

Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report

Dixie Presbyterian Church

3065 Cawthra Road, Mississauga

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

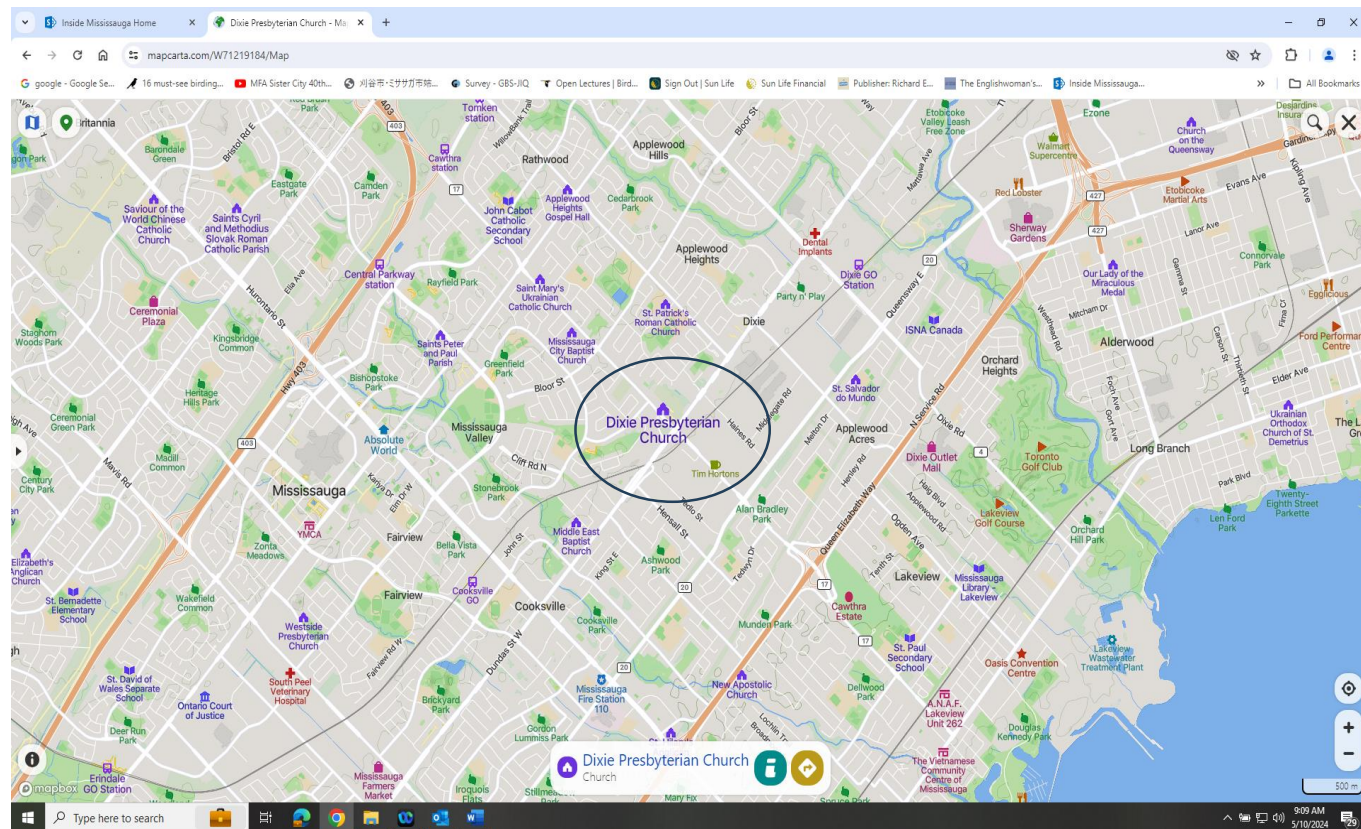
- The Church on the property was built in 1910 with an addition constructed in 1963
- The church is described as Edwardian Classicism
- It merits designation under the Ontario Heritage Act due to its physical, design, and contextual value

INTRODUCTION

This research and evaluation report describes the history, architecture, and context of the property at 3065 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 red brick structure on Cawthra Road north of Dundas Street East in the historic village of Dixie. A location map is below.



Ref: <https://mapcarta.com/W71219184/Map>

RESEARCH**Relevant Historical Timeline**

Date	Event
1878	Dixie Presbyterian congregation holds its first service at Dixie Union Church on June 16
1892	Dixie Presbyterian joined with Malton and Port Credit to make a pastoral circuit
1910	Dixie Presbyterian Church was constructed with the cornerstone laid on July 23 rd and the 1 st service was held Dec. 11
1922	Mortgage on church paid off
1922	Property purchased to build a manse that was later sold in 1940 (still stands today)
1963	A new wing was added to the church that included a modern kitchen
1976	Sanctuary was renovated and stained-glass windows were dedicated
1978	Celebrated its 100 th anniversary and two new stained-glass windows were added in the chancel and sanctuary
1985	Permit issued for addition to church
1986	Permit issued for alterations in the church
2006	Accessibility renovation including an elevator as well as accessible washrooms and alterations
2023	Dixie Presbyterian celebrated its 145 th anniversary

Sydenham (Dixie) Presbyterian congregation started in the 1820s with services held in the home of Thomas Robinet. After the family moved, services rotated between other parishioner's homes.

