

Historic Property Temple Beth Hatfiloh  
Inventory Report for 802 South Jefferson Olympia, Thurston, 98501

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**LOCATION SECTION**

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Historic Name: Temple Beth Hatfiloh Field Site No.: 838  
Common Name: (#34-737) OAHP No.:  
Property Address: 802 South Jefferson Olympia, Thurston, 98501  
Comments: OLYMPIA

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle  
TUMWATER T18R02W 14 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com  
Sequence: 0 Easting: 508030 Northing: 5209580

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot  
78505800100 Sylvester L1 Blk 58

Supplemental Map(s) Acreage  
City of Olympia Planning Department < one

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

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Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson/Tom C Date Recorded: 10/17/1985 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: Beth Hatfiloh / Jewish Synagogue Owner Address: PO Box 2442 City/State/Zip: Olympia, WA 98507

Classification: Building Resource Status: Survey/Inventory Comments:  
Within a District? No

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0  
Local District:  
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

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Historic Use: Religion - Religious Facility  
Current Use: Religion - Religious Facility

Plan: Rectangle No. of Stories: 1

Structural System: Concrete - Block

Changes to plan: Intact Changes to interior: Intact  
Changes to original cladding: Intact Changes to other:  
Changes to windows: Intact Other (specify):

Cladding Wood - Drop Siding Foundation Concrete - Poured  
Style Unknown Form/Type  
Roof Material Asphalt / Composition Roof Type Gable  
Hip

## NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1938

Ethnic Heritage

Architect:

Religion

Builder:

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:

No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):

No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

### Statement of Significance

The synagogue was built by the Jewish community from plans of the Centralia synagogue in 1938. The Jewish community has been a prominent one in Olympia from its earliest mercantile history including the Bettmans, Toklas and Kaufman, Rosenthal and others. Olympia was the only Jewish center in the territory in early years. Olympia also had the only Jewish cemetery and persons from all over the northwest are buried there. Later families including the Goldbergs and Beans have been outstanding citizens as well. First meeting in the Labor Temple and Odd Fellows Hall, the Jewish congregation which numbered 16 at the time decided to build its own temple. Heading the building committee were Earl Bean, Jacob Goldberg and Rube Cohn but persons from all faiths in the community helped to build the structure. Memorials on the Building include those to Isaac and Minnie Cohn, Helen Bean, Fanny Goldberg and Getz Neishuler.

### Description of Physical Appearance

This is a rectangular wood frame structure on one story with a full basement. Its tall gable roof is clad with composition shingles, and walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards. At the front is an extension with a hip roof surrounded by a flat parapet with a central arch on the front facade. Below the arch are the double entry doors, approached by concrete steps with metal railings and sheltered by a metal canopy. Above the doors is a small round window with a Star of David motif, and flanking the door are arched, multi-paned stained glass windows. The side walls are lit by similar arched windows of stained glass, below which are small, multi-paned basement windows. At the rear is another hip-roofed extension.

### Major Bibliographic References

Interview with Percy Bean.

Wojtech, Louise, "Only in America Could It Happen," Daily Olympian, March 245, 1963.

## PHOTOS



View of NW corner

taken 10/17/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

27-16A

Comments: