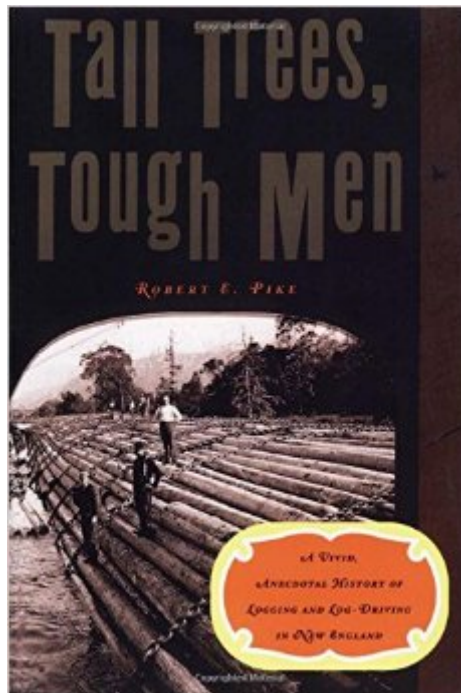


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Tall Trees, Tough Men (Vivid, Anecdotal History Of Logging And Log-Driving In New E)



Synopsis

In this robust, informal book, Robert E. Pike tells the colorful story of logging and log-driving in New England. The New England loggers and river drivers were a unique breed of men. Working with their axes and peaveys through Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, they contributed mightily to the development of the United States. The daily life of the loggers was hard — working in deep icy water fourteen hours a day, sleeping in wet blankets, eating coarse food, and constantly risking their lives. Their pay was very low, yet they were proud to call themselves loggers. When they came out of the woods after the spring drives, they ebulliently spent their pay carousing in the staid New England towns. Robert E. Pike, who as a youth worked in the woods and on the rivers, writes affectionately and knowingly, with humorous anecdotes, of every detail of lumbering. He describes the daily life of the logging camps, giving a picture of the different specialist jobs: the camp boss, the choppers, the sawyers and filers, the scaler, the teamsters, the river men, the railroaders, and the lumber kings. His descriptions bring the reader vividly into the woods, smelling the tangy, newly cut timber, hearing the boom of the falling trees. "The author's lively prose matches the temper of his subject. . . . This is basic history, geography, psychology, economics, and folklore all rolled into one top-quality volume." — R. S. Monahan, New York Times Book Review Illustrated with many rare photographs

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After visiting the Great North woods of New Hampshire for the last 12 years, and learning of my

ancestors involvement in the logging industry, I decided to purchase this book and was greatly impressed by the varied stories of life in the lumber camp and on the drives. Though the different jobs were skimmed over in description, it gave a good look into the past. Oh to be a fly in the woods in those days. Very enjoyable reading.

This was a great little book packed with history of the lumber business in America. The content was easy to read and educational. The stories of hardship and true grit of the early pioneers of New England was very entertaining. A good read for those interested the outdoors, early America and the lumber industry.

I got this book because I'm a fan of the Ax Men show and wanted to read a bit more about the industry. This book covers the early industry and workers and is filled with a lot of great stories. It doesn't seem like it would be a fun topic or history, but Mr. Pike's writing style is lively and the characters that logged the New England woods are even livelier. I was pleasantly surprised and would definitely recommend the book.

Tall Trees is an interesting collection of anecdotes from a lost bit of history--when log drives were part of a big industry in the north country. The book was a gift, based on my enjoyment of another of Pike's books on the logging industry, and I found that I learned much from reading it, about a rough and ready time in our history. Mr. Pike was an excellent writer. . . I found I particularly enjoyed his books, since I have visited one of the areas he speaks of in the books, the beautiful Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

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