

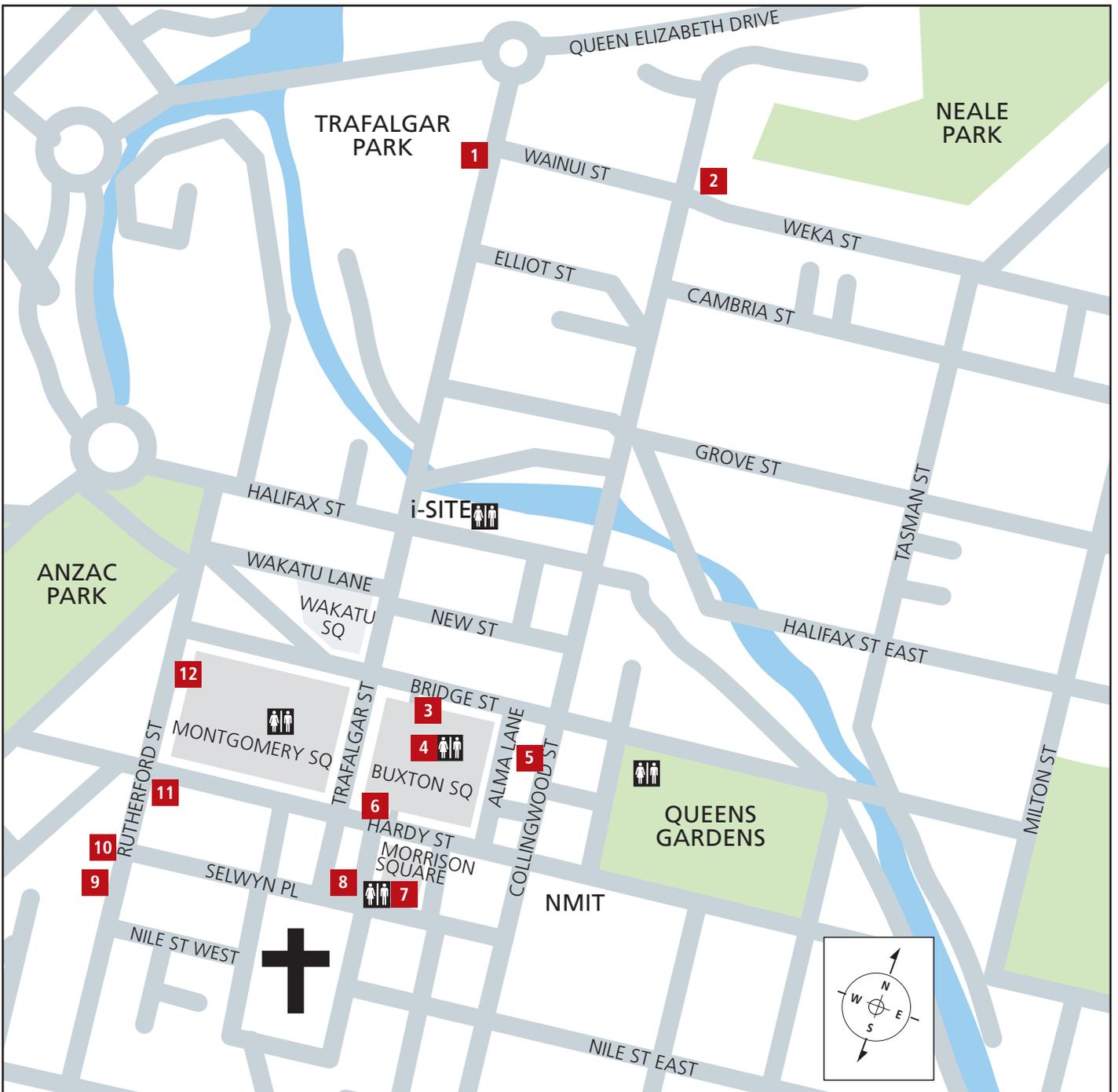


City Murals Walk

Temporary art is an important way of enlivening our streetscapes and has been used to express viewpoints of Nelson as a place to be, it's history and attitudes.

This walk looks at a range of murals in the central city. All are dependent on the lifespan of the public or private structure they adorn but some has lasted well over 20 years already.

More arts and heritage information, walks and events, can be found on nelson.govt.nz (search phrase *heritage walks*).



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Feminist **Harriet Blount** painted this mural in early 1980s. **1** It disappeared for a while until the 1950s stand it adorned was uncovered during the Trafalgar Park renovations. Blount saw her work as 'contemporary folk art with integrity' and the work features energetic dancers around a cheerful sun.

Janet Bathgate's mural **2** encircling a pump station provides a witty comment on its location in Weka Street beside a popular cycle trail. The 1840s shoreline references the past when weka and fish were plentiful in this area. Janet is a prominent Nelson artist, holding exhibitions around the region and around New Zealand. See janetbathgate.com.

A graduate from Nelson Institute of Technology **Marilyn Andrews** painted this mural **3** early in her career for a Keep Nelson Beautiful project in 1988. See her later works on marilynandrewsart.co.nz. This lane leads to Buxton Square where a group of artists used their talents to convert a public toilet into a work of art using rainbow colours. **4** **Karen Berge** painted cheeky pukeko stepping out of a native bush scene while **Karin Fruhauf** created abstract style murals under the porch. Creative touches by other artists include mosaics and metalwork in this attractive community initiative.

At the eastern end of the square a huge squid **5** on the wall of the Mediterranean Food Warehouse by international artist **ROA** was privately commissioned. A pocket park on the southern side of the Square contains an imaginary snapshot of the past. Artist **Steve Pike** depicts John Kerr and his sons, with their plough and oxen, doing the first ploughing in Nelson **6**.

In Selwyn St, **Askew One** created *Face of the Future* **7**, which was a prize for the city in the 2014 Gigatown competition.

Chris Finlayson's energy and talent is reflected in the large number of varied murals in Nelson he has created. The privately commissioned *Nature Outgrows the Urban Jungle* **8** in 2010 creates a lush looking oasis in this inner city site, reflecting the giant palms of 1903 Square and the Church Hill gardens across the road. See more of his work on finlaysonart.co.nz.

In Rutherford St the Nelson Potters building features a mural by Artist **Darcie Lewis**, depicting a child's hands being guided by an adult **9**. Tear drop designs flying out from the wheel are by different potters involved in the co-operative.

Geoff Slater's vision of prehistoric landscape with a Moa enjoying what is now Abel Tasman Park dates back to the 1980s **10**.

Temptations **11** by **Nikki Romney, Betty Salter** and **Karin Fruhauf** has replaced an earlier mural at this site. The light hearted reference to the joy of eating is appropriate as Hardy Street is home to a great variety of restaurants to suit every palate.

Finnish Artist **Sirpa Alalaakkola**, referenced an Italian style and used vibrant colours and Kiwi icons in her painting *Modiglianis Trout* **12**, set against a backdrop of Kahurangi National Park. The 1995 mural was refurbished in 2013 and enhances the Youth Hostel Association building. See more of Sirpa's work on southpacifica.com.