

**MSA 113
(and MSA 114-123)**

**Peter P. Smith (1945-)
Congressional Papers, 1988-1991**

Scope and Content

This collection consists of a portion of the congressional papers of U.S. Representative Peter Paul Smith, a Republican who served in the 101st Congress (1989-1991) from Vermont. The Vermont Historical Society's holdings consist of the items which Smith's staff thought he would personally like to keep as he left office in January 1991. The bulk of the papers from the Congressman's office were shipped to the Department of Special Collections at the University of Vermont. Smith transferred this smaller collection from his home in Virginia to the Vermont Historical Society in 1993 (ms. acc. no. 93.12).

The collection traces Smith's election to Congress in 1988; his many areas of interest when he served as a member of the House Committees on Education and Labor, and Government Operations; and his unsuccessful bid for re-election in 1991. During the 1991 campaign Smith's position for hand gun control was controversial both in Vermont and nationally. The collection consists of legislative subject files, newspaper clippings, photographs, audio tapes, video tapes, and a small amount of correspondence following the election of 1990.

Smith's official record in Washington is well-documented by a "Legislative Profile" from the Office of Legislative Information, 1989-1990 (MSA 116, Folder 3); his voting record, January to June 1989 (Folder 4); monthly vote summaries (MSA 116 and 117); and a record of roll-call votes, 1990 (MSA 117, Folder 3). On a more personal level is his "Issue Accomplishments" an alphabetical listing of issues (or subjects) prepared by his staff with his action or position on each. Additional personal materials include several of his speeches and speech notes, and the many letters of condolence from his constituents after he lost the 1990 election to Bernard Sanders (MSA 117, Folder 6-8).

The collection also includes an extensive chronological file of photocopied newspaper clippings from Vermont and national newspapers (MSA 118-122). Additional clippings are filed in the legislative subject series, particularly on gun control and the savings and loan scandal.

Miscellaneous items of interest include his office guest book (MSA 118, Folder 1), and a Becker Institute, Inc. Survey (Dec. 1990) which indicates year-end economic trends in Vermont as well as public sentiment toward taxes and other key issues.

The photographs in the collection, located in MSA 123, are for the most part glossy prints or snap shots. Peter Smith is in the photograph unless otherwise noted in the inventory. Several photographs from the Second Conference of Non-gubernmental Environmental Organizations (Lima, Peru), July 20-22, 1989, are located in MSA 115 (Folder 8).

The video and audio tapes are located in the Vermont Historical Society's video and audio tape collections. A list of these and their locations follows the inventory in this finding aid.

The collection occupies 4.75 linear feet and is housed in 11 archival boxes.

Biography

Peter Smith attended public schools in Burlington, Vermont, and graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts. He received a B. A. from Princeton and a Ed. D. from Harvard. Prior to his election to Congress in 1988, Smith was a founder and first President of the Community College of Vermont (1970-1980); he was a member of the Vermont Senate (1980-1982); he served as Lieutenant Governor (1982-1986); and in 1987-1988 was Vice-President for Institutional Development, Norwich University. In 1986, he ran unsuccessfully for Governor.

After leaving Congress in 1991, Smith remained in Washington and became Executive Director of the Commission on Responsibilities for Financing Post Secondary Education. In August 1991, he assumed the position of Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at George Washington University. Biographical information in Folder 0 include: photocopies of a profile Smith submitted with an article for the *Andover Bulletin* (Summer 1990) and a biography from *Who's Who in Vermont* (1990) (VHS call number R 920.0743 R263).

His major publications include:

Burlington, Vermont, 1791-1948: a study of economic development and social change. Princeton University, 1968. Thesis (B. A.) VHS MS 974.31 B925sp.

Vermont design for education: a report sponsored by the Vermont State Department of Education and the project Improving State Leadership, 1971 (UVM).

The transformation of Norwich University: 1971-1981. Harvard Graduate School of Education, 1983. Thesis (Ed. D.) (UVM).

Your hidden credentials. Acropolis Books, 1986. VHS 374 Sm63.

“Battling the NRA,” *Andover Bulletin*, Summer 1990, pp. 8-9. (MSA 113, Folder 11).

