



*SYRACUSE
LANDMARK
PRESERVATION
BOARD*

MEMORANDUM

To: Heather Lamendola / Office of Zoning Administration
From: Kate Auwaerter / Staff to SLPB *KA*
Date: February 19, 2020
Re: Protected Site Designation: 910 Madison Street (Temple Society of Concord)

Enclosed please find the following materials regarding the designation of 910 Madison Street (Temple Society of Concord) as a Protected Site.

- Protected Site application
- Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board resolution dated February 6, 2020.

Note that a public hearing was held in consideration of the designation of the property on February 6, 2020.

Please forward this to the members of the City Planning Commission for review pursuant to Part C, Section VII, Articles 5 and 8 of the City of Syracuse's Zoning Rules and Regulations.

Please notify me when these items are placed on the City Planning Commission's agenda so I can inform the SLPB.

Thank you.

PROTECTED SITE APPLICATION
PART C, SECTION VII
ZONING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board
201 E. Washington Street
City Hall Commons, Room 500
Syracuse, NY 13202
315-448-8108

APPLICANT

1. Applicant Name: **Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board**
2. Address:
201 E Washington Street, Ste 512
Syracuse, NY 13202
3. Phone: 315-448-8108 Contact Person: Donald S. Radke

STRUCTURE / SITE IDENTIFICATION

4. Structure/Site Name: **Temple Society of Concord**
5. Address: **910 Madison Street** Ward No. : 5
6. Assessor's Atlas Section No.: 048 Block No.: 20 Lot No.: 13.1
7. Current Deed for property at Book: _____ of Deeds Page: _____
8. Ownership: Public Private Other _____
9. Present Owner: **Temple Society of Concord**

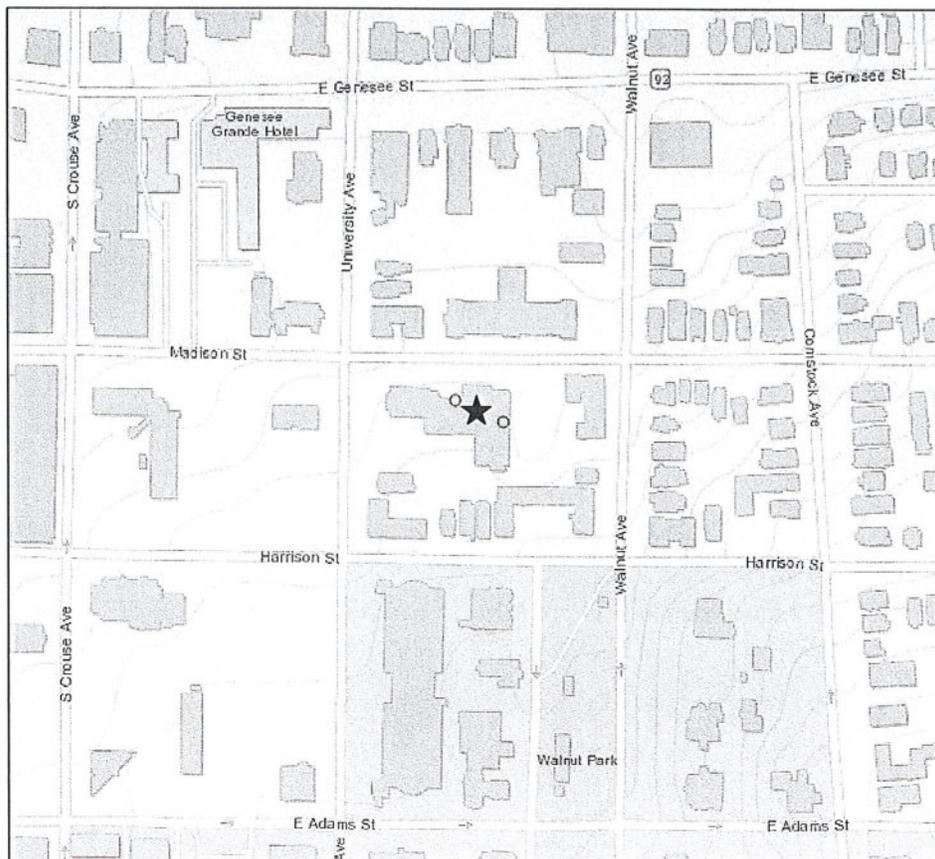
Address: **910 Madison Street**

Phone: **315-475-9952**

10. Is this application for designation of the exterior only? Yes No
Interior only Interior and Exterior

The designation includes the exterior of the entire temple complex and the interior of the temple sanctuary (only).

