TEMPLE ISRAEL | Longwood, FL



COMPLETION DATE 2004

> SIZE 29,000 SF

PROJECT TYPE New construction When the 500-family congregation of Temple Israel decided to move from Orlando to Longwood, they felt no historical ties to their 1950's building, but rather seized the opportunity to create something altogether new, reflecting their spiritual identity and communal aspirations. At once graceful and bold, the new synagogue is modern, with ties to the biblical past; its undulating roofline complements the natural wooded terrain while connecting the congregation and the heavens.

Natural light floods the sanctuary through high windows, allowing well-shaded views to the treetops and a connectivity to the outside world. As day moves into night, the pure light is muted, yet the sky itself is always visible—through the windows and through the ceiling's celestial lighting pattern that includes randomly-spaced openings to mimic the stars. At any time of day, this is a peaceful, contemplative, and uplifiting space, conducive to authentic prayer.

