



William Loughton Smith papers, 1774-1834

SCHS 1119.00

Containers 11/472-11/476

Creator: Smith, William Loughton.

Description: 1.75 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: Charleston, S.C. attorney, plantation owner, South Carolina state representative, U.S. representative, and U.S. diplomat. Smith used his wealth to subscribe nearly \$12,000 of the state debt due to the Revolution. He was president (1808) of the Santee Canal Co. and invested heavily in it and other canal projects.

Scope and Content: Papers consist of legal documents and records, accounts and other financial records, correspondence, and other items. Included are the papers of Smith's agent David Campbell (d. 1822).

Legal papers chiefly pertain to estates administered by Smith and include wills, accounts, receipts, indentures, and related correspondence. Individuals represented include Smith's brother-in-law Barnard Elliott and Alexander Skene. Other case material (1780-1812) pertains to a dispute over a ship (Indien, renamed South Carolina) of Luxembourg used by South Carolina during the Revolution; included is an "Extract and Translation" (1780) of the original contract, a report (1805) by Smith, correspondence, and many documents in French. Two volumes (1795-1805) contain abstracts of court records of cases determined in South Carolina constitutional courts.

Correspondence (1789-1794), mostly letters to Edward Rutledge during Smith's terms in Congress, concerns Smith's contested election to Congress, the powers of the presidency, the Constitution, foreign affairs, and other political matters.

Financial records include accounts (1774-1813) for bonds, notes, mortgages, and other investments and transactions; receipts; and related correspondence. There are also accounts and receipts of Smith's children Thomas L. Smith and Anna C. Smith (later Anne Pederson) and accounts and receipts of Smith's brother Joseph A. Smith. In addition, there are accounts, receipts, and other financial records of the Santee Canal and Catawba Co. and correspondence and other documents concerning the Dismal Swamp Canal Co. (Va.).

Other items include bonds; estate records of William L. Smith; a bond (1807) between Smith and the trustees of the College of Charleston; a lease (1806) of College lands to Smith; two financial and appointment journals (1781, 1782); a copy of "The American Repository and Annual Register of the United States" (1798) with notes in the "Memorandums" section; a manuscript (n.d.) of a play (40 p.); and a critical essay.

Preferred Citation: Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812. William Loughton Smith papers, 1774-1834. (1119.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Elliott, Barnard, d. 1778 -- Estate.
Pederson, Anne Caroline Smith.
Rutledge, Edward, 1749-1800.
Skene, Alexander, d. 1740 -- Estate.
Smith, Joseph Allen, ca. 1769-1828.
Smith, Thomas Loughton, d. 1817.
Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812.
Catawba Company.
College of Charleston.
Dismal Swamp Canal Company.
Santee Canal Company (S.C.)
South Carolina (Frigate)
Canals -- Southern States.
Decedents' estates -- South Carolina.
Lawyers -- South Carolina -- Correspondence.
Legislators -- United States -- Correspondence.
South Carolina -- History.
United States -- Politics and government -- 1789-1797.
Estate records.
Financial records.
Legal documents.
Letters (correspondence)
Plays.
Lawyers.
Members of Congress.

Container listing:

11/472/1-3 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Estate case papers, 1778-1805. Approx 60 items

Charleston lawyer, businessman, investor. Administration of estate of Beaufort planter Barnard Elliot including bonds, sale of slaves, will, correspondence of John S. Cripps regarding business and rice crop, of attorney Edward Rutledge regarding the estate, and material regarding Elliot's children.

11/472/4-5 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Estate case papers, 1738-1812. Approx 40 items

Charleston lawyer. Administration of estates of Alexander Skene (1738-1787) and John Holmes (1802-1812). Includes will, indentures, correspondence, account receipts.

11/472/6-12 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Legal case papers, 1780-1812. Approx 50 items

Charleston lawyer, US Congressman. Litigation regarding Alexander Gillon and the lease of a ship from Luxembourg for use by South Carolina during the Revolutionary War. List of passengers and sailors, certificates, procurations, correspondence, US House resolution. Much material in French ms. "Report on the Subject of the Luxemburg Affair" by WLS.

11/472/13 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Abstracts of court records, 1795-1805. 2 items

Charleston lawyer. Abstracts of cases determined in the Constitutional Courts at Charleston and Columbia (1795-1805). An index to the decrees. Two bound volumes.

11/473/1-5 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Business accounts, 1774-1812. Approx 120 items

Charleston lawyer, businessman, investor. Personal, business accounts with bonds, notes, receipts, and correspondence regarding WLS business investments.

11/473/6-7 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Family receipts and accounts, 1789-1812. Approx 60 items

Charleston lawyer. Family receipts, correspondence, bonds much regarding WLS business accounts, including accounts for the Santee and Catawba Canal Companies (1804-1912). Joseph Allen Smith business accounts with Adam Tunno. Estate litigation, receipts, and correspondence of Thomas Loughton Smith and Anne Caroline Smith.

11/473/8-11 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Canal investment papers, 1791-1815. Approx 80 items

Charleston lawyer, businessman, investor. Business accounts, correspondence, receipts, balance sheets of investors in Canal companies in which WLS was involved: Catawba Canal Co. (1792-1814) with accounts of John F. Grimke, CC Pinckney, and Thomas Sumter, Norfolk Canal Co (1791-1804) with plat. Santee Canal (1792-1815) and the Wraggsborough Canal (ca. 1805).

11/473/12-14 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Business account papers, 1800-1813. 70 items

Charleston lawyer, businessman. Bond, mortgage and business accounts handled by WLS with correspondence, indentures, balance sheets. Includes bond accounts of Pierce Butler, William Crafts, George Keenan, Francis Rose, William H. Harvey, James Smythe of Beaufort, and John Vaughn of Philadelphia PA (1800-1813).

11/474/1-12 Campbell, David, fl. 1790-1812

Business papers, 1794-1804. Approx 300 items

Charleston agent for William Loughton Smith. Correspondence with or concerning DC and Smith's property accounts, mortgages, stocks, bonds and other business. Some property litigation included.

11/475/1-11 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Misc. estate and business papers, 1806-1834. Approx 350 items

Charleston lawyer and businessman. Administration of WLS estate including inventory of bonds, notes, stocks, and lands; and abstract of WLS marriage settlement, codicil to his will, land papers pertaining to College of Charleston with plats (1806-1831), court of equity decrees regarding estate, scattered legal papers received from Henry Bacot, WLS law partner and other land material. Also included are estate accounts of Anne Caroline Smith and Charlotte Wragg Smith; and estate accounts with John Owen of Elizabeth and Charlotte Wragg Smith.

11/476/1-4 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Personal correspondence, 1789-1794. Approx 50 items

Charleston lawyer, congressman during Washington administration and diplomat. Correspondence with attorney Edward Rutledge regarding politics, diplomacy. Some of the letter published in SCHM 69-70. includes typescript of some of the letters.

11/476/5-8 Smith, William Loughton, 1758-1812

Personal papers, 1781-1812. Approx 60 items

Charleston lawyer, congressman, diplomat, businessman. WLS finance and appointment journal (1781-82, 1798). Literary ms of a tragedy, 40 pp. (post 1806). Drama criticism of A Female Enthusiast, a tragedy by a lady. Notes on Phocion, tour through the Backcountry 4 pp(1793). Extracts from a meeting of members of St. Phillips's Episcopal Church, Charleston (1808-1809) and a statement of pew rent (1818). A list of objects d'art purchased by WLS and a list of borrowed books.