In 1878 the congregation joined Union Chapel in Dixie which served as a meeting place for local Baptists. The inaugural meeting was held on June 16th with services bi-monthly. In 1882 Dixie Presbyterian joined with two other congregations to form Port Credit-Dixie-Malton pastoral circuit.

In 1910 property was purchased to build their own church. Herbert G. Paull of Toronto was the architect, and the contractor was Edward C. Doole also of Toronto. The cornerstone was laid on July 23rd by Lieutenant Governor John Morrison Gibson who had grown up nearby at Hawkins Corners. A 200-pound bell was donated by Rev. George Duncan and the first service was held on December 11th. The church was built for \$10,000 and was made of red brick stone from Milton. It had a front entrance, two rear entrances, and a corner tower. The mortgage for the church was paid off in 1922.

Dixie Presbyterian Church thrived and a modern wing with a new kitchen was added in 1963. The attendance at the church peaked in the 1980s and has been in decline. In 2004 it was noted as having 100 members.

In 2006 renovations were completed on the church to make it accessible which included an elevator and improved washrooms.

Herbert Geroge Paull (1859-1948), Architect

Dixie Presbyterian Church was designed by Herbert G. Paull. Paull immigrated with his family from Cornwall in England in 1869. He is listed as an architect working with his father, Almond Paull, at Paull & Son, Architects Trust, and Loan, at 25 Toronto Street in 1881 and 1886. In 1896, Almond Paull was listed

as an architect at 50 Victoria Crescent in Toronto while Herbert was working separately at 106 Wellington Street in Toronto. Paull retired from architecture in 1937 after 40 years of service.

On December 20th, 1883, Paull married Rosie Ellen Spanner originally of the Isle of Wight. Both are listed as Methodists living in Toronto. In 1887, the Paulls welcomed their son, Herbert Hooper Paul Woodman Paull on March 10th. In the 1901 census, the Paulls are listed as the parents of three additional daughters. Paull died on August 24th, 1948, at the age of 80 from heart problems.

Edward C.T. Doole (1858-1942), Builder

Edward Chichester Torrence Doole was born in 1858 in Ireland and immigrated with his family in 1880 at the age of 22. He lived with his family most of his adult life until his marriage in 1914 at age 56 to Mary Jane McAdam. Mary, originally from Scotland, was a widow when she remarried at age 36. They had one son, William Edward Doole born in 1916. Doole worked all his career as a builder/contractor. He is listed in the Toronto Directory in 1890 and 1893 as a contractor. He died of coronary thrombosis at the age of 85 on April 15, 1942.

Architectural Description

As per the heritage listing report:

The church structure is finished in red brick with stone sills and stone accents on the buttresses. The structure has a steep pitched roof with Gothic-styled windows, the front facade is dominated by a large, squared tower three full stories in height.

The church's architectural style is considered Edwardian Classicism which incorporates classical features but in a less exuberant way when compared to Victorian styles. Ontario Heritage Trust says "Edwardian Classicism has simple, balanced designs, straight rooflines and relatively simple detailing. Cornice brackets and braces are block-like; most doors and windows have flat arches or plain stone lintels. Buildings in this style generally have smooth surfaces and many windows." The designs are noted for restrained ornamentation and plain colour schemes as well as being compact and simplified.

The style of Dixie Presbyterian Church is unusual as it was not often used for places of worship in Ontario although it was used for manses or residences related to churches. It has many of the key features of Edwardian Classicism with a compact bell tower, simple details, and a subdued colour scheme.

Other Edwardian Classicism Churches in Mississauga

There are no other listed Edwardian Classicism churches in Mississauga, but a residential example is William D. Trenwith "Stonehaven Farm" House (1904) located at 1567 Steeveles Crescent and the St. Lawrence Starch Administration Building (1932) located at 141 Lakeshore Road East.

CONCLUSION

The church has a long history within the community and is still active today. It has ties with many local well-known families including the Allison, Johnson, Miller, Ross, and Death families who were important in the development of the Village of Dixie. It is also a rare example of a church built in the Edwardian Classicism style.

Photographs

Dixie Union Chapel and St. John the Baptist Church (Dixie) from H.H. Shaver private postcard ca1910
Mississauga Historic Image Gallery (N565)



Dixie Presbyterian Church ca. 1930, Richard L Frost Postcard

[Region of Peel Archives](#) (CA ON00380 1991.028-113)



Dixie Presbyterian Church c. 1980 (from a slide- reversed?)

Mississauga Historic Image Gallery (A317)



Side view of the front entrance City of Mississauga



Back entrance City of Mississauga



Back entrance another view City of Mississauga

REFERENCES

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