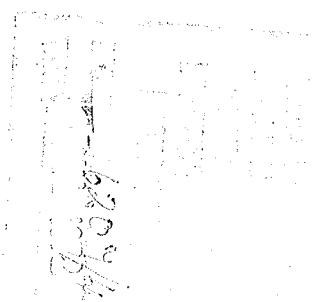
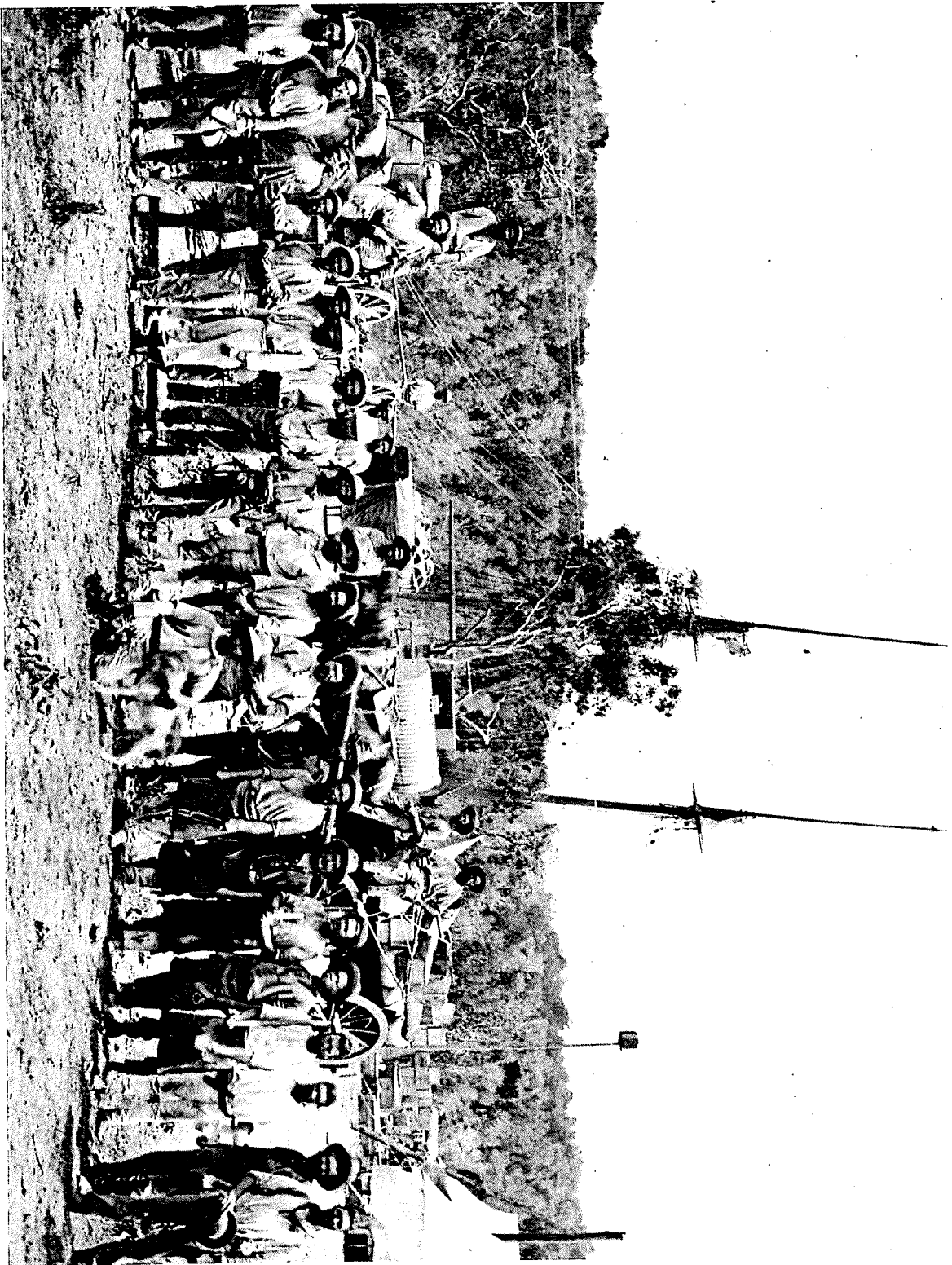




Mr. John Gilfedder, Australian Post Office wood technologist, examining a piece of one of the original OT line cypress pine poles from Pine Creek. Many original poles are still standing in this area, cypress pine being termite resistant.





S4974

Members of Patterson's party at Southport. When this picture was taken (September 6 1871) Patterson had already sent three parties south to continue work on Darwent and Dalwood's Line. These men (the fourth party) are preparing for departure. The ship in the background is the schooner Gulnare, which was wrecked a few weeks later in Clarence Strait.



S4977

Planting the first pole at Darwin, September 15 1870. Harriet Douglas (daughter of the Government Resident), who tamped down the soil, is standing by the pole with the mallet in her hand.





S4991

A notable group at the Roper River camp early in 1872. From left : J.A.G. Little (Darwin postmaster), Robert Patterson (leader of northern construction party), Charles Todd (postmaster-general and chief organiser of the OT project), A.J. Mitchell (surveyor). It was Robert Patterson who made the final join in the line near Frew's Ponds on August 22.



**THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH LINE**

THIS COLUMN WAS ERECTED TO

THE MEMORY OF

**SIR CHARLES TODD**

K.C.M.G. M.A. F.R.S. F.R.A.S. F.R.S. F.S.T.E.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF THE PROVINCE

OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HIS GALLANT CONSTRUCTION TEAMS,

OPERATORS AND LINEMEN UNDER

R.O. PATTERSON, A.T. WOODS, W.H. ARBUTT,

B.H. BARBAGE, R.C. BURTON, W. HARVEY,

R.R. KNUCKLEY, G.G. MACDONALD, A.R. MCINNIS,

W. MCINNIS, W. W. MILLS, A.J. MITCHELL,

W. RUTT AND EXPLORER JOHN ROSS,

THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN PARTS

OF THIS EPIC OVERLAND TELEGRAPH

LINE WERE FINALLY JOINED ABOUT

ONE MILE WEST OF THIS SPOT BY

R.O. PATTERSON ENGINEER AT 3.15 P.M.

ON THURSDAY AUGUST 22ND 1872,

THUS MAKING POSSIBLE FOR THE

FIRST TIME INSTANTANEOUS TELEGRAPH

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN

AUSTRALIA AND GREAT BRITAIN

**FINIS CORONAT OPUS**

THIS MEMORIAL WAS DONATED AND

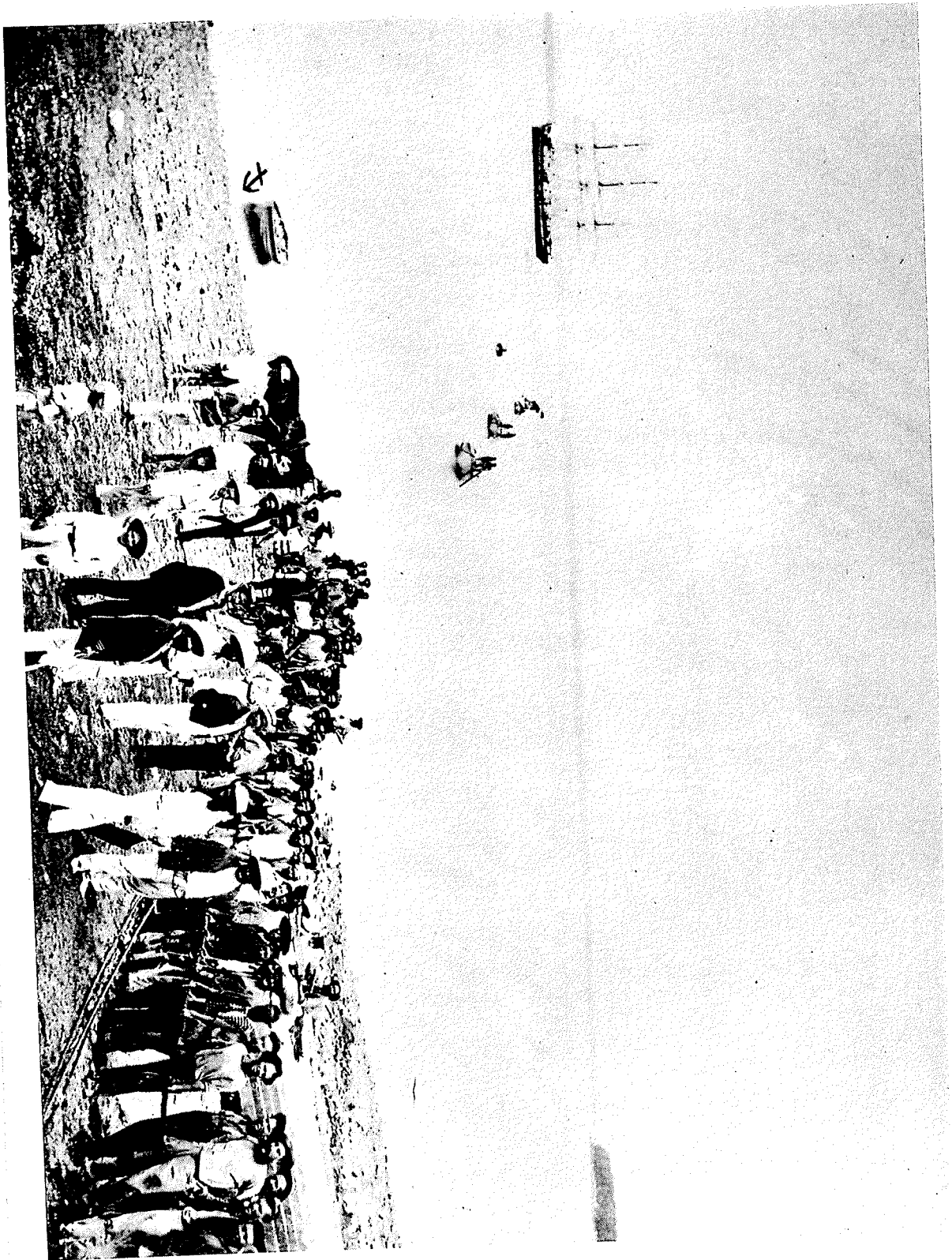
ERECTED BY THE LINETRAINING SCHOOL

P.M.O. S. DEPARTMENT

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

S5658

The inscription on the cairn commemorating the final joining  
of the OT line at Frew's Ponds on August 22 1872.

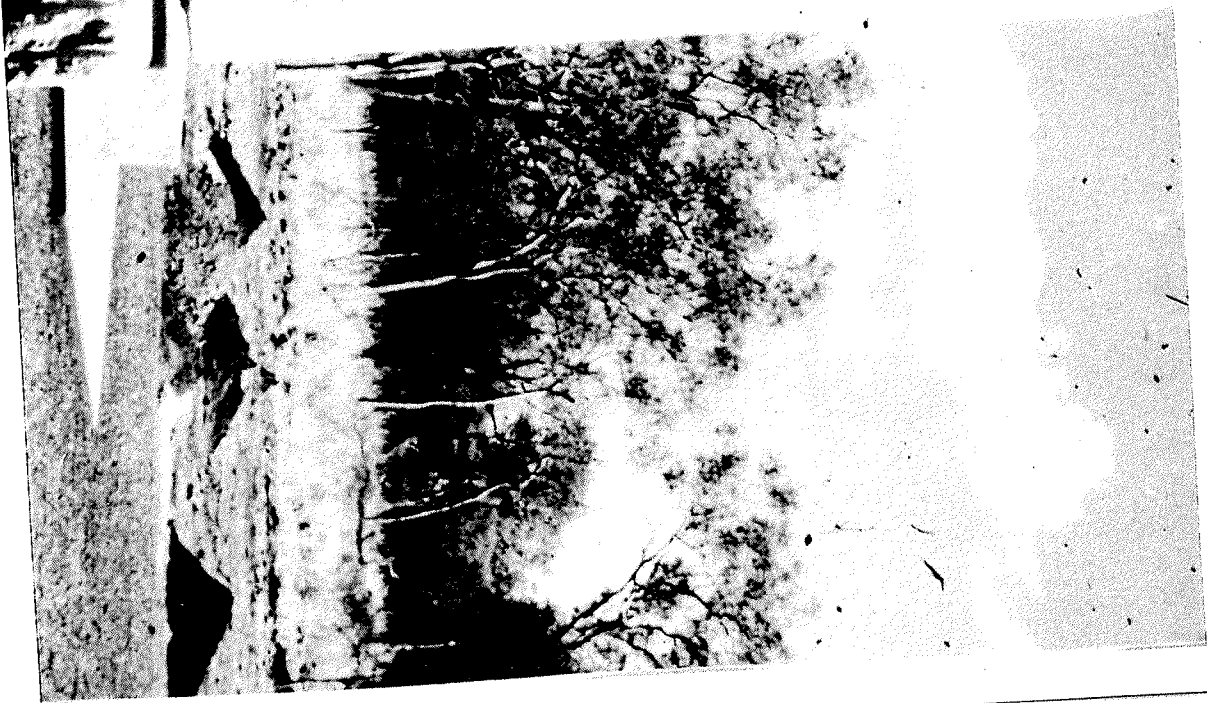


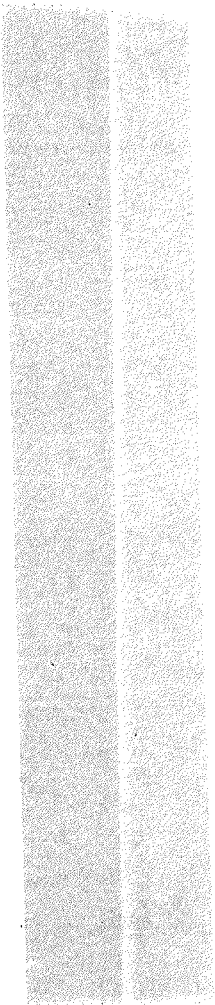
S4988

Bringing the telegraph cable shore from Hibernia at Darwin.

November 7 1871.

