

| BCC owned Public Art, Fountains & Clocks ref Transatlantic Slave Trade / Colonialism | | | | | | | | |
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| Statue/ Art Work | Risk Rating media coverage | Current Location | Reason for being 'at risk' | Information web source | Description | Artist / architect | Listing | Constituency |
| <i>All public art on this list owned by BCC and managed by Birmingham Museums Trust unless otherwise stated</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Lord Nelson | Possible risk - Guardian Article in 2017 suggests Nelson statues should be taken down. | Bullring | While he searched unsuccessfully for a Napoleonic fleet in the Caribbean, Nelson also found time to reflect on the relationship between Britain and its precious colonies in the region. In the letter scratched out at his desk on <i>Victory</i> , Nelson proclaimed: "I have ever been and shall die a firm friend to our present colonial system." He went on to explain: "I was bred, as you know, in the good old school, and taught to appreciate the value of our West India possessions; and neither in the field or in the senate [House of Lords] shall their interest be infringed whilst I have an arm to fight in their defence, or a tongue to launch my voice against the damnable and cursed doctrine of Wilberforce and his hypocritical allies." Nelson, whose victories as a naval commander had earned him a parliamentary seat in the Lords, was suggesting here that he would use his political position to speak up against the ideas of the famous British abolitionist campaigner William Wilberforce. | https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/aug/22/toppling-statues-nelsons-column-should-be-next-slavery https://www.historyextra.com/period/georgian/lord-nelson-slavery-abolition-william-wilberforce-dark-side/ | Bronze statue on marble plinth with original railings.Restored as part of the Bullring regeneration project 2003 | Sir Richard Westmacott | II* | Ladywood |
| South African War Memorial | Possible risk. | Cannon Hill Park | memorial, it commemorates colonial actions by Britain in Africa. | https://historicenoland.org.uk/listing | Fine art nouveau memorial consisting of a substantial carved granite plinth bearing a bronze female figure (Peace). In front of | Albert Toft | II | Selly Oak |
| Queen Victoria | Possible risk - This statue has recently (within the last week) been graffitied, removed by Street Cleansing team. | Victoria Square | Victoria came to the throne in 1837 - four years after the Slavery Abolition Act was passed. During her reign, which ended upon her death in 1901, she witnessed a huge expansion of the British Empire. On 2 January 1877, she became the Empress of India to tie the monarchy and Empire closer together. She accepted the title on the advice of her seventh prime minister Benjamin Disraeli, whose political advice she relied on. She approved of his imperialist policies, which established Britain as the most powerful nation in the world. Her popularity in Britain soared as she became a symbol of empire towards the end of her reign. | https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-52985627 | Brock's original statue was an enlarged white marble copy of his own statue of the monarch outside the Shire Hall, Worcester. It was recast in bronze by William Bloye who also made the present light Cornish granite pedestal. | Thomas Brock/ William Bloye | | Ladywood |
| Sir Robert Peel | Possible risk - link with police and father's stance against the abolition of slavery. According to the media - statues targetting in Glasgow and Manchester | Pershore Road outside Tally Ho Police Training Centre, Edgbaston | The links to Sir Robert Peel (instigator of the Metropolitan Police force) seem to be by association through his father, also Sir Robert Peel MP (1750-1830). It is stated his early election campaigns were partly funded by his father, who saw the Foreign Slave Trade Abolition Bill as a threat to the cotton industry and to the cotton town of Manchester. He raised this petition thereby highlighting the risk it presented to the merchants and their trade interests. Peel's own firm, Peel, Yateses, Halliwell & Co., signed the petition together with other merchants and manufacturers. It was presented to the House of Lords on 13 May 1806. The Foreign Slave Trade Abolition Bill prevented the importation of slaves by British traders into territories belonging to foreign powers. In the event the Bill was passed on 23 May 1806. | https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/tradeindustry/slavetrade/from-the-parliamentary-collections/the-british-slave-trade/petition-against-the-foreign-slave-trade-abolition-bill-page-1/petition-against-the-foreign-slave-trade-abolition-act-page-2/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Peel | Bronze statue originally mounted on polished granite plinth with 'wheat-eared' railings. First erected on a site north-east of the Town Hall in 1885. Moved to Calthorpe Park in 1923 with its plinth. Now located outside the Police Training College in Edgbaston where it was put in 1963 on a completely different white polyhedron plinth. Recently cleaned (2020). | Peter Hollins/Elkington | II | Edgbaston |
