



scarborough public library

Cedarbrae Branch Historical Highlights



Site Acquisition, Library Construction and Opening, 1958-1966



Markham Road and Greencrest Circuit site, southeast section, 1965
Part of the site was chosen for its prominence and accessibility. Part was acquired in 1958, with an additional parcel "to square off this property" purchased in 1965.



Aerial view of the north and east facades, August 1966
The "highly sculptured, honeycomb-like roof line" was an important architectural element. Cedarbrae Secondary School, opened in 1960, is visible on the west side of Markham Road. The library leased the house on the east side of Markham Road to tenants, and demolished it in 1981 for the expansion.



Cornerstone laying, 25 May 1966
L to R: Albert M. Campbell, Reeve of Scarborough; Marius Post, Head of the Cedarbrae Regional Library; Albert W. Bowron, Chief Librarian of the Scarborough Public Library and J. Pat. McLoughlin, Chairman of the Library Board.



Circulation desk and part of the adult reading room, October 1966
Wood predominated, left a natural colour "to give a warm, friendly atmosphere."



Cedarbrae Regional Library, autumn 1966.
Architect Irving Grossman placed the library "in as dramatic a way as possible," so it would be a focal point of the community. The main entrance was on the upper level, accessed by a concrete ramp from the east parking lot and a steep angled concrete stair from the northwest.

Extension and Partial Renovation, 1979-1983



Florence Cruickshank, 14 April 1983.
The new community room was named for Mrs. Cruickshank, who served on the Scarborough Public Library Board from 1974 to 1985. She died on 20 May 2008.



Construction of the extension, looking west, spring 1982.
The extension was added to the south part of the building.



Exterior view of the addition, southwest façade, 14 February 1983.
The two-story extension housed collections and provided larger meeting facilities for public programming.

Major Renovation and Expansion, 2005-2010



Rendering by Makrimichalos Cugini Architects, Fall 2008
To create a more prominent street presence, two-storey glazed walls were introduced on the full extent of the north and west facades, and a large "LIBRARY" sign was displayed. As a result of the community consultation, the distinctive roofline was retained.



Main entrance, November 2010
The main entrance was relocated to the lower level, approached through an exterior plaza that reflected the colours and the variety of reading and gathering spaces of the renovated interior.



Images for the KidsStop, courtesy of The Water Hole and Jungle Drums by Graeme Base and Jungle Bullies by Steven Kroll
The theme, "River Express," was used for the activity centre. Entered by river boat, inside were a large elephant bench, a bamboo wrapped dial-a-story, tropical trees, and a large animal mural.

Cedarbrae Regional Library, Scarborough Public Library Irving Grossman, Architect. Total cost: \$668,000. Size: 24,580 square feet

- 1958 Scarborough Public Library Board acquires a site on the east side of Markham Road, just south of Lawrence Avenue. It considers using the house on the property for a temporary library.
- 1961 The Library Board approves a five-year plan on 12 January that includes acquiring additional property at the southeast corner of Markham Road and Ring Road (now Greencrest Circuit) in 1961, and building Scarborough's first regional branch on the site in 1964.
- 1965 Cedarbrae Regional Library is chosen as the name, the service region is defined and Irving Grossman, Architect, is retained, 27 May. Purchase of the Geller property for \$40,000 is completed, 27 October.
- 1966 Construction starts in January. The cornerstone is laid, 25 May. The library officially opens on 30 November, and is opened to the public, 1 December.

Cedarbrae District Library, Scarborough Public Library Moffat, Moffat and Kinoshita/The Moffat Kinoshita Partnership Total cost: \$577,000. Expansion: 6,200 square feet

- 1979 Scarborough Board of Control purchases property adjacent to Cedarbrae District Library for its future expansion. The library board approves staff plans for the extension, 20 September.
- 1980 Moffat, Moffat and Kinoshita are appointed as architects, 18 November.
- 1981 Tenders are opened, 8 October. Construction begins in November.
- 1982 The library is closed for interior renovations on 29 November. The upper level is to reopen on 20 December, and the lower level on 3 January 1983.
- 1983 The new space is officially opened on 14 April.

Cedarbrae Branch, Toronto Public Library Makrimichalos Cugini Architects. Total budget: \$9.15 million. Expansion: 4,345 square feet

- 2005 Cedarbrae Branch is identified in the library's capital budget for a major renovation, starting in 2007
- 2006 Agreement is made with Makrimichalos Cugini Architects, 7 March
- 2007 Public consultation is held, 23 January. Preliminary plans are unveiled at an open house, 25 October
- 2008 Branch closes, 6 October, and construction starts
- 2010 Branch reopens, 6 December

Prepared by Toronto Public Library staff for the reopening of Cedarbrae Branch, 6 December 2101.