



KNESSET ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE CENTER

Alexander V. Sharove, Architect

Looking more like a neat, contemporary styled home than a place of worship, this diminutive synagogue was designed on a minimum budget to meet the religious, educational and social needs of a small (40-family) congregation in Kittanning, Pa.

Executed in white Kittanning brick with stone trim, the building is a simple, one-story rectangle, 58' x 90', topped with two different roof levels and planes. Covering most of the project

is a broad, flat, overhanging roof while over the synagogue and social hall areas, a higher level roof mounts gently from west to east.

To keep within the limitations of a residential-sized budget and yet meet the variety of space requirements, Architect Sharove designed the interior to be as expansible as possible. For worship, the 140-seat synagogue can be combined, by opening a folding door, with the adjacent social hall to accom-

modate overflow crowds on the three major holidays of the Jewish year. Similarly, in the educational area, two of the five classrooms are separated by a folding door, enabling both rooms to be combined for larger classes.

The keynote of the interior design had necessarily to be simplicity. Floors are durable and easily maintained asphalt tile; wall surfaces are plastered, with oak trim in the synagogue only; and windows are metal schoolhouse type.