| Chamberlain Memorial Fountain (managed by Highways) | Possible risk - Chamberlain was the Colonial Secretary of state. | Chamberlain Sq | IMPERIAL AGGRESSION In 1890, Cecil Rhodes became Prime Minister of the Cape Colony. Five years later the British acquired a new Secretary of State, Joseph Chamberlain. Aggressively imperialist by nature, Chamberlain and Rhodes proved a lethal combination. First they took on the Afrikaners in the war of 1899 (known as the Boer war) and then many Africans. It is estimated that between 10,000 and 30,000 Africans fought alongside the British in the Boer War. | https://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/features/storyofafrica/12chapter3.shtml | High Victorian Gothic spire structure. Carving by Barfield of Leicester. Portrait medallion of Chamberlain by Thomas Woolner. The circular fountain pools were added in 1978. | J H Chamberlain | II | Ladywood |
| Chamberlain Clock (managed by Highways) | HIGH RISK: Chamberlain was the Colonial Secretary of state. | Warston Lane, Jewellery Quarter | | | Created to commemorate Joseph Chamberlain's return from South Africa in 1903. Restored in 1990. | | II | Ladywood |
| Highbury Hall | Possible risk - Chamberlain was the Colonial Secretary of state. | | | | | | | |

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| James Watt | Possible risk but IN STORAGE: Father traded with colonial colonies and Watt traded Steam engines with slave plantations. | In Storage, was located in Chamberlain Square, to be reinstated in Radcliff Passage by the Town Hall as part of the Argent Paradise redevelopment | Association to slave trade and his father paid for Watt's education; an element of his father's income was from colonial trade; Dr Mullen spent months delving into more than 50 years of little-studied correspondence from Watt; his father James Watt Senior; and his brother, John, about their extensive involvement in transatlantic mercantile trade with the North American colonies and the sugar plantations of the Caribbean. Dr Mullen's research reveals a dark side to the story of the Watt family. For the first time it provides evidence that Watt's family and Watt himself were not only complicit in the slave trade - they participated directly and benefited extensively from the profits that slavery generated. | https://historywm.com/podcasts/james-watt-and-slavery-the-untold-story | Marble statue on stone plinth depicting the engineer leaning on a steam engine cyldinder. | Alexander Munro | | Ladywood |
| Boulton, Murdock & Watt | Possible risk but IN STORAGE: Both Boulton and Watt sold steam trains for slave plantations in the Caribbean. Murdock, as an employee, framed by association. | In storage - to be relocated in Cenetenary Sq | Watt was contradictually said to have been unsupportive of the slave trade and eventually cancelled orders when there was slave revolt in the French West India colony noew Haiti. More than a hundred steam engines were ordered from Boulton and Watt, destined for the Caribbean between 1778 and 1807. Rita McLean, Chief Curator at Birmingham Museum and Art Galleries, says: "It is true (Boulton and Watt) supplied steam engines to the sugar plantations in the West Indies, but from the records you also see that by supplying steam engines they thought they reduced the need for slave labour. So it's not as straight forward as it first looks." | https://www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk/commerce-slavery-and-anti-slavery/ http://www.bbc.co.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/stories/2007/03_march/02/birmingham.shtml | Commissioned in the 1930s for the Civic Centre scheme which was never realised. The group was finally installed outside the Registry Office on Broad Street in 1956. The statue was restored and regilded in its original finish in 2006. | William Bloye | | Ladywood |
