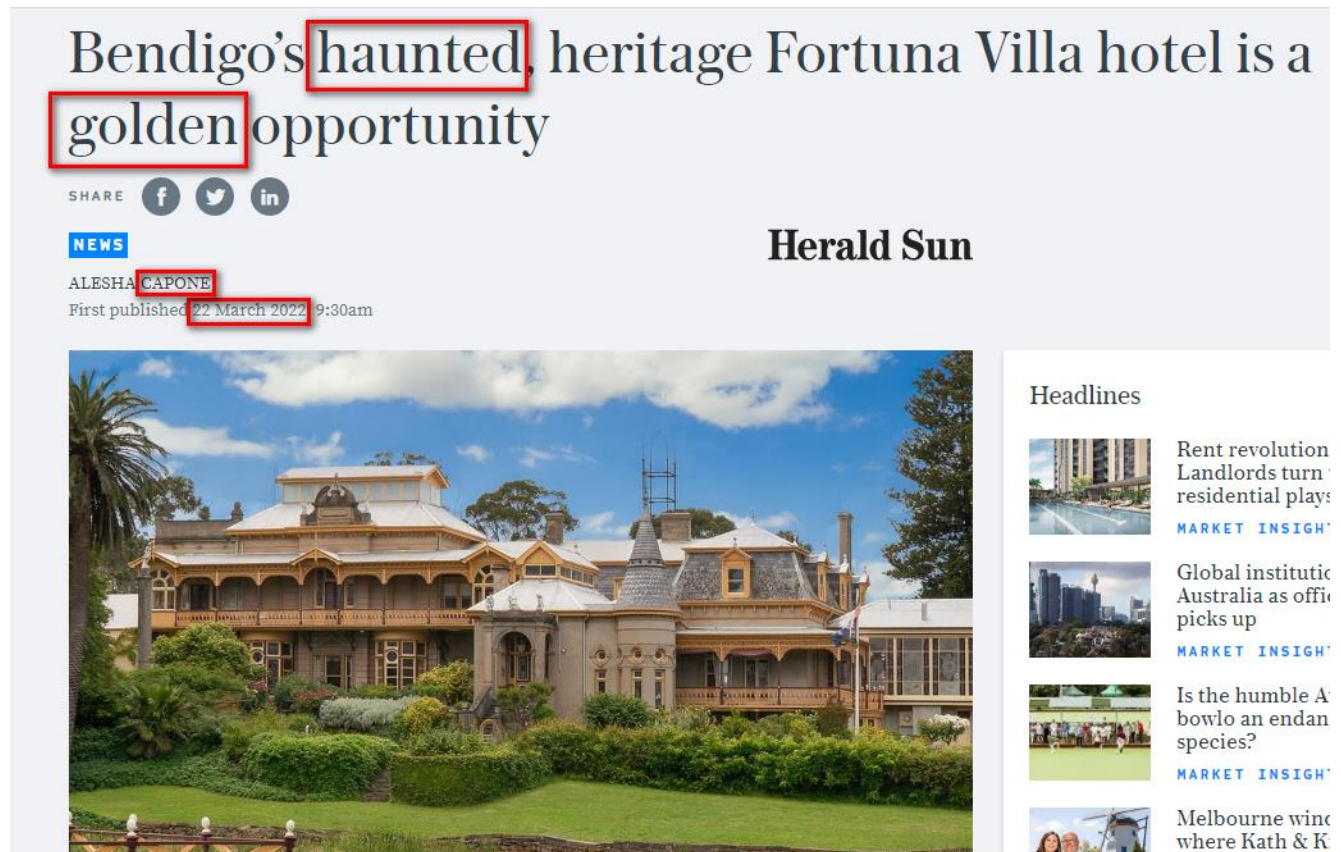


Bendigo Fortuna Villa article Herald Sun 22 March 2022

<https://www.realcommercial.com.au/news/bendigos-haunted-heritage-fortuna-villa-hotel-is-a-golden-opportunity>

Hey Dale

I thought it might be a good idea to dissect this 'article'/advertisement for the Fortuna Villa from 2022 as it is replete with many pretty incredible talking points. I am relating here much of the other research that I have already done on the Bendigo area.



