

Collection #  
SC 3423

**EDMUND SMITH  
COFFIN ACCOUNTS, CA. 1841–1853**

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[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION  
DATES: Ca. 1841–1853

PROVENANCE: Gift of Dwight L. Smith, 1962

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE  
FORMATS:

RELATED  
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 1962.0014

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Edmund Smith was born on 14 November 1814 in Beaver City, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, to Joseph and Joanna Smith. At an unknown date, he moved to Hanover, Columbiana County, Ohio, where he married Eliza Dutton (14 February 1814–27 February 1891) on 1 October 1834. Together with his wife and two small children, Smith emigrated from Ohio to Penn Township, Jay County, Indiana, in the autumn of 1838. The Smiths had five children in total: Dillwyn, Charles, Joseph, Mary, and Caroline.

Smith was a farmer, carpenter, and cabinet maker by trade. Over the course of twelve years, from 1841 to 1853, he made 61 coffins for his neighbors in Penn and Jackson Townships. Edmund Smith died in Penn Township on 11 July 1853.

Sources:

Information in collection.

U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900, via Ancestry.com

U.S. Quaker Cemetery Records, 1800-1990, via Ancestry.com

1850 U.S. Federal Census, via Ancestry.com

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains an alphabetical list of coffin accounts from Edmund Smith's ledger, typed by his great-grandson, Dwight F. Smith (30 January 1909–27 March 1993). The dates of the original ledger are unknown, as is the date of Dwight Smith's transcription of the ledger. Smith donated the typewritten list to the Indiana Historical Society in 1962.

The coffin accounts are listed alphabetically by surname. Corresponding information regarding the date of the account, for whom the coffin was made ("wife," "self," "child," etc.), and the original page in the ledger on which the account can be found are also listed.

Edmund Smith made 61 coffins for 44 accounts. The dates of the accounts range from 1841 to 1853, the same year Edmund Smith died. Smith made the most coffins (10) in 1848, and he most frequently made them for children, totaling between 30 and 34 over the twelve years detailed in the list based on the ledger.

## **CONTENTS**

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Coffin accounts from Edmund Smith's ledger, 1841–  
1853

### CONTAINER

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