

Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report



Photo: <https://www.stmaryscawthra.com/contact/>

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church (St. Mary's Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church)

3625 Cawthra Road, Mississauga (Part of lot 4, Plan 357)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

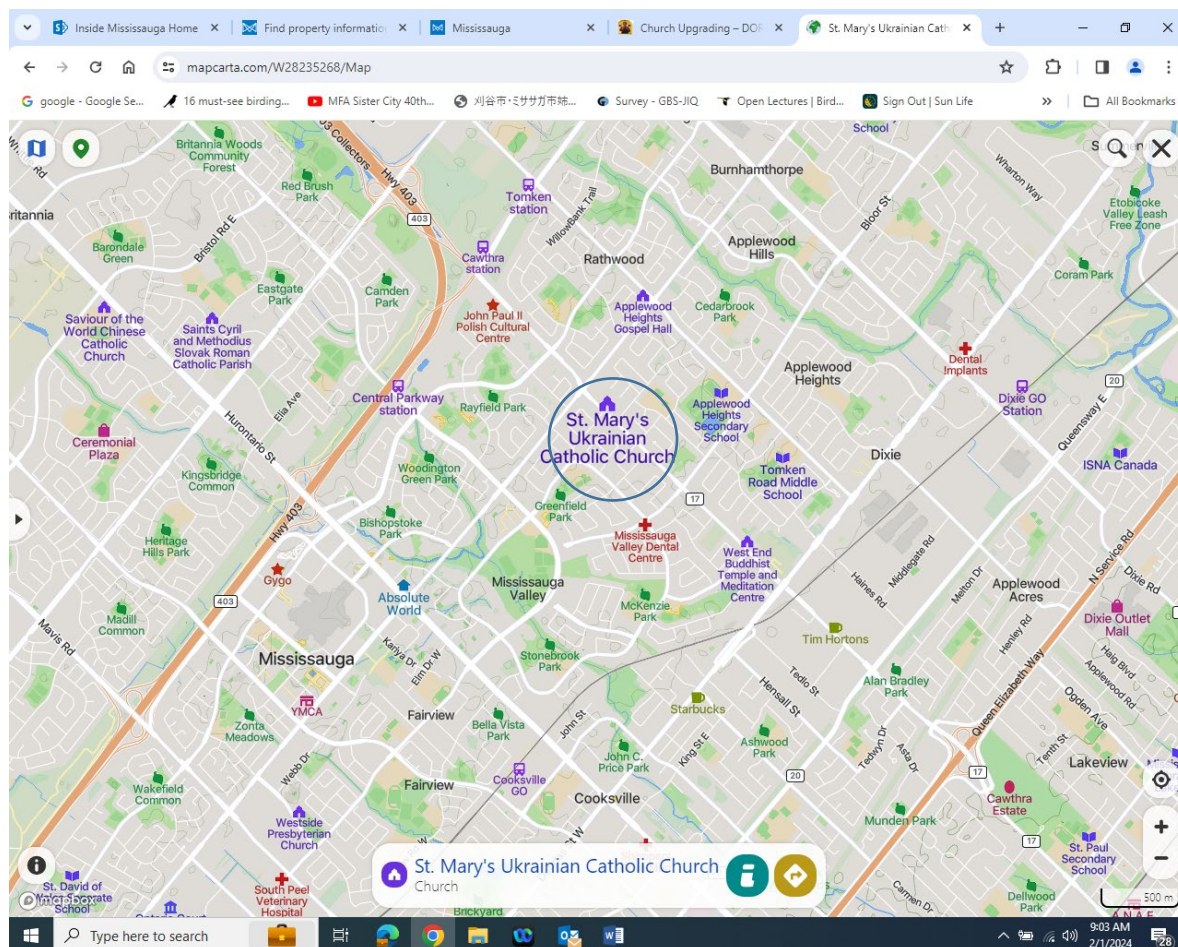
- The church on the subject property was constructed from 1969-1977 and it was designed by architect Roman Dumyn
- The church is “a unique blend of traditional Byzantine and Ukrainian Church architecture with modern aesthetics, materials and techniques” and is a local landmark
- It merits designation under the Ontario Heritage Act due to its physical, design and contextual value

INTRODUCTION

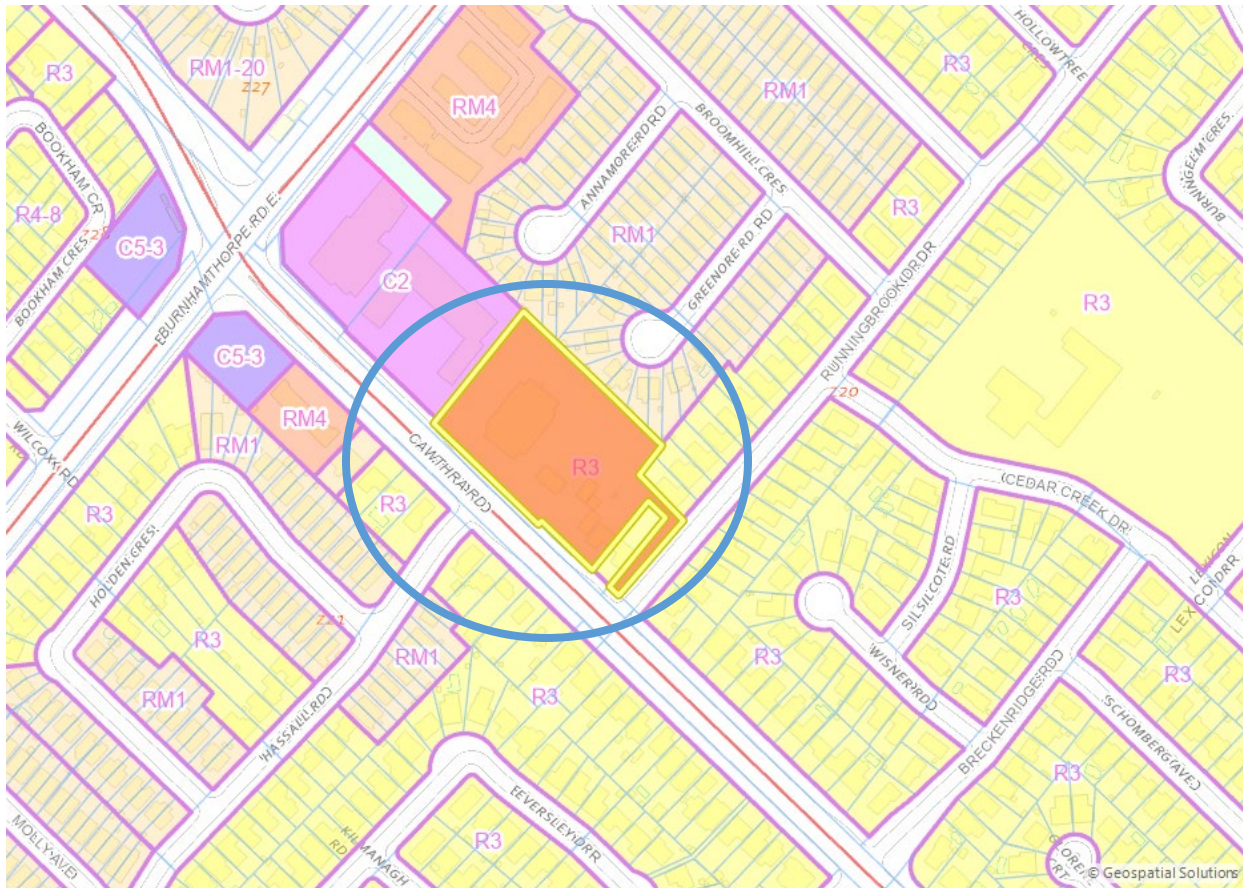
This research and evaluation report describes the history, architecture, and context of the property at 3625 Cawthra Road and applies evaluation criteria to determine if it merits designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The subject property is a 3-story church on the east side of Cawthra Road. It is located southeast of Hwy #403 and Burnhamthorpe Road. A location map is below.



Ref: https://mapcarta.com/3625_Cawthra_Road_A6722901946661040



[HTTPS://EXT.MAPS.MISSISSAUGA.CA/HTML5VIEWER/INDEX.HTML?VIEWER=IZBL.HTML5&PIN=3098600](https://ext.maps.mississauga.ca/html5viewer/index.html?viewer=izbl.html5&pin=3098600)

RESEARCH

Relevant Historical Timeline

Date	Event
1951	Leon & Magda Mizun donate land to build a church (register says 1951- church's history 1953)
1967	Rev. Matthew Berko becomes church administrator
1968	Groundbreaking for the new church
1969	Building of community centre
1970	First service was held in March 1970
1975	Construction of the upper church begins
1977	Church construction was completed, and first service was held Dec. 25th
1977-1980	Support and founding of St. Sofia Byzantine Catholic Elementary School
1982	Opening of Sadochok Nursery School
1988	Addition was added to the existing church
2009	Installation of Holodomor monument to grounds

2019-2024	Replacing HVAC system and complete refurbishment of the washrooms, stairs, and grand hall
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Relevant History

According to the website of this church:

“In 1953, Mr. and Mrs. Leve Mizun donated a parcel of land just south of Burnhamthorpe Road on the east side of Cawthra Road for the Ukrainian Catholic community to build a church. Religious services had been held in the Mizun’s home for some time, until they donated the land and the church of St. Mary’s Dormition was constructed on Cawthra Road, just south of the Cawthra Plaza.” 1

Rev. Michal Horodysky was the first church administrator replaced in 1967 by Matthew Berko. It was decided by the church elders to build a larger church as the congregation grew.

Roman Dumyn was hired as the architect with a design described as “a unique blend of traditional Byzantine and Ukrainian Church architecture with modern aesthetics, materials and techniques.”

After receiving a by-law exemption - A-122/68 (specifically related to the height restriction applying to church spires), the church’s groundbreaking was held in August 1968. The community centre was built first and the first service was held there in March 1970. The work on the church itself began in 1975 and was completed in 1977. The first service was held at the church on December 25, 1977.

Closely tied to the church is St. Sofia Byzantine Catholic Elementary School. Rev. Berko and Ted Antkow dreamed about a school where “...children of the parish could learn in a Byzantine Eastern Catholic Rite setting and have the opportunity to study the language and culture of their ancestors as part of their regular school curriculum.” Discussion began in 1977 with a committee formed to liaison with the school board in 1978. The school officially opened in 1980 and is still active today.

St. Mary’s celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 10, 2003 with a Pontifical Liturgy and a gala event. Rev. Stephen Chmilar (now Bishop Eparch of Toronto and Eastern Canada) presided over the events.

Today the parish includes over 1300 families and Dean Rt. Reverend Roman Pankiw is the Pastor.

Roman Dumyn

Despite an exhaustive search, little information was found about architect, Roman Dumyn. He is mentioned in his sister’s, Alexandra Samotulka, obituary as being born to Stefan and Anna Dumyn. . In 1993, he is noted as having helped some fellow Ukrainians reunite after 50 years while visiting his hometown of Butkiw in the Ukraine.

In the Canadian Voters List of 1958, Dumyn is listed as a contractor. This is confirmed by listings in Mighty’s Greater Toronto Business Directory (1958-1960) where he and his brother, Stanley, ran Dumyn Brothers Construction.

In 1963 and 1972 he is listed as an architect on the Canadian Voters List. He lived in Toronto at 99 St. Germaine Avenue. He is also listed in the phone book at the same address from 1995-1997.

In his early days as an architect, he designed the new Chez Moi Tavern (1961). The only other record of a building he designed is St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church (1979) in Scarborough.

Architectural Description

As per the heritage listing report:

“This church is based on the plan of a modified Greek cross on which a square has been inscribed. The basement foundations are random, greenish-white Ontario marble. The walls are of Georgian white ashlar marble, cut into very long, narrow blocks with an overall appearance of brick. The main body of the church is three stories in height above an above-grade basement, as indicated by courses of small grey tile belts.

The flat roof is topped by a large central dome on a partly glazed polygonal drum, and four smaller domes at the corners of the square. There are, in addition, small turret-like roofs on extruded one-story polygonal pavilions at the first-floor level on the outer angles of the square, for a total of nine domes. The five larger domes are the typical Byzantine pear shape but are angled and straight-sided instead of curved, composed of vertical sections of cathedral glass alternating with copper sheathing. Each dome is topped by a gold cross. The five larger roof domes have small conical elements cut into sectionals, on which the crosses stand. The upper domes stand on drums of coloured glass alternating with narrow piers turned perpendicular to the wall surface. The roofs of the four turret domes are conical and are all copper. The roof approximates a straight mansard or parapet at the first and third storey levels, breaking into a gable at the centre of each arm of the cross, over narrow vertical glazing strips. The roof is discontinued on the lower level of the front west facade. The upper west gable is broken by a long, square, hollow "hood" which tapers upward through the gable and is surmounted by a cross. The three pairs of central front doors each have an elongated tapering hood, the centre one being the tallest and having a small gold cross on top. Lateral doors set into the front of the square have truncated hoods level with the roof line. The roof is dull brown copper, with hollow flattened strips applied at intervals. The wide soffits of the upper roof are sheathed in a reflective green material.

