

**SHIRALEE
HOUSE
80 PANTON STREET, GOLDEN SQUARE**

**SURVEY DATE: 1991-2
STUDY GRADING: B
CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1909
FIRST OWNER : GENARDENI, FRANCISCO**



CITATION:

History

Crown Allotment 8, Section 8A, was purchased by Francisco Genardeni in 1909.¹ He had a timber dwelling built there in the same year.² Genardeni, a teacher, and his wife, Ellen, lived here until 1921.³

¹ RB1908-9, 53; RB1909-10, 54
² *ibid.*
³ RB1920-21, 45

**BENDIGO & EAGLEHAWK HERITAGE STUDY-SIGNIFICANT SITES
GRAEME BUTLER & ASSOCIATES**

Victorian directories list Lorenzo Genardini at Campbell's Forest and Myers Flat. (Farmer) 'Frank' Genardini was listed as a teacher at Timmering in c1899,¹ while Lorenzo was at Nerring in the 1860s.²

An agent, George Hardy, purchased it in 1921 and renovated the dwelling extensively, so that the Annual Valuation rose from £35 in 1920-21 to £50 in 1920-22.³ Hardy rented the property to a farmer, John D Thomson.⁴

By 1930 Jonathon T O'Connor, a farmer, had bought the house to retire to.⁵ The property is still owned by a member of the O'Connor family, Daniel B O'Connor.⁶

Description

This timber villa resembles many other houses from the Edwardian era, with the exception of the ornate verandah friezework and arching. Composed with a projecting room bay facing each street frontage, the house has a return verandah terminating on each. Each projecting bay has a half-timbered gable overhanging a rectangular window bay equipped with casement glazing. The main roof is, typically, in a Dutch-hip form, clad with Marseilles pattern terra-cotta and fitted with ornamental ridging. The red brick chimneys have corbelled tops and stucco panels set in the shafts. Another unusual element is the long verandah down one side of the house.

Landscape

The landscape, with its clipped evergreen shrubs, has a strong 1920s-30s character and supports the house era.

External Integrity

Generally original, except for the new paling front fence (original picket remnant at side).

Context

The house is isolated from the Golden Square residential and civic precinct, but as a corner site has a high visual contribution to the area.

Significance

Architecturally, the house is distinguished by the ornate verandah detailing and form, as combined with that of the side verandah. Otherwise it is typical of its era and a well-preserved Bendigo example.

Historically, built for Francisco Genardeni, it inspires further investigation of Genardeni's nationality (Italian?) and personal history, given the family's long-term residence in the district.

1 WD1899-1900
2 BDM B22038
3 ibid.; RB1921-22, 45
4 RB1925-26, 48
5 D1930; RB1934-35, 47
6 DRP937