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The Early Sawmills at Stables and Loring, Louisiana

Historical Articles by W. T. Block

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GULF LUMBER COMPANY OF STABLES, LOUISIANA

If the reader has difficulty finding Stables on a road map of Louisiana, it is because what survive that erstwhile sawdust city is now known as Newllano, two miles south of Leesville. Since the Stal sawmill(s) were bought by Gulf Lumber Company in 1906, the same company that in 1907 building the giant sawmill at Fullerton, it would seem logical to write the history of both mills toget The history of Fullerton, Louisiana, however, is too long and too complex to permit that. Since Stables facility consisted of two adjacent sawmills (Nos. 1 and 2) of almost equal capacity, it certa appears that Gulf Lumber Company bought out two separate and adjacent sawmills and t proceeded to operate them as one plant. One article about Stables observed that:

" . . . Since this property has passed into new hands, it has been thoroughly reconstructed and has become a paying proposition. It is of the No. 2 Stables plant we would now speak. Mill No. 2 is being thoroughly remodeled. Everything will be new except the steam engine. A battery of three 18"x72-inch boilers with Dutch oven foundations has been installed, which will give ample steam power for all purposes. A new set of line rollers has been placed in position, as has a new log carriage, a trimmer and resaw.... This mill will have a capacity of 60,000 feet per day. Over 1,000 feet of new dollyways have been built and the old ones repaired...

" A four-room National dry kiln with a capacity of 100,000 feet a day takes care of the lumber from both mills. Two dry sheds, one 60'x300-feet, capacity 1,500,000 feet; and one 40'x300 feet, capacity 1,000,000 feet, have been built. To the planer has been