

NEW "HOME" FOR DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

After sharing temporary accommodation since 1961, the Nuriootpa Department of Agriculture has settled into modern new premises on Research Road, Nuriootpa.

The Department was first established in Kapunda, but moved to the Institute in Nuriootpa in 1961 until new premises could be purchased. After purchasing land in Gawler Street, Nuriootpa (opposite Juncken's), the property was sold and new premises on Research Road, where the Viticultural Research Centre was established, commenced.

The combining of the Research Centre and the Agricultural Department will be of great benefit to all concerned.

COMBINING OF TWO DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Andrew Michelmores (Senior District Officer) said, "The liaison between the two departments and the benefits to all, including local and district farmers, graziers and vignerons, will provide a service and better com-

munications all round."

"The new building," Mr. Michelmores said, "has eleven new offices, all of large size, a reception area, conference and library room, improved laboratories and modern amenities to conduct the necessary functions required to run both departments successfully."

TOLERATED FOR 20 YEARS

The facilities which had to be tolerated at the Nuriootpa Institute for the past twenty years, were completely inadequate, especially for space and office use.

OFFICIAL OPENING IN MAY

The new building on Research Road, Tanunda will be officially opened at a date to be set in May (tentative).

The new phone number for the Department is 62 1355 (the old number, 62 2220, has been deleted).

The staff of both departments are Mr. Andrew

Michelmores (Senior District Officer and Agronomist), Chris Rudd (Senior Soils Officer), Graeme Pope (Animal Health Advisor), Dave Hodge (Horticultural Advisor), Reg. Radford (Horticultural Advisor) and Margaret Plush (receptionist).

The Research staff include Richard Cirami (Senior Research Officer Viticultural Station), Mike McCarthy (Non-irrigated Research Officer), Andrew Staniford (Manager Viticultural Station), Heinz Schmidt (Clerical Officer), Mrs. Hussey (Technical Assistant) plus field work assistants.

PURCHASE OF LIQUID ANALYSIS MACHINE

Last week an Ion Chromatography was installed at considerable expense. The Ion Chromatography is a liquid analysis machine and can be used to study soils, leaf analysis, grape analysis, and melate and tartrate determinations on juice and experimental

wine samples.

The machine is fully automated and the quickest analysis machine of its kind in the world, made in America by Dow Chemicals Co. It was introduced in 1975 so is very much up-to-date and in demand. There are about twelve machines in Australia, the other machines being used by large multi-international Companies for use other than for Agricultural purposes.

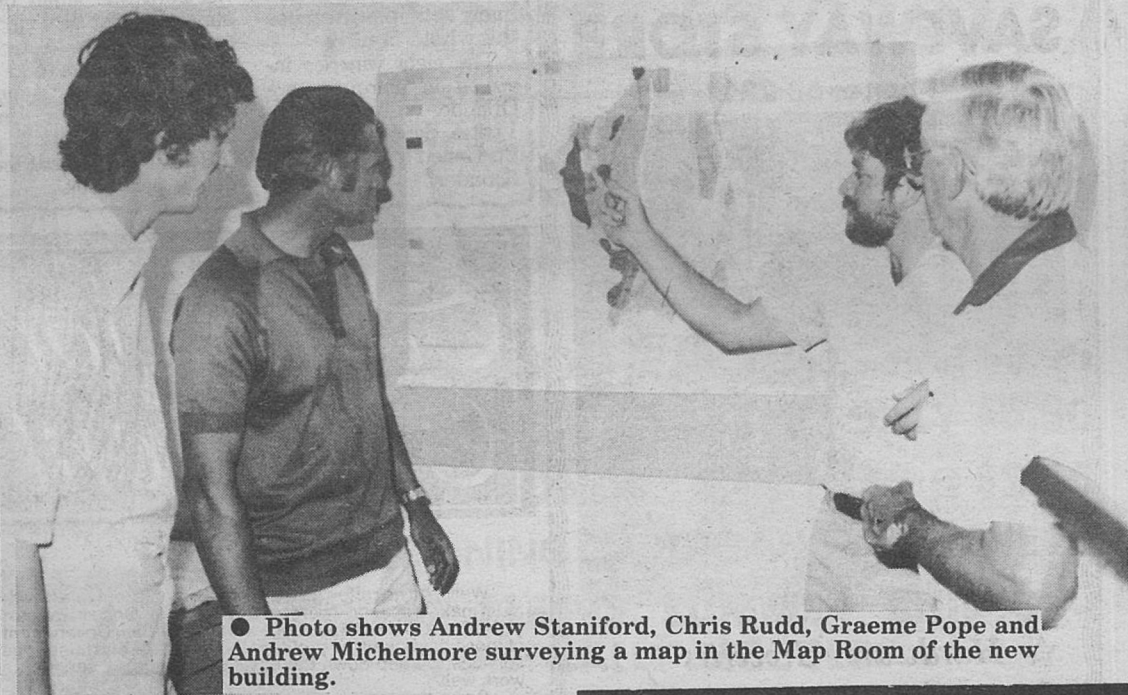
ONLY ONE

This machine, therefore, is the only one in use in Australia for Agricultural and viticultural use.

The local department is working in conjunction with the Loxton Department of Agricultural in water analysis in the Murray.

EXTENSIVE TESTS TO BE CARRIED OUT

Over the next years, extensive and thorough tests will be fed into the Ion Chromatography machine to improve many local and river problems.



● Photo shows Andrew Staniford, Chris Rudd, Graeme Pope and Andrew Michelmores surveying a map in the Map Room of the new building.