

Matiatia

Gateway to Waiheke

By Paul Monin

Teacher Notes

History and
Social Sciences

BOOK OVERVIEW

Matiatia: Gateway to Waiheke describes the numerous phases of human occupation of Matiatia, a small bay on Waiheke Island, since earliest Māori times in perhaps the fourteenth century. The book discusses how Matiatia has developed into the only passenger port on Waiheke Island. It concludes with a discussion of recent contentious planning issues which have centred on Matiatia, the island's transport hub.

Paul Monin subscribes to the view that the historian is an integral part of the history he or she writes. At times the book moves into the first-person narrative as he describes how he has gone about researching a particular point.

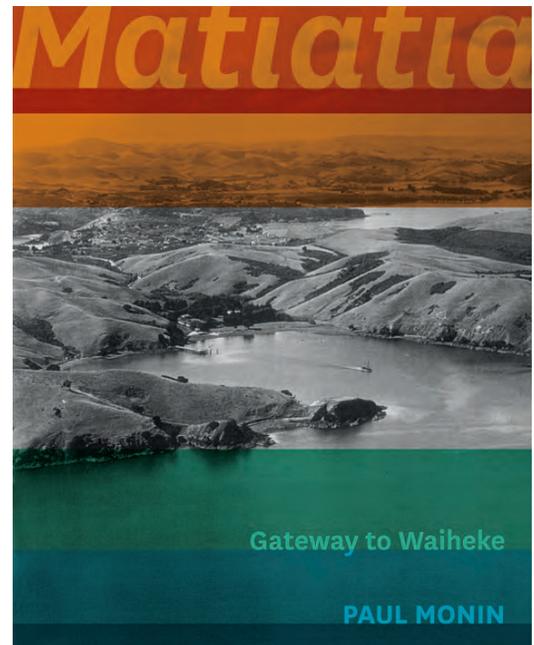
His purpose for writing *Matiatia* is to provide the historical background that he believes is essential to informed decision-making in the present. This well-researched local history provides historical context, bringing the reader from the past to a position where they can contemplate and debate current issues. *Matiatia* provides an interesting example of a local issue that demonstrates a bigger global issue.

RELEVANT CURRICULUM/ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS

Matiatia: Gateway to Waiheke has special relevance to the Year 10 Social Studies curriculum (as outlined in the Curriculum booklet, Year 10 Social Studies Global Confidence and Participation, Te Ao Whanui). Local history can be a useful and relevant starting point for the theme 'Taking a global-local perspective'.

This book has relevance to all of this curriculum's objectives, but in particular to:

- Investigate a current local issue of significance and share your findings with others.
- Plan and carry out an inquiry of past, present and future significance.
- Design a plan of action to address a local issue.



KEY FEATURES

- written by a historian who is also a resident of Waiheke Island
- thematic and chronological treatment from early times to the present day
- draws on archaeological and geological information, public records and local newspapers
- illustrations include maps, both contemporary and historical; drawings and photographs
- concludes with endnotes, list of maps and illustrations, and index.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author, Paul Monin, is a former teacher of history, social studies and English in New Zealand and Australian secondary schools. Paul Monin lives on Waiheke Island and has also written *Waiheke Island: A history* and *Hauraki Contested, 1769–1875*.

Books in School Libraries

USING MATIATIA IN YOUR HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAMME

Matiatia (Waiheke Island) is facing issues common to all seaside/marine resorts in New Zealand. The study of an issue at Matiatia could easily be extended to cover a larger area, most obviously to the Hauraki Gulf, the management of which is of current concern, or to the Coromandel Peninsula. Spanning 600–700 years, Matiatia's history includes all the main phases of human settlement in Aotearoa/New Zealand: East Polynesian, classical Māori, early contact, Māori commercial agriculture, Māori and Pākehā pastoralism and the development of a port to serve residential subdivisions and tourism. Any of these phases could be examined regionally or nationally. New Zealand archaeology is a dynamic field of research.

Māori settlement

What does archaeology tell us about early Māori settlement in the Hauraki Gulf? When and why did Māori build pa (fortified settlements)? What are the features of a pa? What are kumara pits? How did Māori participate in the money economy brought by Europeans? How did the Māori occupation of Matiatia come to an end? In the present, how do the Māori concepts of kaitiakitanga and wahi tapu (and others) apply to Matiatia, Waiheke Island, and the Hauraki Gulf?

Transport

How did shipping services to Waiheke develop, with the opening of the subdivisions? Why did Auckland have so many ferry services and wharves until the Second World War? What types of vessels provided these services? How did road transport steadily replace sea transport on the isthmus (to the eastern suburbs and the North Shore) after 1945? How did Waiheke come to be served by a single passenger port and a single vehicular/freight port? How could sea and land transport on Waiheke be improved? How could parking problems at Matiatia be solved? Does Waiheke need a second passenger port?

Development

Why are development and environmental protection often in conflict on Waiheke and elsewhere in New Zealand? Have we achieved a satisfactory balance between the two on Waiheke? Have Waiheke's coastlines been adequately protected against development? Have the rural-residential subdivisions introduced in the early 1990s been an entirely positive development on Waiheke? What are the arguments for and against the building of a marina at Matiatia? How would you like to see the carparking area at Matiatia developed? Is Waiheke's special character important to tourism?

FURTHER READING

Raewyn Peart, *Castles in the Sand: What's happening to the New Zealand coast*, Craig Potton Publishing, 2009
Paul Monin, *Hauraki Contested, 1769–1875*, Bridget Williams Books, 2001

■ BWB Publishing Trust would like to thank Paul Monin for assistance with these teacher notes.

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