

DeKalb History Center

Smith Family Papers

Scope and content: The Smith Family Papers include photographs, books, letters, newspaper clippings, church bulletins, certificates, and honors collected by Judge Charles Whitefoord Smith and his wife, Mrs. Fannie Wright Smith, as well as their adopted daughter, Daisy Frances Smith. The Smith Family Papers span a period from 1800 to 1986, but the bulk of information runs from mid-1800s to 1900s. An individual folder on Judge Smith's death provides ample resources on his life's accomplishments and funeral/estate settlement.

Provenance: Gift of Daisy Frances Smith. ACC # 1981.77, 1981.95, 1988.58. 1980.39, 1982.127, 1982.171

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Smith Family Papers, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Beth Godbee, DHS intern, 1998. Updated by Megan Milford, DHS intern, 2001 and Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2011.

Size: 1 document box papers, 1 document box scrapbooks, misc. diplomas

Biographical Sketches of Daisy Frances Smith and Judge Charles Whitefoord Smith: Daisy Frances Smith was born in 1902 and was adopted by her aunt and uncle, Charles and Fannie Smith, after losing her mother at age six. Daisy attended the Girls High School in Atlanta, Agnes Scott College for her undergraduate work, and the University of Pennsylvania where she received a master's degree in history. She taught English at Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA) and then Andrew College (Cuthbert, GA) as well as history at Peace College (Raleigh, NC). In 1932, Daisy organized the Decatur Girls High and served as principal for eleven years until she enlisted as a private in the U.S. Army Women's Army Corps. During this time, she was stationed in Florida, Texas, and Georgia; trained clerical workers in the army; and earned the position of Second Lieutenant. When discharged in 1945, Daisy returned to Decatur to find the Girls and Boys High Schools had merged, and she was not offered a position. Ms. Smith then chose a job with Escos's Garage and crossed gender barriers, wearing men's clothing and driving pick-up trucks. When the Escos left Decatur in the mid-1950s, Daisy took a teaching position at Hapeville High School. This later part of her life opened the doors for writing as she became a published poet. Her three volumes of poetry include the *Half-Breed* (1956), *A Fig and a Fither* (1967) and *Elegies* (1981). [These books are cataloged separately from this collection.] Charles Whitefoord Smith was born April 21, 1856 in Beaufort, South Carolina. Charles received his primary education from both public and private schools in Atlanta before attending Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC). At age nineteen Charles was admitted to the Georgia bar, and in 1876, he began practicing law. After almost fifty years of civil law, Charles Smith became judge of the Stone Mountain circuit in 1915. After serving for four years, Judge Smith

was appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals by Governor Dorsey to serve an unexpired term until his death on May 1, 1923. Judge Charles Smith was also involved with public service, held membership with the Georgia state militia for eighteen years, and founded the Governor's Horse Guards with his law partner, Mr. Milledge. Furthermore, Judge Smith acted as chairman of the Democratic executive committee of DeKalb County and served as mayor of Edgewood. He held church positions at Epworth Church in Edgewood and the First Methodist Church in Decatur. Finally and among a much longer list of activities, Judge Charles Smith was a member of the American Bar Association. Charles Smith married in 1881 to Fannie Wright in Columbus, Georgia. She was a graduate of Wesleyan College (Macon, GA) and held special honors in music.

Description: The Smith Family Papers contain books of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; both personal and private correspondence; portraits and photographs of travel; various newspaper clippings; and financial papers including wills, deeds, checks, and estate documentation. There are also devotional materials, sermons, family greetings, letters, comical writings, and church bulletins. The folder on legal documentation includes diplomas, wills, financial records, campaign cards, certificates, and honors. There are also many photographs, business and calling cards; and a scrapbook with selected newspaper clippings, illustrated pictures, and essays. A scrapbook with photographs and postcards from the family's vacations to Florida and the western United States is also here.

Subject Headings: Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entries: Smith, Charles Whitefoord (1856-1923)
 Smith, Daisy Frances (1902-1989)

Subject/Added Entries: Decatur, Ga.—social life and customs.
 Edgewood (DeKalb County), Ga.
 Prayer—Books and devotions.
 Smith, Fannie Wright (1859-1938).
 United States—Description and travel—1865-1920.
 Women--History—Georgia—DeKalb County.

Folder List

Box	Folder	Contents	Dates
1	1	<i>Biennial Catalogue, Kappa Alpha Order</i>	1873-1875
	2	<i>The Book of Useful Recipes</i>	1877
	3	<i>Broken Swords</i>	1916
	4	Business and calling cards	
	5	Death of Judge C.W. Smith	1903-1960
	6	<i>The Gift of Leadership</i>	1916
	7	Legal Documents	1874-1920
	8	Miscellaneous, ration stamps	
	9	Ordinances/Rules and Regulations of the town of Edgewood	1904
	10	<i>The Philistine</i>	1905

Box	Folder	Contents	Dates
	11	Photographs 1 of 2	
1	12	Photographs 2 of 2	
	13	Personal papers	1800-1986
	14	<i>The Prayers of a Week</i>	1916
	15	Public papers	1881-1982
	16	<i>Pulling Together</i>	1916
	17	<i>The Secret of Eternal Youth</i>	1916
	18	<i>The Westminster Shorter Catechism</i>	1861
	19	<i>Your Grandmother's Job and Yours</i>	1916
	20	1988.58 Holy Bible, new	
	21	Epworth United Methodist Church bulletins	1974-75
2		Photograph/postcard album Scrapbook of Fannie Wright Smith, later Mrs. Charles W. Smith (1982.127) 4.5 by 6.6 watercolor, bad condition	
3	1	Oversized Certificates for C.W. Smith: 2 nd Lt. of Governor's Horse Guard (3) Georgia Court of Appeals (2) 32 nd Degree of Scottish Rite (2) Noble, Mystic Shrine (Yaarab Temple) Georgia Supreme Court Diploma, Boys High School	1887 1907 1911 1912 1915-1916, 1919

1980.39 - Dixie Cook Book, 1883