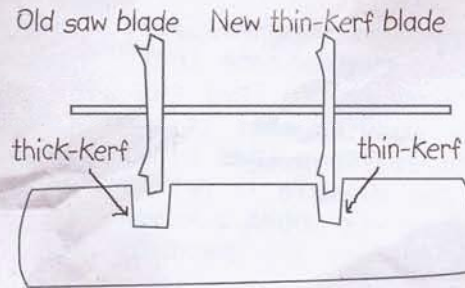


Special Antique Corner

Tools Powered By Muscle and Steam

Here are a few relics of Idaho's forest past.



"SAW KERF" is the width of the cut made by a saw's teeth as the saw moves through wood.

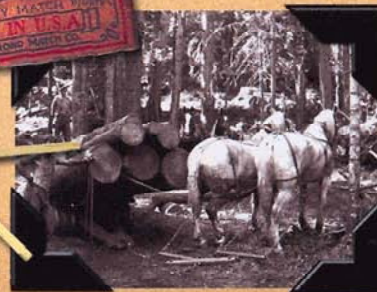
Early sawmills had saw blades with a wide kerf. They produced lots of sawdust. They wasted nearly half of each log. (Modern saw blades are thinner. They have a smaller kerf, so they can make more lumber and produce less sawdust.)



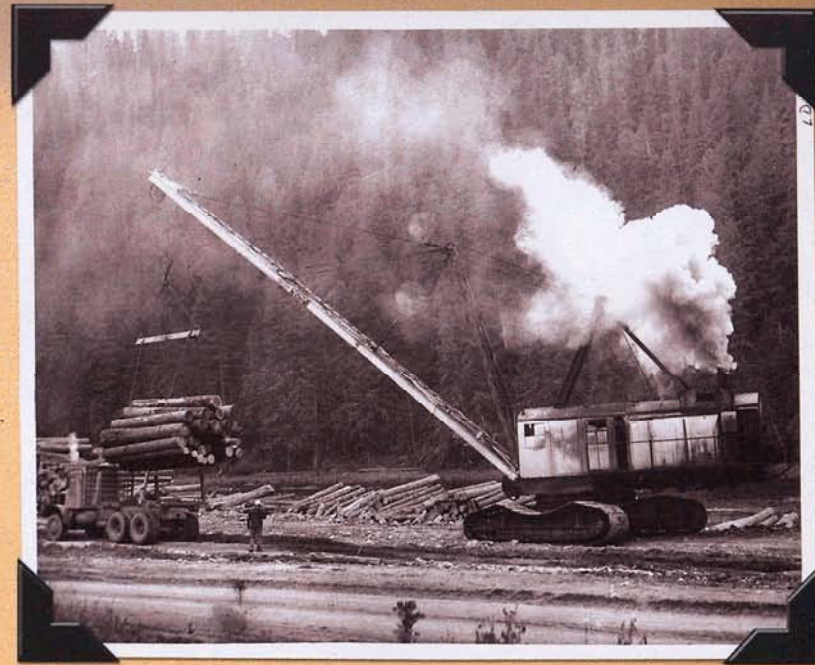
TWO-MAN CROSS-CUT SAW
Easier than ever! This saw has the teeth to do the job. You can cut five trees per day!



TEPEE BURNER
Get rid of all those lumber scraps, bark, trimmings and sawdust! Use our tepee burner to burn your wood waste.



Need to get your logs out of the forest? Our tireless teams can move your wood across the roughest terrain.



LOG LOADER
Let our engines work for you! This log loader can do the work of ten men, in less time. Your logs will be loaded and ready to bring to the mill with very little effort!



THE POTLATCH MILL 1906
Brand new circular band saws! Steam-powered machines! This new sawmill is the biggest white pine mill in the country.

MATCHMAKERS IN IDAHO

The year is 1910. It's a cold, wet night, and you're lost in the woods. You find an open log cabin. Inside, you see wood in a fireplace, a lantern, and a candle, but you only have one match. Which would you light first? The candle? The wood in the fireplace? The lantern? Give up? You'd light the MATCH first, of course! Chances are, it would be a match made by the Diamond Match Company, of wood from a western white pine. Diamond Match Company owned much forested land and many sawmills in Idaho. They made everything from construction lumber to matches. They invented a type of match that could easily be lit by striking it against a rough surface. When other lumber companies were having trouble staying in business, the Diamond Match Company was doing well... because everyone needed matches!





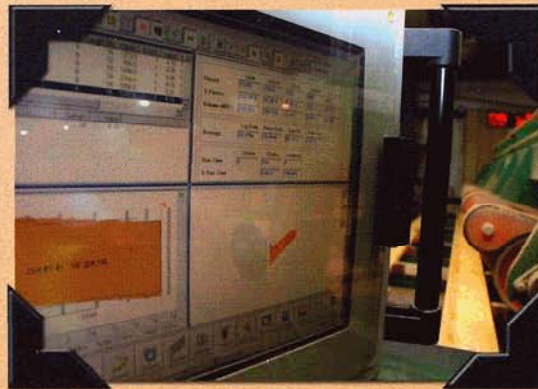
CUT-TO-LENGTH HARVESTER

This machine grabs the tree at the base and cuts it with a saw, shaves the branches off the trunk, and cuts it into logs. The harvester can travel off-road with less damage to the forest floor.



LOGGING TRUCK

Need to get your logs to the mill quickly? Load them on this logging truck for a safe, efficient ride.



MODERN SAWMILL

Modern mills process logs using laser scanners and computers to calculate the best ways to saw in order to get the most out of each log.



FORWARDER

This is a must-have for the modern logger. It carries trees felled by the harvester to the log truck. It avoids the need for skidding (dragging) logs on the ground.



TECHNOLOGY

Technology is used at every step of forest management. A helicopter can be used to get to hard-to-reach places and take logs to a landing.

Today's Forest Technology

Brain versus Brawn in Idaho's Forests

Cutting edge technology brings safety and good forest practices to cutting trees

TOILET PAPER AND MORE

Sawdust and woodchips are byproducts of making boards out of logs. In the past, this "waste" was burned. Today, these valuable tree parts are used to make paper, particle board and other products. They can also be burned for energy to run and heat the mill, or sell to the power company. Your house might get energy from wood "waste."



PLANTING FOR TOMORROW

To keep a forest going, you've got to keep it growing! Trees are a renewable resource. We can plant more for the future. Idaho forests are protected by a law called the Forest Practices Act. It requires that after trees are out in a forest, new ones grow back or are planted. That way wildlife has a place to live, and there will always be trees for people to use. The law also requires that streams and rivers in the forests are protected. They must be kept cool, clear and free of dirt from logging. By using the Forest Practices Act as a guide, Idaho foresters keep our forests healthy and growing.

