

Transcription of Interview with Harold Nelson, Springhill

b. March 1911.

father in charge of lumbering operations of company.

Father was timber-yard foreman.

Father was born in East Napleton in 1862.

his father came to Springhill in the early 1890s.

started in the mine--North Slope.

Did he give you any idea of his experiences in the mine? "Nothing more than the usual miners' talk."

--characteristic blue scars of the miners.

always had a strong interest in prospecting.

started as head in timber yard--c.1900.

--Harold's brother took over the timber yard foreman's position after Harold's father.

1930s--had a million feet in inventory.

had large timber yards at 6-7 as well.

father in charge of getting the timber for the mines.

later years most all of the work was contract--different contractors

--went around Cumberland Co. in a horse and wagon, in the fall, going around to the different farmers who had woodlots.

gave income to the farmers during the winter months.

Athol area.

--loaded a lot of timber from East Southampton--loaded on flat cars.
--some box cars as well.

company had its own sidings for lumber on the Danaboro line.

loaded at Westbrook and East Southampton.

--contract was to cut and to load timber for the company.

--company had their own camps. No. 7 camp, down toward E. Southampton. No. 9, down the Athol Road. No. 4, down between here and the Junction. No. 5, at Indian Hill near the Junction.

timbering practices change with longwall. would buy railroad ties that were condemned--weren't the right size--cut 8-ft. ties in two and used the for packs.

Harold himself had experience as a pick boy and warehouse man as an issuer.
material delivered by horse and sloop.

started work at 17. started on the surface. 'You're idea was to get to be 18, because then you got \$3.25 a day.'

--he thinks, years ago, there were different types of Springhillers: you were a Junction Rider, a Merritt Rider, or a Miller.