

Winter Carnival Sculpture Photograph Collection

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Finding aid written in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton, , 49931

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

Table Of Contents

Summary Information	3
Language of Materials	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Historical Note	3
Preferred Citation	3
Processing Information	4
Collection Scope and Content Summary	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Administrative Information	4

Summary Information

Repository: Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

Title: Winter Carnival Sculpture Photograph Collection

Identifier: MTU-229

Date: 1959-1961

Physical Description: 0.01 cubic feet (1 folder)

Container Information: SC_box MTU 2, Folder: 46 (Mixed Materials)

Language of Materials

Limited textual content. In English where present.

Conditions Governing Access

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

Historical Note

The first Winter Carnival--then a one-night show called "Ice Carnival"--was held at what is now Michigan Technological University in 1922. The first three Winter Carnivals were presented as circus acts with costumed students playing the part of animals. Over time, the circus was supported and supplanted by a series of other events, including the coronation of a Carnival Queen beginning in 1928 and a hockey series in 1934.

Snow sculptures, a cherished and competitive fixture of Winter Carnival, were introduced in 1936. Initially, the competition was open to the college's students, student organizations, and local schoolchildren, with a prize offered to the latter. Later, only students of the college and their associated organizations were permitted to compete. Sculptures became increasingly elaborate and inspired by a theme given to Winter Carnival.

Today, Michigan Technological University students compete in two divisions of snow sculptures each Winter Carnival, one for month-long creations and one for the best sculpture created in a single night of construction.

Preferred Citation

MTU-229, Winter Carnival Sculpture Photograph Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

Processing Information

Emily Riippa, 6/7/2018

Collection Scope and Content Summary

Photographs, 1959-1961, taken of snow sculptures at Winter Carnival at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. The pictures illustrate not only the increasing sophistication of snow sculpture designs but also the MCMT campus shortly before the major building campaign of the 1960s and 1970s.

Conditions Governing Use

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

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- Photographs
- Snow sculpture -- Michigan -- Houghton
- Winter Carnival (Michigan College of Mining and Technology (Houghton, Mich.))