

Historic Heritage Inventory



Thames Valley Co-op Dairy Factory, Paeroa (Agrisea Factory & Shop)



Location: 5 Fraser Street, Paeroa

Heritage Status

Historic Places Trust Registration Number:

Historic Places Trust Category:

HDC Heritage Category: **B** - Heritage Feature. Regional or Sub-Regional Significance

Other:

Physical Description: Large former dairy factory building.

Other known names:

Notable features:

Style: Victorian

Materials: Concrete, timber with corrugated iron roof

Date of Construction: 1901

History: The Thames Valley Cooperative Dairy Company was formed in May 1901 following a meeting of dairymen and milk suppliers in the Wharf Street Hall. A. J. Thorp and A.C. Hubbard were elected as the first chairmen. They established a butter factory in Fraser Street by the end of 1901.

District Plan Schedule Number **HAU129**

Heritage Category: B

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
- Extraction
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Communication
- Commerce
- Residential
- Social/Cultural
- Civic
- Health
- Educational
- Church/yard
- Other

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By the close of its first season, the factory had processed 94 tons of butter and had 67 suppliers on the books.

The growth of the company meant that new factories were required by 1914. However, the construction of a cheese factory at Waitoa in 1920 nearly bankrupted the company. The New Zealand Dairy Association allowed the Thames Valley Co-op and the Waikato Dairy Company to amalgamate with the Association. Wesley Spraggs, owner of the first failed creamery in Paeroa (1900), was allowed a second chance at management. The Paeroa branch of the new Association produced 1595 tons of butter and 2612 tons of cheese in its first year.

Architect:

Designer:

Builder:

Engineer:

History of changes:

Condition: Good (but needs reroofing)

Integrity: Substantially intact

Current Uses: Agrisea Factory and Shop

Former Uses: Butter Factory

Registered owner: Ocean Organics Limited

Legal Description: Lot 8 DPS 31314

Reference Source: Cotter, M. J. (1975) *From Green to Gold: Paeroa and District 1875-1975*. Paeroa Borough Council.

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Associated Pictures:

