#### OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

**Title:** Hosea Smith Collection

Collection Date(s): 1810-1823

**Extent and Forms of Material:** 1 folder

**Creator:** Hosea Smith

**Biographical or Historical Sketch:** Hosea Smith resided in Knox County, Indiana during the early years of the Indiana Territory. His letters described life and travel in the region.

**Repository:** Lewis Historical Library, Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN. Please address questions to <a href="mailto:rking@vinu.edu">rking@vinu.edu</a> 812-888-4330 <a href="https://my.vinu.edu/web/shake-learning-resource-center/lewis-historical-library">https://my.vinu.edu/web/shake-learning-resource-center/lewis-historical-library</a>

**Collection Number: RHC 37** 

**Processing Note:** Processed by Richard L. King, Librarian, July 2016.

#### INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

**Conditions Governing Access:** The collection is open for research use.

**Physical Access:** Researchers must wash hands and dry thoroughly before use. Gloves must be worn when handling photographs and negatives. Archives must remain in Lewis Historical Library.

**Technical Access:** Use copies when available.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use: Copyright held by Lewis Library, Vincennes University. Lewis Library makes no guarantees regarding copyright restrictions. Reproduction fees must be paid by requester. All duplication requests must be reviewed by Lewis Historical Library supervisor.

**Preferred Citation:** Title and date of item, Regional History Collection, Lewis Historical Library, Vincennes University, folder 37, box number 31-45.

### IN-DEPTH INFORAMTION ABOUT THE COLLECTION

## Administrative/Biographical History:

**Scope and Content:** The collection consists of copies of typed letters written by Hosea Smith from 1810 to 1823.

**System of Arrangement:** Collection is arranged by date.

**Acquisition Information:** Donor and donation date of collection is unknown.

## **Related Archival Materials:**

**Access Points:** 

Subject/Names: Hosea Smith

Subject/Topical: History-Indiana (state)

History-Indiana (territory)

Geographical: Knox County, Indiana

Form/Genre: Correspondence

## **Container List:**

Box	<u>Folder</u>	Contents
31-45	37	Brief letter from Hosea Smith to father describing journey to Salem, N. Carolina, April 25, 1810.
	37	Letter from Hosea Smith to father describing journey to Lexington, Kentucky, preparing to leave for Indiana Territory, May 22, 1810.
	37	Letter from Hosea Smith to brother John Smith describing investigation of possible murder, May 22, 1810.
	37	Letter from Hosea Smith to father describing his arrival in Knox County, Indiana and purchase of about 200 acres in White Oak Springs, about 20 miles from Vincennes, June 14, 1810.
	37	Letter from Hosea Smith to brother John Smith describing the rich land he purchased in Knox County, June 14, 1810.
	37	Letter from Hosea Smith to father from White Oak Springs describing land, crops, prices, and a garrison to be created as a result of Indian unrest due to unhappiness with land sales, Oct. 13, 1810.
	37	Letter to brother from White Oak Springs describing crops, prices, Indian "uneasiness." As a result, he says Gov. William Henry Harrison has called together 500 men from Kentucky and other places to build a garrison. Oct. 13, 1810.
	37	Letter to brother and sister from White Oak Springs, informing them of prices, crops, and land available for purchase. Hosea believes peace with Indians is at hand. Nov. 14, 1810.
	37	Letter to brother from White Oak Springs describes improved relationship with Indians. Nov. 14, 1810.
	37	Letter to "respected friend" Nancy Hatfields, from White Oak Springs, describing Hosea's optimism about coming to Knox County. June 22, 1812.
	37	Letter to brother describing Indian unrest, deaths of a family on the Wabash River and a death on the White River, and nothing many false reports of Indian killings. Describes how these events have caused settlers to build blockhouses, and companies of Rangers are scouting the area. He mentions frequent earthquakes. June 22, 1812.

37	Letter to brother and sister describing Indian troubles and how Gov.
	Harrison has raised a force of between 3,000 to 4,000 men to fight. He mentioned that Indian unrest is caused by communication with the English and there are hopes this can be cut off. Sept. 26, 1812.
37	Letter to brother discussing the war, the fall of Detroit, and how the Indians are encouraged by this. Describes the siege of Fort Harrison by Indians. Describes an earthquake and refers to "discouraging times." Sept. 26, 1812.
37	Letter to brother discussing war and hope for a peace treaty among England that will lessen the dread of Indian attacks. Mentioned flooding of the White and Wabash rivers. April 8, 1813.
37	Letter to father mentioning danger from Indians lessening, discussing the web spring. June 9, 1813.
37	Letter to brother and sister explaining his hopes for lessened Indian problems and there are hopes for peace. Aug. 31, 1813.
37	Letter to brother discussing recent illness in the area, and a lessening of Indian troubles. He hopes to exchange N. Carolina bank notes for U.S. dollars. Oct. 22, 1813.
37	Letter to father explaining how the recent peace with Indians has resulted in interest in land speculation by agents. Describes accident shooting death of a man whose gun accidentally was fired. Nov. 27, 1813.
37	Letter to father about an Indian treaty that has led to peace, problems with crops such as destruction by pigeons, and prices of crops and seed corn. June 5, 1814.
37	Letter to brother mentioning the visit of friends who brought letters. Oct. 8, 1814.
37	Letter to brother mentions the importance of letters from family and troubles with banks charging discounts on their own notes and bank problems in general. Jan. 23, 1815.
37	Letter to brother mentions the end of the war is resulting in much movement of people into the area; discusses his concerns about receiving money that is his or owed him. Oct. 3, 1815.
37	Letter to brother mentions how difficult it is to obtain money, discusses crop prices and the poor market at New Orleans. April 26, 1823.