

English Abstract

Memories of Timber Trade: A History of Timber Trade Practices in Finland, 1950–2010

Forests and forest industry have been the foundation of prosperity and the Nordic welfare state in Finland. Numerous research articles have explained the expansion of the forest industry and the exploitation of forest resources. However, few studies have described how timber owned by the non-industrial private forest owners ended up in the possession of the forest industries. The question is extremely relevant in Finland, where about 80 per cent of domestic timber consumption by the forest industries is based on private forests.

This volume describes the development of timber trade practices from the 1950s to the 2010s. Private negotiations are interpreted through written reminiscences of both private forest owners and timber buyers. The reminiscences offer an exceptional view on normally hidden negotiations and other activities concerning timber trade. These memoirs are framed by existing research and other sources explaining the national development of the forest sector.