SAWMILLS

CAMPBELL RIVER LUMBER COMPANY

NOTES

Area

Most of the mill site was built on piles. As the railway (GNR) was built for 3/8 mile on trestle, the high tides ran in and out through the trestles. It was only during high tide that there was enough water in the river to store logs, therefore it had to be dredged continually. Piles were placed every 12 feet in the river to hold back the sand or silt. A dam was eventually built on the river to hold water and store logs to keep the mill continually running. Logs came in with the incoming tide then the dam shut. Log-lift was used when tides were extremely low.

Fisheries

Continual run of fish could be seen in river. Inspection of dam done very religiously as it was to be opened once in 24 hours.

Owners

Campbell River Lumber Co. Built on Indian Reserve, owned by Harold Hunter and Frank Fox of Blaine. Opened September 17, 1913. Closed 1927 (log shortage).

Hazelmere Lumber Mill run by Harold Hunter and Frank Fox of Blaine

- east side of Hall's Prairie Road
- north of North Bluff

Mill destroyed by fire, September 1912.

Superintendent Bill Moffatt - progressive ideas

Changes

Mill continually being improved, so impossible to say when finished.

Employees

About 12 Chinese and about 20 East Indians - fluctuated. Native Indians from reservation made good boom men. Sid Henry worked one summer in mill. Note: Japanese workers were also employed. At peak of production 1925/26 321 employees at mill.

Condition of Lease

Must employ Indians from reservation.

99 year lease on property - if abandoned, the mill and buildings were to be dismantled.

Drinking Water

Fed by Artesian well which is still in existence (1983).

TRANSCRIBED BY SYBIL HAUDE
FROM MARY SANFORD

Bunkhouses

Held average of 35. Building improved by 1924. Separate living quarters for Chinese and East Indians on Island. Separate quarters for Japanese across Washington Avenue. Indians on reservation.

Logs

Came from Columbia Valley floated by way of Veddar and Fraser - or by Bellingham and train GNR. Claim on Vancouver Island. Later, logs bought on open market.

Breakwater

About 120 - 130 yards. Beyond bridge. Outside of present. Built to store additional logs at the mouth of the river. Storms came from south and west.

Docks

Came by tug-boat. Lumber loaded from Pier dock (1/4 mile) on to scows. Made it expensive as at low tide boats touched the sand. Lumber put on carts and hauled by horses.

Jean Crutchley

Straddle Carrier.
Flood even under Cook house.
Deepen river to keep logs floating.
Cribbing on side and front.
Log hoist.
10 or 12 cars the most at mill.
Main line - 8 ft.
Morrice Kagnoff - Principal of Elementary.
Les Williams - wife had a Tea Shop. 'Rose Jar' Fine china and crystal.
Chester Williamson (about 1930)

Mabel Bridges

1. Where are East Indian quarters?
2. Where were Railroads - sp... - lines - dock?
   Did railway take cars onto dock?
   How were logs unloaded and lumber loaded?
3. Date when his sketch drawn? 1920 - 3?
4. Bunkhouse - Later improvement 1924. 35 average.
5. Where did logs come from?
6. Water tower and waste burner.
7. Dam - how logs got into river.
8. Switch on to main track.
9. Where did water supply come from? - a... drinking fountain.
10. Number employees?
    Did they have to build tracks up to get (r?) Or were they on a trestle?
11. Cemetery?
12. Street names - Lee, Parker, Kent, Kiel, Stevens.
    Parker - owned most of land around area.
    Keil - later comr.... (Rolly Keil - Syn Wr...
    Kent - County Kent
    Lee - Harry Lee or Tom Lee worked with Co.
    Stevens - H.H. Stevens

13 Any Indians on reserve at time?

14. Electric mill - first in B.C.

    6 in pipe - Cookhouse, office.

    Campbell River did not generate electrivity - bought from Hydro.

1. Train - 8:20 a.m. March 15, 1909 three W.R.
2. Hazelmere Lumber Mill run by Harold Hunter and Frank Fox of Blaine.
   - east side of Hall's Prairie Road
   - north of North Bluff
3. Mill destroyed by fire September 1912.
4.

Mary Sanford's writing SAWMILLS

Transcribed by Sybil Monde
Filed in Ref index SAWMILLS.

Area - Most of the mill site was built on piles - As the railway (GNR) was built for 3/8 mile on trestle, the high tides ran in and out through the trestles It was only during high tide that there was enough water in the river to store logs - Thereon had to be dredged continually. Piles were placed every 12 feet in the river to hold back the sand or silt.
A dam was eventually built on the river to hold water & store logs to keep the mill continually running. Logs came in with incoming tide then damm shut. Log-lift used when tides were extremely low.

Fisheries: Continual run of fish could be seen in river Inspection of damm done very religiously - as it was to be opened once in 24 hours.

Owners - Campbell River Mill Lumber Co
built on Indian Reserve, owned by Harold Hunter & Frank Foy of Blaine
Opened Sept 17. 1913
Closed - 1927 (logs shortage.

Superintendent - Moffatt

Changes - Mill continually being improved - so impossible to say when finished.

Sid Henry - worked 1 summer in mill.

Employees - About 12 Chinese.
" 20 East Indians - fluctuate.
Native Indians from reservation
made good boom men.

Condition of Lease - Must employ Indians from Recreation.
99
200 year lease on property -
if abandoned the mill & buildings
were to be torn down.
dismantled.

Drinking Water - Fed by Artesian well which
is still in existence (1983)

Bunkhouses - held average of 35.
Building improved by 1924.
Separate living quarters for
Chinese & East Indians on Island.
Separate quarters for Japanese
across Washington Avenue.
Indians on reservation.

Logs Came from Columbia Valley by
way of Veddar & Fraser - floated
or by Bellingham & train C & NR.
Claim on Vancouver Island.
Later - logs bought on open market. Came
by tug-boat.

Breakwater - Beyond present Outside
Beyond Wedge - built to store
additional logs at the mouth of the river.
Storms came from south & west.
About 120-130 yards.

Lumber loaded from Pier (1/4 mile) on to scows -

Docks Made it expensive as a low tide boats
touched the gg sand. Lumber put on carts
and hauled by horses

Mabel Bridges

Pirie

(Chinese 12)

1. Where are East Indian quarters - about 3/4 of a mile south
2. " were Railroads - spurs - lines - dock
   Did railway take cars on to dock
   How were logs unloaded & lumber loaded
3. Date when his sketch drawn? 1920-3?
4. Bunkhouses / later improvement 1926 - 35 average
5. Where did logs come from?
6. Water tower & waste burner
7. Dam - how logs got into mill.
8. Switch on to main track
9. Where did water supply come from?
   - date drinking fountain
10. Number employed?
    Did they have to build tracks up to get N or were they on a trestle
11. Cemetery - ?
12. Street names Lee Parker Kent, Keil, Stevens
13. Any Indians on reserve at time!
14. Electric - mill - first in B.C.

Indians - worked in mill (Boom men Got Place)

6 in pipe - Cookhouse, office

Parker - owned most of land around area.
Keil - later comer Rally Keil - Typewriters.
Kent - Country Kent
Lee - Harry Lee or Tom Lee worked with Co
Stevens - H. H Stevens

Campbell R. did not generate electricity
bought from Hydro

Island Crutchley

Straddle Carrier
Flood even under Cook house
{ Deepen river to keep logs floating
{ Cribbing on side and part

Log-Haist
8 ft. tide
~~Rails all on tide - to were all on logs~~

10 or 12 cars the mostat mill

Main-line - 8 ft.

Morrise Kagnoff - Rains of Elementary.
Les Williams - wife had a Tea Shop
"Rose Jar"
" fine china & crystal"

Chester Williamson (about 1930)

Oct. 16. 1981

Zeigler
Gladys.
Thrift.
Feedham
Frank
Sanford
Woodward

doubt if he worked in Mill.
Blacksmith Shop?
Railway built on Piles
3/4 m. of trestle (to bend)
Tides run over sand -
See fish run into creek.
Only during high tide enough water
Therefore had to be dredged.
Piles 12 ft every direction
Up & down for logs to go into mill.
(See write-up re pictures)
Logs - Veddar Cross Columbian Valley
Claim on Van. Isl. - thru Belling.
(long way)
Basically not economical only at first
because of Am. market. - (so good)
Logs mostly by railway in & out.
Not much of local sales at early times.

Breakwater at River -
- stored logs - Storms from south-west.
Later 1918-19 - Logs by tug-boat, buying logs
on open market.
Dam - Tide 8 ft. water out.
Tide in - Logs pumped in on incoming
tide - then damn shut.

Fishery regulation - dam to be opened once in 24 hours - inspection very religious.

(Cohas Run at age 14-15) large number.

Bill Moffatt - Superintendent of Mills
- progressive ideas -
Log lift invented for low tide
Winch 12 ft of water.

Breakwater 120 + 130 yds

Indian Reserve Garrison time keeper surmised

Boarder in out - few yards out!

Sid - worked one summer?

Waste-burner - all brick lined -

all torn down - 99 yr. lease -

Condition of lease - remove everything if not used employing native people.

Dad sold mill to Hunter
Smith - (Small mill at Hazelmere)

Loading on scows - Made it expensive at low tide boat touched ground
Dock - 1/4 mile
Lumber put on carts & hauled by horses -

1. Train 8:20 am Mar. 15, 1909. thru W. R.

2. Hazelmere lumber mill run by
Harold Hunter & Frank Fox of Blaine.
- east side of Hall's Prairie Road.
north of South Bluff.

3. Mill destroyed by fire Sept. 1912.

4. Campbell River Lumber Co. built
on Indian Reserve - opened Sept. 17, 1913
- 1927 - (log shortage)