**Statues and Memorials Source Sheet No. 36**

Almost all statues, memorials and monuments within the City’s public places are under the custody and care of the City Council (they form part of the City of Adelaide Civic Collection). The majority were erected during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, some with a view to raising the cultural tone of the City, others purposely commemorating significant persons or historical events. Wealthy private benefactors presented some statues to the City, while special interest groups to celebrate specific causes or achievements erected others. The majority were acquired and paid for by public subscription campaigns, usually supported by the Council, and often attended by lavish unveiling ceremonies. The State Government and the City Council have also directly commissioned some works. Many of the City’s statues are of former reigning monarchs, early explorers, City founders, important political, social and scientific identities, together with some fine figures of classical and mythological origin. There are also a number of major war memorials and a scattering of various busts, plaques and obelisks. Most monuments and memorials are located in the public squares, boulevards or gardens, though some have been placed near the entrance to particular buildings, and a few are to be found within the Adelaide Town Hall. In addition to the archival records and photographs held in the City Archives, information about many statues and memorials is held in the Civic Collection and may be accessed by appointment with the Curator of that collection.

**Archival Sources**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Record Description** | **Date Range** | **Accession Number(s)** |
| 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 |
| Morison Index | c1920 - 1972 | 228 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 40 ‘North Terrace Reserves’ | 1910 - 1921 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 146 ‘Victoria Square Remodelling / Reserves’ | 1924 - 1953 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 64 ‘Extension of / Improved Pavements / North Terrace’ | 1919 - 1940 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 111 ‘National War Memorial - King William Rd’ | 1913 - 1955 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 153 ‘Colonel Light / Light’s Vision’ | 1921 - 1974 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 296 ‘Memorial to J D Chapman and Sons’ | 1948 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 305 ‘National War Memorial Reserve - North Terrace’ | 1931 - 1975 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 412 ‘King George VI Memorial’ | 1957 - 1971 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 477 ‘Parklands Development’ | 1961 - 1976 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Department Newspaper Clippings - General | 1898 - 1971 | 283 |
| Letter Book - Colonel Light Memorial Fund | 1904 - 1906 | 659 |
| [Colonel Light Monument and Memorial Records] | 1892 - 1906 | 1263 |
| City Engineer’s Dockets | c1902 - 1979 | 2354, 3080, 4612 |
| City Engineer’s Documented Index | 1902 - 1970 |  |
| Parks and Gardens Dockets | 1943 - 1976 | 1000, 1246, 2906 |
| Parks and Gardens Department Docket Indexes | 1943 - 1975 | 5364 |
| Parks and Gardens Department Docket Registers | 1943 - 1975 | 319, 5365 |
| Parks and Gardens Department Newspaper Clippings Books | 1945 - 1977 | 753, 1991 |
| Department of Parks and Recreation Files | 1921 - 1987 | 4416 |
| 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**

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

City Archives Source Sheet No. 50 *The City of Adelaide Civic Collection,*

***City of Adelaide Reference Book***, 1983,

***Silent Witnesses. Adelaide’s Statues and Monuments*** (Wakefield Press, Adelaide, 1997),

***Heritage of the City of Adelaide. An* *Illustrated******Guid****e* (Corporation of the City of Adelaide, 1990).

**Further Information**

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**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

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