| King Edward VII | Some possible risk but this figure doesn't seem to be coming up in any news stories currently but statue has recently (within the last week) been graffitied, removed by Street Cleansing team. | Centenary Sq | Edward VII knighted Francis Galton, the founder of Eugenics. | https://www.royalfoibles.com/pri-nce-harrys-tribute-of-his-ancestors-racism/ | Marble statue on Portland stone plinth. Plinth has bronze figure of St George on the front and allegorical figures of Peace and Education on either side. Originally located in Victoria Square but moved to Highgate Park in 1951.The bronzes were stolen in the 1980s but recreated as part of the 2009/10 restoration project when the statue was relocated to Centenary Square. | Albert Toft | II | Ladywood |
| Sir Josiah Mason | LOW RISK From a quick search I can't find anything relating this statue back to the slave trade, and his birth date implies he would have been trading post abolition act, but there's always a possibility of being 'guilty by association', although he was self-taught therefore implying no funding was behind him to further his career. | Orphanage Rd / Chester Rd | Sir Josiah Mason (23 February 1795 – 16 June 1881) was an English industrialist, engaged in pen manufacture and other trades, and a philanthropist. He founded Mason Science College in 1875, which later became the University of Birmingham. He was the son of a carpet-weaver, and was born in Mill Street, Kidderminster. | Wikipedia | Bronze bust cast in 1952 by William Bloye from Williamson's original full-sized seated marble figure of 1885. The Williamson sculpture was located in Chamberlain Square until 1952. | Francis Williamson | | Erdington |
| Joseph Priestley | LOW RISK AND IN STORAGE: In favour of the abolition of slavery | In Storage, was located in Chamberlain Square, to be reinstated in Radcliff Passage by the Town Hall as part of the Argent Paradise redevelopment | Priestley condemns this slavery as "injustice and ill-policy" (308). According to him, "[servitude is the most wretched condition of human nature" because it is impossible for slaves to enjoy liberty or self-command. Humans are "more miserable in a state of servitude than other animals" | https://www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk/sermon-on-the-slave-trade-by-dr-joseph-priestley/ https://www.jstor.org/stable/43213401?seq=1 | Depicts the scientist absorbed in the experiment which led him to discover oxygen. Originally marble but recast in Bronze by William Bloye in 1851. | Francis Williamson | | Ladywood |
| Industry & Genius - Monument to John Baskerville | LOW RISK: internet search shows no immediate links to Baskerville | Centenary Sq | Typeface designer | | Consists of 8 separate pieces of Portland stone with reversed bronze letters on six of them spelling out the word 'virgil' - as Virgil's <i>Bucolica</i> was the first book to be printed using the Baskerville typeface in 1757. Commissioned as part of the Centenary Square project. | David Patten | | Ladywood |
| Joseph Sturge | NOT AT RISK - PRO ABOLITION OF SLAVERY | Five Ways | Sturge was a wealthy Quaker corn merchant who settled in Birmingham in 1822. He embraced a range of philanthropic causes including education for the poor, averting armed conflict and the abolition of slavery. | | The Portland stone figure of Sturge stands at the top of a stepped stone plinth, flanked by Portland stone female figures labelled Charity and Peace. | John Thomas | II | Edgbaston |
| Thomas Attwood | LOW RISK: internet search shows no immediate links to Attwood | In storage - Chamberlain Square, to be reinstated on steps in same position | First MP and campaigner for political reform and democracy. | | Attwood was a banker and Parliamentary reformer who became one of Birmingham's first MPs. Coppinger and Peever won the competition to create a new statue of Attwood in 1993 following a gift from Mrs Patricia Mitchell, his Great great granddaughter. Recling bronze figure on steps with bronze box and pamphlets nearby. | Siobhan Coppinger & Fiona Peever | | Ladywood |
| Tony Hancock | LOW RISK | Old Square | 1950s/60s comedy, social commentry refelctive of the time which could potentially have included content that could be now be deemed as outdated but nothing mentioned immediately about this online. | | 2-dimensional piece depicting Hancock in his Homburg hat drinking a cup of tea, constructed from a large (3m high) sheet of bronze with the design picked out using glass rods. | Bruce Williams | | Ladywood |
| Blondin (Tightrope Walker) | LOW RISK: from a quick search nothing comes up within any grounds for concern. | Ladywood Middleway | | | Patinated steel figure in the form of a tightrope walker balanced on a triangular plinth in the central reservation. | John Richardson | | Ladywood |