



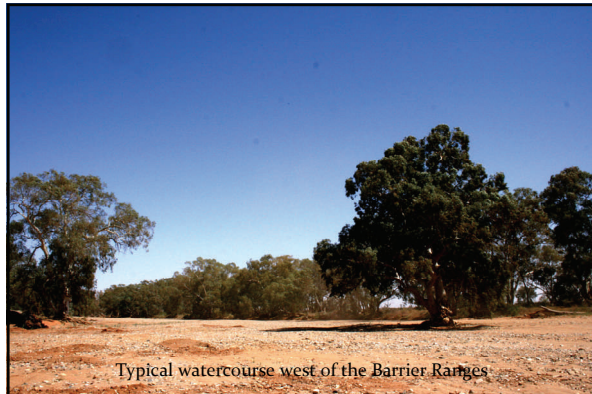
Corner Country Exploration

Sturt's Inland Expedition

Crossing the Barrier Ranges

Sturt's expedition struggled to cross the Barrier Ranges, dragging wagons and droving sheep and cattle over rugged hills and deep gorges.

A campsite was eventually established at a soak-hole on Morphett's Creek to the west.



Typical watercourse west of the Barrier Ranges

Two expedition members, Poole and Browne, then travelled on horseback to the west toward "Lake Torrens" but found no route that would enable the expedition to continue safely in a westerly direction.

The men returned to inform Sturt that there was no option other than to continue in the northerly direction.

Flood finds water.



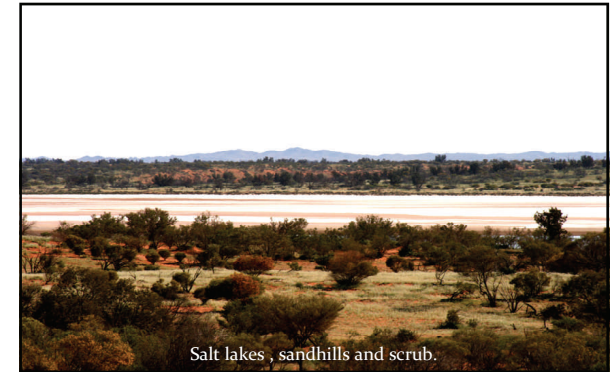
A waterhole on Flood's Creek

Flood rode ahead and discovered a good waterhole forty miles north on a creek ahead. Named Flood's Creek, they set up camp for a week. Meanwhile, Poole, Browne and Mack rode as far as the Queensland border in order to find further water supplies.

Sturt, Stuart and Flood headed east to the plains beyond the Barrier Ranges, returning to camp on Christmas day.

The struggle begins

The expedition broke camp from Flood's Creek on December 28th. Passage was difficult and the wagons and carts struggled across pine tree covered sand ridges, steep parallel dunes and salt-filled creeks and lagoons as they progressed toward Mt Arrowsmith.



Salt lakes, sandhills and scrub.

One wagon was abandoned after becoming bogged.

The long distances without fresh water were just the beginning of the trouble which lay ahead.