

Heritage Property Research Report

Trinity Anglican Church

26 Stavebank Road, Mississauga

Prepared By:

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Community Services

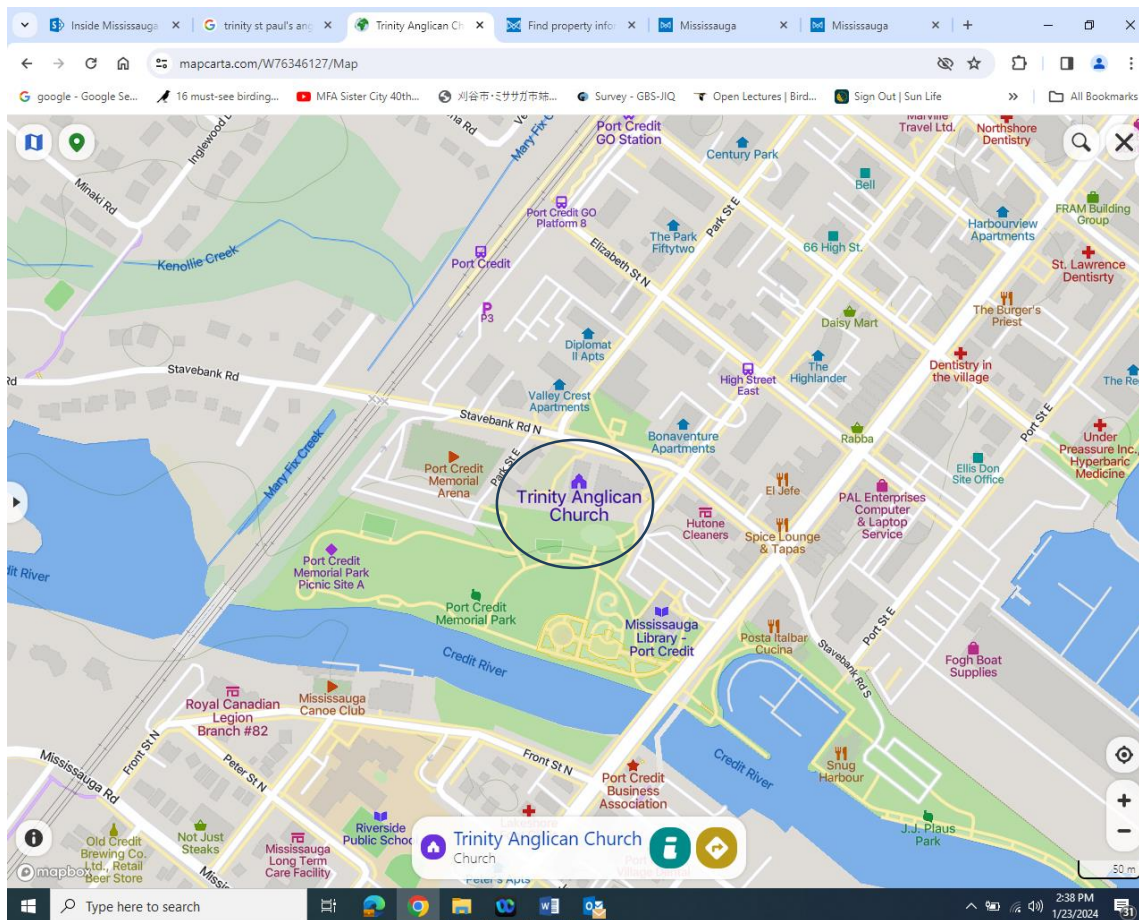
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Trinity Anglican Church was founded in 1867.
- The existing church structure was built over many years from 1931-2017.
- The church congregation grew in 1968 with the amalgamation of St. Nicholas Anglican Church in Lakeview and again in 2015 with the amalgamation of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Lorne Park.
- The church has a historic cemetery referred to as a "Victorian gem"
- It merits designation under the Ontario Heritage Act due to its physical, design and contextual value

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The subject property is a stone church, on the west side of Stavebank Road, north of Lakeshore Road, and southwest of Hurontario Street. It overlooks the Credit River and has a historic 1867 cemetery on the property. A location map is below.



[HTTPS://MAPCARTA.COM/W76346127/MAP](https://mapcarta.com/W76346127/Map)

Relevant Historical Timeline

Date	Event
1866	James Hamilton donates land for church
1867	Trinity Anglican Church built and opened
1914	Trinity Anglican Church became a separate parish
1918	Church was enlarged and brick veneer added
1931	Church was expanded and enlarged including adding a memorial porch and nave
1947-49	Church was renovated adding a chancel and a new sanctuary. The entire building clad in stone
1954-55	Final addition added
1967	Celebrates 100 years
1968	St. Nicholas Anglican Church amalgamated with Trinity
1969	Existing St. Andrew's Chapel was officially renamed St. Nicholas Chapel in honour of the former church in Lakeview
2001	James Bailey Architects designed an addition with a barrier-free lift, washroom, and improvements to existing spaces which resulted in a kitchen and new basement exit
2015	St. Paul's Anglican church amalgamated with Trinity to form Trinity- St. Paul's Anglican Church

Related History

Known as the Hurontario Mission, Anglicans in Streetsville, Port Credit, and Dixie had the opportunity to attend St. Peter's Anglican Church in Erindale or attend a once-monthly service held in each of the areas at a private residence or in Shaw's Hall.

James Hamilton, a local merchant, and his wife Alicia Perry (Griffith) Hamilton donated land to have an Anglican church built in Port Credit in 1866. Trinity Anglican Church was built and held its first service in the fall of 1867. It was a small, board and batten-clad, wooden building.

According to Trinity-St. Paul's archives, Trinity Anglican started out as part of the Credit Mission when the Bishop of Quebec appointed the Rev. James Magrath as the mission's first minister. Records held at St. Peter's Erindale, (the mother church of the Credit Mission), indicates that Rev. Magrath assumed his duties on 1 October 1827 and he delivered his first service on 18 November 1827. Originally, Rev. Magrath also ministered to the Hurontario mission and later Streetsville, Erindale, Dixie, Hurontario Church at Derry West and Port Credit were added to the Mission family. In 1841, Rev. Robert Macgeorge of Streetsville delivered services to Port Credit as his own parish's growth was not keeping pace with Port Credit's thriving community, so much so that services in Streetsville were held irregularly, or at all. By October 1851, Rev. Saltern Givens was appointed to the Credit Mission.

In 1866, after a lapse of between 10 to 12 years, The Rt. Rev. John Strachan appointed Rev. Dr. Charles H. Bethune as the Incumbent to the Credit Mission. Various records indicate that before becoming an independent parish, church services were held in such diverse places as parishioners' homes; above a stable; and, according to Robertson's Landmarks in the old Temperance Hall which was later destroyed by fire in 1885.

According to a 1918 letter that Rev. Bethune sent to Trinity Wardens, the old Temperance Hall was later known as Rechabite Hall, after Jeremiah Rechab and his family, who `would touch no strong drink for

which the Lord blessed them.' In 1918, under the direction of Rev. Henry Earle, Trinity's first permanent Rector (the mission church had grown large enough to have become an independent parish in late 1913), the little board & batten church was veneered in brick and raised to allow for the inclusion of a basement where various parish activities could occur.

By 1926, another fundraising campaign was initiated to build a new church. In 1931, Alice Hamilton commissioned the Tower Door Memorial Arch in honour of her parent's contributions to the church and community, and the first unit of the stone nave was built. In September 1947, the chancel cornerstone was laid; and in October 1954 the cornerstone of the completed nave was laid by Bishop Beverley.

The church's congregation expanded with the amalgamation of St. Nicholas Anglican Church in 1968 and became Trinity- St. Paul's Anglican Church in 2015 with the addition of the St. Paul's of Lorne Park congregation.

In 2001 James Bailey Architects designed an addition with a barrier-free lift to make all floors of the building accessible and a barrier-free washroom. They also made improvements to existing spaces including the Sunday school area. A new parish kitchen and basement exit were created.

The 1867 cemetery is considered a "Victorian Gem" and overlooks the Credit River and Port Credit Memorial Park. Some notable people interred there are Agar Adamson and his son Anthony.

