

St George, Scarborough

Scarborough, East Yorkshire



Part 1: Core data

1.1 Listed grade: *Not listed*

1.2 Conservation area: *No*

1.3 Architect: *Francis Johnson*

1.4 Date(s): *1957 and later*

1.5 Date of visit: *9 October 2007*

1.6 Name of report author: *Nicholas Antram*

1.7 Name of parish priest and/or contact(s) made on site: *Very Rev John Loughlin*

1.8 Associated buildings: *Presbytery*

1.9 Bibliographic references:

Middlesbrough Diocesan Yearbook 2007

Minskip, Dominic: *A History of St Peter's Mission, Scarborough (1783 to the present)* 1989

Part 2: Analysis

2.1 Statement of Importance

Although Francis Johnson was a noted Yorkshire architect, his design for St Joseph's is modest and unassuming, a simple building on a small budget. The later additions have been carefully designed and, whilst not unattractive, the church is not of particular architectural significance.

2.2 Historical background

The church was originally built as a combined church and hall (cost £15,000) to serve the expanding housing estates of Eastfield, southwest of Scarborough. Mass had previously been said in Eastfield Community Centre. The church hall was later enlarged and became a parish in 1965, reverting to a chapel-of-ease in 1999.

2.3 Setting

The church is located at a roundabout in a loosely laid out Post-War housing estate. The church itself is set back behind a car park enclosed by a hedge. There is a green area around three sides of the church and the presbytery stands adjacent and within the plot.

2.4 Description of the building and its principal fittings and furnishings

A long rectangular building, red brick with pantiled roof. Church hall at one end, church at the other, divided by a folding screen enabling the two to be thrown together. The appearance of the building is more that of a church hall or community centre than an ecclesiastical building, i.e. domestic-style windows, doors and proportions. The original windows are of Crittall type with square leaded glazing. 1980s addition along the entrance side of the building, comprising a lean-to kitchen and other service facilities and gabled entrance bays, the church entrance with a larger segmental arch and glazed screen.

The interior has wooden pews (from the demolished Houghton Hall chapel) and sanctuary furnishings, of 1957 or later, but all of a piece. The church hall is furnished with stacking chairs. Small recesses for side chapel and electronic organ.