



HARTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

• HARTFORD, VERMONT 05047 •

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER

Volume 9, Issue 1 • SOCIETY NEWSLETTER • March 1996

March Meeting . . .

Our March meeting will feature a presentation by Bill Gove on the history of log drives on the Connecticut River. Bill's presentation will include a narrated slide show of scenes up and down the Connecticut River Valley. Bill is a retired forester from the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks. He developed an interest in forest history during his career with the State and has done extensive research and writing in the past.

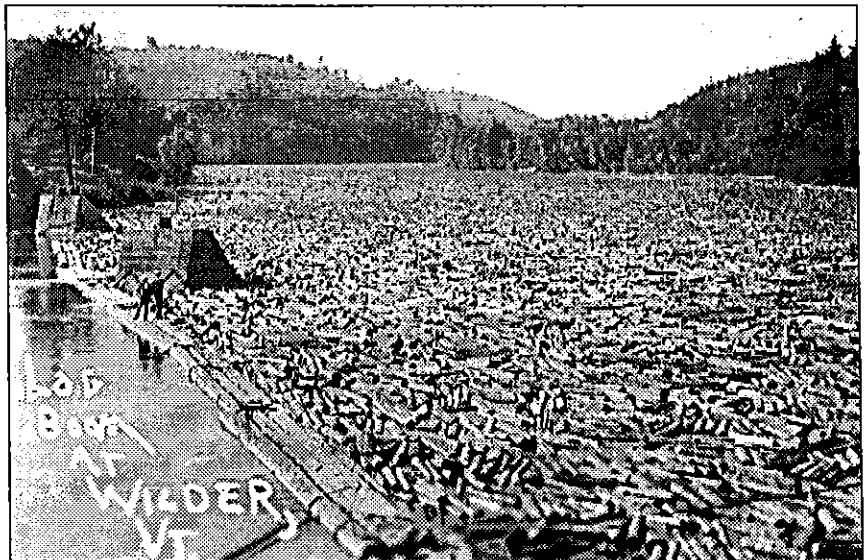
The Meeting will be

Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 PM

at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ
Route 14, Hartford Village

*View of log boom at
what is now the site
of Wilder Dam, on
the Connecticut
River at Wilder, VT.*

Hartford Historical Society
Photo



News of the Collection

We are very pleased to add to the collection a small blanket given to us by Rebecca Green of Plymouth, N.H. It was made from material produced by the Quechee Woolen Mill in 1925/6. Rebecca Green's parents were Fred and Jo Haynes who lived on Dairy Hill in South Royalton. She lived there from 1925 until 1940, when the place was sold. She writes "Quechee Gorge was an exciting Sunday outing back then." The blanket is blue and cream and brown, and was made from two pieces of remnant sewn together. The two edges not selvage are finished with blanket stitch in yellow. Mrs. Green very thoughtfully had the blanket dry cleaned before sending it to us, so no conservation procedures were necessary. It has been rolled (not folded) in acid-free tissue paper and is kept in an acid-free textile box. It will be on display at the March meeting - please come and see it and share your memories of Quechee Woolen Mill material with us. This is the only material we have from the woolen mills that were so important to Hartford.

Priscilla Gadzinski, *Curator*
Pat Stark, *Archivist*

For Your Information

Occasionally people ask what *is* the National Register Of Historic Places? The *National Register* is the official Federal listing of historic, architectural and archeological resources worthy of preservation. The National Park Service, Department of the Interior, provides matching funds to each state to conduct a comprehensive survey of its cultural resources and nominate significant buildings, structures, sites, objects and districts to the *National Register of Historic Places*. Inclusion in the National Register, in addition to honorific recognition, provides a degree of protection from Federally assisted, licensed and permitted undertakings that might adversely affect a listed property or jeopardize the property's environment. However, the National Register listing only regulates the use of Federal funds that may affect the property and does not impose any legal requirements or restrictions on the owner. The *National Register* in Vermont is administered by the Division for Historic Preservation.

Courtesy of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Estate Planning

If you are considering making a donation to the Hartford Historical Society, please contact the Society for information about current estate planning opportunities.

Hartford's Pine Lots: 1760-1810

by Cameron Clifford

In 1774 the proprietors of the town of Hartford, Vermont divided a 475-acre parcel of land east of the Quechee Gorge into small seven acre lots. In doing so, the Hartford proprietors were dividing an area rich in white pines so that each proprietor received a lot and be able to share equally in the natural wealth. At the same time the proprietors were dividing the "pine land" for exploitation, they were also going against the letter of the law in British colonial America concerning the conservation of white pine trees for use by the British Royal Navy. With the controversies of the coming of the American Revolution, the proprietors actions were of little concern to colonial authorities compared to the bigger issues of revolutionary behavior in the colonies. However, the behavior of settlers within Hartford's neighboring town to the south proved more troublesome to the Hartford Proprietors in securing the pine land. The proprietors eventually succeeded in dividing this parcel of pine land into equal shares. With the division of the pine land however, not all proprietors benefited equally from the pine lands. The pine lands were successfully consolidated and effectively exploited by the Marsh family who were big players in Hartford's proprietary scene and especially in the region around the Ottaquechee River.

The pine lands belonged to the larger 1761 grant of the town of Hartford. Hartford was one town of many granted by the New Hampshire Colonial Governor in the 1750s and early 1760s within what is now present-day Vermont. Each of these towns were granted to groups of individuals termed "grantees" or "proprietors". These proprietors were the actual owners of the towns lands. Their goal was to sell their lands to intending settlers at a profit.¹

Since the proprietors as a group were granted Hartford, their first aim was to make an equitable division of the town into individual lots so each proprietor could market his own lands as he saw fit. The dividing up of the town involved time and money. Over the decade of the 1760s, committees were formed, surveys run, and monies collected all in dividing up the town. The result was an invisible patchwork of lots ranging from forty to one hundred acres covering most of the town.²

Even though the proprietors had laid out most of the land in Hartford into individual lots by the early 1770s, they had avoided one area; the region east of Quechee Gorge. When the proprietor's survey team first viewed the area near Quechee Gorge, they met a forest of huge pine trees. Even though their hearts must have beat faster, the proprietors were faced with a dilemma; it was illegal to cut large white pine trees for personal use. Ever since the first half of the eighteenth century, the British Government had passed laws protecting large white pine trees for use of the government as masts and lumber for the Royal Navy. With proclamations issued throughout the colonies early in the century, everyone had probably heard of the law.³

If the proprietors of Hartford were discouraged to divide the pine lands for personal exploitation because of colonial policy, they were also encourage to do so by the revolutionary milieu

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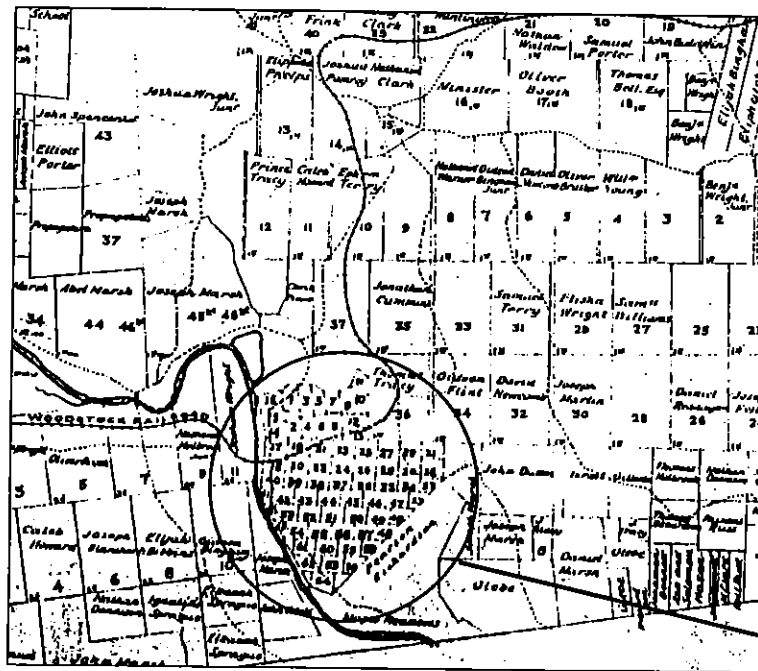
taking hold all around them. Since the 1760s, revolutionary ideology and activities within New England had become widespread. Such events as the Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party, and the British Governments closing the port of Boston all endeared many New Englanders and Hartford Proprietors to oppose the British Government's policies.⁴

The final push for dividing Hartford's pine lands came about not so much because of Revolutionary zeal but because of controversy with settlers in the neighboring town to the south. Settlers from *Hertford* (the then confusing name of the town now known as Hartland) were crossing Hartford's boundary and cutting the pines themselves. Either these Hertford settlers did not recognize the boundary line as established by Hartford; or didn't care. The pine lands were too appealing. The enraged Hartford proprietors formed a committee to meet with those in Hertford. Nothing came of the endeavor. The committee reported that they had planned to meet with their Hertford counterparts in order to go over the town's boundaries, "But they did not met us." In order to save the area, the Hartford proprietors decided to divide the area themselves before those from Hertford stripped it clean. In 1774 the Hartford proprietors made arrangements and formally divided the area into lots of a little over seven acres each.⁵

Even though the proprietors each owned a pine lot, they did not rush to exploit it. In fact, most proprietors never saw, or even knew of the of the rich pine lands east of Quechee Gorge. Proprietorship was a risky business. Because of the necessary investments involved, proprietaries many times seemed to just suck up money instead of producing it. Many proprietors had sold their rights in Hartford before the pine lands were even divided up. What ensued was

a sorting out of proprietors and purchasers. In the process, some pine lots were probably cut, but the exploitation of others were delayed by the sorting out process.

In the end, the biggest benefit the pine lots provided were for the Marsh family. The Marshs were major proprietors of Hartford. As such they bought and sold lands in the town extensively. In order to successfully man-



Survey map showing pine lots near present day Quechee Gorge

age their holdings Hartford, members of the family moved there from Connecticut in the 1760s and 1770s. In moving to Hartford, the Marshes succeeded in their goals and brought them in contact with the rich pine lands near Quechee Gorge.⁶

The exploitation of the pine lots by the Marshs were a part of a larger effort by the family to establish themselves and consolidate the lands along the Ottaquechee River. The family sold holdings in other parts of town while linking their success to the development of the Ottaquechee watershed. Joseph, Joel, Abel, and Elisha Marsh all bought land, built homes, and operated farms and businesses along the Ottaquechee River in the 1770s.⁷

Along with farm and business interests, the Marsh clan established along the banks of the Ottaquechee River, came the establishment and operation of various mills. The earliest of these mills and the one which undoubtedly set the stage for the family's consolidation of the pine lots, was a sawmill. This sawmill seems to have been sponsored and owned over the years by a combination of family and associates. In 1765, the Hartford proprietors offered 600 acres surrounding a set of falls on the Ottaquechee River as an inducement for whoever would build a sawmill at the falls site. As this area was most likely also well forested with pines, whoever set up the sawmill would be able to have their own mill, cut lumber from the land given them, and also be able to saw lumber for area residents for a fee. The Marshs most likely had a hand in the official proprietary planning of this offer; knowing well they would be the ones to take advantage of it. As it ended up the Marshs and their kin and associates did establish the mill and reap its benefits. For over thirty years various combinations of Marsh kin were involved with the mill including the brothers Joseph, Abel, and Elisha Marsh; possibly brother-in-law Israel Loomis; Abel's son Milo, Joseph's son-in-law Thomas Pitkin, and later Paul Pitkin. The Marshs' kin of the Udall and Burtch families also were involved with the sawmill at various times.⁸

With their sawmill secured, the Marshs not only reaped the 600 acres surrounding the mill, but also set their sights on the patchwork quilt of seven acre pine lots created by the proprietors in 1773. The pine lots were owned by a variety of people at the time; original proprietors and those who bought lots from them. The Marshs, and especially Joseph Marsh owned multiple proprietary "rights" to lands in Hartford through purchase from the original proprietors. A "right" included all the lands that were a particular proprietors share in the town's lands. As a result of owning multiple rights, Joseph Marsh owned multiple pine lots. As these lots were scattered over the 475 acre piece, it made their exploitation harder for the Marshs. Also, with the desire to control more of the rich pine lots than a mere scattering of small pieces here and there, Joseph Marsh and crew went on a consolidation drive which resulted in 73% of the pine lots having been in their hands at some point or other before 1810.⁹

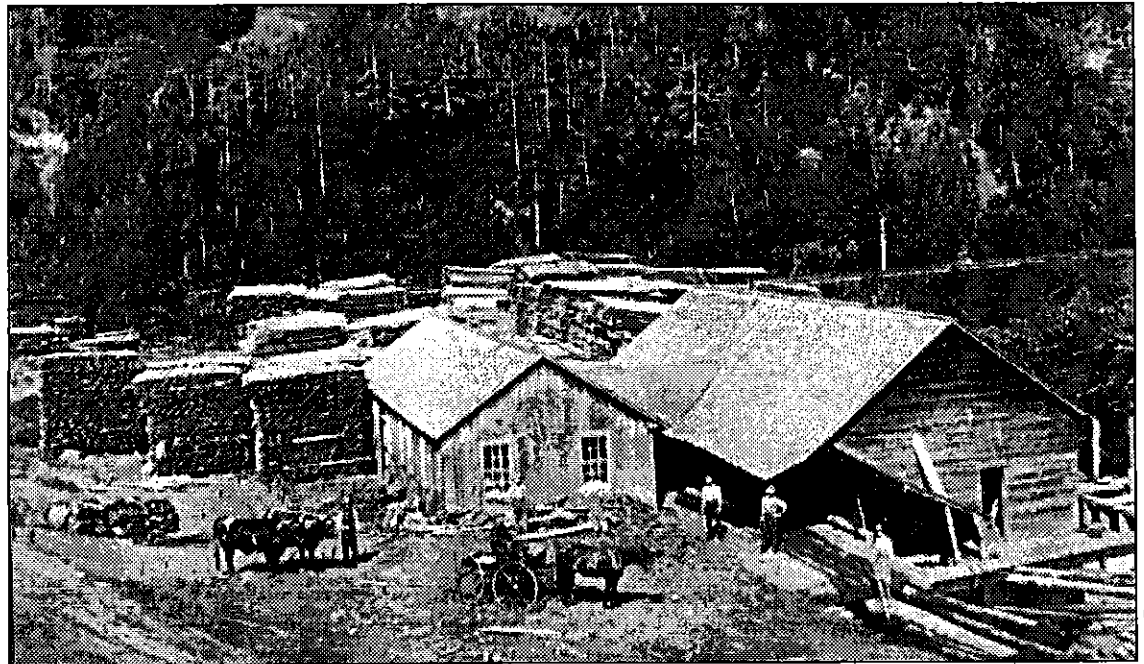
It is far from clear at what rate and how long the Marshs spent in clearing the Hartford pine lots, but by 1810 the lots were most certainly cleared of pine and the land integrated into the holdings of the family and others as farmland.

“Worked in the Mill”
A Glimpse of Four months in the Adams Sawmill

by Cameron Clifford

John Adams who lived just over the Hartford town line in Sharon, Vermont kept a diary for the year 1884. Though providing no in-depth detail and being incomplete, the diary gives us glimpses of his life. During that year Adams worked for various neighbors doing farm work, he married his sweetheart, spent the summer with her family in Connecticut, returned to Vermont, and settled into married life. He also worked in a sawmill. Adam's father owned a sawmill on Mitchell Brook in Sharon. The younger Adams worked steady in the sawmill from the first of the year until early May. His winter work in the sawmill was tinged with frustration due to mechanical problems and cold. When spring came the work schedule was transformed into a mad rush to take full advantage of the season's surplus running water which powered the sawmill. Once early spring was over though, the work schedule let up and John Adams stopped working in the mill.¹

The winter season at the Sharon sawmill according to John Adams lasted until mid March. During this time Adams wrote of the “good Luck” they were having in the mill, but more often



Adams Mill in Sharon, Vermont Sharon Historical Society Photo

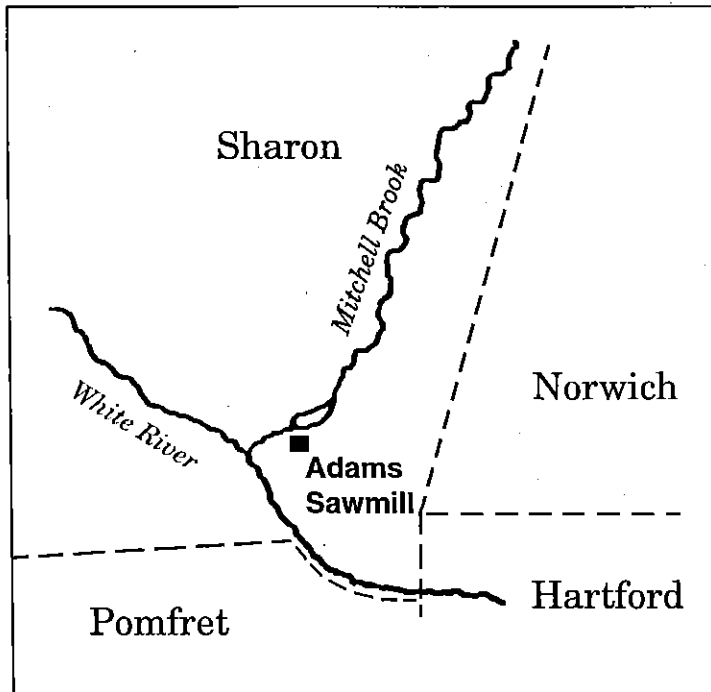
of the "bad luck." This bad luck centered around problems with the mill's machinery and Mother Nature. Several times Adams complained of machinery problems. The second of January found a "planer broke." That same month three saws broke in two days. Adams later commented they had "bad luck" with a saw and in early March they broke another one.

Along with machinery problems at the mill, nature did not always cooperate. Cold made working conditions uncomfortable; eliciting comments from Adams. It was "cold as Hell" on the seventh of January: "29 below." If the cold let up, it was right back the next week when Adams complained of the cold. Even in early March, the temperature dipped to the point where it was noteworthy; and bothersome. In close association with the cold was the problem of working with water powered machinery. The Adams must have constantly been challenged by keeping water flowing through their mill as a part of their routine in the winter, but one day in January the "water failed 4 times" frustrating them immensely.

Once spring came however, there was no lack of water. In fact, the advent of spring's flowing water put the Adams' sawmill onto a day and night schedule in order to take advantage of the surplus water. The busy season began on March 11 when it "commenced to rain" that night. Along with the rain, Adams commenced to work nights in the sawmill beginning the end of March. For almost a week after beginning to work the busy night schedule, Adams didn't make any additional comments in his diary except the laconic "worked all Night." Adams got used to the new schedule and continued working nights in the mill until early May

when he began working outside of the sawmill doing farm work.

It is not known if John Adams kept any other diaries, if he did they are no longer in existence. Thus it is impossible to tell if Adams worked for his father in the sawmill in subsequent years. As it is, we are fortunate to have his 1884 diary to give us a glimpse onto the work of this area sawmill in the late nineteenth century.



Map of Adams Mill site

Jim Dickerson's Logging Career 1973-1996

by Cameron Clifford

Jim Dickerson is a youngster compared to some area loggers who have made their living from the woods. However, Jim has seen a lot of change in the logging industry over the past twenty years. Within that time Jim Dickerson's logging career went through three stages, each with important lessons which he was able to bring to the next level. Jim went from a small-time firewood cutter, to an independent logger, to a partner in a major mechanized logging company operating within New Hampshire.¹

The origins of Jim's life in the woods began as a teenager growing up in Wilder, Vermont. Born in 1957, Jim was raised in Wilder, the eldest child of Rodney and Jane Dickerson. Throughout Jim's childhood the family was supported by Rodney Dickerson's job at an auto parts store in West Lebanon, N.H. At the parts store, Rodney Dickerson was able to provide for his family's needs. However, the family was caught off guard along with most middle-class Americans when the oil producing countries of the world enacted an oil embargo against the United States after the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. The embargo raised the price of petroleum products phenomenally. As a result, families throughout the nation made adjustments in their lifestyles to combat the effects of high petroleum costs.

For the Dickersons, part of the answer to combating the 1973 oil embargo was supplementing their home heating source of fuel oil with firewood. This phenomena was widespread through out the northeast and much of the nation at the time. Rodney Dickerson purchased a woodstove and chainsaw and took his family to the woods with him to help cut wood. As a result of the oil crisis the State of Vermont opened up State lands for families without wood lots of their own to cut firewood. The Dickersons, who lived in the middle of Wilder Village on a small house lot, fell into this category. They would spend weekends felling, splitting, and loading firewood which they trucked home. As the immediate crisis passed the Dickersons fell into the routine of cutting firewood yearly as a new part of their lifestyle.

Jim Dickerson's experience of cutting firewood as a teenager with his father proved formative in his choosing a career in logging; it also came in handy when he needed money. After graduating from High School, Jim worked for Charles Potter and his sons doing concrete work. This involved preparing a site for setting up forms for house foundations, setting up the forms, supervising the placing of the concrete, and stripping the forms when the concrete had cured properly. The concrete business was good for Jim in that during the 1970s there was a steady demand for concrete foundations with the expansion of housing taking place within Hartford during that decade. However, there was not much concrete work during the normally slow winter months when construction was at a low. As a result, Jim was let go during the winter.

Jim's response to this lull period in the concrete business was an innovative tapping of his past experience of cutting firewood with his father. Jim cut and sold firewood. Jim approached cutting firewood as "a way to make money" when he was out of work. In the beginning, Jim needed to buy himself a chainsaw and splitting maul, but the most important piece of equipment he needed - a pickup truck; he already owned. The chainsaw and maul obviously were needed to cut and spit the wood, but their cost was incidental compared to a pickup truck. With a pickup Jim could drive to wherever he would be cutting. He could bring his saw, maul, chains, gas, and tools right with him. He could drive out into the woods where the trees were. He could drag small trees out of the woods with his pickup. And he could deliver the cut firewood with his pickup. Jim Dickerson's pickup was put to use in the cutting and hauling of firewood almost the same way his father's had been.

Jim Dickerson found himself not only cutting firewood during the winter months, but also on the weekends during the summer. As demand for firewood remained high during the 1970s and Jim's name got around, he received more calls for firewood. It wasn't long before Jim stopped working for the Potter's doing concrete work and began cutting firewood full time. What had initially began as a part time way to make money during a slow time of year had blossomed into a small business.

The cutting of firewood filled Jim Dickersons days. He was young and gung-ho for work. On average, Jim would go to the woods cut, split, and deliver two cords of firewood per day. With firewood at the time selling for \$65 a cord, Jim was making a living for a single guy with little responsibilities. It wasn't long however, before Jim emerged from his firewood business and became a full fledged logger.

How Jim made the transition from firewood cutter was a combination of family connections and the realization that he enjoyed working in the woods. One winter Jim was cutting firewood on Quimby Mountain in Sharon, Vermont. At the same time, Jim's uncle Bob Dickerson was working on the same lot logging. Bob Dickerson had recently began logging on his own and owned his own skidder. Through working on the same lot and being related, both Dickersons ended up helping each other out. It was Jim however who was stimulated at the help he gave his uncle. Jim got the opportunity to operate his uncle's skidder and one day said to himself "I really love this." At this point uncle and nephew joined forces and worked together logging.



It all started with a pickup truck.

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The formation of the uncle/nephew team proved valuable for Jim Dickerson. While Jim brought youth, strength, and ambition to the partnership, Bob Dickerson taught Jim the logging business. Over the months Bob taught Jim to chop and the tricks of felling trees for lumber without ruining them. He taught Jim the use and operation of the cable skidder which hauled the logs from the woods to a "landing" where the logs were loaded onto trucks and sent to the mill. Bob also introduced Jim to the marketing of wood products for more than just firewood; pulp and saw logs.

With less than a year of logging experience the younger Jim Dickerson was itching to go into logging for himself. This was natural for a young man interested in what he was doing. He made his plans known to Bob and in the end Jim took over the new skidder the pair had been using together.

The experience of logging with his uncle Bob was of vital importance for Jim Dickerson when he went out on his own, but equally important was the school of hard knocks he went through not long after going out on his own. Jim found himself at a job where the woods were too muddy for his skidder to operate. With the skidder sitting idle, what ensued was an insufficient income to meet his skidder payments to a zealous equipment dealer who requested the skidder be taken back. Undaunted, but wiser from the experience with equipment and payments, Jim approached another equipment dealer and bought a used skidder this time.

With the second skidder secured, Jim was back on his own. Actually, there were few times Jim Dickerson was working all alone. The nature of the logging business at the time was such that small loggers tended to work together on logging jobs to their mutual benefit. Many times hiring a man to help on a job did mean more work got done, but some times it didn't result in higher profits. Also, hiring a man to work included extra paperwork and insurance issues many small-time operators sought to avoid. The easiest solution thus was to join with other small loggers on jobs and split the profits. Jim repeated this type of working relationship he originally started out with Bob Dickerson with other loggers and men who worked in the woods.

Throughout Jim's years as an independent logger from 1978-1987, he got logging jobs by word of mouth, knocking on peoples doors, mills who had bid on lots, and foresters. Through working on logging jobs, customers referred Jim to their friends and associates who wanted their own wood lots logged. When word of mouth wasn't enough, Jim knocked on peoples doors to ask if they had considered having their wood lots logged. Sometimes he was met with a slammed door, many times however, a deal was made. Sawmills were also important in getting Jim Dickerson logging jobs. Mills generally saw the lumber, not cut and haul it. However, some mills bought wood lots or contracted with landowners to log off parcels and hired independent loggers to do the cutting for them. Jim got logging jobs occasionally from contracting with local mills. Along with these three forms of getting logging jobs, foresters also played an important role in Jim Dickerson's career. Independent foresters acted as



Cable skidder.

liaisons between the landowner and the logger. They were hired by landowners to mark the trees to be harvested, organize the logging operation, supervise the harvesting and in return received a percentage of the gross income from the logging. Developing a good working relationship with a noted forester proved very beneficial to area loggers who sought local logging jobs. Foresters usually tried various loggers to find out who they thought was most reputable and easy to work with in order to depend on them. In Jim Dickerson's case he sought work from an area forester who tried Jim out and eventually made use of Jim to the point where Jim ended up working on jobs the forester got him for four years straight. Jim proved himself with the forester; at first the forester gave Jim any job- low grade small trees as well as nice trees. But over time the forester gave Jim the better jobs; the ones where Jim was harvesting larger trees instead of small ones; it cost the same amount of money to pull out a low grade tree as it did a high grade tree.

With the 1980s, Jim saw a new market emerging for wood products; whole tree chips for fueling wood fired electric power plants in New Hampshire. In the mid to late 1980s, these power plants were being constructed and put into operation and Jim thought "it's going to take a work force to feed these things." It was at this point he decided to orient himself toward logging so that logs could still be harvested, but also so the tops of the trees could be chipped and marketed as fuel to these power plants. Normally the tops of the trees were left in the woods. Jim figured that a third of the tree was being wasted. In order to make use of the whole tree in a logging operation Jim decided to become a "mechanized logger."

At the time Jim decided to look into becoming a mechanized logger, he had a new cable skidder and was working on jobs with his friend and fellow logger Don Duncerton. The pair worked together on logging jobs making use of each other's equipment. One day the pair had their cable skidders working on a logging job with a fellow logger who owned a mechanized piece of logging equipment: a "grapple skidder." Whereas with cable skidders someone had to put chains around each log and hook the chains to the skidder's cable, a grapple skidder simply grabs the logs with a set of large jaws mounted on the back of the machine. With the experience of working alongside a new efficient skidder and taking note of other mechanized operations Jim decided that mechanized equipment was a good idea.

Jim went out and traded in his cable skidder toward a new grapple skidder to be more efficient. But that was not all. Jim also talked with Donald Duncerton and convinced him to invest in a mechanized "feller/buncher." The feller/buncher was something like a skidder, but its use was for cutting trees instead of hauling them. The feller/buncher could shear off and hold up to a few trees and then bunch them together in a pile for hauling to the landing with the grapple skidder. The combination of this "feller/buncher" and Jim's grapple skidder made the pair a very efficient logging team.

It wasn't long before Jim and Don put their mechanized equipment to efficient use; and became sought after by a person with interests in a New Hampshire power plant and the responsibility of fueling it. Around 1988 Jim and Don were working at a job where they stockpiled the low grade wood and tops for marketing. Jim called a forester who acted for Peter Crowell as a marketer of wood to a power plant in Springfield, New Hampshire. Jim had sold logs to a sawmill Crowell also operated, but had no relationship with Crowell. After hearing about the stockpile of wood for chips Jim and Don had available, Crowell decided to send his wood chipping equipment to process it. It worked out fabulously. Crowell liked the big bunch of wood Jim and Don provided and the speed in which they created it. At the time Crowell was having a hard time getting enough chips to feed the Springfield power plant; in fact he had invested in land clearing equipment to help supplement the need. Once he saw Don and Jim's work though; he decided he needed them for his operation. As it was however, Don and Jim were helping out another guy who had a partially mechanized operation logging. The forester for Crowell kept badgering them to come work for Crowell and in the end Crowell won out; paying the pair handsomely. Jim and Don became integrated as subcontractors in Crowell's logging/chipping outfit. Traditional loggers with cable skidders turned up their noses at the jobs such as Jim and Don did for Crowell because the traditional loggers couldn't make money at it with their non-mechanized equipment.

Things did not go smoothly at first for Jim Dickerson however. Peter Crowell couldn't make any money managing the logging/chipping operation he had created. The logging outfit run by Crowell lost money and eventually Crowell decided to fold up. Everyone was out of a job. However, Jim was approached by Crowell to run the equipment himself as a subcontractor

under seemingly favorable terms. Jim found he couldn't make it work either at the price of chips he was receiving. So Jim gave up the endeavor and went back to conventional logging for around 6 months. One day in 1990 however, he received a call from Crowell saying he would change the price structure for wood chips so Jim could come back and run the outfit again. Jim said he would, but only as a partner.

The formation of the partnership between Jim Dickerson, Peter Crowell, and associate Arthur Durgin resulted in the company now known as "T&E Forest Products Inc." Jim as the managing partner in the company is responsible for producing wood chips for the Springfield, N.H. plant. In this position he seeks out wood lots to harvest, coordinates the company's crew and independent contractors, and also operates equipment when needed. In the process of processing chips, the company also sells saw logs to mills. Low grade wood goes to chips; high grade wood goes to the mill; thus making use of the whole tree.

Jim Dickerson's relationship and partnership with the various men he's dealt with in the logging business may have been important in the advancement of his career, but equally important is the relationship he has with his wife Lori. Lori Dickerson has supported and directly worked with her husband since their courting days when she helped him load and deliver firewood after getting home from her day job at a local hospital. As Jim's business grew, Lori took care of the record keeping and bill paying end. When major decisions needed to be made, Lori was a vital part of the process of coming to a conclusion. The Dickersons had a routine



Grapple skidder

they went through in making a decision. Lori would play the “devils advocate” in the beginning of the discussions, with Jim pleading his case. Then they would switch roles and Jim would bring out the negative aspects while Lori would advocate the positive of whatever issue was confronting them. In this way Lori had a direct effect on the logging decisions effecting Jim and herself.

As Jim Dickerson’s career has expanded within the world of wood harvesting and processing, so has Lori Dickerson’s. She went from taking care of the checkbook at first, to making out logging harvest plans and reports during the days of independent logging, to having a position within T&E Wood Products taking care of insurance and payroll matters four days a week.

With Jim’s expanded responsibilities taking him away from home much of the time, Lori Dickerson has responded by planning family outings with herself and the couples two children going with Jim to look over wood lots and walk in the woods. Thus the family is together instead of half of it at home “waiting for Jim to get home.”

All in all, Jim Dickerson’s career has been a learning as well as earning process. It is obvious he has learned the ways of the woods and the ways of wood products marketing what with going from the firewood cutter of twenty odd years ago to the lumber and wood chips producer he is now. It’s not at all certain what another twenty years will bring.



Mechanized wood chipping equipment in operation .

Recent Gifts

The items listed below are some of the gifts recently received by your Society:

John Bomhower; several books of Hartford interest: *Gateway of Vermont, An Album of Hartford, Vt.*, and *Vermont Flood of 1927*.

Evelyn Cameron; Glass paperweight with photographs of the Hartford Church and Rev. Ford in the glass, circa 1920.

Hans Christensen; Early Dictionary with signature of Theoda Thichnor inside.

A.W.Elliot; collection of twentieth century Postcards of various Hartford scenes.

Bruce Fifield; Blueprint and drawings of the White River Jct. First National Bank, circa 1892.

Rebecca Green; 55" by 43" wool quilt made from material produced by the Quechee Woolen Mill circa 1926.

Edith Jacobs; Civil War Veteran Certificate formally belonging to Lucian Ryder, 1871.

Frances Porter; Photographs from the early twentieth century of Charles Taylor and horses at the Vermont State Fair in White River Jct.

*Did You Enjoy This Issue
of the
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Annual Dues:
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Family \$25

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HARTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Herbert Adams, *President*, 802 295-5255 • Priscilla Gadzinski, *Curator*, 802 295-2364

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of March, May, September and November at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, Route 14 in Hartford Village.