



FIG. 11. Aerial photograph of Oakdale, Allen Parish, Louisiana. This picture well illustrates the influence of the lumber industry on western Louisiana towns. Oakdale once had five active sawmills. The two abandoned mill ponds in the right of the picture are each about 250 yards long.

other event which might slow operations at the front. Availability of water sometimes determined the locations of towns, and where

water supplies were deficient reserve ponds were dug. Water stored there was transferred to the main pond as needed. Most ponds were