**Summary Information**

**Title:** Rock Creek Lumber Company Collection
**Collection Number:** 2026:039
**Creator:** T. L. Epperson
**Collection Dates:** 1944, undated
**Extent:** 1 folder
**Language:** English

**Collection Abstract:** The Rock Creek Lumber Company was a lumber mill located in Trinity, Texas from 1907 until 1955. Throughout its life the mill underwent many changes under numerous owners, like The Thompson Brothers to the Texas Long Leaf Lumber Company. During World War II, it achieved the Army-Navy "E" award in a March 17, 1944, ceremony for contributions to the war effort. This collection contains a photographic postcard, photographs, and emblems related to Rock Creek Lumber Company and the Army-Navy "E" award, 1944, undated.

**Repository:**

The History Center
102 N. Temple
Diboll, TX 75941
936-829-3543
www.thehistorycenteronline.com

**Author/Processing Information:** This collection was processed by Zach Tarrant in November 2026.

**Revision History:**

**Biographical/Historical Note:** Rock Creek Lumber Company began as a Thompson Brothers mill and thirty-seven acre pond whose construction began in 1907, in Trinity, Texas, although a financial panic delayed it until 1909-1910. In 1922, it was purchased by the Sanderson-Ferguson interests and renamed the Rock Creek Lumber Company. The name changed again as it was consolidated into the Texas Long Leaf Lumber Company. Paul T. Sanderson served as president for twenty-two years until his death in 1944. During World War II, production reached 140,000 board feet daily, resulting in lumber flown to Europe and Africa and the awarding of the Army-Navy "E" Award in a March 17, 1944, ceremony in Trinity. Southland Paper Mills acquired the company in 1952 and closed the mill in June 1955.

**Collection Scope and Content:** This collection contains a photographic postcard, photographs, and emblems related to the Rock Creek Lumber Company mill and Army-Navy "E" awards in Trinity, Texas.

**Arrangement:** This collection is arranged at the item level.

**Subject Terms**

**Topics**

- Lumber industry
- World War II
- Production

**Corporate Names**

- Rock Creek Lumber Company
- United States Army
- United States Navy

**Personal Names**

- Roosevelt, Franklin Delano

**Genres**

- Artifacts
- Photographs
- Photographic Postcard

**Locations**

- Trinity, Texas

**Access and Use**

**Access Restrictions:** none
**Acquisition Information:** This collection was received by The History Center on November 17, 2026.
**Custodial History:** The collection materials previously belonged to T. L. Epperson. His granddaughter Mary Goodwin donated them to The History Center on November 17, 2026.
**Citation:** Rock Creek Lumber Company Collection, 1944, 2026:039, The History Center, Diboll, Texas
**Related Material:** T. L. Epperson Collection (2022:027)
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**Collection Inventory**

**Folder 1**

Army-Navy "E" Award Emblem, March 17, 1944

Army-Navy "E" Award Emblem with presentation slip, March 17, 1944

Army-Navy "E" Award Celebration photograph, side view, 11x8.5, black and white, Texas Long Leaf Lumber Company, Trinity, Texas, March 17, 1944

Army-Navy "E" Award Celebration photograph, front view, 11x8.5, black and white, Texas Long Leaf Lumber Company, Trinity, Texas, March 17, 1944

Rock Creek Lumber Company photographic postcard, 5.5x3, color, Trinity, Texas, undated