The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article. The main headline is "Bendigo's haunted heritage Fortuna Villa hotel is a golden opportunity". The words "haunted" and "golden" are highlighted with red boxes. Below the headline are social media share icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. A "NEWS" tag is visible. The author's name, "ALESHA CAPONE", is also highlighted with a red box. The publication date and time, "First published 22 March 2022 9:30am", are also highlighted with a red box. The Herald Sun logo is on the right. Below the headline is a large photograph of the Fortuna Villa, a grand, ornate, multi-story building with a prominent tower and a large porch, set in a lush green landscape. To the right of the main image is a "Headlines" section with four smaller article teasers, each with a small image and a title.


The advertisement is presented as an article. I guess when you are selling a property for \$7 million you can afford to take out an ad like this in the Herald Sun.

The article date has a lot of 2's in it: 22nd March 2022. The address of the Villa is 22 Chum Street. Possibly just a coincidence but as you know, Freemasonry has an obsession with names and numbers. George Lansell was known for his Freemasonic position and connections.

I thought it interesting that the author of the article/ad has the surname Capone, synonymous with mafia connections and eventual justice meted out as a result of records.


I also thought it interesting that the 'golden' tag was used in the headline. As we have already discussed, the Golden Triangle, and Golden Square are particular Freemasonry terms of significance.

Kalgoorlie's Golden Square Masonic lodge closes after 118 ...

 www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2015/02/16/4181105.htm

Mr Kelly was originally a member of the Trafalgar Lodge in Burt Street Boulder, before it amalgamated with Golden Square in 1989. The Leonora United Lodge is still running, but meetings take place in Kalgoorlie as that is where the members now live. Mr Kelly is the master of Leonora United, the last Masonic lodge in the Goldfields.

Royal Freemasons Bendigo, Kangaroo Flat, Aged Care ...

 <https://www.villages.com.au/vic/kangaroo-flat/royal-freemasons-bendigo-14092>

Royal Freemasons: 1300 176 925; Add to Shortlist . Near this location. Other facilities you may be interested in from this region. Golden Rise Bendigo, Golden Square. Retirement Village 21 Dwellings. Aged Care Facility 120 Beds. Retirement Village, 24hr Medical Alert External, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Visiting Medical Services, Medical alert to external call centre, On-site manager. Shortlist ...

The combination of the word 'golden' in the headline of the article/ad in question, the date, and the name of the author could be considered tags of interest for those who are looking out for these things. I see similar tags in headlines constantly in Adelaide's daily rag. Below is a perfect example:



Mali's **brave new world** flips the script on health silliness

The Premier's Writers Week speech outlined a common sense idea that already seems to bring nice results in one other place it's been tried, writes Samantha Maiden.

READ MORE >

Advertiser Adelaide newspaper 9th March 2023.

The name Fortuna is based upon the goddess of fortune, called Fortuna, known to be the instigator of an ancient cult. The main days of dedication of that cult are in the 6th month of the year – the 11th and 24th of June. The 24th is midsummer's day when 'undisclosed rituals' occurred in relation to this cult. The number 24 also represents another 6 (2+4.)

As a general rule, secrecy surrounding rituals points to inhumane practices.

Fortuna (Latin: *Fortūna*, equivalent to the Greek goddess *Tyche*) is the goddess of fortune and the personification of luck in Roman religion who, largely thanks to the Late Antique author Boethius, remained popular through the Middle Ages until at least the Renaissance. The blindfolded depiction of her is still an important figure in many aspects of today's Italian culture, where the dichotomy *fortuna / sfortuna* (luck / unluck) plays a prominent role in everyday social life, also represented by the very common refrain "La [dea] fortuna è cieca" (Latin *Fortuna caeca est*; "Luck [goddess] is blind").

Fortuna is often depicted with a **gubernaculum** (ship's rudder) a ball or *Rota Fortunae* (wheel of fortune, first mentioned by Cicero) and a **cornucopia** (horn of plenty). She might bring good or bad luck: she could be represented as veiled and blind, as in modern depictions of *Lady Justice*, except that Fortuna does not hold a balance. Fortuna came to represent life's capriciousness. She was also a goddess of fate as *Atrox Fortuna*, she claimed the young lives of the princeps Augustus' grandsons Gaius and Lucius, prospective heirs to the Empire.^[1] (In antiquity she was also known as *Automatia*.)^[2]

Ancient cult [edit]

Fortuna's father was said to be Jupiter and like him, she could also be bountiful (*Copia*). As *Annonaria* she protected grain supplies. June 11 was consecrated to her: on June 24 she was given cult at the festival of *Fors Fortuna*.^{[4][5]} Fortuna's name seems to derive from *Vortumna* (she who revolves the year). [citation needed]

