

## Sacred Heart, Northallerton

*Thirsk Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire*



### **Part 1: Core data**

1.1 Listed grade: *Not Listed*

1.2 Conservation area: *No*

1.2 Architect: *F. Spink of Bridlington*

1.3 Date(s): *1934*

1.4 Date of visit: *4 February 2008*

1.5 Name of report author: *Neil Burton*

1.6 Name of parish priest and/or contact(s) made on site: *Mr Ian Atkinson (parishioner)*

1.7 Associated buildings: *contemporary presbytery adjacent*

1.8 Bibliographic references:

Carson, R.: *A History of Diocese of Middlesbrough*, 1978

Pevsner, N.: *Yorkshire: The North Riding*, 1966

Parish website: [www.members.aol.com/sacredheartna](http://www.members.aol.com/sacredheartna)

## **Part 2: Analysis**

### **2.1 Statement of Importance**

***A modest interwar building of conservative design and limited architectural interest, built by Spink of Bridlington in collaboration with Bishop Shine.***

### **2.2 Historical background**

A school chapel in Malpas Road with a resident priest was established at Northallerton in 1871 in a building designed by George Goldie (Pevsner erroneously attributes the design of the present church to Goldie). The foundation stone of the present building, with 300 sittings, was laid by Bishop Shine in December 1933. The Bishop and Spink of Bridlington collaborated on the design of a number of churches in the diocese, although the precise extent of the Bishop's involvement, here and elsewhere, has not been established.

### **2.3 Setting**

The church, presbytery and parish hall stand together on a large site on the southern outskirts of Northallerton, in an area of substantial early-20<sup>th</sup> century brick houses.

### **2.4 Description of the building and its principal fittings and furnishings**

The church is built of red brick laid in Flemish bond, with dressings of sandstone and roof coverings of Welsh slate. The plan comprises an aisleless nave, with projecting square western porch apsidal sanctuary, square southeast tower and a miniscule northeast baptistery. The building stands on rising ground and the west porch is reached by steps, recently renewed. The single storey has a pointed central door flanked by *oeil-de-boeuf* windows and a battlemented parapet. The west wall has three lancet windows over the porch with a coat of arms in the gable and thin brick corner towers which rise to small octagonal turrets. The side walls have narrow lancet windows between stepped buttresses. The low northeast tower is square on plan with a single lancet on each face of the bell stage and a battlemented parapet with small corner pinnacles. The apsidal sanctuary has two small lancets a side.

The interior is simple, with plain plastered walls and a boarded ceiling with the tie-beams and principals of the roof shown beneath the boarding. There is a west organ gallery, whose front is decorated with what appears to be paper mosaic representations of the Stations of the Cross. In the east wall is a simple pointed arch to the sanctuary, which has modern stained glass in the windows, and there is a similar but smaller arch to the former baptistery. The windows in the body of the church are mostly clear-glazed. Above the doorway to the sacristy is what appears to be an early or mid-18<sup>th</sup> century oil painting of the Assumption of the Virgin.