



**Typical Equipment found on a Sawing 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of a Sawmill with Two (2) Single-Cutting Band Head Saws of the VCLCo era.**

# Vilas County Lumber Co. Sawmill Equipment

<b>I</b>	The best practice was to have 3 to 4 times the daily production of logs in a Hot Pond. Logs would have been bucked to 16-18 foot lengths in the pinery for the standard 16 foot production length at the Vilas County Lumber Company.
<b>A</b>	<b>Jack Ladder</b> – an endless chain conveyor with dogs inside a “V” shaped inclined trough to convey logs from the Hot Pond to the second floor Sawmill Log Deck.
<b>B</b>	<b>Geared Log Jacker</b> assembly mechanism - Jack Ladder chain drive.
<b>C</b>	<b>Log Deck</b> - there would be a few logs on both sides of the inclined Log Deck ready to be “turned” onto a Carriage. <b>a, b, &amp; c</b> are steam operated. <b>a. Log Kickers</b> - throws log to one side or the other of the inclined Log Deck. <b>b. Log-stop/Loader</b> - prevents log from rolling on the carriage till wanted. <b>c. Oscillating Log Turner Bar</b> - turns/flips log onto a carriage.
<b>D</b>	<b>Overhead Log Turner</b> – chief means of turning large diameter and length logs.
<b>E</b>	<b>Saw</b> - overhead swing cut-off - was hung from the ceiling to cross cut (trim) logs not having been cut properly in the pinery, operated by the 2 Cant-hook man.
<b>F</b>	<b>3-Block</b> (right hand and left hand) <b>Saw Carriages</b> – moving frame on which mechanisms are mounted for holding a log while sawing it (The Setter 3 sitting & two Doggers 4 “holding on” rode this carriage). <b>a. Steam Exhaust and Air Cushion Carriage Bumpers</b> , or <b>b. Spring Carriage Bumpers</b> . <b>c. Head-block and Knee</b> – holds and “dogs” a log to the carriage. <b>d. Set-works</b> - moves Knees a “set” distance pushing the logs sideways for lumber thickness through a Pinion line shaft. <b>e. Steam Feed “Shotgun” Cylinder</b> – a piston mechanism that moves carriage frame back and forth when sawing. <b>f. Steam Exhaust</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Band</b> (right hand and left hand Head Saw) <b>Saw Mills</b> – thin continuous metal blade that saws slabs and cants from logs.
<b>H</b>	<b>Live</b> (powered) <b>Rolls</b> (30” wide by 60’ long shown) - moves cants from Head Saw to <b>K</b> Edger or the rear of the Sawmill 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor on the left side.
<b>I</b>	<b>Live</b> (powered) <b>Rolls</b> (30” wide by 30’ long shown) - moves cants from Head Saw to <b>K</b> Edger or Timbers and Cross Ties out to the Timber Dock, on the right side.
<b>J</b>	<b>Transfer Chain</b> - mechanical cross endless roller chain when activated by a foot pedal raised the chain above the rollers to transfer lumber sideways from Live Rolls.
<b>K</b>	<b>Edger Saw with Front Table</b> – saws Cants to rough widths. Cants are pushed over Dead (un-powered) Rolls by hand, through feed rolls into circular rip saws.
<b>L</b>	<b>Screw Rolls</b> - for dumping Slabs to be ground by a <b>M</b> Hog.
<b>M</b>	<b>Hog</b> – grinds up unusable wood to a suitable size for Power House fuel wood.
<b>N</b>	<b>High Speed Rolls</b> - carries the rough cut lumber from the tail end of the Edger.
<b>O</b>	<b>Lumber Assorting Transfer Table</b> - to Trimmer.
<b>P</b>	<b>Gang Trimmer Saw</b> – saws boards to finished length for Green Chain which ran on the Grading and Sorting Dock.
<b>Q</b>	<b>Endless Chain Conveyor</b> - 360’ long on Grading and Sorting “Green Chain” deck.
<b>R</b>	<b>Sorting Deck</b> - final grading and assorting before transporting to the Drying Yard.
<b>S</b>	<b>Slasher Saw</b> - overhead lath slasher saws Slabs, edgings and other poor grade lumber into laths, fuelwood. And, unusable wood for the Refuse Burner.
<b>T</b>	<b>Slab Table</b> - potential wood accumulated for Lath Mill or Gang sash Saw.
<b>U</b>	<b>Lath Binder/Trimmer</b> - binds and saws rough lengths of lath to a length of 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ ”.
<b>V</b>	<b>Sash-Gang</b> (rip) <b>Saw</b> - saws Slabs and cull lumber too large for Lath Mill into sizes that can be cut by the Lath Mill.
<b>W</b>	<b>Lath Mill</b> - cuts appropriate size wood into $\frac{1}{2}$ ” x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” Lath.
<b>X</b>	<b>Lath Slide</b> - built on site for sliding bundles of Lath through a small wall opening.
<b>Y</b>	<b>Deck</b> - Timber & RR Cross Tie loaded onto flat or gondola RR cars for shipment.
<b>Z</b>	<b>Refuse Drag Conveyor</b> - moves unusable wood to a Refuse Burner. Also equipment such as Sawdust Blowers and Drags were used throughout the mill to get rid of such waste.

Typical Sawing 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Equipment list of a Sawmill with Two (2) Single-Cutting Band Head Saws, of the VCLCo era.