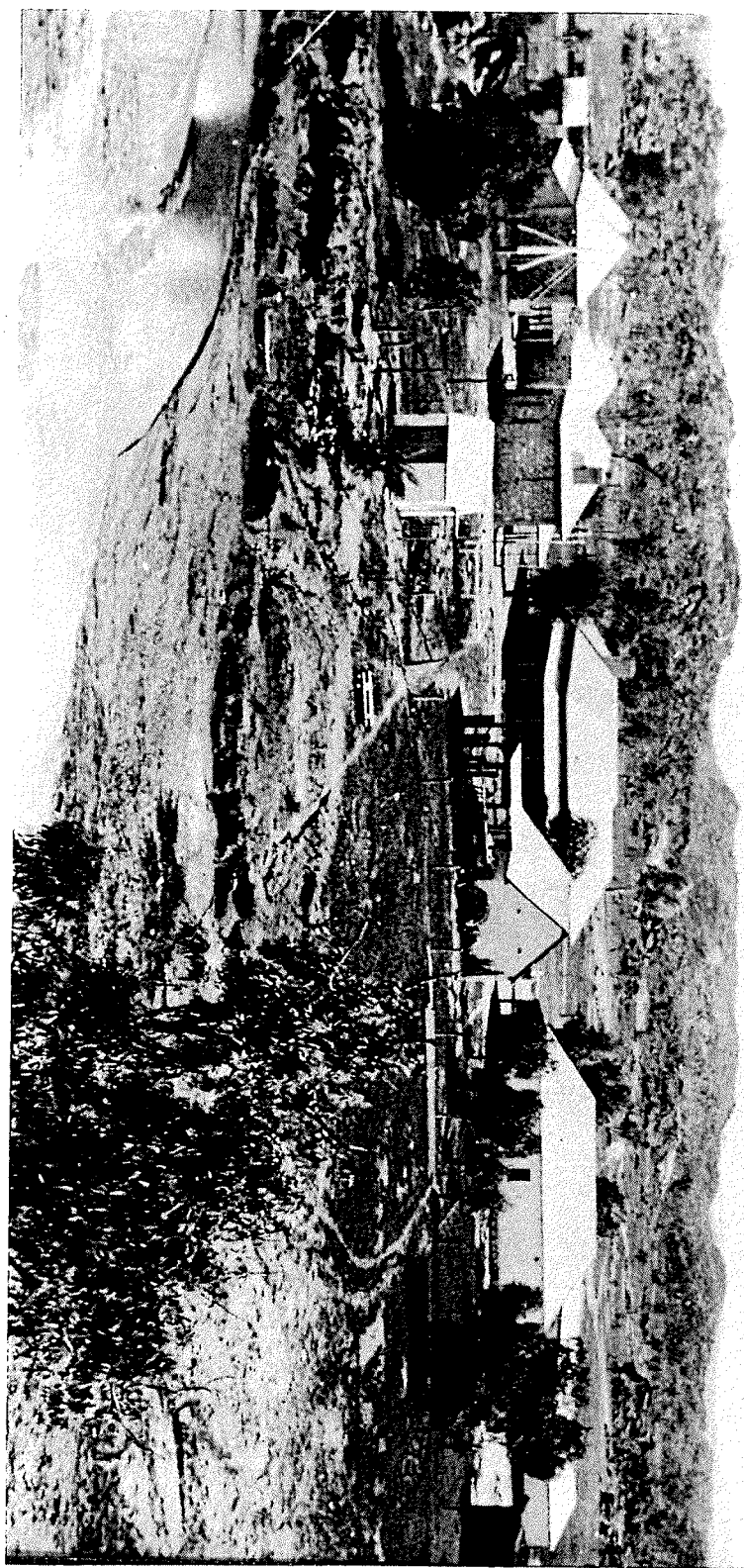
The cable consisted of seven strands of copper wire, insulated in gutta-percha, with a covering of tarred hemp, then sheathed in galvanised-iron wire and another covering of tarred hemp. The total thickness of the cable was two inches. It weighed four tons to the mile.





85713

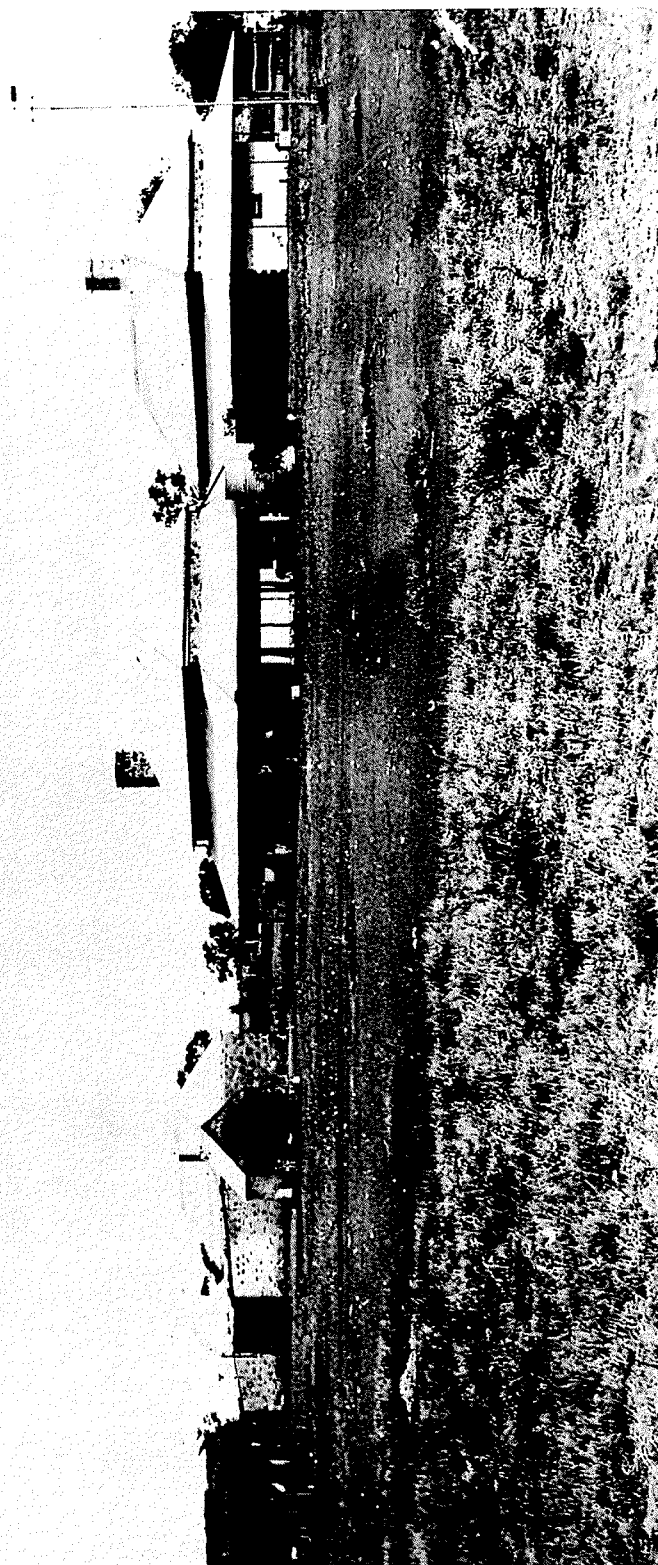
The cairn near Frew's Ponds commemorating the final join in  
the OF line.

