

Sir Ross Macpherson Smith Memorial

Memorial to Sir Ross Smith, commemorating the first flight from England to Australia. Following his death the public was quick to donate to a "shilling fund", opened by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, to provide a fitting memorial. It was unveiled on 10 December 1927, the 8th anniversary of the arrival of the Vickers Vimy on Australian soil.

Location: Creswell Gardens
Cnr War Memorial Drive & King William Road, Adelaide



Memorial unveiling on 10.12.1927



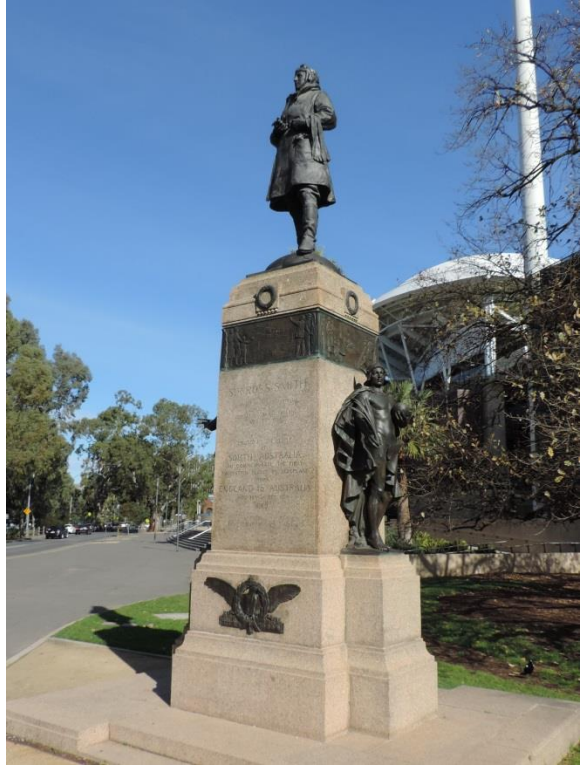
PRG 18/13/11

Sir Keith Smith and crowds gathered at the unveiling of Sir Ross Smith's memorial commemorating the first successful flight by aeroplane from England - Australia at Creswell Gardens, Adelaide, South Australia. Front row: Sir George Murray (in top hat), Sir Keith Smith, Miss Murray, Lady Bonython, Lady Smith, and Sergeant Shiers. Behind Sir George is Mr James Gosse, Mr and Mrs Barr Smith, and Mrs J Gosse. 10 December 1927.

(SLSA PRG 18/13/11)



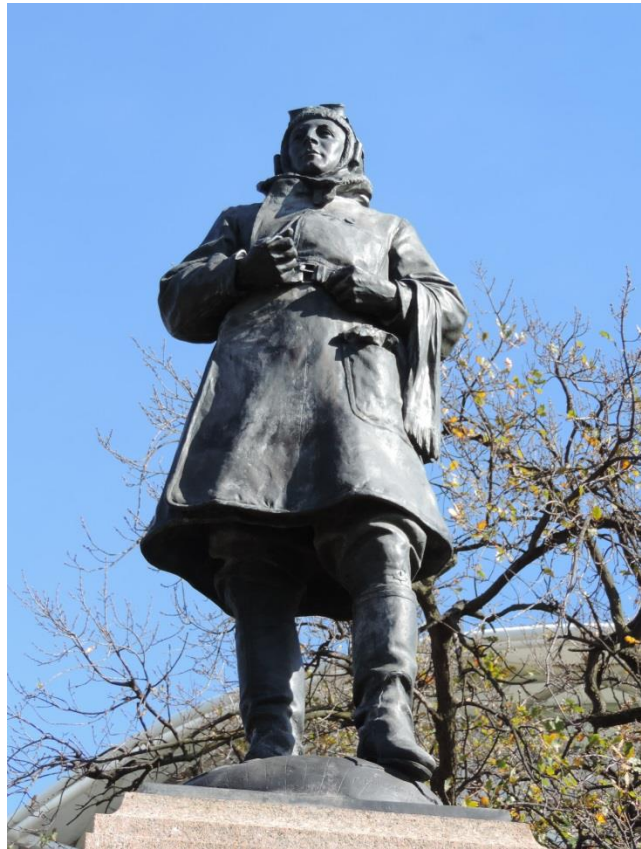
circa 1928 (SLSA B 4974)



2019 (H.Stein)



1927 (SLSA B 6091)



2019 (H.Stein)

Front Face

Brass plaque showing the Vickers Vimy's arrival in Adelaide, showing the Adelaide Town Hall and G.P.O. spires.

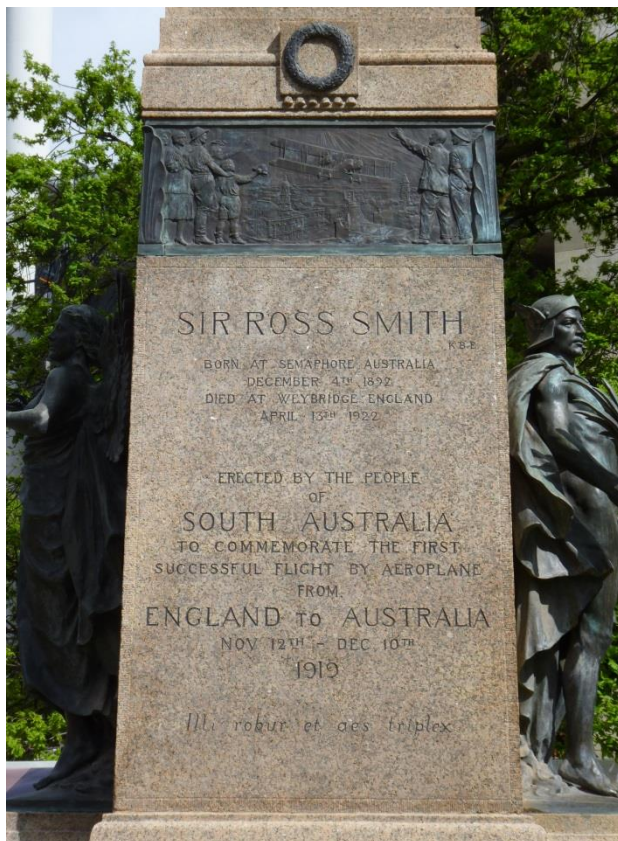


1927 (SLSA B 6086)



