

# WHDF Radio Station Records MS-079

Finding aid prepared by Crystal Laudeman, revised by Rachael Bussert

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

4/26/2010

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton, Michigan, 49931

906-487-2505

copper@mtu.edu

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
<b>Creator</b>	WHDF (Radio station : Calumet, Mich.).
<b>Title</b>	WHDF Radio Station Records
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1924-1979
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1898-2010
<b>Extent</b>	2.73 cubic feet 5 manuscript boxes (legal), 3 map folders
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Language of Material</b>	English
<b>Mixed materials [Box]</b>	1-5
<b>Mixed materials [Folder]</b>	3 A
<b>Mixed materials [Folder]</b>	5 BC
<b>Mixed materials [Folder]</b>	5 M
<b>Abstract</b>	Records, 1898-2010, bulk 1924-1979, of the WHDF Radio Station operating in the Copper Country of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Includes correspondence, reports, financial records, stock certificates, licenses, newspaper clippings, history of the station and other related ephemera. Also includes oversize maps and geological surveys of the surrounding area.

**Preferred Citation**

MS-079, WHDF Radio Station Records, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

## Biography

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Operated locally from 1928-1978, Radio Station WHDF was founded by A.L Burgan, Charles C. McLeod and Paul Tinetti, utilizing their Ham radio equipment and working out of the third floor of the Herman Brothers Jewelers store in Calumet, Michigan. WHDF began broadcasting for a few hours each day. Radio Station WHDF was formally incorporated in 1929 through an agreement between Charles McLeod, George L. Burgan and A.L. Burgan. During the organization's history, partnerships were formed and changed, however the Burgan family remained central to the history of WHDF until its final sale to the Superior Shores Broadcasting Company in 1979.

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## Collection Scope and Content Summary

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Correspondence, reports, financial records, stock certificates, licenses, newspaper clippings, history of the station and other related ephemera. Also includes oversize maps and geological surveys of the surrounding area.

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## Arrangement

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MS-079 has been arranged into four series:

1. Correspondence 2. Operations and Licensing 3. Ownership and Stockholder Records 4. Oversize Material

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections 4/26/2010

### Revision Description

This collection was processed during the NHPRC funded Detailed Processing Project. 9/6/2013

### **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 consisting of WHDF radio station papers and ephemera, including maps, news clippings, correspondence and manuscript material was donated to the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections on April 23, 2010 by Roland and Read Burgan.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials**

Archival materials found in this institution relating to WHDF include MS-587 Daily Mining Gazette Records Collection.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- WHDF (Radio station : Calumet, Mich.).

### **Genre(s)**

- Articles

- Correspondence
- Documents
- Financial records
- Maps (Documents)
- Minutes

**Geographic Name(s)**

- Calumet (Mich.)
- Houghton (Mich.)

**Personal Name(s)**

- Burgan, A. L., d. 1950
- Burgan, George L., d. 1962
- Burgan, Roland "Bruce"

**Subject(s)**

- Radio
- Radio broadcasting--History--Michigan--Copper Country

Series I, Correspondence

## Collection Inventory

### Series I, Correspondence 1932-1969

#### Scope and Contents

Correspondence relating to station licensing and permits, other local radio stations, and station owners.

**Box**                      **Folder**

[Correspondence, Forms, Manuals] C.A.A.- Dept. of Commerce Jul 23, 1943-Jan 30, 1948

1

1

#### Scope and Contents

Correspondence relating to station licensing and permits, other local radio stations, and owners.

[Business Correspondence with the] Tower Construction Co. Jun 25, 1945-Oct 29, 1947

1

2

Construction Permit Applications: New Site Jun 2, 1947-Jan 29, 1948

1

3

[Correspondence, Forms] Construction Permit Applications: New Transmitter Jul 17, 1952-Aug 24, 1953

1

4

Other Construction Documents: Correspondence Jul 15, 1964 and Booklets Aug 24, 1946-Jun 6, 1947 Aug 24, 1946-Jun 6, 1947; Jul 15, 1964

1

5



## Series I, Correspondence

Engineering Day to Day Routine [Correspondence] Jan 13, 1949-Mar 7, 1953	1	6
[Correspondence with and Financial Reports for] F. Communications Commission Nov 9, 1937-Apr 25, 1962	1	7
[Correspondence] WMPL 1957-1958	1	8
[Correspondence] WMPL Sep 4, 1962-Dec 9, 1964	1	9
Federal Communications Commission Correspondence 1939	1	10
[Correspondence with and Receipts from] Graybar Electric Co., Inc. Mar 8, 1946-Apr 21, 1950	1	11
[Correspondence and Invoices] Wincharger Corp. Jul 3, 1945-Oct 28, 1947	1	12
[Correspondence] Les Biederman- WTCM Jul 7, 1947-Apr 19, 1950	1	13
Elmer W. Pratt, Attorney; Lower Pewabic Transmitter Construction 1946-1947	1	14
Miscellaneous Correspondence Jun 19, 1932-Aug 29, 1969	1	15
Rice, John W. Aug 1937-Jun 6, 1951	1	16
[Correspondence] Burgan, A.L. Oct 5, 1937-Dec 22, 1951	2	1

Series II, Operations and Licensing

Nathan Williams Sep 3, 1946-Jun 6, 1953	2	2
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**Series II, Operations and Licensing 1898-2008 (Bulk, 1928-1979)**

**Scope and Contents**

Records found in this series include, but are not limited to RCA tower information, financial records, licenses and renewals, operation manuals, and the "History of WHDF Radio Station."

