

GUIDELINES FOR MURALS ON HISTORIC BUILDINGS

1. Don't paint on unpainted masonry! Why?
 - It takes away the historic integrity.
 - It can trap water and damage the brick
2. Instead, paint/print the mural on panels/canvas:
 - Affix the mural through the mortar joints, NOT through the brick. Mortar can be replaced. Drilling brick permanently damages it and can lead to further deterioration.



- Prevent water from getting trapped behind the mural. For example, leave space between the wall and the mural frame or use a sloped cap at the top.



3. A new mural should not compromise the historic character or integrity of the original resource.
4. New murals should respect the size, scale and design of the historic building. They should be located on the side, interior or rear walls of existing commercial buildings, and have minimal impact on surrounding buildings, views and vistas.
5. The subject matter should reflect an aspect of Historic Downtown Mansfield's or the City's history so that it contributes to or reinforces the historic fabric of the buildings and district.
6. The theme of the mural should be appropriate within the context of the surrounding neighborhood and complement the existing character.

7. No advertising, logos, or political messages should be included in the mural.
8. Reflective, neon and fluorescent paints should not be used.
9. Do not paint over other historically significant murals, even if they are faded, including but not limited to advertisements from the late-19th to the mid-20th centuries.
10. Do not “over restore” historic wall signs: If they are so faded that the content is being lost, retouching with a diluted paint is recommended over 100% full coverage.
11. Frame the mural using the boundary of the building’s wall, or a painted circle, square, oval, or rectangle.
12. Painting a portion of the wall, especially on large walls, instead of the entire wall is recommended to avoid sign blight/overwhelming the streetscape.
13. The number of murals per block face should be limited to discourage visual clutter.
14. Consider a location that faces east or north, or is shaded, to extend the life of the mural. A mural will fade and peel faster if it is in direct sunlight.