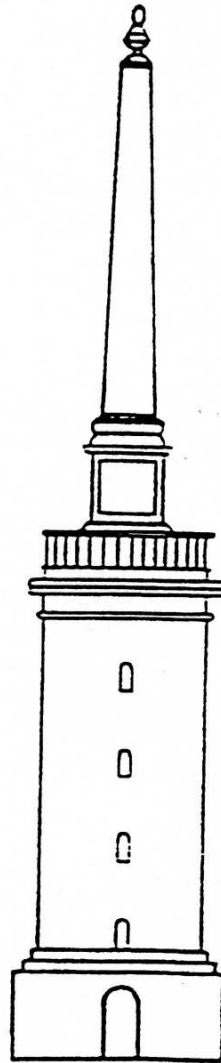


# Keppels Column





The Column was originally intended as a naval column, symbolising the opposition of the Rockingham Whigs to the Tory Governments use of the Navy against the colonies, particularly in America. During its' construction Admiral Keppel was put on trial, accused of treason because he followed the Whig Party line. When he was cleared of the charges, the column was named after him. Originally, a statue of the Admiral was intended to sit atop the column, but the plans were changed. Another change, reducing the height of the column, gave the column an outward bulge which has required a metal corset being attached in recent years. For many years, until the 1950s, people were allowed to climb the internal staircase, to view the surrounding countryside from the top of the 115 foot column. A crumbling staircase put paid to this activity and has now threatened the future life of this local landmark. The Column was completed in 1780.

The Column is one of the 'THREATENED BUILDINGS' of Rotherham. Without major remedial work it will one day fall down.