

Margaret Bayard Smith Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2017

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82040436>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011225>

Prepared by Paul A. Colton
Revised by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2011
Revised 2017 July

Collection Summary

Title: Margaret Bayard Smith Papers

Span Dates: 1789-1874

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1796-1840)

ID No.: MSS40436

Creator: Smith, Margaret Bayard, 1778-1844

Extent: 3,600 items

Extent: 5 containers plus 11 oversize

Extent: 8.4 linear feet

Extent: 8 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82040436>

Summary: Social leader, author, and prominent Washingtonian. Family and general correspondence, diaries, journals, and commonplace books consisting mainly of family correspondence between Smith and her sisters, Jane Bayard Kirkpatrick and Maria Bayard Boyd, and her husband, journalist and banker, Samuel Harrison Smith (1772-1845).

Online Content: The papers of Margaret Bayard Smith are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000056>.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Boyd, Maria Bayard, 1779-1869--Correspondence.

Humboldt, Alexander von, 1769-1859.

Hyde de Neuville, Anne-Marguerite-Henriette Rouillé de Marigny, baronne, 1749?-1849.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826--Homes and haunts--Virginia--Monticello.

Kirkpatrick, Jane Bayard, 1772-1851--Correspondence.

Madison, Dolley, 1768-1849.

Madison, James, 1751-1836--Homes and haunts--Virginia--Orange County.

Middleton, Mary Hering--Correspondence.

Pichon, A. Emilie--Correspondence.

Quincy, Eliza Susan Morton, 1773-1850--Correspondence.

Smith, Margaret Bayard, 1778-1844.

Smith, Samuel Harrison, 1772-1845--Correspondence.

Subjects

Commonplace books.

Elections--United States.

Presidents--United States--Election.

Women--United States--Diaries.

Women--Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs--19th century.

Places

Monticello (Va.)--History.

Montpelier (Va. : Estate)

United States--History--War of 1812--Campaigns.

Washington (D.C.)--History--Capture by the British, 1814.

Washington (D.C.)--History--War of 1812.

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs--19th century.

Titles

Occupations

Authors.

Social leaders.

Provenance

The papers of Margaret Bayard Smith, social leader, author, and prominent Washingtonian, were given to the Library of Congress by Harold Dillingham, Baldwin Wood, Alice Smith, and Henrietta Smith in 1910. An addition was purchased in 1944.

Processing History

The Margaret Bayard Smith Papers were processed for microfilming in 1983. The finding aid was revised in 2011 and 2017

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Margaret Bayard Smith is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Margaret Bayard Smith are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on eight reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Online Content

The papers of Margaret Bayard Smith are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/collmss.ms000056>.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Margaret Bayard Smith Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1778, Feb. 20	Born in Pennsylvania
1800	Married Samuel Harrison Smith; settled in Washington, D.C., where she met Thomas Jefferson
1803	Established Sidney estate

1809	Visited Monticello
1814	Witnessed British invasion of Washington, D.C.
1824	Published <i>A Winter in Washington</i> . New York: E. Bliss & E. White. 2 vols.
1828	Published <i>What Is Gentility</i> . Washington, D.C.: P. Thompson
	Visited Monticello
1844, June 7	Died

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Margaret Bayard Smith (1778-1844) span the years 1789-1874, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1796-1840. The collection includes family and general correspondence, diaries, journals, and commonplace books. The bulk of the papers consists of family correspondence between Smith and her sisters Jane Bayard Kirkpatrick and Maria Bayard Boyd, and her husband, journalist and banker Samuel Harrison Smith (1772-1845). Other correspondents include Mary Hering Middleton, A. Emilie Pichon, and Eliza Susan Morton Quincy. Topics covered include Washington, D.C., social life, presidential elections, the British occupation of Washington in 1814, and visits to Monticello, Virginia.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- [Diaries and Journals, 1804-1831](#)
- [Commonplace Books, 1799-1843](#)
- [Family Correspondence, 1789-1842](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1796-1874](#)
- [Miscellany, 1803-1833](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1 REEL 1	<u>Diaries and Journals, 1804-1831</u> Diaries and Journals kept by Smith. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1-5 REEL 1-2	<u>Commonplace Books, 1799-1843</u> Commonplace books kept by Margaret Bayard Smith, Ann Smith, and Susan B. Smith. Arranged by name of person and therein chronologically.
BOX OV 6-OV 15 REEL 3-8	<u>Family Correspondence, 1789-1842</u> Family letters received by Smith. Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and therein chronologically.
BOX OV 15-OV 16 REEL 8	<u>General Correspondence, 1796-1874</u> Letters received by Smith. Arranged alphabetically by name of person and therein chronologically, with unidentified letters and posthumous letter received at the end of the file.
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	<u>Miscellany, 1803-1833</u> Clippings, notes, a resolution, and writings by Smith and others. Arranged by type of material.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 18,941

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diaries and Journals, 1804-1831 Diaries and Journals kept by Smith. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	1804-1807 Digital content available
BOX 1 REEL 1	1829 Digital content available
BOX 1 REEL 1	1830-1831 Digital content available
BOX 1-5 REEL 1-2	Commonplace Books, 1799-1843 Commonplace books kept by Margaret Bayard Smith, Ann Smith, and Susan B. Smith. Arranged by name of person and therein chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	[1799-1803] Digital content available
BOX 1 REEL 1	[1809-1829] Digital content available
BOX 2 REEL 1	[1810, 1826] Digital content available
BOX 2 REEL 1	[1822-1839] Digital content available
BOX 2	[1824, 1825] Digital content available
BOX 2	[1825, 1826] Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 1-2	[1826]
BOX 3 REEL 1	[Vol. 1] Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 1	[Vol. 2] Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 2	[Vol. 3] Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 1-2	[1826-1831] Digital content available
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1826-1834] Digital content available
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1833-1837] Digital content available
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1843] Digital content available