11. Photograph (see attachments for additional images)



STRUCTURE/SITE IDENTIFICATION (CONT'D)

12. Exterior Building Material:

clapboard stone brick cobblestone
 shingles stucco concrete curtain wall
 masonry block other _____

13. Structural System:

wood frame with light members cast iron frame
 wood frame with heavy timber steel frame
 masonry load bearing walls other _____

14. Condition:

excellent good fair deteriorated

15. Integrity:

original site moved if so, when? _____

16. Alterations:

exterior only interior only both

List all known alterations and give dates:

- 1929 Social Hall and classroom additions
- 1960 Classroom and administrative office addition
- 1990s ADA Ramp modifications (within the 1910 & 1929 construction)
- 1997 Benjamin M. Berinstein Memorial Chapel installation within 1929 classroom wing

17. Related outbuildings:

carriage house none barn shed
 greenhouse privy shop gardens
 other _____

18. Interrelationship of structure/site and surroundings:

Temple Concord is located on the southeast corner of University Avenue and Madison Street on a large, roughly rectangular parcel that is 198' wide along University Avenue and 433.5' deep along Madison Street. At this location, University Avenue and Madison Street rise steeply to the south and east, respectively. The site is elevated high above both streets and the building complex is set back from its property lines, which further accentuates the building's height above its surroundings. The front façade of the temple complex faces University Avenue and is reached at the top of three flights of wide, concrete stairs leading to the front, projecting portico. To the south of the stairs is a concrete path that leads up the slope from the sidewalk to the front portico. Immediately to the south of the temple is a vacant, grassy lot. The sloping site along Madison Street is covered in low trees and plantings. The complex meets the grade of the sidewalk at its eastern boundary along Madison Street. The easternmost quarter of the parcel is an asphalt parking lot accessed off Madison Street.

STRUCTURE / SITE HISTORY

19. Date(s) of initial construction:

- 1910-11 Sanctuary and original school building
- 1929 Social hall and classroom addition
- 1960 School and administrative office addition
- 1997 Benjamin M. Berinstein Memorial Chapel installation

20. Architect(s):

1910-11 Temple and original school building: Arnold Brunner and Alfred Taylor

1929 Social hall and classroom addition: Wolfe Markam

1960 School and administrative office addition: Edward Roock

1997 Berinstein Chapel: Allen Kosoff

21. Builder(s): unknown

22. Original Owner(s): **Temple Society of Concord**23. Original Use: **Synagogue for Reformed Jewish congregation**24. Present Use: **Synagogue for Reformed Jewish congregation****STRUCTURE / SITE SIGNIFICANCE**

25. Exterior building features: (Summarized from the National Register Listing; see the NR listing for a detailed description)

The temple complex was developed in three main phases: 1910-11, 1929 and 1960. The original construction consists of the sanctuary and school wing. The granite sanctuary building is free-standing, resembling an ancient Greek temple with a full-height, projecting portico with full pediment supported by four fluted, Doric columns. Behind the portico are three sets of paired, wooden doors that feature decorative transoms with metal screens in a fish-scale pattern. Above each door is a large, square, stone panel-- the center panel has an inscription in English and is flanked by panels each etched with a Star of David. The sanctuary building is rectangular in plan. The north and south elevations feature five large rectangular, full-height window openings separated by Doric pilasters which support a continuous Doric frieze band. The windows feature clear glass divided into diamond patterns. A wide projecting cornice runs the full length of the side facades, above which is a raised attic story sided in copper panels. The gable roof ends in a clipped gable above the portico, featuring a stone panel depicting the Ten Commandments.

