

# Construction started on new Temple Israel

After a two year campaign which raised \$4.7 million in pledges, the 1,600-family Temple Israel congregation has begun construction of a new temple. The building will rise on a 22.5 acre rolling site on Walnut Lake Road near Drake in West Bloomfield.

The 50,000 square-foot complex will be built around a 1,000 seat, amphitheater-type, sloped sanctuary in which no seat will be more than 85 feet from the focal point of Jewish worship, the Ark.

A shell-shaped bema (altar) area will be naturally illuminated by a hidden skylight facing southeast to fill the bema area with morning light.

Six stained-glass windows from the congregation's 30-year-old Palmer Park Temple will be transferred to the new sanctuary for its completion in the summer of 1980.

Designed by the Bloomfield Hills firm of architects, engineers, and planners, TMP Associates, Inc., the temple sanctuary's massive oak doors will open to a skylit atrium forecourt.

The atrium will serve both as a gathering room and an overflow area, with room for 600 seats, for large-attendance days such as the High Holy Days.

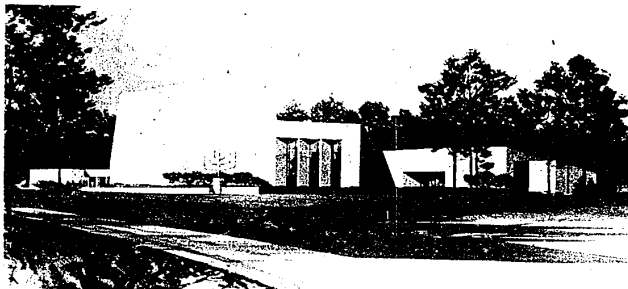
"The effect will be of great majesty, dignity, warmth and spaciousness," said Peter Tarapata, FAIA, chairman and Temple Israel's principal designer.

"The design captures a transition through natural light and a sense of the processional," he said, "as you enter the temple under a canopy into the entryway and through the atrium into the interior sanctuary."

Designed to integrate religious instruction and social functions with worship, the planned temple complex will also have a social hall and adjoining kitchen off the atrium to the left. The social hall will seat 500 for dining and a greater number for assembly, seated auditorium style in front of the hall's stage.

To the right of the atrium, a large wing will house a 200-seat chapel, a youth room, library, two nurseries, 12 classrooms for religious instruction and a series of administrative and clerical offices.

The 22.5 acre site will be landscaped



Construction is under way for the new Temple Israel to be built at Walnut Lake Road near Drake in West Bloomfield. Completion is projected for summer of 1980.

to enhance the naturally rolling terrain and existing pond.

A circular drive on and off Walnut Lake will curve around to the back of the property and the canopied entryway.

Temple Israel's fund-raising effort, originally initiated in 1973, was quickly curtailed to direct support of the congregation to assisting Israel during its years of crisis in the mid-1970s.

The building program was revived in 1977 by Temple Israel president Leslie R. Schmier of Birmingham, building program chairman Samuel W. Barr of Bloomfield Hills, co-chairman Harold Radin of West Bloomfield, and congregation treasurer James L. Jonas of Birmingham.

Several large donations facilitated the two year fundraising drive including a \$250,000 bequest from the John R. Herman Foundation.

Mrs. Ross Herman served as honorary chairwoman of the building committee.

The temple's sisterhood pledged \$220,000, and others pledged amounts up to \$50,000.

Dr. M. Robert Syme is senior rabbi,

## Students lend a hand for festival stage shows.

High school students enrolled in the Clarenceville Summer Theatre Players program will be assigned to coordinate stage activities for the Farmington Founders Festival this year.

Clarenceville drama director Bob Gregory said the students will make use of time normally spent in the classroom by acting as stagehands for three days worth of performers.

Student coordinators include Sue

ational director. Temple Israel was founded by Rabbi Fram in 1941.

Gorski, Denise Crossley and George Shaffer. Each student will be responsible for one day's worth of programming July 26 through July 28. Gregory will act as supervisor.

Entertainment includes the Farmington School of Dance, gymnastics demonstration, Franklin Village and Farmington Community Band, children's productions, the Clark Family Players and square dancing.

## New Anglican church formed

A service of the holy Eucharist will be held tonight, July 9, at 7 p.m. in the house-chapel of Mrs. Dorothy Key-smith, of 34235 Cortland, Farmington.

Rev. David Sprunk, rector of the Church of the Epiphany, Howell, will be the celebrant.

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