

# **Coughlin and Gray Family Papers MS-935**

**Finding aid prepared by Alison Fukuchi**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 31, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

7/30/15

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
<b>Creator - Author</b>	Coughlin, May
<b>Title</b>	Coughlin and Gray Family Papers
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1890-1892
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1890-1966
<b>Extent</b>	0.18 cubic feet; 1 manuscript box (1/2 legal size)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Language of Material</b>	English
<b>Mixed materials [Box]</b>	1
<b>Abstract</b>	Papers, 1890-1966, documenting the Coughlin and Gray Family history in Isle Royale and the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan.

### Preferred Citation

MS-935, Coughlin and Gray Family Papers, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

## Biography

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The materials in this collection were accumulated by the Coughlin and Gray Families. The Coughlin family's history living in Washington Harbor, Isle Royale from 1890-1892 is documented through the personal accounts of one of the family's six children, May Coughlin. The family patriarch, John Coughlin, was employed by the Wendigo Copper Company, and worked various jobs for the company, including timber cruiser, time keeper, general utility man, and supply clerk. The Coughlin family were among the first to winter over in Washington Harbor in order for the Wendigo Copper Company to continue the mining operation year-round.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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Papers, 1890-1966, documenting the Coughlin and Gray Family history in Isle Royale and the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan. The collection includes newspaper clippings, black and white photographs, and the personal account of May Gray nee Coughlin during her childhood years spent on Isle Royale, Michigan from 1890-1892.

May Coughlin's diary entries cover a wide-range of topics regarding life on Isle Royale, especially during the harsh winter months. She writes of the family's living accommodations, grocery supplies and cooking, transportation, education for the children, recreational activities, and life events involving the Coughlin family as well as the few other families on the island. Descriptions of natural landscapes and duties and activities of miners are also included.

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## Arrangement

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The collection consists of five folders: newspaper clippings, photographs, diary first draft, diary second draft, and diary final draft.

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## Administrative Information

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## **Publication Information**

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections 7/30/15

## **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.

## **Processing History**

Processed by Alison Fukuchi on July 30, 2015.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Genre(s)**

- Clippings (Information artifacts)
- Personal papers
- Photographs

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Houghton County (Mich.)
- Isle Royale (Mich.)
- Isle Royale (Mich.)--History
- Keweenaw County (Mich.)
- Keweenaw County (Mich.)--History
- Keweenaw County (Mich.)--Newspapers

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Sternitzky, Catherine

**Subject(s)**

- Families--Michigan--History

## Collection Inventory

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	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Newspaper Clippings	1	1
Photographs	1	2
Diary First Draft	1	3
Diary Second Draft	1	4
Diary Final Draft	1	5