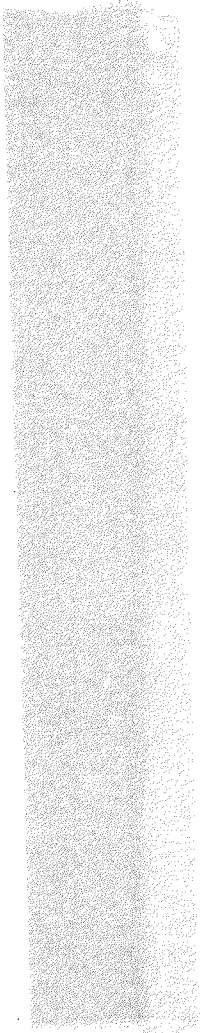




S8707/1

Alice Springs telegraph station. It is preserved today as a museum and building of historical importance. Furnishings etc. are authentic to 1900.



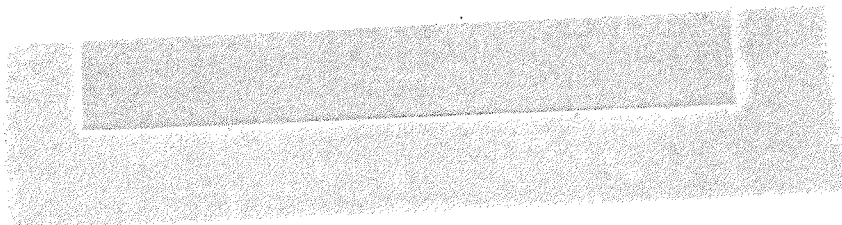


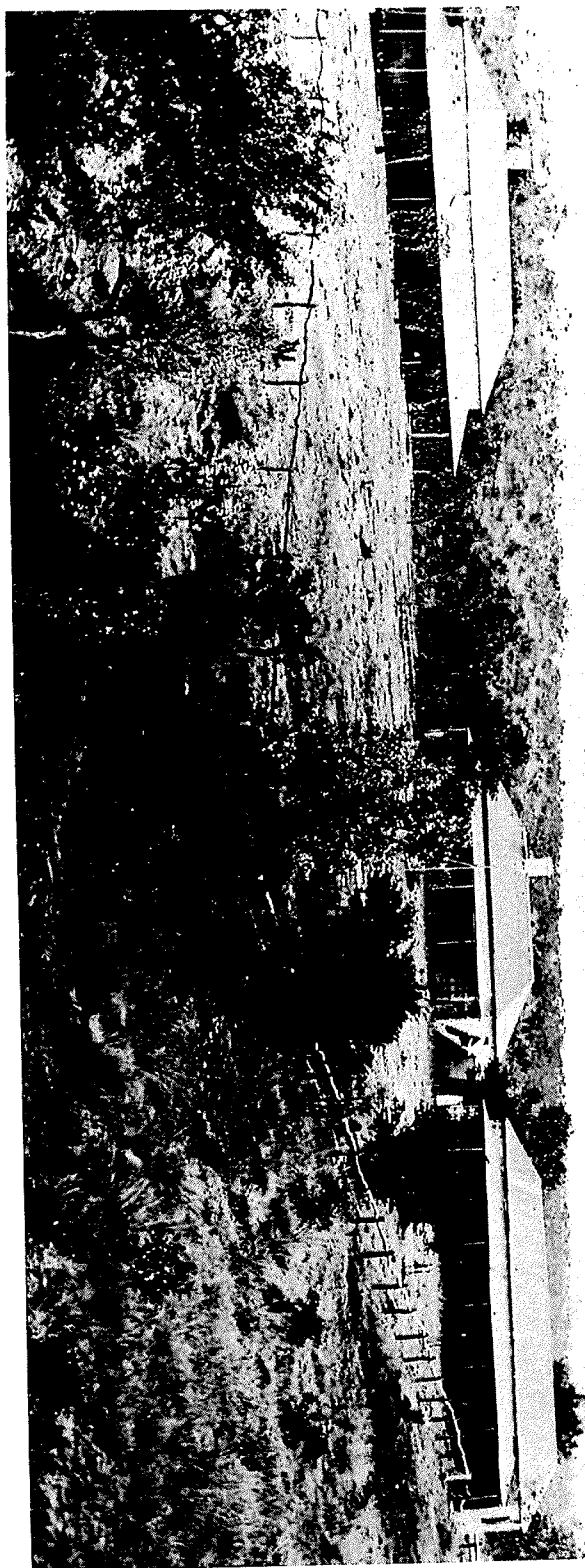
S221

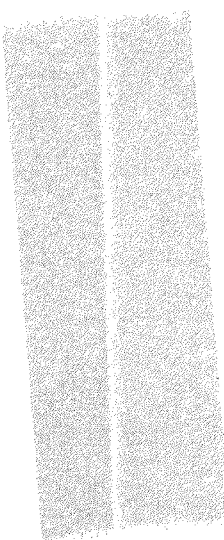
The repeater station at Tennant Creek. This is today the  
homestead of Tennant Creek cattle station.



