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# Commercial Statistics and Marine Commerce through Portage Lake Ship Canals, Lake Superior, Michigan Collection MS-972

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on February 01, 2019.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical  
Collections

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton 49931

[copper@mtu.edu](mailto:copper@mtu.edu)

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

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Commercial Statistics and Marine Commerce through Portage Lake Ship Canals, Lake Superior, Michigan Collection
<b>ID:</b>	MS-972
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1897-1911
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.04 Cubic Feet 1 Folder
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Mixed Materials [box]:</b>	SC_Box 6
<b>[folder]:</b>	18
<b>Abstract:</b>	Records, 1897-1911, of the vessels passing through Portage Lake Ship Canals, Lake Superior, Michigan.

### Preferred Citation

MS-972, Commercial Statistics and Marine Commerce through Portage lake Ship Canals, Lake Superior, Michigan Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

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## Historical Note

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The construction, improvements and maintenance of the Portage Lake Canal in the Keweenaw Waterway began in the late 1800s to keep up with the growing copper industry. Ships carrying copper from the mines needed deeper waterways to conduct faster, cheaper and more reliable shipments. The Portage Lake and Lake Superior Ship Canal Company was originally put in charge of the construction of the canal in 1864, but was later transferred to the Federal Government in 1891. Under the supervision of the Division Engineer from the Great Lakes Division in Cleveland, Ohio and under the direction of

Commercial Statistics and Marine Commerce through Portage Lake Ship Canals, Lake Superior, Michigan Collection MS-972  
the District Engineer at Duluth, Minnesota, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was tasked with the continuing improvements and maintenance of the Canal.

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## Scope and Contents

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Records, 1897-1911, of vessels passing through Portage Lake Ship Canals. The collection documents the Commercial Statistics and Marine Commerce of the vessels.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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- Shipping -- Great Lakes (North America)
- Shipping records
- Portage Lake (Houghton County, Mich.) -- History
- Canals
- Anonymous