



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Alexander Smith Account and Letter Book

NMAH.AC.0083

Robert S. Harding

1986

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Alexander Smith Account and Letter Book
Date:	1792-1797
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0083
Creator:	Smith, Alexander, fl. 1790s (Author)
Source:	Dodd, Jean M., Mrs. (Donor) National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Domestic Life (Collector)
Extent:	1 Volume (1 folder)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Correspondence of Alexander Smith, a merchant living in Alexandria, Virginia, correspondence consists of copies of his letters to other merchants. Of particular interest is a letter dated 1796 November 9, from Smith to George Washington concerning Smith's loan repayment.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Alexander Smith Account and Letter Book

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Mrs. Jean M. Dodd, 1963, July 25.

Ownership and Custodial History

Transferred from the Division of Domestic Life, 2/3/84. (64.158, original catalog no.) Gift of Mrs. Jean M. Dodd.

Other Finding Aids

Inventory available; contact the Archives Center for more information.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Robert Harding, 1986

Preferred Citation

Alexander Smith Account and Letter Book, 1792-1797, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Scope and Contents

In 1792-1797, Alexander Smith, a merchant living in Alexandria, Va., kept a record of dry goods purchased and sold. Most of the 1797 correspondence is copies of his letters to other merchants. Of particular interest is a letter dated 9 November 1796, from Smith to George Washington concerning Smith's loan repayment. Washington's response of 14 November 1796 can be found in "The Writings of George Washington, 1745-1799" by John C. Fitzpatrick.

Scope and Contents

Approx. 1/3 of the ledger consists of general accounts, 1/3 of accounts at "Difficult Mill," and the remaining third copies of letters from Alexander Smith.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Commerce -- 1780-1800

Types of Materials:

Account books -- 18th century

Letter books -- 1780-1800

Manuscripts -- 18th century

Names:

Dodd, Jean M., Mrs.

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Domestic Life

Washington, George, 1732-1799

Places:

Alexandria (Va.) -- 1790s

Container Listing

Box 1, Volume 1	[Pages from account and letter book], 1793-1836 2 Pages (Ink on paper; 12.5" x 7.0") Image(s) Image(s) Author: Smith, Alexander, fl. 1790s Language: English. Notes: AC0083-0000001-01 (AC Scan) AC0083-0000001-02 (AC Scan) Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Book is fragile, handle with care. Miscellaneous cash entries for purchases and receipts. Topic: Commerce Genre/Form: Account books -- 18th century Letter books
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