Organization

The collection is organized in eight series:

- I. Major legislation
- II. Other legislation
- III. Speeches and whip strategy
- IV. Voting record and accomplishments
- V. Election of 1990 and post-election letters
- VI. Miscellaneous
- VII. Newspaper clippings
- VIII. Photographs

Inventory

I. Major Legislation

MSA 113	Folder	1	Chronology, H. R. 3347, a National Demonstration Program for Educational Performance Agreements for School Restructuring
		2	_____, _____
		3	_____, _____
		4	Semiautomatic Assault Weapons Act of 1989, (H. R. 1190)
		5	_____, Newspapers (Vermont) articles, October 1988-March 14, 1989
		6	_____, _____, March 16-31, 1989
		7	_____, _____, September 1989-September 1990
		8	_____, _____, undated
		9	_____, Newspapers (non-Vermont), March 1989-May 1990
		10	_____, Stark Amendment, Correspondence, Vermont Chiefs of Police, August-November 1989
		11	_____, Peter Smith, “Battling the NRA,” <i>Andover Bulletin</i> , Summer 1990, pp. 8-9
		12	_____, Handgun Control Inc.

- 13 _____, Guns notebook, General
- 14 _____, _____, Table of contents and Pro-Smith correspondence, etc.
- MSA 114 Folder 1 _____, _____, Anti-Smith correspondence, etc.
- 2 _____, _____, Memos, Press Conference and Press releases
- 3 _____, _____, New articles (Vermont and other papers, etc.)
- 4 _____, _____, Legislation
- 5 _____, _____, Miscellaneous
- 6 _____, _____, Miscellaneous
- 7 _____, _____, Miscellaneous
- 8 House Resolution 407, Savings and Loan binder, front matter
- 9 _____, _____, Press releases
- 10 _____, _____, Votes and summary
- 11 _____, _____, Memos
- 12 _____, _____, Letters to constituents
- 13 _____, _____, Judiciary Hearing on H. R. 407
- 14 _____, _____, News stories, June 1990
- 15 _____, _____, _____, July/August 1990
- 16 _____, _____, Vermont news stories, June/July 1990
- 17 _____, _____, Letters to the Editor, July 1990
- MSA 115 Folder 1 _____, Working notes from floor, June 1990
- 2 Savings and loan, miscellaneous, 1990
- 3 Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1990, H. R. 5269, Committee minutes

II. Other Legislation, etc.

- 4 Appalachian Trail in Vermont Hearing, July 13, 1989. Testimony of witnesses Hon. Peter Smith, Preston Bristow, Jr. (Past Pres., Green Mt. Club), Nancy Bell (Shrewsbury Land Trust, etc.), Ray Keyser, Jr. (SKI, Ltd.), Henry B. Lunde (Killington, Ltd.), et. al.

- 5 _____. Testimony David N. Startzell (Exec. Director, Appalachian Trail Conference).
- 6 Capital Gains, September 1989, miscellaneous
- 7 Minimum Wage, February-April 1989, miscellaneous
- 8 2d Conference on Non-Gubernmental Environmental Organizations, Lima, Peru, July 20-22, 1989
- 9 Peace Dividend Task Force, May 1990
- 10 Wednesday Group, Social Security, January 1989
- 11 _____, Underclass project, March/April 1990.

III. Speeches and whip strategy

- 12 Speeches in Congress, June 1989-October 1990
- 13 Speech material
- 14 Whip strategy, February-July 1990

IV. Voting Record, accomplishments, etc.

- MSA 116 Folder
- 1 Issue Accomplishments (Fall 1990 ?)
 - 2 Hearings on H. R. 3347, The Educational Performance Agreements for School Restructuring Act 1990. November 16, 1989 (Washington, D. C.); March 5, 1990 (Carbondale, IL); and May 7, 1990 (So. Burlington, VT)
 - 3 Legislative Profile, January 1989-December 1990. Prepared for Peter Smith by the Office of Legislative Information
 - 4 Voting Record, January/June 1989
 - 5 Vote Summaries, February 1989
 - 6 _____, March 1989
 - 7 _____, April 1989
 - 8 _____, May 1989
 - 9 _____, June 1989
 - 10 _____, July 1989
 - 11 _____, September 1989
- MSA 117 Folder
- 1 Vote Summaries, October 1989

2 _____, November 1989

3 Roll call votes, 1990

V. Election of November 1990 and post-election letters

4 Miscellaneous materials, re-election campaign, 1989-1990

5 Becker Institute Survey, December 1990, Year-end trends in Vermont on public's mood on personal finances, priorities on key issues, analysis of Sanders vote, etc.

