Historic Heritage Inventory



Netherton Dairy Factory



Location: 6329 State Highway 2, Netherton

Heritage Status

Historic Places Trust Registration Number: Historic Places Trust Registration Number:

Historic Places Trust Category:

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

Significance Other:

Physical Description: Former Creamery for New Zealand Dairy Association.

Other known names: Arataki Honey Ltd

Notable features:

Style:

Materials: Concrete, corrugated iron

Date of Construction: 1917

History: Thames Valley Co-Operative Dairy Co. was formed in 1901 with the construction of a factory in Paeroa. By 1911, the company had nine creameries on the plains operating in conjunction with the factory at Paeroa. The creamery in Netherton was opened in 1905 by Wesley Spraggs and was

District Plan Schedule

Number: HAU158
Heritage Category: B

Heritage Type:

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

Date Period: 1911-1940

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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District Plan Schedule

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adjacent to the present telephone exchange. It was the second factory in the district. The Creamery was superseded by a cheese making plant. Much of the milk arrived by launch from Hikutaia until the Hikutaia cheese factory was built.

By 1916, they had built seventeen factories including three on the plains at Netherton, Huirau Road and Kopuarahi. In 1919, the Waikato Co-Operative Dairy Company and the New Zealand Dairy Association amalgamated to form the New Zealand Co-Operative Dairy Company. In 1920, the Thames Valley Dairy Company also joined. In 1924, the Thames Valley Company went into voluntary liquidation, with a new factory at Ngatea almost completed.

Netherton was one of the eight factories closed when the Kerepehi milk drying plant opened in 1956. The eight factories closed were Netherton, Hikutaia, Matatoki, Wharepoa, Kopuarahi, Huirau Road and Waitakaruru cheese making plants and Kerepehi casein.

The factory closed in the 1970s. It now operates as a honey manufacturing plant.

Architect: Designer: Builder: Engineer:

History of changes:

Condition: Good

Integrity: Substantially altered

Current Uses: Honey Factory

Former Uses: Dairy Factory

Registered owner: Arataki Honey Ltd

Legal Description: Pt Sec 4, Secs 62, 63 Blk XI Waihou SD, Pt Lot 1 DP

30864, Pt Lot 1 DP 15107

Reference Source: Clover, K. (1977) "Waitakaruru: School and District Jubilee 1902-1977"; Tye, R.E. (1974) *Hauraki Plains Story*. Thames Valley

News Ltd, Paeroa; G Townshend (pers. comm.)

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Associated Pictures:

