

RSA (Pre-1994): Unveiling of Barry Hertzog Memorial Statue in Bloemfontein

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Form: Circular.

By: Tommy Sasseen

Date: 1968

Ref: Laidlaw: 1420;

Variations:

Size	Metal	Mass	Value
33 mm	Gold 18ct	30.9 gm	\$1,200

Edge: Plain. Stamped with hallmarks for 18ct gold.

Obverse: Bareheaded but of Hertzog wearing spectacles in jacket and tie. Signed below: "T. SASSEEN".

Reverse: View of the statue. Legend above: "J.B.M. HERTZOG-MONUMENT 21.9.1968". Signed "T.S." lower left.

Notes: Comes inside a fitted presentation case.

James Barry Munnik Hertzog (1866-1942) was a Boer general during the Boer War and subsequently served as South Africa's third prime minister from 1924 to 1939. He encouraged the development of Afrikaner people, and was determined to protect Afrikaner culture from being subverted under the influence of the British.

The statue forms part of the Hertzog Memorial Gardens in central Bloemfontein. It was unveiled on 21st September 1968. Sculptor was Danie de Jager.

The statue attempts to contrast the different social standing of the Afrikaner and British people. There are three bronze components to the statue. The main part depicts a pondering Hertzog standing on a plinth in front of a concrete monolith. The other two are on the left, on a concrete stand in front of a concrete wall. On the far left, a poor Afrikaner family with the father reading from the Bible. In the middle, two standing prosperous British youths.