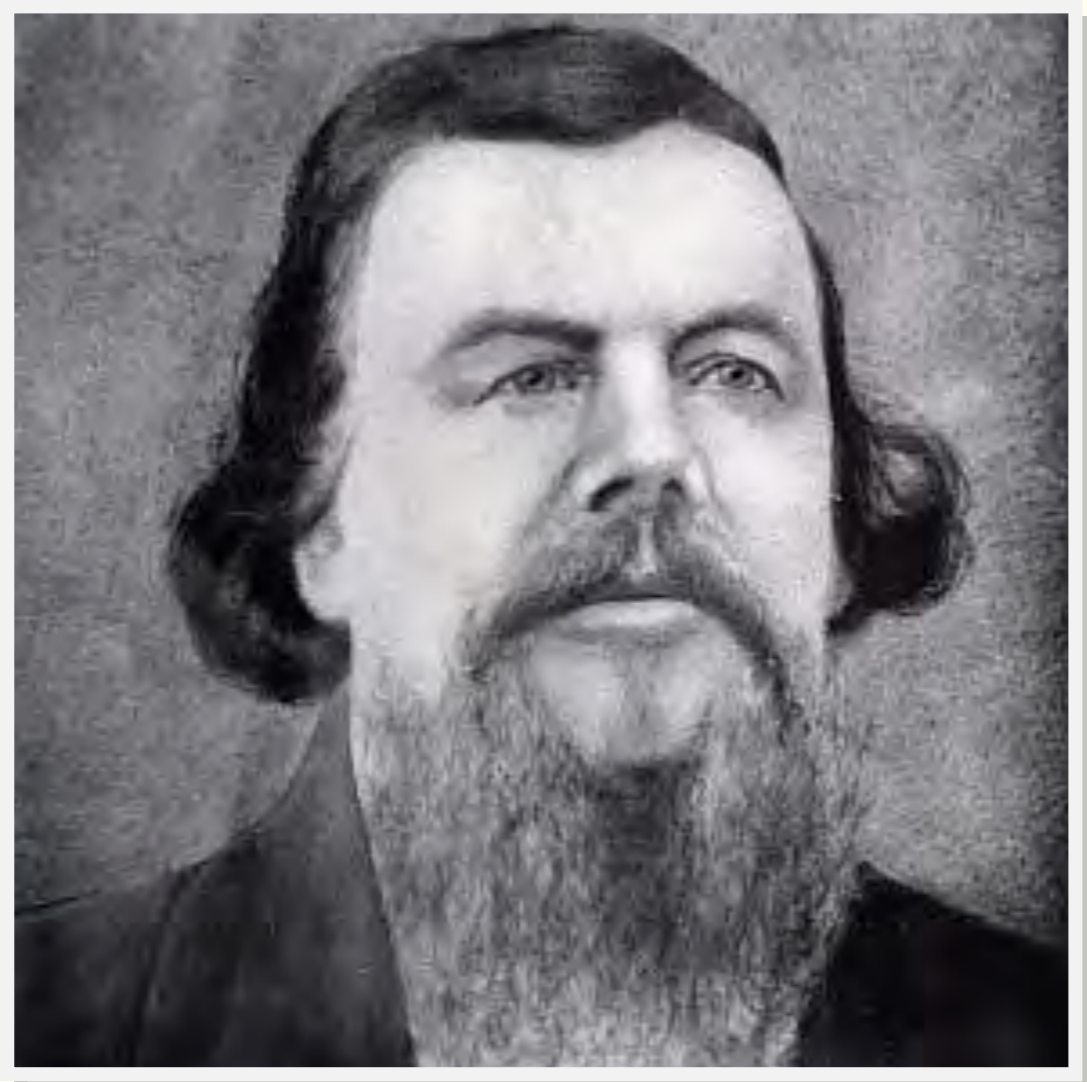


People of the Yankalilla District



Robert Hastings NORMAN (c.1817-1883)

Married: Sarah HAYES (c. 1820-1867)

Arrived: 18 June 1844 aboard *Taglioni*.

Did not live in the district but was a landowner

Children of Robert & Sarah:

Herbert Hayes (1843-1926)

m. Evangeline Dewhirst

Alice Betsy (1845-1896)

m. William Braddock

Hugh (1848-1912)

m. Ena Herbert

Walter (1850-1918)

m. Henrietta Stephens

Roger (1853-1895)

m. Emma Jones

Amy (1856-1857)

Leslie (1858-1895)

m. Alice Burge

Lionel Hays (1862-1869)

Robert Norman, surgeon dentist, while in Brighton, England, purchased his first land, sections 1012 and 1014, on which Normanville is now located, when the land was opened up for selection in early 1840.

Later he added further sections until by the early 1850s he had amassed about 800 acres which he put to use for agriculture, including 40 acres of vineyards, some of the first planted in the region.

Norman initially lived in Wright Street, Adelaide, where he opened his dental practice in October 1844, the first in the colony. In 1847 the family moved to Belle Vue House, in North Terrace, where he lived and practised until his death.

One unusually outstanding achievement was a mechanical hand (prosthesis) which Robert constructed in 1845 from whale bone for Corporal John Coles. This hand was operated by a series of pulleys and strings attached to a ring on Coles' thumb. The hand, believed to be South Australia's first prosthesis, is stored in the Royal Adelaide Hospital medical library.

Robert's brother John, moved to the Bungala Flats near Yankalilla in 1842. Their sister Ann married Septimane Herbert and Mrs Norman Snr went to live with the Herberts at Yankalilla.

Aware of the needs of local residents near his agricultural property, on 2 June 1849 Robert announced in the *Register* newspaper that he intended forming a township to be named 'Normanville' on his property on the Bungala River. In 1850 he built the first Anglican church in the district, St James, in Normanville and proposed to form a town with a church, a blacksmith shop and a hotel. In 1855 town blocks were surveyed and a million bricks made from clay sourced from the banks of the Bungala River, from which to erect houses and other buildings. Land was also offered for a Police Station and approaches for the proposed jetty. The first Yankalilla Public School, opened in 1857, was built using bricks given by Robert Norman.



Corporal Coles' prosthetic hand



2020 compiled by Lorraine Day

For more information contact the

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