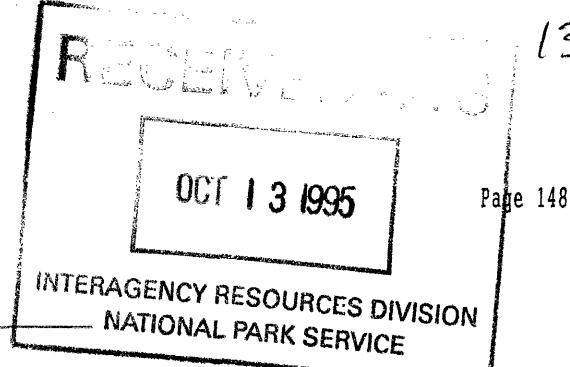


USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form, Multiple Property Listing
Historic Synagogues of Connecticut



1342

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Ein Jacob (Ayn Yacob) Synagogue

Other Name/Site Number: Swedish (East End) Lutheran Church, The Church of God and Saints

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 746 (a/k/a 748) Connecticut Avenue Not for publication: NA

City/Town: Bridgeport

Vicinity: NA

State: CT County: Fairfield Code: 001 Zip Code: 06067

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property

Category of Property

Private: x
Public-Local:
Public-State:
Public-Federal:

Building(s): x
District:
Site:
Structure:
Object:

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing
 1

 1

Noncontributing
 buildings
 sites
 structures
 objects
 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: NA

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: Historic Synagogues of Connecticut

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

John W. Shannahan 10/12/95
Signature of Certifying Official Date
John W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

Entered in the National Register Edson R. Beall 11.27.95
___ Determined eligible for the ___
National Register
___ Determined not eligible for the ___
National Register
___ Removed from the National Register ___
___ Other (explain): ___

Signature of Keeper
Beall

Date of Action

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT



6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic:	<u>religious structure</u>	Sub:	<u>synagogue</u>
	_____		_____
Current:	<u>religious structure</u>	Sub:	<u>church</u>
	_____		_____



7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification:	Materials:
<u>20TH CENTURY REVIVAL</u>	Foundation: <u>CONCRETE/cinder block</u>
<u>Gothic Revival/Colonial</u>	Walls: <u>ASBESTOS</u>
<u>Revival</u>	Roof: <u>ASPHALT</u>
	Other: _____

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

Exterior

Ein Jacob Synagogue, a small (28' x 40') one-story building, faces north on a small (40' x 100') corner lot in the eastern part of Bridgeport. The neighborhood is densely built up with factories and workers' housing. The synagogue's architecture combines Gothic Revival and Colonial Revival features, using foundation of coursed ashlar "quarry-finished" concrete block and siding of asphalt material scored to resemble brick. (Photograph 39)

The high concrete block foundation of the synagogue supports a gable-roofed frame building with low central front tower. Tall rectangular windows in the foundation indicate a well-lighted basement. Concrete front steps, possibly not original, lead up to the entrance in the tower, which projects slightly. The entranceway consists of a double-leaf door under a round-arched transom with keystone. Windows with bluntly pointed arches flank the entrance. The window arches are header brick laid as voussoirs, rising from impost blocks to a central splayed keystone. The side elevations are pierced with four similar windows. A pair of the same windows occupies the second floor of the tower, over the front door, while each face of the tower above the roof slope has small paired openings which are more sharply pointed and do not have impost blocks and keystones. The clipped pyramidal roof of the tower is only a foot or two higher than the ridge line of the main gable roof.

The building recently has been painted, the masonry grey and the wooden trim light cream.

Interior

The consultant was unable to gain access to the interior of the synagogue.

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Nationally:___ Statewide:___ Locally: x

Applicable National Register Criteria: A___ B___ C x D___

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A x B___ C___ D___ E___ F___ G___

Areas of Significance:	Period(s) of Significance	Significant Dates
<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>	<u>1911 1945</u>	<u>1911</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Significant Person(s): NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: NA

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Architectural Significance

Ein Jacob Synagogue is significant architecturally because it is an example of a small simply constructed house of worship that achieves a relatively sophisticated design in eclectic 20th-century revival styles although using low-cost components to achieve the visual effects of more expensive materials.

The pre-cast concrete-block foundation is characteristic of the early 20th century, satisfactorily giving the visual effect of more expensive stone. Asphalt siding scored to resemble brick is a companion to the pre-cast stone in creating visually at low cost the effect of a more expensive material.

The basic rectangular plan of the building with its slightly projecting low tower is derivative of 18th-century New England meetinghouses, thereby contributing a Colonial Revival component to the

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT

design. The Gothic-arched windows reflect the influence of an important precedent in church architecture, while the use of the classical details of impost blocks and keystones with the Gothic arches is unusual.

While the asbestos siding may be a replacement ca.1930s, the building exterior is in largely original condition, successfully preserving design and materials exclusively characteristic of the early 20th century.

Historical Background

Ein Jacob (Ayn Yacob) Synagogue (Ein Jacob is a term for a collection of the ethical teachings of the Talmud, or Jewish law) is significant historically because it is an example of a building that was constructed as a church, became a synagogue, and has now returned to use as a church. The lot at the southeast corner of Connecticut and Carroll avenues was vacant after much of the surrounding neighborhood was built up, until 1911 when the Swedish (East End) Lutheran Church built this edifice. The church occupied the premises for only seven years, as the building became the Ein Yacob Synagogue in 1918 according to Bridgeport city directories.

City directories and land records use all varieties and combinations of the words Ein, Ayn, Jacob, and Yacob.

After disbanding in 1962, the "East End Congregation Ayn Jacob" sold the property in 1963 to the present owner.

Registration Requirements

Ein Jacob Synagogue qualifies under Criterion C for inclusion in this multiple property listing as a building constructed to be a church or for other purpose and adapted to become a synagogue by meeting the following requirements:

- Functioned before 1945 as a Jewish house of worship
- Located in an urban neighborhood
- Exhibits integrity of design and workmanship representative of contemporary ecclesiastical architectural styles
- Constructed prior to 1945

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Bridgeport, Connecticut (Bridgeport: William H. Kershaw, 1910), Plate 23.

Bridgeport City Directories, 1910-1968.

Bridgeport Land Records, volume 1276, page 334, November 27, 1963.

Ethel M. Freedman, Archivist, Jewish Historical Society of Greater Bridgeport,
letter, August 9, 1991.

David F. Ransom, "1843*1943 - One Hundred Years of Jewish Congregations in
Connecticut: An Architectural Survey - 5603*5703," Connecticut Jewish History, 2(Fall
1991)1.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has
been requested.
- Previously Listed in the National Register.
- Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
- Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: # _____
- Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other: Specify Repository: _____

Ein Jacob Synagogue, Bridgeport, CT

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreeage of Property: less than one

UTM References: Zone Northing Easting Zone Northing Easting

A	<u>18</u>	<u>4560240</u>	<u>653960</u>	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____
E	___	_____	_____	F	___	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is described in the Bridgeport Land Records at volume 1277, page 210.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property encompasses land that has gone with the building since it was erected.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: David F. Ransom, Consultant, reviewed by John F.A. Herzan, National Register Coordinator

Org.: Connecticut Historical Commission

Date: September 21, 1994

Street/#: 59 South Prospect Street

City/Town: Hartford

State: CT

ZIP: 06106

Telephone: 203 566-3005

4

ELN JACOB

18 4560240 653960

(MILFORD) 6366 11 NE

4560

4559

10'

4558

4557



Best No. Point