Attached to the southeast corner of the sanctuary building was the original stone, 2-story education wing. Originally almost square in plan, this structure was expanded in 1929 and turned into a large social hall. The south elevation features 2-story window openings that reflect the height of the assembly space inside. The windows feature six-light casement windows at the ground level and two, twelve-light, fixed-sash windows above the casements topped by another fixed sash with a complex, diagonal muntin pattern.

Also in 1929, a second brick classroom wing was constructed at the northeast corner of the enlarged social hall. Facing Madison Street, the wing has a flat roof behind a brick, parapet wall. It is five-

bays wide with a central entrance that features a decorative, stone entrance hood. An additional entrance was added to the rear of the sanctuary in the 1920s and features a similar decorative entrance hood. This classroom addition houses a chapel designed by Allen Kosoff, which was built within the footprint of the building in 1989.

Finally, a shorter, two-story, flat-roofed, classroom and administration building was constructed at the rear of the complex in 1960. It features an off-center, recessed entrance and two floors of glass ribbon windows in metal frames that face the rear parking lot.

26. Interior building features: (Summarized from the National Register Listing; see the NR listing for a detailed description)

Inside the portico is a shallow, wood paneled vestibule that opens into a long, wide sanctuary flanked by full-height windows. The coffered ceiling is divided into a raised, center aisle featuring rows of three, square coffers. Flanking the center aisle are side aisles that feature coffered ceilings set lower than center aisle; each side aisle is only one coffer deep. The center and side aisles are delineated by decorated beams that are carried on pilasters at the front and rear of the sanctuary. On the west wall above the entrance vestibule is a semi-elliptical arch that is flush with the wall and carried on pilasters. The curve of the arch on the west wall is mirrored by the ornate archway on the east end of the sanctuary that rises over the raised *bemah* (platform) and Ark. The Ark is located at the top of a set of wide marble steps and consists of paired, decoratively paneled doors, framed by fluted columns carrying an ornate pediment. Above the Ark is the open choir and organ loft with a decorative low balustrade.

27. Historic and architectural significance: (Summarized from the National Register Listing; see the NR listing for a detailed description)

Temple Society of Concord is one of the oldest Jewish congregations in the country. It was founded in 1839 by German-speaking immigrants who came to Syracuse in the first half of the nineteenth century following the opening of the Erie Canal. The congregation built its first synagogue at Harrison and Mulberry Streets (now South State Street) in 1851. Located close to the central business district, this area eventually grew into a thriving Jewish community and part of the city's 15th Ward.

In 1861, Temple Concord adopted Reform Judaism and continued to grow and expand its activities, especially in the areas of religious and Hebrew education. Early on, Temple Concord was linked to important figures in the local, state and national Jewish communities. Rabbi Adolph Guttman, who led the congregation for 36 years beginning in 1883 helped to establish many of the Jewish institutions in Syracuse, including what would become the Jewish Social Service Bureau and the Jewish Community Center. The temple was also closely associated with Louis Marshall (1856-1929), a prominent Jewish leader of his time and Temple Concord member. Marshall was a founder of the NYS College of Environmental Science and Forestry as Syracuse University. Its main building, Marshall Hall, is named after him, as is Marshall Street, the main commercial street next to Syracuse University.

By 1901, the congregation had outgrown its home on South State and Harrison streets and plans were developed to purchase a piece of property outside of the 15th Ward and closer to the university. This move followed the gradual migration of the Jewish population away from

downtown and toward the growing neighborhoods to the east. Temple Concord was the first of three Jewish congregations to move to the University Hill neighborhood in the early 20th century. Built within blocks of each other, each synagogue represented a different branch of the Jewish faith: Reformed Judaism by Temple Concord, which purchased the lot at the corner of University Avenue and Madison Street in 1909; Conservative Judaism by Temple Adath Yeshurun, built in 1922 and now home to the Hotel Skyler; and Orthodox Judaism by Congregation Beth Israel, built in 1926 and now home to a messianic Jewish congregation.

