Hancock Home Study Club Records

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Finding aid written in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

Repository: Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Title: Hancock Home Study Club Records
Identifier: MS-056
Date: 1883-2016
Physical Description: 2.7 Cubic Feet (4 boxes)
Container: Box 1-4 (Mixed Materials)

Abstract

Records, 1883-2016, of the Hancock Home Study Club, the first women's club in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Language of Material

English

Conditions Governing Access

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

Arrangement


Biography

The Hancock Home Study Club has the distinction of being the oldest organized women’s club in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. An initial meeting was held May 16, 1883 for the formation of a club for the study of art in connection with the Society for the Encouragement of Study at Home, located in Boston. The first official
meeting of the Hancock Home Study Club (HHSC) took place September 1883 with six members. The purpose of the Society for the Encouragement of Study at Home was to “induce ladies to form the habit of devoting some part of every day to study of a systematic and thorough kind.” The work was carried on through a correspondent of the Society selected according to the topical area of study. There were no competitive examinations. Reading with the practice of making memory notes was the method followed, and the correspondent would send tests from time to time which members were expected to answer. They paid dues to the Society of three dollars a year. The Hancock Home Study Club federated with the State Federation in 1900, and the General Federation in 1915. When the Houghton County Federation of Women’s Clubs was organized in 1919, the Home Study Club became a member. The club has studied the literature, art, economics, and history of many countries. The focus has changed from ancient and European to the New World, the United States, Michigan, and finally the Copper Country. Recently there has been more emphasis on people. Topics have usually been influenced by world events. Resources were scarce in the developing mining district, so members of the Club were forced to develop their own library. Photographs were purchased by the Club and an album to put them in. Art photographs were received from the Boston Loaning Library, and many books were procured from the Loaning Library in addition to others purchased from vendors in the U.S., Germany and Britain. After a few years a bookcase was purchased for the collection. Eventually the Club donated most of their titles to local public and school libraries. Membership increased to fifteen in 1886 and was extended to thirty at a later date. Most early members lived in Hancock, though membership eventually opened to Ripley, Houghton and the surrounding area. In October 1886, Mrs. Patch was made the first honorary member of the Club. Dues changed from one to three dollars during the first year but were noted at five dollars in 1929 and remained under eight dollars during the 1980s. The Club met in homes until January 1898 when it rented a room in the Y.M.C.A. building for meetings. They moved their bookcase there and decorated the room. However, the room was poorly heated so they moved to City Hall. Here they found that meetings were often disturbed by the fire alarm and the movement of horse carts out of the building. In 1900 they rented a room from Mr. Wright in the Stockley Building and when the Elks offered a free room in 1911 they moved there. During the war a coal shortage obliged them to meet in various other places. The Club returned to the practice of meeting in members’ homes in 1959. Meetings were held weekly until 1913 when the Club changed to a biweekly, two hour schedule. The club has been actively involved in many forms of social support. In December 1914, it was decided to take up work for Red Cross Relief and the response to the Home Study Club’s appeal for cooperation was very generous. This was the beginning of Red Cross aid in Houghton County. The club has contributed to state scholarship funds, various wartime commissions, and local social agencies including the YMCA, Elks, Good Will, Salvation Army and the Houghton Club. Club members have held office in statewide federations; Estelle Seeber served as President of the Michigan State Federation of Womens’ Clubs and Hallie F. Nichols was the first President to the Michigan State Federation of Music Clubs.

Preferred Citation

MS-056, Hancock Home Study Club Records, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

Processing History

Elizabeth Russell, 4/23/2010 Revised by Rachael Bussert, 9/11/2012 Revised by Emily Riippa, 7/19/2018

Collection Scope and Content Summary
Records, 1883-2016, of the Hancock Home Study Club, the first women's club in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Materials found in this collection include yearly programs, papers presented by members, minutes from meetings and annual reports as well as financial records, photographs, programs from anniversary celebrations and other special events and various documents pertaining to the Club's history.

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**Separated Materials**

A gavel and printers block was moved to the Memorabilia Collection and a postcard was added to the Postcard Collection. One copy of a photograph of club members in 1934 was added to the Copper Country Vertical file under Organizations.

