***Street Names and Numbers* Source Sheet No. 27**

The major streets of Adelaide, as delineated on Colonel Light’s original plan, were named by a Street Naming Committee on 23 May 1837. Most were named after persons instrumental in the foundation of the colony. However, there was no systematic method of naming smaller streets, and it is not always apparent when or why they were assigned their name. Many were named after prominent individuals, original landowners or nearby landmarks. Sometimes it is possible to discover the origin of a street name from the Assessment Books, which are annual rate records of persons who owned or occupied land within the City. Often it seems, streets became known by the names of longstanding occupiers of the land on which they were laid out, generally in the first instance, as private thoroughfares. Several smaller 19th century streets have disappeared, others have had their names changed. A Register of Public Streets is kept by the Corporation which lists every street within the City opened for public use, the date it was proclaimed a public street, and any name changes that may have occurred. The street numbers of many premises within the City were changed during the 1880s and then again in 1920.

**Archival Sources**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Record Description** | **Date Range** | **Accession Number(s)** |
| City of Adelaide Reference Book | 1983 |  |
| Town Clerk’s Newspaper Clippings – General[‘Street Histories’ published in *The Register*] | 1929 | 283/33 |
| Master Index [to Town Clerk’s Dockets and Special Files] | c1930 - 1976 | 2426 |
| City Treasurer’s Assessment Books | 1847 - | 5235, 5236 |
| Town Clerk’s Docket 3409 of 1899 ‘Public Streets’ | 1899 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk’s Docket 153 of 1955 ‘Naming of Streets’ | 1955 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk’s Docket 6 of 1921 ‘Renaming of Streets in Vicinity of Stock Exchange’ | 1921 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 476 ‘Street Names/Nameplates’ | 1955 - 1976 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 579 ‘Private Streets to be Declared as Public Streets’ | 1964 - 1975 | 352 |
| Register of Streets  | c1850-1910 | 849 |
| Names of Streets of Adelaide  | 1867 - 1868 | 2196 |
| Street Name Register | c1970 - 1989 | 3582 |
| Smith Survey Sheets | 1880 | 1619 |
| Plans of Acres Books | c1875 | 465 |
| ***Private Streets Records***Private Streets Register [showing docket references] | 1902 - | 5875 |
| [Private Streets Accounts; Sundry Accounts Books] | 1867 - 1949 | 2104 |
| City Treasurer's Letterbook [private street accounts] | 1902 - | 2110 |
| [Private Streets Plans and Cost Book] | 1894 - 1898 | 2114 |
| Journal of Private Streets  | 1876 - 1879 | 2115 |
| [Index to Streets Accounts Books] | 1890s | 2300 |
| Crossings [details of private streets works] | 1920 - | 5874 |
| Index of Streets [Binder] | c1959 | 2333 |
| [Numerical Index - Town Acre Reference] | [1867-1897] | 2172 |
| [Alphabetical Index - Street Name] |  | 2173 |
| Town Clerk’s Docket 7419 of 1910 ‘Private Streets Entered in Streets Register’ | 1910 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 579 ‘Private Streets to Be declared Public Streets’ | 1957 - 1976 | 352 |
| Private Streets Map [showing location and City Engineer’s Docket references] | 1912 - 1947 | 5876 |
| Private Streets | 1965 | 5777 |
| ***Street Numbering Records***Street Numbering Original [Conversion] Sheets | 1920 | 1655 |
| Street Numbering Survey Plans and Field Note Books | 1920 | 5180 |
| Register of Street Numbers [Book] | 1889, 1911 | 4949 |
| Town Clerk Docket 2909 of 1942 ‘Street Number Plates’ | 1942 | 2530 |
| Town Clerk Docket 2218 of 1963 ‘Renumbering of Brown/ Morphett Street  | 1963 | 2530 |
| [Smith Survey Plans Used During Renumbering] | 1884? 1920? | 4419 |
| [Renumbering of City Properties - Conversion File] | c1920 | 843 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 585 ‘Street Numbering’ | 1962 -1975 | 352 |

**Other Sources**

Mayor’s Reports, Annual Reports and the Digests of Proceedings 1872 –,

G.D. Mudie, ***Development of the Adelaide Street System*** (Pioneers Association, Adelaide,1954) and

Geoffrey H. Manning, ***Manning’s Place Names of South Australia*** (Adelaide, 1990) pp.357-365.

**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

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