

JOSEPH H. SMART PAPERS, 1944-1992
1992.A.0092

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
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Descriptive summary

Title: Joseph H. Smart papers

Dates: 1944-1992

Accession number: 1992.A.0092

Creator: Smart, Joseph H., 1900-1993

Extent: 1.00 linear foot (2 boxes)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Joseph H. Smart papers consist of a typed manuscript of his 1991 book *Don't Fence Me In!: Fort Ontario Refugees: How They Won Their Freedom*, a typed manuscript of his 1992 companion volume *The Documents: Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees*, and the original documents that are reproduced in the companion volume. His 1991 book documents his service as the director of the Fort Ontario Emergency Shelter, and his 1992 companion volume comprises copies of the files of the Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees, an organization formed by the Fort Ontario refugees to campaign for their freedom. The collection also includes the original documents reproduced in the companion volume. Documents include correspondence, reports, name lists, and printed materials.

Languages: English, German

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Joseph H. Smart papers (1992.A.0092), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Joseph H. Smart, donated the Joseph H. Smart collection to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1992.

Related materials: The United State Holocaust Memorial Museum also holds a copy of an oral history interview conducted with Smart (RG-50.052.01.0011). The Museum's library hold a copy of his book (HV640.5.J4 S5 1991). The collection relates to material than can be found within the National Archives and Records Administration record group 210, Records of the War Relocation Authority.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed. See archives catalog at collections.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: Rebekah Valentine and Julie Schweitzer, March 2019

Biographical note:

Joseph H. Smart (1900-1993) was born November 12, 1900 to William and Anna Smart in Ogden, Utah. He worked within the Justice Department, National Recovery Administration, and Resettlement Agency. He joined the War Relocation Authority in 1942, and his offices supervised Japanese internment camps including Heart Mountain, Minidoka, and Grenada (Amache). In 1944 he was appointed director of the Fort Ontario Emergency Shelter established in Oswego, New York, to house refugees of various nationalities, most of whom were Jewish, brought to the United States from Europe. In 1945, Smart resigned his position to head the Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees, an organization that mounted a successful campaign by Shelter residents to gain permission to remain permanently in the United States. He died November 21, 1993 in Salt Lake City.

Scope and content of collection

The Joseph H. Smart papers consist of a typed manuscript of his 1991 book *Don't Fence Me In!: Fort Ontario Refugees: How They Won Their Freedom*, a typed manuscript of his 1992 companion volume *The Documents: Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees*, and the original documents that are reproduced in the companion volume. His 1991 book documents his service as the director of the Fort Ontario Emergency Shelter, and his 1992 companion volume comprises copies of the files of the Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees, an organization formed by the Fort Ontario refugees to campaign for their freedom. The collection also includes the original documents reproduced in the companion volume. Documents include correspondence, reports, name lists, and printed materials.

System of arrangement

Joseph H. Smart papers are arranged as two series:

Series 1: *Don't Fence Me In!: Fort Ontario Refugees: How They Won Their Freedom*, 1991

Series 2: *The Documents: Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees*, 1944-1946, 1992

Indexing terms

Personal Names

Smart, Joseph H., 1900-1993.

Corporate Terms

Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter.

Topical Terms

Refugees, Jewish--United States.

World War, 1939-1945--Refugees--United States.

Geographic Names

United States--Emigration and immigration--History-20th century.

Genre

Correspondence.

Reports.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: *Don't Fence Me In!: Fort Ontario Refugees: How They Won Their Freedom, 1991*

Box/Folder	
1.1	<i>Don't Fence Me In: Fort Ontario Refugees: How They Won Their Freedom, 1991</i>

Series 2: *The Documents: Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees, 1944-1992*

Box/Folder	
1.2	<i>The Documents: Friends of Fort Ontario Guest Refugees, 1992</i>
1.3	Documents 1-95, circa 1944-1946, 1992
1.4	Documents 96-154, circa 1944-1946
1.5	Documents 155-246, circa 1944-1946
1.6	Documents 247-341, circa 1944-1946
2.1	Documents 342-422, circa 1944-1946
2.2	Documents 423-479, circa 1944-1946
2.3	Addenda, circa 1944-1946