

Property Type: _____

Site No. _____

Historic Preservation Research Office

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 833 S. 200 East Salt Lake City North Quad
 Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah UTM:12 425350 4511280

Name of Structure: Congregation Sharey Tzedek Synagogue T. 1 S R. 1 E S. 7

Present Owner: Post 409 Veterans of Foreign Wars
 833 S. 200 East

Owner Address: Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Year Built (Tax Record): _____ Effective Age: _____ Tax #: 16-07-177-013-0000

Legal Description: Kind of Building: _____
 Lots 21 and 22 Block 2 City Hall Subdivision, Salt Lake City
 0.16 acre

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Congregation Sharey Tzedek Construction Date: 1919-20 Demolition Date: _____

Original Use: religious Present Use: assembly hall

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant	<input type="checkbox"/> Not of the	<input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributory	Historic Period	<input type="checkbox"/> National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource
<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		<input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory		<input type="checkbox"/> State Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1985 Slide No.: _____ Date of Photographs: 1985 Photo No.: _____

Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> U of U Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/ Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society	<input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews	<input type="checkbox"/> USU Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index	<input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives	<input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories	<input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Guss, Abe. Interview with Phil Neuberg, February 2, 1985, Salt Lake City.
Salt Lake Tribune. 1916.

Architect/Builder: unknown/John E. Anderson

Building Materials: brick

Building Type/Style: unknown/Romanesque Revival influences

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This is a one and one-half story brick building with parapeted gabled walls facing east and west. The north and south walls are divided into several bays by projecting pilasters. There is a large window in each bay. The west wall contains a brick semi-hexagonal projecting bay, probably the back of the ark inside. The front door on the west side is reached by a flight of steps. The door is framed by a brick arch. Two projecting basement entrances of brick with flat roofs are on either end of the west wall. They were probably added in the 1950s or '60s, but because of their relatively small scale and low profile which barely protrudes above the base of the wall they do not significantly detract from the historical integrity of the building. Other alterations include the replacement of the original doors with more modern ones, and the replacement of glass in some of the windows with plywood.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date:1919-20

The Congregation Sharey Tzedek Synagogue is significant for its historical associations with Utah's pluralistic Jewish community. Established as Utah's third Jewish congregation in 1916, the synagogue was completed in 1920 and was the last one to be built in Salt Lake City before construction of today's Kol Ami--All of My Children--in 1976. Traditionally described as an orthodox congregation, Sharey Tzedek was, more accurately, a splinter group from the Montefiore mother congregation. A congregation of predominantly Russian and eastern European born Jews, the synagogue is a tangible reminder of the long gone Yiddish speaking Jewish enclave, which boasted a Kosher butcher and slaughterer.

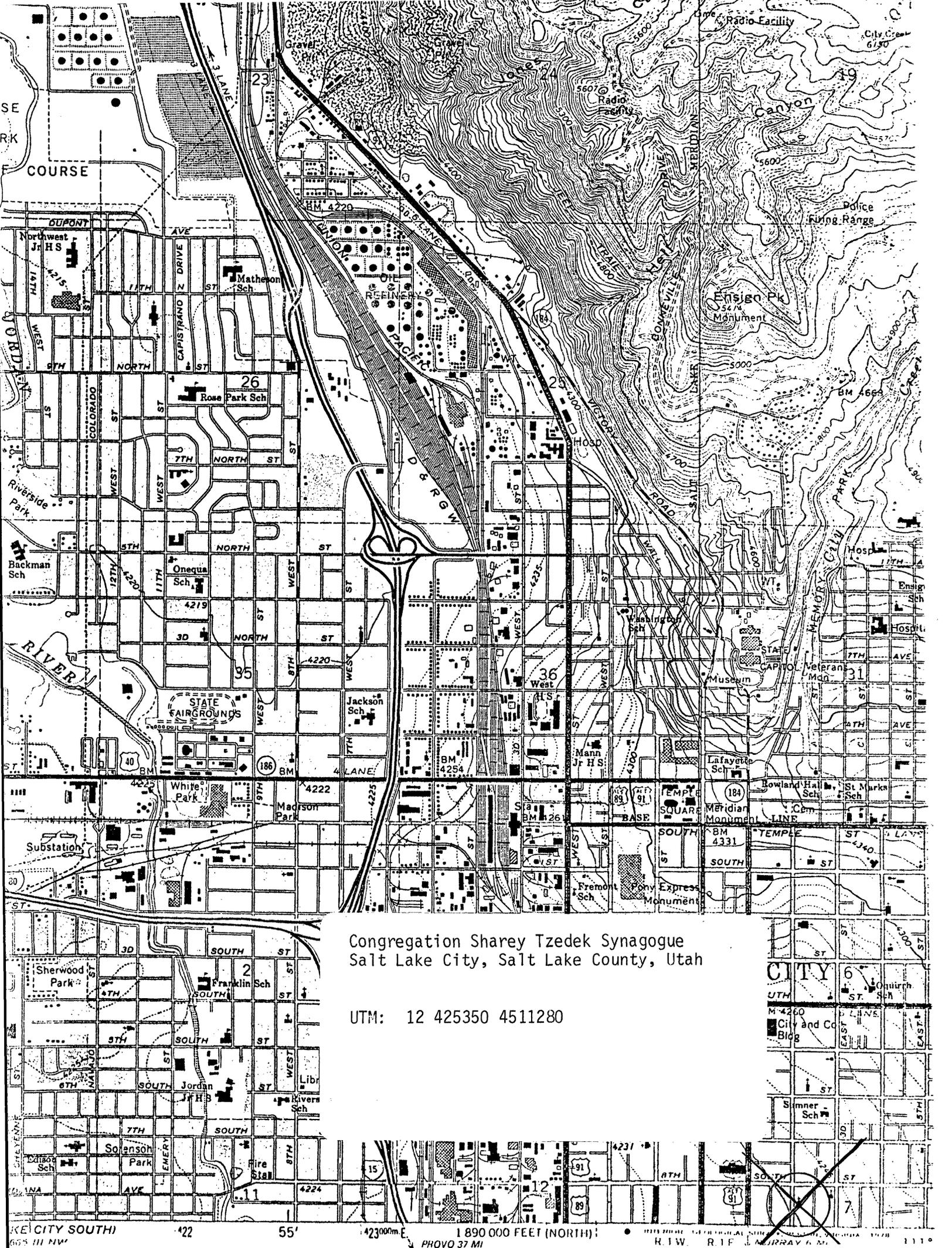
There is little written history regarding Congregation Sharey Tzedek. Infuriated by the way(s) portions of the Montefiore services were conducted a few congregants including Sam Hayden, Morris and Ida Gorelick formed Sharey Tzedek in 1916, after securing a piece of property on Second East between Eighth and Ninth South in August of 1918 for \$1,200, in what would have then been near the home of many of Utah's newly arrived non-German Jews. Soon a synagogue, Utah's fourth was built. Begun in 1919 and completed early in 1920, the building was listed as having eight rooms and costing \$12,000. A Mormon ward house built at the same time at 812 Roosevelt is listed at \$32,000,¹ so Sharey Tzedek was by no standards, an elaborate undertaking. The builder on record is John E. Anderson. Anderson was a successful Salt Lake City general contractor who came to the U.S. in 1893 at the age of 19. Other buildings by Anderson include the Murray City High School and the Sugar House Branch Public Library.² A dedication service on March 28, 1920 included Utah's only Jewish governor, Simon Bamberger. Bamberger, himself was a founder of the second B'nai Israel synagogue. The Bihma with Torah scroll reading desk was in the middle of the room, surrounded by seating for men. Women were seated upstairs in the gallery. The first rabbi was Joseph

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Congregation Sharey Tzedek Synagogue
History (Continued):

Strinkomsky, but it is unlikely that the rabbi led this congregation. The spontaneous, feisty and unordered atmosphere of Sharey Tzedek members earned them the sobriquet "The Bolsheviks," referring to the rather unruly environment in which they worshipped and an obvious reference to many of their prerevolutionary Russian backgrounds.³ Indeed by 1925 until it disbanded probably 10 to 15 years before 1948 when the property was finally sold to the VFW--Reuben Kaplan, President of the Board--was listed, on record as the rabbi. Sharey Tzedek was not an orthodox congregation, it was a splinter group from Montefiore. It was the shortest lived of Utah's Jewish congregations.

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- 1 Salt Lake City Inspector of Buildings, Register of Permits and Bills, p. 2, Permit #4516.
 - 2 John Emil Anderson, Obit., Tribune, June 20, 1916, p. 238.
 - 3 Abe Guss, Conversation 2/2/85 at Congregation Kol Ami.



Congregation Sharey Tzedek Synagogue
 Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah

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