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COVER IMAGE

Two of the eight stations organized by the United States to observe the 1874 transit of Venus were in Tasmania, Australia. All the American stations were equipped with the same instruments, including a Stackpole broken tube transit telescope (left) and a 5-inch (12.7 cm) Alvan Clark refractor (right). Both of the telescopes pictured are on display at the U.S. Naval Observatory. For the results of an investigation of the relics still present at the Tasmanian sites in Barrack Square, Hobart, and The Grange, Campbell Town, see the article by Orchiston et al. which begins on page 149.