

Auckland Council District Plan (North Shore Section)

Proposed Plan Change 38

Proposed New Item

Appendix 11A: Schedule of Buildings, Objects and Places of Heritage Significance



Name: Former Auckland Gas and Fire Brick Company building / The Claystore and concrete wall

Address: R27 Lake Road, Devonport

ID: 562 Category: A Use: Industrial DP Map: 32

Material 1: Concrete/corrugated iron Condition: Cultural Heritage:

Material 2: Integrity: Streetscape:

Construction Dates

From: To: Alteration Dates:

Legal Description: Lot 2 DP 94976

Zoning: Business 9 (surrounding R27site Recreation 2)

Architect/Designer/Contractor:

Unknown

Architectural Style:

Industrial

Reference Source:

CTs 28/47; 28/48; 124/251; 136/51; 143/252; 9C/925; 51A/620

Cyclopedia of New Zealand, Vol. 2 Auckland Provincial District available at www.nzetc.org

'DIYers may lose their community workshop' *North Shore Times* 19 June 2007, p. 8
North Shore Libraries Image Collection, D_GBB_0002

'Earth and fire' *NZ House & Garden* [undated article re Barry Brickell] available at <http://www.nzhouseandgarden.co.nz/>

B Petry 'Claystore, General Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance' 1992

NZHPT Listing:

Not registered by NZHPT

Significant Elements:

Roof structure

Extent of Listing:

Entire exterior of building and concrete wall

History:

The Auckland Gas Company was founded in 1862 and began operating in April 1865. In 1883 the company's works at Freeman's Bay were augmented by a separate works in Devonport, at which was also located the Devonport Fire Brick Works. The Devonport works were enlarged in c.1900, with the provision of new kilns and drying sheds.¹ The Auckland Gas Company later erected a branch office at the corner of Lake Road and Northcroft Street in Takapuna, which is still extant today [c.1925, National Bank building].

Renowned New Zealander potter Barry Brickell [b. 1935] grew up in Devonport and recalls playing at the gasworks site as a child. That experience is considered to be a formative part of his education as a potter and engineer.

The gasworks were closed in the early 1960s and the site was acquired by the Devonport Borough Council in 1984. At the same time the Claystore community workshop was established by John Gilmore and others to provide a facility for wood- and metalworking. The works' gasometers were dismantled in 1993.

Statement of Significance*Architecture:*

The clay store has significance as an industrial structure built fit for purpose. .

History:

The claystore has historic significance as a remnant piece of the former Auckland Gas and Fire Brick Company works, which produced gas for residential and commercial use in Devonport for roughly 80 years. Its more recent history as a community workshop enhances its historic value and maintains the community's association with the industrial history of the site.

Context:

The claystore is one element within a light-industrial park that is adjacent to Dacre and Ngataringa Parks on the northern fringe of Devonport. It is set back from Lake

¹ *Cyclopedia of New Zealand, Vol. 2*, p. 413.

Road, and so makes little contribution to the streetscape, but was once centrally located within the Gas Company's site, which extended south to Mozeley Avenue.