

Inventory of the

Embree Lumber Company
DeKalb, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 7

INTRODUCTION

George and Mattie Embree donated the Embree Lumber Company Records to the Northern Illinois University Archives in 1967. University Archivist, J. Joseph Bauxer, transferred the collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center in May 1978.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear Feet of Shelf Space: 7
Number of Containers: 6 boxes + 13 volumes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 7

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records contained in the Embree Lumber Company collection document its history from 1902 to 1953. The collection contains the E.E. Embree and Son's general business agreement, correspondence, financial records, and advertisements, including promotional pamphlets, directories, and information bulletins, arranged in alphabetical order, issued by various building supply companies affiliated with the Embree Company. The collection also contains materials on governmental administrative activities during World War II as well as War Production Board materials, construction manuals, material guides, government publications and seven architectural blueprints in addition to 16 volumes of coal sales/tax records, payroll records, financial accounts, E.E. Embree correspondence, and daily sales records (oversize). A series of twelve bound ledgers (1933-1953) concludes the collection.

Unfortunately, most of the business correspondence and the financial records (from 1902-1933) have been lost. However, the collection does provide information on building materials, architectural design, and government regulation during the Great Depression and World War II. Researchers using this collection should refer to the Regional Guide for other collections that may complement their research.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Located on South Second Street and extending west along the Chicago and North Western Railway tracks, D. D. Brown and Phillip Young established a lumber and coal yard in 1885. For six years the firm of Brown and Young continued in business, in 1891 Brown and Young sold their business to Ernest Carter and Frank Mosher. It was to this new firm that the task of furnishing material for the city hall was given. Eleven years later, in 1902, Ernest Carter sold his interest to E. E. Embree thus creating the partnership of Mosher and Embree. This association was to last for twenty years, terminating only on the death of Mr. Frank Mosher, May

10, 1922. During its twenty years the firm supplied the material for Glidden, Haish, Ellwood schools, Williston Hall, several churches and many stores and residences. On January 1, 1923, the business was operated by a sole owner, E. E. Embree and Henry Embree.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Coal trade
DeKalb (Ill.)
Embree Family
Embree Lumber Company
Great Depression
House Construction
Lumber Trade
United States National Recovery Act
World War I
World War II

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	E.E. Embree - General Business Papers and Correspondence, 1937-1953
	2	Certificate of Incorporation, 1948
	3	Farley and Loetscher Mfg., Co., Correspondence, 1927
	4	Goodyear Bakery-Business Papers & Correspondence, 1930-1938
	5	Medusa Portland Cement Co. Business Papers and Correspondence, 1940-1949
	6	Mosher and Embree, Business Papers, 1896-1952
	7	Mosher and Embree, Advertisements, 1911-1918
	8	Government Papers Concerning Business, 1935-1947
	9	Government Reports & Correspondence, 1933-1951
	10	Advertising Contracts & Business Agreements, 1928-1946
	11	Appraisal Service, 1930-1936
	12	Federal Census, 1948
	13	FHA Title II (lumber), 1936
	14	E. E. Embree & Son's Order Forms & Stationary
	15	Embree Garage Building Papers, 1926
	16	E. E. Embree & Sons Property-Mortgage Loan, Correspondence on Property Sale, 1935-1955
	17	E. E. Embree Profit and Loss Statement, 1943
	18	Fire Insurance Pamphlets & Correspondence, 1945-1953
	19	Life Insurance Correspondence, 1932-1935
	20	Income Tax Returns, 1933-1949
	21	Income Tax Returns, 1933-1949
	22	Income Tax Returns, 1950-1952
	23	Priority Forms, 1942
	24	E. E. Embree Sale Receipts, 1934-1957
	25	Sales Tax Information, 1953
	26	Withholding & Social Security Forms, 1952
	27	Golden Anniversary, 1952
	28	Airway Marking Committee, Dept. of Commerce, 1929
	29	Allied Building Credits, Inc., Correspondence, 1941
	30	Allied Building Credits, Information Pamphlet, 1939
	31	<u>American Lumberman</u>
	32	Bennet-Ireland Inc.-Pamphlets, 1948
	33	Building Codes, 19341
	34	Building Information & Price Lists (E. E. Embree), 1929-1941

