E. 105th and Massie. Today the former Beth Haknesseth Anshe Grodno building is used as part of their youth programs.



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Adas Jeshurim – Lakeshore Synagogue

Adas Jeshurim

[Congregation of the People of Israel] incorporated as Adas Jeshurun in 1920, first met in the home of Lewis Brown 289 E.156th and at Kunz Hall at the corner of Waterloo Rd. and E. 156th.



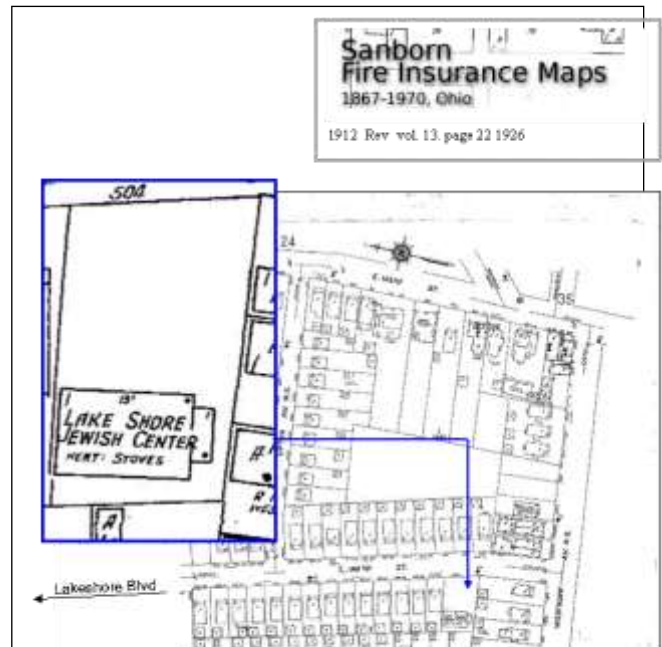
Later that same year adjoining lots at 500 and 504 East 149th was acquired from Joseph Laronge (a member of The Euclid Avenue Temple) who had owned the majority of the lots on the residential street. Construction of a simple one story building was completed in 1923. Adath Jershurim merged with the Lake Shore Jewish Center, also known as the Collinwood Unity Club, an organization that focused on providing Hebrew School and other community activities for the Jewish children in the area including a Boy Scout troop.

About Collinwood

Originally part of the Township of East Cleveland, gaining status as a Village (date unknown) until being annexed along with neighboring Nottingham in 1910 to the City of Cleveland.

The Collinwood rail yard was built in 1874 by a subsidiary of the NYC Rail, Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Rail in 1874. As the industrial revolution grew so did the amount of factories in the area. Those included, Eaton, TRW, General Motors, and hundreds of small machine shops.

In 1927 Architect Sigmund Braverman was commissioned to design a new Jewish Center for the community. Newspaper clipping and records compiled by the Works Progress Administration, stored at the Western Reserve Historical Society indicate the project went as far as a holding a funding raising event that included support by former Cleveland's City Manager, William Hopkins; however the economic downturn of 1929 apparently ended any hope of this project becoming reality.

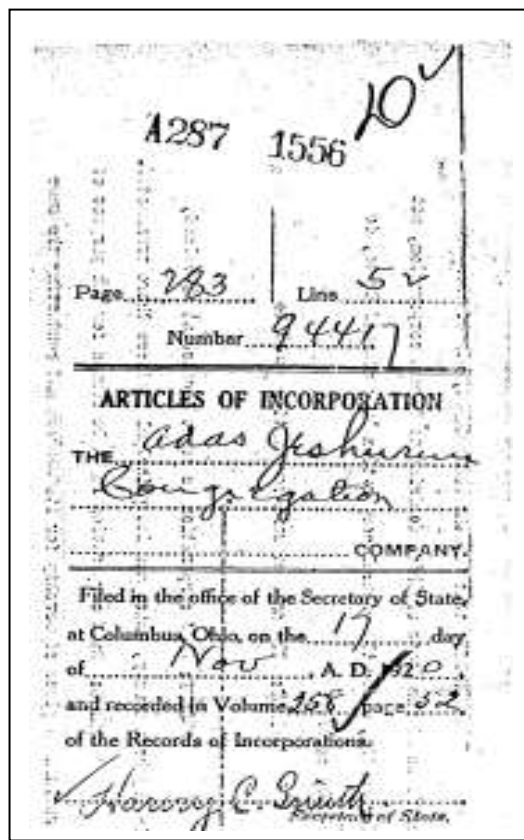
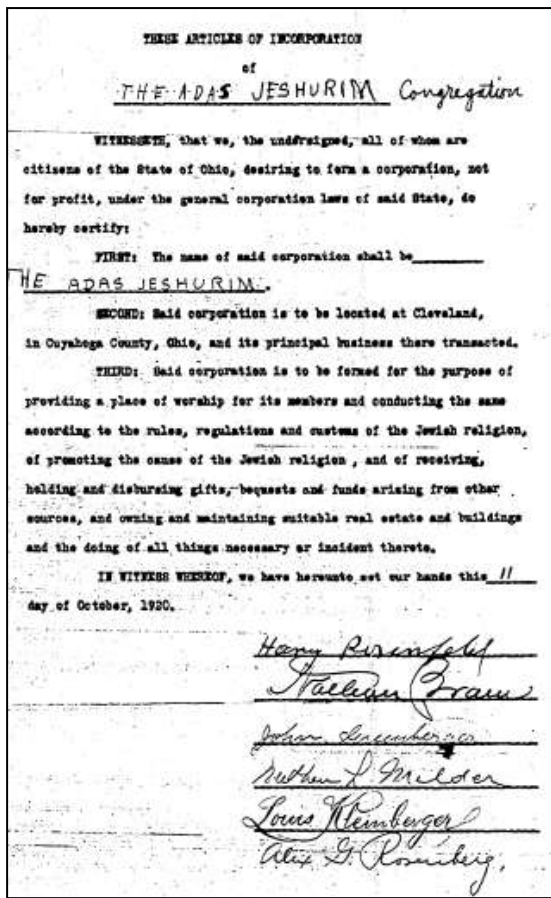


According to David Rothenberg author of The Jews of Collinwood remembers as a child growing up in the area the membership was small and at times without a Rabbi, however, the building was the center of the small Jewish community for many years including the occasion in which he along with Howard Cohen, and Howard Reider share the pulpit for their Bat Mitzvah in February of 1934.

When there is no Rabbi,
 No need to fear that a prayer service can not take place when there is no rabbi to lead. Under Jewish Law as long as there are 10 men over the age of 13 there is a sufficient amount of men for a minion (quorum) for a service. The group generally looks to an elder or scholar with the group to lead.

In 1936 the amount of Jews in the area would no longer support the costs of operations and the building was converted into living space that was rented out. The property was sold in September of 1952 to Edmund D.

Drowns who sold the property to Thomas and Alice Harker in October 1968. The property was then sold to Beverly Jenkins in 1976. Over the next three years the ownership would be transferred several times including the local economic development corporation known as North Shores Inc. According to city records the building had been condemned 1997, a further inspection in April of 1999 indicates a vacant lot with some debris to be removed, and in June of 2000, a new home was built by Ryser Properties and sold to Douglass and Beatrice Revels.



Reprint of the Incorporation Documents filed in 1920 with the Ohio Secretary of State.

Ahavath Zion --- Sherith Zion

Ahavath Zion [Lovers of Zion] was established by L. Friedman, Mailer Volper, Harry Katz, B Pass, P. Margolin, J. Rothfelder and Max Stashower in 1908. According to Dr. Stan Lasky's assessment of documents in 2000 for the Western Reserve Historical Society, the congregation "broke away" from **Oer Chodosh Anshe Sfard**. The first known meeting place was the former **Woodland Avenue Methodist Church** at 6010 Woodland Ave. The Greek revival structure was built in 1895 and designed by architect Sidney R. Badgley. The Church occupied the building until 1914 when the Trustees of the Methodist District Conference disbanded the church and sold the building to Ahavath Zion.

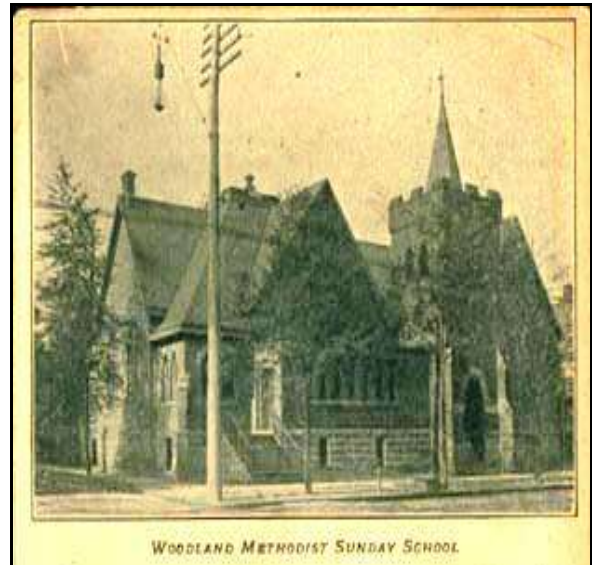


Photo from 1910 Church Newsletter. Walter Leady Collection held at Cleveland State University Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections



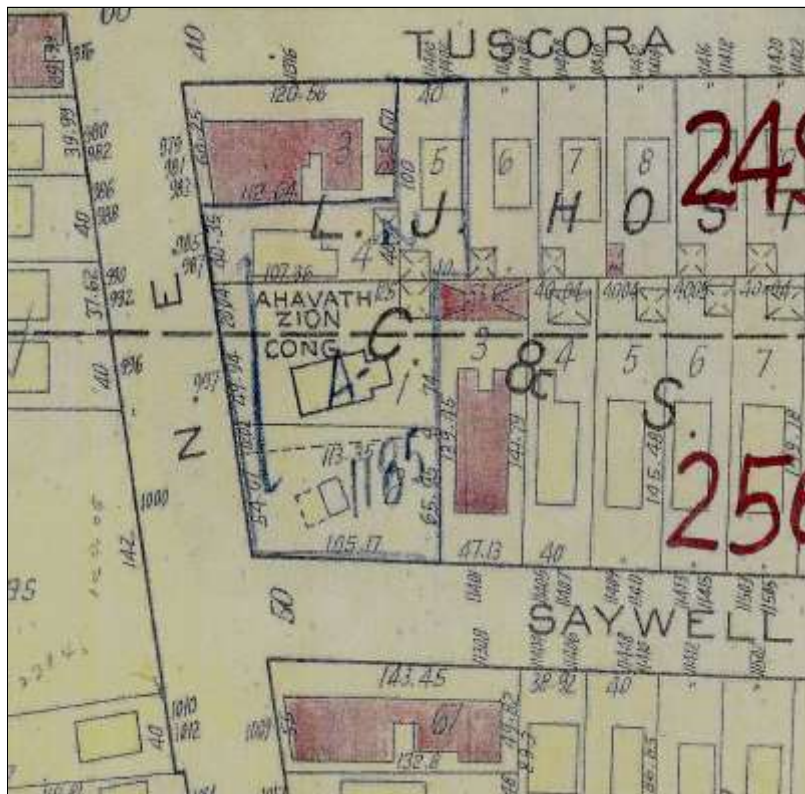
997 Lakeview Drive. Photo taken by Jeff Morris, May 2009. Former location of Ahavath Zion aka The Independent Ahavath Zion. The date the front of the building was added is unknown.

Limited data could be found to determine when Ahavath Zion started holding services at 997 Lakeview Drive in the Glenville neighborhood six miles northeast of their current location. The parcel that included a home estimated to be built in the 1880's had been part of the Saywell farm until September 1924 when George Saywell sold the property to John Zelesko Jr. Less than a year later, on August 4th, 1925, Zelesko sold the property to Max Greenberg, Elias Goldfarb and Charles Shochet, who just two days later sold the

property to the Independent Ahavath Zion. In that era having several board members or a trusted friend of the congregation make the purchase and then re-sell the property often the same day, gave members of the congregation a spiritual sense of purity by purchasing a house of worship from someone of their faith.

The Lakeview address does not start to appear in the City Directories listing of “Churches – Hebrew” until 1935. The name listed and often used at that point was **The Independent Ahavath Zion Congregation**. No records could be found with the Secretary of State confirming a name change.

An additional piece of the puzzle can be found in the City Directories published after 1928. Along with the name of each congregation is the name and address of the clergy. While the listings up until 1935 had the Woodland address for the congregation, the residence of Rabbi Sacks was 11207 Tuscora, a location much too far from Woodland for the Rabbi to walk during the Sabbath.



1923 Hopkins plat (map) maintained by the City of Cleveland's Engineering Department as a reference tool showing each time a parcel split or the consolidation of parcels occur. The blue penciled boundary indicates the consolidation of several lots and is on file as A-1185.

The larger red number (256) indicated the document number issued by the City Council at the time approval was granted allowing the establishment of a sub division or allotment for further development. Note each parcel within an sub-division or allotment are sequentially numbered. This plat map has two different Sub divisions. C&S and that of L. J. Host. Structures shaded in pink indicate the construction being brick, Pink indicates a wooden structure.

In 1936, member's content with the Woodland Ave. location formed **Sherith Zion**. [Songs of Zion] The charter members included Morris Gender, Aaron Marien, and Joseph Portnoy. For a period of time the congregation occupied the Woodland avenue building. According to documents held at the Western Reserve Historical Society compiled by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and newspaper clippings both of the congregations were found to be in default of the original mortgage for the purchase of the Woodland Ave. property resulting in Sherriff Martin L. O'Donnell selling the property at public auction. The foreclosure proceedings were initiated in 1931; however the deed did not transfer to the new owner until 1941. The delay could be attributed to the large number of properties foreclosed as a result of the Great Depression.

The new owner, **Beulah Baptist Church** allowed Sherith Zion to rent the basement of the building for Sabbath services until 1937 when a former church at 2576 E. 61 St. just north of Woodland was purchased from the **Thankful Baptist Church**, who had purchased the property in May 1929 from the **First Mamaras B'nai Jacob Congregation**, now known as **The Green Road Synagogue**.

The Beulah Church held services along with providing community outreach at the building until 1999, when a major fire required the building to be demolished. Using temporary space the church quickly relocated to a new building at 5706 Woodland Ave where they continue to serve the community. Unfortunately documentation of Sherith Zion's existence beyond the purchase of E.61 St. building is limited to the following newspaper article in the Plain Dealer December 2, 1939 and the sale of the building in 1954.

Sherith Zion congregation on east 61st street and Woodland Ave. will celebrate its third anniversary with a banquet tomorrow night. One of the features will be the burning of the mortgage of more than \$2500.00 The Sherith Zion Congregation aside from the Council Educational Alliance is the only Jewish institution remaining in the East 55th street neighborhood, which was originally the center of Jewish population.

Sherith Zion's sale of the building in 1954 to **St Marks Baptist Church** would be the last document located that could be considered a primary source of the congregations existence. St. Marks was forced in 1971 to relocate to 3196 East 93 St. by Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authorities' development of the King-Kennedy low-cost housing project. Interestingly, the sale by Sherith Zion was signed by the same three people who had incorporated the congregation in 1936. In January 1953 The Independent Ahavath Zion congregation merged with **Beth Am Synagogue** located in Cleveland Heights.



2576 East 61st. Former home of Sherith Zion. Date of photo unknown. Source: Cleveland Public Library

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, CONGREGATION BETH AM and
 INDEPENDENT CONGREGATION AHAVATH ZION, have caused this agreement
 to be executed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized this 2
 day of January, 1959.

Witnesses:
 [Handwritten signatures of witnesses]

CONGREGATION BETH AM
 By [Signature] President
 And by [Signature] Secretary

INDEPENDENT CONGREGATION
 AHAVATH ZION
 By [Signature] President
 And by [Signature] Secretary

Signature page of the Consolidation Agreement (19 pages) recorded by the Secretary of State Ted W. Brown February 18th 1959. Document contains a list of members of both congregations'.

The agreement included an ambiguous name change to **Community Temple** that was reinforced in April 1965 when an official name change was filed with the Secretary of State clarifying the name to be **Community Temple** clearly removing the wording Beth-AM from and official use.

The Ahavath Zion property on Lakeview Drive was sold by Trustees

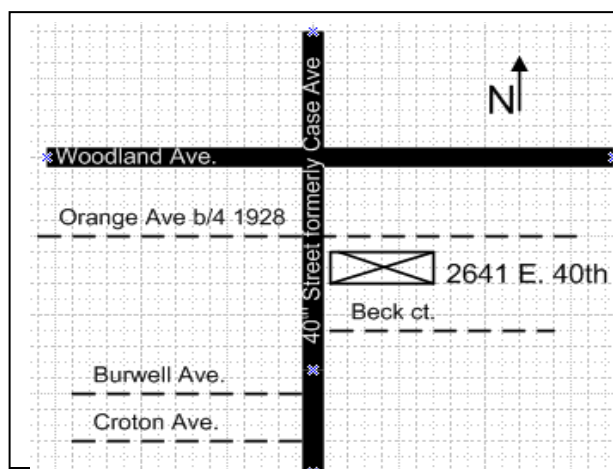
Paul Himmel, Morton Mack to. The Starlight Baptist Church February 1958. The current owner **Greater New Zion Baptist Church** purchased the property from Starlight Baptist April 1982.

BOHEMIAN CHEBRA KADDISCHA CHURCH ASSOCIATION

Baxter Street Cemetery

The Bohemian Congregation officially incorporated August 12, 1884 by Simon Metzel, Markus Koblitz, Solomon Pollock, Louis Adler and Charles Lederer as the Bohemian Chebra Kaddischa [Burial Society] Church Association. Similar to other synagogues incorporated prior to the 1920's public listing of Jewish organizations were often listed under churches and at times, with a sub heading of Hebrew or Israelites. The same would be true for plat maps as shown below. Initial worship services meetings took place in the homes of founding members.

For clarification, this organization, like many others have discrepancies in the spelling of their name. Prior to circa 1920 documents were hand written, often by those with poor penmanship and the ability to translate a foreign language into English.



The above page is from the Cleveland Independent, a weekly publication that printed an annual book of the "who's who" in the Jewish community in 1918. Source: Siegel College of Jewish Studies Beachwood, Ohio

1892 Atlas (Plat) of Cuyahoga County published by George F. Cram Chicago. Ill. indicates the location of the Bohemian Jewish Church as an example of the term Jewish Church.



The growing congregation purchased property at 1267 Case Ave (changed in 1908 to 2641 E. 40th) for fifteen hundred dollars from John Kulus September 25th 1883. Their new two story synagogue was dedicated May 30th, 1884. Based on newspaper clippings of local newspapers, The Cleveland Plain Dealer and The Jewish Independent in 1916 the congregation had 80 members in addition to a women's auxiliary known as the Sisterhood, of over 60 ladies.

64 THE JEWISH SOCIETY BOOK

Chevra Kadisha Congregation

The Bohemian congregation, Chevra Kadisha, Temple Israel, was organized in 1872.

The officers of the congregation are as follows:

OFFICERS

FRED KRAUS
President

V. F. ZINNER
Vice President

F. FRIEND
Secretary

CHARLES SCHULBOF
Treasurer

H. SACIES
Director of Cemetery

I. KOBLITZ
Superintendent of Building

S. STOTTER
Supervisor of Schools

MEMBERS

Adler, Louis, 18410 Drachel Av.
Auerman, J., 4309 Rocky Av.
Berg, A., 1644 E. 79th St.
Buck, W., 2714 W. 17th St.
Cassins, S., 1547 E. 44th St.
Feldman, J., 1993 Oxford Av.
Kandian, Mrs. Anna, 2727 E. 12th St.
Mintz, J., 2718 E. 10th St.
Muhler, A., 1634 E. 49th St.
Schwartz, H., 2829 Canton Av.
Schwartz, H., 1477 E. 86th St.
Schwartz, J., 4159 Park Av.
Steinberg, S., 4117 Berkeley Av.
Wolfska, J., 2426 E. 42nd St.
Mintz, S., 4218 E. 7th St.
Folke, S., 1411 E. 14th St.
Kross, J. H., 4117 Broadway
Lewenthal, D., 4107 Duquesne Av.
Schwartz, L., 2481 E. 41st St.
Schwartz, M., 3615 E. 48th St.
Solner, L., 3203 Polaris Av.
Wolner, S., 7124 S. Clay Av.
Wolfgang, S., 4017 Broadway
Kandian, H., 4121 Broadway
Friedland, M., 2024 E. 47th St.
Herrman, C., 2623 E. 11st St.
Mintz, A., 4111 Superior Av.
Frenkel, W., 4101 Woodland Av.

RABBI STEINER

Spang, J. H., 14399 Superior Rd.
Kaufman, S. S., 19801 Tacoma Av.
Goulds, J. S., 1101 and Lakeland Av.
Kross, H. A., 11404 Tuscarora Av.
Kross, J. S., 12907 Saywell Av.
Kross, A., 1601E Oxford Av.
Kross, A. S., 428 Decatur St.

IF ANYONE ASKS YOU WHICH IS THE BEST JEWISH NEWSPAPER, TELL THEM THE JEWISH INDEPENDENT

About this time membership started to decline as families were moving east to the Glenville or Mt. Pleasant neighborhoods. In addition, there was an unofficial (unrecorded) name change to “Chevera Kadisha – Temple Israel” as they as well as other Synagogues moved from the orthodox practices of Judaism to the reform movement. Several members including Fred Kraus and Rabbi Adolph Steiner had by 1916, moved to the Glenville area, with the hope that they could raise funds to relocate their congregation, however this did not occur and the congregation apparently disbanded. The fortieth street property was then sold June 1918 to L Klein, and there were then several owners including the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and the Apostolate Faith Assembly. In 1929 the land was purchased by Charles Cianciolo and Company then located at 504 Woodland

Avenue. In a 2013 interview with Anthony Cianciolo grandson of Charles recalls the former Synagogue being demolished in 1934 and replaced with a new structure.

The only official document found sustaining the history of the Chevra Kadisha beyond the 1918 sale of the 40th street property is the Ohio Secretary of State’s review of non-compliant corporations in 1962 reclassifying their charter to “Canceled, Failure to File or Reinstate”.

The Cianciolo building and other buildings used primarily for the distribution of fresh produce, were in jeopardy from the late 1950’ thru the 1960’s as city planners had designated the area known as Gladstone to be redeveloped into a modern business park. The Gladstone area is roughly E. 28th to E.55th and Woodland Ave. to the north to the Kingsbury Run rail tracks to the south. The majority of the homes were 80 to 100 years in age and beyond repair.

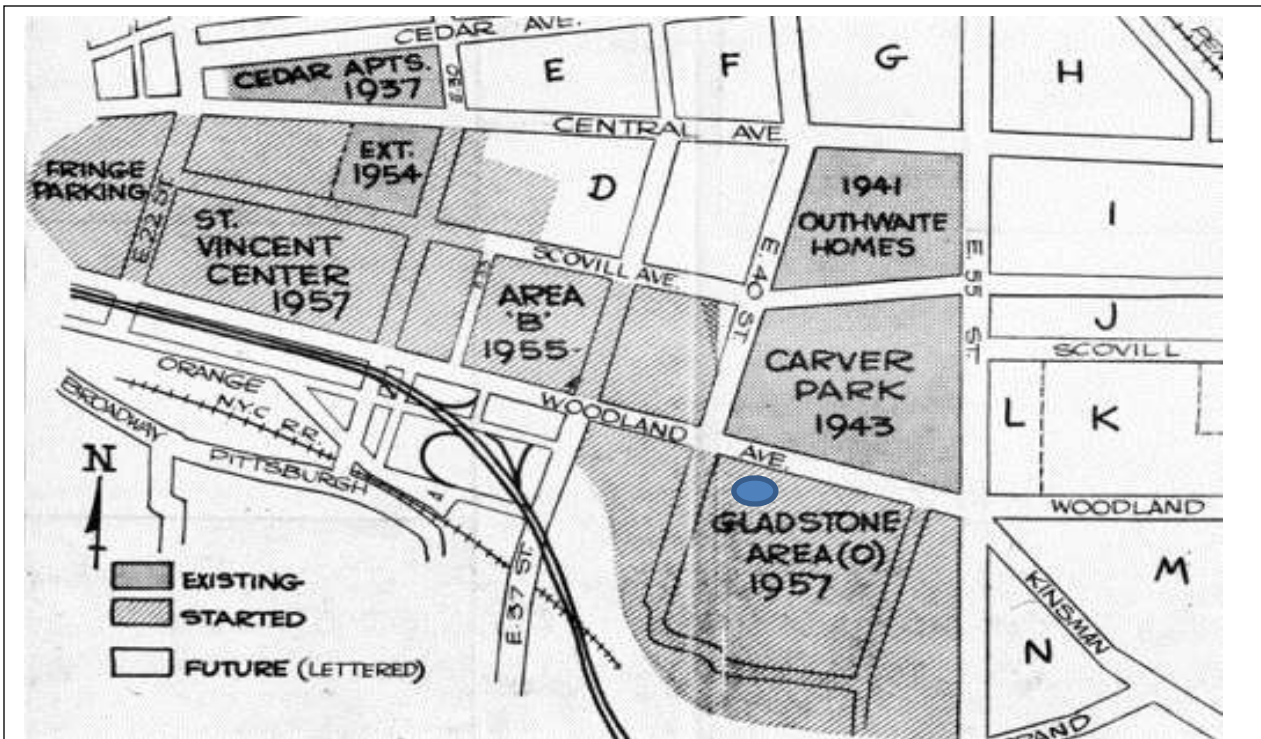
After several law suits and modifications by city planners the ability to attract new business was limited to a handful of companies. At one point some thought this to be the best location to build the Main Post office, which was ultimately built in 1978 at 2200 Orange Ave. fortunately, the building stood untouched for many years until 2010, when the owners of the growing Northern Ohio Food Terminal demolished it.



Photo taken in 1959 by the Cleveland Urban Renewal Agency



Above photo of the was taken in 2009 by the Cleveland Landmark Commission prior to being



● Indicates the former site of former site of the Chevera Kadisha Synagogue. Caption from map published by The Cleveland Press Jan. 4th 1957 reads as follows "Central area rebuilding which started in the 1930s with Cedar Apartments public housing project is scheduled to move faster in 1957. Officials hope to begin clearing slums for St. Vincent Center and the Gladstone industrial project in the next few months. Source: Cleveland State University. Michael Schwartz Library. Special Collections.

The Bohemian Cemetery Baxter Avenue south of Broadway at Morgana Park

This small cemetery consists of two adjoining lots originally being 40 x 140 feet, located in what is now commonly known as the Slavic Village neighborhood. The lots were purchased February 1878 by **Bemissi Checric Kieliche** from James and Ermina Jones who had acquired the lots along with several adjacent parcels from the County Sheriff's office due to foreclosure. The property fronts both Osmond Ct. on the north and Baxter Ave on the south midway between Broadway and East 65th, then known as Tod St.

There is no record with the Ohio Secretary of State of the Bemissi Checric Kieliche being incorporated and the Quitclaim Deed from Smith does not list any representatives of the organization, however, in 1880 an organization was incorporated by Jacob Kraus, Joseph Stein and Jacob Weiskopf known as the **Bohemian Chewra Kasischa Cemetery Association**.

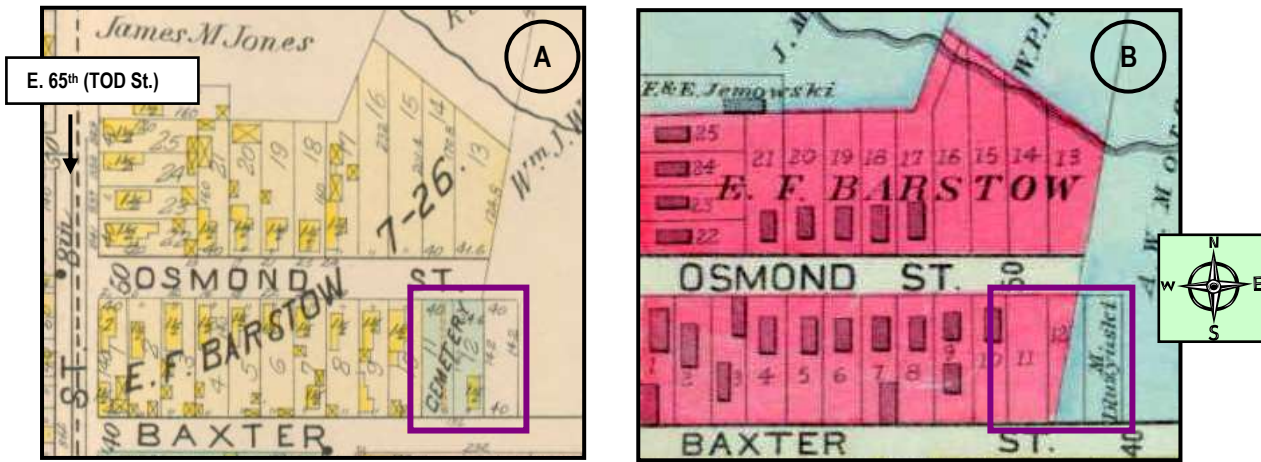
The use of a Quitclaim Deed does not provide any promises or guarantees to the quality of title that is being transferred. In effect, there is no promise that the title is clear or that the Grantor even has any ownership in the property that is being transferred. Quit claim Deeds are often used between family members.



Baxter Avenue Cemetery. Looking north from Baxter. Photo taken June 2010 Jeffrey Morris

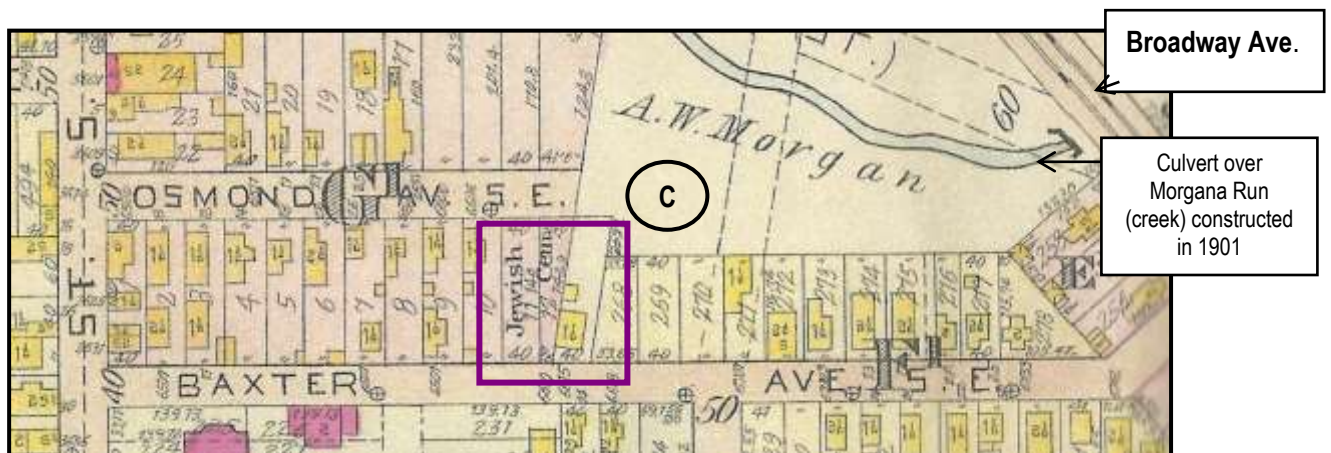
The need to obtain approval to utilize the land as a cemetery became public in 1878 when local papers published a story of a Jewish Bohemian family that recently buried three young children on an unapproved lot on Brownell (East 14th) and Croton St. The approval was quickly granted August 1879 when at the same time, Cleveland Mayor Myron Herrick was agonizing over a request of The Sisters of the Good Shepherd to officially establish a burial ground on their campus located on the southeast corner of Silsby (Carnegie) and Sterling (East 30th). Apparently, over the previous ten years the Order of the Good Sheppard had buried six of its former sisters within the grounds of the convent.

Similar to the Synagogue on E. 40th the only official document found sustaining the history are notices published in the local newspaper by the County listing the Cemetery being in default of taxes due in 1910, and the Ohio Secretary of State's review of non-compliant corporations in 1963 reclassifying their charter to "Canceled, Failure to File/Statement of continued existence. Several unanswered questions remain including when the Cemetery Association disbanded. Also unanswered is why and when did the eastern fence line of parcel 12 change from being rectangular measuring 40 x 140 ft., to an irregular polygon. A minor change took place in 2010 when volunteers with the help of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland removed several tree stumps, excess foliage, and the relocation of the gate from the north side (Osmond Street) of the cemetery to the south side (Baxter Street).



The above plat map (A), published in 1898 by A.H. Mueller of Philadelphia, Pa. shows parcels (sub-lots) 11 and 12 as described in the deed to the Cemetery Assoc. in 1878, that being 40 x 142 feet.. The yellow box in parcel 12 indicates a wooden structure, most likely a shed.

An earlier plat map (B), published by Geo. Cram of Chicago II in 1892 shows lot 12 being partially part of the Barstow Sub-Division and the A.W. Morgan parcel to the east, with the property line being on an angle. That angle is consistent with the all other plat maps including the 1921 Plat map (C) published by Hopkins Plat map Chicago III.



An additional observation that is piece of the puzzle shown on the Mueller Plat and on the Cram Plat is the single parcel just east of the Cemetery that was purchased by Matthias Dluzynaki in August 1899 for \$240.00 from A Morgan. Mr. Morgan would later divide the balance of the property owned on Baxter and several streets south creating a Sub-Division of 256 parcels, the majority being 40' wide and 120 ft. deep. The deed transfers of Dluzynaki parcel through 2006 makes no mention of the angle of the parcel. This leaves the question of why the angle is never mentioned.

Beth-Israel – The West Side Temple

According to the website of **Beth-Israel – The West Side Temple** their first place of worship was a rented hall at 2525 Lorain Ave in 1910. Their official incorporation was filed with the State in June 1911 by Joseph Brower, Rubin Landy, Joseph Newman, David Seidman and Philip Varga. According to the 1920 census this address was also the location of the West Side Realty Company owned by David Seidman. In December 1912, Seidman purchased a home from the Mc Eachren Family at 1794 West 30th re-selling the property the same day to Bnai Israel Congregation. The property was then sold in November 1916 to Andrew Bondar. That same month property at the northwest corner of Bridge and W.45th (4502 Bridge Ave) was acquired from the Seidman's West Side Realty Company.

The Congregation would stay at this location until selling the property to Harry Jacobson in October 1926. Jacobson sold the property the same day to **The Saint Michaels Greek Magyar Church**. The church sold the property and disbanded in November of 1978. The new owner, **Calvary Pentecostal Church**, held services including outreach to the community as the **Hispanic Christian Iglesia Pentecostal El Cavarinoto**. The property was again sold in January of 1999 to the **Great Grace**

Ministries who then sold the property in 2002 to the current owner, **The Central District of Ministries and Alliance** an umbrella organization for many smaller ministries including the **Metro Alliance Church**.

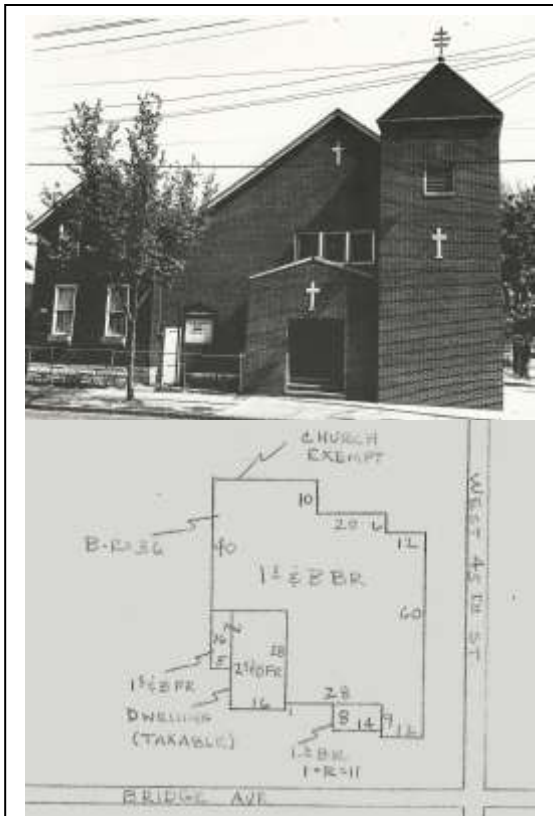
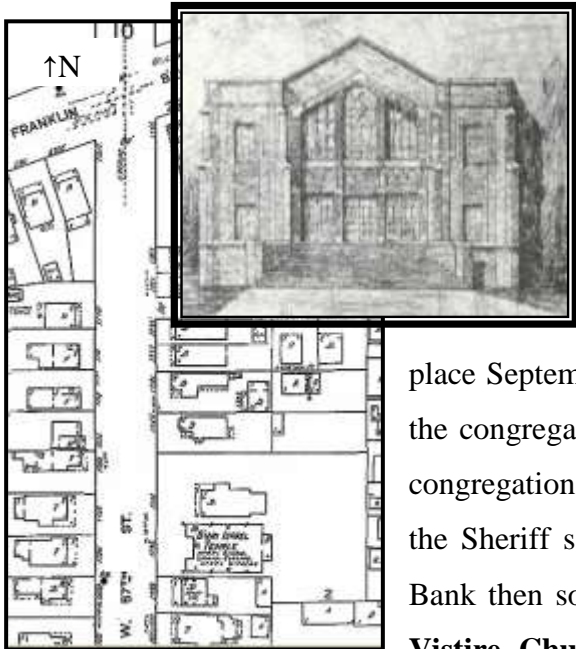


Photo of St. Michael Church 4502 Bridge Ave. taken May 1954 Source Cleveland Press Collection at the Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University. Pencil drawing of property as recorded by the Cuyahoga County Auditor Circa 1959

The property currently consists of two adjoining buildings. The corner building is built of brick and appears to have been built circa 1960. However the foundation appears to be from the very early 1900's.

County records indicate the parcel 002-35-203 consist of two lots 30 x 90 of the original plat layout established as the B & R Sub division, lot number 237 & 238. The structure attached on the west appears to have been built in 1910 as noted in the County Records. Several unanswered questions about the property include the actual age of the corner building and what were the circumstances of having two structures, a home to the west and the current modern one on the corner connected.

