

PH 0509744

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 5 1977
DATE ENTERED APR 15 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Lloyd Street Synagogue
AND/OR COMMON
Lloyd Street Synagogue

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
11 Lloyd Street
CITY, TOWN
Baltimore, VICINITY OF Third
STATE Maryland CODE 024 COUNTY Baltimore City CODE 510

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dr. Moses Aberbach, The Jewish Historical Society of Md., Inc.
STREET & NUMBER
5800 Park Heights Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Baltimore, VICINITY OF STATE Maryland 21215

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Records Office, Room 601
STREET & NUMBER
Baltimore City Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
Baltimore, STATE Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Baltimore City Landmark List
DATE
1977
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Maryland Historical Trust
CITY, TOWN
Baltimore, STATE Maryland 21202

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lloyd Street Synagogue was begun in 1845 and restored in the early 1960's. Bilateral symmetry and simplicity of design define the Greek Revival building which characteristically features fluted Greek Doric columns supporting a portico, a low pitched roof and trabeated windows. Of particular note is a round stained glass window with a Star of David design, said to be the first on any exterior in America.

The American common bond brick building rests on a coarse stone foundation trimmed by a granite sill. Narrow alleys flank the north and south facades, giving access to the basement. Five windows with doors at the westernmost bays fill each basement wall and are symmetrical with the trabeated windows above.

Seven stone steps lead to the shallow portico. Four granite piers extend out from the western facade, serving as bases for four fluted, plastered Doric columns which support a Doric pediment with guttae, triglyphs and mutules. The lathed and plastered porch ceiling is coffered.

The original central entrance is flanked by two smaller doorways added in 1860. Severe wood surrounds dignify all three doors. Each entrance holds a pair of four-panel, wooden doors and a four-panel, wooden transom surmounts the middle door.

A round, leaded glass window nearly level with the architrave and outside the pediment accents the west facade. Under the pediment, surmounting the main door, is a triple window with a shallow-arched lintel. These windows light the vestibule behind the balcony. A shallow gabled parapet wall conceals a low pitched roof.

The six bay wide north and south facades are defined by six shallow brick frames which hold rectangular double hung windows with 4/4 lights. Recessed rectangular panels below the stone sills accent the lower section of the frames, which extend to the water table. Molded brick cornices finish each top. A perimetric brick string course above the windows relieves the vertical lines of the facades, as does a simple cornice crowning the low-pitched roof.

Three stained glass round windows fill the upper section of the eastern facade. The central window bears a Star of David in the center of which is a Grecian Corinthian acanthus. The interspaces are filled with leaves. The flanking windows hold eight-point star patterns.

The front and south facades are protected by fences and gates. The center gate and the fence along the south wall have simple wrought iron work.

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Lloyd Street Synagogue
Baltimore City,

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

The unassuming features of Greek Revival architecture are also repeated on the restored interior. Two crystal chandeliers (now electrified) added in 1860 hang from the high ceiling. Balustraded balconies, built to separate male and female worshippers, run the length of the synagogue, receiving light from gas lanterns which rest on slender poles. The balconies are supported on cast iron fluted posts which divide the wooden stall pews. The latter are arranged around a raised central reading platform with railings identical to those in the balcony.

Entrance is obtained through a shallow vestibule separated by a plastered partition. Opposing enclosed stairwells lead to the balconies and to the basement. The east wall thrusts out into a bow to accommodate the Ark, a two-stepped structure resembling a Greek portico which contains one or more Torahs. Gilded Corinthian pillars and pilasters carry a pedimented entablature accented by modillions. Gilded detailing enhances the three panel doors and a representation of Moses' stone tablets saddles the apex.

The basement is divided into several simple rooms with chair railing trim and fascia cornices. One of the rooms has been converted into a small museum and the surfaces above the chair rails are faced with pegboard to facilitate exhibit changes. Wooden exhibit cases line the walls.

A second room retains its original function as a hall for daily worship. An unadorned wooden reading desk stands before rough hewn pews. Several book cases stand against the walls.

The original 1845 oven for baking matzos is also in the basement, as are three ritual baths or mikvehs of ceramic tile.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1845 with 1860 addition BUILDER/ARCHITECT Robert Cary Long Jr., and William Reasin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Baltimore Hebrew Congregation was incorporated on January 29, 1830, and was the first Jewish congregation to be chartered in the state. The congregation worshipped in several second floor storefronts until the early 1840's, when its members were affluent enough to build the Lloyd Street Synagogue, the first synagogue built in Maryland.

The Lloyd Street Synagogue, a late example of Greek Revival architecture, was designed in 1841 by Robert Carey Long, Jr. (1810-1849). Long's first commission, the St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church (1842) established his reputation as one of Baltimore's leading architects. St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, dedicated in 1843, the Franklin Street Presbyterian Church (1844), and Mount Calvary Episcopal Church was also designed by Mr. Long.

The synagogue cost \$20,000 to complete. Messrs, Curly and Sons were the builders. They received \$3,256 for their work.

Abraham Rice, who had emigrated from Germany in 1840, was the first rabbi of Lloyd Street. It is believed that he was the first ordained rabbi to serve in any congregation in the United States.

By 1860 the congregation had so increased in size as to necessitate the construction of a thirty foot extension. Another local architect, William H. Reasin, of Reasin and Weatherald, designed the renovation which preserved all the old features of the synagogue. In addition, two smaller doors were added to the entrance, and the interior received two large gas chandeliers and a new Ark. Reasin received \$250.00 for his work. Mr. Reasin was the architect of the campinile on the Number Six Engine House (1853) at Gay and Ensor Streets and the Shoemaker residence, 901 St. Paul Street.

An interplay of urban blight and differences in religious ideologies convinced several members of the congregation to move "Uptown" in 1891 to Madison Avenue and Robert Streets, a more fashionable location. There they built a large Byzantine style synagogue designed by Charles L. Carson (National Register, 11/76).

The Lloyd Street Synagogue was sold to a Lithuanian Roman Catholic Congregation and renamed the Church of St. John the Baptist. It was

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Hunter, Wilbur. "Historic American Buildings Survey: Lloyd Street Synagogues." (Baltimore, 1959),
 Stanton, Phoebe. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture. (Baltimore, 1968).
 Tobak, Israel. "The Lloyd Street Synagogue of Baltimore: A National Shrine." (Baltimore, 1964).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	B			
	ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			D			
	ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michele LeFaivre, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation 1976

STREET & NUMBER

100 N. Holliday Street

TELEPHONE

(301) 396-4866

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce
SHPO

11/30/77

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: *William Cole*
 KEPT OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4.19.78
 KEPT OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 4.12.78