

Dayle L. Smith Oil Co. records
Finding Aid

Compiled by
Madeline Marshall

Museum of South Texas History
Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives
Edinburg, Texas

2013



*Founded in 1967 as the
Hidalgo County Historical Museum*

CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

Summary	#3
Biographical/Historical Note	#4
Scope and Content Note	#4
List of Series and Subseries	#5
Series and Subseries Descriptions	#6
Index Terms	#7
Container List	#8

Use of manuscript materials. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 to make an appointment to visit the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives (MHMMA) reading room.

Photocopying. Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member. Do not remove items to be photocopied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained. Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by the Museum of South Texas History), when available.

Publication. Readers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

Permission to examine archival materials does not constitute permission to publish or display. Any publication or display of such materials beyond the limits of fair use requires specific prior written permission. An "Authorization to Publish or Display" must be completed and submitted to the Executive Director of the Museum to obtain permission. When permission to publish is granted, two copies of the publication will be requested for the MHMMA.

Proper acknowledgement of MHMMA materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page.

SUMMARY

Size	0.14 cubic feet
Geographic Locations	Hidalgo and Starr Counties, Texas
Inclusive Dates	1919 – 1962
Bulk Dates	1942 – 1952
Languages	English
Summary	This collection includes the Dayle L. Smith Oil Co. law suit records as well as correspondence regarding the company.
Access Restrictions	The collection is open for research. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 to make an appointment to visit the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives (MHMMA) reading room.
Reproduction Note	Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by the Museum of South Texas History), when available. Only archives staff may photocopy collection documents.
Copyright	Researchers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel. Permission to examine archival materials does not constitute permission to publish or display. Any publication or display of such materials beyond the limits of fair use requires specific prior written permission. Contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 for instructions to obtain permission to publish or display.
Related Collections	
Citation	Dayle L. Smith Oil Co. records. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Stack Location(s)	RGDOC 113 (B:1)

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Dayle L. Smith owned and operated the Dayle L. Smith Oil Company from the 1920's to 1940's. The company owned many oil wells around Sam Fordyce, or Sullivan City. Smith and his wife lived in a two story house from the 1920's to 1950's, located on 12th Street in McAllen, Texas. In the 1960's, Katy Brattin was given legal guardianship of Smith.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Dayle L. Smith Oil Company records are composed mainly of contracts the company had entered into, most over land being leased to the company for drilling. Documents also include many handwritten letters between Smith and his business associates and typed letters regarding specific drilling information. This collection also includes newspaper clippings of articles in which William L. Moody, a prominent entrepreneur from Galveston, Texas, is referenced.

LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES

- I. Correspondence**
- II. Legal documents**
- III. Clippings**
- IV. Personal papers**

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Correspondence

This series includes many bank and abstract of title receipts from the Dayle L. Smith Oil Co. It also includes personal letters regarding bank activity between the company and owners of land rented by the company for drilling and mining purposes.

II. Legal documents

Several contracts, many of which reference a Mr. Fernandez, regarding leasing agreements are present. The documents of two lawsuits in which the Dayle L. Smith Oil Company is listed as the defendant can also be found here. The first law suit has the First National Bank at Brownsville listed as the plaintiff, the second having J.G. Fernandez listed as plaintiff. Additionally, two copies of an Agreement and Declaration of Trust involving company shareholding are filed in this series.

III. Clippings

A large quantity of newspaper clippings dealing with William Lewis Moody Jr. and his estate can be found in this series.

IV. Personal papers

Only two documents are contained in this series. The first is a handwritten note from Smith to a Mr. Atlas in which he asks for his papers to be given to a Mr. Fink. The second is a document giving Katy Brattin legal guardianship of Smith.

Dayle L. Smith Oil Co. records
1919-1962

Acc. # 1988.032
MHMM Archives

INDEX TERMS

Moody, William Lewis, Jr., 1865 – 1954
Smith, Dayle L.

Abstracts of title.
Oil industries—Texas.
Oil industries—United States.
Oil industry—1940-1960.

Samfordyce (Tex.)
Sullivan City (Tex.)

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
E:9	RGDOC 113	1	Correspondence – 1936-1937, 1939-1942, 1944-1945, undated
		2	Legal documents – 1939-1941, undated
		3	Legal documents – 1919, 1932-1933, 1937, 1939-1940, undated
		4	Clippings – 1949, 1954, 1957, undated
		5	Personal papers – 1962, undated