
This walk takes us from Nicholson Street and the Carlton Cardens, down Gertrude Street almost to Smith Street. Its purpose is to look at the physical development of the street and its surroundings - the land subdivision, street layout, buildings, water supply, &c - in relation to historical and social factors.

Start
Meet at the Westgarth (kangaroo) drinking fountain at the Nicholson Street entrance to the Exhibition Buildings

Cross at the lights, south to the forecourt of Osborne House, 40 Nicholson Street
Discuss: 'Helena House', later 'Osborne House', by Charles Laing for John McPherson, 1850; its role at the time of the 1880 & 1888 exhibitions.

Return to Gertrude Street and
Discuss: Cable Tram Engine House, by Alexander Davidson for Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, 1886

Turn onto south side of Gertrude Street and walk eastwards

Cross to north side of Gertrude St and walk east
Discuss: Fitzroy Ward Improvement Act; Glass Terrace, 64-78 Gertrude St; Royal Terrace B and Dr Crook’s house

cross at the lights and walk east on the south side of Gertrude St

diverge into Napier Street to see Melbourne Waterworks cover, then continue east on the south side of Gertrude St

[George St]
Discuss
184-186 C Johnston & Co, furniture warehouse.

[Gore St]
Pause at 222-4 Gertrude Street and look east

Discuss the position of Smith St; Collingwood and East Collingwood; Langridge St, the slope, and the Collingwood Flat

Return to Gore St, look south

Ascend to roof of 72 Gore Street
Conclude

ILLUSTRATIONS

Detail of a Panoramic view of Fitzroy from the Exhibition Buildings, H Clements, photographer, c 1880: State Library of Victoria, LTL H14127 MC 3/6. At the extreme left is the corner of Gertrude Street; then the imported wooden bungalow used as a winter residence John Carre Riddell, built in 1853 under the supervision of Wharton & Burns. The detached white building is Helena House (later Osborne House) built in 1850-1 for John Macpherson, to the design of Charles Laing.

Osborne House, Nicholson St, engraving by Samuel Calvert in The Commercial Album of Victoria, (unattributed, undated [Melbourne, before 1887, though incorrectly attributed to 1891]). The verandah was added in the early 1880s, when it was a boarding house, and flanking wings were built by George Nipper in 1887 to the design of Charles Webb. Royal Terrace, 50-68 Nicholson Street, by John Gill, 1854-6: detail of a photo by Charles Nettleton c 1868.
The cable tram engine house, corner of Nicholson and Gertrude Sts, by Alexander Davidson for the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, 1886, with the addition of the observation room for the motor controller. Metropolitan Tramways Authority.

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Granite Terrace 1-9 Gertrude St, built for Henry Miller by Robertson & Hale, 1858-9 [now Turnleys], photograph in 1962 by John Collins. State Library of Victoria H96.210/38. Glass Terrace, 64-78 Gertrude Street, 72-4 by J E Moore, 1853; balance by David Ross, 1856: parapet sections sketched on site by Sue Dance, architect.


Corner Young St. & Gertrude St. looking west past Brunswick St. to Nicholson St. and the Exhibition Building, c 1890: photographic print: albumen silver; 13.9 x 20.1 cm., on mount.: State Library of Victoria: H11716
Jane Cannan, 'Gertrude Street, Collingwood', 1853. Royal Historical Society of Victoria. The construction of the present Gertrude Hotel, cnr Gertrude and Napier Streets.

Melbourne Water Works stopcock cover, Fitzroy: Bateman’s patent: Miles Lewis. United Presbyterian Church, north-east corner of Napier & Gertrude Sts, Fitzroy, possibly 1849-50: cropped &c from a photo by Davies & Co, c 1861-2, State Library of Victoria H26040

Johnston's Furniture Store, Gertrude St, building in the foreground by F M White & Son, 1888-9: view in the 1940s, Fitzroy Photographic Collection
Ross & Smith Wholesale & Family Grocers, [then]144-146 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy: cropped &c from a photo by Davis & Co, c 1861-2, State Library of Victoria LTAF 453 (H26039)