Colonel Agar Adamson

Colonel Agar Adamson (1865-1929) was the Commander of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry from 1915 to the end of WWI. He directed the defense at the battle of Ballewaerde despite having shrapnel wounds. For this, he received the Distinguished Service Order (DSO). Adamson died on November 21, 1929, from pneumonia caught after an earlier airplane crash in the Irish Sea. His funeral service and burial were captured in a 6-minute video called [The Last Post for Distinguished Soldier, 1929 - YouTube](#) Trinity Church can be seen at 4:13-4:18 and 4:33 minutes into the video.

STONE WALLS: Stone walls line some of the streets of Mississauga's older neighbourhoods. Some are constructed of shale either from the Credit River Valley or from the bottom of Lake Ontario. These walls add character and diversity to the neighbourhood.

Trinity-St. Paul's Anglican Church continues to be an important meeting place for residents.

Architectural Description

The church has evolved to the present structure after many successive renovations and additions. Starting as a simple frame building, it now meets modern standards for accessibility.

The main building is rectangular with a slightly sloped roof. It has two double doors in the centre with decorative windows above that end at the roof line. The centre frame forms a cross. The side windows are in a similar style to the front. Decorative brick forms a large cross at the back of the church. It has a

bell tower and various cornerstones from successive additions. The 2001 addition has an accessible side door and is clad with stone to match the main building.

Other Early Churches in Mississauga

St. John the Baptist (Dixie) Anglican Church has a similar history although not the same architecture. An early settler wooden structure that was replaced by a stone chapel. Later in 1910, a new church was built that had an addition added for a Sunday school in the 1950s. In 2002 an addition was added to make it accessible.

Context

The property is on the north side of Stavebank Road North near downtown Port Credit on Lake Ontario. It is located beside another historic church- St. Andrew's Memorial Presbyterian Church. It overlooks Port Credit Memorial Park and the Credit River. It has no parking lot but is near to municipal parking and many amenities.

CONCLUSION

Trinity- St. Paul's Anglican Church has grown from successive additions and renovations. Care has been given to integrate them so there is a pleasing and cohesive façade. As with all churches, a church is more than a building, it houses many celebrations of births and marriages, holidays, and local events. It also mourns the passing of its congregation members and even the changes in the numbers attending church. It bears witness to changes in the people and development of Port Credit. The church is still active and the cemetery is well maintained. It has ties with many well-known local families including the Adamson's.

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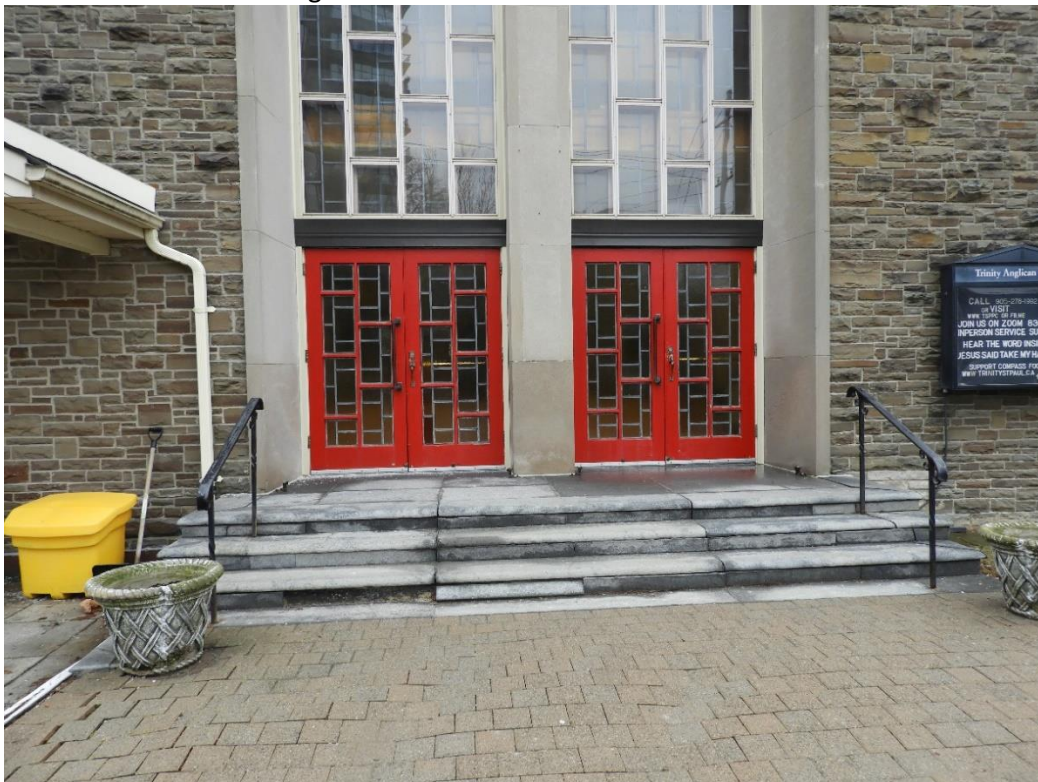
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Images showing 26 Stavebank Road



