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E. F. Sutton Company Collection MS-371

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country
Historical Collections

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton 49931

copper@mtu.edu

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

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Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Title:	E. F. Sutton Company Collection
ID:	MS-371
Date:	1862-Circa 1940
Physical Description:	0.45 Cubic Feet 1 manuscript box (legal size)
Language of the Material:	English
Mixed Materials [box]:	1
Abstract:	Papers, circa 1860-circa 1940, of the E. F. Sutton family. Includes records from E.F. Sutton company, correspondence, personal papers of Mary A. T. Sutton and Walter Harris Sutton as well as photographs.

Preferred Citation

MS-371, E. F. Sutton Company Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

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Biography

Elias Fairchild Sutton was born in Hardyston, New Jersey in 1831 and received his early schooling in the area. About 1850 he moved to Romeo, Michigan with his sister, Mrs. Joseph Ayres. After serving with the United States Army as first lieutenant in 1862, Sutton eventually moved to Ontonagon county where he became manager of the general store of the Minnesota Mining Company and subsequently opened a store at the Huron Mine in Houghton County, Michigan. Sutton married Mary A. T. Harris, born 1843 in Cornwall, England with whom he had two children, Elizabeth and Walter Harris. Elias Sutton eventually became the manager at the general store of his father-in-law, William Harris. On the death of Harris, Sutton incorporated the business under the name of E. F. Sutton Company and ran the business until his death in 1901. Mary A. T. Sutton survived her husband, serving as vice president of the

business and living with her son in Lake Linden until 1924 when she passed away. Walter Harris Sutton served as treasurer and manager of the E. F. Sutton Company.

Charles Briggs was born in Tompkins County, New York in 1837. After receiving an academic education, he moved to Wisconsin at 15 years of age to live with and work for his uncle's business. In 1864 he moved to Rockland in Ontonagon County, Michigan where he worked as a bookkeeper for S. D. North, eventually becoming a partner in the merchant's business. In 1868 he moved to Calumet and opened a branch store under the name North & Briggs, and in 1872 he opened another branch in Lake Linden, also under his management. The firm was dissolved and reestablished as Briggs & Cole. After the death of Elias Sutton, Briggs became president of the E. F. Sutton Company. Briggs was also president of the Merchants & Miners' National Banks, as well as president of the Calumet & Arizona Mining Company.

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Collection Scope and Content Summary

Collection, 1862-circa 1940, of the E. F. Sutton Company. Includes business correspondence and records from the E.F. Sutton Company, as well as the personal correspondence of Mary A. T. Sutton, widow of the founder, Elias F. Sutton, and their son, Walter Harris Sutton. Also includes several unidentified photographs and pocket journals.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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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

The correspondence, company records, and photographs were donated to the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections by Larry Rheault on July 19, 1988.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Photographs
- Lake Linden (Mich.)
- Correspondence
- Corporation reports
- Documents
- General stores -- Michigan -- Lake Linden

Collection Inventory

Business Records, 1986-1921

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
E. F. Sutton Company Business Records and Correspondence, 1916-1919 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	box 1	folder 1
E. F. Sutton and Company Business Correspondence, 1920 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	box 1	folder 2
E. F. Sutton and Company Business Correspondence, 1921 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	box 1	folder 3
Miscellaneous Business Records of Elias Sutton, William Harris, and Rice, 1864, 1872, 1874	box 1	folder 8

Language of the Material: English.

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Personal Papers, 1901-Circa 1940

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
Walter H. Sutton Personal Correspondence, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	box 1	folder 4
Walter H. Sutton Personal Correspondence, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	box 1	folder 5
Mary A. T. Sutton Personal Correspondence, 1901-1902 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	box 1	folder 6
Miscellaneous Photographs and Pocket Journals, 1901-1920 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	box 1	folder 7

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