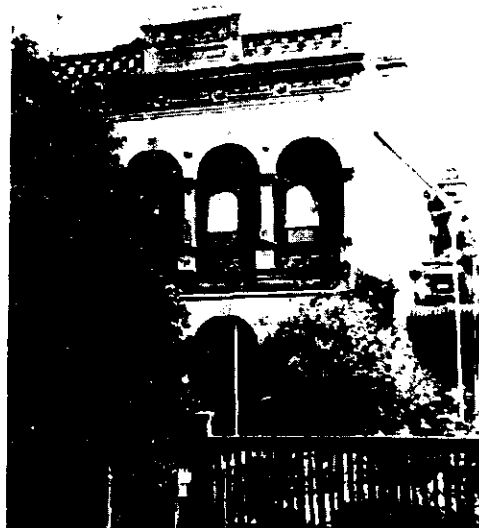


NAME: Dentonville

ADDRESS: 151 McKean Street

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1887
ALTERATIONS: to the rear
ARCHITECT: unknown
BUILDER: unknown
FIRST OWNER: John Denton (Auctioneer)
PRESENT OWNER: A.F. & H.M. Willingham,
W.D. & R.N. Beaton
CONSTRUCTION
MATERIALS: cement rendered brickwork
slate roof
CONSERVATION AREA: -



BUILDING CITATION:

"Dentonville" constructed in 1887 for John Denton, an auctioneer, is of greatest interest as a complex. The large building behind the house "Denton Hall" was constructed in 1894, presumably as an auction hall (see separate discussion). The front of the house is arcaded at both levels and the roof extends out over the balcony line surmounted by a parapet. The facade treatment is simple, and there is an interesting frieze at the dividing line made up of a fern and flower pattern. Surmounting the roof is a balustraded widow's walk.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the street facade of "Dentonville" be added to the Historic Buildings Register, be retained on the Register of the National Estate and be specified under Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

BUILDING ANALYSIS:

"Dentonville", constructed in 1887 for John Denton,¹ is of greatest interest as a complex. There is a large hall behind (probably constructed in 1894²) built presumably as an auction hall.

Victoria and its Metropolis described John Denton as -

".... a native of Victoria, who was educated at Ballarat. He has been in business as an auctioneer for the past eight or nine years, his auction room, one of the largest in the colony, being at 244 Smith Street. He also has branch establishments in the Heidelberg Road and in North Fitzroy."³

The front of the house has arcading above and below and the roof extends out over the balcony line, with a parapet at the front line. The treatment is simple at both levels with square piers and arches without archivolts, but with keystones with inscribed decoration. There is an unusual frieze at the dividing level with a fern and flower pattern made up in 38 cm sections, possibly of baked clay. At balcony level there is a balustrade of circles linked together by blocks. The upper frieze consists of foliated roundels and inscribed decoration between the roundels. The pediment balustrade consists of the same linked circles and the name plate "Dentonville". The urns or balls are missing at the top. Surmounting the roof is a balustraded widow's walk. The front door has the original "Dentonville" intact in gold leaf script across the transom. There is intact etched ruby and blue side lights.

1. Fitzroy Ratebook 1887. Brick house, 6 rooms, £80. John Denton Auctioneer.
2. Fitzroy Ratebook 1894. Brick house, 7 rooms and hall £80.
(Note that there is not a jump in valuation).
3. *Victoria and its Metropolis*. Volume 2, p.580

Dentonville, 151 McKean Street (Continued)

The hall at the back, constructed in 1894, is of brick with the same decoration in cement as on the front of the house applied to the face of the brick. The rear of the hall has been altered. (See separate discussion).

The interior of "Dentonville" has been renovated, but there is a small patch of original wall paper in the hallway, and an elaborate over-mantle in the front room. John Denton remained at this location for almost 50 years (until 1930) when the property was sold to Michael Beshara.

4. 1930 Directory.

NAME: Denton Hall

ADDRESS: Rear 151 McKean Street

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1894

ARCHITECT: unknown

BUILDER: unknown

FIRST OWNER: John Denton (auctioneer)

PRESENT OWNER: A.F. & H.W. Willingham,
W.D. & R.N. Beaton

CONSTRUCTION

MATERIALS: red brick, cement render
trim

CONSERVATION AREA: -



BUILDING CITATION:

"Denton Hall" at the rear of Dentonville was constructed in 1894¹ presumably as an auction room. It is decorated by the same cement frieze decoration as the front of the house. The plain brick parapet with ornamental swags is surmounted by a pediment with vermiculated blocks and the semicircular tympanum is inscribed with "Denton Hall".

The windows have bowtell piped moulded corners and segmental arch heads. The rear of the hall has been altered. The effect of the facade is austere, decorated only by a delicate cement frieze, garlands and pediment.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the front facade only of "Denton Hall" be added to the Historic Buildings Register, be retained on the Register of the National Estate and be specified under Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

1. Fitzroy Ratebook 1894: Brick house 7 rooms and Hall. £80
John Denton Auctioneer.