

**DENDERAH  
HOUSE  
268 VIEW STREET,**

**SURVEY DATE: 1991-2**

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER Y**

**STUDY GRADING: A**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1888-**



**FIRST OWNER : VIBERT, GEORGE W.B.**

**CITATION:**

**History**

'The Sandhurst Postmaster, George W.B. Vibert, bought large areas of View Hill in the land sales of the 1850s. Most of it he sold off during the building boom of the early 1870s, but he kept this site for himself and had a modest single-storied house of eight rooms built.

Following his death, it was bought by William Kenneth McKenzie, a grocer, who appears to have made considerable additions in 1888. He remained there until George Victor Lansell bought it in 1910 to be the home of his new bride. Whilst they toured the world on their honeymoon, William Beebe added the top floor and redecorated the house in 'art-nouveau' style. Of particular interest are the windows for their shape and coloured glass; the turned and carved woodwork and plaster ceilings. The mansard roof and verandah are similar to his earlier work at 'Fortuna Villa.' Some of the light fittings are also from this period.

Originally named 'The Bungalow,' the house was renamed 'Bona Vista' by McKenzie. Later it was given the name 'Denderah' by the Lansells, in memory of the Egyptian archaeological site visited by them on their honeymoon. The Duke and Duchess of York stayed here in 1927.

Then following the death of Sir George Lansell - he was knighted for his services to the community - 'Denderah' was bought by the Convent of Mercy and renamed 'Cooloch House' to honour the founder of their Order<sup>1</sup>.

### **Description**

(part)

The interior contained extensive carved and polished timber detailing, in particular a fireplace flanked by statuettes styled in a florid baroque manner. There is also timber dado panelling to the hallway with slatted friezework.

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1 Butcher & Flanders p.87f