

THESIS

The 19th century marked the movement from environmental preservation to emerging Industry. Modernization greatly altered culture as well as landscape in the Hudson River Valley, making residents less appreciative of their surroundings. Slabsides, one of John Burroughs' tributes to nature, has preserved the essence of the environment in the Hudson River Valley.



SENSE OF PLACE





http://faculty.pittstates.edu/~knichols/arttours.html

TIMBER INDUSTRY

Industry negatively impacted the Hudson River Valley landscape.

- There were 5 main industries in this area during the 19th century:
 - Iron Processing Plants
 - Tanneries
 - Sawmills
 - Transportation
 - Other Industries



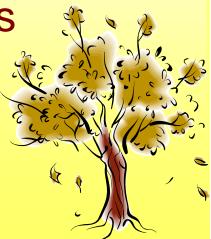


Kudish, Michael. <u>The Catskill Forest, A History.</u> Purple Mountain Press, New York. 2000.

IRON PROCESSING PLANTS (CHARCOAL)

- What does timber have to do with iron?
- Impact on surrounding scenery
 Deforestation
- Examples of Iron Processing Plants
- Knickerbocker Reactions



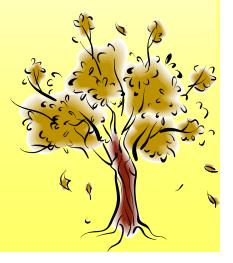


TANNERIES

"Tanning was the first extensive human disturbance in the mountain area"

- Impact of tanning on the Hudson River Valley landscape
 - Deforestation
 - Longest tannery open for 75 years
 - 7,560,000 trees were cut down

• End of traditional tanning industry





SAWMILLS

Development of Sawmills in America





•What is the purpose of Sawmills

Impact on Environment



Kudish, Michael. <u>The Catskill Forest, A History.</u> Purple Mountain Press, New York. 2000.

TRANSPORTATION

Completely dependent on wood



- Railroad: 270,000 miles of railroad track in the US
- Electric Lines
 - Railroad + Electric Lines = 120,000,000 ties annually
- Marine Transportation
 - Wooden Ships
 - Docks
 - Wharfs







OTHER INDUSTRIES

- Pulp and Paper Mills
- Acid Wood Plants
- Furniture Factories



"Whole Tree" Industries

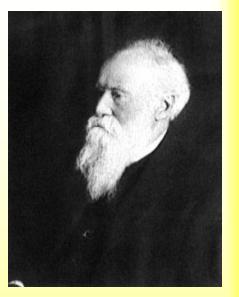


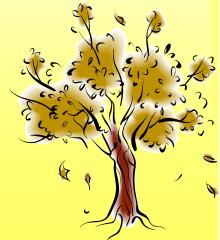




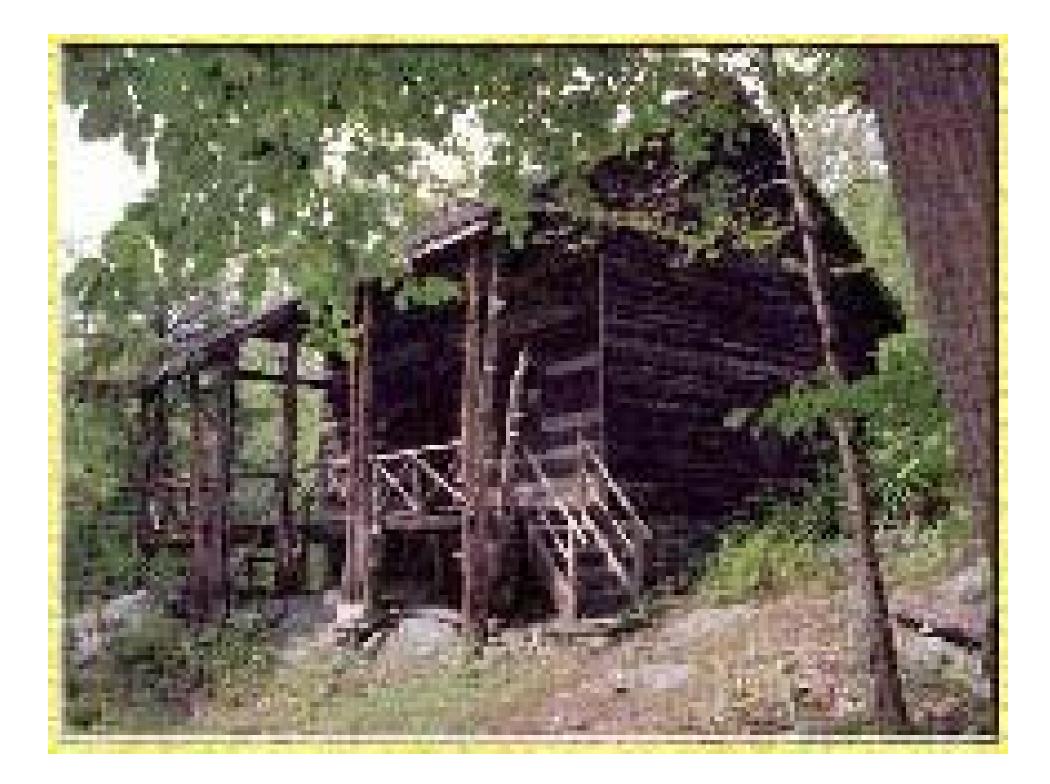
JOHN BURROUGHS AND PRESERVATION

- John Burroughs was raised with an appreciation of nature
- The development of the Industrial Revolution encouraged his devotion to the environment
- Emerging as a knickerbocker writer, Burroughs, had a passion for the Hudson River Valley landscape





www.thejournalnews.com/livinghere/putnam/features/puthist.html



SLABSIDES SANCTUARY

"A wooded inspiration and naturalist's haven"



Significance of Slabsides



- Became a National Historic Landmark in 1968
- Still threatened by loggers today





CONCLUSION

Timber is an intricate part of society and industry in the Hudson River Valley; however, the extensive use has had damaging effects on the landscape. John Burroughs sought to preserve and educate others about the value and importance of nature. Slabsides serves as a place to escape the industrialized world and realize the beauty and necessity of the w environment.



"Nature...is only real when you reach out and touch it with your hands"





Bibliography

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