



# SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Visual Materials from the Alice Ravenel Huger Smith Papers, 1910-1974 SCHS# 1173.00 VM

**Creator:** Smith, Alice Ravenel Huger

**Description:** 3 linear ft. (3 boxes + 1 drawer)

**Biographical/Historical Note:** Charleston, S.C. artist and writer. Smith gained fame for her watercolor paintings of South Carolina lowcountry scenes. She was the daughter of Daniel Elliott Huger Smith (1846-1932), a Charleston cotton broker, author, and rice plantation owner whose books *The Dwelling Houses of Charleston* (1917) and *The Life of Charles Fraser* (1924) she co-authored and illustrated. She also illustrated multiple books and articles including, *The Carolina Low-Country*, *A Woman Rice Planter*, and *A Carolina Rice Plantation of the Fifties*. She died in 1958.

**Scope and Content:** Collection chiefly consists of artwork by Alice Ravenel Huger Smith. Artwork (1905-1956) includes drawings (in conté, pencil, and charcoal), etchings, watercolor paintings, and copybooks with sketches. Works include renditions of plantation houses, nature scenes, and African Americans; including six of the original drawings for *A Woman Rice Planter* and two from *Twenty Drawings of the Pringle House*, on King Street: Charleston, S.C. (aka the Miles Brewton House); a copy of the aforementioned folio; etchings; black & white copy photos of Smith's watercolor paintings and drawings.

**Note:** Artwork and photographs were removed from the Alice R.H. Smith manuscript collection (SCHS# 1173.00)

### **VMA Oversize Drawer (1173.00 VM)**

#### **Drawings. 1913.**

Three (3) original drawings of El Dorado Plantation, 1913.

### **VMA Oversize Box 1**

#### **Drawings. 1913. (20 x 24)**

Six (6) drawings depicting African Americans in various scenes. All are original illustrations used in the book, *A Woman Rice Planter*, by Elizabeth W. Allston Pringle.

### **VMA Oversize Box 2**

#### **Drawings. Early-20<sup>th</sup> Century. (20 x 24)**

Nine (9) original drawings of various historic dwellings and properties.

- 24 George Street, Charleston. Also known as: Radcliffe-King Mansion, Judge King House, Charleston High School, and the College of Charleston gymnasium. One drawing. Original illustration for *The Dwelling Houses of Charleston*.
- 27 King Street, Charleston. Also known as: Miles Brewton House and the Pringle House. Two (2) drawings. Original illustrations for *The Dwelling Houses of Charleston* and *Twenty Drawings of the Pringle House, on King Street: Charleston, S.C.*
- 14 Legare Street, Charleston. Also known as: Simmons-Edwards House and the Pineapple Gate House. One drawing.
- Mulberry Plantation. Three (3) drawings.
- Church Street. One drawing.
- 320 East Bay Street, Charleston. Also known as the Henry Laurens House. One drawing. Original illustration for *The Dwelling Houses of Charleston*.

**VMA Oversize Box 3 [Formerly 33/29]**

**Artwork and Miscellaneous Oversized Materials. 1910 - 1971. (16 x 20)**

1. Photographs. Includes a black and white photo mounted on board, circa late-19<sup>th</sup> century, Alice and Caroline Smith identified; and two photographs, 1932, of an exhibition of art by Alice R. H. Smith at the J. B. Speed Memorial Museum.
2. Watercolor Paintings. Includes a small painting with rendition of marsh birds; unsigned, no date; and a landscape painting of a tree by a lake, no date (from the estate of Mrs. Chester Carre).
3. Etchings. Three (3) items. "The Studio Balcony", Dated May 1923. Depiction of rooftops and trees with view of the steeple of St. Michael's Church in the background. One Proof print, one Finished Print, and one Photomechanical reproduction print. Proof Print has handwriting in pencil with note from Smith to Laura Bragg identifying it as the first etching Smith ever attempted. Both original prints signed by Smith.
4. Sketch. "Looking Due South", undated. Rough charcoal sketch of marsh/beach scene at Snug Harbor. Verso has signature and identification in pencil.
5. Sketch. Rough pencil sketch depicting an African American woman with a basket of flowers on her head. Handwriting in gall ink reads, "This is a rough outline of sketch [?] in my possession [illegible] may help". Signed with Smith's initials. No date (circa Early-20<sup>th</sup> century).
6. County Life Magazine. January 1930 issue. Features article titled, "Carolina Marshes" by Herbert Ravenel Sass with illustrations by Smith.
7. Twenty Drawings of the Pringle House, on King Street : Charleston, S.C. Limited edition Folio prints by Smith. 1914.  
\* Plate VIII is missing (noted 12 September 2019).
8. Photo Album. Large album containing 20<sup>th</sup> century sepia-toned Copy Prints of Smith's paintings.
9. Copy Photo. mid-20<sup>th</sup> century black and white image of one of Smith's paintings.
10. Photomechanical Print. Copy of Smith drawing of dwelling with the steeple of St. Michael's Church in the background.
11. Miscellaneous. Various oversized news items/clippings regarding Smith, her artwork, and the dwelling at 69 Church Street. Photostats, photocopy, and clippings. Date range: 1915-1971.