

Margaret Bayard Smith Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Paul A. Colton



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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

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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; 11 containers; 4.4 linear feet; 8 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: 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).

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Boyd, Maria Bayard, 1779-1869.

Kirkpatrick, Jane Bayard, 1772-1851.

Middleton, Mary Hering

Pichon, A. Emilie

Quincy, Eliza Susan Morton, 1773-1850

Smith, Margaret Bayard, 1778-1844.

Smith, Samuel Harrison, 1772-1845.

Subjects

Elections--United States.

Places

Monticello (Va.)--History.

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

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

Occupations

Social leaders.

Administrative Information

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.

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The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Margaret Bayard Smith is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).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

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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
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, Madame A. Emilie Pichon, and Eliza Susan Moton 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](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
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 6-11 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 11 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 11 REEL 8	<u>Miscellany</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

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diaries and Journals, 1804-1831
	Diaries and Journals kept by Smith. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	1804-1807
BOX 1 REEL 1	1829
BOX 1 REEL 1	1830-1831
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]
BOX 1 REEL 1	[1809-1829]
BOX 2 REEL 1	[1810, 1826]
BOX 2 REEL 1	[1822-1839]
BOX 2	[1824, 1825]
BOX 2	[1825, 1826]
BOX 3 REEL 1-2	[1826]
	(3 vols.)
BOX 3 REEL 1-2	[1826-1831]
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1826-1834]
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1833-1837]
BOX 4 REEL 2	[1843]
BOX 4 REEL 2	Undated
BOX 5 REEL 2	Smith, Ann, [1829-1833]
BOX 5	Smith, Susan B.

Commonplace Books, 1799-1843

Container

Contents

BOX 5
REEL 2

[1806-1815]

BOX 5
REEL 2

[1814-1819]

BOX 6-11
REEL 3-8

Family Correspondence, 1789-1842

Family letters received by Smith.
Arranged alphabetically by name of family member and therein
chronologically.

BOX 6
REEL 3

Bayard, John B., 1800-1805

BOX 6
REEL 3

Boyd, Maria Bayard (Mrs. Samuel)

BOX 6
REEL 3

1801-1825

BOX 6
REEL 3

1826-1841

BOX 6
REEL 3

Undated

BOX 6
REEL 3

Kirkpatrick, Jane Bayard (Mrs. Andrew)

BOX 6
REEL 3

1796-Sept. 1800

BOX 6
REEL 3

Oct. 1800-1804

BOX 6
REEL 3

1805-1810

BOX 6
REEL 3

1811-1813

BOX 6
REEL 3

1814, 1815

BOX 6
REEL 3

1816-1819

BOX 7
REEL 4

1820-1824

BOX 7
REEL 4

1825-1828

BOX 7
REEL 4

1829-1832

BOX 7
REEL 4

1833-1835

BOX 7
REEL 4

1836-1838

BOX 7
REEL 4

1839-1842

BOX 7
REEL 4

Undated

(2 folders)

Family Correspondence, 1789-1842

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 7 REEL 4	Rodgers, John, 1804-1807
BOX 7 REEL 4	Smith, Ann C., [1826?, 1829]
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, Anna Maria (sister of Samuel Harrison Smith), 1789
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, Anna Maria (daughter), 1832-1834
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, John R., 1800-1809
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, Jonathan Bayard, 1798
BOX 8 BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, Jonathan Bayard H.(son) 1827-1829
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	1834-[1839]
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	[Smith, Julia H.?] (daughter), undated
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Smith, Mary Ann
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	1792-1796
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	1797-1800
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	1801-1809
BOX 8 REEL 4-5	Undated
BOX 8 REEL 5	Smith, Samuel Harrison (husband)
BOX 8 REEL 5	1796-May 1797
BOX 9 REEL 5-6	June-Dec. 1797
BOX 9 REEL 5-6	Jan.-Mar. 1798
BOX 9 REEL 5-6	Apr.-June 1798
BOX 9 REEL 5-6	July-Nov. 1798
BOX 9 REEL 5-6	Feb.-July 1799
BOX 10 REEL 6-7	Aug.-Dec. 1799
BOX 10 REEL 6-7	Jan.-Apr. 1800
BOX 10 REEL 6-7	May-Sept. 1800
BOX 10	1802-May 1803

Family Correspondence, 1789-1842

Container

Contents

REEL 6-7	
BOX 10	June-Sept. 1803
REEL 6-7	
BOX 10	1809-1816
REEL 6-7	
BOX 10	Undated
REEL 6-7	
BOX 11	Smith, Susan B.
REEL 7	
BOX 11	1797-1812
REEL 7	
BOX 11	Undated
REEL 7	
BOX 11	Smith, Susan H. [1820-1829]
REEL 8	
BOX 11	General Correspondence, 1796-1874
REEL 8	
	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 11	Barlow, Ruth, 1808, 1815
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Bleeker, Anthony, [1807-1823]
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Constant, Benjamin, to William Crawford, 1825
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Gemme, Carre de, 1803-1806
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Hale, Sarah J. B., 1831
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Middleton, Mary Hering (Mrs. Henry M.), 1820-1831
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Neuville, S. H. Hyde de, 1819-1823
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Nicholson, Maria, 1799
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Pichon, A. Emilie, 1803-1829
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Porter, Letitia B., 1828
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Quincy, Eliza Susan Moton., 1824-1828
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Sedgwick, Catherine Maria, 1832
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Southard, Samuel L., 1823
REEL 8	
BOX 11	Templeton, Maria, [1798-1801]
REEL 8	

General Correspondence, 1796-1874

Container

Contents

BOX 11 REEL 8	Tennent, [G.?], [1799]
BOX 11 REEL 8	Unidentified, [1796-1835]
BOX 11 REEL 8	Posthumous correspondence, [1844-1874]
BOX 11 REEL 8	Miscellany
	Clippings, notes, a resolution, and writings by Smith and others. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 11 REEL 8	Clippings
BOX 11 REEL 8	Notes
BOX 11 REEL 8	Resolution pertaining to a canal in the District of Columbia
BOX 11 REEL 8	Writings
BOX 11 REEL 8	By Margaret Bayard Smith and family
BOX 11 REEL 8	Extracts
BOX 11 REEL 8	"Mrs. Seton's Journal of a Voyage to Italy, 1803-1804"
BOX 11 REEL 8	Smith, Anna Harrison, "The History of the Duchess of C . . . written by Herself,"
BOX 11 REEL 8	Other