



Michigan Basin Geological Society

April MBGS Membership Meeting

www.mbgs.org



WHEN **Tuesday April 7th, 2026 - FREE**

Social: 6:45PM

Presentation - 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WHERE **East Lansing Public Library**
950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

WHO **Bernadette Bartlett**
Library of Michigan



Bernadette Bartlett

They Need Not Vanish, Helen Mandeville Martin and the Michigan Geological Survey

ABSTRACT

The Office of the State Geologist was one of the earliest agencies established by Michigan's territorial government in the early 19th century and played a key role in the development of scientific and economic data integral to many Michigan industries. Of the many male geologists associated with the Michigan Geological Survey, one woman, Helen Mandeville Martin, stands out not only as a pioneer in a scientific field at a time when few women were welcomed or accepted, but because her remarkable dedication, knowledge and skill are well-documented in the published record of the agency's activities. Though not rewarded with titles or positions of authority during her career, she achieved name recognition in and outside state government for her many accomplishments and contributions within the field of geology.

BIOGRAPHY

Bernadette Bartlett is life-long Michigan resident and a graduate of Michigan State University and Wayne State University. She has worked as a librarian at the Library of Michigan for too many decades to mention, most of that time spent specializing in Michigan government information. As the daughter of two geologists employed by the Michigan Geological Survey Division, she has a particular interest in the documents that portray the long and unique history of that agency and its activities.

