

Shaw family buys top Angus station Abingdon for \$13m-plus

Larry Schlesinger

The Shaw family has acquired renowned Angus cattle breeding station Abingdon near Gundagai in the NSW south-west slopes for more than \$13 million.

The 5432-hectare property, which once formed part of 1830s sheep and cattle farm Kimo Station, was put up for sale for only the second time in 90 years when it was listed in May by breeder Paul Ferry.

The Shaw family, who hail from the NSW Southern Riverina, recently sold their 4000-hectare sheep, cattle and cropping property Uri Park at Darlington Point to European interests for about \$10 million. The family switched

from rice to cotton growing in 2013 after water prices spiked.

Abingdon Station comprises three nearby properties – 1870-hectare Abingdon, 149-hectare Abingdon West and 180-hectare Abingdon East – and historic dwellings including a six-bedroom 1890s homestead and an inn built in 1877 that now serves as a manager's residence.

Mr Ferry acquired it with his American friend Jake Wood in 2001. Prior to that it had been owned by the McKinney family since 1927, and before that the Robinson family. It was sold by David Nolan of Webster Nolan Real Estate Sydney together with Abb McAlister & Jim Saunderson of Elders Gundagai & Tumut. Mr Nolan declined

to disclose the price, but said it was at the higher end of its marketed price guide of \$13 million to \$16 million.

"Abingdon Station is a highly regarded beef cattle operation and is currently running approximately 1300 breeding cows. The property is equally suited to prime lambs and wool production," Mr Nolan said.

The property, which has been managed by cattle breeder Gary Williamson for the past 16 years, includes a 5.5-kilometre frontage to the Murrumbidgee River.

Its sale comes amid strong demand for farms tied to beef and lamb production, with billionaires Brett Blundy and Gina Rinehart among those to have invested in the sector in recent times.



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