



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 57 Bond Street

<b>Date:</b>	December 20, 2011
<b>To:</b>	Toronto Preservation Board Toronto and East York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Acting Director, Policy & Research, City Planning Division
<b>Wards:</b>	Toronto Centre-Rosedale – Ward 27
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2012\Cluster B\PLN\HPS\TEYCC\February 14 2012\teHPS03

## SUMMARY

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This report recommends that City Council state its intention to designate the property at 57 Bond Street under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value. The site contains St. Michael's Cathedral, which is one of the most prominent religious buildings in Toronto that was recognized on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in June 1973.

Since 2002, St. Michael's Cathedral has been undergoing conservation work in planned phases. As part of this process, staff have worked with representatives of the Archdiocese of Toronto, resulting in their agreement to the designation of the site under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Following research and evaluation, staff have determined that the property at 57 Bond Street meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation under the Ontario Heritage Act. The designation of the property would identify the property's heritage values and attributes and enable City Council to control alterations to the site, enforce heritage property standards and maintenance, and refuse demolition.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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**The City Planning Division recommends that:**

1. City Council state its intention to designate the property at 57 Bond Street (St. Michael's Cathedral) under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

2. If there are no objections to the designation in accordance with Section 29(6) of the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the bills in Council designating the property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.
3. If there are objections in accordance with Section 29(7) of the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council direct the City Clerk to refer the designation to the Conservation Review Board.
4. If the designation is referred to the Conservation Review Board, City Council authorize the City Solicitor and appropriate staff to attend any hearing held by the Conservation Review Board in support of Council's decision on the designation of the property.

### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

### **DECISION HISTORY**

The property at 57 Bond Street was listed on the first City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in June 1973.

### **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

In 2002, the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation for The Archdiocese of Toronto engaged +VG Architects (formerly The Ventin Group) to undertake a comprehensive conservation study of St. Michael's Cathedral. A Building Condition Survey informed the 2002 St. Michael's Cathedral Renewal Master Plan, which provides specific courses of action for the restoration, rehabilitation and repair of Toronto's oldest Catholic Cathedral.

To accompany the 2002 St. Michael's Cathedral Renewal Master Plan, Unterman and McPhail Associates were retained as heritage consultants to prepare a detailed Cultural Heritage Character Statement (October 2011), which examines and analyzes the site's heritage values and attributes.

+VG Architects are preparing to execute Phase IV of the 2002 Master Plan, which involves masonry conservation on the west facade, rehabilitation of the Narthex to include improved access, changes to the organ loft at the west end of the interior, and alterations to the basement crypt to provide washrooms and other accommodation. Heritage Preservation Services staff have been working with the Archdiocese's architects and heritage consultants to ensure that the necessary changes to St. Michael's Cathedral can be realized while respecting the heritage attributes and values of the property, which has significance as a city-wide landmark. The Archdiocese is not opposed to the designation of the property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act as long as the proposed designation takes into account the changes to the building required for its ongoing use and sustainability.

## **COMMENTS**

A location map (Attachment No. 1) and photograph (Attachment No. 2) are attached.

Staff have completed the attached Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report (Attachment No. 4) and determined that the property at 57 Bond Street meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed for municipal designation.

The property at 57 Bond Street is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design, associative and contextual values. Located on the northeast corner of Bond Street and Shuter Street, St. Michael's Cathedral (1845-48 with subsequent additions) is the oldest Roman Catholic Cathedral in the City of Toronto and a city-wide landmark. Regarded as an important example of Gothic Revival architecture that was built in phases beginning in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century under the direction of a series of notable Toronto architects, the site is associated with significant events in the history of Roman Catholicism in the city.

The Reasons for Designation (Statement of Significance), found in Attachment No. 3 are the Public Notice of Intention to Designate and will be advertised on the City of Toronto's web site in accordance with the City of Toronto Act provisions and served on the property owners and on the Ontario Heritage Trust according to the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.

## **CONTACT**

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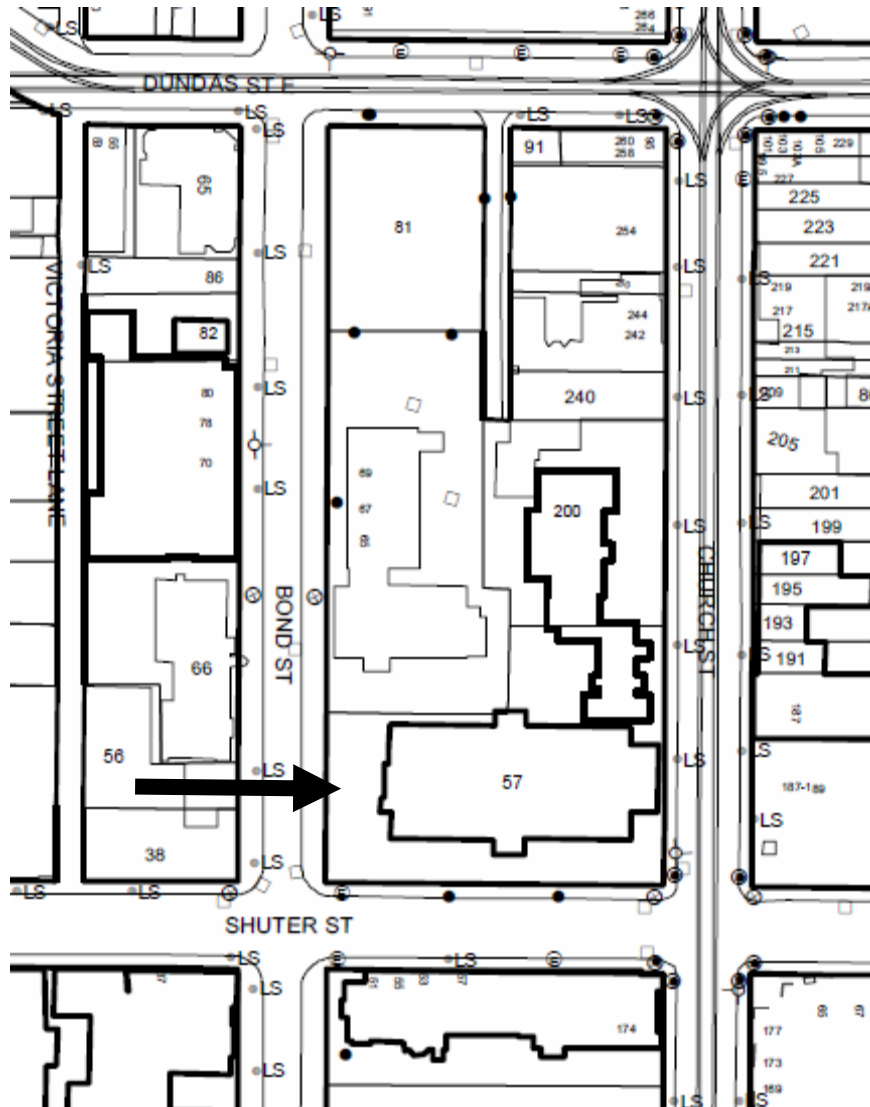
## **SIGNATURE**

