

This is the fourth in a series of leaflets being produced by the Society to illustrate some of Wakefield's fascinating and rich heritage. Look out for other leaflets in the series as they are published. All leaflets have been printed locally using FSC-certified paper sources, sustainable inks and reduced waste.

You can find out more about Wakefield's 'public art' in our book *Wakefield: City of Sculpture and Public Art* available for £3.50 + £1.50 p&p. For more information, scan the QR code here or visit our Discover Wakefield webpage: wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk/discover-wakefield



04 Discover Wakefield A City of Art and Sculpture



Wakefield
Civic
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Published by Wakefield Civic Society.
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with Wakefield Council



Wakefield
Civic
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Building interest in Wakefield
since 1964

DISCOVER A CITY OF ART AND SCULPTURE

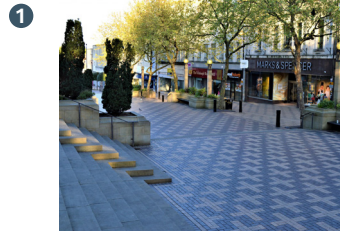
Wakefield's standing as a place for art and culture is justly deserved. The creation in 1997 of the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, "the first sculpture park in the UK and the largest of its kind in Europe" (YSP website) and the opening of the Hepworth Wakefield gallery in 2011 have drawn national and international attention to the city and surrounding area – building on the reputations of artists such as Henry Moore (born in Castleford) and Barbara Hepworth (born in Wakefield). Today, there is a thriving community of artists and makers working across the district to bring art and culture to the residents of Wakefield and beyond.

Not all artwork is contained in galleries and museums, of course. Believe it or not, Wakefield's city centre is adorned with a wealth of art that is freely available to explore: just take a look around and you will see a variety of art types such as intricate architectural detailing, decorative stonework and tiling, patterned paving, sculptures, monuments and statues. This leaflet sets out just a few examples of the types of art you can find on a stroll around the city. You'll find many more examples once you start looking!

KEY BUILDINGS

1. The Cathedral Precinct

Possibly the most overlooked art installation in the city centre is the landscaping scheme by artist Tess Jaray that integrates the Cathedral into the shopping area around it. Commissioned by Wakefield Council and completed in 1992, the installation includes the Cathedral steps, the paving, planters and street furniture.



A landscaped scheme

2. The Black Rock Public House

Tiling is both colourful and hard wearing and can often be found on both the exterior and interior of buildings, especially where there is high usage or a need for hygiene, as it provides a tough surface which is easy to clean. On the entrance to the Black Rock pub, you will see an example of decorative tile work that is particularly colourful. See also the front of the Elephant and Castle pub in Westgate.



Decorative tiling

3. Qubana

Brickwork can be more than just structural. Very often, it is used to introduce colour and pattern to the external features of a building, most commonly through the way the bricks are arranged in alignment with each other (the bond). Bricks can also be used to add three-dimensional detailing as here at Qubana, a former bank. Note the intricate detailing of the brickwork above one of the entrances on Wood Street and the framework to the sundial on the Marygate façade.



Decorative brickwork

4



Decorative stonework

5



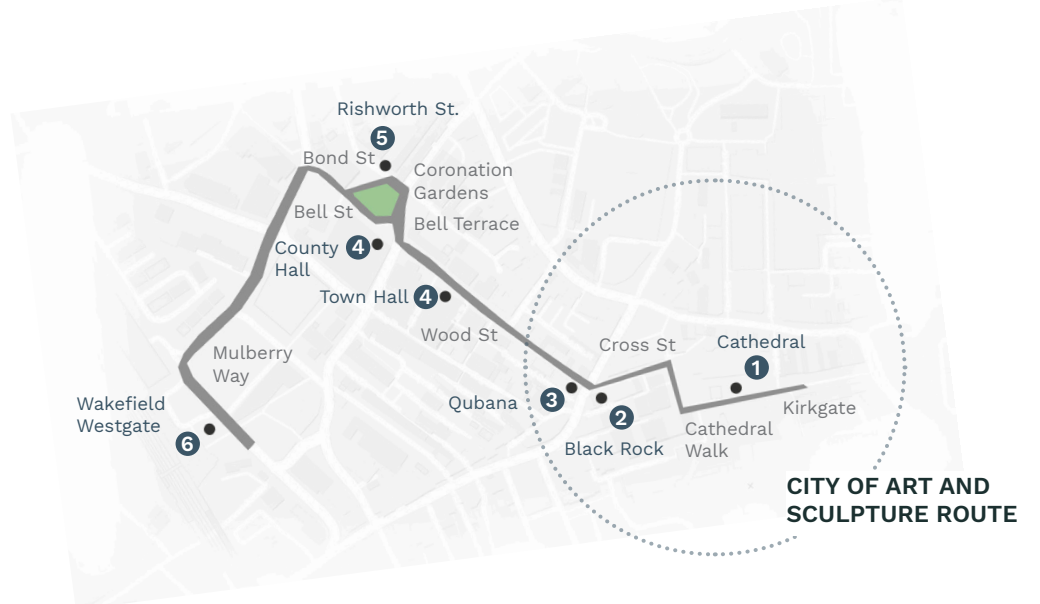
Memorial monuments

4. The Town and County Halls

Public buildings in the classical style are often embellished with sculptural detailing as these two buildings demonstrate. Mythical animals, classical deities, shields, vines and other features carved in low relief (also known as bas-relief), adorn every façade of these imposing civic buildings.

5. Rishworth Street

On one side of Rishworth Street stands a statue in memory of Queen Victoria. On the other side of the street, at the centre of Coronation Gardens, stands the city war memorial. Unveiled in November 1921, the cenotaph is angular and geometric in its design, typical of the mid-war period. Neither of these monuments started off here. Queen Victoria's statue originally stood in the Bull Ring and the cenotaph was in Wentworth Street outside Clayton Hospital.



6



Commissioned artwork

6. Westgate Station

The collection of miniature buildings standing on poles at the entrance to the station represents some of Wakefield's most significant buildings as voted for by the public. An example of a specially commissioned artwork, it was installed in 2014.