

St Andrew's Roundhay United Reformed Church
(Roundhay Congregational Church)

Statement of Significance

The buildings at St Andrew's of principal interest are the School-church (1902) and the main church building (1908). They are rare essays in church architecture by local architect William Beevers, most of whose work was domestic. Arts and Crafts Gothic in style they are faced in coursed Bramley stone with Cullingworth mullions. Unusually for a Congregational church the design is cruciform in shape, with transepts and a chancel, a tower and a clock, but no bells. There is much significant stained glass.

The interior of the 1902 building, unlike its exterior, has little historical or architectural significance. It was extensively altered in 1962 to become the Memorial Hall, at the conclusion of the church's war memorial project. It is characteristic of that period with a softwood-panelled dado and an expanded polystyrene suspended ceiling. The proposed secondary glazing will not affect the exterior of the hall and will have minimal impact on its internal appearance. It will improve the comfort of users and reduce the amount of energy required to heat it

The interior of the church, also designed by Beevers, features an open timber roof, with exposed oak trusses, panelling in chancel area and an organ case, all in Austrian oak. Wooden dado panelling to the rest of the church was re-finished in 2005 to match the chancel panelling.

Significant furnishings, mostly gifts from early members of the church, include the pulpit (probably by Jones and Willis of Birmingham) lectern, communion table and (as originally envisaged) inward facing choir stalls. Later gifts include the font, five communion chairs by Thompson of Kilburn and the music stand by Colin Almack.

Pews were removed and replaced with chairs in 2005 as part of a major re-ordering of the church. The entry vestibule was altered in 1996 to provide better facilities for greeting worshippers and for meetings.

The boundary wall to the site, which is laid out as a community garden, and six gate pillars are listed in their own right. The original iron gates and fence panels have disappeared, possibly during the second world war.

A two-story (1937) and a single-story (1962) extension are listed by virtue of being in the curtilage of the church and schoolroom. They are constructed of brick with tiled or flat roofs, and though the 1937 building is typical of its period, they would not be regarded as significant in another context.