The wall massing is symmetrical, repeated on three of the corresponding facades with the exception of the back, where there are entrances on two levels. The west front facade is chiefly composed of coloured glass panels set into a broad, tapering area above the main doors, repeating the angles of the hoods. This tapered line continues down through to the tapered sidelights of the three pairs of doors. The north and south side walls are recessed at the depth of two "bricks" below the peaked gable, following the tapered line of the front panel. Vertical strips of coloured glass the height of the wall are set into the corners of angles.

The church sits on a podium, which extends at the back beyond the upper walls to provide rooms for community functions. The front terrace is reached by a double flight of steps trimmed with extensive wrought iron fences, symbolically bent to symbolize wheat. The interior is basically a single volumetric space with one-storey side aisles which are externally expressed by the lower roof level. The interior space is presently plastered, but oil frescoes and mosaics are planned. Designed by Roman Dumyn.”

Other Ukrainian Churches

This is the only Ukrainian church in Mississauga. St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Scarborough was built in 1979 also by Roman Dumyn. Brampton's St. Elias the Prophet Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church in Brampton was built in 1995.

Context

The property at 3625 Cawthra Road is located southeast of Hwy #403 and Burnhamthorpe Road.

EVALUATION: Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed by the Province of Ontario for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Design or Physical Value	
i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method	X
ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	X
iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

Historical or Associative Value	
i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community	x
ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	x
iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community	x

Contextual Value	
i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area	x
ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings	x
iii. is a landmark	X

Heritage Attributes

- Plan is based on a modified Greek Cross
- Features greenish-white Ontario marble and Georgian white ashlar marble
- It has a flat roof with a large central dome and four smaller domes in typical Byzantine pear shape
- On the first floor are four other turret-like domes with straight sides
- Copper covers the domes and roof
- Multiple coloured glass panels are used in the design
- The front terrace has a double flight of steps trimmed with wrought iron fences that are symbolically bent to represent wheat
- Interior features frescoes and mosaics

CONCLUSION

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church is the only example of this style of architecture in Mississauga. Its designation will preserve unique architecture and will ensure the continued diversity of architecture in the area.

REFERENCES

Ancestry.ca 1935-1980 Voters list, phone book records visited March 15, 2024

https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/2983/images/33022_301996-00842?treeid=&personid=&rc=&queryId=a21360c4-548a-4d10-8d23-077b56697054&usePUB=true&_phsrc=sfi1&_phstart=successSource&pld=11998008

Mighty's Greater Toronto Business Directory, 1958-1960 visited March 15, 2024 Toronto Public Library : Free Books : Free Texts : Free Download, Borrow and Streaming : Internet Archive

Mississauga Committee of Adjustment-Application A-122/68 visited March 2024
<https://www.mississauga.ca/apps/#/property-preview/compliance-report-coa-text/8888/30986>

Ontario Heritage Trust-Sts.Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church visited March 8, 2024
<https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/places-of-worship/places-of-worship-database/search/powresults/details?id=6030&backlinkslug=associated-records&>

St. Mary's website visited March 2024 <http://www.stmaryscawthra.com/about>

The Hamilton Spectator, Mon. Dec. 24, 2012, Obit- Alexandra Samotulka

The Standard, Mon. Aug 9, 1993, "Pair United after 50 Years"

The Toronto Daily Star, Friday Nov. 10, 1961, Advertisement by Roman Dumyn

Toronto.com- 7 (more) Wonders of Scarborough, Scarborough Mirror, Nov. 14 2014, updated July 2023- visited March 8, 2024 https://www.toronto.com/news/7-more-wonders-of-scarborough/article_6293fe1b-d4dd-58c3-a8e2-64d810add282.html?

Photographs from Al Betts Collections, PAMA, Peel Archives used in Streetsville Review 1968







Toronto Daily Star, Friday November 10, 1961

<p>We are happy to have done the Electrical Work for the Chez Moi Tavern.</p> <p>COLIN ELECTRICS 216 Vaughan Rd., RU. 7-7201</p>	<p>We are happy to have done the Masonry Work.</p> <p>JOHN VIGGIANI MASONRY CONTRACTOR 43 GARTHGATE COURT Downsview, Ont. ME. 3-9730</p>	<p>We are happy to have done the Architectural Design for the Chez Moi Tavern.</p> <p>R. DUMYN Architects and Design 99 St. Germain St. HU. 9-1628</p>
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Photographs from Heritage Designation Statement ca. 1980