2013 (H.Stein)

Inscription:



SIR ROSS SMITH K.B.E.
BORN AT SEMAPHORE, AUSTRALIA
DECEMBER 4TH 1892
DIED AT WEYBRIDGE, ENGLAND
APRIL 13TH 1922

ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE
OF
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST
SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT BY AEROPLANE
FROM
ENGLAND TO AUSTRALIA
NOV. 12TH – DEC 10TH
1919
ILLI ROBUR ET AES TRIPLEX

Front Face (cont)

Medals and decorations won by Sir Ross Smith during WW1



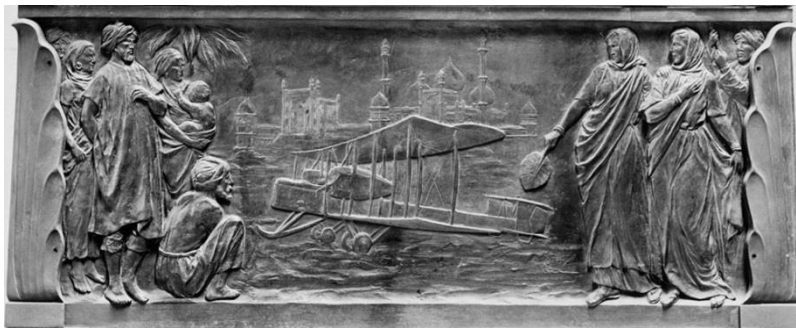
1927 (SLSA 6085)



2013 (H.Stein)

Rear Face

Brass plaque depicting the landing in India



1927 (SLSA B 6088)



2013 (H.Stein)

Portrait panel at the back of memorial depicts Sir Keith Smith and the two mechanics (Bennett and Shiers) who accompanied the brothers on the epic flight.

Inscription:



VICKERS VIMY ROLLS AEROPLANE
G – EAOU

NAVIGATOR
SIR KEITH SMITH K.B.E.

MECHANICS
LIEUT W.H. SHIERS A.F.M.
LIEUT. J.M. BENNETT E.M., M.S.M.

Rear Face (cont)



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1927 (SLSA B 6084)



2013 (H.Stein)

Southern Face

Brass plaque depicting the departure from London showing St. Paul's Cathedral in the background.



1927 (SLSA B 6087)

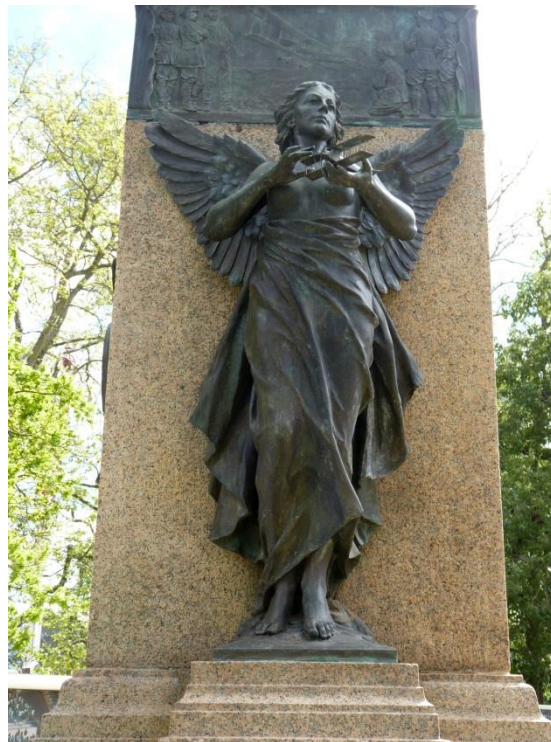


(H.Stein 2013)

Bronze figure representing "Flight"



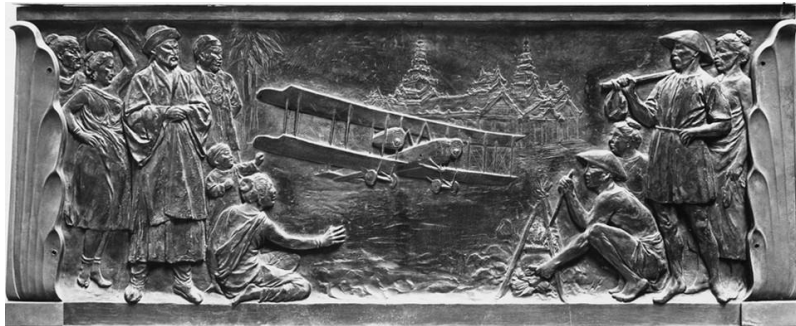
1927 (SLSA B 6093)



(H.Stein 2013)

Northern Face

Brass plaque depicting the landing in Burma.



1927 (SLSA B 6089)



2013 (H.Stein)

The figure of "Intrepidity"

A vigorous conception of the quality of courage that distinguished the career of Sir Ross Smith.



1927 (SLSA B 6092)



2013 (H.Stein)