#### **Inspection and Licensing Source Sheet No. 52**

Council has always had a strong governance role, performed under various acts and by-laws intended to regulate and raise revenue from a wide range of transactions carried on within the municipal boundaries.

Among the activities subject to annual inspection and licensing were: *lodging houses, weighbridges, private hospitals, places of public entertainment, sporting clubs, drays, vans, carts, tramcars, omnibuses and other public conveyances, taxi-cab owners, public hire vehicles, street hawkers, milk sellers, coffee stalls, restaurants, fish shops, street musicians, newspaper vendors, marine store operators, motor car drivers, boot blacks, boat owners, street photographers, kerosene stores, private slaughterhouses, chimney sweeps, stables, horse and carriage bazaars, hide and skin stores, public amusements, ice cream vendors, cow keepers, dog owners and weights and measures used by places of business*.

Inspection and licensing were initially performed by the Town Clerk assisted by a few carefully chosen officials, such as the Inspector of Weights and Measures, the Inspector of Nuisances, and the Inspector of Slaughterhouses. Pre-1870 reports of these officials are among the Earliest Corporation Records Collection. In 1874 William Shakespeare was appointed City Inspector and Licensing Officer; the role grew into the City Inspector’s Office, later becoming the City Inspector’s Department until 1973 when licensing was transferred to the Administration Department. For a detailed administrative history of the Corporation’s inspection and licensing role, see Context Unit Registration No. 54 ‘City Inspector’s Office’.

**Archival Sources**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Record Description** | **Date Range** | **Accession Number(s)** |
| Minutes of Council | 1852 - 1875 | 2368 |
| Master Index [to Town Clerk’s Dockets andSpecial 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 - 1926 | 328, 602 |
| Morison Index | 1912 - c1965 | 226 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 27 ‘Street Hawkers’ | 1898 - 1918 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 67 ‘Lodging Houses - Renewal of Registration’ | 1921 - 1923 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 69 ‘Applications for Restaurant Licences’ | 1921 - 1922 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special Files 70,80,82,84 Sporting Club Applications | 1922 - 1923 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 139 ‘Newsvendors’ | 1927 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 158 ‘Street Musicians’ | 1929 - 1930 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 201 ‘Fruit Stands’ | 1930s | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 228 ‘Licensed Stands in Streets’ | 1938 - 1940 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 274 ‘Applications for Hire Car Licences’ | 1946 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 403 ‘Street Hawkers Stands’ | 1945 - 1960 | 352 |
| Town Clerk’s Special File 466 ‘Restaurant and Fish Shop Licences’ | 1951 - 1058 | 352 |
| City Inspector’s Office - Registers of Licences | 1867 - 1952 | 671, 1875, 2149, 2186, 2187 |
| Licensing Officer’s Journal | 1860 - 1975 | 653 |
| Depasturing Licence Fees [Forms Book] | 1982 - 1983 | 2136 |
| Records relating to Motor Driver’s Licences and Vehicle Registrations | c1926 - 1980 | 2144, 2145, 2146, 2148, 2149, 2186, 2187 |
| Records of Inspection of Premises – Stables, Restaurants, Fish Shops, Lodging Houses A-L | 1938 - 1960 | 5174, 5175 |
| Minutes of the Inspector of Milk Dairies and Dairy Cattle Committee  | 1899 - 1900 | 637 |
| Records relating to Sporting Clubs Permits  | 1895 - 1968 | 437, 746, 751, 760, 2835 |
| Register Inspector of Weights and Measures | 1863 - 1873 | 646 |
| Weights and Measures  | 1845 - 1969 | 1667 |
| Town Clerk’s Department Newspaper Clippings – General | 1898 - 1971 | 283 |
| Copies of Municipal Corporations Acts and other Acts  | 1840 - 1976 | 4443, 4444 |
| Copies of Corporation By-Laws  | 1870 - 1974 | 52, 164, 332, 4445 |
| Register of Offences under various Acts and By-Laws relating to the City of Adelaide | 1864 - 1887 | 618 |
| 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. 34 Transport I – Hire Vehicles

City Archives Source Sheet No. 45 Dog Registration

City Archives Source Sheet No. 53 Street Hawkers

**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>