

Oregon Lands - Papers 32 boxes, 8 vols., many
oversize maps (in oversize stacks
Stack IV, Tiers 4 & 5 and oversize open shelves on W. wall

These are the records of one of L.W.Hill's investments (ca.1910-1950). Under the provisions of his will later records are kept by the First Trust Co. and the L.W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation. A still larger body of records of the early years of this enterprise may be found in the Ms.Div. of the Minn.Hist. Society, papers of W.P.Davidson, a co-investor with Hill & others.

The background of this Oregon story begins in the mid-19th century with the formation of the Willamette Valley & Cascade Mt. Wagon Road
over

Company and its U.S. grant of lands for a wagon road east from the Cascades to the eastern border of Oregon. Valuable & extensive timber resources made it an important investment by 1910. Lazard Freres were the owners by that time, with Chas. Altschul their local representative. Besides Hill & Davidson of St. Paul, men named Wood, Robertson, Burchard, and others became the owners as the Oregon and Western Colonization Co. on May 1, 1910. Between 1911 & 1914 attempts to attract more capital and to promote a railroad to transport timber & agric. products ensued. At the close of 1913 the Minn. Log & Lumber Co. was chartered to market the company's lands and to

See card 2

save a part of the land in case the co. should fail. Besides Hill (1/3 interest) and Davidson (1/3 interest) the Porter brothers and Grant Smith (together 1/3 interest) constituted the Minn. Log and Lumber Co. In the yrs. from 1917 to 1937 there was little activity as a company. In 1937 David T. Mason was employed as a consultant, Thor Helmer as a supervisor of sales, and M.J. Nye as head of the fire patrol. W.F. Turner, long with the co., left it at this time. Headquarters were established at Sweet Home. Sustained yield management began in 1945 and has continued, with management centered in St. Paul

in the First Trust Co. In 1941 the Sweet Home and Green Tree companies were formed, in 1942 the East and West Cascade Companies, and Timber Service. Several of these were dissolved in or by 1947.

There are many and detailed oversize maps in this collection. *One section on west wall (oversize file) is devoted to these maps.*
In Box 5 of the papers is a short description of the collection, its history and that of the several companies and lands involved, an index to correspondence, and a list of the maps of the collection.