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**Conditions Governing Use**

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

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**Administrative Information**

**Publication Statement**

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

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Houghton, , 49931

copper@mtu.edu
http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives/

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**Controlled Access Headings**

- Annual reports
- Financial records
- Hancock (Mich.)
- Histories
- Membership lists
- Minutes
- Programs
- Women -- Societies and clubs -- Michigan -- Hancock
- Yearbooks

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**Collection Inventory**
Series I, Governing Documents and History, 1933, 1959; 1996-2008

Scope and Contents
This series includes items on the history of the Hancock Home Study Club and governing documents including the club constitution and bylaws.

Date: 1933, 1959; 1996-2008
Date: Majority of material found within 1996 - 2004

Items on the History of the Hancock Home Study Club, 1933; 1996-1997; 2004
Box 1; Folder 1 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1933; 1996-1997; 2004

Box 1; Folder 2 (Mixed Materials)


Series II, Minutes and Annual Reports, 1889-2016

Scope and Contents
Records found in this series include the minutes and annual reports of the Hancock Home Study Club.

Date: 1889-2016

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1889-1892
Box 1; Folder 3 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1889-1892

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1893-1896
Box 1; Folder 4 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1893-1896

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1897-1901
Box 1; Folder 5 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1897-1901

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1901-1904
Box 1; Folder 6 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1901-1904

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1904-1909
Box 1; Folder 7 (Mixed Materials)

Date: 1904-1909
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1909-1913</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 8 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1909-1913</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1913-1919</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 9 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1913-1919</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1919-1927</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 10 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1919-1927</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1927-1932</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 11 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1927-1932</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1932-1935</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 12 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1932-1935</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1936-1942</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 13 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1936-1942</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1943-1950</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 14 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date: 1943-1950</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1951-1955</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 15 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1951-1955</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1956-1963</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 16 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1956-1963</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes and Annual Reports, 1964-1970</th>
<th>Box 1; Folder 17 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date: 1964-1970</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Minutes and Annual Reports, 1970-1976  
**Date:** 1970-1976

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1976-1977  
**Date:** 1976-1977

Minutes and Annual Reports (1 of 2), 1981-1993  
**Date:** 1981-1993

Minutes and Annual Reports (2 of 2), 1981-1993  
**Date:** 1981-1993

Minutes and Annual Reports, 1994-1998  
**Date:** 1994-1998

Minutes, 2003-2004  
**Date:** 2003-2004

Minutes, 2004-2005  
**Date:** 2004-2005

Minutes and Annual Reports, 2006-2014  
**Date:** 2006-2014

Minutes and Annual Reports, 2015-2016  
**Date:** 2015-2016

Series III, Operational Records, 1882-1994  
**Scope and Contents**  
Financial records including cash books, treasurer’s reports, bank statements, receipts, bank passbooks, and an accounts letter. Also found in this series are the library books used by the club to record books borrowed by members.  
**Date:** 1882-1994
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Box/Folder Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash Book, 1883-1892</td>
<td>1883-1892</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 7 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Book, 1892-1908</td>
<td>1892-1908</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 8 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Book, 1907-1935</td>
<td>1907-1935</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 9 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Book, 1935-1951</td>
<td>1935-1951</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 10 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Book, 1887-1897</td>
<td>1887-1897</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 11 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Book, 1897-1911</td>
<td>1897-1911</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 12 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Reports, 1956-1963</td>
<td>1956-1963</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 13 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Statements, 1956-1963</td>
<td>1956-1963</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 14 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift Acknowledgements, 1956-1963</td>
<td>1956-1963</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 15 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts, 1956-1962</td>
<td>1956-1962</td>
<td>Box 2; Folder 16 (Mixed Materials)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Hancock Home Study Club Records

#### Bank Passbook, Jan 1961-Mar 1984
- **Date:** Jan 1961-Mar 1984
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 17 (Mixed Materials)