Roman writers disagreed whether her cult was introduced to Rome by *Servius Tullius*^[6] or *Ancus Marcius*.^[7] The two earliest temples mentioned in Roman Calendars were outside the city, on the right bank of the Tiber (in Italian *Trastevere*). The first temple dedicated to Fortuna was attributed to the Etruscan Servius Tullius, while the second is known to have been built in 293 BC as the fulfilment of a Roman promise made during later Etruscan wars.^[8] The date of dedication of her temples was 24 June, or Midsummer's Day when celebrants from Rome annually floated to the temples downstream from the city. After undisclosed rituals they then rowed back, garlanded and inebriated.^[9] Also Fortuna had a temple at the *Forum Boarium*. Here Fortuna was twinned with the cult of *Mater Matuta* (the goddesses shared a festival on 11 June), and the paired temples have been revealed in the excavation beside the church of *Sant'Omobono*: the cults are indeed archaic in date.^[10] Fortuna Primigenia of *Praeneste* was adopted by Romans at the end of 3rd century BC in an important cult of *Fortuna Publica Populi Romani* (the Official Fortune of the Roman People).^[11]

Fortuna
Goddess of chance, luck and fate



Abode	Rome
Symbol	Globe, Cornucopia, Wheel, Wreath
Greek equivalent	Tyche



The Cornucopia – horn of plenty – could also hold many meanings.

The goddess Fortuna is also known for taking the lives of princeps Augustus' two grandsons. I do wonder if the many depictions of small male cherub statues on the property are a nod to these sacrifices.



Cherubs on the roofline at Fortuna Villa.

As I have pointed out to you before, the 'portal' windows on the façade of the Fortuna gallery are reminiscent of ships windows. This could relate to maritime law.

Under maritime law paedophilia is considered nothing more than bestiality, which is legal. In the case of a ship in dry dock (situated on land), maritime law still applies.

Certain architecture may be employed to signal that maritime law is in place at that location, or it could even be inferred that particular styles of architecture could so closely mimic a ship that it might even be legally considered a ship. It is interesting to note that Fortuna the goddess is depicted with a Gubernaculum (ships rudder.)

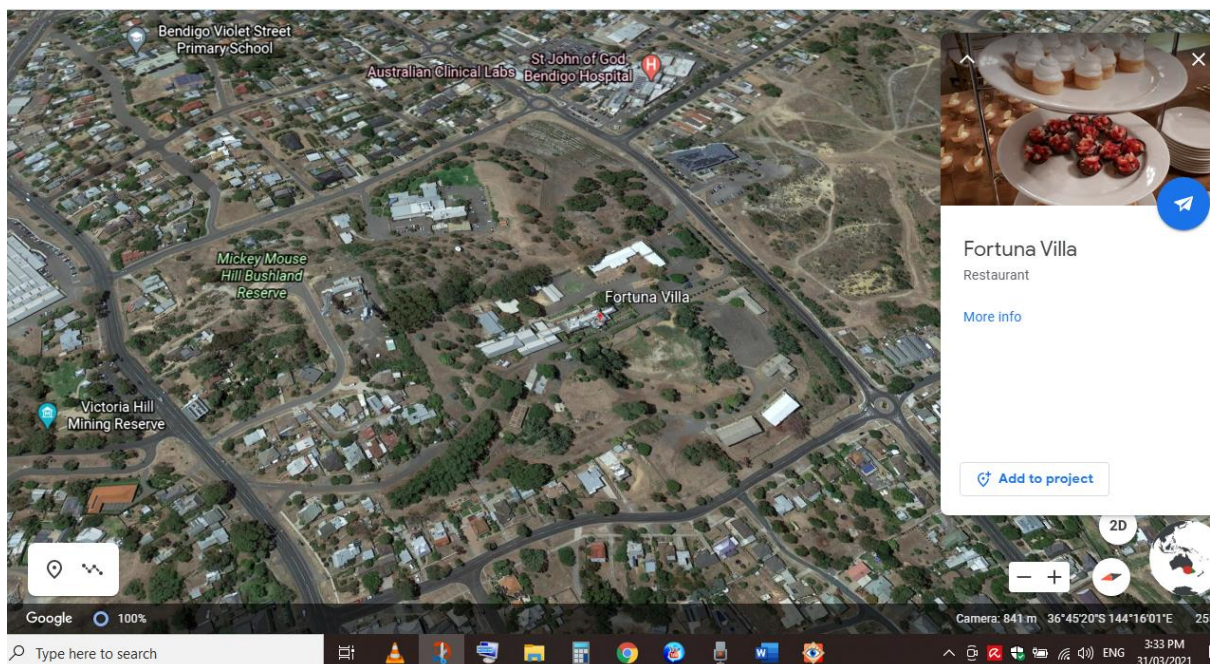
The Fortuna Villa architecture is reminiscent of Disney castle, and the castle that Disney's copy was originally modelled on, Bavaria's Neuschwanstein Castle.