S202  
Charles Todd 1871

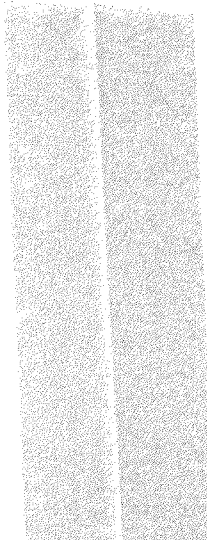




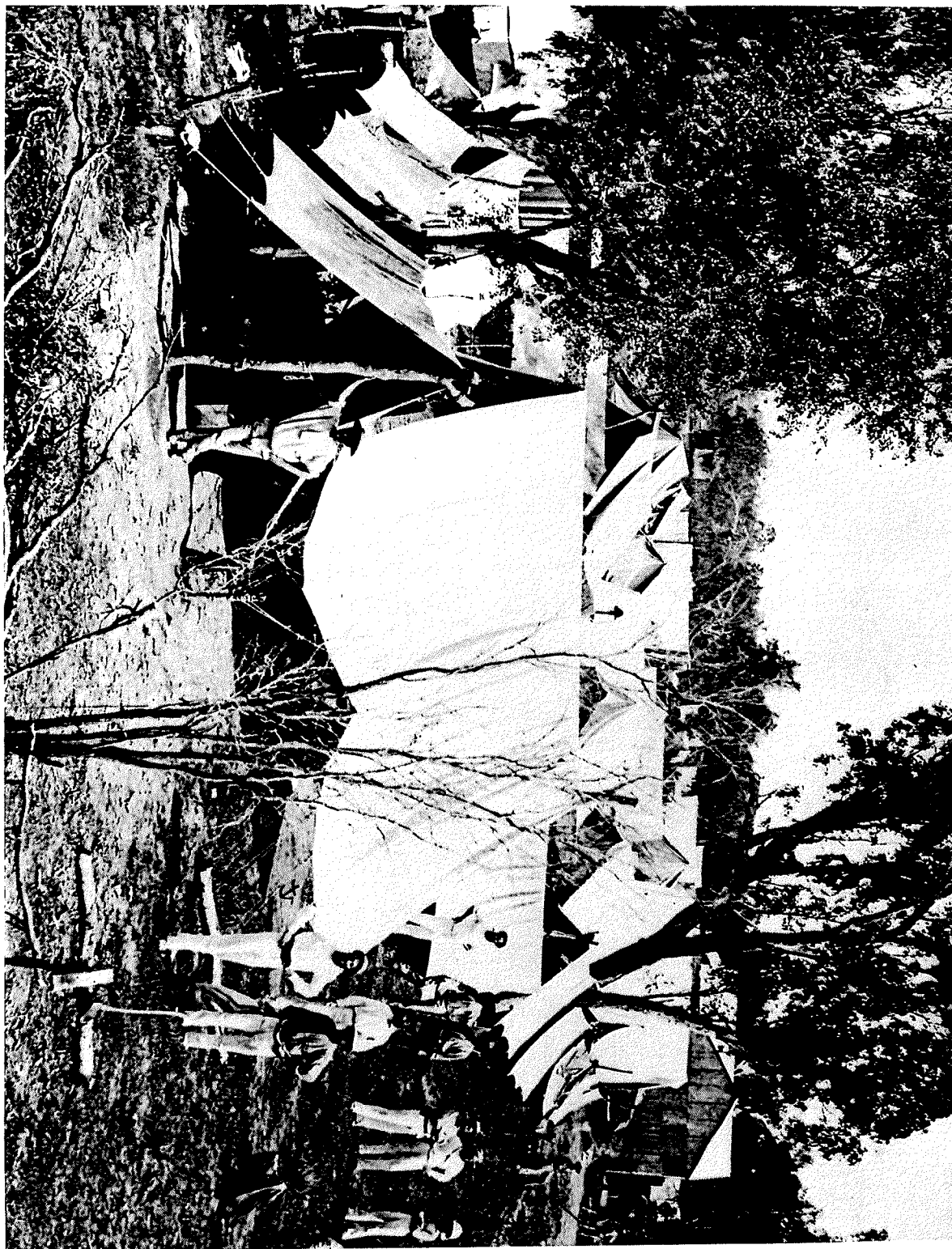


S218

The Powell Creek repeater station. It is today part of the Newcastle Waters Cattle station. One building is the head stockman's cottage; those on the left are store rooms.

