



ArchivesSpace
a community served by ✦ LYRISIS

Thomas C. Roberts Trust Collection MS-994

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on November 27, 2024.

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/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Papers	6
Visual Materials	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Title:	Thomas C. Roberts trust collection
ID:	MS-994
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1900-1997
Physical Description:	2.13 cubic feet 1 manuscript box (full, legal) and 6 flat boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Mixed Materials [box]:	1-4
Mixed Materials [box]:	5
Mixed Materials [box]:	6
Mixed Materials [box]:	7
Abstract:	Photographs, slides, and other materials, circa 1900-1997, related to the Coon Family of Hancock, Michigan.

Preferred Citation

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Thomas Charles Roberts was born in Hancock, Michigan on October 5, 1947 to Mary Coon Roberts and Dashaway Charles Roberts, but grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan. Roberts attended Kalamazoo Jr. College and finished his degree in Education at Michigan State University after which he substitute taught in the Battle Creek school district before serving a full U.S. Army tour of duty in Vietnam. Following his discharge, Roberts worked at the Battle Creek Federal Center until his retirement.

Roberts had a deep passion for the Copper Country and was an railroad and postcard collector. Additionally, Roberts was a lifetime member of the Painesdale Mine and Shaft, Inc. Upon his death at age 68 on February 16, 2016, a trust was established in his name. Local recipients included the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, Copper Range Historical Museum; the Calumet Theatre Co., Quincy Smelter Association, and the Painesdale Mine & Shaft, Inc. among others.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Photographs, slides, and other materials, circa 1900-1997, related to the Coon Family of Hancock, Michigan. Included are two photograph albums, many of which document the Houghton and Hancock area and include views of snow removal, logging, and construction. Also included are photographs of the 1942 Houghton High School band, class and sports team photographs from Hancock High School, a group photograph from Suomi College, and some loose photograph album pages depicting unidentified individuals on Labor Day at Calumet Waterworks and the strike militia at Quincy and Calumet during the 1913 copper miners' strike.

The collection also includes four boxes of 35mm slides and negatives, 1913-1997. The slides include views from locations throughout Michigan, but primarily document locations, buildings, and objects from Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. Included are images of locomotives and railroad machinery, buildings, and aparataces; freighters, fires, Michigan wildlife, and local cities and buildings such as the Houghton County Courthouse, churches, and Michigan Technological University campus. The Portage Lake Lift Bridge, Isle Royale's Ranger III, and a variety of lighthouses are also documented. Additionally, the slides include scenes of mining ruins throughout the Copper Country. Cities and towns documented in the collection include Houghton, Hancock, Calumet; Lake Linden, Donken, and Mason; Hubbell, Laurium, and Painesdales; as well as Copper Harbor and its surrounding areas, Eagle River, and Eagle Harbor. Locations such as Ishpeming, Marquette, Kalamazoo, Mackinaw City, and Sault Ste Marie are also represented.

Finally, the collection also includes several family histories written by George Coon, which document the Coon Family's history back to Thomas Albert Coon, as well as programs, scripts, and other materials related to the family.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton 49931

copper@mtu.edu

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

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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Cities and towns -- Michigan
- Cities and towns -- Michigan -- Upper Peninsula
- Copper Miners' Strike, Mich., 1913-1914
- Families -- Michigan -- History
- Families -- Portraits
- High schools -- Michigan -- Upper Peninsula
- Landscapes -- Michigan -- Copper Country
- Mine railroads -- History -- Michigan -- Upper Peninsula
- Railroads -- Buildings and structures -- Michigan
- Railroads -- Michigan -- Upper Peninsula
- Hancock (Mich.)
- Clippings (Information artifacts)
- Negatives (Photographic)
- Photograph albums
- Photographs

- Slides (photographs)

Collection Inventory

Papers

Title/Description	Instances	
Coon Family histories, undated	box 6	folder 1
Hancock city fire alarm system, location of boxes, undated	box 6	folder 2
Houghton County Park resort sanitation certificate, 1930	box 6	folder 3
Kathleen Ann Coon birth announcement, 1948	box 6	folder 4
Marion Coon play Hop-Ski in "The Stripped Sweater," script, undated	box 6	folder 5
Mystery of map book, notes and photographs, 1995	box 6	folder 6
Newspaper clippings, 1952, 1983	box 7	folder 6
Program, "The Glorious Girl" at the Kerredge Theatre, 1924 April	box 6	folder 7
Programs, Hancock High School football banquet, 1934	box 6	folder 8
Song lyrics and short stories, undated	box 6	folder 9
Suomi College Alumni Association banquet menu, undated	box 6	folder 11
T.A. Coon business card, undated	box 6	folder 13

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Visual Materials

Title/Description	Instances	
Check from Copper Range Company to Thomas C. Roberts, photograph, 19754	box 6	folder 13
Group and individual family portraits, undated	box 7	folder 1
Hancock High School band, 1942	box 6	folder 14
Hancock High School basket ball and football team portraits, 1906-1907, 1940	box 7	folder 2
Hancock High School class portraits, 1937-1943	box 7	folder 3
Hancock High School, drawing, Ellen Torola, 1980	box 7	folder 4

Miscellaneous Copper Country photographs, copy prints, undated	box 7	folder 5
Negatives, 1991-1997	box 4	
Photograph album, undated	box 6	folder 15
Photograph album, approximately 1923	box 5	
Photograph album page, 1913 August	box 6	folder 16
Photograph album page, Labor Day, 1913	box 6	folder 17
Photograph album page, Pike River School, 1912 June	box 6	folder 18
Photograph album page, strike militia at Quincy and Calumet with family photographs, 1913 June	box 6	folder 19
Photograph album pages, undated	box 6	folder 20
Quincy No. 6 shaft house, reproduction drawing, Paul Hinzmann, 1975	box 7	folder 8
Railroad slides, 1946-1993	box 6	folder 21
Slides, 1964-1984	box 1-3	
Street map of the City of Hancock, 1937 December	box 6	folder 10
Street map of the City of Hancock, 1937 December	box 7	folder 9
Suomi commercial department, photograph, 1940	box 6	folder 22
Unidentified photographs, undated	box 7	folder 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)