

The University of Toledo Archives
Manuscript Collection

Finding Aid

➤Willard A. Smith Papers, 1956 to 1961◀
UM 10

Size: 1 linear foot

Provenance: Department of history, March 15th 1985

Access: Open

Related Collections:

Processing Note:

Condition: Fair

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Location: R 15/ S A

Completed by: Julie Onnenga, March 15th, 1985

Willard A. Smith
Papers, 1956 to 1961

Biographical/Historical Sketch

A native of the Toledo area, Dr. Willard Albon Smith was a graduate of UT in 1932, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree. He then went on to receive his masters of arts in 1939 and his Ph.D. in 1946 from Harvard. During that time, he taught at Lake Forest College, from 1939 to 1941. In 1946, Smith joined the University of Toledo as an assistant professor of history. He was promoted to associate professor in 1952, and finally full professor in 1957. His interests outside of the university included art and music; he was a member of the Toledo Orchestra Association and the Toledo Museum of Art.

Dr. Smith was very interested in Toledo's sister city, Toledo, Spain. He joined the Toledo Cultural Council, created in 1959, in order to do more research. Thanks to grants from the Spanish Government and Toledo donors along with the Fulbright Grant, Smith spent most of 1959 and 1960 researching in preparation for a biography of Primo de Rivera, a Spanish dictator of the 1920s. Shortly after traveling to Spain, on November 9th, 1961, Dr. Willard A. Smith died unexpectedly.

**Willard A. Smith
Papers, 1956 to 1961**

Scope and Content Note

This collection is the research material of Willard A. Smith, history professor at the University of Toledo from 1946-1961. It is divided into two series: general research and manuscript collection. The general research consists of Smith's notes for a book he was writing on Primo de Rivera, dictator of Spain from 1923-1930. Some of this research material is in Spanish.

**Willard A. Smith
Papers, 1956 to 1961**

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