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Joseph Singer Wildberg Stock Collection MS-613

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Materials are primarily in English; ; there are two documents in French, noted at the file level.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country
Historical Collections

1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton 49931

copper@mtu.edu

URL: <http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Stock Certificates	6
Copper Mining Corporations	6
Other Corporations	6
Reference Materials	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Creator:	Wildberg, Joseph Singer (1944-2021)
Title:	Joseph Singer Wildberg Stock Collection
ID:	MS-613
Date [inclusive]:	1843-2020
Date [bulk]:	1845-1965
Physical Description:	1.08 cubic feet (2 manuscript boxes, 1 object box, and 1 oversize folder)
Language of the Material:	English .
Mixed Materials [box]:	1-2
Mixed Materials [box]:	3
Mixed Materials [folder]:	1
Abstract:	Collection, 1843-2020, of stock certificates, related documentation, and reference materials focusing primarily on copper mining corporations in the Keweenaw Peninsula and Ontonagon County, Michigan.

Preferred Citation

MS-613, Joseph Singer Wildberg Stock Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, MI.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Joseph Singer ("Joe") Wildberg was born on August 24, 1944, to Alfred and Myrtle (Singer) Wildberg. Alfred was a mining engineer and businessman who had fled Germany. Myrtle, a New Jersey native, was a physical education teacher.

Joe grew up in Jersey City, NJ, where he graduated from Snyder High School in 1962. He attended Michigan Technological University, serving as a U.S. Army ROTC cadet. He graduated in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and entered into active duty in Korea. Following three years of service, Wildberg remained active in the Army Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. In civilian life, Wildberg worked in the automobile industry.

Wildberg married Mary Bridget Kaufman in 1972. Their daughter, Ellysen, was born in 1982. They lived in New Jersey and Michigan. Mary passed away on December 20, 1996. Wildberg married a second time to Dr. Carol Ellstein.

Wildberg was an avid stock collector in his retirement, and he was active in the American Legion and the Temple B'nai Israel of Petoskey. He passed away on July 31, 2021, in Wolverine, MI.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Collection, 1843-2020, of stock certificates, related documentation, and reference materials. Focuses primarily on copper mining corporations in the Keweenaw Peninsula and Ontonagon County, Michigan, but also includes stocks for local Keweenaw businesses, transportation businesses, mining suppliers, and mining corporations operating elsewhere in the United States. Contents include stock certificates, bonds, historical photographs, business records, ephemera, and reference materials.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two series: Stock Certificates and Reference Materials. The Stock Certificates series is further arranged in two subseries, Copper Mining Corporations and Other Corporations, to capture Wildberg's original arrangement of the materials.

Series I, Stock Certificates, includes stock certificates, bonds, and related documentation such as historical photographs, business records, ephemera, and biographical sketches of shareholders and company executives. Certificates fall in two major groupings, copper mining corporations and other businesses. Copper mining corporations, especially those of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, were Wildberg's primary collecting focus. However, Wildberg also collected stock certificates for local Keweenaw businesses, mining suppliers, iron and gold mining corporations, and transportation businesses (automobile, shipping, and railway companies).

Series II, Reference Materials, includes a collection inventory assembled by Wildberg in 2020, six published books concerning copper mining, and a folder of reference materials about stock certificates and mining in the Copper Country.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

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

Conditions Governing Use

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Collectors and collecting

- Copper mines and mining -- Michigan -- Keweenaw Peninsula
- Business records
- Ephemera (general object genre)
- Photographs
- Postcards
- Printed ephemera
- Stock certificates
- Baraga County (Mich.)
- Houghton County (Mich.)
- Keweenaw County (Mich.)
- Keweenaw Peninsula (Mich.)
- Ontonagon County (Mich.)

Collection Inventory

Stock Certificates

Copper Mining Corporations

Title/Description	Instances	
Copper mining corporations, A-C, 1845-2010	box 1	folder 1
Copper mining corporations, C-H, 1843-2010	box 1	folder 2
Copper mining corporations, I-P, 1845-2010	box 1	folder 3
Copper mining corporations, P-W, 1847-1939	box 1	folder 4
Mining company ephemera, undated	box 3	

Other Corporations

Title/Description	Instances	
Other corporations, A-L, 1865-1989	box 1	folder 5
Other corporations, M-W, 1845-1963	box 2	folder 1
Oversize stock certificates, bonds, and ephemera, 1869-1945	folder 1	

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Reference Materials

Title/Description	Instances	
Reference materials, 2009-2020	box 2	folder 2

Joseph Singer Wildberg Stock Collection MS-613

The Copper Mines of Ontonagon County Michigan, by Terra Hamka, 2011	box 2	folder 3
The Copper Mines of Keweenaw County, Michigan, by Terry Kaminski Hamka, 2011	box 2	folder 4
Copper Mines of Houghton County Michigan, by Terry Kaminski Hamka, 2011	box 2	folder 5
White Pine Copper: An Illustrated History of the Mine and its Ingots, by Bruce K. Cox, 2014	box 2	folder 6
The Mining Ventures of This Ontonagon Country, by James K. Jamison, 1996	box 2	folder 7
Husson Miner's Lamps: Manufactured in Oshkosh, by Robert L. Fox, Jr., 1987	box 2	folder 8

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)