

In Week 11 the Year 11 History classes embarked on a local history field trip as part of our Place, Protest and Preservation topic. Year 11 student Namu Dahlberg recalls the experience of the day:

“We went on a long, long, long trip. On the 13th of April, travel did we, on a long and prosperous walk.

We went to the Basin Reserve and received a background talk from Mr West, and two historians Messrs Steve Watters and Ricky Prebble from the Ministry of Culture and Heritage, who regaled us with tales of William Wakefield and his brother. Such horrid men!

We proceeded down to Courtney place, took a right, and crossed the road. We arrived thereafter at the statue of Queen Victoria. Then came the rain!

Our group huddled under the branches of the tree, which provided us with shelter, no matter how little. Two brave souls were sent to run to the statue, to examine the inscription on the side. Then the rain stopped. We were saved!

The weather gradually cleared, and we disembarked to continue our journey. Once again we kept walking, until we found ourselves underneath another tree. We were granted 25 minutes to have a break.

I set off to a night n' day store. There I did purchase a bag of peach confectioneries, priced at a steep \$4.90. Those delicious lollies lasted me the whole journey. We swiftly returned to the group, and once again we were off!

At Te Aro Park we made camp. It was then that I and perhaps many others, realised that the park was in the shape of a waka and a significant marker of the importance of Te Aro, and the Waimapihi stream, to Maori.

From there we went on to Cuba. A street packed with assorted shops and oddities. A collection of buckets pouring water into one another until splashing into a collective pool. And perhaps my favourite, a smiling tuatara.

We visited the Trades Hall, the building that was a victim of a terrible bombing in 1984 that claimed the life of Ernie Abbott. From there we walked to Haining street. The place where an infamous murder occurred when a Chinese man named Joe Kum Yung was gunned down by Lionel Terry.

After that we all went our separate ways, and I reclaimed my device and charger, and set off on my way home.”

Namu Dahlberg