Commonplace Books, 1799-1843

Container	Contents
BOX 4 REEL 2	Undated Digital content available
BOX 5 REEL 2	Smith, Ann, [1829-1833] Digital content available
BOX 5	Smith, Susan B.
BOX 5 REEL 2	[1806-1815] Digital content available
BOX 5 REEL 2	[1814-1819] Digital content available
BOX OV 6-OV 15 REEL 3-8	Family Correspondence, 1789-1842 Family letters received by Smith. Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and therein chronologically.
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	Bayard, John B., 1800-1805 Digital content available
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	Boyd, Maria Bayard
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	1801-1825 Digital content available
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	1826-1841 (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	Undated Digital content available
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	Kirkpatrick, Jane Bayard
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	1796-1800, Sept. Digital content available
BOX OV 6 REEL 3	1800, Oct.-1804 Digital content available
BOX OV 7 REEL 3	1805-1810 Digital content available
BOX OV 7 REEL 3	1811-1813 Digital content available
BOX OV 7 REEL 3	1814, 1815 Digital content available
BOX OV 7 REEL 3	1816-1819 Digital content available
BOX OV 7 REEL 4	1820-1824 Digital content available
BOX OV 8 REEL 4	1825-1828 Digital content available
BOX OV 8 REEL 4	1829-1832 Digital content available
BOX OV 8 REEL 4	1833-1835 (2 folders) Digital content available

Family Correspondence, 1789-1842

Container	Contents
BOX OV 8 REEL 4	1836-1838 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4	1839-1842 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4	Undated 1 of 2 Digital content available 2 of 2 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4	Rodgers, John, 1804-1807 Digital content not yet available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4	Smith, Ann C., [1826?, 1829] Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4-5	Smith, Anna Maria (sister of Samuel Harrison Smith), 1789 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4-5	Smith, Anna Maria (daughter), 1832-1834 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4-5	Smith, John R. (brother of Samuel Harrison Smith), 1800-1809 Digital content available
BOX OV 9 REEL 4-5	Smith, Jonathan Bayard (father of Samuel Harrison Smith), 1798 Digital content not yet available
BOX OV 9	Smith, Jonathan Bayard H.(son)
BOX OV 9 REEL 4-5	1827-1829 Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	1834-[1839] Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	[Smith, Julia H.?] (daughter), undated Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	Smith, Mary Ann
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	1792-1796 Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	1797-1800 Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	1801-1809 Digital content available
BOX OV 10 REEL 4-5	Undated Digital content available
BOX OV 11 REEL 5	Smith, Samuel Harrison (husband)
BOX OV 11 REEL 5	1796-1797, May (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 11 REEL 5-6	1797, June-Dec. (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 11 REEL 5-6	1798, Jan.-Mar. (2 folders) Digital content available

Family Correspondence, 1789-1842

Container	Contents
BOX OV 12 REEL 5-6	1798, Apr.-June (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 12 REEL 5-6	1798, July-Nov. (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 13 REEL 5-6	1799, Feb.-July (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 13 REEL 6-7	1799, Aug.-Dec. (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 13 REEL 6-7	1800, Jan.-Apr. (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 14 REEL 6-7	1800, May-Sept. (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 14 REEL 6-7	1802-1803, May Digital content available
BOX OV 14 REEL 6-7	1803, June-Sept. Digital content available
BOX OV 14 REEL 6-7	1809-1816 Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 6-7	Undated Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 7	Smith, Susan B.
BOX OV 15 REEL 7	1797-1812 (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 7	Undated Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Smith, Susan H. [1820-1829] Digital content available
BOX OV 15-OV 16 REEL 8	General Correspondence, 1796-1874 Letters received by Smith. Arranged alphabetically by name of person and therein chronologically, with unidentified letters and posthumous letter received at the end of the file.
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Barlow, Ruth, 1808, 1815 Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Bleeker, Anthony, [1807-1823] Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Constant, Benjamin, to William Crawford, 1825 Digital content available
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Gemme, Carre de, 1803-1806 Digital content available

General Correspondence, 1796-1874

Container	Contents
BOX OV 15 REEL 8	Hale, Sarah J. B., 1831 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Middleton, Mary Hering, 1820-1831 (2 folders) Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Neuville, S. H. Hyde de, 1819-1823 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Nicholson, Maria, 1799 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Pichon, A. Emilie, 1803-1829 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Porter, Letitia B., 1828 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Quincy, Eliza Susan Morton, 1824-1828 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Sedgwick, Catherine Maria, 1832 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Southard, Samuel L., 1823 Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Templeton, Maria, [1798-1801] Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Tennent, [G.?], [1799] Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Unidentified, [1796-1835] Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Posthumous correspondence, [1844-1874] Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Miscellany, 1803-1833 Clippings, notes, a resolution, and writings by Smith and others. Arranged by type of material.
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Clippings, 1831 , undated Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Notes, 1811 , 1827-1832 , undated Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Resolution pertaining to a canal in the District of Columbia, undated Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Writings
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	By Margaret Bayard Smith and family, 1833 , undated Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Extracts
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	"Mrs. Seton's Journal of a Voyage to Italy, 1803-1804" Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Smith, Anna Harrison, "The History of the Duchess of C . . . written by Herself," undated Digital content available
BOX OV 16 REEL 8	Other, 1833 , undated Digital content available