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	4	
1	35	Building Materials Catalog (Master Goldseal Millwork), 1941		
	36	<u>Building News</u> Booklets, 1934-1947		
	37	The Celotex Company, 1932-1933		
	38	Civilian Production Administration, 1946-1947		
	39	Coal Correspondence, 1917-1952		
	40	Coal Price Listings, Receipts, 1931-1952		
	41	Retail Coal Dealer's Assoc. (Il. & Wisc.), 1918		
	42	Information - Coal, 1941-1947		
	43	Hardware and Paint-Information Pamphlets & Price Lists, 1949-1952		
	44	Lincolnway Credit Bureau, Correspondence, 1941-1960		
	45	Lincolnway Credit Bureau Bulletins, 1946-1948		
	46	Bills of Sale, 1948		
	2	1	Fuel Administration, U. S. Dept. of Interior, 1917-1918	
		2	Illinois Fuel Merchants Assoc., 1940-1953	
3		Illinois Fuel Merchants Assoc., 1941-1945		
4		Fuel Merchants Assoc. Bulletin, 1933-1951		
5		Illinois Fuel Merchants Assoc., Correspondence, 1945-1949		
6		Illinois Fuel Merchants Assoc. Directory, 1952		
7		Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers Assoc. Bulletins, 1938- 1947		
8		Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers, Assoc. 1948-1953, Bulletins		
9		Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers, Assoc. Inc., 1950-1953, Bulletins		
10		Illinois Lumber and Material Dealers, Correspondence, 1946- 1953		
11		Illinois Directory-Illinois Lumber & Material Dealers Assoc., Inc., 1949-1953		
12		Lumber, Coal, Building Material Agreement, 1950		
13		Lumber: Millwork Price Lists, n.d.		
14		Lumber & Roofing Business, Price Lists, 1940-1953		
15		Lumber & Roofing Business Price Lists, 1940-1953		
16		Lumber, Roofing, Flooring & Tile Price Lists, and Correspondence 1918-1952		
17		Information - Lumber, 1934-1953		
18		Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, 1943-1952		
19		Marble Head Lime Company, 1951		
20		National Production Authority, 1951		
21		National Recovery Administration, 1934		
22		National Recovery Administration-Synopses of Codes (1933)		

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
2	23	National Retail Lumber Dealers Assoc. Information Pamphlets, 1946-1951
	24	NRLDA-Dealer Operating Guides, 1953
	25	Office of Price Administration (OPA), 1942-1946
	26	Office of Price Administration, 1946
	27	OPA and WPA Correspondence, 1943-1945
	28	Stoker Manufacturer's Assoc., 1944
	29	Stoker Ola., 1938
	30	Texas Citrus Groves: Correspondence, 1948-1949
	31	Texas Soil Lab Reports, 1939-1944
	32	Veterans Emergency Housing Program
	33	Government War Orders & Regulations, 1951
	34	Government War Orders & Regulations, 1945-1952
	35	War Production Board (WPB), 1943-1945
	36	Central Fuse Corporation, 1951
Oversize Drawer 23	2	National Recovery Administration Broadsides (NRA posters), n.d. (6)
	3	John Garner Residence Blueprints, E. E. Embree Property Blueprints Steel Framing Blueprints (31 blueprints)
3	1	Standard Grading and Dressing Rules for West Coast Lumber, 1947
	2	The Story of Western Pines, n.d.
	3	U.S. Department of Agriculture- Bullets on trees, insects, and weeds, 1895-1931
	4	Nature's Woodland Wonders, 1944
	5	University of Illinois- College of Agriculture- Bulletins on Plants, circa 1957
	6	"Growing More Trees"- A Big Job for America, n.d.
	7	Hiatt's Expert Lumber Pricer, 1924
	8	Lumber and Builder's Supplies- Price List, 1941
	9	Alexander Warehouse and Sales Co., 1941
	10	Mott Bros. Company- Dealer Price List, 1943
	11	Rockford Wholesale Building Materials Co.- Price List, 1943
	12	Maximum Retail Lumber Prices, 1944
	13	Curtis Woodwork- Price Supplement, 1945, 1948
	14	Robert Sash and Door Co.- Price Pilot, n.d.
	15	Edwards Hines Lumber Co.- Retail Catalog, n.d.
	16	Builders' Service Manual, 1921
	17	Lumbermen's Building Estimator, 1921

