

Historic Heritage Inventory

Victoria Battery Foundations, Waikino



Location: Victoria Battery Site Ruins, Pukekauri Rd, Waikino

Heritage Status

Historic Places Trust Registration Number: 4602

Historic Places Trust Category: Category 2 - Registered Historic Place

HDC Heritage Category: A – Heritage Area. National or Outstanding Regional Significance

Other: Recorded archaeological site (T13/300).

Physical Description: This is the site of the Victoria Battery erected by the Waihi Gold Mining Company in 1898. The present reserve includes the remains of various structures including the cyanide tank holders, powerhouse, brick kilns and tramways as well as scattered mining equipment and concrete machine housings. The site has been incorporated into a Department of Conservation managed heritage site and the power house is currently used as a museum containing displays and equipment on the mine and the township of Waikino.

Other known names:

Notable features:

Style:

Materials: concrete, brick, wood

Date of Construction: 1898

District Plan Schedule

Number: HAU010

Heritage Category: A

Heritage Type:

- Wahi Tapu
- Cultural Landscape
- Building
- Group of Buildings
- Structure
- Monument
- Historic Place
- Archaeological Site
- Other

Date Period:

1881-1910

Significance:

- Archaeological
- Architectural
- Cultural
- Historic
- Scientific
- Technological

Thematic Context

- Maori
- Early Settlement
- Industry
- Industry (mining)
- Extraction
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Communication
- Commerce
- Residential
- Social/Cultural
- Civic
- Health
- Educational
- Church/yard
- Other

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District Plan Schedule

Number: **HAU010**

Heritage Category: **A**

History: The Waihi Gold Mining Co. erected the huge Victoria Battery of 100 stampers in 1898 using hydro-electric power for their operation with a steam engine as an auxiliary source. They were installed by A & G Price. In 1902 a further 100 stamps were added. The stamps were used to crush the gold bearing quartz and hence extract the gold.

In 1914 the Horahora Hydro Electric Power Station was completed on the Waikato River to provide power for it.

Architect:

Designer:

Builder: AEG Price

Engineer:

History of changes:

Condition: Ruins

Integrity: substantially intact

Current Uses: Historic Reserve

Former Uses: Mining Battery and Power House

Registered owner: Dept. of Conservation

Legal Description: Sec 1 SO 59644 Blk XIV Ohinemuri SD Rec. Res.
(Alt. Legal Description) Lot 1 DP 15750 Pt Sec. 18 Pt Owharua No.2 Blk Pt
Special Site 12

Reference Source: NZHPT Building Records Form
Thornton, G. "New Zealand's Industrial Heritage"; Ritchie, N. (1990) *A Survey of Historic Mining Sites in the Thames and Ohinemuri Areas of the Hauraki Goldfield*. Department of Conservation.

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District Plan Schedule

Number: **HAU010**

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Associated Pictures:

