Melton Planning Scheme

**Statement of Significance: 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale “Hillview” June 2022**

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| **Heritage Place:** | Private residence  332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale | **PS ref no:** | HO142 |

No site inspection undertaken; the residence and outbuildings are not visible from the public domain.

**What is significant?**

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale was established as a substantial farming property in the c. 1870s by David Jenkins, comprising a timber house with iron roof, large wood stable and hay loft, stone dairy, cow shed, stockyards and garden. Photographs of c. 2001 and aerial images indicate that the property is currently comprised of a weatherboard residence, with c. 1980s alterations, and a complex of outbuildings in a rural landscaped setting.

**How is it significant?**

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale is of local historical significance to the City of Melton.

**Why is it significant?**

The property at 332 Benson Road, Toolern Vale, is of local historical significance as an early example of a farming complex in Toolern Vale, dating from the c. 1870s. It is of historical interest as a nineteenth century property which appears to have survived the damaging bushfires of the twentieth century. (Criterion A) Further investigation, including a visual inspection, is required to confirm whether the extant structures within the property are illustrative of the original farming operations within the place.

**Primary source**

*City of Melton Heritage Assessment Project 2020/21: Findings, Lovell Chen*

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*