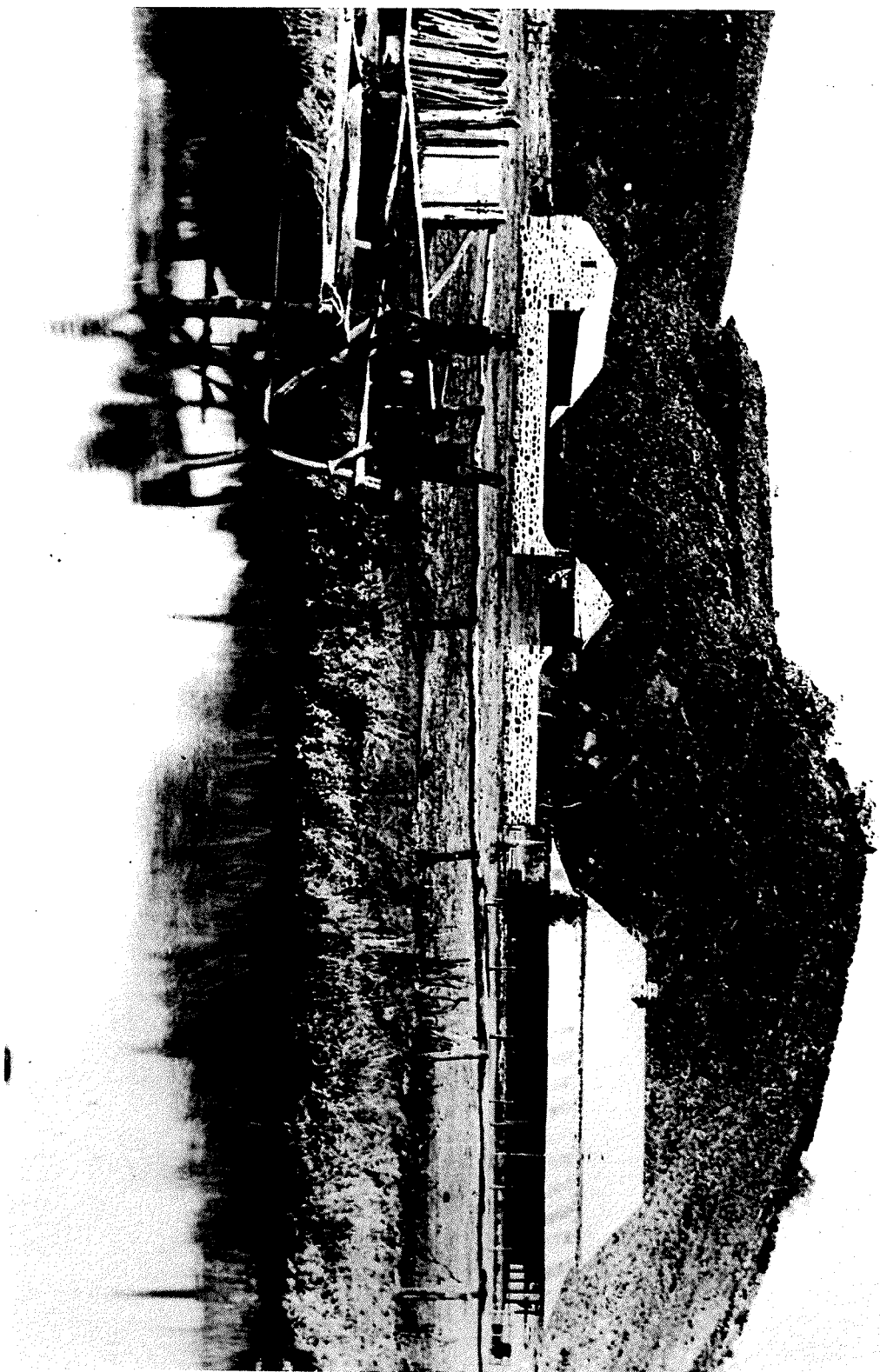






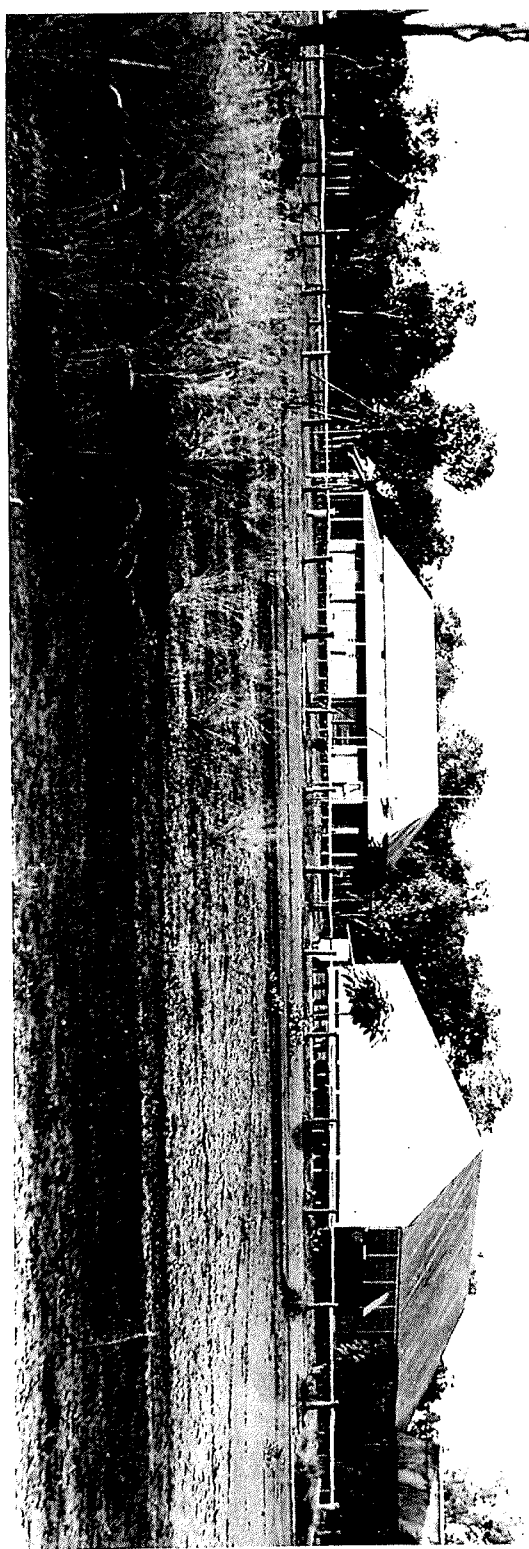
S4993

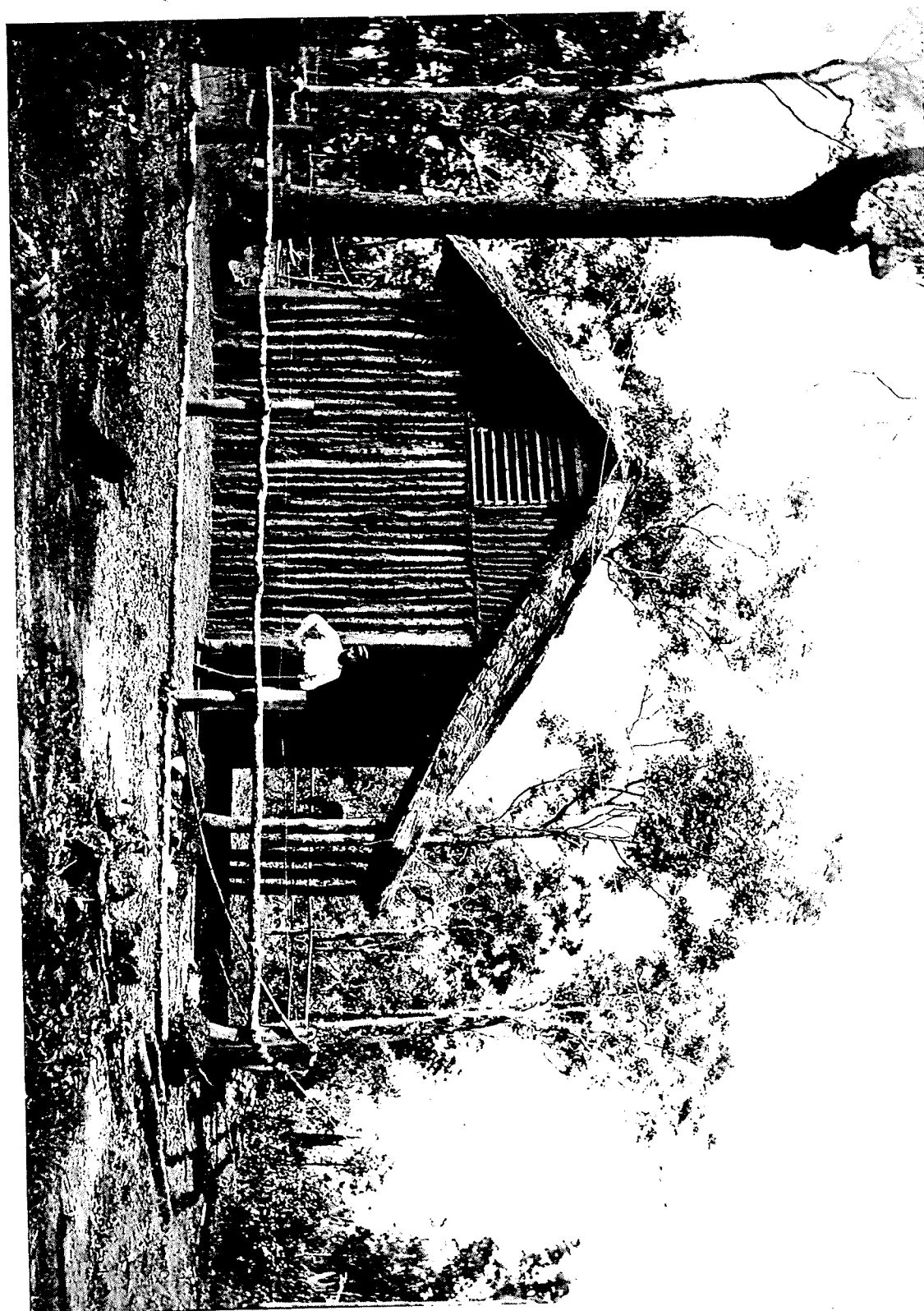
The Roper River Camp 1872.



S158

The Barrow-Greek repeater station. This is still in use as the Post Office line depot today.





84973

The telegraph station at Darwin during construction of the OT line.