

A strong name from a strong family

Binns Hotel 1871 - 1873



Photo: William and Jane Binns, from Rodgers, J.G., 1998, 'Jericho on the Jordan: a Gippsland Goldfields History'

Little is known of the short-lived establishment kept by William and Jane Binns at this well positioned track junction. The Binns name has been strongly associated with the area for many years.

The Binns family was known to move around the surrounding goldfield districts. Coming down from the Big River diggings they landed at the Jordan Valley soon after its discovery in 1862.

Having just mourned the loss of their youngest child at the Jordan, further tragedy struck the family. Their 10 year old son slipped off a log while crossing the rapid flowing Thomson River and got swept away. Mr. Binns saw his son carried away by the raging current. It was reportedly never found.

The family spent some time at the Aberfeldy diggings before lodging at Seaton. In 1871, they moved from Seaton to a house on McEvoy's Track. Later settling down to a life of farming beside Rintouls Creek, Tyers in Gippsland.

William Binns passed away in 1916 leaving Mrs Binns a widow who lived to the great age of 92 years. She was survived by only one of her 10 children.

Source: Paoletti R. & J., 2013, 'McEvoy's Track - the Gateway to the Gippsland Goldfields'

Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but footprints.