

C.C. Cook and Son Lumber Company

Charles C. Cook (1889–1864) founded the Cook Lumber Company in 1930. The company remains in business as Cook and Son Lumber Company, located at 6236 West U.S. Highway 40, Reelsville, Indiana. Although it uses a Reelsville address, the company is on the south side of U.S. Highway 40, in Pleasant Garden.



C. C. Cook



Here's how the company's website describes the operation.

Cook Lumber, a band saw lumber mill company with over 80 years of forest management and hardwood harvesting experience, relies on high quality Indiana timber to process over 5 million board feet per year. With three dry kilns of a total capacity of 120,000 board feet per change and enough space to dry up to 750,000 board feet on the lumber yard grounds.

The company supplies hardwood green and kiln dried lumber, dimensional stock, veneer logs, pallets, skids and blocking to customers worldwide.

A November 5, 2020 Facebook post by the company stated,
Beautiful Hardwood for Furniture, Interior and Exterior Architectural Applications, and More! Cook Lumber provides all types of hardwood lumber to customers right here in Indiana, as well as to many around the world. From international contractors to local Indiana

homeowners, and regardless of the application, we can meet your needs! We also offer our unique Woodbricks® and beautiful Live Edge Boards! Our hardwood lumber comes in a wide variety of species and in all dimensions. Visit our website at www.CookLumber.com to learn more and see many samples and example photos, then contact us and let us know what you need.



C.C. Cook started his company as a logging operation that used a portable sawmill. He would set up the sawmill in the woods and cut railroad ties and timbers for the coal mines. Cook would run the sawmill during the day and then work on the railroad at night. During the next few years, his business expanded and he was operating four portable sawmills, enabling him to quit his night job with the railroad.

In the early 1940s, Cook acquired property in Reelsville, Indiana and started a permanent sawmill that used a natural steam engine. Although the tough Indiana winters made things hard for the outdoor sawmill, he continued to prevail and was able to grow the company with the addition of a debarker, a chipper and the company's first automatic carriage in 1962.

The founder's death was reported in *The Daily Banner* on July 1, 1964.

Reelsville Man Died Tuesday

C.C. Cook, 74 years old, Reelsville, founder and owner of the C.C. Cook Lumber Company, died yesterday in Putnam County Hospital.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Whitaker Funeral Home in Greencastle. Burial will be in the Forest Hill Cemetery. Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Bessie Cook; a son, James R. Cook of Reelsville; a brother, Everett Cook of Indianapolis; four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Aerial view of Cook Lumber

Since Cook's death, his sawmill has been passed down from generation to generation. For over 80 years, the sawmill has continued to update its technology, furthering Cook Lumber's capabilities. The company founded by C.C. Cook, still a close-knit family operation, continues its dedication to providing the highest quality hardwoods.



The company entrance