



Summary Information

Title: American Lumberman Photograph Collection

Collection Number: 1994:004

Creator: American Lumberman

Collection Dates: 1903, 1907

Extent: 3 cubic feet (9 volumes, 3 boxes)

Language: English

Collection Abstract:

American Lumberman was a weekly trade journal created on January 1, 1899 from the merger of *Northwestern Lumberman*, established in 1873, and *The Timberman*, established in 1886. The magazine featured the Southern Pine Lumber Company, founded in 1894 in Diboll, Texas, in three issues: November 16, 1901; April 16, 1904; and January 18, 1908. This collection contains more than 300 gelatin silver prints made by *American Lumberman* photographers during visits to Diboll in 1903 and 1907, documenting the lumber company's management, logging operations, lumber camps, sawmills, commissary, and social life.

Repository:

The History Center
102 N. Temple
Diboll, TX, 75941
936-829-3543
<http://www.thehistorycenteronline.com/>

Author/Processing Information: Processed by Emily E. Hyatt July 24, 2008.

Revision History: Finding aid revisions made by Matt Gorzalski in July of 2010.

Biographical/Historical Note:

American Lumberman was a weekly trade journal created on January 1, 1899 from the merger of *Northwestern Lumberman*, established in 1873, and *The Timberman*, established in 1886. It was published in Chicago. During its time, *American Lumberman* was the leading periodical read by lumber industry management and workers in the United States. The magazine consisted of articles and photographs documenting the history, management, business activities, operations, individuals, and social life of lumber companies and lumber towns throughout the United States. *American Lumberman*

featured the Southern Pine Lumber Company, founded in 1894 in Diboll, Texas, in three issues: November 16, 1901; April 16, 1904; and January 18, 1908. The trade journal was published as *American Lumberman* until 1961 when the name changed to *Building Materials Merchandiser*, a name that would again change to *Home Center* in 1972.

Collection Scope and Content:

The *American Lumberman* photograph collection contains more than 300 gelatin silver prints made by *American Lumberman* photographers during visits to Diboll, Texas, in 1903 and 1907. Selected photographs taken in 1903 appeared in the April 16, 1904 issue, and selections taken in November 1907 appear in the January 18, 1908 issue. The 1907 set was photographed by J. D. Cress, employee of the magazine, and includes Cress's original descriptions of each photograph. The photographer for the 1903 set is unknown. There is evidence that both sets are missing some of the recorded images.

The collection documents the early management, logging operations, lumber camps, sawmills, commissary, and social life of the Southern Pine Lumber Company. It also documents the operations of the Texas South-Eastern Railroad, a short-line owned by the same individuals who owned the lumber company. Included are copies of the 1901, 1904, and 1908 issues of *American Lumberman*, providing better context for the photographs as well as a narrative of the company's history and operations. The photographs and *American Lumberman* copies provide insight into the early twentieth-century community life of a Texas sawmill company town and connected logging camps.

Arrangement: Photos are arranged by original number within each year's series.

Subject Terms:

Topics

- Lumbermen -- Texas -- Diboll
- Lumber trade -- Texas, East
- Animals in logging -- Texas, East
- Logging railroads -- Texas, East
- Steam locomotives -- Texas, East
- Shay locomotives -- Texas, East
- Logging -- Texas, East
- Log transportation -- Texas, East
- Sawmills -- Texas -- Diboll
- Planing-mills -- Texas -- Diboll
- Lumber-yards -- Texas -- Diboll
- Lumber sheds -- Texas -- Diboll
- Kilns -- Texas -- Diboll
- Boilers -- Texas -- Diboll
- Company stores -- Texas -- Diboll
- Company towns -- Texas -- Diboll
- Lumber camps -- Texas, East
- Lumber -- Drying -- Texas -- Diboll
- Timber -- Texas, East
- Forests and Forestry -- Texas, East

Corporate Names

- Southern Pine Lumber Company
- Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company
- American Lumberman

Personal Names

- Temple, Thomas Lewis Latane, 1859-1935

Genres

- Photographs
- Periodicals

Locations

- Diboll (Tex.)
- Diboll (Tex.) -- Social life and customs
- Texas, East
- Angelina County (Tex.)
- Trinity County (Tex.)

Access and Use

Access Restrictions: There are no restrictions on this collection.

Acquisition Information: Donated by Temple Inland Public Affairs on March 25, 1993.

Custodial History: When American Lumberman traveled to a lumber operation to record the daily life in the mill towns and forests, executives of the company were presented copies of the photographs that appeared in the issue dedicated to their company. It is probable that Southern Pine Lumber Company followed this usual practice, keeping the original photographs at their headquarters. The photographs were later transferred to the Public Affairs office, which donated the American Lumberman Collection to The History Center, along with other public relations records, in 1993 and 1994.

Citation: American Lumberman Photograph Collection, 1903, 1907, 1994:004, The History Center, Diboll, TX

Copyright: Images in this collection are in the public domain.

Bibliography:

Forest History Society Library and Archives. "Guide to the Biltmore Forestry Fair Collection, 1908 – 1909." http://www.foresthistory.org/research/Biltmore_Project/BiltmoreForestryFair.html#d0e390 (accessed July 22, 2010.)

Collection Inventory

1903

- Album 1 Original Album with Southern Pine Lumber Company Engraving and Vintage Prints
- Album 2 Copy Prints (62)

1907 Vintage Prints

- Album 1 Photographs numbers S.P. 201 – S.P. 289.
- Album 2 Photographs numbers S.P. 290 – S.P. 355
- Album 3 Photographs numbers S.P. 356 – S.P. 416

1907 Copy Prints

Album 1 Photographs numbers S.P. 201 – S.P. 289
Album 2 Photographs numbers S.P. 290 – S.P. 355
Album 3 Photographs numbers S.P. 356 – S.P. 416

Album 1 Copies of *American Lumberman*, 1901, 1904, 1908

Public Affairs Box 67 Copy Negatives

Folder 1 - 4 1903
Folder 5 – 21 1907

Public Affairs Box 68 Copy Duplicates

Folder 1 – 5 1903 duplicates
Folder 6-12 1907 duplicates
Folder 13 Reprints made by Adair Communications (5-8x10's & 2 negatives)
Folder 14 Reprints (25)
Folder 15 Miscellaneous reprints (17)