

Our Synagog

1923 - 1945



ON Sunday morning, November 3, 1923, the first meeting of the Building Committee, which had been appointed to erect a structure at Lexington Avenue and Reading Road, was held, and elected these officers:

J. L. MANN, *Chairman*

LOUIS LEVENSON, *Treasurer*

I. L. SHOR, *Vice-Chairman*

MEYER BERMAN, *Financial Secretary*

HARRY M. RUBIN, *Recording Secretary*

Other members of the Committee were Samuel Rosenberg (then President), Louis Weiland, Abe Feld, J. David Jacobs, Rubin Caplun, Jake Tennenbaum, Reuben Dine, Jacob I. Sachs, Nathan Leshner, George Mehl, Isaac Englander, Dr. Louis A. Lurie, David N. Rosenbaum, Abraham Berman, Samuel Glass, Mrs. Samuel Weiland, Mrs. Moses Rosenbaum and Mrs. David Polasky.

A Chanukah dinner (celebrating our 75th Anniversary) in December, 1923, with Rabbi Solomon Goldman as guest speaker, resulted in pledges of \$60,000.00, payable over an 18 months' period.

On December 31, title to the lot and stone residence was taken by the Congregation at a total cost of \$40,800.00.

Early in 1925, Mr. J. L. Mann passed away, and Mr. Samuel Glass, who had been Chairman of the Subcommittee on Plans and Construction, was elected Chairman of the Building Committee. It has been our good fortune that the Good Lord gave him strength to carry on successfully the planning, erecting, and financing of the synagog.

On March 1, 1926, the bid of Joseph Neyer, general contractor, was accepted. The amount was \$264,000, exclusive of heating, lighting fixtures, plumbing, ventilation and seating.

The cornerstone was laid on June 20, 1926. Dr. Kauvar, of Denver, Colorado, was the principal speaker. Mayor Murray Seasongood delivered an inspiring address. His daughter and Marian Ruth Weiland lowered the century box into the cornerstone.

On July 25 of the same year the cornerstone of the Center Building was laid under the auspices of the Adathean Society, with Dr. Lurie, its president, as chairman.

During the High Holidays of 1926 the building was completed sufficiently to permit holding services.

The building was finally completed in 1927 at a total cost of \$445,000.00. The indebtedness that remained amounted to \$269,500.00, of which \$224,500.00 was in the form of a mortgage and \$45,000.00 was represented by a bank loan.

Shortly thereafter the depression came along, but through it all our faithful and optimistic President, Mr. Samuel Glass, never faltered. He set as his goal the burning of the mortgage, and tonight, due to his untiring and unselfish endeavors and our members' generosity, we are able to see him realize his ambition.

LOUIS WEILAND, *Secretary*