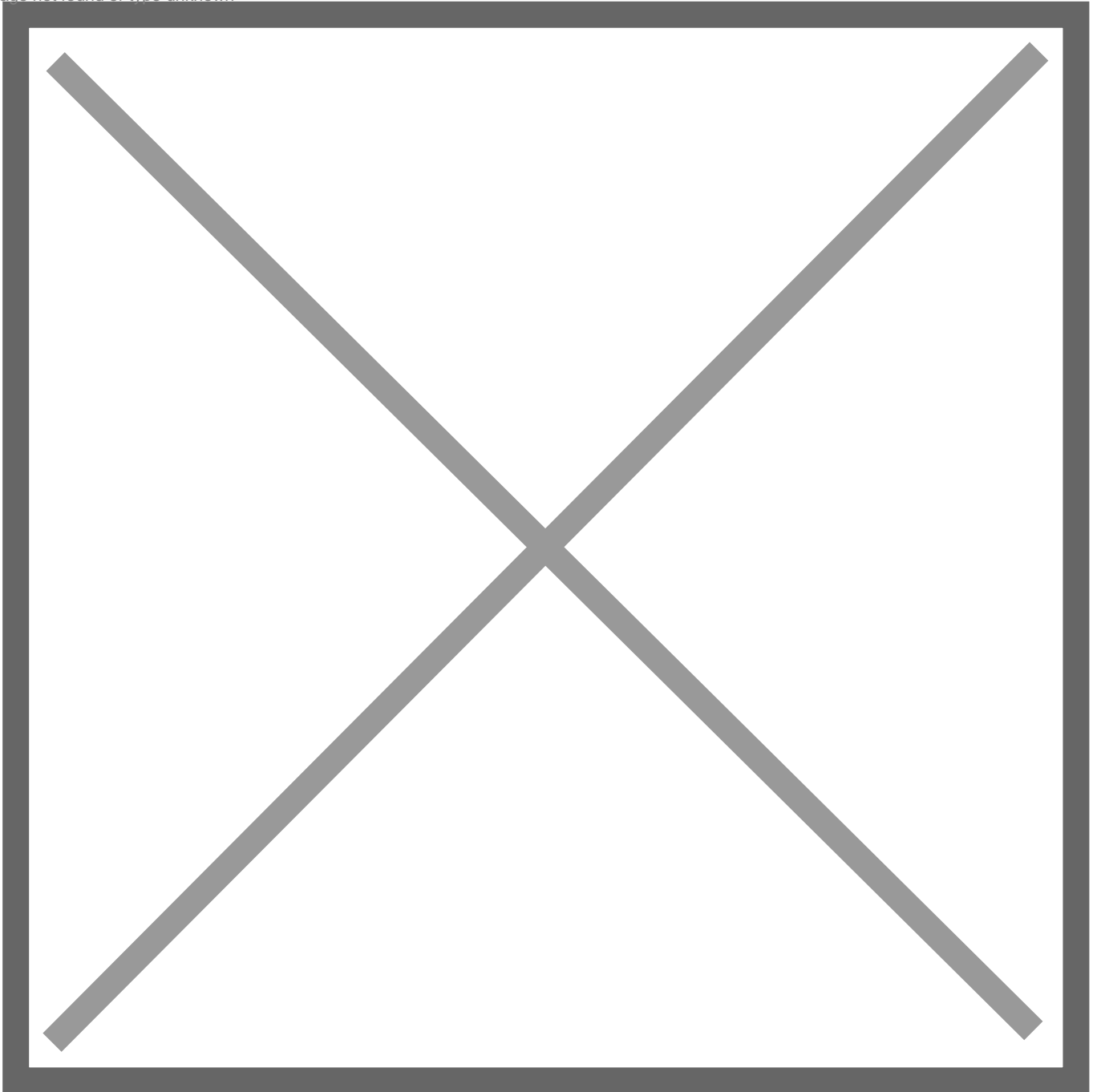# Szent László-Templom [St. Ladis Church]

Hungary

Rákóczi Ferenc 1
Northern Hungary (Region), Borsod-Abaúj-
Zemplén (County) 3999 Hollóháza

Completion

1967

Original use

Religious/centre of worship

Current use

Religious/centre of worship

Architects

László Csaba

Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

Architectural concrete

Colored concrete

Structural types

Two-dimensional/[inverted] cupola, [pyramidal] cupola

Description

This small chapel is located on the top of a hill, surrounded by a coniferous forest on the Hungarian-Slovak border. The town of Hollóháza, where the church is located, is famous for its industrial production of ceramics. Due to the expansion of the porcelain factory, the town was forced to demolish the old Baroque church. The factory financed the construction of a new modern church, but it was not quite to the liking of the town's inhabitants. Some of the artists and designers involved in the local industry worked dutifully on the decorative ceramic objects for the interior. They praised the geometric simplicity of the new church, with its pure forms and white concrete.

The church is made up of three triangular geometric figures, disconnected from one another other, formed by folded concrete surfaces. The three structures in turn form the nave, the apse (with an adjacent chapel for the tabernacle), and the free-standing bell tower. The nave and apse are connected to one another and closed off from the outside by a series of glass planes. The three concrete figures in conjunction look like a simple exercise in origami; the chapel has also been compared with a tent or the inverted keel of a ship. The envelope of the church is also structural, and the geometric forms contribute to providing stability to the structure, which is made from continuous thin slabs of concrete. A lattice of vertical slats, also made of white concrete, separates the space of the apse from the tabernacle chapel.

Links

YouTube Video - Aerial view