The Neuschwanstein Castle has a particularly hideous history, replete with human cult sacrifices.



Neuschwanstein Castle.

As you are already aware, there are multiple Disney references in Bendigo, not least significant is the Mickey Mouse Park directly next door to Fortuna Villa.



Walt Disney was known for his 33rd Degree masonic status, and his 33 club. He was a CIA asset. The fact that the Fortuna Villa was used as 'a top-secret military' facility and was owned by the defence department is significant in relation to these obvious Disney references in Bendigo.



The impressive Fortuna Villa at 22 Chum St, Golden Square dates back to 1871.

A Bendigo mansion with Roman baths, an ornamental lake and reproduction Pompeii fountain – not to mention **11 ghosts and a top-secret military past** – awaits a buyer with a big vision.

The 70-room Fortuna Villa at **22 Chum St, Golden Square** dates back to 1871 when “Australia’s quartz king” George Lansell, who made his fortune in mining, purchased the land.

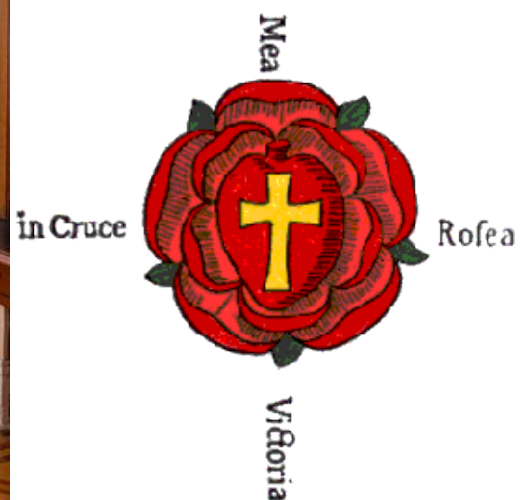
Lansell – who is also known for buying “Toorak Estate” in 1875 and subdividing it into allotments, with both Lansell and St Georges Rds named after him – spent decades expanding the villa until he died in 1906.



Fortuna Villa - More ships port windows. Masonic window at right.

There is so much significant cult symbolism at the Fortuna Villa that it is hard to put it all in one document, including Rosy Cross/Rosicrucian symbols in the stained glass windows. But this particular

reference to Alice In Wonderland – ‘eat me’ sign on a tea cake – which is a well-known MK Ultra tool – is worth noting. Including the butterfly which is a known MK Ultra Monarch symbol. This may seem far-fetched, but keep in mind that this was a top secret military facility for 66 years.



Rose of the Rosy Cross in the stained glass windows compared to Rosicrucian Cross at right – and a rising sun motif in the floorboards. The rising sun was an ancient Egyptian symbol conveying life and resurrection to its wearer and was the symbol of Harmakhis, the epithet of Horus as god of the horizon.



Fortuna Villa uses the Masonic key as their logo.



I find it interesting that there is a repetition of a circular formation in the area which may be a depiction of Fortuna Goddess's wheel of fortune.

Red rectangles indicate more palm trees (researchers tell me this is an indicator for tunnels.) Green rectangle out the front of the Fortuna Villa indicates a monolith. The circular lawn formation that is also marked is similar to the one at the Forest Creek gold mine.



Forest Creek circular formation similar to Fortuna Villa formation.

The circle formations must mean something because it would take time to maintain them. Both circular formations are of similar dimensions as well.

The Fortuna Gallery is also known for its tunnels. There is a podcast that is no longer available but I was able to get some information from an article relating to it:

From the article: 'You don't have to spend much time in Bendigo before you hear whispers of secret tunnels going from and leading to iconic locations. And while there's plenty of confirmed gold mining tunnels under Bendigo (including one that leads from Central Deborah all the way to Eaglehawk), not so many of the 'secret' ones have been officially confirmed...

