Facilities

Blacks Mountain Experimental Forest, Lassen Co., Calif. These two adjoining wall tent platforms were constructed by Jack W. Bongberg and occupied by his family during summers prior to his service in the Navy during WW II. He was there obtaining data used to develop the California Ponderosa Pine Risk Classification by which pines were assigned four categories of risk to bark beetle attack. The tent on the left was for cooking and eating. The right tent was living and sleeping quarters. It had a lava rock fireplace with arrowheads embedded in the interior face. My family and I (M. Furniss) occupied the tents during 1951-1952 after Bongberg went to Albuquerque and I was assigned to annual plot measurements of mortality and training foresters in the application of the risk classification. The effluent from the kitchen sink went into a sump outside. The cover became rotted and my 4-year-old son fell in and was hauled-out and hosed down with no harm done. Once, lightning hit a pine, sending chunks of wood onto one of the headquarters buildings. Thereafter, afternoon lightning storms would send Irene and the kids well away from the large ponderosa pine standing next to the tents!

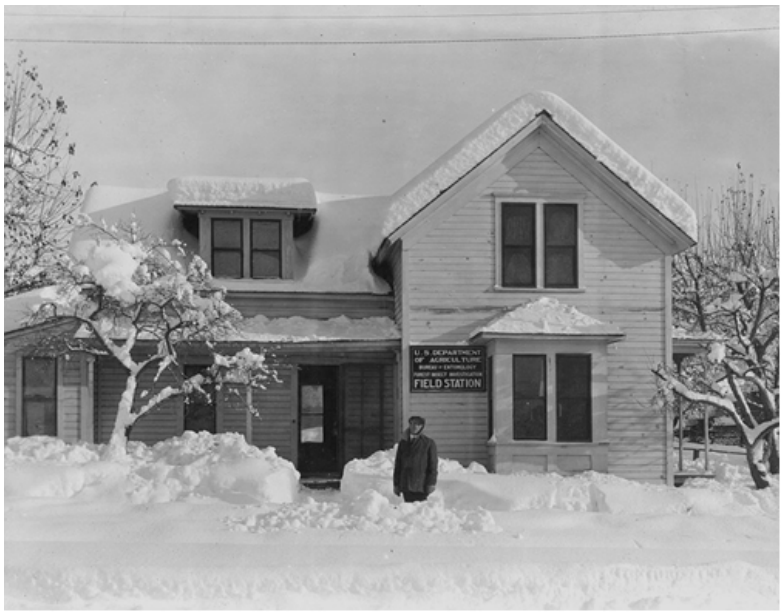
Log structure (top left) at Miami Field Base, Sierra N.F., Calif., 1939. The bark was left intact for rustic effect. To prevent insects and fungi from loosening the bark, John Patterson of the Berkeley FIL tested the effectiveness of copper sulphate & zinc chloride injected into freshly felled conifers.

The chemicals flowed by gravity from barrels into rubber collars enclosing the cut ends of felled trees. Limbs were left attached to allow transpiration and intake of the liquid. Most uniform results were obtained with trees 12 inches or less in diameter.

Patterson designed and built the structure aided by local labor.

Source: Patterson. 1940. Chemical injection of green trees for rustic construction materials. Progress report. Berkeley FIL.

A bunkhouse (lower left) was built with upright log walls at Hat Creek Field Base, Lassen N.F. about this time using the same methodology. It is shown as it appeared in 2001 with bark still in place. MMF photo.



James C. Evenden in front of the building in which the Coeur d'Alene Forest Insect Field Station was located during 1919 - 1923. In 1915, Evenden was considering other options but was persuaded by A.D. Hopkins to remain with the Bureau of Entomology by allowing him to establish a substation there, independent of Joseph Brunner who was located at Missoula, Montana. After Brunner had a falling-out with Hopkins, he was separated from federal service in 1917 and forest insect investigations in the northern Rocky Mountains were centered at the Coeur d'Alene laboratory until it was closed in 1955 and its personnel transferred to Missoula, Montana. (Photo no. 92, WFIWC archives). (Furniss 2003, Fig. 11).

In 1912, John M. Miller transferred from the Forest Service to the Bureau of Entomology, Division of Forest Insect Investigations. He had been surveying and collecting insects in the Weaverville-Hayfork, California, area and took this photo on March 2, 1912 en-route to Redding. The site was where a stage was held-up by the Ruggles brothers in 1892. Photo no. 8546-b, WFIWC archives. (Furniss & Wickman 1998, Fig. 13) (Wickman 2005, p 70-71).

In 1943, Funds were lacking for construction of a field base at Hat Creek, Lassen Co., California. To get around the problem, staff of the Berkeley Forest Insect Lab built a structure with treated logs under the guise of an experiment. The asserted purpose was to see how long bark would be retained with treatment with various chemicals. Shown (l. to r.): R.C. Hall, "Shorty" Startt, G.R. Struble, J.W. Bongberg and P.C. Johnson. Later, M. Furniss & B. Wickman were in charge of this facility (MMF: 1952-1954, BEW: 1956-l967). Photo no. 11672-d, WFIWC archives. (Furniss & Wickman 1998, Fig 8).