



FIG. 15. Abandoned logging tram near Ward, Allen Parish, Louisiana, now used as a road for logging trucks. Many stretches of track have been improved and incorporated into the permanent road system.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The longleaf pine district of western Louisiana was almost untouched by loggers before 1895, and the subsequent rapid construction and peopling of numerous large sawmill towns constitutes by far the most extensive cultural invasion the area has ever experienced. The impact of the great mills upon the landscape is revealed in the familiar stretches of cutover land and second-growth forest and in the forms and patterns of human occupance peculiar to the industry. The latter were concentrated in the urban centers of the area and comprise a major portion of the visible record of man's activities there. This study of some of these landscape elements only begins to measure the contribution of lumbering to Louisiana geography, since it does not cover other sections where the industry was similarly active and makes no attempt to determine the extent to which natural landscapes have been modified. Surely, however, it indicates the importance of such inquiries on the part of the geographer and suggests much work for the sociologist and historian.