#### Gift Acknowlegements, 1956-1963
- **Date:** 1956-1963
- **Location:** Box 3; Folder 15 (Mixed Materials)

#### Receipts, 1956-1962
- **Date:** 1956-1962
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 16 (Mixed Materials)

#### Bank Passbook, Jun 1961- Mar 1984
- **Date:** Jun 1961- Mar 1984
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 17 (Mixed Materials)

#### Accounts Ledger, Sep 1951-Jan 1972
- **Date:** Sep 1951-Jan 1972
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 18 (Mixed Materials)

#### Series IV, Membership Records, 1887; 1974-2000; 2008
**Scope and Contents**
Membership records consisting of member profiles, correspondence, both general and related to membership status, and obituaries for Esther Lutermill.

- **Date:** 1887; 1974-2000; 2008

#### Member Profiles, 1996-1997
- **Date:** 1996-1997
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 19 (Mixed Materials)

#### Correspondence, 1887, 2000
- **Date:** 1887, 2000
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 20 (Mixed Materials)

#### Correspondence-Membership Status, 1974-1989; 1994
- **Date:** 1974-1989; 1994
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 21 (Mixed Materials)

#### Newsprint-Esther Intermill, 2008
- **Date:** 2008
- **Location:** Box 2; Folder 22 (Mixed Materials)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Profiles, 2008</th>
<th>Box 4; Folder 13 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Series V, Presentations and Papers, 1896-2011**

**Scope and Contents**

Programs and Yearbooks pertaining to the topics covered at meetings, documents and photographs relating to anniversaries celebrated by the Hancock Home Study Club and papers presented by members.

**Date:** 1896-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1896-1900</th>
<th>Box 2; Folder 23 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1896-1900</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1901-1910</th>
<th>Box 2; Folder 24 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1901-1910</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1911-1920</th>
<th>Box 2; Folder 25 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1911-1920</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1921-1930</th>
<th>Box 2; Folder 26 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1921-1930</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1935-1955</th>
<th>Box 3; Folder 1 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1935-1955</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1956-1963</th>
<th>Box 3; Folder 2 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1956-1963</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1964-1980</th>
<th>Box 3; Folder 3 (Mixed Materials)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1964-1980</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs/Yearbooks, 1981-1993</th>
<th>Box 3; Folder 4 (Mixed Materials)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1981-1993</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs, 1981-1995</td>
<td>1981-1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs/ Yearbooks, 1931-1935</td>
<td>1931-1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs, 1995-2002</td>
<td>1995-2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortieth and Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations, 1922-1923</td>
<td>1922-1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centennial Celebration, 1983</td>
<td>1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110th Anniversary, 1993</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearbooks/ Programs, 2008-2011</td>
<td>2008-2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Contents
Records found in this series include photographs relating to club meetings and other gatherings, Awards and correspondence from Girlstown and the UP Federation of Women’s Clubs. Also found in this collection are correspondence, order forms, and newsprint concerning the Society to Encourage Study at Home.

**Date:** 1883-1895; 1927-1958, 2000-2012

### Photographs, 1934-1935

**Date:** 1934-1935

Box 4; Folder 4 (Mixed Materials)


**Date:** 1975, 1978; 1983-1984

Box 4; Folder 5 (Mixed Materials)

### UP District Federation of Women's Clubs, 1937

**Date:** 1937

Box 4; Folder 6 (Mixed Materials)

### Society to Encourage Study at Home, 1883-1884; 1895, 1923

**Date:** 1883-1884; 1895, 1923

Box 4; Folder 7 (Mixed Materials)

### Photographs-Luncheon, 1938

**Date:** 1938

Box 4; Folder 8 (Mixed Materials)

### Photographs- Meeting, 2001, Mar 3; 2009

**Date:** 2001, Mar 3; 2009

Box 4; Folder 9 (Mixed Materials)

### Awards and Distinctions, 1958, 2001

**Date:** 1958, 2001

Box 4; Folder 10 (Mixed Materials)

### Esther Intermill's 100th Birthday Celebration, Oct 2008

**Date:** Oct 2008

Box 4; Folder 12 (Mixed Materials)
Meeting Photographs, 2006, 2012

Date: 2006, 2012