

and black paint on the post, and brightly colored silk scarfs were tied to the arms of the fork. There was also a bundle of willow in the fork, a buffalo hide with hair on, and probably some other items we could not distinguish. This cottonwood trunk was large and heavy. I would guess it was about 30 feet long and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 feet in diameter at the base. It had been a large tree. About 25 men, working hard with coordinated movements, were needed to manoeuvre this enormous post into the hole that had been dug for it, and lift it upright. At times there was danger of the post's slipping or falling--a possibility that the workers seemed extremely anxious to avoid. No block and tackle or mechanical lifting devices were used--only man power and three pairs of tipi poles tied together at the slender ends to form what I shall call "lifting poles."

Each set of lifting poles consisted of two tipi poles tied together near the small ends with a short length of rope. When these poles were aligned in near parallel position, each pole held by one or more men who coordinated their efforts, then the center post could rest in the rope slings connecting the poles. By raising the poles together, keeping them roughly parallel to each other, then the center post could be manipulated--raised or lowered or moved from side to side. Three sets of these lifting poles were applied at different points along the center post's length. Several men worked with each set of lifting poles, and several more men held on to the center post itself at its base. Thus the long, heavy trunk was raised, its base set in the hole, and the upper part guided into position so that it stood upright, perpendicular to the ground. There were some breathless moments as the post was raised and guided toward the hole. Once it seemed to slip and attempts to raise it had to begin again. Finally it slid into the hole and was maintained in vertical position by the lifting poles while the other men worked frantically to fill the hole and tamp the earth down firmly about its base.

After the center post was in place, horizontal poles, or rafter-poles, extending from each upright wall post to the center post, were put in place. These