



MEMORY LANE # 51 (EDITED)
SOME HISTORY OF OUR CONGREGATION
From the program book of the 25th Anniversary
OF THE YOUNG ISRAEL OF CHOMEDEY

During 1960 Rabbi Solomon Spiro was engaged and shortly after that the land on Elizabeth Street was purchased. The turning of the sod took place on September 11, 1960 and the first services were held in the chapel on August 26, 1961 High Holiday Services 1961 were held in our new building. On October 15th 1961 the building was dedicated in the presence of Prime Minister Jean Lesage, Mayor Jean Noel Lavoie, Harry Blank M.P.P. as well as many other dignitaries. The second phase of the building complex, the addition of an auditorium was completed in 1965 and dedicated on May 8, 1966.

In spite of the two building phases, the Executive kept on planning and striving for the building of a sanctuary, however funds were not available. Our members had been stressed to the limit.

Then a miracle happened! Anticipating a substantial contribution from the Federal Government under it's "Local Initiatives Program", the membership decided to make the ultimate effort to raise the balance in cash. The plans were approved in February of 1972 and the building began towards the end of March. The Sanctuary was completed and the first High Holiday Services were held therein in 1972.

The invocation of the miracle was made possible, thanks primarily to the untiring work, planning and leadership of two individuals, Morton Kader, treasurer, and Morris Winer, building chairman. The Sanctuary was dedicated on June 19, 1973. The spirit and drive which motivated our pioneers will never disappear from the history of our Shul and will remain a beacon of guiding light to the community! We dare not mention names for fear of forgetting some of them, nevertheless those of you who will be present at our Silver Anniversary Celebration will recognize one another, that is, the giants and pioneers who gave their best when needed most.

(Yashor Koach to Fred Rudy for providing us all with these memorable historical moments, which some of us may still remember!)