#### **North Adelaide Source Sheet No. 24**

Laid out by Colonel Light in 1837 as an urban satellite with 341 acre blocks surrounded by Park Lands, North Adelaide soon became a dormitory suburb for the social elite - wealthy business and professional men who built large mansions, mostly in Upper North Adelaide. Lower North Adelaide, by contrast, tended to be predominantly inhabited by labouring classes, artisans and tradesmen who lived in cottages on small allotments. A burgeoning colonial middle class also chose to live in North Adelaide, their villas and terraces endowing the suburb with much of its distinctive Victorian architecture. Before 1858 Kermode Street was the commercial hub of North Adelaide, but construction of a new city bridge and roadway resulted in O’Connell Street becoming the major business centre. Continuing commercial encroachments, increasing subdivisions and conversion of many houses to professional rooms and hostels, together with rising volumes of through traffic during the postwar years detracted from the suburb’s traditional residential character. Since adopting the City of Adelaide Plan in 1976 the Council has tried to control new developments in North Adelaide to ensure its function as a unique, diverse and essentially urban residential area is preserved.

**Archival Sources**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Record Description** | **Date Range** | **Accession Number(s)** |
| Council Minute Books | 1840 - 1874 |  |
| Digests of Proceedings Town Acre Indexes | 1872 - |  |
| Master Index [to Town Clerk’s Dockets and Special Files] | c1930 - 1976 | 2426 |
| Town Clerk’s Department Dockets | 1856 - 1976 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk’s Letters Received Books | 1862 - 1976 | 4182 |
| Index of Town Clerk’s Letters Received | 1856 - 1973 | 4183 |
| Town Clerk’s Department Letter Books – General | 1853 - 1924 | 602 |
| Smith Survey Sheets | 1880 | 1619 |
| Kingston Map | 1842 |  |
| Plans of Acres Books | c1875 | 465 |
| City Treasurer’s Assessment Books | 1847 - | 5235, 5236 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 630A ‘History of City of Adelaide’ (contains copy of paper by J. Tregenza, ‘Changes and Continuities in North Adelaide’) | 1880s | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 464 ‘Festival Hall’ | 1960 - 1969 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 639 ‘North Adelaide Properties / Village Centre / Redevelopment’ | 1957 - 1976 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 108 ‘Tenancies – North Adelaide Shops’ | 1924 - 1934 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Department Newspaper Clippings – General | 1898 - 1971 | 283 |
| Return of Plans Submitted to the Council and Local Board of Health under Building Act 1881 | 1882 - 1925 | 1169, 2168, 4919 |
| Return of Surveyor of Notices Received for Building Work under Building Act 1881 | 1882 - 1925 | 1173, 2167, 4920 |
| Building Application Plans | 1924 |  |
| Building Plans Register | 1924 - 1981 | 1170 |
| Building Surveyor’s Dockets | 1925 - 1977 | 4786, 4876 |
| Plans of Demolished Buildings | c1922 - 1980 | 1829, 2630 |
| City Engineer’s Dockets | c1902 - 1979 | 2354, 3080, 4621 |
| City Engineer’s Documented Index | 1902 - 1970 | 741, 743, 745, 749, 2117, 2121 |
| City Engineer’s Department Photo Albums | 1925 - 1970 | 3261 |
| Street Numbering Conversion Register | 1920 | 1655 |
| Street Numbering Field Note Books | 1920 | 5180 |
| Valuers’ Field Books | 1890 - 1973 | 1010, 2254 |
| North Adelaide Society Heritage Reports (prepared by Ian Hannaford and Partners) | 1971 | 66/41 |
| ‘North Adelaide 1870-95’ (University of Adelaide paper) | 1870 - 1895 | 29/15 |
| Commercial Department Photographs | c1960s | 3554 |
| Historical Pictorial Collection | 1850 - 1970 | S59, 1461, 3016, 5531 |
| Town Clerk’s Lantern Slides Collection | 1860 - 1940 | 4351 |

**Other Sources**

See Paula Nagel, ***North Adelaide 1837-1901. A Social History*** (Austaprint, Adelaide, 1971), and Susan Marsden, Paul Stark and Patricia Sumerling (eds), ***Heritage of the City of Adelaide. An* *Illustrated******Guid****e* (Corporation of the City of Adelaide, 1990).

**Further Information**

**City Archives:** Topham Mall, off Currie and Waymouth Streets, Adelaide 5000

**Counter / telephone enquiries:** 9**.**00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday

**Search Room open for public research:**10.00 am to 4.00 pm Tuesday to Thursday

**Telephone:** +618 8203 7439

**Email:** [cityarchives@cityofadelaide.com.au](mailto:cityarchives@cityofadelaide.com.au)

**Web:** <https://cityofadelaide.com.au/cityarchives>