

SH:CAT:4695

1st April, 1981.

Sister Mary Duffy,
Principal,
St. Mary's College,
Barkly Street,
BENDIGO. VIC. 3550

Dear Sister Mary,

Re: "Coolock" formerly "Dendirah", Bendigo

I have pleasure in writing to inform you that the above building has been Classified by the National Trust. This means that in the Trust's view it is essential to Australia's heritage and must be preserved.

The citation supporting the Classification is as follows:-

"Coolock" House (formerly 'Dendirah') has developed from a substantial single storey house built around 1880 by Mr. D. White. It was sold later in the century to George Lansell Snr.

'Coolock' is one of the finest residential examples in Victoria to be designed in the Art Nouveau style. A substantial portion of the building dates from 1880; however the Art Nouveau additions dating from circa. 1908 substantially transformed the building and include the superb entrance porch with its keyhole windows exhibiting fine leadlight work, the adjacent staircase and bay windows and the dominating mansard roof with its dormer windows. The Architect for these renovations was Mr. Beebe. There are also several distinctive internal features including the staircase, fireplaces, decorated ceilings and light fittings. The front fence and the design of the existing verandahs are significant.

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The historical associations of the home with the Lunsell family and the visit to Bendigo in 1927 of the Duke and Duchess of York are also important.

It appears that in recent years some alterations have taken place to the building and these include the partial filling-in of verandahs and the replacement of the original first floor dormer windows with modern equivalents. The home, however, is basically intact."

I enclose a copy of Notes on the Classification of Historic Buildings. If the Trust can be of assistance at any time please contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

S. R. BIRCH
Administrator,
National Trust of Australia
(Victoria)

c.c. Secretary, Central Victorian Branch
Town Clerk, City of Bendigo.

3. COOLOCK HOUSE. (DENDERAH) Chr. Valentine & View Sts.

~~Entry hall and front 2 rooms only.~~

This big house, now part of the senior school attached to the Convent of Mercy nearby, has developed from a substantial single story house built around 1880 by a Mr. D. White of the "Teapot Store". It was sold later in the century to George Lansell Snr. (the "Quartz King".) The top story was added and the house decorated in the "art nouveau" style by Mr. Beebe in time for Lansell's son's wedding to a Miss Frew, about 1908.

It has a dominant mansard roof, a Victorian balcony with intricate cast-iron work and some notable detail in an art nouveau style at the front entrance. The lead lighting in the windows and carved wood of the fireplaces and balustrade are of particular interest.

After a stay in 1927 by the Duke and Duchess of York (later George VI), one of the rooms on the 1st floor has been called the "Queen's Room".

Originally called "Denderah" after one of the places which the Lansell's visited on their honeymoon, the name was changed when purchased in 1959 by the Convent of Mercy to honour the Irish founder of their order.

St. Mary's College
0521 437559.

Lester Mary Duffly,
Bantley St
Bendigo 3550.

COOLOCK HOUSE

Minutes 26/3/81

(b) F.N. 4695 - 'Coolock', Bendigo - Mr Trethowan

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Mr. Trethowan's citation was approved as follows:-

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the staircase, fireplaces, decorated ceilings and light fittings. The front fence and the design of the existing verandahs are significant.

The historical associations of the home with the Lansell family and the visit to Bendigo in 1927 of the Duke and Duchess of York are also important.

It appears that in recent years some alterations have taken place to the building and these include the partial filling-in of verandahs and the replacement of the original first floor dormer windows with modern equivalents. The house, however, is basically intact."