

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources



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November 9, 2011

Isaiah Kuperstein, President
Double 8 Foods
2201 East 46th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46205

Re: Eligibility of Beth-El Temple, 34th Street and Ruckle Avenue, Indianapolis, Marion County,
Indiana

Dear Mr. Kuperstein:

I am writing to provide you with an opinion of the eligibility of Beth-El Temple, located at 34th Street and Ruckle Avenue for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. After receiving a request from Mark Dollase, Vice President of Preservation Services, Indiana Landmarks, on your behalf, my staff made a site visit to the building on November 7, 2011. Subsequently, you have provided us with written and photographic documentation of the building for which we are grateful.

Based on the staff's observations during the site visit, information provided by yourself and others in conversation at that time, and the documentation you have provided, we believe Beth-El Temple meets National Register Criterion A for significance in ethnic heritage and Criterion C for architectural significance. The building has an important place in the history of Indianapolis's Jewish community and is an impressive example of early 20th century religious architecture with a high level of physical integrity. We believe the building would be a worthy addition to the city's list of National Register listed properties.

If you have any questions about the National Register program or this opinion, please contact either Frank Hurdis or Holly Tate of my staff.

Sincerely,

James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Mark Dollase, Indiana Landmarks
Dean Illingworth, FAIA, Illingworth Architects
Martin Sams, Schmidt Associates
David Kosene, Kosene & Kosene