Cuyahoga County records indicate a deed transfer from the Cleveland Mission of the Western Reserve to the Free Methodist Conference in November 1873. According to an article published by the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* April, 7th 1889 the church had declined from sixty members when first built to 1873 to only ten, resulting in its closure.



With a loan from the Fulton Bank and Trust the congregation purchased property that included an older home at 1791 West 57th street from Sadie Cramer. The name on the Deed Transfer lists the buyer as the **West Side Bnai Israel Congregation**. Local architect Edward Kretch designed the new building. The dedication took

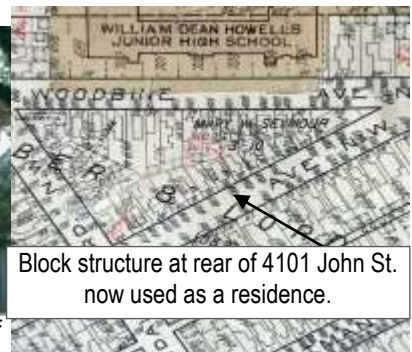
place September 16th 1927. Unfortunately, the recession of 1929 caused the congregation to default on their loan. It is unknown as to when the congregation stopped using the building. Through foreclosure procedures the Sheriff sold the property back to the Bank in February 1938. The Bank then sold the property to **Cathedral Romania Americana Buna Vistire Church** in June of 1939. After several decades the church

relocated to 3300 Wooster Road in Rocky River. The property was acquired in January 1968 by the City of Cleveland for use as a recreation center. By the mid 1970's the building became an eyesore. In December of 1977, with the help of Councilman Michael Zone, the property was sold to the Board of Education, and consolidated with several other lots to build a new home for Waverly School.

The next known meeting place was a home at 4101 John Street purchased from Clara Ban in August 1940. Ban had purchase the property earlier in the day from the Apostolate Catholic Church.



4101 John Street photo taken June 2012 Jeff Morris Note Plat map to the right shows, 4101 John as having a home towards the front of the lot, and a block building in the rear.



According to plat maps from 1912 the property had both a traditional wood home towards the front of the property with a large garage in the rear which was used by both the church and then the synagogue as their meeting place. It is unknown when the front house was torn down. The congregation did sell the property in 1954 to Harold Klareich. According to the congregations' current web site, in the early 1950's the west side of Cuyahoga County's Jewish population grew, due in part to the growing number of Jews employed at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Engine Research Laboratory now known as the John H. Glenn Research Center established in 1941, adjacent to the Cleveland's Municipal Airport.

In 1941 many of the Jewish families living on the west side of Cleveland chose to live in the newly developed bedroom communities of Fairview Park, North Olmsted and Brookpark, all within a 10 minute drive to NASA.

Under the direction of NASA's Director Abe Silverstein, and fellow NASA scientists Ralph Forman and Harold Friedman a new congregation that would embrace the reform movement, known as **Beth Israel – The West Temple** was formed. While their incorporation was not submitted to the State until September 1957, the small groups of 25 families met every Saturday starting in September 1954 at the social hall of the First Universalist Church of Olmsted on Porter Rd just north of Lorain in North Olmsted.

Over the next few years the newly formed congregation continued to grow allowing them to purchase land at 14108 Triskett Rd. just a few miles east of Cleveland's western border. The land was acquired from Florence Tracy in July of 1953 with an initial ground breaking taking place on November 24th 1953. According to an article published in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, November 20th 1954 construction did not start until the day prior and made mention of the congregation having nearly 100 members. The article also states that services were held in temporary space at 3316 W. 118th. Due to



fundraising taking longer than planned, the building was not completed until December of 1956. While construction had already started, talks with the remaining members of B'nai Israel on John Avenue resulted in a merger of the two congregations in October of 1957 with the name staying Beth Israel – The West Temple. The congregation's success resulted in adding several classrooms in October of 1965. Today, the synagogue continues to be the anchor of the Jew's living on the west side with a vibrant Sunday school and weekly prayer service.

Green Road Synagogue

The **Green Road Synagogue** officially incorporated in 1922 as **The First Maramaras B'nai Jacob Congregation [Israel's children of Marmaras]** by immigrants from the Maramaras province, at that time located in Hungary.

According to news clippings compiled by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) held at the Western Reserve Historical Society, members first organized in 1916, as the **Marmaresher B'nai Jacob Verein Society**. In February of that same year, property once owned by **Oer Chodosh Jacove Ming Anshe Sford** at 2561 E. 25th was purchased from Joseph Zelmonovitz. In September of 1916 the property was sold to the Cleveland & Youngstown Railroad Company for the expansion of track lines and construction of a new freight terminal.

After WWI Hungary became an independent country and included the Province of Maramaras. However after WWII the re-drawing of European borders resulted in the province becoming part of the U.S.S.R. Ukrainian province.



The above photo is the southwest corner of Orange and E. 25th St. and is representative of the homes in the area including the home just down the hill at 2561 E. 25th home to the Marmaresher B'nai Jacob Congregation before being demolished for the expansion of rail lines and a new freight terminal. The photo taken in 1923 is from the Special Collections Dept. of Michael Schwartz Library at Cleveland State University.



The 1920 Hopkins plat map shown to the left indicated the location of the "Hebrew Congregation" on E.25th.

The 1932 Hopkins Plat shown above shows the rail terminal that replaced the house of worship on E.25th along with many others.

The Aerial view from the City of Cleveland's Department of Economic Developments' GIS site shows the 2008 view of where the house and street had been located. The dotted box shows the footprint of the U.S. Post Office.

According to the congregation's current web site, after selling the building on E. 25th, members met in various rented halls in the vicinity of E. 30th and Scovill Ave. until May 1921 when a home at 2576 E. 61st was purchased from Morris Siegel. Apparently, within a few years, membership started to decline as members were moving east up Kinsman Ave. to the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood, or northeast to the Glenville neighborhood.



2576 East 61st St. Date unknown.
Source Cleveland Public Library,

In order to serve members moving to Glenville, an older home was purchased from Harry Wolf in July 1923 at the northeast corner of E. 105th and Hampden Rd. Wolf had purchased the house from Bet Tefilo as their need for the house was short – lived as the congregation joined with Anshe Emeth to build the massive Glenville Jewish Center two blocks north, was completed in 1922.



Partial view of synagogue at East 105th and Hampden Rd.
Photo taken by the City of Cleve. Bd. of Zoning Appeals 1949.

The property on E. 61st was sold in 1929 to The **Thankful Baptist Church**, who then sold the property to Congregation **Sherith Zion** in 1937. The property was later acquired by the Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority in 1971 for the development of the King-Kennedy housing project.

Members who moved up the hill to the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood held services in various locations including the Council Alliance of Education at E. 134th and Kinsman Rd. In 1930 that group officially incorporated as **B'nai Jacob Kol Israel – The Kinsman Jewish Center**. Four years later, construction of their new building on East 147th just south of Kinsman was completed.

By the mid 1940's, as WWII was coming to an end, members of the congregation were like other Jews in the Glenville area and looking to move further east. In October 1949 three lots at 2728 Lancashire Rd just west of Coventry Rd., were purchased from Robbins and Strand Inc. who had acquired the property several years earlier from a foreclosure sale by Sheriff Joseph Sweeney. The new building seating 500 was designed by Architect



2728 Lancashire Road. in Cleveland Heights Photo thought to be taken 1975. Source of Michael Schwartz Library, Cleveland State University

Louis Skolnik, and was completed in March 1952.

A name change to **Anshei Marmaresher Jewish Center** also occurred in 1949. The E. 105th street property was sold in January 1947 to Nathan and Sara Leiser, owners of the Leiser Poultry which was located adjacent to the Synagogue, just to the north. One must assume that the purchase agreement allowed the congregation to continue to use the property until the Lancashire synagogue was completed in 1952.

169467

APPROVED
NOT FOR PROFIT
CERTIFICATE FILING

Certificate of Amendment

NOV 10 - 28 - 49

TO ARTICLES OF **C 56 48**

ANSHEI MARMARESHER CONGREGATION

Joe Jacobs President, and Jacob Berkowitz
Secretary, of Anshei Marmaresher Congregation, an Ohio corporation

organized not for profit, do hereby certify that at a meeting of the members of said corporation duly called and held on the 23rd day of October 1949 at 3:00 o'clock, P.M., at which meeting a quorum of such members were present, and that by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present thereat the following resolution of amendment was adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the name of this corporation shall be changed from Anshei Marmaresher Congregation to Anshei Marmaresher Jewish Center.

vol 576 page 686

1949 Name Change

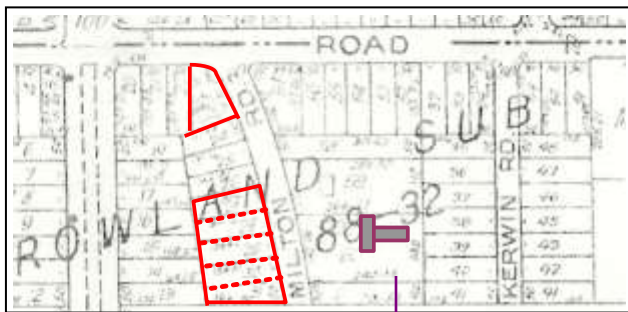
From Anshei Marmaresher Congregation to Anshei Marmaresher Jewish Center

By the mid 1950's the number of Jewish families looking to move east to the Cedar and Green area gained momentum. In January 1965 six lots were purchased from several builders on Milton Rd in University Heights just south of Cedar Rd. At that point in time the majority of the lots were landlocked as the road had yet to be constructed. In addition, the lots were in a sub-division

Paper Streets Generally consist of a parcel of land that is divided into smaller parcels often known as Sub-lots, which collectively become a Sub-division.

Upon approval of the local municipality, and recorded by the country as being real property each with an individual permanent parcel number. The street remains a paper street until the improvements such as the road and utilities are installed followed by a dedication of the street by the local municipality, turning the ownership of the streets from the developer to the municipality.

that was accepted in 1920 by the Village of University Heights for single family homes known as the **A. Roland Sub-Division**. Any change to use of the land would require the now City of University Heights to make a zoning change from residential to Special Purpose. No records could be found indicating that the synagogue presented plans to the city asking for a zoning change. Ultimately the property was sold April 1967 to Robert Goldberg for the construction of the Huntington Green apartment complex. Goldberg and Architect Irving Robinson had been working with the city for several years to gain approval of a zoning change to allow the apartments to be built. One of the stipulations given by the City for the construction of the Huntington Greens complex included that Milton Rd. not be extended “or opened” to Baintree Rd.



1932 Plat Map of the Rowland Sub-division number 88-32 east of Belvoir and south of Cedar. Highlighted in red are the lots acquired by the Synagogue in 1964 and 1965.

Shown in purple is the former home and truck yard of Henry Meisz, a well known excavator and the developer of Landerhaven golf course in Mayfield Heights.

Aerial Photo taken by Cuyahoga County Engineer Albert Porter's office in 1949.



The search for land continued, and in May 1967 land at 2437 S. Green Rd in Beachwood was purchased from longtime residents Ottilla and Vincent Hlavin. The Hlavin's acquired the land in 1923, just seven years after Beachwood incorporated as a village. The property included a large home the congregation occupied as a branch until the current building was ready for occupancy in 1973. The new synagogue was built by member and well known contractor Joe Pearl. The formal dedication took place December 8, 1973. According to records of The Heights Jewish Center, archived at the Western Reserve Historical Society, a potential merger had been approved by members of both congregations in October of 1969. According to deed transfers recorded by the County Recorder, Anshei Marmarasher Jewish Center deeded 50% ownership to Heights Jewish Center in May 1969. It is unknown why in May 1969 Joseph Freidman, chairman of the Heights Jewish Center's merger committee notified Stanly Nueman, Chair of Anshei Marmarasher's merger committee, "of their deep regret to rescind its previous action to continue merger negotiations". The 50% ownership was deeded back to Anshei Marmarasher Jewish Center in January 1972. The Lancashire property was sold in 1971 to The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland which continues to use the building today.

1972 Name Change

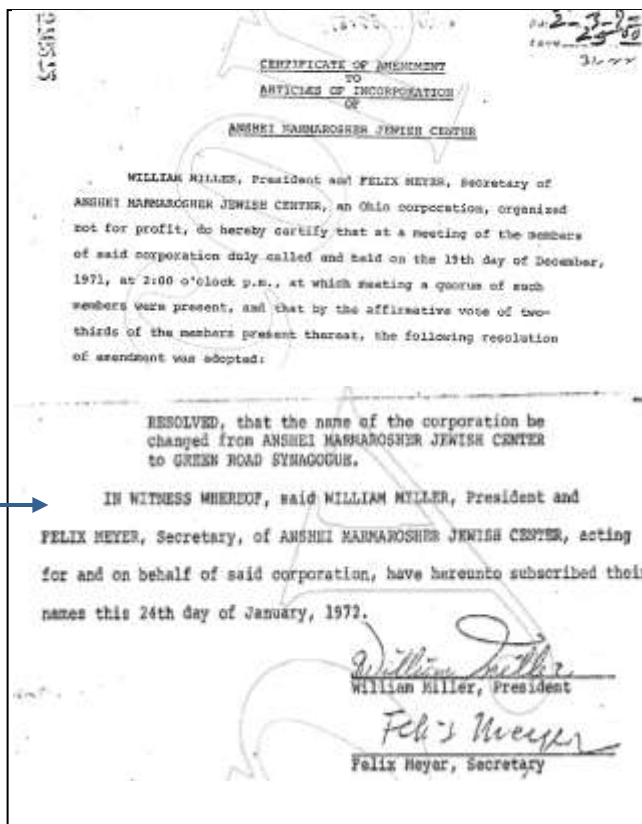
From Anshei Marmarasher Jewish Center
To the Green Road Synagogue

Take Note:

Spelling does not come easy to many of us. Translating one language to another can be also be a difficult task.

The congregation's name change in 1949 has the name spelled Marmaresher. However the 1972 name change filed with the state has the 1949 spelling as Marmarosher

When doing research, one must be aware of finding multiple spellings. For that reason this document identifies the name as recorded by the Secretary of State at the time of incorporation.





The above photo was taken by Cuyahoga County Engineer Albert Porter's office in 1949 shows the former home of the Hlavin Family. Note the early signs of Beachwood's post WWII boom from farms to the bedroom community as it is known today. The Yellow box indicates the property purchased by the congregation in 1968, the Purple box indicates the location of the synagogue. Dedication took place December 8, 1973.



Congregants gather at 2437 Green Road for the ground breaking of their new Synagogue. Photo supplied by Allan Pearl long time member and renowned builder of fine homes.



Green Road Synagogue at 2437 South Green Rd. Built by member, Joe Pearl. Photo taken 12/2009

Shomre Shabbos

Congregation **Shomre Shabbos** [Followers of the Sabbath] Incorporated by Russian Immigrants August 4th 1905. According to the Works Progress Administration (WPA) church records, the first known location was in a frame built home on E. 30th near Woodland. News clipping and the 1915 Jewish Blue Book (Social Directory) indicate the congregation being located at 520 Woodland. In 1921 the congregation purchased a home at 2561 E. 37th from Ben and Blanch Feniger and remodeled it

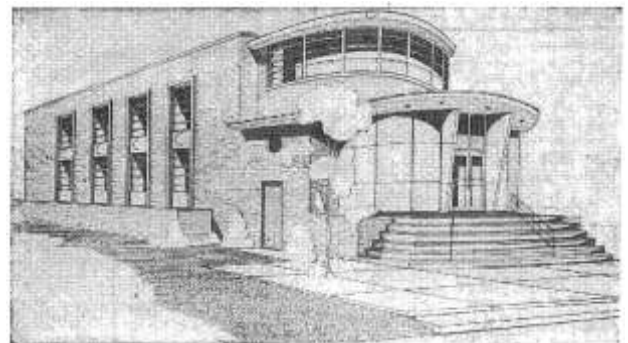


2561 East 37th Former location of Congregation Shomre Shabbos
Photo taken in 1955 for the construction of Longwood Estates.
Cleveland Public Library Photo Collection Dept.

for their use. Two years later in May 1923 the congregation purchased and remodeled a modest two story brick building at 843 E. 105th from John and Mary Walsh. The building on E. 37th had been sold to Max Klein in December 1923. The building on E. 105th street continued to be the congregation's home until 1956 when a new synagogue at 1801 S. Taylor was built. The E. 105th location was sold in 1957 to The Eastern Travelers Inc. The building suffered a fire in March 2011 and currently vacant.



843 East 105th Street. Former home of Congregation Shomre Shabbos Building shown to the right was occupied in the same era by Sinai Synagogue then known as Beth Hamedrosh Anshe Galicia at 10512 Bryant Ave. Photo taken 2009 Jeff Morris



1801 S. Taylor Road Architects rendering 1955 of Congregation Shomre Shabbos. Source: Herman Family

Sinai Synagogue

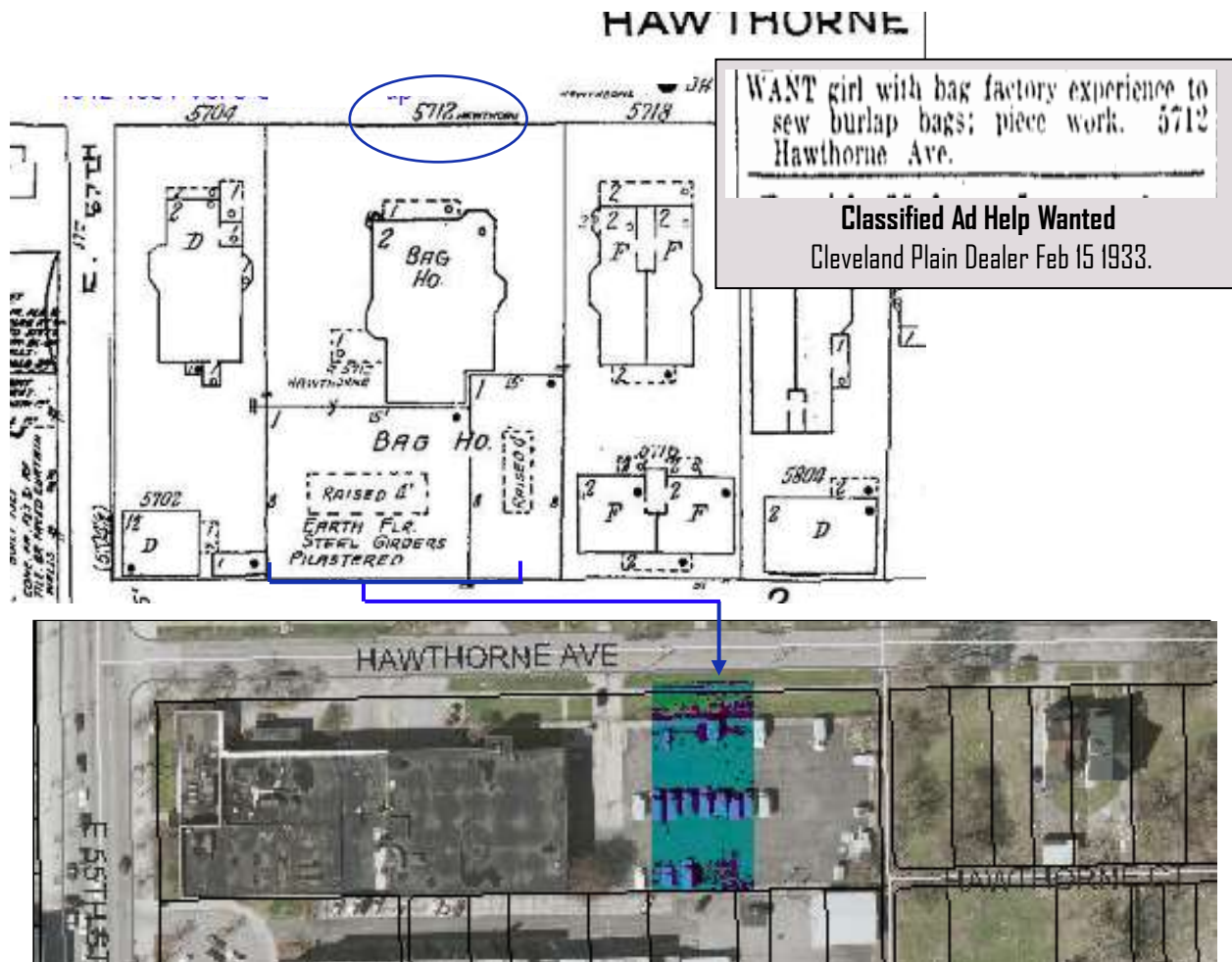
Officially incorporated in January 1903, as the **Erste Galicianer Unterstuetzungs Verein (First Galician Support Association)** first met in the early months of 1890 and then informally known as the **Galician Aid Society**. According to documents on file at the Western Reserve Historical Society, members met in several storefronts in the Orange Avenue area until circa 1902 when a home at 2548 E. 40th Street was purchased, however, the deed transferring the property to the Congregation has yet to be located.



In October 1919, the Congregation sold the property to Nathan Sharp. The property changed hands several times, and at some point was either extensively remodeled or, more likely, replaced with an eight-suite apartment building. In November 1954, the Estate of Salvatore Garofolo sold the property to the City of Cleveland for the development of Longwood Estates a Federally-funded low cost housing development consisting of 820 apartments. By 1999, Longwood had become an eye sore and haven for criminal activity resulting in, it being demolished and replaced in 2005 by townhouses with a park like setting and renamed Arbor Park.



In November 1919, the Congregation acquired a large home at 5712 Hawthorne from Fanny Sobolovitz who had owned the property since 1913. The Hawthorne location was then sold in February 1922 to Morris Berger, who operated a burlap bag plant until his retirement in 1954. The family sold the property in 1967 to the **Society for the Blind** for the expansion of their headquarters at 2225 E.55th Street just to the west.



The line drawing at the top is reproduced from the Sanborn Publishing Companies' Insurance Plat maps Vol 5. .Published 1912 – 1951. Revised 1951. Reproduced for educational purposes from the Digital Resources of **Ohio Link**, a consortium of Ohio public libraries and universities. <http://www.ohiolink.edu/>. The map shows the large house on the south side of Hawthorn along with a small factory at the rear.

The Aerial photo taken 2011 through various resources of the Cuyahoga County's public information web site: <http://gis.cuyahogacounty.us>. The blue shading indicates the location of the congregation.

The next location put the Congregation in the growing Glenville neighborhood at 10512 Bryant Avenue. The property which included a small wooden structure was purchased from Herman Grundstein in January 1922. It is unclear if the Congregation stayed at the Hawthorne location until their new building was completed or rented space elsewhere.



Cornerstone at 10512 Bryant, former location of Beth Hamedrosh Anshe Galicia Congregation



In 1924, a name change to **The Beth Hamedrosh Anshe Galicia Congregation** [House of Learning of the People of Galicia) occurred. The Congregation would stay at the Bryant address until January of 1952 when the congregation moved east into the former **Messiah Lutheran Church** at 3248 DeSota Rd in Cleveland Heights. The deed to this new location did not transfer until September 1952. The Messiah Lutheran Church had since relocated to a new building at 5200 Mayfield in Lyndhurst.

The Congregation sold the Bryant street property in July 1952 to the **Lee Memorial AME Church** which had been forced out of their building at 7701 Central due to a devastating fire. Lee Memorial continues to occupy the building that includes an addition facing E. 105th Street. Two years prior to the move to DeSota the congregation changed their name to the **Sinai Synagogue**; however that change was not filed with the Secretary of State until June 1967. In the spring of 1968 the congregation constructed a wing of classrooms on the north side of the property facing Berkley Road.



3248 DeSota Cleveland Heights. Photo taken 2001 shows addition completed in 2000 by current owner Congregation Beth El. Photo taken May 2006 By Jeffrey Morris



Cornerstone acknowledging the many years of support by Harry and Minnie Sperber.

In July 2003 the DeSota Property was sold to **Beth-El, The Heights Synagogue** formed in January 2000 by two groups. The first being Temple Beth El Congregation (established 1950 and until 1998 located at 15808 Chagrin Blvd in Shaker Heights) and members of **Community Temple**, that had incorporated 1998 as the **Heights Synagogue**, determined to maintain a congregation within their neighborhood as Community Temple was in the final planning stages to merge and relocate with B'nai Jeshurun in Peeper Pike. The two congregations did at times worshipped together at the Mayfield JCC, and formally merged in January 2000, forming Beth El - The Heights Synagogue. Soon after moving into their new home on DeSota the building underwent a renovation including a new lobby with an elevator to the second floor where the main sanctuary is located.

In 2003, The Sinai Synagogue relocated to the former Northwood Elementary school in University Heights in partnership with the Fuchs Mizrahi Day School. Fuchs relocated from Northwood in 2010 to a new building at 26600 Shaker Blvd in Beachwood. Sinai Synagogue continued to meet at the Northwood site. In 2011, local newspapers announced that the long-time Congregation merged with the CONGREGATION KEHILLAT YAAKOV formerly known as The Warrensville Center Road Synagogue. However as of July, 10 2014, the Ohio Secretary of State's web site has no recorded of a merger being processed. Sinai Synagogue's Charter (No. 16937) continues to be active.

Young Israel of Beachwood

First incorporated in July 1924 as Seirai Adas B'nai Israel Congregation [Young Israel].

An official name change to the English spelling of **YOUNG ISRAEL ORGANIZATION OF CLEVELAND** was filed with the State of Ohio in November 1930 by then President Myron Friedman and Secretary Esther Estreicher.

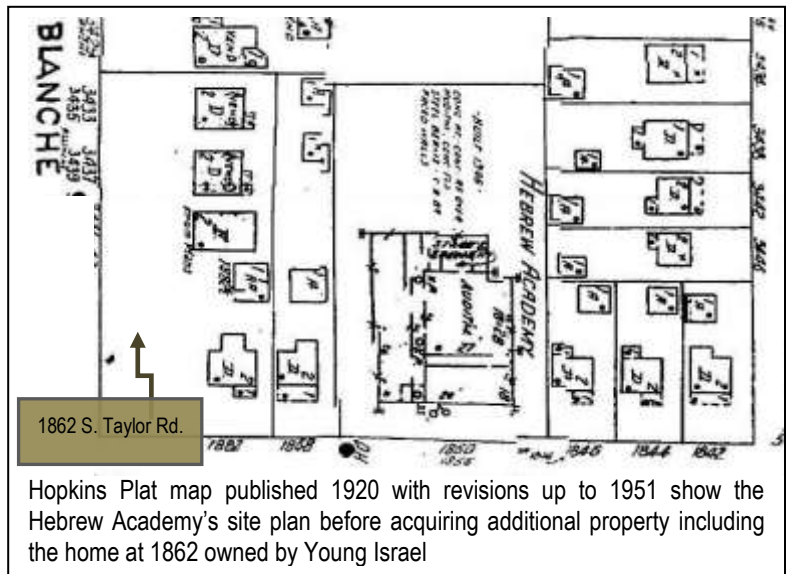
The above card is part of a County Wide Survey done by the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office in the 1960s. (Cards were also done in 1930 without photo's) The more recent survey cards include a small photo of the structure on the parcel along with the type of building, its usage, and condition.

The first known location was an apartment building in the heart of the Glenville neighborhood at 880 Lakeview purchased from the **Cleveland College of Talmud** in April 1939. The congregation's membership continued to grow, and like other congregations in the area looked to relocate to the Taylor Road area of Cleveland Heights.

In November of 1954, the congregation purchased a home in the center of the growing Jewish community at the N.W. corner of S. Taylor and Blanche Rds. Just one month earlier the Lakeview location was sold to Rabbi Jacob I. Berger (see above property card). Over time this building had several owners and, in 2006 a single family home was built on the property. Today, the property is owned by the Glenville Development Corporation.

A note on street names.
Prior to 1906 Taylor Rd. was known as Minor Rd. Much of the land on both sides of what is now South Taylor Road from Mayfield Rd. south to Fairmount Blvd has been owned by the Minor Family. Blanche was the daughter of Seth Minor and the former Sally Antisdale

In May 1945 two lots, both measuring 73'x 140' deep on the western side of S. Taylor just north of Young Israel's parcel were acquired by the Hebrew Academy a private day school then located at 985 East Blvd.

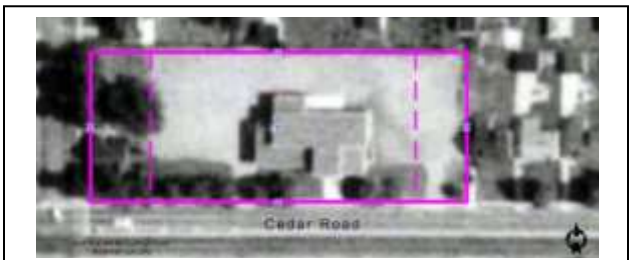


According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer published April 8th 1946, a dedication and setting of the cornerstone had taken

place the day earlier. By the early 1950's, the school was looking to expand its footprint while, at the same time Young Israel needed more space than the Taylor road house could provide. Young Israel agreed to sell their property to the Hebrew Academy, allowing them to expand providing that Young Israel could use the school building for worship services. The house was purchased in 1952. While no documentation has been found it has been said that the home used by Young Israel was picked up and rolled down to an empty lot on Euclid Heights Blvd. With the need to have their own building and the demographics indicating a need for an orthodox congregation east of Warrensville Center Road,



The above photo is from the Jewish Review and Observer published Sept 4th 1951. Cleveland Public Library Microfilm Dept. According to the article when completed the structure will house in addition to the synagogue, classrooms, a library and gym. While this drawing was completed by Milo Holdstein, the building was ultimately designed by Cleveland architect, Sigmund Braverman.



Aerial view from the Cuyahoga County GIS Web site, of Young Israel's Cedar Rd. location taken 2008. The congregations' property included the lot to the right now occupied by a home built in 2011 by Allan Pearl Builders for Jewish Community Housing Inc. The lot to the left was acquired by Young Israel in 1975 from trustees of the Wodicka family and according to County records was built in 1949. That parcel had been owned by the family since 1922 when purchased from the original developer of the "Cedar Center" development The Van DeBoe-Hanger Company.



Line drawing published by the Cleveland Press March 17th 1958 Source: Cleveland State University Michael Schwartz Library Special Collections.

Young Israel purchased seven residential lots on the north side of Cedar Rd just east of Miramar in South Euclid. Efforts to purchase property and build on the Cedar Rd property started in 1951. In March of 1952 the City of South Euclid denied their request to rezone the land from

Residential to Special Purpose. After a four year battle with the city, the congregation received a favorable ruling by Appellant Judge Julius M. Kavochy in March 1956, ordering the city to issue a building permit. The building was substantially completed in time for the High Holiday services in September of 1957. The official dedication took place March 1958. While the congregation's prayer services and the day to day administrative functions were moved to the new building, Young Israel continues to hold daily prayer services at the Hebrew Academy building on Taylor Road.

By the mid 1970's observant Jews were moving east beyond walking distance of the Cedar Road location. In 1986, long time member and community leader, Ivan Soclof, purchased a home at 2463 S. Green in Beachwood, built by Beachwood Architect Arthur Barber in the mid 1930's for his family. The property had 140 foot frontage and when the congregation acquired the land the parcel extended east 470 feet east. This is Parcel number 741 09 005. After some modifications the congregation was permitted to use the home for worship services.



The photo is part of a survey completed by the County Recorder in 1960 of all non-commercial properties. The numbers held up by the sign holder are the Permanent Parcel Number. The first three numbers are the book that the county has identified the listing based on the geographic area. Beachwood is in books 741 & 742. The second set are two digits that identify the page number within the book. The last set of numbers, (up to three) is the line on the page listing the owner, the date and the parcel. Parcels numbers don't change, however they can be split and or consolidated.

In a 1986 interview with Barbers' daughter, Marian Huber Barber, recalled fondest memories playing in the large amount of land behind her home that had over 100 apple trees. It should be noted that until the mid-1950's there were no homes behind the lots on Green heading east until reaching Richmond Rd.

In order to construct a new building that would meet not only their needs but also the building requirements of the city; additional land was needed. Over the next few years while the congregation continued to meet at the Youth Center on Cedar Rd., three adjacent lots on Green Road were acquired.

The next parcel acquired was 2447 South Green abutted the northern property line of the former Barber parcel and measured 80' wide and 380' deep. The parcel included a bungalow style home built in 1950 by David and Stella Lazerick. After the death of her husband Stella sold the parcel to Louis Phillderoff, who held the property until selling it in April 1983 to Ralpael and Denise Hami. Ivan Soclof purchased the parcel in November of 1989 then transferred the parcel in December 1993 to Young Israel. The parcel number was known as 741-09-049

The third parcel was north of the second parcel purchased. The address was 2443 S. Green and 60' wide by 380' deep. A similar bungalow style house was built in 1950 by Ina Mae Lazerick. The property was then sold to Angelo Del Sangro in February 1959. In March 1978, Del Sangro sold the property to Mordechai Baron. Through a trust, the Jewish Federation of Cleveland acquired the property in December 1996. Young Israel acquired the property known as parcel 741-09-050 in August of 2000.

The fourth parcel was located east of the two smaller parcels and considered "land locked" as there was no legal access to the parcel. That lot measured 140' by 403' deep. The parcel was purchased by Young Israel in December of 1993 and known as 941-09-006.

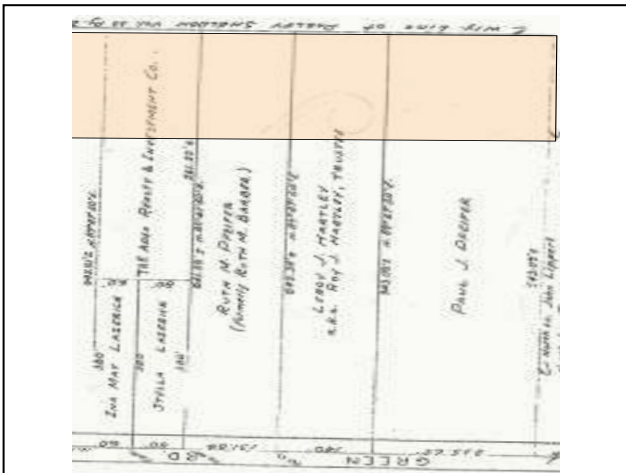
Prior to 1949, those three parcels were one, that being 941 09 006. In 1949, Apex Realty Company owned by David Lazerick purchased the parcel from Mildred Hamerlin the daughter of Ruth Barber and split the parcel into three.

A tip on understanding the Permanent Parcel Number and parcel splits

When a parcel is split the original parcel maintains the parcel number. Hence the word. Permanent. The newly established parcel is given the next number on the page within the recorders parcel book.

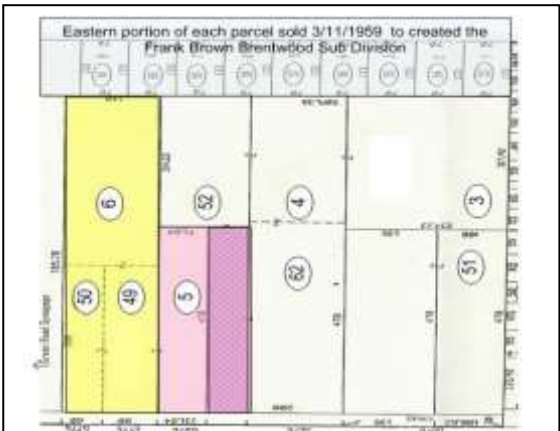
Also, do not be confused by a sub-lot number. This is a series of numbers established by an engineer or architect that identifies smaller parcels in the development stage of land. Each of those smaller parcels (sub-lots) will upon approval by the County Recorder be issued a Permanent Parcel Number

Not to confuse you think of the word "Sub-Division" Example Judy and Bob bought a house in a new Sub Division being developed on old man Smiths farm.



The above drawing is part of an agreement by the seven owners of land that front Green Road and make up what is known today as the Orthodox Campus on Green Rd in Beachwood. The agreement settled a long dispute by several of the long time owners. Prior to the agreement, some record indicated that Mrs. Pfeifers' frontage had been 140'. The agreement changed that to 131' and Mrs. Pfeifer was compensated for the loss. The shaded area was sold by each landowner for the development of Frank Browns Brentwood Sub Division in 1960.

Not to confuse matters, when Arthur Barber died in 1937. His widow Ruth (maiden name Hemmerlin) married Paul Pfeiffer also a widower who lived just a few houses south. Source: Cuyahoga County Fiscal office, formerly the County Recorder's office Vol. 8013 page 1



The light and darker pink parcel 2163 were the first parcels to be acquired. The next parcel purchased was 2447 in 1993. The third acquired in 1993 is the land locked parcel in the rear. The fourth 2443 was acquired in 2000. In 2001 the darker pink, southern portion of 2463 was sold to the Hebrew Academy.



The yellow lines indicate the current land owned by Young Israel. All four parcels were consolidated into 741-09-005 as final construction plans based on the Beachwood Board of zoning appeals approval allowing construction to commence.

As Young Israel was acquiring land, so was the Hebrew Academy as their girls' high school program had outgrown the space within their Taylor Rd building. In addition Chabad, a New York based Synagogue experiencing growth throughout the United States was actively looking to locate in Beachwood.

As those organizations acquired several parcels just to the south of the Young Israel's site the project became known as the Orthodox Campus in Beachwood. According to the Cleveland Jewish News published March 31, 1995, earlier in that week Young Israel of Beachwood submitted and received the approval to rezone their land along with the understanding that both The Hebrew Academy and Chabad would soon follow with their portion of the campus.

Included in their proposal was a requirement set by then Mayor Harvey Freidman, who had been the steward of the community since the early 1960's, requiring that the project have one curb cut (driveway) in order that a campus like setting was established. Over the next few years there would be strong opposition by multiple generations of Beachwood residents to rezone the property from residential to special purpose. In October of 2000 after several legal battles and modifications to the design, the Ohio Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by neighbors to stop the project from going forward. That decision forced the city to rezone the land. By this time the concept of one entrance (curb cut) and many attributes of a campus style design had been lost by the city as part of their attempt to stop the rezoning.

In August of 2000, Young Israel Organization of Cleveland and **Young Israel of Beachwood** which was formed in August 1989 were merged and the name became **Young Israel of Greater Cleveland**.

A building permit was soon to be issued, and the four parcels were consolidated into one, that being, into the first parcel that had been acquired by Ivan Soclof at 2463 S. Green Rd known as 741-09-005. While all four were being consolidated, the southern portion of the Barber parcel was split off for the development of the Hebrew Academy's Yavna High School that being 941 09 062. That southern portion was needed by the Hebrew Academy to meet the city's requirement that the frontage, the amount of feet along Green Road was at least 200 feet.

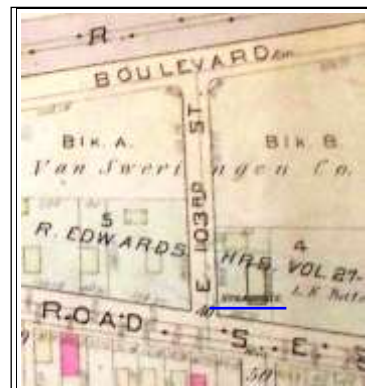
The ground breaking for architect Jerry Herschman's design took place on November 5th 2000. The dedication which included a parade to transport the torah strolls from the Youth Center to the new building occurred on Sunday June 22nd 2003.

The Cedar Road location was sold in 2008 and demolished within the year.



Two major gains in membership occurred in 1972 when **Shomrie Hadath** (Guardian of Religion) merged into Young Israel, and again in 1998 when remaining members of Oer Chodosh became part of the Congregation.

Records held at The Western Reserve Historical Society indicate that Congregation Shomrie Hadath was first established in the northern section of Mt. Pleasant in 1922 by Hungarian immigrants. The date of incorporation cannot be verified as their incorporation with the Secretary of State could not be found, nor a copy of the incorporation in numerous other repositories. Members first met in rented space until the spring of 1924 when a building on the northeast corner of Buckeye Road and East 103rd was purchased from the Kenneth Israel Congregation, now a part of the Taylor Road Synagogue.



Plat map reproduced from the files of the City of Cleveland Building Department Date and Publisher thought to be 1923 vol. 4 Shows the location of the synagogue.

In just two short years Shomrie Hadath constructed a new building around the corner at E.123rd and Parkhill Ave and sold the Buckeye location to Ande Horning. The property was sold in May 1944 to Irwin & Company, a local upscale office furnishings company, who maintained an upholstery shop in the building until 1948. The building had several additional owners including the American Slovak Business Professional Club who used the building as its social club. In 1968 the neighboring Qua Buick purchased the property and for some time used the building for distribution of tires. In 1969 Qua Buick engaged Architect Howard Green to design a new state of the art retail tire center on the property that would adjoin the two story brick building to the west, however, the Board of Zoning Appeals was unwilling to agree to an easement. The building was demolished circa 1970.



Photo is from the City of Cleveland Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals...A request made in 1969 by Qua Buick to build a new tire center. Note the X is placed on the photo to help the Board of Zoning and Planning know the building in question.

According to the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* published August 8th 1926 the congregation first service at the new building would, (and it did) occur on the next day. The event included congregants marching from the former location on Buckeye to the new building on E.124th. Both Appellate Judge Manual Levine and Common Pleas Judge Samuel H. Silbert would speak. Albert Schultz was the chairman of the building committee.



According to a Cleveland Plain Dealer article published on June 18th 1932, the trustees had recently elected Henry A Rucker as president, J Bassichis as Vice president, Max Goldman as secretary and A.S. Goldman treasurer and Herman Stein as the financial secretary. The article also states that the congregation's, semiannual picnic would be held the next day, June 19th at Pylak's Grove on Turney Rd. in Garfield Heights. Samuel Guth was the committee chair for the event.

Announcements in the local papers during the 1930's and early 1940's provide a sense of an active congregation including several wedding and bar mitzvahs. Similar to other congregation's, membership declined after World War II, however the congregation continued to hold services until July of 1972 when the property was sold to the **Second Missionary Baptist Church**. In August 1973, the remaining members under the leadership of President Arnold Oppenheim and Secretary Leon Kaufman, voted to merge into the **Young Israel Congregation**.

The most recent congregation to consolidate into Young Israel was **Congregation Oer Chodosh Anshe Sfard** [New Light] in 1998. According to documents held at The Western Reserve Historical Society, compiled by volunteers indicates the congregation had been

New Corporations.
Columbus, Oct. 26.—(Special.)—The Congregation Beth Jancove Minnag Sfod, Cleveland, was incorporated today by L. Cornsweet, N. Chessin, L. Sud, I. Kor-mosen, M. Mochman and A. Schwietz.
Source: **Cleveland Plain Dealer, October 25th 1895**

established in 1884 by 15 Ukrainian immigrants who acquired a house at 29 Cherry Street from Marie and Josephine Seitz in January 1898. Their official incorporation occurred October 1895 with the name of **Congregation Beth Jancove Minnag Sfod**. The Cherry St. property was sold in September 1899 to Louis and Mary Katz.

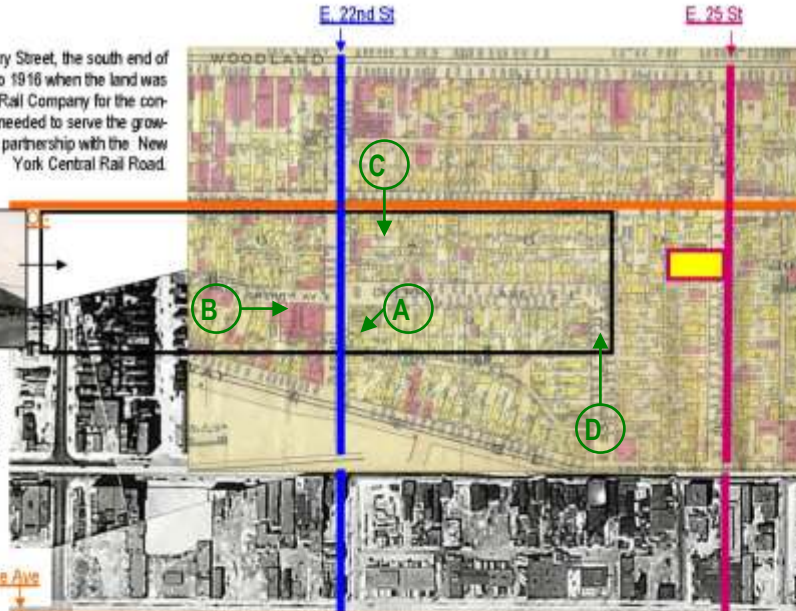
From the time that the Cherry St. location was sold in 1898 until 1948, when a home was purchased on Washington Blvd. in University Heights the orthodox members would conduct services in at least six locations. There are limited Primary Sources to substantiate the exact dates and address of the congregation's movements after the purchase and sale of the Cherry St. In many cases Primary Sources, such as the recording by the county Recorder of a deed transfer could not be found to confirm the purchase and or sale. However several locations were found in multiple documents such as city directories, news clippings, and annual directories. These are considered secondary sources.

A publication dated 1889 produced by The American Jewish Committee indicates the congregation being at 373 Perry (E. 22nd) from 1898 to 1904. In addition, records compiled by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) archived at the Western Reserve Historical Society indicate a location at 2221 Orange in the circa 1900 – 1910. No record could be found of the purchase 2564 E. 25th; however there is a sale in December 1910 to Jacob Schuman. The property would later become the home to the **Marmaresher B'nai Jacob Verein Society**; now known as the **Green Road Synagogue**. In December 1916, the property was acquired by the Cleveland and Pittsburg Rail Company Inc. for the construction of a freight terminal that would stand until 1978 when acquired by the U.S. Postal Service for the construction Cleveland's Main Post office.

The 1912 Plat map to the right shows Cherry Street, the south end of both East 22nd and 25th streets prior to 1916 when the land was Acquired by the Cleveland and Youngstown Rail Company for the construction of the freight terminal and rail lines needed to serve the growing city. The freight terminal was built in a partnership with the New York Central Rail Road.



View of the freight terminal built in 1918 looking N. E. from the S. W. corner of Broadway and E. 15th. Photo taken with a Cirkut No 8 Camera. Now the site of the US Post office Source. Cleveland State University, Michael Schwartz Library, Special Collections.

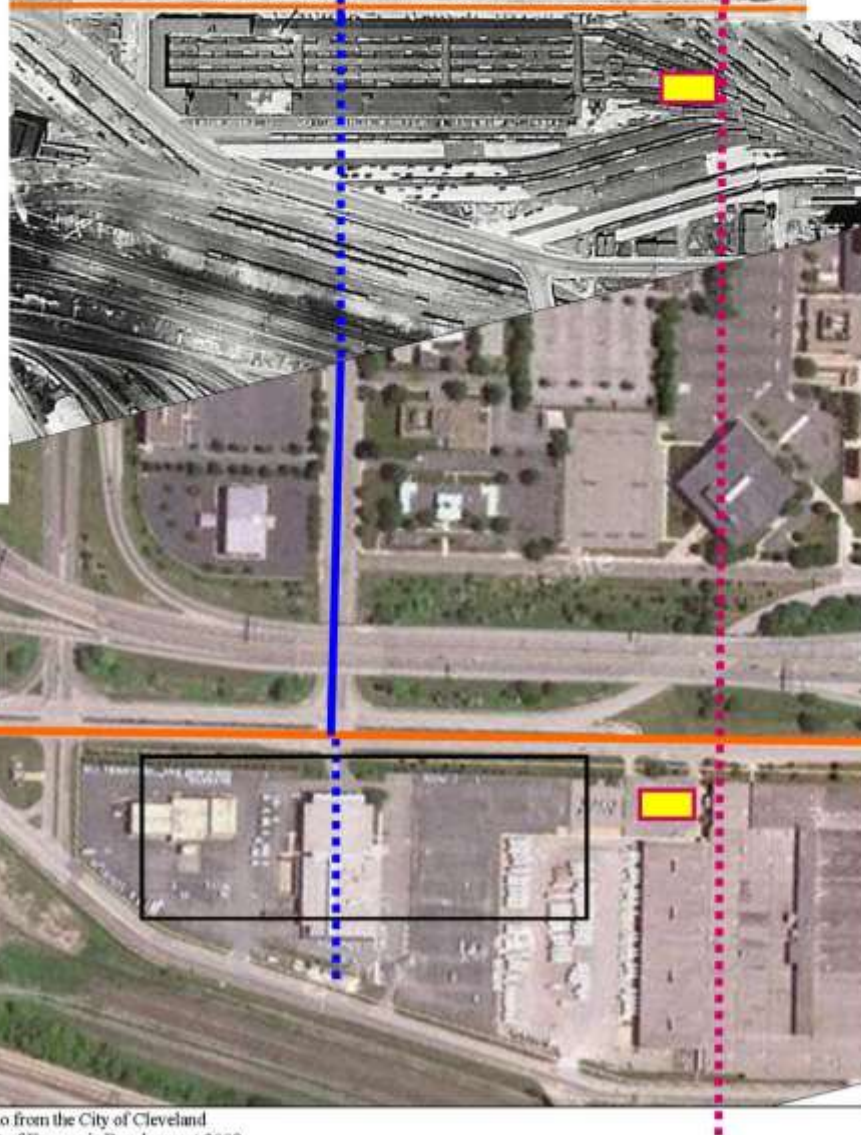
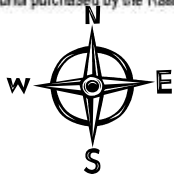


	Pre 1908 Address	New Address
A	29 Cherry	2217 Cherry
B	373 Perry	2649 E.22nd
C		2221 Orange
D	2350 Irving	2350 E.25th

Street names and address numbers changed in 1908.

The aerial photo to the right taken in 1959 by the Cuyahoga County Engineer shows the freight terminal completed in late 1918.

Indicates the location of the house on E. 25th 1899 to 1911 by Oer Chodosh Beth Jacob Anshe Sfard and then for the first 10 months of 1916 by the First Maramoras (now known as Green Road Synagogue) until purchased by the Railroad.

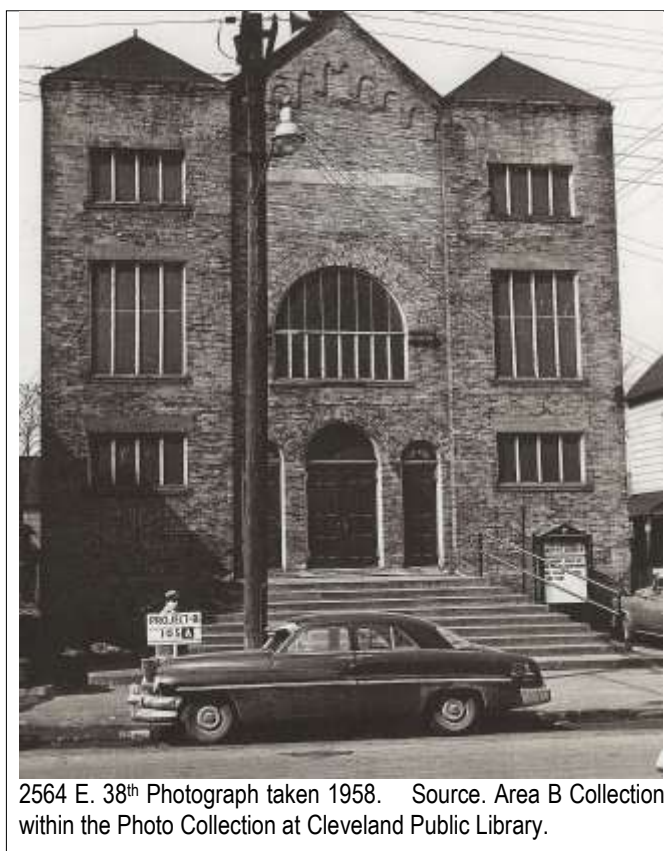


Aerial photo from the City of Cleveland Department of Economic Development 2008

According to a document within the Congregations archives maintained at the Western Reserve Historical Society and compiled by volunteer Dr. Stanley Lasky in 2000, the congregation constructed a new building at 2564 E. 38th street. At the same time three different groups' of congregants decided to "break away" and form their own congregations.