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Kerri A. Voumvakis, Acting Director  
Policy and Research  
City Planning Division

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1 – Location Map  
Attachment No. 2 – Photographs  
Attachment No. 3 – Reasons for Designation (Statement of Significance)  
Attachment No. 4 – Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report



This location map is for information purposes only;  
the exact boundaries of the property are not shown.

The **arrow** marks the location of the site.



Archival view of St. Michael's Cathedral, after 1900  
(City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1568, Item 219)



Interior photographs of St. Michael's Cathedral, looking east toward the altar (left) and west toward the west entrance and the organ loft (right) (Toronto Historical Board)

St. Michael's Cathedral

Description

The property at 57 Bond Street is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design, associative and contextual values. St. Michael's Cathedral (1845-48, with subsequent additions) is located on the northeast corner of Bond and Shuter Streets. The site was listed on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in 1973.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

St. Michael's Cathedral has associative value as an institution of significance in Toronto that contributed to the formation and evolution of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto (originally the Diocese) and the development of the Roman Catholic community and its institutions in the city. The construction of the Cathedral building is associated with Michael Power, the first Bishop of Toronto, and John Elmsley and other community leaders who provided funding.

St. Michael's Cathedral is historically associated with the career of the English-trained architect William Thomas who was one of the most important practitioners in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Toronto. Designing more than 30 churches in Canada, St. Michael's Cathedral is among Thomas's first and largest commissions in Toronto and an early example of his work in the city. With the additions to the Cathedral, beginning with the spire in 1865, other important Toronto architectural firms were engaged, among them Gundy and Langley and Joseph Connolly.

As the oldest surviving Roman Catholic Church in Toronto, St. Michael's Cathedral is a rare extant example of its type and style. The design value of St. Michael's Cathedral relates to its status as the first church in Toronto to be correctly designed in the Gothic Revival style according to medieval prototypes and encouraged by the ecclesiology movement in mid-19<sup>th</sup> century England. The Cathedral typifies Gothic Revival design in its siting, cruciform shape, dominant tower, buttresses, steeply pitched gable roof, and pointed-arch openings. The church complex displays a high degree of craftsmanship related to its richly detailed decorative brickwork, cut stone, and stone carvings, as well as stained glass windows dating from 1858 and afterward that were executed by notable Canadian and European firms.

Contextually, St. Michael's Cathedral is landmark in Toronto by virtue of its presence as the city's Roman Catholic Cathedral and its symbolic meaning to practitioners. The Cathedral is historically, physically, functionally and visually related to its surroundings where it forms an institutional enclave at Bond and Shuter Streets with the neighbouring

Bishop's Palace, St. John's Chapel, St. Michael's Choir School and St. Michael's Hospital. In the neighbourhood east of Yonge Street, the Cathedral contributes to a precinct of important church complexes in downtown Toronto, with St. James' (Anglican) Cathedral on King Street East and Metropolitan United (formerly Methodist) Church directly south on Queen Street East.

### Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes on the exterior of St. Michael's Cathedral are:

- The scale, form and massing of the Cathedral structure
- The cruciform plan with abbreviated north and south transepts
- The materials, with brick masonry on a stone foundation
- The steeply pitched gable roof with slate cladding and dormer windows (added in 1890)
- At the west end, the square tower with paired stone buttresses, the octagonal metal spire, and the pinnacles
- On the west facade, the triple entrance with the central entry placed at the base of the tower
- The detailing on the entrances, featuring pointed arch openings with stone reveals and carved faces that contain paired wood doors with half sidelights, and the wood tracery and stained glass in the entries and the clerestory windows above
- On the side elevations (north and south), the buttresses with stone pinnacles that extend through the gable roof and organize the pointed arched window openings and rose windows containing stained glass
- The monumental stained glass window on the east wall depicting Christ on the Cross (1858)
- The abbreviated south transept, with the centrally located pavilion under a gable end and a rose window
- The rear (east) wall, which displays buttresses and a central projecting bay that contains a large stained glass window flanked by smaller examples
- On the east wall, the entrance that is placed in a single-storey sacristy (1914 with a 1924 extension) with a slate-clad shed roof, a centre gable, statuary niche and trefoil windows
- The decorative brick detailing, with splayed door and window openings, octagonal turrets, cornices on the side elevations (north and south), and the raking cornices on the gable ends (east and west)
- The cut stone trim on the plinth, coping stones, door and window reveals, hood moulds and pinnacles
- The ornamental sculpture with carved stone gargoyles, crosses and faces at the west entrance
- The orientation of the building on the property, with the main entrance on the west and the sanctuary to the east
- The open space adjoining the south, west and north ends of the Cathedral
- At the west end, the iron fence with gates that dates to the 1890s

The heritage attributes on the interior of St. Michael's Cathedral are:

- The organization of the interior with the narthex (west), the nave with the centre aisle and north and south side aisles, the north and south transepts with the Chapels of Our Blessed Lady and the Sacred Heart and, at the east end, the sanctuary and L-shaped sacristy
- The vaulted ceiling with the hammer beam and truss roof structure above the nave and side aisles, respectively, which are separated by clustered columns with pointed arches and carved faces
- The decorative paintings on the wall and ceilings
- At the west end of the nave and above the narthex, the choir and organ gallery, which has been altered
- Beneath the nave and sanctuary, the crypt.