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	6
3	18	Holt's Rapid Estimator, 1929	
	19	Automatic Building Costs and instructions booklet, 1927\	
	20	Holt's Automatic Cost-Book for "Better Homes" Plan Book, 1930	
	21	House Valuator, 1931	
	22	Manual of Carpentry and Catalog of American nails, wire, barbed wire, staples, tacks, banner fence, netting, etc., circa 1927	
	23	Insulation in Building Construction, 1929	
	24	Light Frame house construction, 1931	
	25	Care and Repair of the House, 1931	
	26	House Insulation- Its Economies and Application, 1931	
	27	How to Judge a House, 1931	
	28	The Insulation of New and Old Houses, 1933	
	29	National Handbook of Plan Reading and Material Listing, 1938	
	30	The High Cost of Cheap Construction- with engineering data for correct house building, 1940	
	31	Wood Handbook- Basic Information on Wood as a Material of Construction with Data for Its Use in Design and Specifications, 1940	
	32	The Lumber Calculator, 1949	
	33	Popular Home- Handyman- tool kit, 1950	
	34	Practical Builder's Estimating Handbook, 1952	
	35	Handbook for Lumber Offices, 1953	
	36	Adventures in Remodeling, n.d.	
	37	Taking the Mystery out of Builders' Hardware, n.d.	
	38	Armour's Anhydrous Ammonia- its properties, uses, and suggestions in regard to handling, n.d.	
	39	American Homes Beautiful- Mosher & Embree, 1921	
	40	Good Houses- typical historic achitecture styles for modern wood-built homes, 1922	
	41	Practical Homes for DeKalb- E. E. Embree, circa 1923-1924	
	42	E. E. Embree Lumber and Coal- House plans, 1925	
	43	Keith's Small House booklets, E. M. Embree, 1926	
	44	A Home of Your Own- E. E. Embree, 1928	
	45	Correctly Designed- Modern American Houses and English Type Homes, 1930	
4	1	E. E. Embree house designs, 1931	
	2	Modern American Homes- E. E. Embree, 1931	
	3	Charming Small Homes, 1936	

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	7
4	4	Co-ordinating Important Principles of Good Construction, 1937	
	5	Weyerhaeuser 4-square Book of Homes, 1939	
	6	Small Homes of Originality- E. E. Embree & Sons, 1946	
	7	Modern Living Homes- E. E. Embree & Sons, Inc., 1948	
	8	National Garages- E. E. Embree Sons, 1949	
	9	Homes for the Discriminating- E. E. Embree Sons, 1950	
	10	Smaller Ranch Homes Engineered for Maximum Economy- E. E. Embree Sons, 1950	
	11	Homes for the Individuality- E. E. Embree Sons, 1950	
	12	Sparkling Kitchens for Modern Homemakers- .E. E. Embree Sons	
	13	Modern Ranch Homes Designed for Town or Country Living E. E. Embree Sons, 1951	
	14	National Homes of Masonry- E. E. Embree Sons, 1952	
	15	The Celotex book of Home Plans, 1952	
	16	Expansible Homes Designed to Grow- E. E. Embree Sons, 1952	
	17	Modern Living Homes- E. E. Embree Sons, 1953	
	18	Low Cost Homes- E. E. Embree & Sons, n.d.	
	19	Weyerhaeuser 4-square Book of Homes, n.d.	
	20	Modest Homes- E. E. Embree, n.d.	
	21	We are Co-Operating with Better Housing Program- E. E. Embree, n.d.	
	22	Modernize- E. E. Embree, n.d.	
	23	Interiors that Speak of Charm & Comfort, n.d.	
	24	Petite Homes of Budget Appeal, n.d.	
	25	Southern Pine Garages and Garage- Apartments, n.d.	
	26	Examples of Small Home Architecture- E. E. Embree & Sons, n.d.	
	27	Homes of Economy- E. E. Embree Sons n.d.	
	28	Practical Small Structures for the Farm- E. E. Embree & Sons, 1944	
	29	The Business of Farming- Building Almanac, 1946	
	30	Weyerhaeuser 4-square Farm Building Service, n.d.	
	31	Practical Farm Buildings, n.d.	
	32	Successful Farm Buildings- E. E. Embree & Sons, n.d.	
	33	Shelter, 1936	
	34	Embree records, 1920-1930s	
	35	Embree records, 1940-1950s	
	36	Journals- <u>The National Builder</u> and <u>The Carpenter</u> , 1905, 1952	

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	8
4	37	University of Illinois Bulletin- Engineering Experiment Station circular series- fuel and coal, 1942	
	38	Keystone Coal Buyers Manual, 1945	
	39	Coal Mine Directory, 1953	
	40	Indiana Coal, n.d.	
	41	"The Fusion Point"- Christmas Issue- Southern Coal Company Inc, 1951	
	42	Journal, 1948-1953	
	43	Payroll Records, 1932-1935	
	44	Payroll Records, 1948 [restricted]	
	45	Payroll Records, 1953 [restricted]	
	5	1 volume	E.E. Embree Correspondence, 1901
1 volume		Trail Balance, 1923-1947	
1 volume		Daily Sales Records, 1886-1887	
1 volume		Financial Ledger, 1892-1893	
3 volumes		Coal Sales/Tax Records, 1933-1936	
Oversize	1 volume	Daily Sales Records, 1952	
6	6 volumes	Coal Sales/ Tax Records, 1937-1953	
Oversize	12 volumes	Financial Ledgers, 1933-1953	