

## **Statement of Significance**

Building Name: Church of the Holy Trinity. Parish: Oldham

District: Oldham County: Greater Manchester

LBS Number: 388888

Grade: II

Date Listed: 08/03/1993

Date of last amendment: 08/03/1993

Date Delisted:

NGR: SD9520305999

### Listing Text

SP90NE Church Street, Waterhead 780-1/2/100 (West Side)

Church of the Holy Trinity

### II

Parish church. 1847 by E. H. Shellard with tower and spire added later. Coursed and squared rubble with ashlar dressings and Welsh slate roof with ridge cresting.

West tower and spire, nave with two aisles, chancel. Early English style. Two-stage west tower with tall lower stage and clasping buttresses.

West door with shafts and deep moulding. Triple lancet window above, then a quatrefoil.

Paired bell chamber lights in upper stage, corbel table and brooch spire with lucarnes.

Long nave of six bays with lean-to aisles divided by buttresses.

Continuous sill band, and heavy unmoulded blocks between the windows, possible unfinished corbel heads. Cornice and overhanging eaves. Gabled north porch with shafts to doorway.

Trefoiled clerestory windows divided by pilasters. Lower chancel with stepped lancets to east window with continuous hoodmould. Gabled vestry to north of chancel.

Interior: nave arcade of six bays with clustered banded shafts and roll moulded capitals. Stumpy wall shafts carry cambered truss and collar roof with king posts. Painted ceiling. Single chamfered west door, and paired lancets above, now lighting base of tower. Shafts as responds to chancel arch, with painted text over archway. Chancel refitted 1884: Encaustic tiles, painted panelled ceiling. Wood traceried reredos. Stained glass: all the principal windows carry stained glass. In the south aisle, one by Capronnier dated 1892, and another unsigned but in similar style, 1880. Two windows by R.B. Edmondson of Manchester, 1880 and 1897. East window of 1871 in medieval style. North aisle windows include one by Mayer and Co. of Munich, dated 1906, 190 by Reuban Bennet of Manchester, and 1906 by Heaton Butler and Bayne. (Slater: Directory of Oldham: Oldham, 1895- ).

Holy Trinity Church is built on a fairly steep rise on the left hand side of Huddersfield Road about one mile from the centre of Oldham. Unusually, it is situated on the extreme eastern boundary of the parish. It is surrounded on three sides by mainly private housing, much of which has been built in the last thirty years. On the fourth side of the church there are some council houses and then the main Huddersfield Road divides the parish from some industrial buildings and another private estate. The church has its own graveyard (now closed and adopted by the local council) with many fine monuments and at least one large family vault. The church yard can be accessed from the east, via a lych gate or through the gateways on the south and west sides of the church. The church itself may be entered from the south via a porch (now permanently closed), or from the west through the tower (now used as the main point of entry into the church). Entering church from the west door, the font (1855) is to the right in the rear corner. The north and south walls contain long arched windows as described in the listing above (see example photo 5). None of the church furnishings are original. To the front there are two banks of 20 rows of pitch pine box pews (photo 1), which were added around 1901 (the third attempt to provide seating) and these have since been 'modified' by removing the original carved ends. On the left of the chancel arch there is an alabaster and imitation marble pulpit (1905, see photo) which is also the third one to be used, apparently replacing a three-decker. The pitch pine choir stalls (photo 5) were second generation, added in 1894. The east end is adorned with an oak carved reredos and matching carved communion table (photo 3) in front of which is a brass communion rail. To the right of the chancel is the organ chamber (erected 1901) and organ, which was purchased in 1873 and transferred from the gallery to the organ chamber after refurbishment in 1902. To the left of the chancel is the vestry, which is divided into two, one half being fitted with cupboards etc. for the storage of choir robes and altar linen etc.