...until this morning.

In chatting to the Star Fm Breakfast Show today, Paul Banks from Fortuna Villa revealed that there was a lot more happening under the grand building than first expected'.



Fortuna Villa tunnel.



The following article talks about the tunnels in greater detail:

[NEWSBENDIGO NEWS](#) TUNNELS UNDER FORTUNA VILLA!

Tunnels Under Fortuna Villa!

The legend of an underground tunnel

"It's a subject people love; the legend of an underground tunnel system throughout the city of Bendigo. Alex sparked rumours on the breakfast show with people suggesting there are tunnels that link landmarks like the Shamrock Hotel to the Bendigo Law Courts and the possibility Sacred Heart Cathedral has a tunnel that runs beneath it to the St John of God Hospital in Barnard Street. These are all still to be confirmed by our breakfast hosts/investigators.

Paul Banks turned myth into reality by showing Alex and Flick through just one of the tunnels that lie beneath his historic Bendigo property Fortuna Villa. The mansion was built by the guy most of Bendigo is named after- George Lansell. To say George had hella cash is an understatement and those that have ever walked through the Villa know it's veeeeery ornate.

"What do you mean you 'don't have a conservatory?"

A lot of these mines have been concreted up or tricky to get to underneath the villa but Paul Banks showed us through a tunnel that links the main building to the coach house; a must have in 19th century Bendigo.

Round the back of it is the entry to the tunnel. Cornish miners would pull quartz from the tunnel walls, building up a sweat they'd take off their shirts and continue working. When maids and guests used the tunnel while it was mined, the Cornish miners had to turn and face the tunnel walls in an attempt to blend in and hide their nipples.

This was just one of tunnels that link rooms across the expansive Fortuna property. If you ever get the chance to tour Fortuna Villa, totally do it.

George made a fortune mining quartz for gold and built an underground rail system of sorts to transport the loot from mines to the bullion rooms and crushers. Think of Splash Mountain minus the water and souvenir photo at the end.”

Back to the Herald Sun article/ad – there is a reference to 11 ghosts haunting the Fortuna Villa. And that it was once a top secret military post for 66 years. Another reference to the number 6. The Secrets Act still applies to some of this top secret military ‘survey’ work.

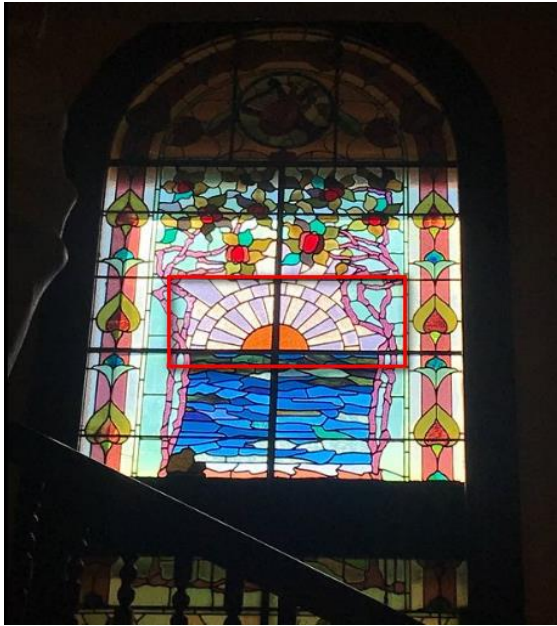
Fortuna Villa owner Paul Banks, an advertising and marketing executive with a passion for restoring property, said the Australian Army Survey Corps (later Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation) was based at the property for 66 years from 1942.

The villa's conservation management plan states “critical secretive defence mapping work” took place in from World War II onwards, with some of the documents still covered by the Secrets Act.



The grand stained cedar and blackwood staircase, perfect for sweeping down in a dramatic fashion.

