



FIG. 6. A derivative of the single log-pen at Fisher, Sabine Parish.

tion of the lumber industry as some had predicted. Succeeding years witnessed the emergence of the small portable mill as the major producer of lumber in the South. The small mill was no innovation, for plants of low capacity have long been active in this country. The significant change has been in the growing volume of lumber produced by small plants relative to the output of the larger mills. More than half the total pine production of 1929 was cut by small mills.¹⁷ Only ten percent of the 557 mills operating in Louisiana in 1937 had a daily capacity of more than 40,000 board feet, and 68 percent of the lumber produced that year was turned out by the small mills.¹⁸ The

¹⁷ A. S. Boisfontaine, "The Small Mill—Its Awakening and Development," *Journal of Forestry*, Vol. 30 (1932), pp. 137–42.

¹⁸ I. F. Eldredge, G. B. Ward, Jr., and R. K. Winters, *Louisiana Forest Resources and Industries* (Washington: U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1943), p. 4.

Louisiana Forestry Commission listed 496 active mills in 1946, and of that total only 69 cut more than 5,000,000 board feet of lumber yearly.¹⁹ The team of motor truck and small mill has become the hallmark of lumbering in Louisiana, and the remaining large mills have come to rely heavily on the newer means of transportation.

The second of the three stages described above is geographically most significant, for in this phase of exploitation the lumbermen introduced cultural forms and patterns on a scale unequalled before or since. Many of these have persisted over wide areas, even though the combination of human and natural circumstances then prevailing no longer exists. Changes in vegetation, soils, and other elements of the physical setting were similarly profound and lasting.

¹⁹ *Forest Resources of Louisiana* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana Forestry Commission, 1947), p. 17.