

Sources: 'Lumen' 15 December 1972; 'Pipesmoke', in the 'Stock Journal', Adelaide, December 1972; "Forty six years at the Waite", Kenneth Arthur Pike, 1972, published by the University of Adelaide, copy held in Special Collections, Barr



Kenneth Pike - 1975

In addition to the cereal and pasture improvement programmes of the Waite, he established and maintained two experimental orchards and a large glasshouse complex with soil sterilisation facilities. He landscaped the gardens and lawns and set out roadways, water reticulation systems, drains, buildings and animal facilities. In fact, little went on outside the main laboratory itself that he was not involved in."

As Ken Pike joined the Waite Institute just two years after its inception, and was integrally involved with just about everything that involved the land: from the buildings to the plant breeding plots, he had a most significant influence on how the Waite looks today (2006), and how the field research was carried out during his period of nearly half a century.

Thirty years after his retirement, his former staff and colleagues speak most highly of his exactitude, the scrupulous manner in which he undertook his duties and that he "was very efficient, (and a) well liked manager of the farm, and held in high esteem".