Guide to the
George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr
1903-1932
MssCol 23291

Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2017

Summary

Creator: Wetmore, George Peabody, 1846-1921

Title: George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr

Date: 1903-1932

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Frank Veeder, 1969

Abstract: George Peabody Wetmore was the 37th governor of Rhode Island and later a U.S. senator from the State. The George Peabody Wetmore papers consist chiefly of his correspondence with dealers, librarians, and others regarding the location or purchase of books, papers, and portraits associated with American loyalist William Smith Jr. and his family, and the acquisition of Smith's papers by The New York Public Library. Also present is his daughter Maude A.K. Wetmore’s correspondence regarding John Wollaston's portrait of William Smith Jr., acquired by her father; the original label for the portrait; photographs of the portrait; Smith family bookplates; and some printed matter concerning Smith. The collection was originally described as a scrapbook; materials are not bound together. Original letters and documents pertaining to William Smith Jr., his father William Smith (1697-1769), and his brother Joshua Hett Smith have been transferred to the Division's Miscellaneous Personal Name Files collection; photocopies are retained in this collection.

Preferred citation: George Peabody Wetmore papers relating to William Smith Jr., Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2017

Creator History

George Peabody Wetmore was the 37th governor of Rhode Island and later a U.S. senator from the State. He married Edith Malvina Keteltas, a descendant of William Smith Jr.’s sister, Sarah Smith Keteltas. Wetmore was instrumental in the acquisition of the William Smith Jr. Papers by The New York Public Library.
Scope and Content Note

The George Peabody Wetmore papers consist chiefly of his correspondence with dealers, librarians, and others regarding the location or purchase of books, papers, and portraits associated with American loyalist William Smith Jr. and his family, and the acquisition of Smith's papers by The New York Public Library. Also present is his daughter Maude A.K. Wetmore's correspondence regarding John Wollaston's portrait of William Smith Jr., acquired by her father; the original label for the portrait; photographs of the portrait; Smith family bookplates; and some printed matter concerning Smith.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Armorial bookplates
Photographs

Occupations
Art dealers
Booksellers
Librarians
Politicians

Names
Anderson, Edwin Hatfield, 1861-1947
Smith, William, 1728-1793
Wetmore, Maude A. K. (Maude Alice Keteltas), 1873-1951
Wollaston, John, 1710-1775?
Smith family
New York Public Library. Central Administration. Director's Office