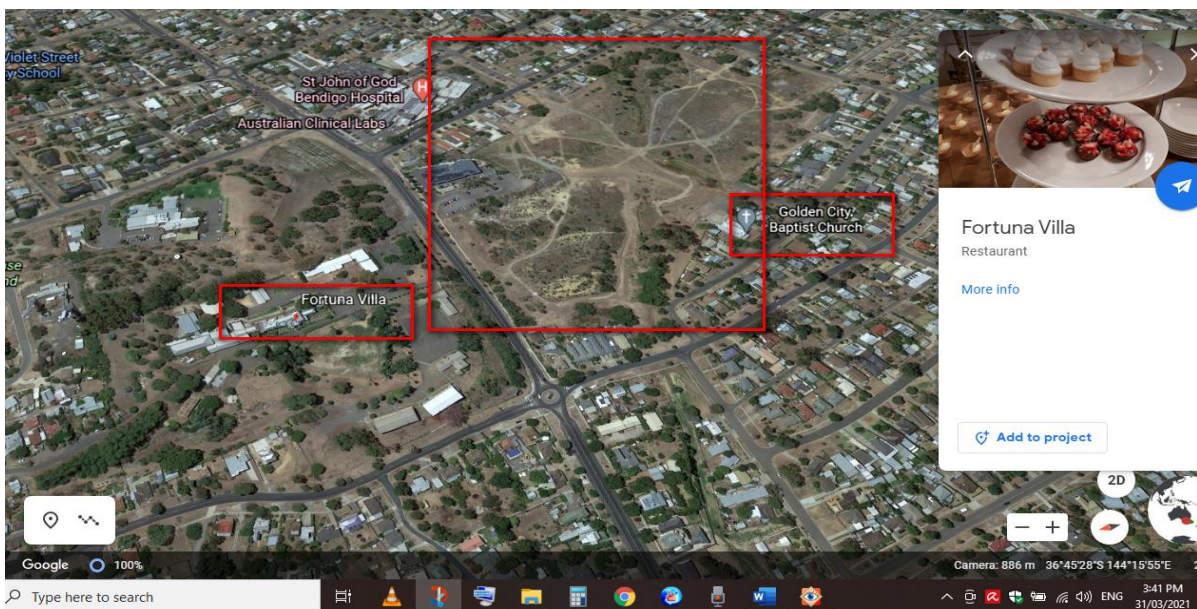
This statue in the Fortuna Villa depicts what appears to be a little girl in underclothes covering her genitals with both hands. Behind her is a stained glass window with another rising sun motif.



Rising sun motif – a nod to ancient Egypt – in the stained glass window.

The vines or whatever they are that are depicted here on the window are not symmetrical. The vine on the right interferes with the aesthetic of the rising sun. This is a weird thing to do unless it has some form of symbolism. This could be a map of sorts.

The ocean depicted could indicate, along with the portal windows, that the villa could be under maritime law.



There is an Ankh – another ancient Egyptian symbol – in the landscape close by to the Fortuna Villa.

This could just be a combination of dirt roads that look reminiscent of the Ankh symbol, however there is a similar Ankh formation nearby to two other ancient Egyptian symbols in Kyneton. Therefore it seems unlikely that this is just pareidolia.



Rising sun; eye of Ra; Ankh symbol in landscape in Kyneton, a town nearby to Bendigo.

With regard to the military significance of the Fortuna Villa, the Bendigo area in total was considered so important in the second world war effort that the entire town was mandated to be subjected to blackouts and other restrictions.

those in which A.R.P. measures are required including lighting restrictions, fire-fighting and first aid; controlled lighting areas were areas in which precautionary measures are limited to the control of lighting". A.R.P. areas were classified, the numbers in descending order from 10 to 4 indicating the comparative liability to attack of each place or group from most liable to least liable:

10. Darwin, Port Moresby
9. Townsville, Brisbane
8. Sydney, Newcastle, Port Kembla
7. Perth, Fremantle
6. Melbourne, Geelong, Whyalla, Port Pirie, Hobart
5. Yallourn, Lithgow, Waddamana
4. Salisbury, Adelaide

It was noted that the Commonwealth Government in December had decided to regard all areas within 10 miles of the sea as being also A.R.P. areas, but that plans should be on a modified scale in those areas; controlled lighting areas thus covered areas within 10 miles of the sea, all towns within 100 miles of the coast, and, in addition, **Bathurst, Orange, Bendigo, Albury and Tamworth.**

This info from a pdf on wartime shelters in Australia, APPENDIX 1, CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANISATION, By JOYCE FISHER

There were mandates from 1938 Australia wide for shelters, tunnels and bunkers to house the civilian population in the event of an air raid/enemy bombing attack. This Civil Defense Organisation PDF quoted above discusses the necessity of such shelters in particular regions, including 'blackouts' in towns along the coast to make the cities and towns less easy to identify from the air at night.