Temple Concord selected Alfred E. Taylor of Syracuse and Arnold W. Brunner of New York City as the architects for the new synagogue. After graduating from MIT, Alfred Taylor first worked as an architect in New York City and then moved to and established a practice in Syracuse in 1902. He was in partnership with Albert L. Brockway from 1905-07 and with Edwin W. Bonta from 1908-1024. Prior to his work on Temple Concord, Taylor had no experience with the design of religious buildings, which suggests that Brunner, who was nationally known for his civic and religious designs, provided the chief guidance on the design of the temple.

Arnold W. Brunner was born in New York to German-Jewish parents. Like Taylor, he graduated from MIT and moved to New York City. He became a highly influential architect in his time and the country's first renowned American-born Jewish architect. He designed civic and religious architecture primarily in New York City, but also in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. His best known civic commission was the federal building in Cleveland, which was dedicated in early 1911. Brunner was at the height of his career at the time of his design of Temple Concord, which was dedicated on September 22, 1911 to great local fanfare in the press.

The congregation continued to thrive and grow at this location. In 1929, a new social hall and classroom addition were constructed by expanding and building onto the original education building. The 1929 expansion was designed by Wolfe Markam, a local Syracuse architect and congregant who also designed the Parkview Hotel on E. Genesee Street. In 1960 a new classroom and administrative office building was added to the rear of the complex, designed by local architect Edward Roock.

Architectural Significance

Temple Concord is an outstanding example of Neo-Classical Revival architecture, which became popular across the country following the World Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. The City Beautiful movement swept across the country following the Chicago exposition with the goal of bringing beauty, formality and order to American cities. Classical architecture harkened back to the ancient republican ideals of Greece and Rome and seemed the most appropriate style for the new monumental civic, religious and educational buildings of a new century.

Brunner was a champion of the use of Classical forms for synagogue design, which he laid out in a series of articles between 1905 and 1907. Built on a "hilltop", Temple Concord appears as a simple, but impressive, free-standing Greek temple with its tall, projecting front portico with a full entablature and pediment supported by substantial Doric columns. Other classical motifs include the Doric pilasters and continuous frieze band that travels down the north and south elevations.

Classical motifs are reflected on the interior of the sanctuary as well, including the coffered ceilings, decorative pilasters, trim decorated with Greek key and egg-and-dart patterns, and the pedimented Ark on the eastern wall of the sanctuary.

28. List all sources of data used in preparing this application, include the repository of any building plans, documents, or photographs, books, periodicals, articles, etc.

Brace, Constance. Report. "Temple Concord: Historic Analysis for LMP Syracuse Property Owner, LLC." QPK Design. February 6, 2020.

Gruber, Samuel. "The Temple Society of Concord." *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form*. New York State Office of Parks & Recreation, Division for Historic Preservation (Albany, NY), April 27, 2009.

Gruber, Samuel. "Tracing Syracuse's Jewish Buildings 1: Former Beth Israel." *My Central New York*. Blog post, October 18, 2019.
<https://mycentralnewyork.blogspot.com/2019/10/tracing-syracuses-jewish-buildings-i.html>

Gruber, Samuel. "USA: Syracuse (NY) Former Temple Adath Yeshurun to be Developed as a Hotel", *My Central New York*. Blog post: August 16, 2009.
<http://samgrubersjewishartmonuments.blogspot.com/2009/08/usa-syracuse-ny-former-temple-adath.html>



Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, front facade, view East
Image courtesy of Bob Haley, November 2019

Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, front facade, view East
Image courtesy of Bob Haley, January 2020





Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, 1911 sanctuary and former education building/1929 social hall, view Southeast
Image courtesy of Bob Haley, November 2019



Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, 1911 sanctuary building, north facade, view NW
Image courtesy of Bob Halcy, November 2019



