

were stocking country on Sturt Creek. There therefore seems to be little doubt that Inverway was taken up in 1896 but not stocked until late 1901 or some time in 1902.



*The Farquharson brothers, Archie, Harry, Charlie Young (visitor) and Hughie, c1934 (Fraser collection).*

According to Vestey's travelling manager, A.S. Bingle (1986: 34-35), the station was stocked with cattle purchased from the Inverell district of NSW. He also says that there were actually six Farquharson brothers, the other three being bankers in Perth, Adelaide and Sydney, and that there was also a number of sisters. Another source say that they were from a family of ten (Reynolds, 1965).

The first homestead was built by Archie Farquharson on Sunbeam Hole, discovered by Gordon Buchanan in 1886 and named after his horse (Buchanan, 1997: 120-21). All the timber for the homestead was cut on the property. Listing the improvements on cattle stations for the year 1908, Mounted Constable Dempsey reported (Dempsey, 31-12-1908: 19) that, 'On Inverary [sic] a dwelling-house has been erected'. If the homestead took four years to complete then a stocking date of 1902 would appear to be correct.

Leone Biltris (1951) says that while the homestead was being built:

The natives at that time were still troublesome and treacherous, and the work of the three men was hampered by the necessity of always keeping guard. One brother stood guard at all times with the guns loaded while the other two men cut and adzed the timber for their homestead.

In 1935 the homestead was described as, 'Drop slab 27' x 10', divided into two rooms with 10' verandah back and front. Back verandah enclosed with G.I., and divided into two rooms. G.I. roof on bush frame, ant-bed floor new verandah on one side, sawn timber uprights, earth floor and light rails' (NTPLIC 1934, Inverway).