

Inventory of the William J. Smith Diary 1937-1937

William J. Smith Diary 1937
1937

A Collection in the Special Collections Research Center Mss. Acc. 2009.041
Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary
2012

History

Processed By Special Collections Staff.

Title Statement

Inventory of the William J. Smith Diary 1937-1937

Subtitle: Smith, William J. Diary

Collection: Mss. Acc. 2009.041

Publication Statement

Date: © 2012 By the College of William and Mary. All rights reserved.

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Profile Description

Creation: Finding aid created by Special Collections staff, 2009

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Overview of the Collection

Identification:

01/Mss. Acc. 2009.041

Language of Materials

The papers are in: English

Creator:

Smith, William J. arrangement

Quantity:

0.06

Alternate Extent Statement:

1 vol.

Repository:

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open to all researchers.

Conditions Governing Use

Before reproducing or quoting from any materials, in whole or in part, permission must be obtained from the Special Collections Research Center, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

Acquisition Information

The materials were acquired by Special Collections Research Center on 02/18/2009.

Preferred Citation

William J. Smith Diary, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Additional Information

Biographical Note

Information about this individual or organization may be available in the Special Collections Research Center Wiki: http://scrc.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/William J. Smith.

Scope and Contents

Diary of a worker, probably William J. Smith, of Visalia, Tulare County, California, recording his varying types of daily work, income and expenses, weather, health issues and social life for January through 11 November, 1937. The following description was provided by the seller: "This is a handwritten diary printed on the cover "The Clipper Diary 1937". Inside this diary is a Tulare County General Hospital Out-Patient Department card for William J. Smith of Visalia and a paper receipt from the Pacific Rural Press, San Francisco for Wm. J. Smith of Visalia California. Because of a reference to being in the hospital, I think that William J. Smith is the man who kept the diary. These items will be included with the diary. The diary measures 4 1/2" by 6 1/4". It contains 318 pages. The diary was started on Jan. 1, 1937 and continued until November 11, 1937. The pencil entries in the diary gave a day by day account of weather, who the man worked for, what type of work he did and how many hours he worked. It seemed that he did any kind of work for a variety of people. He picked crops, cleaned out barns, etc. There is also a section describing being in a hospital waiting for his surgery, telling about other patients, and information about his recovery. He talks about visiting other people and areas. This is a depression diary and shows how hard people had to work. It also tells about Edie canning large quantities of food. He went to see the circus come to town, he went to see a fire that was burning in the area. It is simply the daily life of an ordinary man and what he did each day. What is most impressive is that he is so calm about his life and never seems to be upset if he works one hour or thirteen hours a day. It is just what he does. There is one page in the back that lists when he was paid and how much he received from different people that had worked for. The diary ends on page 191. From 192 to 318 is a printed almanac; A pronunciation key for words commonly mispronounced; Constitution of the United States, U. S. Broadcasting stations including Call Letters, Klocycle, Meters, Location, Power; Population of the United States; Menus; Domestic and Foreign Postal Rates, etc. The Diary has white spots on the cover. The inside is in good condition."

Index Terms

This Collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:

Diaries

Geographic Name:

California--Social life and customs.

Topical Term:

Great Depression--History--California.

