



Guide to the Jonathan Kennon Smith Papers, circa 1780s-2008

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Summary

Collection Title:

Jonathan Kennon Smith papers, circa 1780s-2008

Abstract:

This collection holds miscellaneous papers (192 items; dated 1649-1971) including originals and copies of letters, Bible records, pictures, and printed works relating to the history of the Pearson, Smith, and Thompson families who migrated from England to Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and finally to Arkansas; letters, legal papers, historical notes, genealogy, military records, cemetery records, pictures, and maps pertaining to the history of Benton County, Tenn.; copies of the Civil War letters of Stephen W. Holliday, 55th Tennessee Regt., C.S.A.; anecdotes of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest; Melton family genealogy; and Smith family albums. A later addition (283 items, dated 1774-1986) includes information pertaining to the genealogy of several related families (including the Thompson and Wyly families, as well as information on the descendants of Col. Samuel and Mary Webb Smith). Includes printed works on genealogy and other topics compiled by Emma C. C. Brown and Jonathan K. T. Smith (primarily Smith). Also includes: correspondence; legal documents; copies of church records; clippings; writings about the history of Benton County, Tenn., and some of its citizens and communities; photographs; printed and other material on Camden, Tenn.; copy of the diary of Anne William Smith; copy of a portrait of Anne William Smith by Gustavus Grunewald (1847-1848); a recording entitled The Remembrance Pilgrimage about the Smith family of Nymcock, Tenn.; A Century with St. Mark's: An Informal History by Clara L. Cape; and an extensive biographical sketch on Col. Maurice Smith.

Extent:

4 Linear Feet

Language:

Materials in English

Collection ID:

RL.10089

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1wm9z>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Jonathan Kennon Smith Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

This collection is largely genealogical in nature and holds miscellaneous papers of Jonathan Kennon Thompson Smith including originals and copies of letters, papers, Bible records, pictures, and printed works relating to the history of the Smith, Pearson, and Thompson families who migrated from England to Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and finally to Arkansas. The Smith family descended through Maurice Smith (1801-1871) of Person County, North Carolina who later moved to Fayette County, Tennessee in 1831, and finally to Dallas County, Arkansas in 1843.

In addition to family correspondence of Maurice Smith (1801-1871); the collection has letters, legal papers, historical notes, genealogy, military records, cemetery records, pictures, and maps pertaining to the history of Benton County, Tennessee. Copies of the Civil War letters of Stephen W. Holliday, 55th Tennessee Regiment, C.S.A., to his parents, a history of Tulip and Tulip Ridge, Arkansas, by Smith entitled *The Romance of, Tulip* (Memphis: 1965), *On this Rock . . . the Chronicle of a Southern Family*, which is a history by Smith of the family of Colonel Samuel Smith and Mary Webb Smith of Abram's Plains, North Carolina; biographies of the Captain Nicholas Martian (1591-1657) and of Samuel Granville Smith (1794-1835); anecdotes of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest; a history of the Pearson family by Smith entitled *This Valued Lineage*; history of the Thompson family by Smith entitled *These Many Hearths*; albums of the Smith family containing pictures, clippings, and copies of letters and wills dating as early as 1649; genealogy of the Melton family by Herman E. Melton entitled *Sassafras Sprouts*; an anthropological study of the Indians of Kentucky Lake, Tennessee, by C. H. McNutt and J. Bennett Graham; and a pamphlet, 1961, by Smith entitled *A Statement of Faith*.

There is a microfilm copy of 'The Remembrance Pilgrimage. The Story of a Southern Family' (1964) available.

Biographical/Historical

Jonathan Kennon Smith was a resident of Memphis (Shelby Co.), Tennessee. Part of a related Smith, Pearson, and Thompson families who migrated from England to Virginia, North Carolina, then to Tennessee, and later to Arkansas.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Acquisition Information

The Jonathan Kennon Smith Papers were initially received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in the 1960s. There have been subsequent additions including 101 items and 7 vols. in 1968, 76 items and 2 volumes in 1971, 2 items in 1988, and two volumes in 2008.

Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff.

