Grey Logs

Conservation of Seriously Deteriorated Logs

The Road to Highlands

Grey Logs

overlooking highlands nc

A Bit of Deterioration

AND 2 AROUND THE CORNER

The Logs cannot be repaired in place

We will follow this log

Other Logs

Log Removal

These logs have been removed.

Temp. stud & Plywood infill

Study Log

Log Removal

Study Log ready for removal

Log Removal

Study log from the end showing the condition of the core

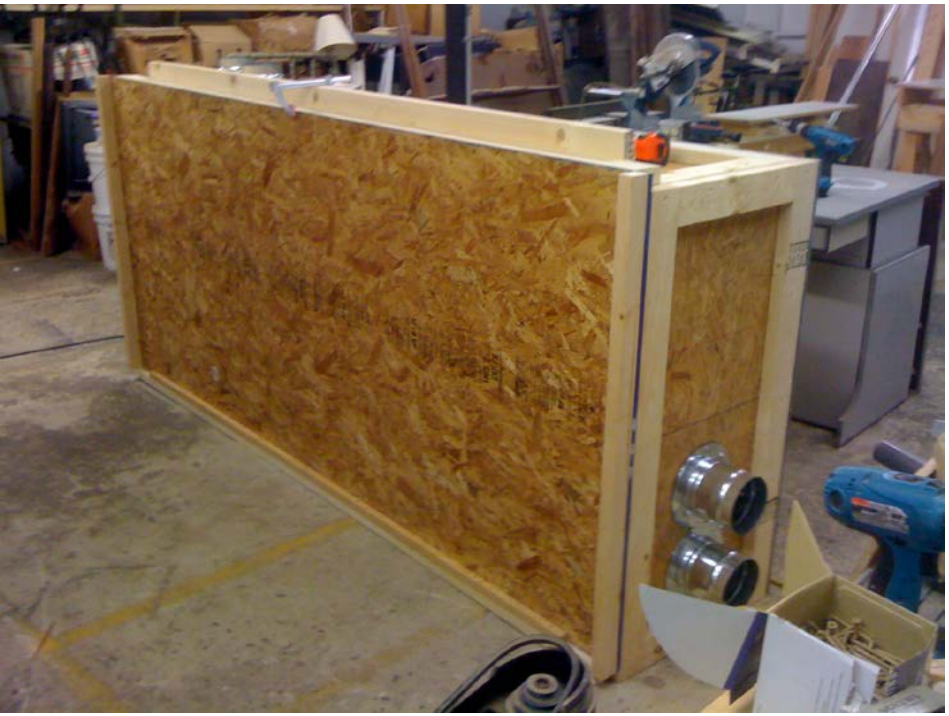
Custom Trays for Each Log

Transport to the Shop

Faces are Removed

Faces Soaked in Timbor Solution

Dried



Keeping it Grey

To keep the logs grey
it is necessary to protect the face during consolidation.

Several materials were considered, ie cycloduodecane wax etc.
but a removable acrylic emulsion was considered the best chance
to stop the bleed through of the consolidant
which was expected to be an epoxy.

Testing the Acrylics

Two different commercially available acrylics were tested at each end of a sample before applying Epoxy to the rear.

Testing the Acrylics

Epoxy spilled on the face stained the center.
Both acrylics when removed with ammonia protected the grey. The area above and below the epoxy stain had no treatment.

The Future floor finish on the right side was the least visible.

On Second Thought

- Why use Epoxy?
- The faces will not be structural.
- Would the acrylic alone be strong enough?

- Actually yes.
- So the faces were soaked in Future Floor Finish after drying from the Timbor.

SOAKING IN THE ACRYLIC
AND ON THE DRYING RACK

SOAKED FACE

EXTERIOR OF AN INTERIOR FACE BEING WASHED WITH AMMONIA TO REMOVE EXCESS ACRYLIC TO AVOID GLOSS

DARKNESS WAS DEFINITELY SCARY

SOME AREAS WERE COATED WITH A WHITE SCUM — POSSIBLY BORATE LEACHING AND INTERACTING WITH THE ACRYLIC.

IT ALSO CAME OFF WITH AMMONIA.

ACRYLIC BRUSH APPLIED AFTER DRYING TO INTERIOR OF THE FACE UNTIL NO MORE WOULD BE TAKEN UP

Face of the Study Log after consolidation

Actually this is the interior of the Face.

Portion of the Face
Let into the New Core

Silicone Caulk used as Adhesive

Contour of End Let into the Core

Assembled, Aligned and Clamped

Still Grey

Ready to attach the interior to the other face.

Before

After

SOME FACES WERE MORE OF A PROBLEM

THIS ONE WAS SO WARPED IT HAD TO BE FLATTENED AFTER SOAKING BEFORE IT COULD BE CUT DOWN TO A FACE

CLAMPED TO A CORE
TO DRY FLAT

EVEN SOME OF THE MOST CONTRARY COME AROUND

SOME WERE JUST MISSING PARTS

OR SO THIN TO PRECLUDE REUSE IN THIS EXTERIOR APPLICATION

THIS HAD BEEN SALVAGED BY THE OWNER

PROBABLY THE WORST

INLAYING THE SALVAGEABLE PARTS

AND THE OTHER END


DELTA

SOME NEEDED A POULTICE TO REMOVE EXCESS ACRYLIC FROM THE FACE

SO WILL THEY GO BACK IN?

Note the steel rod on the 4X4 posts supporting the corner

First log in place

BEFORE

AFTER

LIME AND SAND CHINKING

Chinking was placed on galvanized 1/4in mesh

Grey has been tinted with pigment to match the existing portland cement chinking which will be replaced in the future

Buff chinking is the base coat

NEW LEASE ON LIFE

SOMETIMES IT TAKES THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF:

“YOU CAN’T DO THAT!”

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- The Mistakes are my own.

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