

People of the Yankalilla District



Septimane and Anna

Septimane HERBERT (1807 - 1886)

Married: Anna NORMAN (1809 - 1885)

Arrived in Yankalilla district: 1842

Settled at: Yankalilla

Occupation: farmer, gentleman

Buried: Christ Church Anglican Cemetery

Children:

2 children died at sea on the voyage out.

George Septimane (c1832 - 1910) m Eliza Jane DODD

Frank (1840 - 1910) m Jessie Ruth TEICHELMANN

Septimus Edward (c1842 - 1875) m Rose Anne DODD

Mary Ellen (1843 - 1936) m James Noblett TAYLOR

Susan Anna (1846 -) m Rennie KAPPLER

Fanny (1847 -) m William NEWBURY

Ena (twin, c1849 -) m Hugh NORMAN

Ada (twin, c1849 - 1875) – did not marry

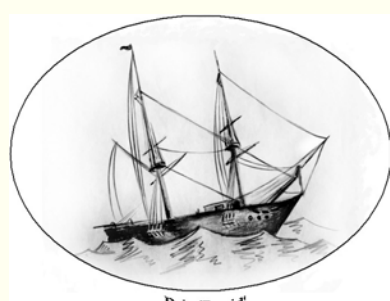
Oscar (1853 - 1941) m Jane Frances CLARKE

Septimane Herbert and his wife Anna, who was the sister of Robert Norman, arrived in South Australia on the *Thomas Harrison* with their son George Septimane in February 1839. Two other sons died during the voyage out, due to a juvenile epidemic. Herbert set up a business in Adelaide, but lost money during the early colony's financial crisis.

In 1842 he came to Yankalilla, leased section 1036, and started sheep farming. He built a stone house (reputed to be the first stone building south of Willunga), which he called "Wissanger" after Wishanger Manor in Gloucestershire. According to a traveller of 1851, Herbert's house and that of another early settler, George Worthington, were built "up on considerable eminences, quite overlooking the valley" (above where the ACH nursing home is now). Oscar Herbert remembered that there was a lovely garden which included wonderful peaches.

By 1843 Septimane Herbert had 1200 sheep and 16 cattle and cropped a few acres of wheat. About 1850 Herbert bought section 1036 and he subsequently donated part of the section to trustees for building a public school, which was built in 1857 and was called Wissanger school. Herbert also bought section 1175 from his brother-in-law Robert Norman in 1854, and he subdivided part of the section (on the south side of Main South Road) into township blocks, the township also being named "Wissanger".

Herbert became a leading figure in the district. He was Yankalilla's first JP and coroner, regularly presiding over court cases. He was also Chairman of the District Council from 1856 to 1859. His wife Anna died in 1885 and was buried in Christ Church Cemetery. At that time Septimane had Anna's mother (Sarah Norman) exhumed from her gravesite at Wissanger, where she had lived with the Herberts, and reinterred in Christ Church cemetery next to her daughter. When he died the following year, he too was buried in Christ Church cemetery, and the three graves (box tombs with slate tops) stand alongside each other near the top of the cemetery.



2022 compiled by Margaret Morgan

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For more information on other notable people of the district contact yank.hist.soc@gmail.com