

Chandler logging railway

A History of the Pulp and Paper Town of Chandler, Quebec (1912-1971)

by Kremenliev, Gregor (1975)

excerpts

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Four main rivers, the Grand Pabos, Little Pabos, West River and Port Daniel River ran in the timber limits making the timber easily accessible by water. However, the company decided to use a logging railroad instead. "The topography is such that logging by railroad is also very convenient.... The land is hilly, but not rocky".

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The logging railroads were a colossal failure due to the rough terrain and the high costs of operations. An oldtimer (informant 19) termed the plan "stupid". The railroads were abandoned after only six years' use, and the company returned to the more sensible system of utilizing the extensive rivers to transport the wood.

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Construction of the mill began early in 1913 and was completed by May 1915 when the mill started producing pulp. The location and erection of the original pulp mill were accomplished under the direction of a New York engineering firm. A 25-mile long logging railroad was built under the supervision of the Philadelphia civil engineer. The actual construction cost of the mill and the railroad were over \$2,500,000 more than twice the original estimate.

Colin Churcher's Railway Pages

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