**HERITAGE PROPERTY RESEARCH AND EVALUATION REPORT**



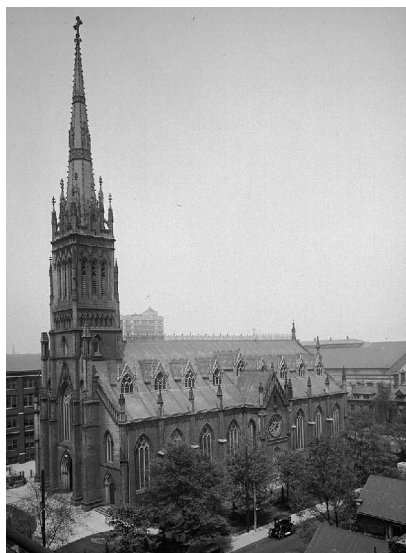
**ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL**  
57 BOND STREET, TORONTO

Prepared by:

Heritage Preservation Services  
City Planning Division  
City of Toronto

December 2011

## 1. DESCRIPTION



Above: St. Michael's Cathedral, 1925 (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 88)  
Cover: St. Michael's Cathedral, post-1900 (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1568, Item 219)

<b>57 Bond Street: St. Michael's Cathedral</b>	
ADDRESS	57 Bond Street (northeast corner of Shuter Street)
WARD	27 (Toronto Centre-Rosedale)
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Plan 22A, Lots 12-14 & 47-48, & Part Lots 15 & 49
NEIGHBOURHOOD/COMMUNITY	Church Street Neighbourhood
HISTORICAL NAME	St. Michael's Cathedral
CONSTRUCTION DATE	1845-48
ORIGINAL OWNER	Roman Catholic Diocese of Toronto <sup>1</sup>
ORIGINAL USE	Religious
CURRENT USE*	Religious * This does not refer to permitted use(s) as defined by the Zoning By-law
ARCHITECT/BUILDER/DESIGNER	William Thomas, architect
DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION	Brick cladding with brick, stone, metal, wood & glass detailing
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	Gothic Revival
ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS	1866, west tower with spire & fence added and sacristy enlarged, Gundry & Langley, architects; 1890, dormers added, Joseph Connolly, architect; 1914, sacristy replaced, A. W. Holmes, architect
CRITERIA	Design/Physical, Historical/Associative & Contextual
HERITAGE STATUS	Listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties
RECORDER	Heritage Preservation Services: Kathryn Anderson
REPORT DATE	December 2011

<sup>1</sup> Now known as the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of The Archdiocese of Toronto

## 2. BACKGROUND

This research and evaluation report describes the history, architecture and context of the property at 57 Bond Street, and applies evaluation criteria to determine whether it merits designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The conclusions of the research and evaluation are found in Section 4 (Summary).

### i. HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Key Date	Historical Event
1841	The Diocese of Toronto is founded
1845 Mar	Michael Power, the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Toronto, acquires the land for the Cathedral on Church Street between present-day Queen and Dundas Streets from Peter McGill
1845 Apr	The cornerstone for the Cathedral is laid
1846 Dec	The neighbouring Bishop's Place is completed according to the plans of architect William Thomas, the designer of the Cathedral
1847 Oct	Bishop Power dies during a typhus epidemic
1848 Sept	St. Michael's Cathedral is consecrated & named for Bishop Power
1858	The three east windows are imported from France and installed
1858	The new Cathedral is depicted on Boulton's Atlas
1866	The west tower and spire are added and the sacristy at the east end enlarged, according to the designs of architects Gundry and Langley
1879	The Archdiocese of Toronto is created
1890	Dormer windows are added by architect Joseph Connolly; by 1891, St. John's Chapel is constructed between the Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace
1900	St. Michael's Parish School is built directly northwest of the Cathedral
1914	The sacristy (east) is replaced according to the designs of architect A. W. Holmes
1937	Interior paintings on the vaulted roof and walls are completed by artists Weekes and Warne
1973	The property at 57 Bond Street is recognized on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties

### ii. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### Church Street Neighbourhood

The property at 57 Bond Street is located in the neighbourhood adjoining Church Street, which originated as one of the series of 100-acre "park lots" found between present-day Queen and Bloor Streets where provincial officials and military officers established country estates in the late-18<sup>th</sup> and early-19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Captain John McGill was granted Park Lot 7, east of Yonge Street, and occupied a portion of the allotment as "McGill Square." Following his death in 1836, McGill's heir began selling parts of his holdings for residential development and, where "the line of Church Street was extended northward, prophetically continuing its descriptive appellation: the Roman Catholics

decided to locate their cathedral church in this neighbourhood in 1845...’’<sup>2</sup> The development of an institutional enclave centered on St. Michael's Cathedral can be traced through 19<sup>th</sup>-century maps and atlases, which are attached as Images 2-8.

### St. Michael's Cathedral

Following the creation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toronto and his appointment as Bishop in 1841, Michael Power acquired part of McGill's acreage on the west side of Church Street, north of Shuter Street, as the setting for the city's Roman Catholic Cathedral. With construction of the edifice beginning in April 1845, the cornerstone was laid the following month. Funding for the cathedral was provided by leaders in Toronto's Roman Catholic community, including John Elmsley, the son of the Chief Justice of Upper Canada (Ontario) and a devout convert to Roman Catholicism. Opening in 1848, the Cathedral was named in honour of Bishop Power, who had died the previous year.

Bishop de Charbonnel, Michael Power's successor, oversaw the opening of the Cathedral and the installation of the east windows. He was succeeded by Archbishop Lynch, who assumed responsibility for the completion of the west entrance tower and spire and other improvements that included the fencing of the site. The fourth leader of the Cathedral, Archbishop Walsh, opened St. John's Chapel and unveiled additional stained glass windows.

Other changes were made to the Cathedral and its surroundings during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including those completed on the interior after Vatican II (the Second Vatican Council, 1962-65). More than a century and a half since its opening, "St. Michael's Cathedral, situated in the heart of Toronto, is the principal church of Canada's largest English-speaking Catholic archdiocese. A sanctuary of quiet prayer in the midst of the city's busy sidewalks and streets, this venerable edifice is a link to the early days of the metropolis and the scene and witness of many solemn ceremonies."<sup>3</sup>

### William Thomas, Architect

The designs for St. Michael's Cathedral were prepared by English architect, William Thomas (1799-1860), who also received the commission for the neighbouring Bishop's Palace (rectory). After serving apprenticeships as a carpenter/joiner, builder and surveyor, Thomas embarked on an architectural partnership in Birmingham, England prior to 1832 and before he established a solo practice at Leamington Spa. Thomas gained experience designing two religious chapels before immigrating to Canada in 1843. Settling in Toronto, as a solo practitioner, Thomas's projects of note included the Commercial Bank of the Midland District (1844 and now part of BCE Place at 199 Bay Street) and St. Lawrence Hall and Market (completed 1851). While Thomas was proficient in designing a range of building types, he is best known for his ecclesiastical plans, including St. Michael's Cathedral.

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<sup>222</sup> McHugh, 151

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.torstm.com/StMikes>, unpagged

When St. Michael's Cathedral was consecrated in 1848, the west tower and spire were not in place. Added in 1866, these elements were designed by the Toronto architectural firm of Gundry and Langley. The Canadian-born Henry Langley was a member of the second generation of architects succeeding Thomas and, like his predecessor, became renowned for his ecclesiastical commissions. Joseph Connolly and A. W. Holmes, architects whose careers were linked to the Roman Catholic Church, prepared plans for the additions and alterations to the Cathedral.

### iii. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Archival photographs showing the exterior and interior of St. Michael's Cathedral are appended as images on the cover and in Sections 2 and 6 of this report. Image 9, dating to 1868, is among the earliest known photographs of the site. More recent views of the interior are marked as Image 13.

St. Michael's Cathedral was designed in the Gothic Revival style that, while popular for religious buildings in Toronto during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was usually employed by Protestant churches. The version of the style exhibited at the Cathedral was the Ecclesiastical Gothic Revival, which was devised by a group of scholars at Cambridge University in England whose intent was to educate architects in creating appropriate places for worship. The Ecclesiologists favoured a return to medieval church design, where "details of Gothic architecture are appended to contemporary buildings in an archaeologically correct manner, with the features of thirteenth century English architecture most favoured,"<sup>4</sup> and the application of cruciform plans with a central nave, narrow side aisles, and shallow transepts. The plans for St. Michael's Cathedral were purportedly influenced by York Minster in England.<sup>5</sup> Unlike the neighbouring Metropolitan United Church and St. James' (Anglican) Cathedral that face south toward Lake Ontario, St. Michael's Cathedral is sited in a ecumenically correct manner with the sanctuary at the east end.

#### Exterior

St. Michael's Cathedral displays a cruciform plan with abbreviated transepts beneath a steeply-pitched gable roof with slate cladding, cornices, raking cornices along the gable ends, and dormers (which were a later addition). Clad with buff brick above a stone base, the structure applies brick, stone, metal, wood and glass detailing. Attention is focused on the square tower and octagonal metal-clad spire with a cross at the west end. At the base, the main entrance to the Cathedral is placed in the "triple portals characteristic of Catholic churches" and features wood doors and tracery, stained-glass transoms, and half-length sidelights.<sup>6</sup> The pointed-arch window openings introduced on the west façade are repeated on the side elevations where they are organized by buttresses with finials or

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<sup>4</sup> Maitland, NHSMB Agenda Paper, 21

<sup>5</sup> Cook, 9

<sup>6</sup> Maitland, NHSMB Agenda Paper, 79

pinnacles that extend through the roof line. Most of the openings feature wood tracery and stained glass windows, including rose windows,, with the monumental window depicting “Christ on the Cross” as the focal point at the east end of the Cathedral (Image 12).

An L-shaped sacristy marks the rear east wall. Other decorative detailing includes the splayed door and window openings, octagonal turrets, and the application of coping stone, hood moulds and niches for statuary, as well as carved gargoyles, faces and crosses.

St. Michael’s Cathedral is set in landscaped space where an iron fence along the west, south and east edges of the property separates it from the adjoining streets, and a pair of gates provide access to the principal (west) entrance to the building.

### Interior

On the interior, St. Michael’s Cathedral features a traditional plan with a vestibule or narthex inside the west entrance that leads to a nave with side aisles and shallow transepts and, at the east end, the sanctuary (Image 13). There is no clerestory, and the open vaulted roof structure incorporates hammer beams over the nave and trusses above the side aisles where pointed arches spring above the clustered columns. The decorative paintings on the ceiling and walls date to the pre-World War II era. The choir and organ gallery at the west end of the nave has been altered. The transepts contain the Chapel of Our Blessed Lady (north) and the Chapel of the Sacred Heart (south). A crypt is located in the basement.

### iv. CONTEXT

The property at 57 Bond Street is placed on the northeast corner of Shuter Street where it extends eastward to Church Street (Image 1). The Bishop’s Palace, which was completed at the same time as the Cathedral, is located to the northeast where St. John’s Chapel links the two buildings. Northwest of the Cathedral, the former St. Michael’s Parish School now forms part of St. Michael’s Choir School. The Cathedral overlooks St. Michael’s Hospital to the southwest, while the Parish House associated with Metropolitan United Church is found on the opposite side of Shuter Street. Archival photographs dating to the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> centuries that are attached as Images 10 and 11 show the position of St. Michael’s Cathedral on Bond Street in the Church Street neighbourhood.

### 3. EVALUATION CHECKLIST

The following evaluation applies Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the Ontario Heritage Act: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. While the criteria are prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, the City of Toronto uses it when assessing properties for inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties. The evaluation table is marked “N/A”

if the criterion is “not applicable” to the property or X if it is applicable, with explanatory text below.

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

**Rare Example of a Style and Type displaying a High Degree of Craftsmanship - St. Michael's Cathedral** is a rare extant example of its type and style. The design value of the Cathedral relates to its status as the first church in Toronto to be correctly designed in the Gothic Revival style according to medieval prototypes and encouraged by the ecclesiology movement in mid-19<sup>th</sup> century England. The Cathedral typifies Gothic Revival design in its siting, cruciform shape, dominant tower and spire, steeply pitched gable roof, and buttresses organizing the pointed-arch openings. The church complex displays a high degree of craftsmanship related to its richly detailed decorative brickwork, cut stone, and stone carvings, as well as stained glass windows dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries that were executed by notable Canadian and European firms.

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

**Person** – St. Michael's Cathedral is associated with Michael Power, the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Toronto, other leading churchmen of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and influential community leaders such as John Elmsley and Samuel G. Lynn who were active in providing funds for its construction and in leading the city's Roman Catholic community during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>7</sup> Bishop Power and other Cathedral founders were interred in the basement crypt. More recently, a history of the site reports that “The greatest event in the history of the Cathedral was on September 14, 1984 when His Holiness Pope John Paul II visited it...”<sup>8</sup>

**Architect** – St. Michael's Cathedral is associated with English architect William Thomas who is described as “among the leading 19<sup>th</sup>-century ecclesiastical architects of Canada, with 30 churches to his credit” and “the leading exponent of the Gothic Revival...”<sup>9</sup> Subsequent changes to the Cathedral were made according to the plans of the notable

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<sup>8</sup> Booth, 44

<sup>9</sup> McArthur, 33

Toronto architectural firm of Gundry and Langley, as well as architects Joseph Connolly and A. W. Holmes who also specialized in designs for Roman Catholic churches.

**Artists** – French artist Etienne Thevenot created the large central window at the east end of the sanctuary in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, while many of the other stained glass windows were installed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century following their design and execution by European and Canadian artisans. Decorative painting programs included those executed by artists Weekes and Warne in the period preceding World War II.

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

**Surroundings** – St. Michael's Cathedral is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings in the Church Street neighbourhood. Placed on the east side of Bond Street where the property extends along Shuter Street to Church Street, St. Michael's Cathedral anchors the south end of an institutional complex that includes the Bishop's Palace on Church Street, St. John's Chapel (which provides a link between the two buildings) and, on Bond Street, the former St. Michael's Parish School that is now part of St. Michael's Choir School. The collection of buildings creates an institutional enclave that is important in its proximity to other Toronto churches of historical importance, particularly Metropolitan United Church (originally Metropolitan Methodist Church and rebuilt in 1929), which is found directly south on Queen Street East, as well as St. James' (Anglican) Cathedral on King Street East where it was reconstructed after the Great Fire of 1849.

**Landmark** – With its presence on Bond Street for over 175 years, its distinctive tower and spire, and its identification as one of the city's most prominent religious buildings, St. Michael's Cathedral is a landmark in Toronto.

#### 4. SUMMARY

Following research and evaluation according to Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property 57 Bond Street has design, associative and contextual values. As the oldest Roman Catholic Church in Toronto, as well as the city's only Roman Catholic Cathedral, the edifice is associated with important religious figures and lay leaders in Toronto's Roman Catholic community, including Bishop Michael Power. With plans prepared by the notable early Toronto architect, William Thomas, and alterations undertaken by the firm of Gundry and Langley and other significant practitioners, St. Michael's Cathedral is an important early example of the Ecclesiastical Gothic Revival style applied to a religious building in Toronto. Anchoring an institutional enclave of ecclesiastical and educational buildings on Bond, Shuter and Church Streets, St. Michael's Cathedral is also a local landmark in the city.



## 5. SOURCES

For construction dates and chronologies, this report relies on the comprehensive "Cultural Heritage Character Statement – St. Michael's Cathedral Complex, 57/65 Bond Street and 200 Church Street, City of Toronto, Ontario," dated October 2011 and prepared by Unterman McPhail Associates.