Collection rehoused and finding aid updated by Vladimir Lukin and Tracy M Jackson, December 2022.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

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Names and Subjects

- United States -- Emigration and immigration
- Migration, Internal -- United States
- Virginia -- Emigration and immigration
- Southern States -- Genealogy
- Camden (Tenn.) -- History
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
- Tennessee -- Emigration and immigration
- North Carolina -- Emigration and immigration
- Church records and registers
- Genealogies
- Benton County (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
- Diaries
- Arkansas -- Emigration and immigration

Collection Inventory

Writings, 1959-2008

Some Encounters with General Forrest (re. the Johnsonville battle), 1959	Box 1
God... He Leadeth Me Beside the Still Waters (A Statement of Faith), 1961	Box 1
Romance of Tulip (re. Tulip and Tulip Ridge, Arkansas), 1965	Box 1
General Samuel G. Smith, 1968	Box 1
On This Rock... The Chronicle of the Southern Family (re. Smith family history), 1968	Box 1
Captain Nicolas Martiau (1591-1657), 1969	Box 1
This Valued Lineage (re. the Pearson family), 1971	Box 1
These Many Hearths (re. Thompsons of Benton county, TN), 1971	Box 1

These Many Hearths (re. Thompsons of Benton county, TN), 1972	Box 1
A Genealogical Memoir: the Pearsons, 1974	Box 1
Genealogical Gleanings in Benton County, TN (public records compilation), 1974	Box 1
Thompson Kin of Yellow Creek Valley, 1974	Box 1
Benton County, Tennessee - Heritage Notes, 1975	Box 1
Historic Benton: a People History of Benton County, Tenn., 1975	Box 1
An Historical Survey of the Road System of Benton County, Tennessee, 1976	Box 1
An Abstract of the 1840 United States Census for Benton County, Tennessee, 1977	Box 1
Selective Gleanings from Camden, Tennessee Newspapers 1882-1932 (re. genealogy and local history), 1977	Box 1
Cowell's Chapel in Benton County, Tennessee and its Pioneer Families, 1978	Box 1
Benton County, 1979	Box 1
The Wyly Saga (re. the Wyly family of Benton and Humphreys counties), 1981	Box 1
Smith of Abram's Plains, Part II, 1988	Box 1
The Benjamin and Rhoda Holland Graveyard Benton County, Tennessee (re. the Holland family), 2008	Box 1
An Annotated Historical Map of Tulip Ridge, Dallas County, Arkansas, 1977	Box 1
Biographical Sketch of Colonel Maurice Smith, 1801-1871 (manuscript), 1986	Box 1

Newspaper publications (photocopies), 1972-1974	Box 1
Smith of Abram's Plains, Part I, 1988	Box 3
The Remembrance Pilgrimage. The Story of a Southern Family, 1964	Box 5

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Genealogy, circa 1780s-1970s

Family Album and Journal of Oliver Prince Smith, circa 1972	Box 1
Research materials (photocopies and originals), circa 1820-1970	Box 2
Family letters, 1843-1871	Box 2
Anne William Smith's journal (photocopies), 1847-1867	Box 2
Smith's drafts on family history (photocopies), circa 1960-1970	Box 2
Smith's family album 1, circa 1783-1963	Box 2
Smith's family album 2, circa 1783-1963	Box 4

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Benton county history, circa 1820s-1980s

Materials 1 (letters, legal papers, military and cemetery records, printed works), circa 1820-1970	Box 2
Materials 2 (letters, legal papers, military and cemetery records, printed works), circa 1820-1970	Box 2
Newspaper clippings, 1979-1974	Box 2

S.W. Holladay's letters from the Confederate Collections (photocopies and transcriptions), 1863-1864	Box 2
Legal papers, 1813-1863	Box 2
Benton County, TN 1845 tax box (photocopy), 1845	Box 2
Maps, circa 1830-1970	Box 2
"Sassafras Sprouts" by Herman Melton (re. Melton family of Benton county), 1968	Box 2
"Archeological Investigations at Kentucky Lake, Tennessee: 1965" by Charles H. McNutt and J. Bennett Graham, 1967	Box 2
"Benton County: Biographical Directory", 1970	Box 2
Smith's notes and sketches, circa 1960-1980	Box 2
Smith's notes on Benton county families 1, circa 1960-1980	Box 2
Smith's notes on Benton county families 2, circa 1960-1980	Box 2
Maps, circa 1830-1970	Oversize-folder 6

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