

# People of the Yankalilla District



*Finniss Vale Hotel*

## William DINHAM (c1800 - 1869)

**Married:** Mrs Thomasine HARVEY nee VENNING (1788 - 1882)

**Arrived** in Yankalilla district by 1859

**Settled at:** Finnis Vale, then Little Gorge

**Occupation:** hotelier, farmer

**Buried:** not known

*No children:*

## Charles DINHAM (1809 - 1880)

**Married:** Caroline HARVEY (1817 - 1906)

**Arrived in Yankalilla district:** 1856

**Settled at:** Normanville, Little Gorge

**Occupation:** storekeeper, farmer

**Buried:** Christ Church cemetery Yankalilla

### *Children*

Caroline Elizabeth Reed (1839 - 1903) m Thomas CHALWIN

Charles Anthony (1841 - 1918) m 1. Elizabeth RIDGWAY  
2. Edith Maud SAINT

Mary (1843 - 1903)

Annie Carr (1846 - 1863)

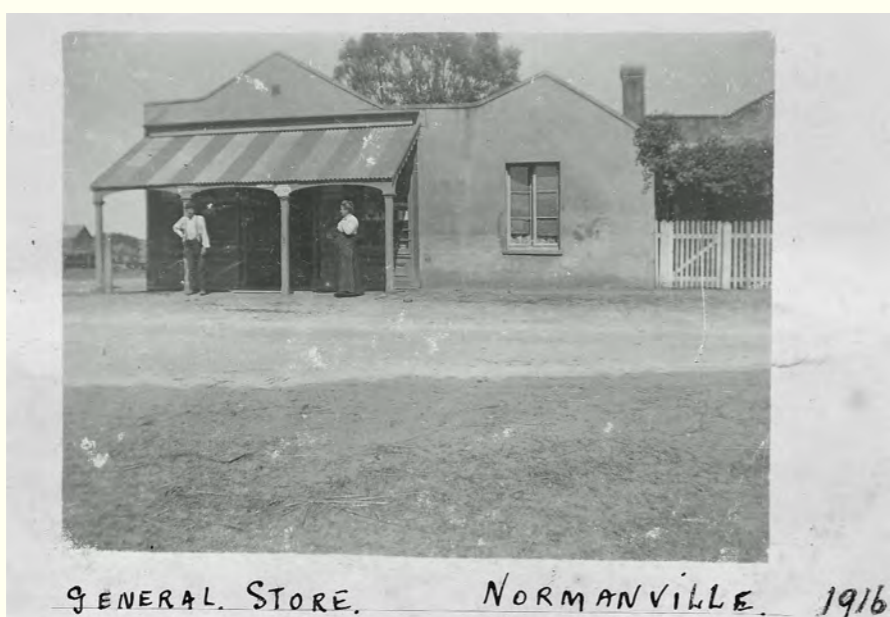
William Edward Prideaux (1849 - 1879) Eliza JOHNSON

John Phillips (1851 - ) m Eliza Jane GORDON

George Venning (1853 - 1871)

Joseph Henry (1856 - 1914) m Esther Ann HALES

Thomas Horace (1858 - 1859)



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](mailto:yank.hist.soc@gmail.com)

**The Dinham brothers** came to South Australia in the early years of the colony. Charles came from Sydney with his new bride, Caroline nee Harvey, on the *Lady Pelham* in December 1838. William was in South Australia by 1846, as he married Caroline's widowed mother Thomasine in Adelaide in that year. By 1859 William and Thomasine were at Second Valley, where William managed the Finnis Vale Hotel. About 1862 they moved to Little Gorge, where William leased and then bought 8 acres of section 1110, which he farmed until his death in 1869.

Charles lived for a time in Adelaide where in 1841 he was operating as an ironmonger and draper. This business failed, and Charles was arrested on suspicion of fraud, but the case was dismissed on the grounds of insufficient evidence. Later he lived at Athelstone, where he built a flour mill. However, this business also failed and in 1851 he was declared insolvent.

By 1856 he was at Normanville. In January 1856 Robert Norman agreed to sell lot 12 Normanville to Charles Dinham. The agreement was that Dinham was to build "*a good and substantial brick and stone building of the value of seventy five pounds at the least*" before January 19, 1857, and that Norman would supply up to 20 thousand bricks for the building of the store. The store was built and in May 1859 lot 12 was conveyed to Dinham for £200. However, by this time Dinham was already in financial difficulties and was looking to sell the property and business. But before he could secure a sale the store was gutted by a fire. An inquest was held to determine the cause of the fire, and there was an implied suspicion that Dinham may have lit it himself in order to collect the insurance money, but nothing could be proved. In December 1859 Dinham sold the property to J.W.Heathcote and C.A.Mather for £500.

In 1864 Dinham failed in an attempt to set up a coach service in opposition to Rounsvell's coach service. Perhaps this venture put him in financial difficulties again, as in the following year the District Council prosecuted him for not paying his rates. He argued in defence that the Council had omitted to take his name off the rate assessment books, and that in any case his "*liability was barred by subsequent insolvency*".

At the time of his death he was living at Little Gorge, possibly on the land which had been owned by his brother. He was buried in Christ Church cemetery in an unmarked grave.