

SS Mary and Joseph, Hedon

*Hedon, East Yorkshire*



**Part 1: Core data**

1.1 Listed grade: *II\**

1.2 Conservation area: *Hedon Conservation Area*

1.3 Architect: *Not established*

1.4 Date(s): *1803*

1.5 Date of visit: *10 October 2007*

1.6 Name of report author: *Nicholas Antram*

1.7 Name of parish priest and/or contact(s) made on site: *Margaret Servician*

1.8 Associated buildings: *Presbytery*

1.9 Bibliographic references:

*Middlesbrough Diocesan Yearbook 2007*

Carson, Robert: *The First 100 Years – A History of the Diocese of Middlesbrough 1878-1978*

Pevsner, N. & Neave, D.: *The Buildings of England, Yorkshire: York and the East Riding*, Penguin Books 1995

*Church booklet including notes on the history of the church*

## **Part 2: Analysis**

### **2.1 Statement of Importance**

***An important survival of a relatively unspoilt Georgian Catholic church. It is modest and discreetly tucked away, has the appearance of a Nonconformist chapel. Delightfully simple interior, though of Georgian elegance in its apsed ends.***

### **2.2 Historical background**

Hedon was one of the six new missions established after the 1778 Relief Act. The church was built in 1803 but was a successor to an older chapel at Nuthill, Burstwick, a neighbouring village, where the surviving registers date from 1774. The church at Hedon was paid for by Francis Constable of Burton Constable. The church was altered internally in the 19th century but much of this work was undone as part of a restoration in the 1980s, returning the interior more to its Georgian appearance.

### **2.3 Setting**

The church was built attached to and tucked behind a pair of existing cottages with front gardens in Baxtergate close to the centre of Hedon, trying not to draw attention to itself at a time when Catholicism was still viewed with suspicion and often hostility. It remains barely visible from Baxtergate, a street of mixed character spoilt by being on Hedon's one-way road system.

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

See list description, below.

The church faces south but references here are to liturgical compass points.

The basic rectangular structure of the church has very much the character of Nonconformist chapels of the period with just three large round-headed windows to the side walls with wooden Y-tracery. Red brick with a hipped pantile roof. At the west end a gabled projection with a small timber bellcote on the gable and three blind arches to the west. The east end has the sacristy and the upper part is part of the adjoining presbytery, and from the east all is of domestic character, with two Georgian sash windows in the south wall and a chimney stack on the corner.

The interior is a rectangular space with flat ceiling and a basket-arch to an apse at either end with fluted pilasters and moulded architrave. At the west end the square apse has a barrel vaulted plaster ceiling over a gallery with panelled front cantilevered over the nave and with curved ends. This sits on top of the internal porch with three doors into the nave. The apse at the east end contains the sanctuary and has a mural of marble effect, a frieze of saints and a painted scene in the half dome. Panelled doors to either side of the apse of domestic character. Simple open-backed painted pews. Octagonal Victorian marble font at the west end. Altar, ambo and tabernacle stand in simple Classical style, probably dating from the 1980s restoration. One Victorian stained glass window (1892) in the centre light on the south side in Pre-Raphaelite style. Other bits of Victorian stained glass in the tracery lights. Stations of the Cross, painted and gilded scenes in wooden frames. The porch has red and black chequer tiles and a Georgian staircase with stick balusters.

## **2.5 List description:**

**Building Name:** CHURCH OF ST MARY AND ST JOSEPH

**Parish:** HEDON

**District:** EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

**County:** THE EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

**LBS Number:** 166388

**Grade:** II\*

**Date Listed:** 09/01/1954

**Date of Last Amendment:** 12/06/2007

**NGR:** TA1904928593

### **Listing Text:**

In the entry for the following:-

GRAPE LANE

1.

5266

(west side)

TA 1928 NW 2/8

9.1.54 Church of St Mary and

St Joseph

II

The grade shall be amended to read II\* (star)

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GRAPE LANE

1.

5266

(West Side)

Church of St Mary and

St Joseph

TA 1928 NW 2/3 9.1.54.

II

1803. Built during ministry of Father Joseph Swinburne (1774-1845), who had moved the Catholic Chapel from Nuthill where it had been established by the Robinson family. Brown brick. Pantiled roof. Three lunette-headed windows per side, whose original glazing was replaced in 1892 with pre-Raphaelite type stained glass.

Interior. Altar set in frescoed apse with contemporary architraves and pilaster. Similar apse at opposite end contains gallery with carved and panelled front.

Listing NGR: TA1905028596