

About the Murals

1. The largest mural in town is featured on the Railway Goods Shed. Commissioned by Queensland Rail it is a tribute to the part that the railway has played in the development of the district. Without the navvies and settlers forging their way through the land in the 1880's, and the steam trains of by gone years, Alpha would not exist. Sadly, Alpha is no more the railway town it was in past years, with only the remnants of a much larger workforce remaining.

2. The amenities block under lovely shade trees features an Award Winning mural commissioned by the Jericho Shire Council. Holding pride of place it depicts the pioneers of the area when the land was opened up to graziers.

3. On the wall of the towns' Amenities Block in Shakespeare Street — this can be viewed from the Railway Station side of the building. This mural is of Shakespeare Street in earlier years, before the bitumen street with the business houses across the road, with children playing in the street and people walking down the street and the goats that used to roam the town.

4/5. Two murals side by side on this building feature idealistic and peaceful pastoral/rural scenes.

6. The lounge of the Alpha Hotel Motel shows a cattle scene reflecting the main industry of the area.

7. The lounge of the Criterion Hotel shows a softer, more European garden scene with roses and wisteria, signifying the owner British origins.

8. At the rear of 'Grubs Nursery' a rainforest scene awaits you with a very calming effect and it compliments the wide variety of plants available through the 5 Star Store.

9. A Homestead Breakfast is the mural on the wall adjacent to Elite Cafe, a rich and colourful mural of a typical family breakfast and household some years ago.

10. Cobb & Co could not go unchallenged, the coach heading for the change station for horses, drivers or passengers is the scene on the reception counter at the Rowley Roberts Visitor Information Centre.

11. The Mural on the wall of Snows Bread is of a horse and cart with the local baker doing the rounds with a housewife purchasing the daily fresh loaf of bread.

12/13. The honour of displaying the two smaller murals about town, a country scene painted in warm colours and suggesting home baked bread. The second, a scene of swaggies boiling the billy to enjoy the treats from the baker's shop, Snow's Bread.

14. The southern wall of the Butcher's Shop features a waterhole with cattle coming in to drink. A tribute to the cattle industry and all that it means to the Jericho Shire.

15/16. At the school grounds there are two murals, one is displayed on the sports equipment shed depicting various sports undertaken by children and the other is painted on rocks surrounding a garden bed. These individual pictures illustrate aboriginal art painted by school children during the visit of an aboriginal artist.

17. Adorning the wall of the Alpha Fire Brigade the mural depicts 'Blazer', fire hose in hand — trying to fight a bushfire that rages very close to a home. The artwork shows the huge array of native flora and fauna that bushfires affect.

18. Centenary of Federation Mural added to the town's artwork was painted to captivate Alpha through the years, and to celebrate the town's involvement in the Centenary of Federation Celebrations 1901-2001. The mural titled "River of Time" was unveiled at a ceremony on 22 April 2001 at the Alpha Native Gardens. Depicting the life of a child in the decades and with sepia tone coloured scenes set in the background, of Alpha through time of drought, fire and prosperity, local business, schooling and industry. It is a mural, which has a story to tell, and is a must to be viewed.

19. The first visible as the traveller approaches Alpha from the east, is on a wall at the Alpha Caravan and Villa Park. This shows a very familiar scene in Alpha, galahs swirling in flight against a vivid blue sky. Galahs are one of the most common birds in the area.

20. At the entrance of the Alpha Hospital is featured a mural by well-known Alpha artist, Luke Roberts. This painting reflects the surrounding flora and fauna. This mural can be viewed through the entrance doors.

21. The Jane Neville-Rolfe Gallery in Dryden Street shows a sunset scene depicting an important part of Alpha's history. Major Thomas Mitchell travelled through this area in 1846. He camped on the banks of the Belyando River. He and his party are shown taking advantage of the last of the daylight. Mitchell is writing up his diary while on a distant hill an aboriginal warrior watches.

22. The Golf Club Lounge features a mural of the Golf Course with the clubhouse in the background, as this is indoors it is not always able to be viewed.

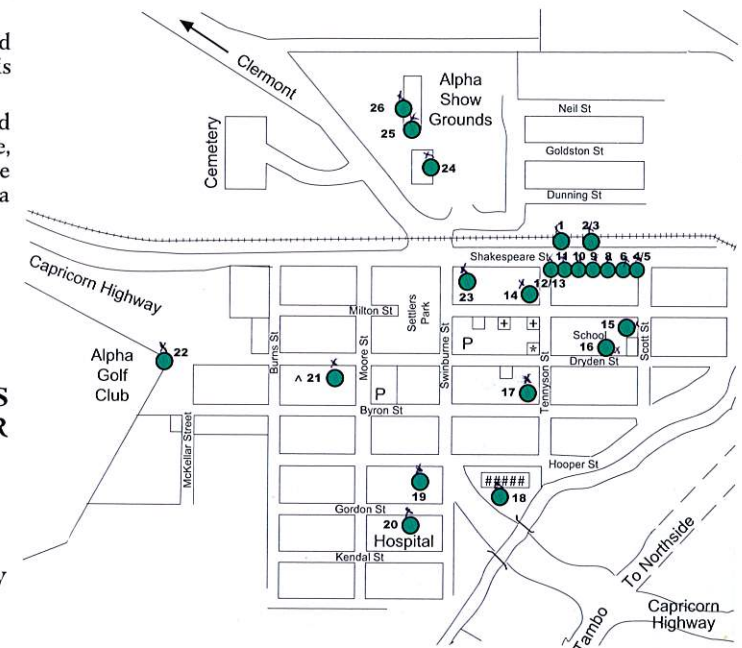
23. Andrews' Hardware/Alpha Gateway Service Station southern wall shows some of the flora and fauna of the area. This scene is shown at dawn, midday and sunset and once again the water is clear and sparkling.

24. Alpha Cultural Group Workshop mural depicts many arts and crafts and also relates to the showground complex in which it is situated.

25/26. Down in the Showground Complex on the wall of the old Caravan Park, one wall is painted in a Waltzing Matilda theme, reflecting the previous name of the park, The Jolly Swagman. The adjoining wall shows a pioneering woman washing clothes in a creek, and pays tribute to the pioneers of the area.



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TAKE A WALK OR DRIVE THROUGH THE STREETS OF ALPHA AND VIEW THE MURALS AND OTHER SPOTS OF INTEREST IN THE AREA.

- # Native Flower Plot
- * Alpha Town Hall
- ^ Jericho Shire Chambers/Jane Neville-Rolfe Art Gallery
- + Post Office/Police Station
- Churches
- P Parks