6 Post-election condolence letters, Vermont

7 _____, _____

8 _____, non-Vermont

VI. Miscellaneous

MSA 118 Folder 1 Office Guest book, January 1989-December 1990

2 Postal-patron letters, 1989-1990

3 Stationery samples

4 Miscellaneous issues from unlabeled notebook

5 Miscellaneous

VII. Newspaper clippings

6 Clippings, Smith, 1988 (no month/day)

7 _____, _____, May-July 1988

8 _____, _____, August 1988

9 _____, _____, September 1988

10 _____, _____, October 1-15, 1988

11 _____, _____, October 16-31, 1988

12 _____, _____, November/December 1988

13 _____, Bernard Sanders, 1988 (no month/day)

14 _____, _____, January-August 1988

15 _____, _____, September 1988

	16	____, _____, October 1-15, 1988
	17	____, _____, October 16-31, 1988
	18	____, _____, November/December 1988
MSA 119 Folder	1	____, January 1989
	2	____, February 1989
	3	____, March 1989
	4	____, April 1989
	5	____, May 1989
	6	____, June 1989
	7	____, July 1989
	8	____, August/December 1989
	9	____, Other Vermont media, January-March 1989
	10	____, _____, April/June 1989
	11	____, _____, July/August 1989
	12	____, _____, September/December 1989
	13	____, National media, 1989
	14	____, Associated press, 1989
	15	____, <i>Congressional Record</i> , 1989
	16	____, Editorials, Vermont, 1989
	17	____, Articles by Peter Smith, 1989
	19	____, January/February 1990
	20	____, March 1990
MSA 120 Folder	1	____, April 1990
	2	____, May 1990
	3	____, June 1-10, 1990
	4	____, June 11-20, 1990

- 5 _____, June 21-30, 1990
- 6 _____, July 1-10, 1990
- 7 _____, July 11-20, 1990
- 8 _____, July 21-31, 1990
- 9 _____, Jan./July 1990
- 10 _____, August 1-9, 1990
- 11 _____, August 10-19, 1990
- 12 _____, August 20-31, 1990
- MSA 121 Folder
 - 1 _____, September 1-9, 1990
 - 2 _____, September 10-19, 1990
 - 3 _____, September 20-30, 1990
 - 4 _____, *Vermont Sportsman*, September 1990
 - 5 _____, October 1-9, 1990
 - 6 _____, October 10-19, 1990
 - 7 _____, October 20-25, 1990
 - 8 _____, October 26-31, 1990
 - 9 _____, November 1990
 - 10 _____, Other Vermont media, Jan./Mar. 1990
 - 11 _____, _____, April/May 1990
 - 12 _____, *Congressional Record*, 1990
 - 13 _____, Miscellaneous, 1990
- MSA 122 Folder
 - 1 _____, Editorials, Jan./June 1990
 - 2 _____, _____, July 1990
 - 3 _____, _____, August 1990
 - 4 _____, _____, September 1990
 - 5 _____, _____, October 1-15, 1990

- 6 _____, _____, October 16-31, 1990
- 7 _____, _____, November 1990
- 8 _____, Letters, April/June 1990
- 9 _____, _____, July 1-15, 1990
- 10 _____, _____, July 16-31, 1990
- 11 _____, _____, August 1-15, 1990
- 12 _____, _____, August 16-31, 1990
- 13 _____, _____, September 1990
- 14 _____, _____, October 1-19, 1990
- 15 _____, _____, October 20-31, 1990
- 16 _____, _____, November 1990
- 17 _____, Articles for "P.P.S. to see", 1990
- 18 _____, Articles written by Smith, 1990
- 19 _____, Profiles, top stories, 1989-1990
- 20 _____, _____, Another version, 1989-1990
- 21 _____, Articles written by Smith, 1991

