



William

JACOB [1815-1902]

Married Mary BAGOT [-1892]

on 31 August 1842 at 'Castle Bagot', Koonunga

Departed on 4 May 1836 from London

Arrived 17 August 1836 at Antechamber Bay,  
Kangaroo Island

Rapid

Children of William & Mary:

Charles (1844-1873)

Mary (1848-1935)

John (1857-1942) m Martha ESSELBACH

William (1859-1859)

## *From Pioneer Surveyor to Vigneron and Winemaker*

William Jacob trained as a surveyor and, at the age of 21, joined Colonel William Light's expedition to survey the new settlement of Adelaide. He helped lay out North Terrace, with Light starting from the western end and he and Ormsby from the eastern end. He then carried out Light's survey of the north bank of the Torrens, the town acres and much more. When Light resigned as Surveyor General in 1838 he invited William and others to join his firm of private surveyors, Light, Finnis and Co.

William bought land on the junction of the North and South Para rivers. By this time he was joined by his brother John and sister Ann. He continued surveying, leaving John looking for other pursuits and Ann in charge of the homestead, Moroороо. A dairy was successfully established on the bank of Jacob Creek, then wheat and barley were grown and a large vegetable garden and orchard established. In 1854 vineyards were planted, and first wine produced in 1859.

William married in 1842 and settled on Moroороо. John and Ann had moved on further north and the brothers continued to follow pastoral pursuits, eventually leasing Parallana near the Gammon Ranges. After several good years, drought struck and all the stock was lost, ending pastoral pursuits.

On Moroороо, eventually 68 acres were under vine, producing 10,000 gallons a year. William exhibited wine in the 1886 Colonial and Sydney Exhibition, winning three prizes. In 1888 he joined Sir Samuel Davenport when the Adelaide Wine Company was formed, using cellars at Beaumont and Moroороо until 1890 when the majority of grapes were coming from Tanunda. They formed a co-operative style company and Chateau Tanunda was built to manage the growing industry. The Moroороо winery closed in 1916.

William retired to a cottage built on Moroороо land on the opposite side of the Adelaide Road to the original homestead. His wife died in 1892 and William died in 1902.

From information provided by Lady Eileen 'Margaret' Young  
William's great-grand daughter  
March 2015