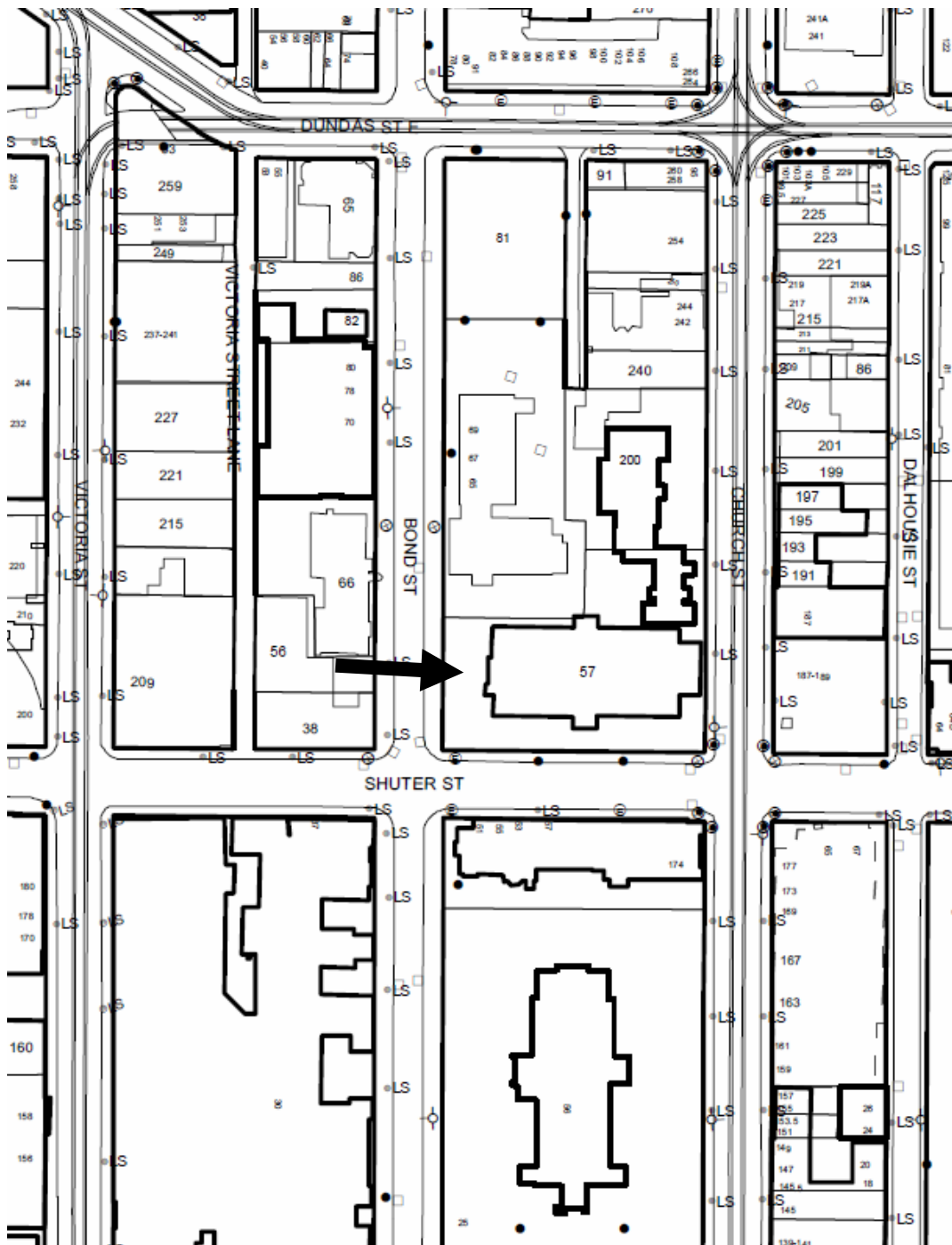
### Archival Sources

Abstract Indices of Deeds, Plan 22A, Lots 12-14 and 47-48, and Part Lots 15 and 49  
Goad's Atlases, 1880-1923  
Photograph, Bond Street, circa 1890s, City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1478, Item 17  
Photograph, Bond Street, 1919, City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 1696  
Photograph, St. Michael's Cathedral, post-1900, City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1568, Item 219  
Photograph, St. Michael's Cathedral, 1920s, City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 88

### Secondary Sources

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Cook, Sir Brian C., The Voice of the Archangel Michael: 'Who is God?' A Short History and Guide to St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto, 1989  
Dendy, William, Lost Toronto, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1993  
-----, and William Kilbourn, Toronto Observed, 1986  
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McHugh, Patricia, Toronto Architecture: a city guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1989  
"Short History of the Cathedral," <http://www.torstm.com/StMikes>  
"William Thomas," entry in The Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada, 1800-1950, [www.dictionarhofarchitectsincanada.org](http://www.dictionarhofarchitectsincanada.org)

6. IMAGES: the **arrows** mark the location of the subject property



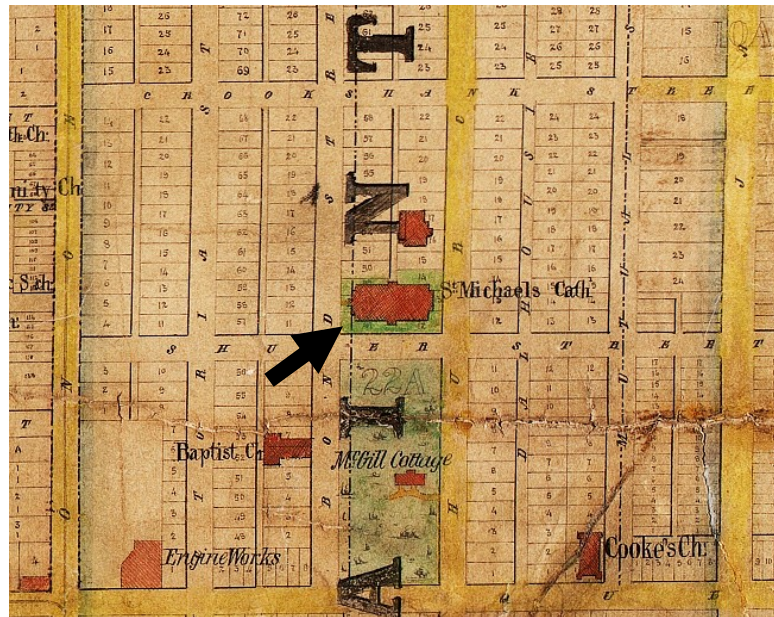
1. City of Toronto Property Data Map: showing the location of the subject property on the northeast corner of Bond and Shuter Streets



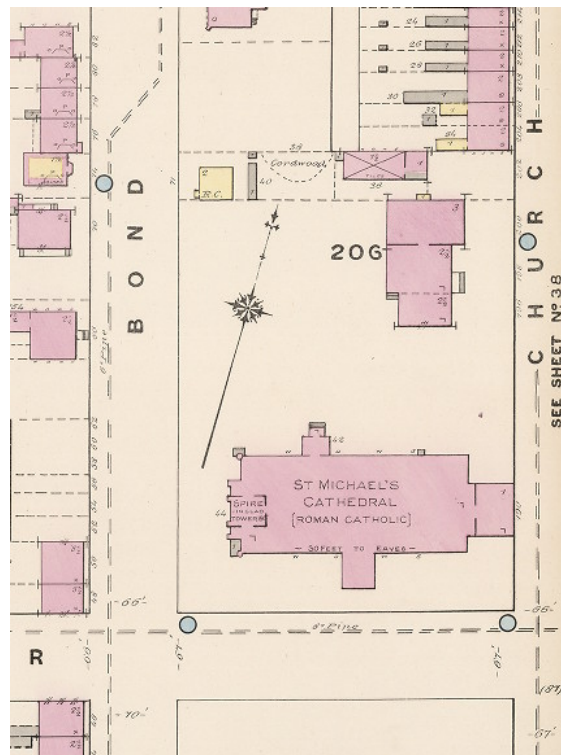
2. Topographical Map of the City and Liberties of Toronto, Cane, 1842: showing the subdivision of McGill's lands along Church Street where St. Michael's Cathedral was later located at Bond and Shuter Streets



3. Boulton's Atlas of 1858: the Cathedral and neighbouring Bishop's Palace to the northeast are depicted on Toronto's first fire insurance atlas

