

Lost In The Greenwoods

An exhibition of prints from newly discovered glass plate negatives of logging and leisure c. 1920, by an unknown photographer.

- + **Rog and Dick.** A typical team harnessed to a logging sled.
- + **Pete and Angelo felling tree.** The tree is just beginning to fall, note the space above the wedge. When the wedge falls, the saw will be extracted, and the men will stand aside until the tree is on the ground. These men knew exactly where their tree would fall, and could drive a stake into the ground if they desired.
- + **Wm. Lawrence's bone mill.** This was a busy place during the nineteenth century. Note the turban blade lying in the flume. Lawrence's ledger books indicate that he purchased about one-half ton of animal bones at a time from area slaughterhouses and ground them up for agricultural purposes.
- + **Lawrence's bone mill (detail)**
- + **Wm. Lawrence's saw mill.** This is the mill the journal was kept for. These mills were permanent and were sometimes (as is the case with this particular mill) used for as long as a century. All logs had to be transported to them. A few still are in operation locally, driven by Diesel engines. Tom Bell's mill in the Robertsville section of Colebrook, the only remaining lumber mill in Colebrook, is owned and operated by Thomas Bell, great grandson of the man identified in this photographic collection as "John B."
- + **John B. at skidway on site #2.** The mud indicates this was in the springtime.
- + **John B. moving boiler at site #8.** This was the power plant for the sawmill. It was not all that difficult to "pull up stakes" and move to the next stand of timber.
- + **Operating mill in winter.**
- + **Load of lumber.** The old Federal truck is loaded with one inch and four inch planks. The date on the Connecticut license plate is 1920.
- + **Moving day.** These shanties were easy to move and provided a dry, wind-proof room for loggers. They contained a stove, a bunk and a chair.
- + **John B. taking Kate for a drive.**
- + **Central New England Engine #52.** She is pulling one baggage car and two coaches, possibly in North Canaan. The tracks between Hartford and Poughkeepsie remained in operation from 1871 until about 1932.

- + **Pine log on carriage.** Assuming this log is 16 feet long, it contains 450 board feet of lumber.
- + **Red Oak log on sled.** This log is estimated to contain 500 board feet.
- + **Log on carriage.** This is identified as “Tom and old man Fowler”.
- + **Pete and Prince**
- + **Dave with Colonel and Matt.** In the background is a pile of cordwood and a pile of one-inch boards.
- + **George Loomis, “Beans” and team at the barn.**