In the above document insert, Bendigo, along with the towns of Albury, Tamworth, Bathurst and Orange, were singled out for blackouts even though they were not coastal towns. It should be noted that Tamworth was named as one of 14 NSW towns where satanic ritual abuse was reported in a

Canberra Times article. Bathurst is also well known as a satanic ritual capital, and is situated on the 33rd parallel south which is well known in the occult world as a latitude of great significance for cult sacrifice and rituals.



Mr Banks has restored the villa using original colours in the rooms.

Mr Banks, who purchased Fortuna Villa from the Department of Defence, said the Pompeii fountain was one of the first parts of the property that he and his restoration team worked on.

He joked the fountain was “about four times bigger” than its Italian inspiration as Lansell, who was short of stature, “liked big things”.

“The Roman baths are just to die for, as well,” Mr Banks said.

During the extensive restoration, Mr Banks uncovered many of Villa’s secrets.

“It’s got everything from hidden drawers to coffin cupboards – cupboards sized to fit a coffin,” he said.

“The hidden drawer took me four years to find it, an old security guard told me about it.”

Getting back to the Herald Sun article – there are some interesting references to a roman bath being something ‘to die for’. This ‘to die for’ statement is repeated in other articles that I have read in relation to aspects of the Fortuna Villa.

The reference to a hidden drawer and coffin cupboard is extremely disturbing when you take into consideration the fact that it was a top secret military site.

It gets more disturbing the further you read into the article: apparently there are several apparitions that appear to the living. 11 in total according to the article, including:

- a bearded man (thought to be Lansell);
- a teenage girl who asks people to leave (!! I wonder why!);
- a boy in a sailor suit;
- and the disembodied head and torso of a man.

When the Department of Defence was based at the villa, a nightly patrol officer was required to write down disturbances seen or heard during the night in a notepad, which later became known as the “ Ghost Book”.

While the book itself went missing during the 1970s, the villa's spirits are believed to include

Lansell who appears as a bearded figure; a teenage girl who asks people to leave; a boy in a sailor suit; and a man's head and torso passing through the banister of the main staircase.

While Mr Banks has not encountered of the villa's resident ghosts, he said all of them “are all apparently very friendly”.

“My theory with ghosts is that I'm trying to build a five-star hotel, I don't see too many,” Mr Banks said.

“When I give tours, I say: ‘If you smell roses it's Bedelia, George's first wife. If you hear screaming it's Bedelia catching Edith, George's second wife and if you get a breath of fresh air, it's because it's a bloody big house.’”

As a medium I can testify to the fact that ghosts haunt locations for a particular reason. Sometimes because they committed suicide in that location, which leaves them unable to move on. Or if they were murdered in that location.

Disembodied figures can be a representation of disembodiment at death. It can also indicate that the physical structure of the location has changed since the death of an individual. So the apparition can appear as moving through structures, or can have parts of the ‘body’ obscured by floors, ceilings, or furniture.

I find it particularly disturbing that the apparition of a boy wearing a sailor suit is seen on the grounds given the military references in the article and the possibility that the facility may have been under maritime law.

Very interesting that the ghost book ‘went missing’. Could one infer that there may have been too many identifying references that may have related to missing persons in the ghost book? I note that Bendigo has it's own missing persons cases. Here is an article on teens who went missing in 1968:



New twist in 1968 missing teens mystery

The desperate families of missing Bendigo teens Maureen Braddy and Allan Whyte have made a dramatic move to bring attention to the unsolved 1968 case.

The last and most horrifying quote in the Herald Sun article is the statement that 'if you hear screaming' it is just supposed to be ignored as the screams of a ghost! Audible manifestations are pretty rare. Even in a place as haunted as the Fortuna Villa is rumoured to be.

As a general rule, audible manifestations of an otherworldly nature are indicative of powerful demonic entities.

Perhaps the reason for writing the Herald Sun article was not simply to sell the villa.

Again, I think this particular article is very revealing. It seems to be a soft disclosure of some very dodgy activities at the location. Why on earth would any dwelling require a hidden drawer/coffin cupboard unless nefarious activities were involved?

Of course this is all pure speculation on my part. People should consider this document to be for entertainment purposes only, inspired by the Herald Sun article!



Historic mining excavation in the Fortune Villa grounds.