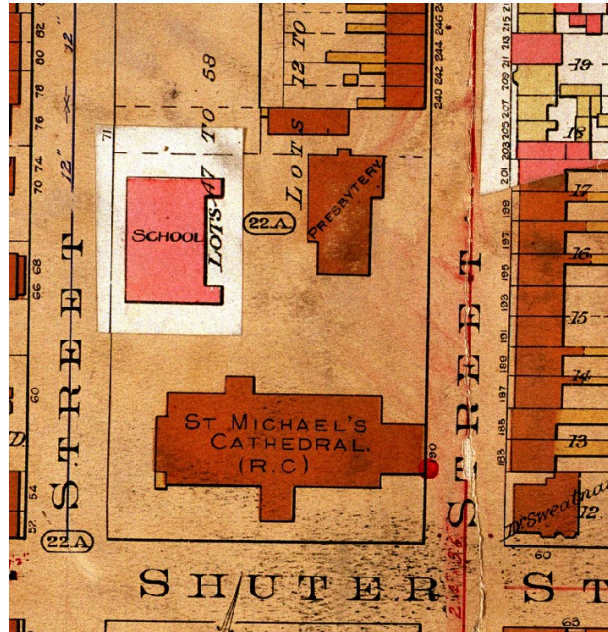


4. Plan of the City of Toronto, Browne, 1862: showing the subject property and the subdivisions of the lands



5. Goad's Atlas, 1880: the Cathedral and Bishop's Palace are shown on the first Goad's Atlas for Toronto

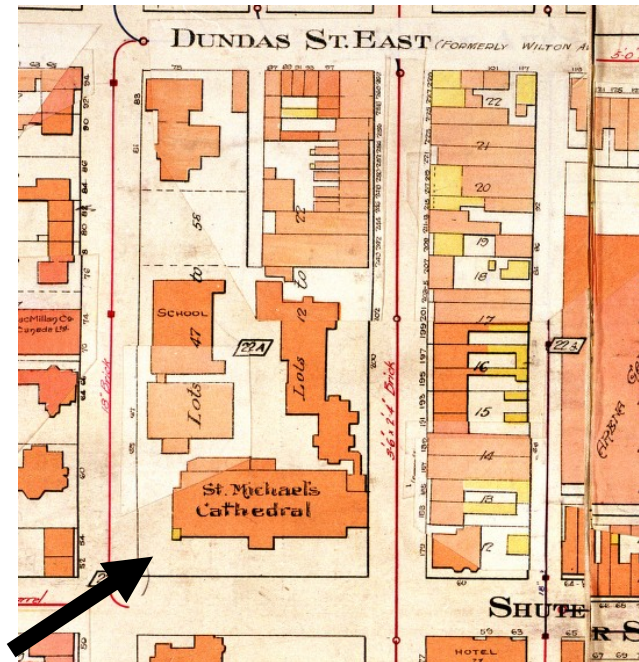




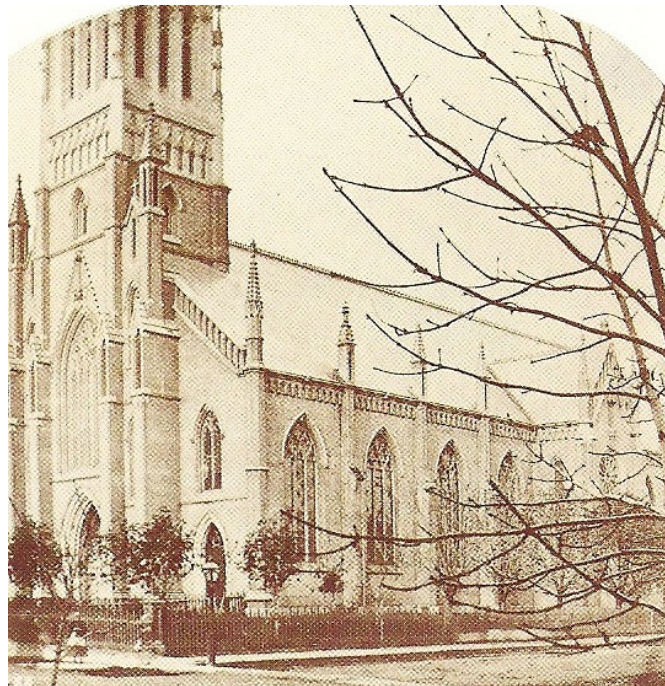
6. Goad's Atlas, 1903: in the first update after 1899, the school building is in place northwest of the Cathedral



7. Goad's Atlas, 1910 revised to 1912: showing the addition of St. John's Chapel between the Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace

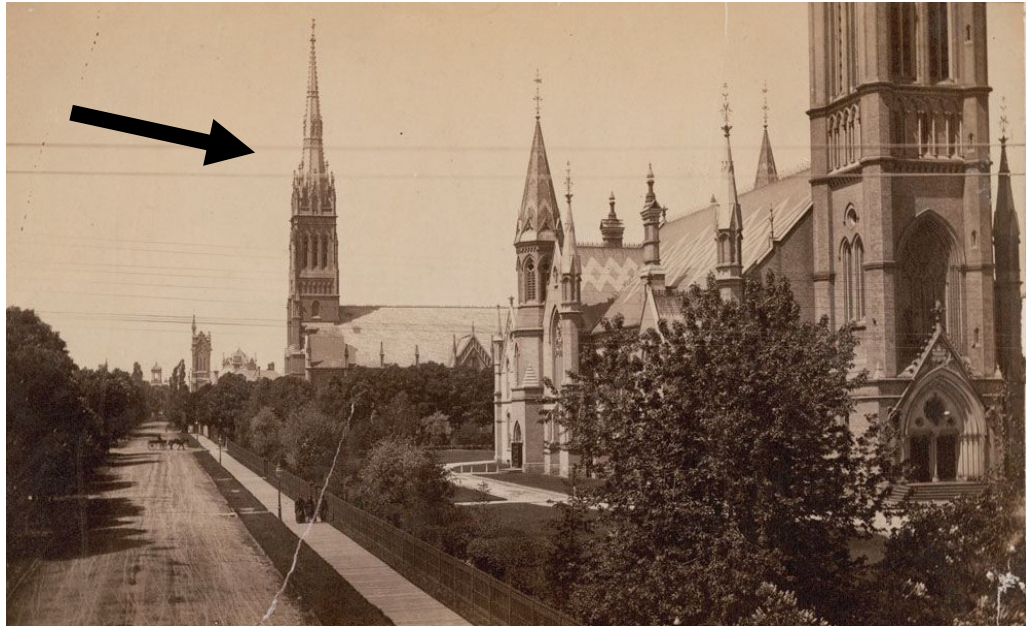


8. Goad's Atlas, 1910 revised to 1923: showing the addition to the school located northwest of the Cathedral



9. Archival photograph, St. Michael's Cathedral, c. 1868: one of the earliest known photographs of the building with the tower and spire in place, but before the addition of the dormer windows (Cook, 46)





