



Inventory of the Smith Collection (Collection #69)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
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Physical Description

Box and Folder Breakdown

Physical Description:

This collection is representative of the kinds of papers generated by any family that is involved in business and is active in its community, c. 1890 – 1940.

These papers are mainly those of William E. Smith, a North Kennebunkport farmer (whose home was on the corner of the old Route 1 and the River Road, North Kennebunkport, now Arundel). Besides his farming activities, Smith seems to have had an active sawmill operation, to have worked in a mill or factory, and to have been an officer, perhaps selectman, in the town. Many of the memorandum books are for hours worked on town roads by residents of the town.

Some of the papers belonged to Almon J. Smith, brother of William, who lived in Kennebunk, built and ran the Atlantis and Eagle Rock Hotels, and was chairman of the Board of Selectmen for a time. His papers include information about activities at the hotels and town business, such as the 1895 – 1896 building of the “new” bridge in Kennebunk Lower Village.

A box of receipted bills is useful for the information about life style, farm operations, hotel operations, and local businessmen. There is material about local educational costs (William E. Smith paid tuition for his children to go to Kennebunk High School), local fraternal organizations, and a general supply of material about various farm and household products.

The collection is stored in four boxes and a pamphlet box. Its acquisition number is 1991-62. It was given by a grandson of William E. Smith.

Although many of the ledgers and small notebooks and diaries are not identified, the collection is useful for the information it provides on turn-of-the-century farming and town life.

Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:

- Folder 1: Advertising flyers, cards, booklets for various products and equipment, household and agricultural. Not dated but c. 1890 – 1920.
- Folder 2: Advertising cards and booklets for Kennebunk merchants. Not dated but as above.
- Folder 3: Tuition bills and receipts, Kennebunk High School, 1899 – 1912, for William E. Smith children. Also State of Maine high school entrance exams in four subjects, 1915.
- Folder 4: Miscellaneous cards, calendars, other ephemera.
- Folder 5: Insurance policies for the home of Almon J. Smith, Garden St., Kennebunk 1904 – 1913
Policy on barn of hay, William E. Smith, 1895
Policies on Atlantis Hotel, 1902 and 1904
- Folder 6: Miscellaneous stockholders documents pertaining to the Boston and Maine Railroad and Standard Slate Corp. Esmont, VA, 1899 – 1913
- Folder 7: “Grandma’s Pranks,” by Cora B. Bickford, *The Congregational and Christian World*, 5/23/1903 (about Portland, Saco, and Portsmouth Railroad line coming through N. Kennebunkport.)

Essay, “Celia,” by Patricia Small, Kennebunk, for Waynefleet School class, 1940 – 1941, (Celia was the daughter of William E. Smith who worked for years for Patricia’s father, Dr. Donald Small, Kennebunk)
- Folder 8: Constitution and By-Laws, Myrtle Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Kennebunk, 1886, 1896 and receipts for lodge dues, William E. Smith, 1894 - 1941
- Folder 9: William E. Smith tax receipts. Scarborough, ME, 1918, 1921, 1922; Kennebunkport, 1892 – 1936; North Kennebunkport, 1926 – 1937.
- Folder 10: Contract, William E. Smith, New England Telephone and Telegraph, 1906 and monthly bills, 1906 – 1908
- Folder 11: Correspondence, Almon J. Smith, concerning affairs Town of Kennebunk and personal affairs including business of Atlantis and Eagle Rock Hotels, 1896 – 1907
- Folder 12: Receipts, The Atlantis Hotel, The Eagle Rock Hotel, 1900 – 1905
- Folder 13: Correspondence, Almon J. Smith as chairman Board of Selectmen, Kennebunk, with civil engineers concerning new drawbridge to be built Kennebunk Lower Village, 1895 – 1896
- Folder 14: Correspondence, Almon J. Smith, as above, with engineers and Walter H. Coleman, concerning straightening and widening of Beach Avenue (old King’s Highway) Kennebunk Beach, 1896

Map showing proposed changes is stored in MAP BOX (0) #1, Folder 3

- Folder 15: Correspondence and receipts concerning repairs to bridge near Hutchins School, Kennebunkport, 1901 – 1903
- Folder 16: Miscellaneous information about Smith family members.

Box 2:

- Ledger, 1871, including record of timber surveyed
- Ledger, 1871 – 1902
- Ledger, 1904
- Ledger pages with accounts road work, Kennebunkport, 1901 – 1902
- Ledger, timber operation, 1866 – 1894
- Sawmill ledger, 1905 – 1928
- Ledger, 1856 – 1859
- Day Book, 1867
- Cash Book, 1892

Box 3

- Diary, 1887, M. L. Smith or Mr. L. Smith
- Diary, 1909, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1917, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1918, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1919
- Diary, 1920
- Diary, 1925, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1926, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1928, H. Dorothy Smith (blank)
- Diary, 1930, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1931, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1937, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1940, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1945, William E. Smith
- Diary, 1946
- Memorandum Book, sawmill, no date (two)
- Memorandum Book, William E. Smith, 1881
- Memorandum Book, William E. Smith, 1886 – 1890

Memorandum Books (4), sawmill (?), no date
1877 diary with medical recipes
Railroad timetable, no date
1901 diary with miscellaneous notes
Time Book, 1910 – 1913
Time Book, 1913 – 1914
Time Book, 1917 – 1928
Autograph album (mostly empty) 1880 – 1905
Receipt Books (12), Selectmen, Town of Kennebunk, 1901 – 1902
Memorandum Book, no date
Book with record of “logs”, 1895
Board Book, 1899 (2)
Board Book, 1900
Record of road work, 1901

Pamphlet Box 1:

Report, Grand Chapter of Maine (Masons), 85th Annual Convention, Portland, May 3 and 4, 1910
List of Regular Lodges, Masonic (Maine), M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, 1919
Report, Grand Chapter of Maine, Order of the Eastern Star, 36th Annual Session, Portland, May 22 and 23, 1928
Insects Attacking Forest and Shade Trees, H. B. Pierson, Bulletin No. 1, Maine Forest Service, Augusta, 1923
Biennial Report, Land Agent and Forest Commissioner, State of Maine, 1921 - 1922

Box 4:

Correspondence and receipts, mostly of William E. Smith, c. 1890 – 1920

Collection also includes a ledger labeled “Day Box B” dated March to October 1876, which is stored on the shelf with it.

Photographs that are part of this collection can be found in the Smith family folder, in the photo file under the number 1991-62, and in the metal cupboard in a half box with the accession number 1991-62 and marked Unknown and K.H.S. 1901.

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