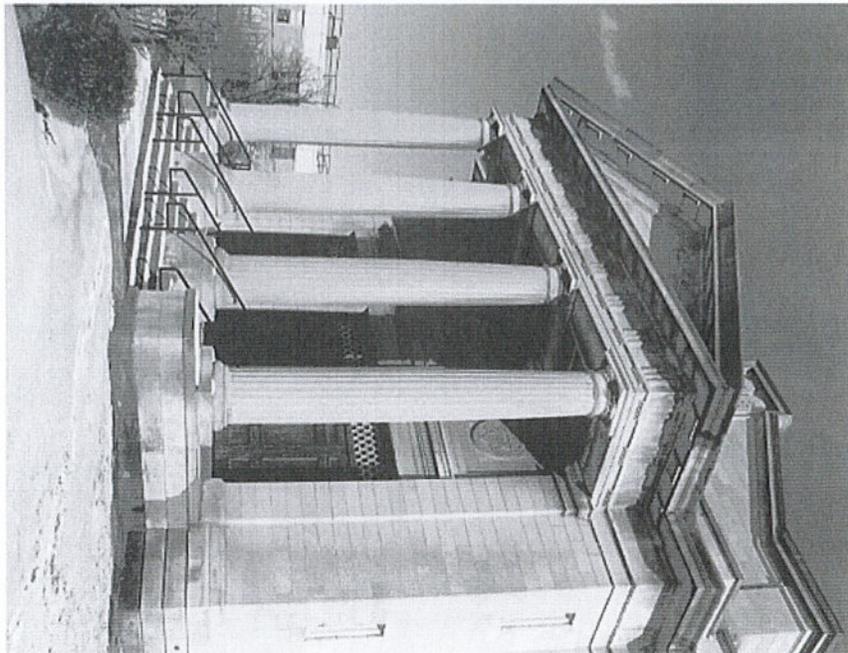
Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, 1929 addition, Madison Street side, view Southwest
Image courtesy of Bob Haley, November 2019



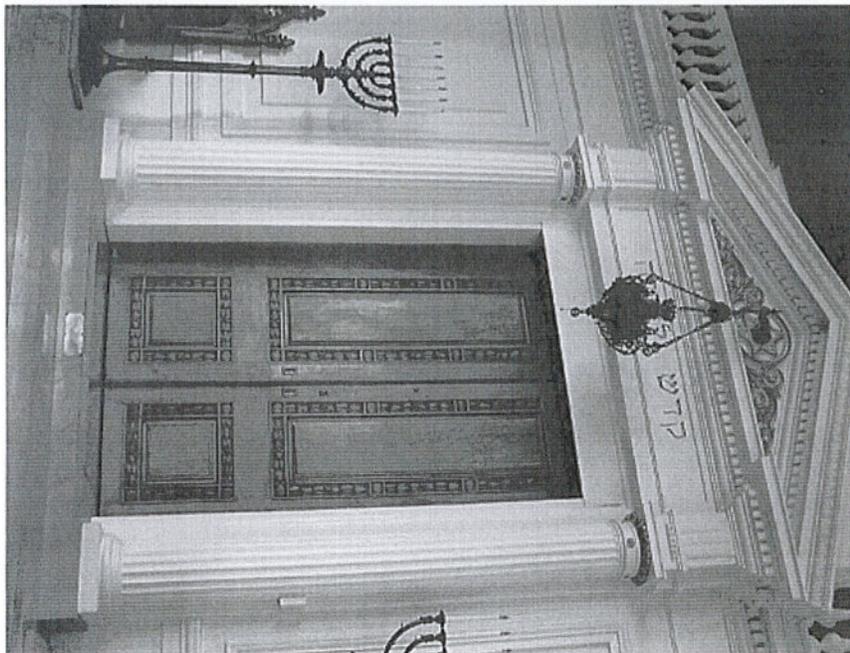
Temple Society of Concord, 910 Madison Street, 1960 administration and classroom addition, view Southwest
Image courtesy of Bob Haley, November 2019