VIII. Photographs

- MSA 123 Folder
- 1 Agriculture, Vermont Farm Show, Barre, January 26, 1989
 - 2 _____, Addison Co. Field Days, 1989
 - 3 Bush Administration, President Bush, February 1989
 - 4 _____, Briefing with Bush, Paxon and Schuette, March 1989
 - 5 _____, John Sununu, January 1989
 - 6 _____, Elizabeth Dole's Vermont visit, 1990
 - 7 Business, National Grocer's Association, April 11, 1989
 - 8 _____, SBA Awards, 1990
 - 9 _____, Chamber of Commerce Award, 1990

- 10 Education, Miscellaneous Vermont school children, 1989-1990
- 11 _____, Ed./Labor hearing, n.d.
- 12 Environment, Earth Day Vermont, n.d.
- 13 _____, League of Conservation Voters, Press Conference, n.d.
- 14 _____, _____, n.d.
- 15 _____, Casella Recycling Plant, 1989
- 16 _____, National Bottle Bill, Press Conference, 1989
- 17 _____, Ducks Unlimited, n.d.
- 18 Labor, Social Security earnings cap introduced, May 1989
- 19 Smith, Biography photos
- 20 _____, Miscellaneous, 1989-1990
- 21 Republicans, New GOP members in Congress, January 1989
- 22 _____, Miscellaneous House GOP, 1989
- 23 _____, GOP retreat, Princeton, 1989
- 24 _____, Rep. Jerry Lewis, January 1989
- 25 Miscellaneous, AARP, April 25, 1989
- 26 _____, _____, January 31, 1989
- 27 _____, Fort Drum, August 6, 1990
- 28 _____, Freshmen Congressmen, 1989
- 29 _____, Press Conference, June 1989
- 30 _____, Swearing in, January 1989
- 31 _____, Miscellaneous visits, Vermont Constituents, 1989-1990
- 32 _____, _____, _____, _____
- 33 _____, Vermont staff, n.d.
- 34 _____, Youth Exchange Program, July 1989
- 35 _____, Dawn Mason, July 11, 1989

- 36 _____, Midshipman Greg Manazir, July 19, 1989
- 37 _____, President of Mexico, 1989
- 38 _____, Vermont high school students on Capitol steps, April 26, 1989 and May 3, 1990
- 39 _____, Miscellaneous

IX. Video Tapes

- Video C-27 January 1988. Congressional Debate, St. Michael's College. Participants: Paul Poirier, Dolores Sandoval, Peter Smith, Peter Welch.
- Video C-28 Spring 1989. National Town Meeting, National Press Club, Washington, D. C. How's our democracy doing? (panel) (See MSA 113, Folder 0 for December 1989 press report).
- Video C-29 February 12, 1990. Live viewer call-in program. C-SPAN. Subject: international drug traffic.
- Video C-30 June 15, 1990. Congressional Debate, sponsored by the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. Participants: Peter Diamondstone, Timothy Philbin, Bernard Sanders, Dolores Sandoval, and Peter Smith.
- Video C-31 September 10, 1990. Across the Fence, WCAX-TV Burlington. Vermont Celebration of Americans with Disabilities Act (signed into law by President Bush July 26, 1990).
- Video C-32 October 14, 1990. Congressional Debate, St. Michael's College, Colchester. WPTZ Special sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Participants: Bernard Sanders, Peter Diamondstone, Timothy Philbin, Dolores Sandoval, Peter Smith.
- Video C-33 December 29, 1990. Ask Congress. Participants: Susan Molinari (NY) and Peter Smith (VT).
- Video C-34 n.d. Job Training Partnership Act Breakfast, Bennington, Vermont. (Peter Smith, Speaker).
- Video C-35 n.d. Intergovernmental Council on Education. Running the Schools, road to reform. Panel discussion: Peter Smith and Dr. Richard Mills.
- Video C-36 August 1, 1989. Congressional baseball game, video produced by the Grocery Manufacturers of America.
- Video C-37 July 24, 1990. Congressional charity baseball game, video produced by the Grocery Manufacturers of America.

X. Audio Tapes

- M-119 October 2, 1989. World Peace Forum. Panel: ____ Cohen, Gen. W. Russell Todd and Peter Smith. 1 cassette. [Location not given].

M-120 (A-C) October 27, 1989. Statewide Environmental Hearing. St. Michael's College,
Colchester, Vt. Subjects: global warming, clean air, and Lake Champlain. 3 cassettes.

Priscilla Page
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