



Parry Sound Lumber Company Log End



During its heyday, the logging industry in the West Parry Sound District employed hundreds of local workers who sent copious amounts of logs into Georgian Bay from all over the district, giving the area the nickname “sawdust city.”

One prominent company, which operated on the Seguin river, was the Parry Sound Lumber Co. First built by William Gibson in 1857 he ran his mill until 1863. Gibson then sold his mill and timber rights to William Beatty in 1872. The Parry Sound Lumber Company logging mark is an uppercase “P.S.L.” for Parry Sound. This log end was donated to the museum by Mike Morden. You can see the mark pressed into the log. This log end could be 100 years old, if not older. The logging industry in the Parry Sound District lasted from the 1850s until the 1920s.

Logging companies began to place markers on their logs as they were transported from the bush, down the rivers, into the bay. Each company could be transporting several thousand logs during the river dive each summer. On average saw mills on the harbour produced 100,000 board feet every day.