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
RCA (Tower info/ never considered) Jul 1, 1949	2	3
Operation Manuals Jun 26, 1946-Jan 1, 1952	2	4
Other Operations Information: Station Diagrams and Broadcasts 1945-1946	2	5
MI- Corporate Jan 2, 1941-Jul 11, 1944	2	6
WHDF Monthly Reports (some months missing in sequence) Dec 31, 1944-Jun 1950	2	7
Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission 1954-Nov 24, 1963	2	8
Upper Michigan Broadcasting Company Corporation Income Tax Return 1961-1963	2	9
Financial Papers Dec 1, 1942-1949	2	10

## Series III, Ownership and Stockholder Records

Financial Statements Dec 31, 1946-Dec 31, 1974	2	11
Forms and Instructions for the Annual Employment Report 1971-1979	2	11
Hearing 1939	2	12
WHDF License Renewals 1940-1947	3	1
Renewals 1945-1962	3	2
License Renewal Applications 1960-1969	3	3
Renewal 1962-1964; 1964-1965 FCC Hearings Data for Copper Country Broadcasting [WHDF] 1962-1965	3	4
Expired Licenses Feb 6, 1946-Oct 24, 1958	3	5
Miscellaneous Licenses and Papers about the Dissolution of the Corporation Apr 30, 1946-Aug 31, 1979	3	6
Obits [obituaries] and other Newspaper Clippings Sep 1898-Jul 2008	3	7
WHDF Letterheads, Envelopes, Bumperstickers, etc. 1971	3	8
A History of WHDF Radio Station 1928-1979 with electronic media 1962-2010	3	9
<b>Series III, Ownership and Stockholder Records 1924-1979</b>		

## Series III, Ownership and Stockholder Records

**Scope and Contents**

Records found in this series include the transfer of control from George L. Burgan to Irma O. Burgan, the Superior Shore contract, stakeholder meeting minutes and correspondence, stock certificates, and an IRS Report from March 1979.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Transfer of Control, George L. Burgan to Irma O. Burgan, Executrix 1962	3	10
Agreement for Buying WHDF Apr 4, 1942-Jul 7, 1959	3	11
Other Paperwork Regarding the Transfer of Control Nov 12, 1968-Mar 30, 1979	4	1
Stock Transfer WHDF FCF Nov 1937-May 1938; Applied to FCC by Stockholders, Withdrawn before Approved by FCC (Monopoly in Single Station Market Concerns) Nov 1937-May 1938	4	2
Mr. Roland, Bruce Burgan Superior Shore Contract 1979	4	4
IRS Report Mar 1979 and Stock Certificates-Harger Corporation and Broadcast Music, Inc. Aug 1924-Jan 1941 1924-1941; 1979	4	5
Stakeholders Meetings [Minutes and Correspondence] 1/2 Apr 30, 1929-Mar 13, 1979	4	6
Stakeholders Meetings [Minutes and Correspondence] 2/2 Apr 30, 1929-Mar 13, 1979	4	7
Company Stock Certificate Book 1941	4	8

**Series IV, Oversize Material**

**Series IV, Oversize Material 1929-1971**

**Scope and Contents**

Oversize material including maps of Chassell and South Range from the United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, a Houghton County Highway map, a map of lake Superior created by the United States Coast Guard showing Radio Broadcasting Stations, and a stock certificate book for Upper Michigan Broadcasting Company.

**Folder**

Michigan (Houghton County) South Range Quadrangle 7 1/2 -Minute Series, United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, Mapped 1946, South Range, Michigan edition 1948 1946, 1948

5bc

USGS Maps (Scale 1:24,000) Houghton County (1946, 1948, 1954) 1948, 1954

3a

**Note**

Michigan (Houghton County) Chassell Quadrangle 7 1/2-Minute Series, United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, Mapped 1946, Chassell, Michigan edition 1948, copy 2

General Highway Map Houghton County, Michigan State Highway Department, G. Donald Kennedy State Highway Commissioner, Data Obtained from Highway Planning Survey, Conducted in Cooperation with Federal Works Agency Public Roads Administration 1940

5m

Lake Superior (X-7) compiled and printed at Washington, D.C. by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey under authority of the Secretary of Commerce, edition 1946, revised

5bc

**Series IV, Oversize Material**

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1947, shows Radio Broadcasting Stations, Radio Direction Finder Stations, and Marine Radiobeacons 1946, 1947

Upper Michigan Broadcasting Company, Inc. Radio Station Stock Certificates May 7, 1929-Jun 25, 1971

47r