

IMPROVED HARVESTING METHODS

EQUIPMENT SURVEY NOTES

LOG BUCKING YARDS

Log bucking yards observed in the Eastern States are equipped to convert tree lengths and long logs into shorter lengths. Two uses for these semipermanent plants are (1) to cut tree lengths into their highest quality products and (2) to reduce the logs to lengths required for specific uses. Advantages are that all bucking is done by power and by well-trained men who can get the most out of the tree length.

Basically the equipment in these yards consists of a cutoff saw and a means of conveying the logs to and from the saw. The simplest method of accomplishing this is to push the logs by hand over a set of dead rolls and then pull a swing saw through the log by hand (fig. 1). Cutoffs are taken from the saw and loaded by off bearers, chain conveyors, or power loaders.

Where products of varying lengths are cut it is customary to have a straight-away conveyor. One such method observed has an incline to a long level conveyor with a catwalk. The various products, such as veneer logs, pulpwood, etc., are rolled out of the conveyor by men on the catwalk, thus segregating the products. Several plants were observed with elevated conveyors parallel to the railroad siding to facilitate loading of railroad cars.

On pulpwood operations in the mountains the yards are set up on side hills above the haul road (fig. 2). The pulpwood bolts are conveyed over the bank to the haul road where they are loaded. In the woods this prevents hauling tieups from interfering with logging operations, since skidding is done directly to the log bucking plant.

Conveyors used are all built by the operators to fit local conditions. Necessary conveyor equipment can be obtained from many sources.

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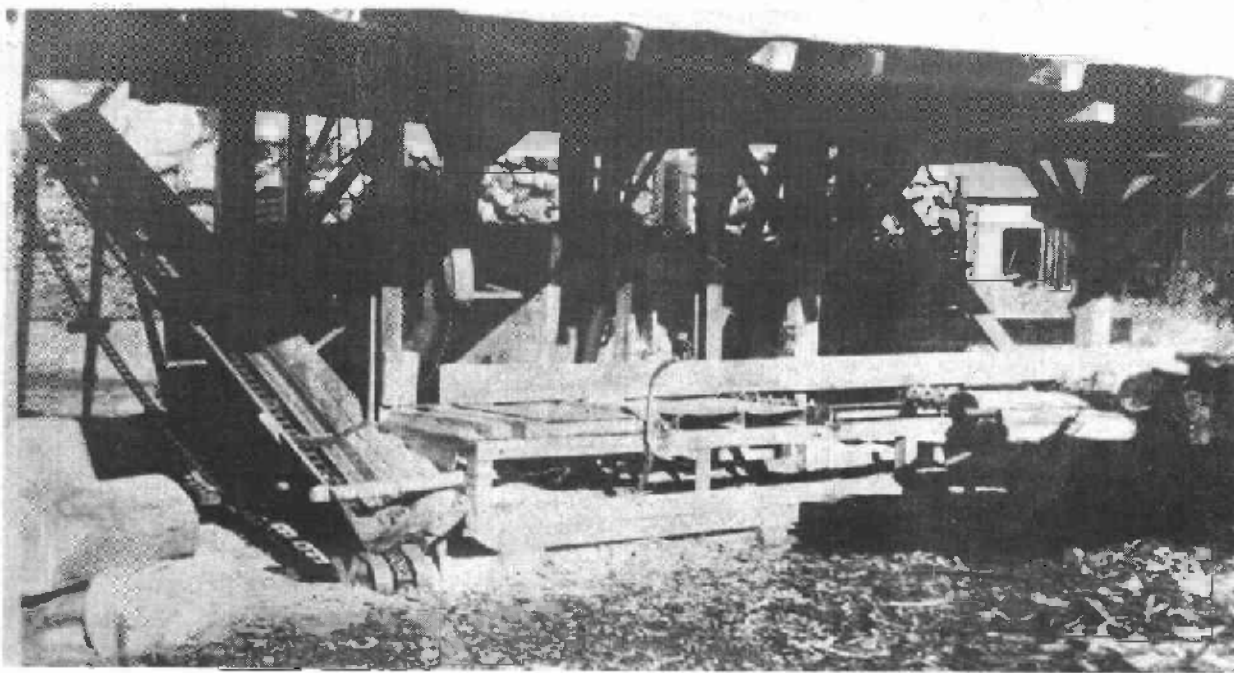


Figure 1.--Simple log bucking plant

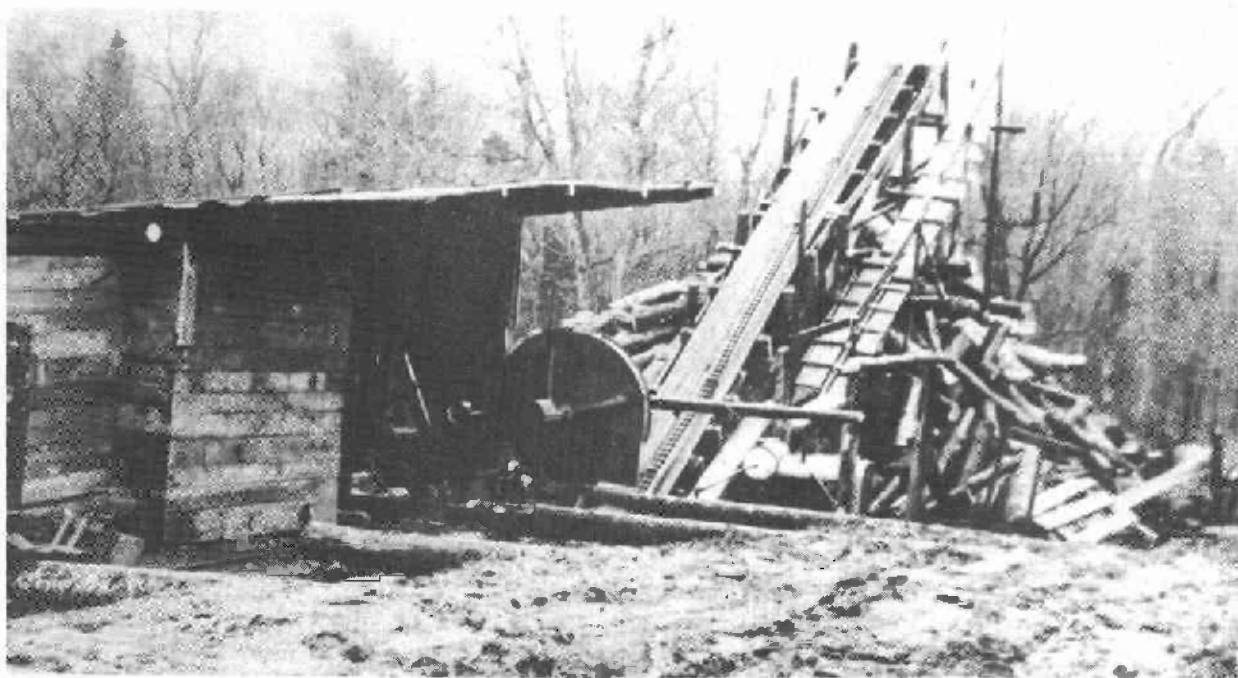


Figure 2.--Pulpwood conveyed over a bank from a log bucking plant

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