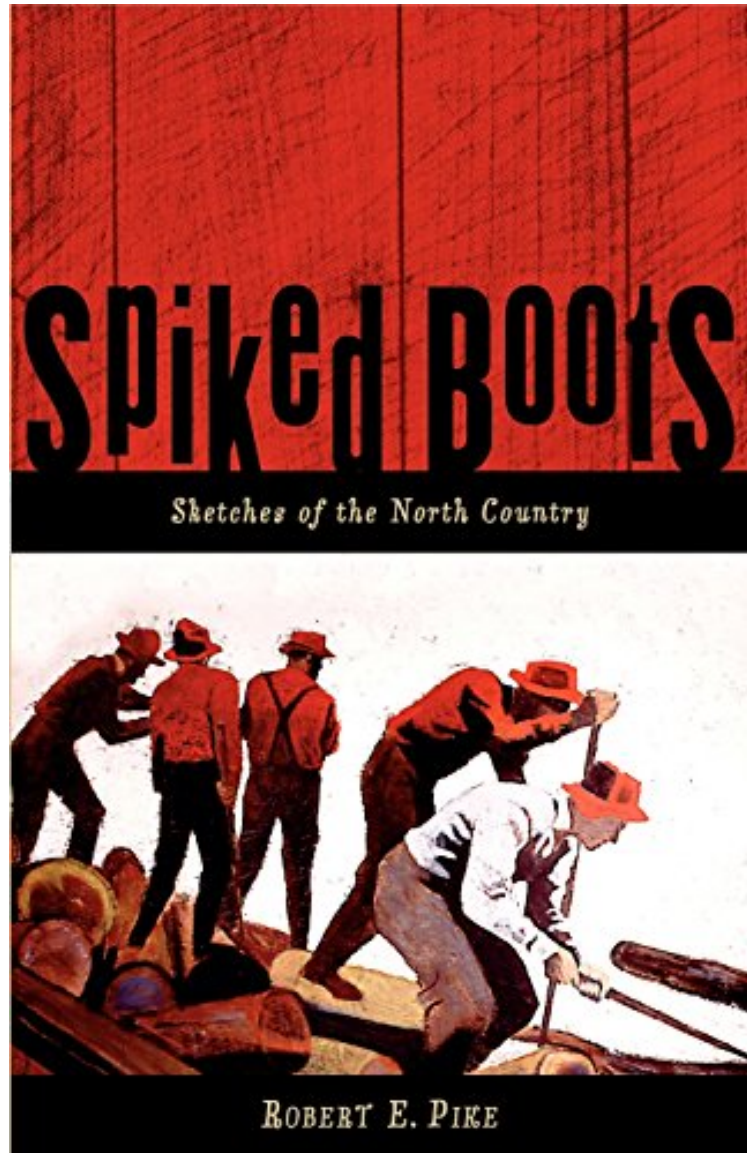


[Free] Spiked Boots: Sketches of the North Country

## Spiked Boots: Sketches of the North Country

*Robert E. Pike*

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**Robert E. Pike : Spiked Boots: Sketches of the North Country** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Spiked Boots: Sketches of the North Country:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you like this sort of thing try any of the North ...By Dan SThis is a

series of anecdotal stories of logging in New England. It is full of old Yankee wit and humor. If you like this sort of thing try any of the North Woods Reader series by Cully Gage, stories of the post logging days (early 1900's) of Michigan's upper peninsular. A more technical view of New England logging, and life back in the day is in Robert Pike's book, Tall Trees and Tough Men. These are all good reads for anyone who wants to learn more about life in the days of logging with axes, two man cross cut saws, and river drives. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It has the flavor of a good storyteller as well as being accurate within it's scope ...By CustomerI've spent 40 years working in the woods of Vermont and I can say that this book rings true. It has the flavor of a good storyteller as well as being accurate within it's scope of topics. I'll re-read it many times. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Really enjoyed this bookBy Tom PlattReally enjoyed this book. The author captured the flavor of the North Country (where I was born) in a way both entertaining and educational.

In the days of log drives on the rivers of New England, whenever a riverman was killed on the drive, his comrades hung his spiked boots on a tree to mark the spot. As a youth, Robert Pike spotted such a pair of boots, and from that moment was born his lifelong fascination with the colorful history of the New England logging industry. The dozens of tales he collected are narrated here by "Old Vern," a cantankerous backwoods character. Here are legends and wild anecdotes of the loggers and rivermen who worked in the woods and on the Connecticut and Androscoggin Rivers, plying their romantic, dangerous trade in the early part of this century. Others tell of "quaint characters" and "unusual specimens of God's carelessness"--people like Ginseng Willard, who slept in a coffin for two years just to get used to it, or Ervin Palmer, a hermit who dreamed of making a violin that would duplicate the sounds of the natural world. Although Pike was a respected scholar and historian and the author of many books, Spiked Boots is the one he wanted to be remembered by. We are proud to restore to print this important piece of New England folk history. Illustrated with never-before-published photographs from the author's private collection, and a new foreword by Helen-Chantal Pike, who grew up hearing her father's tales as bedtime stories.

For salty characters, ribald humor, ghosts, tall tales, and just plain old-fashioned story-telling, there's no better book about New England than "Spiked Boots." -- Lawrence Millman, author of "An Evening Among Headhunters" No one ever wrote better than Robert Pike about the lumberers, river drivers, teamsters, two-fisted brawlers, rum runners, and all-purpose rascallions of northern New England. "Spiked Boots" is a sheer delight to read and re-read--a North Country classic. -- Howard Frank Mosher About the Author Robert E. Pike died in 1997.