

Lansell treasure for sale

IT'S NOT often a piece of furniture is considered an historic treasure, but a couch which has returned to Bendigo after a lengthy absence could fit that bill.

Valentines Antique Gallery will auction a two-by-two seater settee and armchair set on Friday, previously owned by Bendigo's leading family, the Lansells.

The couch, imported from England, would have taken pride of place in George W. Lansell's drawing room in the early decades of the century.

Little is known of the history of the piece, but it is possible it supported the backsides of the Duke and Duchess of Wales when they visited Bendigo and stayed at the Lansell's home, Denderah, now known as Cooloch House.

Lorraine Isaacs, of Valentines, said the furniture set is in remarkable condition, its elaborate brocade fabric, tassles and decorative piping exuding lux-

Isaacs said the elaborate pieces would have been extremely expensive and valuable in their time, when a three-seater coach and armchairs were the

Valentines are hoping the piece of furniture will attract a lot of attention at the auction from 6 pm on Friday and possibly be sold back to the Bendigo community.