

Collection #
M 1230
OM 0608

**INDIANA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ADDITION
SINAI TEMPLE (MARION) RECORDS, 1930–2002**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 2 oversized folders, 1 OVA graphic print, 1 flat file color graphic drawing, 1 OVB photograph

DATES 1930–2002

PROVENANCE: Indiana Jewish Historical Society, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection M 0743, Boxes 99-100; Indiana Jewish Historical Society Addition M 1016, M 1023 (Box 6 and 15), M 1193; Indiana Jewish History Printed Materials Collection, M 0929; Sinai Temple, Marion, Ind. M 0847

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0142

NOTES: This forms part of the collection of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indiana Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1972 to collect, preserve and publish material involving two hundred years of Jewish life in Indiana. The organization aims to gather and preserve the records of synagogues, temples and societies; Jewish life cycle demonstrations, such as Bar Mitzvah certificates, Confirmation certificates, Katubbot (marriage contracts); personal memorabilia, scrapbooks and diaries; burial and cemetery records; government documents such as naturalization records; newspaper and magazine articles; and photographs.

Another goal of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society is to provide data not always available to historians, scholars and authors, thus helping to provide an awareness of the role played by Jews and Jewish communities in the creation of the religious climate of Indiana.

The IJHS founders ensured that the Jewish experience throughout the state would be preserved and conveyed. They began an annual publication, *Indiana Jewish History*, which recorded:

- settlers in Richmond and Terre Haute in 1818
- the beginning of the Fort Wayne congregation in 1848 and the dedication of the Madison synagogue in 1855
- stores founded more than 100 years ago in Plymouth, Wabash, Huntington, and North Manchester
- the role of the Lafayette congregation in the Reform movement in the late 19th century and the history of self-help organization in the community, beginning in 1907
- a forum which brought W.E.B. Du Bois of the NAACP and other speakers to Hammond during the heyday of the Ku Klux Klan life in Muncie and Columbia City in the 20th century

Sinai Temple is a Reform congregation established in Marion, Indiana in the 1920s. Sinai Temple was located at 521 South Boots Street, Marion, Ind., 46953 from 1936 until it closed in June 2015.

Sources:

Preface and Introduction from *A Users Guide to the Indianapolis Holdings of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society*.

Sinai Temple, Marion, Ind. Collection, M 0847

Historical News (IJHS Newsletter), May 2015, <http://www.ijhs.org/historical-news/>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is an addition to Manuscript Collection M 0743, the Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection, 1845–2002. It consists of materials from the Sinai Temple in Marion, Indiana from 1930 to 2002. Included are minutes from the Board of Directors meetings from 1980 to 1999, minutes for the Sinai Temple Sisterhood's meetings from 1930 to 1932, Sinai Temple bulletins from August 1990 to December 1991, and the temple's by-laws. Also in the collection are confirmation programs, correspondence, paperwork on donations from the Hutner Foundation, contracts for student rabbis from Hebrew Union College, paperwork regarding the temple's 1986 building project, and miscellaneous documents about the issue of prayer in public schools from 1982 to 1985.

Sinai Temple was a member of the Northeast Lakes Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). The collection includes the temple's annual reports to the council from 1981 to 1986, a 1992 booklet about the council's Regional Board Committees, and the council's constitution and by-laws.

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