

**Parish of Hendon – OFS Faculty Petition Application ref: 2022-078618  
Repairs to churchyard wall, gatepiers and railings at the former church of  
Sunderland Holy Trinity, Church Street East, SR1 2BB (In the Care of the Churches  
Conservation Trust)**

**Statements of Significance and Needs**

**Statement of Significance:**

The former church building of Holy Trinity (Grade I) was closed and disposed of by the Church Commissioners under the Pastoral Measure, through a scheme dated 9th June 1988, and is vested in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust (CTT). The CTT have recently completed a prestigious renovation of this key Georgian civic asset (now called *Seventeen Nineteen*).

The CCT occupies and manages the restored former church building as an important cultural venue which still provides occasional service under licence, and plays a central role for the wider regeneration of Sunderland's east end. The official listing describes this fine Georgian church: "Redundant parish church. 1719. Possibly by William Etty. 1735 apse paid for by the incumbent, Daniel Newcome, extending original square-ended sanctuary; roof reconstructed by Thomas Wilson and west gallery added 1803. Windows reglazed 1803 and c1900. Handed over to Redundant Churches Fund 1988..." (*Full listing description attached.*)

The churchyard and curtilage boundary walls are not vested with the CCT but remain in the ownership of the Parish of Hendon. The Grade II listing describes "Church forecourt wall with gatepiers. Brick wall with stone coping. Ashlar piers. C1719. Low wall, railings renewed, those in southern section of C19 type. Low square rusticated cornices piers." (*Full listing attached.*) It is noted that the railings to this southern section of wall in particular were replaced in the C19 and appear to be a mixture of mild hollow section steel and cast iron. It is thought the railings may have been in need of some degree of conservation repair, prior to the accident in June 2020, and with some finials missing.

On 11 June 2020, a Menzies Distribution delivery lorry caused accidental damage and demolition impacting a section of the west churchyard wall, forecourt gatepiers (termed the 'south gatepiers') and railings. Durham DBF, acting on behalf of the Parish of Hendon, subsequently received a settlement from Menzies Distributions' insurers, by way of a consistory court hearing of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Durham DBF (DDBF) now seeks to undertake a programme of appropriate repairs and reinstatement under faculty submission and to the satisfaction of the consistory court, Durham Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Parish of Hendon.

DDBF here submits design documents and proposals which propose a works programme to conduct appropriate, like-for-like, repairs and reinstatement to ensure the fabric and character of this church group setting is retained in terms of its architectural significance and merit.

## Statement of Needs:

Durham DBF (DDBF) is here acting on behalf of the Parish of Hendon and has liaised fully with Fr Andrew Collins Jones and the Parish of Hendon, and also with the Manager of Seventeen Nineteen, Tracey Mienie of the Churches Conservation Trust. Consultation has also been had with Sunderland City Council Conservation Officer to notify and invite consultation on a design proposal to oversee a like-for-like repair and rebuild of the damaged sections of churchyard wall, gatepiers and railings, according to the requirements of faculty jurisdiction.

DDBF, on behalf of the Parish of Hendon, seeks to submit the following proposals:

## SCHEDULE OF WORKS OR PROPOSALS:

Works at former churchyard of Holy Trinity Church, Church Street East Sunderland SR1 2BB  
Comprising: Careful reconstruction of the length of damaged, stone capped, brick walling and metal fencing, stone gate column and gate utilising recovered original materials (stonework, capping, metalwork etc.) and handmade bricks (new).

[For the avoidance of doubt: the works are to the retained churchyard of the former Holy Trinity Church.]

Refer to Hugh Massey Architect's design documents, tender submission and supporting information, in particular:

1705.280922.HM.ND - Specification and Schedule of Works, Phase 2 Tender  
1705.300922.HM.ND - Tender List, Phase 2  
1705.300922.ND - Pre-Contract Information  
1705\_02 Existing Drawings (A3)  
1705\_100\_01 Proposed Drawings (A3)  
1705.030123.ND.03 - Tender Report  
1705.030123.ND.01 - Tender Price Comparison  
1705.030123.ND.02 - Tender Schedule of Works Analysis

Original fabric displaced from the collision (stone masonry piers and iron railings) has been retained in temporary storage and is to be re-used where possible and with new sections fabricated on like-for-like basis where required. New sections of metalwork will be fabricated on a like-for-like basis using mild section steel and/or ductile iron, where required. Handmade clay bricks, made for the restoration of Holy Trinity building, will be used for construction of the missing section of churchyard wall. Where replacement sandstone masonry copings/ ashlar is required this will be sourced on a like-for-like basis. Lime mortar specified as per the architect Hugh Massey's schedule of works.

Due to the displacement caused by the lorry's impact, in addition to reinstatement of the missing sections of wall, railings and gatepiers, conservation repairs will be conducted along the length of the wall and railings, south of the main west entrance gatepiers, to ensure a sympathetic and commensurate programme of repair.

All salvaged fabric from the accident has been removed from site and secured to prevent theft or vandalism. Temporary hoarding is currently in place to the churchyard wall. A site compound has been provided on a green located opposite the church site, which is owned by Sunderland City Council and for which a licence for use has been secured.

All works will be to the satisfaction of Hugh Massey Architects and Durham DAC, to ensure an appropriate repair scheme to the churchyard wall within this heritage group setting.