In 1850 twelve German immigrant families founded Michigan’s oldest Jewish organization, the Beth El Society, at the Detroit home of Isaac and Sarah Cozens. Organized in Detroit in 1850, the Beth El Society met in homes and storefronts before purchasing its first house of worship in 1861. Beth El member Albert Kahn designed two of the congregation’s former synagogues, built in Detroit in 1903 and 1922. Beth El erected a new building in Bloomfield Hills to accommodate its members, many of whom had moved to the suburbs. Built in 1973, Temple Beth El is one of two synagogues designed by internationally acclaimed architect Minoru Yamasaki, who designed New York City’s World Trade Center.

Location: 7400 Telegraph Road
Applicant/Sponsor: Congregation Beth El
Marker Erected: 2001
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