



The Story: Georgia Pacific

Sprawling between Main Street and the wind-raked ocean bluffs, the Georgia Pacific lumber mill was Fort Bragg's economic center for generations until it closed in 2002. Not only was the framework of the community shaped and built by the Mill, but the very materials used to build the plant were taken from the fabric of the land surrounding the mill. The Pacific Northwest is one of the only habitats on the planet for Redwood trees and the great Sequoias. The North Coast essentially built San Francisco twice; once before and once after the 1906 Earthquake and the Great Fire.

The mill, originally founded in 1885 as the Union Lumber Company, once employed 2,000 people. It was severely damaged by the earthquake in 1906 but it was rebuilt. Later, it was extensively renovated in the late 1930's. In the decades from 1940 to 1960 it produced 500,000 board feet per day utilizing two shifts. In 1972, Georgia-Pacific Corporation took over the business. Unfortunately the lumber business fell on hard times, and the mill only had one profitable year from 1994 to 2002. Georgia Pacific officials blamed regulations, a dwindling supply of large trees, depressed prices and the emergence of synthetic alternatives to redwood. Its closure in 2002 marked the end of an era. The wood that made up the mill has been removed and is now available for new projects. Mission Bell has acquired substantial amounts of Douglas Fir and California Redwood.



The mark of
responsible forestry

FSC® Recycled 100%

Material #: GP-RW & GP-DF

Species: Redwood (*Sequoia Sempervirens*)

Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga Menziesii*)

