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Town of Potlatch, Idaho to Be Made a Model by the Company

A Newspaper Report on Potlatch from the Spokesman-Review, May 13, 1906

POTLATCH, Idaho, May 12—Probably the most remarkable town in many respects in Idaho is Potlatch, the youngest town in the state, yet having a population of 500 souls, and the number is expected to double in the next two months. Potlatch is the headquarters of the Potlatch Lumber company, a branch of the Weyerhaeuser syndicate, and is strictly a “company” town. Not only is the townsite and everything located thereon owned by the Potlatch Lumber company, but the land surrounding the town is owned by the



Although taken many years after the Spokesman-Review report was written, this southeast-facing aerial photo illustrates many of the features for which Potlatch was extolled in local newspapers: the mill at center, planing shed and loading shed to the north, and stacks of lumber on the northwest corner of the mill site. The workers' homes dot the north hill at center left of the photo, and the less numerous managers' homes lie on the south hill. Potlatch Corporation Historic Photos

same firm, and none but the company is permitted to do business here. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are being invested here, and the solidity and substantiality of the buildings is noticeable. All of the main buildings stand on concrete foundations, which, in turn, rest upon

the bedrock underlying the town. Solid masonry is used in many instances, and the number of large brick buildings gives evidence that the town is here to stay.

Six months ago, the site of the town was a meadow from which from which heavy timber had been cut, and

The non-profit WI&M Ry. History Preservation Group, Inc has been organized for railroad historians, enthusiasts, and modelers interested in gathering and sharing information on the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway, from its origins in 1905 through its operations of today.