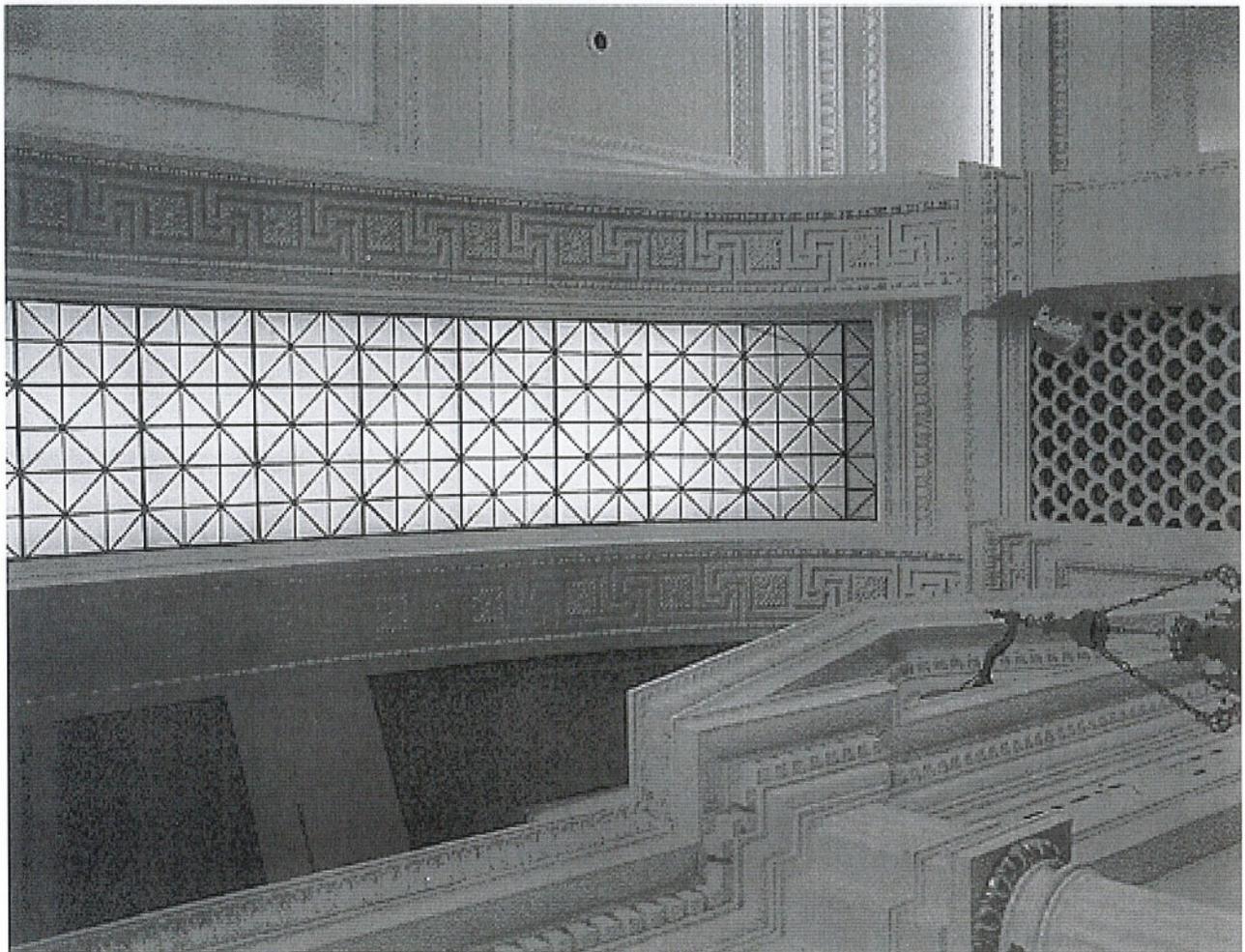


Images by Samuel Gruber, 2009 National Register Nomination









**A RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO A
PETITION REGARDING
910 MADISON STREET
(TEMPLE SOCIETY OF CONCORD)
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13210**