They were:

1. Oyel (Ohel) Jacob Anshe Sfard established its synagogue initially at 5702 Scovill Avenue and then 3749 E. 140th. After a series of mergers, now a part of the Cedar Road Synagogue.
2. Ahavath Zion would first occupied a former and aging church at 6010 Woodland Ave. and relocate to 997 Parkwood Dr. before merging into Beth Am Synagogue now a part of B'nai Jeshurun.
3. The third group to be formed was known as Tifereth Israel Anshe Sfard. This congregation established it-self at 3386 E. 119th. In the 1950's some members would join Oyel (Ohel) Jacob Anshe Sfard (Shaker-Lee) and the portion of the members joined with the Warrensville Center Synagogue now known as The Cedar Road Synagogue.



2564 E. 38th Photograph taken 1958. Source. Area B Collection within the Photo Collection at Cleveland Public Library.

Oer Chodosh Anshe Sfard would remain at the E. 38th street location for eleven years, relocating in 1923 to a new building at 10522 Amor Rd. in the growing Jewish neighborhood of Glenville. No deed transfer could be found for their purchase of the property on E. 38th. A listing in the Cleveland Plain Dealer dated January 8th, 1911 indicates that the congregation took out a building permit for the location listing construction costs being \$10,000.00. No deed transfer indicating the congregation sold the property could be found. The building would officially be acquired by the **United Apostolate Church of Christ** in August 1925 from Eugene and Mollie Geismer. The building was sold again in July 1930 to the **Mt. Herman Baptist Church**. In February 1941, the building endured a fire.

After a \$25,000.00 remodeling project, Mt. Herman parishioners' continued to occupy the building until the Urban Renewal project known as Longwood Estates required their relocation in 1958 to a new contemporary building at 2516 E. 40th street designed by highly respected Architect Robert P. Madison. The lot on Amor belonged to Pastor Ernsberger of the Calvary Lutheran Church since 1914. Ernsberger sold the property in May 1920 to Ben and Sarah Arsham, Jake and Yetta Frank and M Dubin. Those parties also assumed a mortgage of \$7,650.00 from the **Union Trust Bank** one of the many banks that did not survive the Great Depression of 1929. The deed transfer to the synagogue did not occur until 1933. One reason could have been the massive task by the State of Ohio banking regulations to commission to liquidate the assets of the Union Trust Bank.



10522 Amor, former home of Oer Chodosh. The cornerstone continues to be a part of the structure. Photo taken by Jeff Morris March 2009

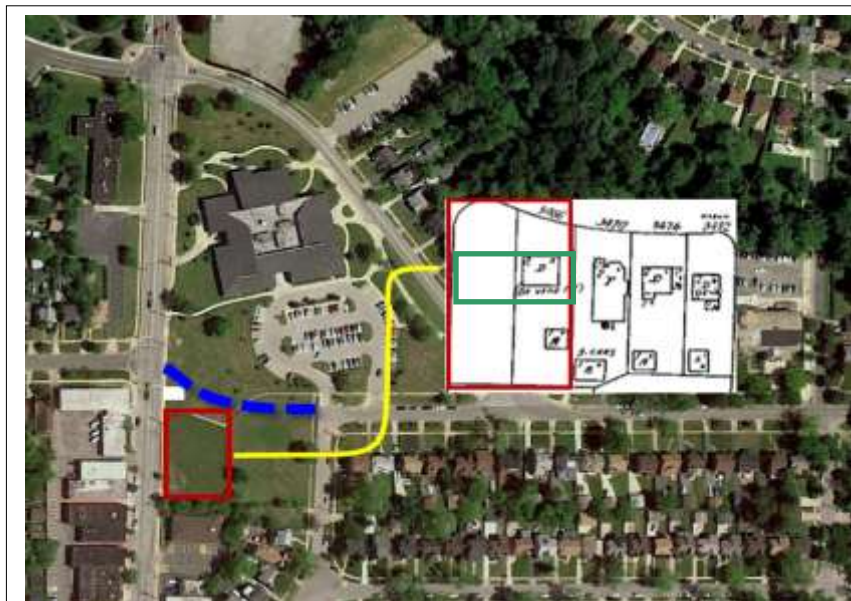
The congregation maintained the Amor location until selling the property December 30th, 1949 to Gill Inc. and the same day sold to the current owner The Central Gospel Tabernacle Church. Often time's religious organizations feel an obligation to their faith that the sale of a religious property should not be made directly to an organization of a different faith. That could be the reason for the same day transaction with Gill being the middleman.

One year earlier, in November of 1948 the congregation purchased a home and an adjacent lot at 3466 Washington Blvd. in University Heights from Mary and Vincent Porto. An addition to the home occurred in 1954, providing a seamless modern look to the building. The Congregation would again incorporate with the state of Ohio as **Oer Chodosh Anshe Sfard Congregation** in August 1974. One could surmise that the original Incorporation documents could not be found and or the need to file with the correct spelling was needed to solidify the organizations existence.

Due to the decline in membership the congregation merged with **Young Israel of Beachwood** in 1998. The former synagogue was purchased by the city of University Heights in 1999 and torn down within the year.



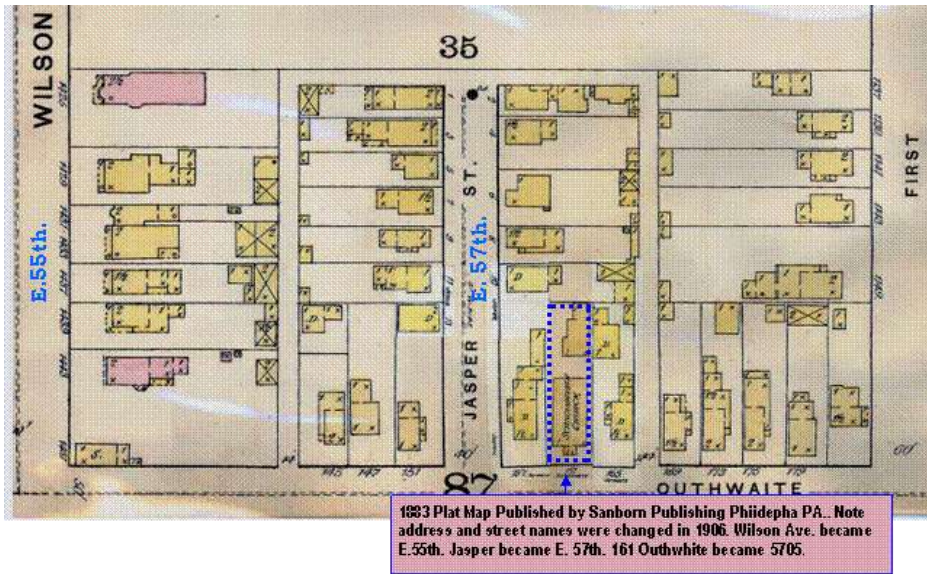
3466 Washington Blvd.
 The property consisted of two lots.
 Date of photo is June 1966
 Source: Special Collections
 Department at the Michael Schwartz
 Library at Cleveland State University,
 Cleveland Heights Collection



Aerial Photo from Google Earth May 3 2011. The blue line indicates the location of Washington Blvd prior to being removed in 1975. The red box indicates the former location of Oer Chodosh. line drawing is created from the Cleveland Public Library's Digital Sanborn Fire Insurance plat map published in 1921 Vol. 13a, showing the foot print of the five properties facing Washington Blvd. between S. Taylor and Wynn Rd. The green box indicates the location of Oer Chodosh after the addition was built. Source Cleveland Heights, Ohio Lat 41.5033336 Lon 81.5559751 Google Earth. Web. 3 Feb 2011

The Original Zemack Zedek Nusach Ari Congregation

The front page of the local weekly newspaper, the Jewish Independent dated August 24, 1906 announced a new “sect” of the Jewish religion had been established in Cleveland. The headline read: “A Congregation of Hasidim Who Believe in the Cabbala – Their Ritual is Unlike Those of Ashkenazim and Sephardim” According to the article the new congregation known as **Nussach Ari** had started to meet at the Tentoria Social Hall at the corner of Scovill Avenue and East 31st.



The New York based American Jewish Committees Annual Directory published in 1907 lists **Nussmach Ari** at 294 Mayflower and being organized in October 1903.

According to Merging Traditions written by well respected Judah Rubinstein with Jane Avner, first published in 2004, Nusach Ha’Arie

had for a time been located on Woodland Ave. at E. 31st. Additional news clippings found at the Western Reserve Historical Society indicate a location at 3400 Woodland Ave.

The first known (documented) house of worship for **Nusach Ari** was a former church at 5705 Outhwaite that the congregation acquired from the **First Scandinavian Norwegian-Danish Church** in 1915 According to building permits maintained by the Archives of the City Council of the City structure was built by the church just ten years earlier. The New York based American Jewish Committees Annual Directory published in 1907 lists **Nussmach Ari** at 294 Mayflower and being organized in October 1903. According to Merging Traditions written by well respected, Judah Rubinstein with Jane Avner, first published in 2004, Nusach Ha’Arie had for a time been located on Woodland Ave. at E. 31st. Additional news clippings found at the Western Reserve Historical Society indicate a location at 3400 Woodland Ave. The first known (documented) house of worship for **Nusach Ari** was a former church at 5705 Outhwaite that the congregation acquired from the **First Scandinavian Norwegian-Danish Church** in 1915 According to building permits maintained by the Archives of the City Council of the City structure was built by the church just ten years earlier.

In July 1925, the congregation purchased a home at 959 Parkwood Drive in Glenville from Lillian Altshuler. The Outhwaite property was sold in December 1928 to **The Bethany Missionary Baptist Church** formerly located on E.40th.

About the Name. The name on the purchase and sale of the Outhwaite property, is Nusach Orié and the purchase of the Parkwood property is Nusach Arie. The sale of the Parkwood property indicates the owner being Nusch Arie Zemack Zedek. Unless the spelling is beyond the ability of several search engines, the Secretary of State has no record of their incorporation. However, **Zemack Zedek** was incorporated in January 1937. Trustees included Paul Bernzweig, Mendel Zisner, Charles Cohn, Sam Horowitz, and Harry Shaperio. City Directories list the congregation from 1920 to 1936 as Nusach Arie with Zemach Zedek first appearing in 1938. According to documents filed with the Secretary of State in 1991 the name was officially changed by an amendment of the congregations board of directors', longtime leaders of the congregations; Howard and Larry Madorsky to **The Original Zemack Nusach Ari Congregation**



The above photo of 959 Parkwood was taken in 1959 as part of a county wide inventory taken along with a photo of each property. The sign indicates the Cuyahoga Recorders Permanent Parcel Number. The photo to the right taken by Jeff Morris in April 2010 shown the changes made by the church in 1962.

It is unknown how long past the purchase of the Parkwood property in 1925 that the congregation maintained the Outhwaite location. The property was later sold in March 1941 to the **Second Ebenezer Baptist Church** who subsequently sold the property to the **Gladstone Baptist Church** in January 1958. The



property currently a vacant lot was ordered sold, by order of Sheriff McFaul was transferred to the city of Cleveland's Land Bank in 2008. When and why the structure was torn down is unknown.

The congregation would stay at the Parkwood location until December 1956 when the property was sold to The **Cleveland Church of Christ Apostolic**, now located at 1055 E. 105th (former property once the home to **BETH HAKNESETH ANSHE GRODNO** now part of Heights Jewish Ctr.). The Christ Apostolic sold the property in January 1968 to the current, owner **Charity Baptist Church**.



In March of 1956 the congregation acquired its current location, from at located 1922 Lee Road in Cleveland Heights from Abe Soclof. Several years prior to Zemach Zedek acquiring the property a small congregation, formed by Soclof and known as Congregation Heights Havath occupied the space. Zemach Zedek continues to follow the Nusach Ari traditions of prayer and meets daily.



Above map published in 1898 by F.L Krause shows 54 acres on the west side of Lee Rd. Owned by J. Haycox



Image from the U.S. Geological Survey Taken 1994



Aerial photo taken 2011 showing the 1940 Lee Rd. building partially surrounded by the new Zagara Supermarket built in 2002 on land that formerly included a Post Office