

## Boyle Travers Finniss



**Date of Birth:** 18 August 1807

**Place of Birth:** At sea aboard HMS *Warbey*  
Cape of Good Hope

**Parents:** Captain John Finniss (Paymaster  
of 36<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup> Regiments)  
and Susanna (née Major)

**Education:** Royal Military Academy  
Sandhurst 1822-1825

**Spouse:** Married Anne Frances (née Rogerson) of Mullingar  
County Westmeath on 13 August 1835  
(she died 3 January 1858) 1 son, 1 daughter  
Married Sophia Florence Maud (née Lynch) 1 son, 2 daughters

**Military Service:** Ensign 88<sup>th</sup> Regiment 1825  
Promoted to Lieutenant, transferred to 56<sup>th</sup> Regiment 1827  
82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Mauritius and Ireland 1833-1836  
Raised and commanded (as Captain) the Adelaide Marksmen  
1840s and (as Lieutenant Colonel) the Adelaide Regiment  
Volunteers 1854 Resigned August 1863

**Employment History:** Assistant-Surveyor in SA with Colonel William Light 1836  
In private practice with Light, surveyed Lyndoch Valley  
and laid out township of Gawler 1838-1839  
Deputy Surveyor-General of SA 1839  
Commissioner of Police and Police Magistrate 1843-1847  
Registrar-General and Treasurer 1847-1851  
Member of the Legislative Council 1851-1862  
Colonial Secretary 1852  
Administrator of SA 1854-1855  
First Premier and Chief Secretary of SA 1856-1857  
Treasurer 1858-1860  
Member for Mount Barker 1860-1862  
Appointed the first Government Resident of the Northern  
Territory 3 March 1864 to 4 November 1865  
Surveyed and established Escape Cliffs Settlement with  
James Thomas Manton 20 June 1864

**Subsequent Career:** Agent for British Australian Telegraph Company 1870-1871  
Member Forest Board SA 1875  
Auditor-General 1876-1881  
Died Kensington Park SA 24 December 1893

**Honours and Awards:** Received Royal permission to retain the title "Honourable" within SA in recognition for holding Ministerial Office for three years

**Memorials:** Finniss River  
Lake Finniss  
Finniss Street Darwin