

Collection #
SC 1371

**OLIVER H. SMITH
PAPERS, 1826–1859**

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Processed by:
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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 6 items

COLLECTION DATES: 1826-1859

PROVENANCE: American Autograph Shop, 6 February 1942; Ira N. Sprecher, Albuquerque, NM, 1962; Howard S. Mott, Sheffield, MA, October 1963; Halvor Americana, Box 222, Clarendon Hills, IL 60515, 28 December 1994

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 1942.0206, 1962.0011, 1963.1010, 1969.1017, 1995.0130

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Oliver Hampton Smith (1794-1859) was born on Smith Island, New Jersey. He settled in Lawrenceburgh, Indiana, in 1818, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1820. He served in the Indiana General Assembly in 1822-1824, then was prosecuting attorney for the third judicial district in 1824-1825. He served in the United States House of Representatives from 1827 to 1829, and as a Whig was elected to one term in the United States Senate, 1837-1843. He founded the village of Yorktown in Delaware County, and there built a saw mill, grist mill, and fulling mill. In the last decade and a half of his life, he lived in Indianapolis. There he was interested in railroads, especially the Indianapolis and Bellefontain Railroad and the construction of the first Union Station. He had three children, of whom one, Marcus W. Smith, was a state representative and then mayor of Muncie.

Sources: Biographical Directory of U. S. Congress

Biographical Directory of Indiana General Assembly, Vol. 1

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains five letters written by Smith, dated 1826-1842, and an 1859 notice of his funeral. The collection was purchased from several sources.

1826 May 26 OHS, Connersville, to C. McAllister, Jr., Cincinnati. Re: payment of costs in a court case. ALS 2p

1827 Dec 13 OHS, Washington, to N. G. Howard. Thanks for your good opinion. I hope you will work for me in the coming campaign. ALS 1p

1836 Feb 24 OHS, Connersville, to Andrew Ingram, Lafayette. Please arrange for the deposition I have arranged to take in Lafayette, and forward to the Circuit Court at Brookville. Other questions concerning case. ALS 3p

1840 Apr 21 OHS, Washington, to Nelson Poe and Robt. Butler, Baltimore. Thanks for your invitation to national convention of Whig young men. I cannot leave my post here, but I wholeheartedly support the candidacy of Indiana's native son. ALS 2p

1842 July 19 OHS, Washington, to John D. Defreed. I have forwarded, and pursued, your claim to the commission on Indian affairs. If not reelected, I can accept the outcome. ALS 1p

[1859] Invitation to OHS funeral

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 1371).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.