

Jim Reid's Collection of Grover Dillman Correspondence MTU-258

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Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5

Summary Information

Repository: Title:	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections Jim Reid's Collection of Grover Dillman Correspondence
ID:	MTU-258
Date [inclusive]:	1943-1955
Physical Description:	0.01 cubic feet 1 folder (legal)
Language of the Material:	English .
Mixed Materials [sc_box]:	3
[folder]:	13
Abstract:	Correspondence, 1943-1945, belonging to Grover Dillman, former State Highway Commissioner and President of the Michigan Technological University.

Preferred Citation

MTU-258, Jim Reid's Collection of Grover Dillman Correspondence, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

[^] Return to Table of Contents

Biographical Note

Grover Cleveland Dillman was born in Bangor, Michigan in 1889. He graduated from Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) with a degree in civil engineering. He joined the Michigan State Highway Department shortly after graduation in 1913 and rose rapidly in the ranks to Deputy State Commissioner in 1922, Chief Engineer in 1924 and State Highway Commissioner in 1929. In 1933 he became Director of Public Service for the city of Grand Rapids and in early 1935 he became Director of the State Welfare Department. He was appointed to the presidency of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology (now Michigan Technological University) in August 1935. President Grover C. Dillman (1935-56) oversaw

dramatic changes in the college, including the establishment of a branch campus 250 miles east in Sault Ste. Marie. Also noteworthy was the creation of the Memorial Union Building, which (now remodeled) remains the center of campus, with a cafeteria, bowling, billiards, meeting rooms, student organization offices, and lounges. The college also procured the village of Alberta, Michigan, with its sawmill and 4,000-acre forest from the Ford Motor Company and added the golf course and ice rink (in downtown Houghton) for the NCAA Division I Hockey Huskies. Post-war enrollment blossomed and in 1948 was 1,789 in Houghton and 384 at the Sault branch, and temporary housing was established for the influx of veterans. Programs added during this era included engineering administration, physics, and geological engineering. Active in the community and professionally, Dillman was also an honorary member of the Michigan Tech Alumni Association, a member of Michigan Tech Fund Board of Trustees and a charter member of the President's Club at Michigan Tech. Grover C. Dillman married Anna Broadwell on December 15, 1914. The couple had two daughters, Dorothy and Helen. His daughter, Helen married John Harris Reid in July 1950 and their son, James "Jim" Reid, was born in August 1953. Grover Dillman passed away in 1979.

[^] Return to Table of Contents

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, 1943-1945, belonging to Grover Dillman, former State Highway Commissioner and President of the Michigan Technological University, and his. Included in the collection are three letters include one letter (and copy) from Charles Lawton on "Observations" about mining in the Copper Country (1943) and two standard mailings from the American Society of Civil Engineers (1952) and the Abrams Aerial Survey Corporation (1955), both featuring their centennial stamp. Also included are two empty envelopes from 1947 and 1955 respectively, from the Soo Locks Centennial Committee and Michigan College of Mining and Technology; featuring the Great Lakes Transportation stamp (Soo Locks) and Operation Highjump Antarctic Expedition Task Force stamps.

[^] Return to Table of Contents

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Publication Statement

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[^] Return to Table of Contents

Controlled Access Headings

- Civil engineering
- Copper mines and mining -- History -- Michigan
- Universities and colleges -- Administration -- Michigan -- Houghton
- Correspondence
- Houghton (Mich.)