We, the duly appointed members of the Landmark Preservation Board of the City of Syracuse, do this 6th day of February, 2020, adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, LMP Syracuse Property Owner LLC, on behalf of Temple Society of Concord, owner of the property at 910 Madison Street, petitioned the Landmark Preservation Board to determine whether said property should be designated a Protected Site pursuant to Part C, Section VII, Articles 5 and 8 of the Zoning Rules and Regulations of the City of Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, the property at 910 Madison Street (aka Temple Society of Concord) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2020, at 8:30AM in Common Council Chambers, City Hall, Syracuse, New York, the Landmark Preservation Board held a Public Hearing for consideration as to whether said building should be recommended for designation as a Protected Site; and

WHEREAS, at the February 6, 2020, Landmark Preservation Board meeting following the Public Hearing, the Board studied all submittals regarding the history and current condition of 910 Madison Street, as well as the testimony (oral and written) submitted prior to and at the time of the Public Hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Landmark Preservation Board finds that 910 Madison Street meets the following criteria for designation as defined by the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Syracuse, Part C, Section VII, Article 5:

- Criterion 1. Association with persons or events of historic significance to the city, region, state or nation;
- Criterion 2. Illustrative of historic growth and development of the city, region, state or nation;
- Criterion 3. In the case of structures, embodying distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or representing the work of a master, or possessing unique architectural and artistic qualities, or representing a significant and distinguishable entity whose component may lack individual distinction.

Criterion 5. In the case of the interiors, possessing one or more of the characteristics enumerated in (1), (2), or (3) above, and in addition, embodying distinctive characteristics of architectural scale, form, and visual homogeneity, which are an integral part of the character of the structure in which the space is contained.

WHEREAS, 910 Madison Street was constructed by and for Temple Society of Concord, one of the oldest Jewish congregations in the nation founded in 1839 by German-speaking immigrants who came to Syracuse following the construction of the Erie Canal; and

WHEREAS, 910 Madison Street is associated with individuals of importance to the development of the Jewish community in Syracuse, including Rabbi Adolph Guttman, who helped to establish many Jewish institutions in the city, as well as individuals of importance to the larger community, including Louis Marshall, who was a founder of the NYS College of Environmental Science and Forestry and after whom Marshall Street is named; and

WHEREAS, the congregation's selection of this prominent site and construction of this significant building at the corner of Madison Street and University Street is generally illustrative of the growth and development of the city's east side, and specifically illustrative of the movement of the Jewish community from the 15th Ward to the city's east side during the early 20th century; and

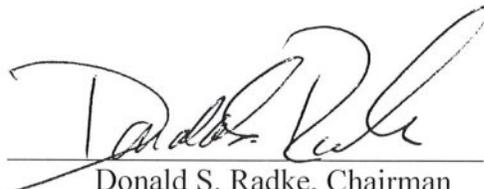
WHEREAS, the sanctuary building (interior and exterior) is an outstanding example of Neo-Classical Revival-style architecture and characteristic of the monumental civic and religious buildings constructed as part of the City Beautiful Movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries; and

WHEREAS, the sanctuary building (interior and exterior) is an excellent example of the work of architect Arnold W. Brunner, who was a highly influential architect of his time and the country's first celebrated American-born Jewish architect.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the duly appointed members of the Landmark Preservation Board of the City of Syracuse, do this 6th day of February, 2020, respond to petition of LMP Syracuse Property Owner LLC, pursuant to Part C, Section VII, Articles 5 and 8 of the Zoning Rules and Regulations of the City of Syracuse in the following manner:

- 1) The Landmark Preservation Board recommends that the property located at 910 Madison Street, Syracuse, New York, 13210, be designated a Protected Site pursuant to its eligibility under Criteria 1, 2, 3 and 5 for the designation of Protected Sites under Article 5, and that the designation shall apply to the interior and exterior of the property as described in the Protected Site application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Landmark Preservation Board shall submit its findings and recommendations to the City Planning Commission in accordance with Part C, Section VII, Articles 5 and 8 of the Zoning Rules and Regulations of the City of Syracuse.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald S. Radke", written over a horizontal line.

Donald S. Radke, Chairman
Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board
Date of Issuance: February 6, 2020