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# Elizabeth Barzditis Lewis Collection

## MTU-247

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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](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>	Elizabeth Barzditis Lewis collection
<b>ID:</b>	MTU-247
<b>Date:</b>	Undated
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.01 cubic feet 1 folder
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Mixed Materials [sc_box]:</b>	2
<b>[folder]:</b>	39
<b>Abstract:</b>	Collection, undated, of material related to Barzditis Lewis, the original switchboard operator at Wadsworth Hall on the Michigan Tech campus.

### Preferred Citation

MTU-247, Elizabeth Barditis Lewis Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collection, Houghton, Michigan.

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## Biographical Note

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Elizabeth (Boggs) Barzditis Lewis was born on November 15, 1902 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The family relocated when she was young and Elizabeth grew up in Sheboygan where she completed her early education, but at the age of 17, she became blind, and her schooling was prematurely cut short. Lewis was an accomplished singer from a young age and at 13 auditioned and became a regular performer on a local radio station. In 1924 she married Walter Barzditis and raised two children in Wisconsin before relocating to Hancock, Michigan. There she resumed her education at Suomi College in 1952 with the aid of other students, completing one year of schooling. After her husband's death in 1956, Lewis was hired as the first switchboard operator at Michigan Technological University working in Wadsworth Hall.

In 1960 Lewis relocated to California where she became an accomplished writer, her works often referencing her life in the Copper Country. She met and married George Lewis in 1966, traveling extensively until his death in 1968. She continued to write and publish until her own death in 1996.

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## Scope and Contents

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Collection, undated, of material related to Barzditis Lewis, the original switchboard operator at Wadsworth Hall on the Michigan Tech campus. This material includes two biographies of Lewis, which includes black and white photographs of her on the front, one small print photograph, and one card designed by Lewis (maiden name, Boggs).

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Dormitories -- Michigan -- Houghton
- Radio operators
- Universities and colleges -- Professional staff -- Michigan -- Houghton
- Biographies
- Greeting cards
- Photographs
- Michigan Technological University