

Sinker Pine Logs

The recovery and processing of this virgin growth timber is sustainable forestry at its best. Each sinker log is reclaimed one or two at a time from the bottom of rivers and swamps in the Southern United States. Here they have been beautifully preserved from the original harvest which occurred up to two hundred years ago.

Most of the trees from which virgin-cut heart of pine is processed were growing long before Columbus arrived here in the New World, a time before air pollution and chemical fertilizers polluted our natural forests. Most assuredly, some of these pine and cypress logs have been lying on the bottom of the river for 200 years. In addition, resting at 40'-50' under water for over a century has protected the wood from oxidation, infestation and insecticides. It is simply some of the purest wood that can be purchased.

Logs were transported to the sawmill down the rivers on log rafts of several hundred logs and then towed up the banks of the rivers into the mills by teams of mules and oxen. The lumber was processed by hand and manual saws into beams and lumber. It was then shipped to the larger cities by flat barge and later by steamboat. Due to the density of this virgin 200-1200 year old timber, and the lack of power for the log rafts, they frequently became jammed in the river bends. The slightest amount of silt on top of the log rafts would sink the entire raft. These sinker logs have been sitting on the bottom of the river, protected from pollution and the elements for a hundred or more years. In 1885, the broad axe became obsolete and was no longer used as a harvesting tool. Significant numbers of our logs still have the artifact markings of being cut with a broad axe.

Old growth lumber is literally snatched from the hand of an earlier time. Recovering this eye-appealing and robust lumber not only provides unmatched beauty in woodwork but has a positive impact on our environment as no trees are cut to produce this product.