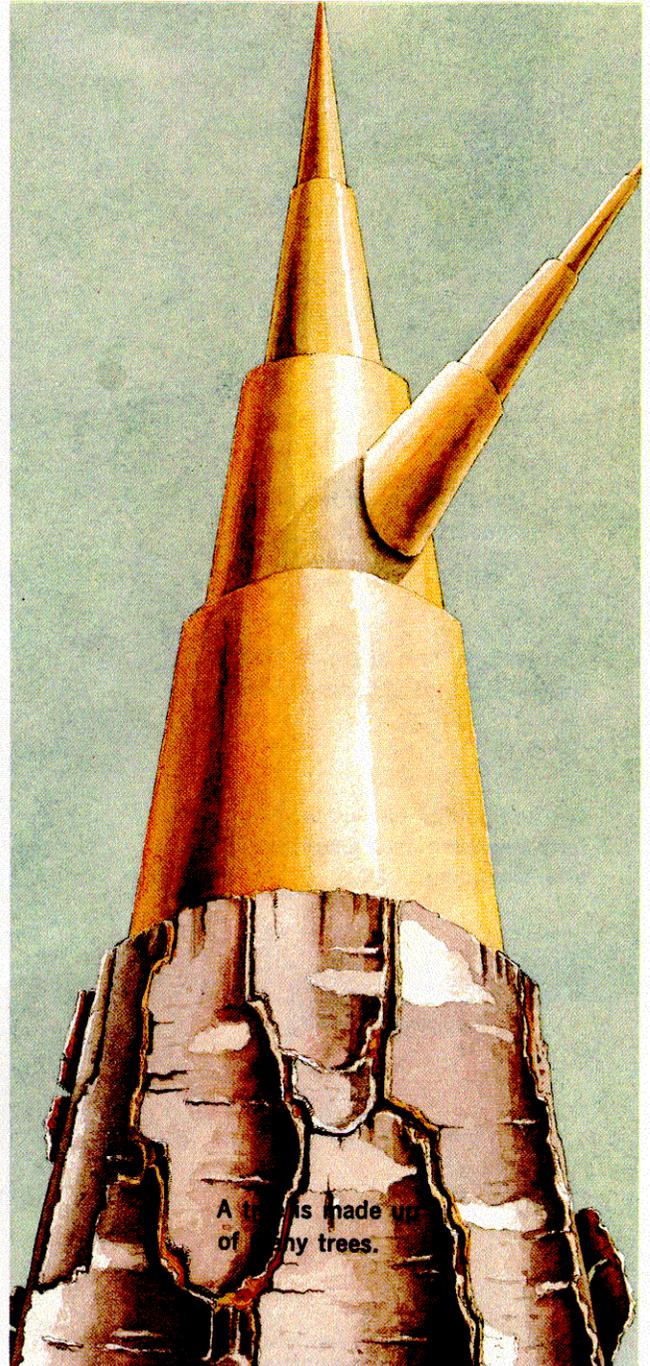
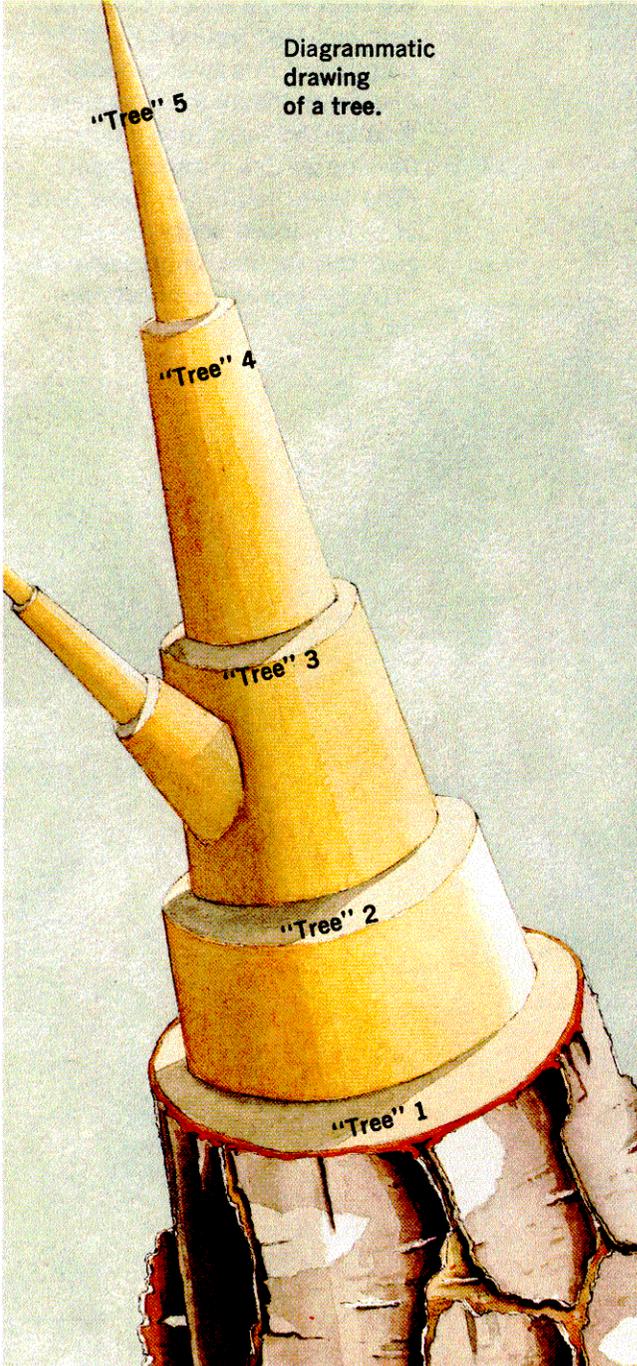


In a sense, a tree is made up of many trees. Each growth ring can be thought of as a separate tree.



In a diagrammatic way, here is how a tree is constructed. (The drawings are designed to give a general impression of compartments in trees and they are not intended as technical anatomical descriptions of cell types and arrangements.)

The rays define the side walls of the compartments. The last few series of cells in the growth ring define the inner walls. The compartment has holes in the top and bottom walls because the flow of materials is maintained in a vertical direction. But, one of the first events that happens after wounding is a plugging of this system above and below the injury. Complete tops and bottoms then begin to develop on the compartments. (The term "walls" is used here in a very loose sense only to give the mental impression of "rooms" or compartments in the tree.)

