



(c.1920s-1940s) era. The main house, timber cottage, underground tank and brick garage appear to be in good condition.

The house and associated buildings at 1229 – 1279 Gisborne-Melton Road are architecturally significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.2). The main house demonstrates original design qualities of an interwar Bungalow style. These qualities include the recessed hipped roof form, together with the minor gable and skillion verandah that project towards the road. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, face red brick chimney, broad eave with exposed timber rafters, timber verandah posts, paired timber framed double hung windows, timber framed doorway with panelled and glazed timber door, window hood, and the gable infill (panelled and timber battening).

The cottage demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian vernacular style. These qualities include the steeply pitched hipped roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel, large hand-made brick chimney, modest overhangs, beaded edged timber weatherboard wall cladding, symmetrical configuration of the main façade with its central doorway and the flanking timber framed twelve paned double hung windows, and the timber shingling under the existing roof cladding. The vernacular construction methods of the cottage includes bush pole joists and a lack of stumps. The small brick gabled garage also contributes to the architectural significance of the place, while the surviving stone ruins and underground brick tank contribute to the significance of the setting of the place.

The house and associated buildings at 1229 – 1279 Gisborne-Melton Road are historically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC A4, B2). The stone ruin dates to c.1856 (built for J Jones), the weatherboard cottage was built for J Jones c.1870s, the main house was built for J Funston in 1931, and the garage dates to the late nineteenth century. It is the only nineteenth and early twentieth century small farm complex remaining beside the Toolern Creek, whose original subdivision was designed to facilitate such development. It is one of only three places to have survived the devastating 1965 Toolern Vale fire. It is one of only two places in the Shire with evidence of three generations of farming houses. It is associated with pioneering families in the Toolern Vale district, and with the *Green Hills* pastoral estate.

The random rubble ruins and brick foundations are also historically and scientifically significant (AHC C.2) because of their potential to provide an understanding and appreciation of nineteenth century farm life and settlement at Toolern Vale.

Overall, the house and associated buildings at 1229 – 1279 Gisborne-Melton Road are of LOCAL significance.