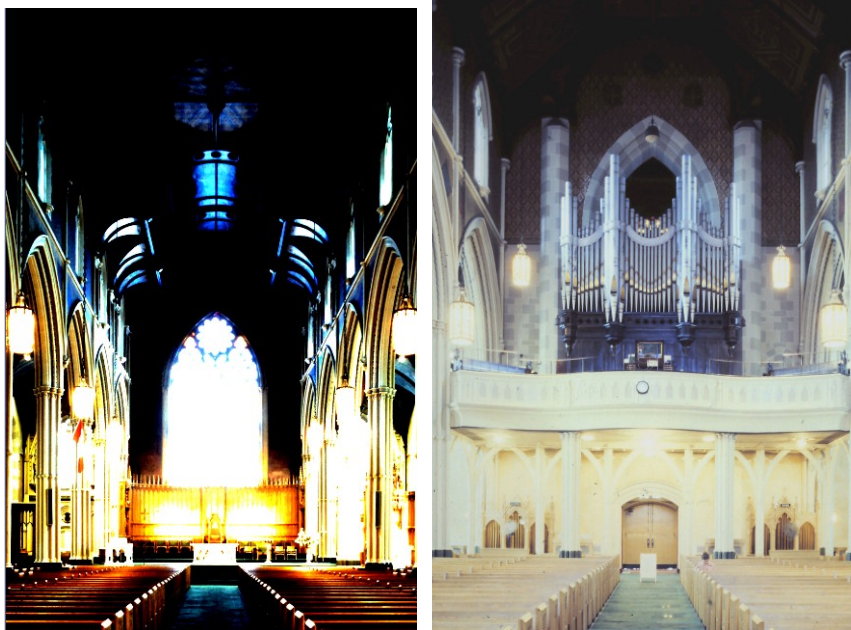
10. Archival Photograph, 1890s: looking north along the east side of Bond Street and showing St. Michael's Cathedral near the centre of the image. Metropolitan Methodist (now United) Church is shown on the right (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1478, Item 17)



11. Archival Photograph, 1919: looking south along Bond Street where St. Michael's Cathedral is shown near the centre of the image where its tower and spire rise above the Church Street neighbourhood (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Image 1696)

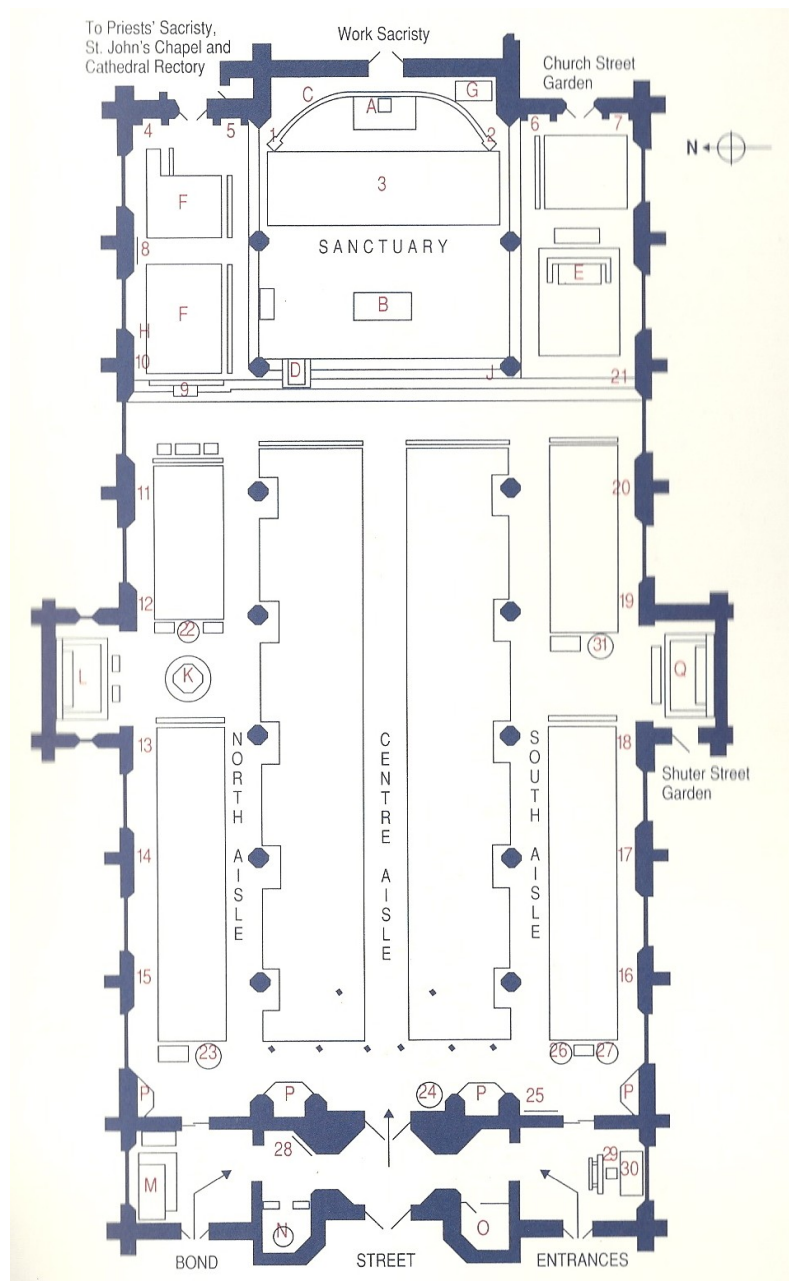


12. Photograph, East Window, St. Michael's Cathedral: showing the central pane of the three-part east window depicting "Christ on the Cross" and incorporating a rose window in the apex of the gable (Cook, 18)



13. Photographs, Interior, St. Michael's Cathedral: looking east (left) and west (right) and showing the vaulted ceiling, the painted decoration, and the arches and columns separating the nave from the side aisles (Toronto Historical Board, 1990s)





14. Interior Plan, St. Michael's Cathedral, 1989; showing the organization of the interior spaces and the incorporation of chapels in the abbreviated transepts (Cook, 57)