

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

A "JEEP LOGGER"



Confronted by high costs involved in logging the few trees typical of walnut stumpage sales in farm woods of the Corn Belt, a company equipped a jeep to do the skidding, carry the tools, and the crew. The unit is a practical and economical device well suited for harvesting small scattered volumes.

It consists of a standard four-wheel drive jeep with power takeoff at the rear where a light winch mounted on the body floor is coupled to it with a chain drive (fig. 1).

A specially designed A-frame arch is coupled to the draw bar by shafts and bearings so that it can be raised during transit between jobs (fig. 2). A special feature of the arch is the use of dual wheels in the center to add flexibility to the semirigid coupling.

In use a cable from the winch is pulled out over a sheave in the arch, and fastened to the log. As the cable is reeled in, the end of the log is raised sufficiently to clear the ground. Logs can be pulled out of the brush or over soft ground that the jeep cannot traverse. They are then skidded behind the jeep to the road or loading point.

Only one man is required to operate the jeep as a skidding unit. However, it also serves as a dual purpose unit in transporting a two-man felling crew and equipment carried in special racks. A chain saw protected by a canvas cover is carried on the right front fender (fig. 2), a cross-cut saw is carried on the left rear, and a box in the body holds other necessary tools.

The jeep logger has not been developed commercially, but interested parties can get further details by writing B. F. Swain, President, National Veneer & Lumber Company, Seymour, Indiana, where it was equipped.

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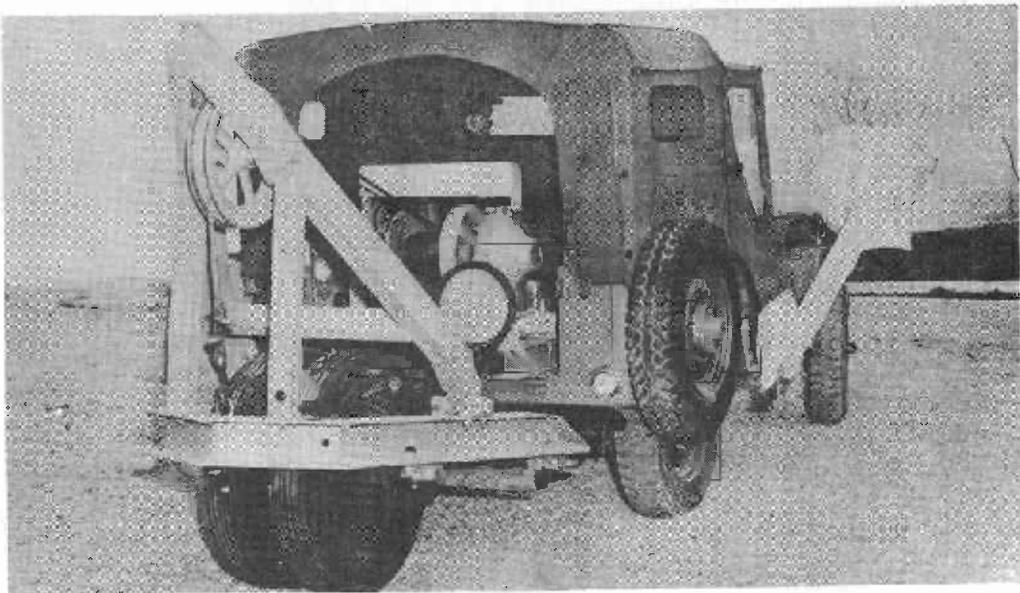


Figure 1.--Rear view showing winch and arch. Cable is hooked for raising the arch.

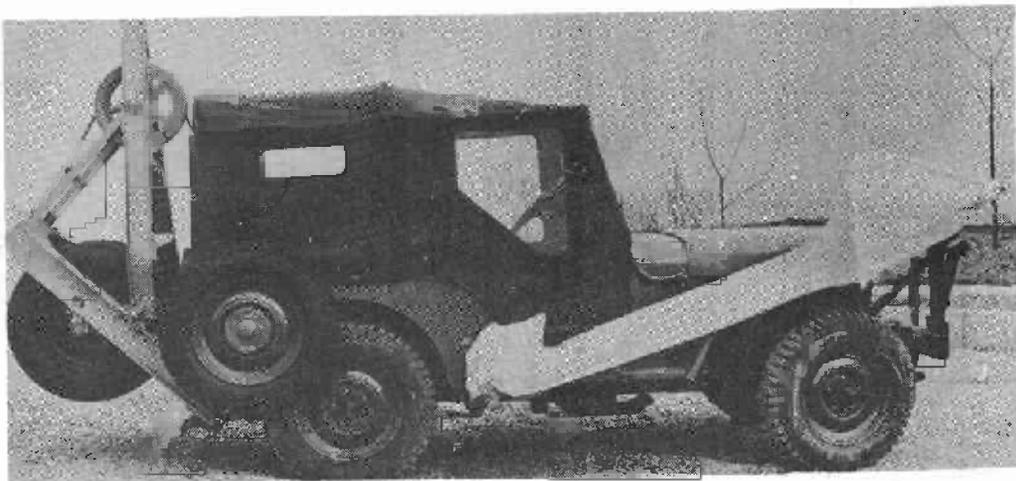


Figure 2.--Arch raised for transportation over highways. Canvas-covered power saw mounted on side.

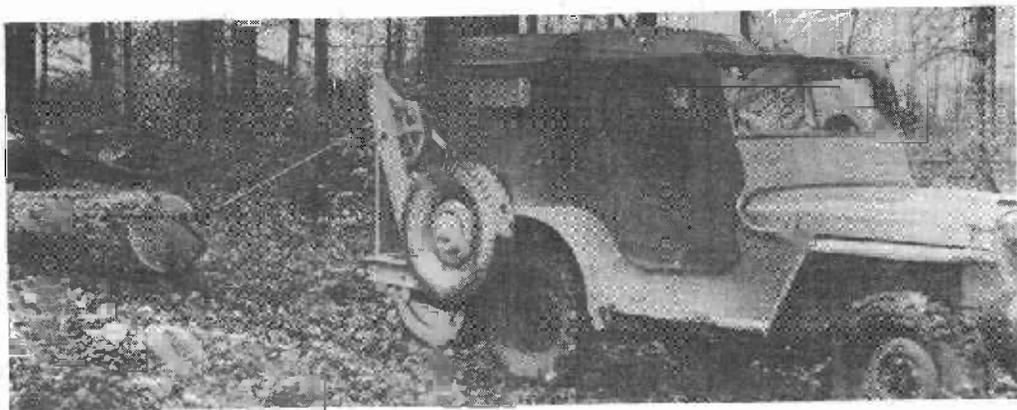


Figure 3.--Pulling log up to the jeep before skidding.