

# Martin L. Britz Collection

## MS-497

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Russell, revised by Rachael Bussert.

**Michigan Tech**  
Create the Future



Funding for the arrangement and description of this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

June 26, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

1/13/2011

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton, Michigan, 49931

906-487-2505

copper@mtu.edu

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Biography</u> .....	4
<u>Collection Scope and Content Summary</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Related Materials</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	7
<u>Series I, Law Office Records</u> .....	7
<u>Series II, Merchant and Freight Records</u> .....	13

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
<b>Creator</b>	Britz, Martin L., 1907-1979
<b>Title</b>	Martin L. Britz Collection
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1862-1905
<b>Extent</b>	20.0 cubic feet 10 paige boxes, 15 volumes
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Language of Material</b>	English
<b>Mixed materials [Volume]</b>	1
<b>Mixed materials [Box]</b>	16-25
<b>Mixed materials [Volume]</b>	2-15
<b>Abstract</b>	Letter books, 1862-1905, from various law offices in the Houghton County, Michigan area. Also includes several freight books from the steamer IVANHOE as well as ledgers from the merchant firm, J. Hoar & Brother.

### Preferred Citation

MS-497, Martin L. Britz Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

## **Biography**

---

Martin Britz was born in 1907 in Houghton, Michigan and attended the St. Ignatius School before graduating from Houghton High School in 1926. He was a veteran of World War II where he served with the U.S. Navy's Seebes. Mr. Britz was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' at the Houghton County Memorial Airport, later working for Wenberg Sales in Dollar Bay until his retirement. Martin Britz passed away in 1979.

---

## **Collection Scope and Content Summary**

---

Items found in this collection include letter books from various law offices in the Houghton County, Michigan area as well as several freight books from the steamer IVANHOE and ledgers from the merchant firm, J. Hoar & Brother.

---

## **Arrangement**

---

MS-497 is arranged into two series:

Series I, Law Office Records, 1878-1905 Series II, Merchant and Freight Records, 1860-1901

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Publication Information**

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections 1/13/2011

### **Revision Description**

This collection was processed during the NHPRC funded Detailed Processing Project. 6/19/2014

## Conditions Governing Access

Available for use in the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections.

## Conditions Governing Use

Various copying restrictions apply. Guidelines are available from Michigan Technological University Archives & Copper Country Historical Collections.

## Acquisition

A gift of thirteen cubic feet containing legal, merchant, and freight records from firms in Michigan's Copper Country were donated to the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections by Martin Britz on November 7, 1972.

---

## Related Materials

---

### Related Materials

Collections found in this institution related to MS-497 include:

MS-065 Richard Hoar Correspondence MS-624 Steamship Ivanhoe Freight Books, 1878-1881

---

## Controlled Access Headings

---

### Corporate Name(s)

- Ball & Chandler (Houghton County, Mich.).
- Chandler & Grant (Houghton County, Mich.).
- Gray & Looney (Houghton, Mich.).
- Gray, Haire & Rice (Houghton County, Mich.).
- Gray, Haire & Stone (Houghton County, Mich.).
- Ivanhoe (Steamship).
- J. Hoar & Brother (Houghton, Mich.).
- Stone & Gray (Houghton, Mich.).

**Genre(s)**

- Audiocassettes
- Correspondence
- Ledgers (Account books)
- Letter books

**Geographic Name(s)**

- Houghton County (Mich.)
- Upper Peninsula (Mich.)

**Subject(s)**

- General stores--Michigan--Houghton
- Law offices--Michigan--Houghton County
- Lawyers--Michigan--Houghton County
- Steamboats--Michigan--Superior, Lake

## Collection Inventory

### 1 Series I, Law Office Records 1878-1905

#### Scope and Contents

This series consists primarily of letter books from law offices in the the Copper Country including the offices of Hubbell and Gray, Stone and Gray, Gray, Haire, and Rice, Chandler and Gray, Gray and Looney, and Chandler and Grant.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant July 1877-Jan. 1878	1	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Ball & Chandler Mar. 16, 1871 to Nov. 1874	1	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Stone Nov. 21, 1902 to May 22, 1903	1	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant May 26 to Sep. 5, 1881	1	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Sep. 24, 1887 to Feb. 27, 1888	2	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray Nov. 1894 to July 18, 1895	2	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Sep. 20, 1893 to Mar. 8, 1894	2	3

## Series I, Law Office Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray July 1 to Dec. 22, 1890	2	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Feb. 16 to June 1889	2	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray Mar. 8 to Nov. 5, 1894	2	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray May 21 to Sep. 23, 1887	3	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Sep. 29, 1900 to Mar. 26, 1901	3	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Apr. 25 to Sep. 29, 1900	3	7
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Mar. 26 to Nov. 11, 1901	3	8
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Looney May 21 to Dec. 19, 1898	4	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Stone June 15, 1899 to May 29, 1902	4	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray July 9, 1891 to Jan. 21, 1892	4	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant Sept. 28, 1881 to May 18, 1892	4	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler, Grant & Gray Nov. 20, 1884 to June 3, 1885	4	5



## Series I, Law Office Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler, Grant & Gray Mar. 3 to Nov. 19, 1884	4	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray Jan. 3 to Sept. 1883	4	7
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray July 18, 1895 to Mar. 2, 1896	5	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Stone June 1, 1904 to Jan 4, 1905	5	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Looney Nov. 15, 1897 to May 21, 1898	5	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Dec. 13, 1898 to May 29, 1899	5	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Nov. 29, 1899 to Apr. 25, 1900	5	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Rice May 22 to Nov. 29, 1899	5	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant Oct. 16, 1873 to Mar. 20, 1875	6	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant May 9 to Nov. 26, 1879	6	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant Mar. 22 to Oct. 20, 1875	6	3

## Series I, Law Office Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant Dec. 31, 1886 to Feb. 15, 1888	6	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Stone Jan. 4 to Aug. 18, 1905	6	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray May 10, 1882 to May 1892	6	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Feb. 27 to June 29, 1888	6	7
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray Dec. 11, 1886 to May 21, 1887	6	8
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Dec. 23, 1890 to July 8, 1891	7	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Stone Nov. 27, 1903 to June 1, 1904	7	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Feb. 18 to July 1, 1890	7	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray Oct. 13, 1888 to Feb. 15, 1889	7	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray June 22 to Nov. 1, 1889	7	5
Telegrams - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Stone Aug. 25, 1902 to Jan. 6, 1906	7	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant May 18, 1882 to Jan. 2, 1883	8	1

## Series I, Law Office Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray June 30, 1888 to Oct. 12, 1893	8	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Ball & Stone Aug. 28, 1905 to Feb. 1, 1906	8	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Aug. 6, 1892 to Mar. 21, 1893	8	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Stone May 28, 1902 to Dec. 1, 1905	8	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Haire & Rice Nov. 12, 1901 to Feb. 4, 1902	8	6
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & stone May 23 to Nov. 28, 1903	8	7
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray June 14 to Nov. 20, 1902	9	1
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray June 3 to Nov. 25, 1885	9	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Looney May 10 to Nov. 15, 1897	9	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray Feb. 22 to June 6, 1878	9	4
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray Nov. 25, 1885 to May 27, 1886	9	5
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray May 23 to Oct. 23, 1880	9	6

## Series I, Law Office Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant Oct. 25, 1880 to May 26, 1881	9	7
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Gray May 27 to Dec. 21, 1886	9	8
Letter Book - Law Office of Chandler & Grant May 18, 1882 to Jan. 2, 1883	9	9
Letter Book - Law Office of Stone & Gray June 30 to Oct. 21, 1888	9	10
Letter Book - Law Office of Ball & Stone Aug. 28, 1905 to Feb. 15, 1906	9	11
Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Aug. 5, 1892 to Mar. 21, 1893	9	12
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Hubbell & Stone May 28, 1902 to Dec. 1, 1905	9	13
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray, Hubbell & Stone Nov. 12, 1901 to Feb. 4, 1902	9	14
Letter Book - Law Office of Gray & Stone May 23 to Nov. 28, 1903	9	15
Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Mar. 21 to Sept. 18, 1893	10	2
Letter Book - Law Office of Albert Gray Mar. 2 to Oct. 31, 1896	10	3
Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Jan. 21 to Aug. 4, 1892	10	4

## Series II, Merchant and Freight Records

Letter Book - Law Office of Hubbell & Gray Mar. 26 1882 to Aug. 18, 1902	10	5
Letter Book - Law Office of J.H. Chandler 1878 to Jan. 1879	10	6

## 2 Series II, Merchant and Freight Records 1860-1901

### Scope and Contents

Items found in this series includes primarily ledgers, letter books, and journals from the merchant firms of the Hoar family, Richard M. Hoar and John Hoar & Brother, as well as freight books from the Steamer Ivanhoe and the Portage Lake Transfer Company.

	Box	Volume
Ledger - John Hoar & Bro 1866-1868	1	1
Journal - (John Hoar & Bro?) 1869-1870	1	4
Journal - (Store?) 1873-1874	3	2
Names of Shareholders in Skandinavian(?) Union Store 1874	3	3
Journal Mar. 1, 1871 to May 1874	3	4
Journal (Store?) 1872-1873	3	5
Letter Book - J. Hoar & Bro June 1, 1864 to Oct. 1866	7	7

## Series II, Merchant and Freight Records

Letter Book - Mineral Range Solicitors - Ball & Chandler 1871- 1873	10	1
Letter Book - J. Hoar - Receipts (Water damage can not read)	10	7
Ledger 1867-72	11	1
Day Book - John Hoar & Bro. 1873-74	11	2
Journal 1869-72	11	3
Ledger - John Hoar & Bro. 1862-65	11	4
Ledger - John Hoar & Bro. - Houghton 1866-72	11	5
Ledger - Richard M. Hoar 1888-94	12	1
Journal - Richard M. Hoar Oct. 1884-July 1890	12	2
Freight Book - Portage Lake Transfer Company 1885-86	12	3
Freight Book - Steamer Ivanhoe Oct. 17, 1881-Nov. 17, 1883	12	4
Freight Book - Steamer Ivanhoe June 6, 1872-Nov. 19, 1873	12	5
Day Book - John Hoar & Bro. 1862-1863	13	1
Cash C - John Hoar & Bro. Houghton 1865-1871	13	2

**Series II, Merchant and Freight Records**

---

Cash A - Richard M. Hoar 1884-1890	13	3
Ledger - John Hoar & Bro 1860-1862	13	4
Journal Jan. 31, 1869-Dec. 1871	13	5