Front entrance view facing east



Door detail



Front showing new addition and tower



2001 addition with cornerstone from 1954 addition



Tower from front



2001 addition facing east (standing in front of the tower)



North facing side view



Cornerstone front and side view



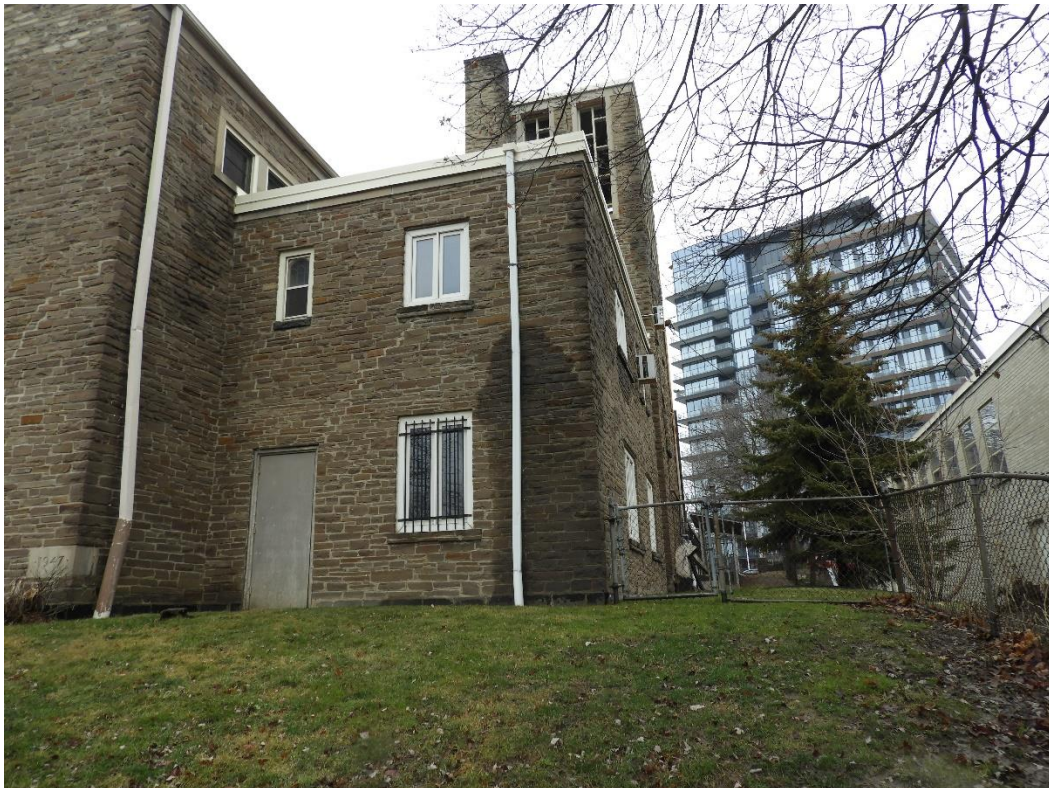
North-facing side view with cemetery



North facing side back and back facing west



Back view facing east



Back view facing north east



Back cornerstone



Cemetery on north side facing east



Stonewall facing east and north