

RECORDS OF C S SMITH (1906-1993)
(“Peter Gurney”)

Accession no : D92/11, DX27

Catalogue mark : D CSSM

Introduction

Clifford Sydney Smith had a career in agricultural journalism that extended over sixty years. He started on the *Wiltshire Advertiser* in 1926 and then moved to the *Bristol Times and Mirror*, the *Evening Times and Echo* and the *Wiltshire Advertiser* before joining the *North Wilts Herald* in 1933. He wrote the agricultural page using the pen-name “Peter Gurney” (a name taken from the song *Widicombe Fair* like his predecessor at the paper “Uncle Tom”). In 1939 Smith moved to Fleet Street and spent twenty years working on *Farmers Weekly*. He later became Public Relations Officer for the Country Landowner’s Association (1961-1971) and the National Association of Agricultural Contractors (1976-1991). An expert in farming lore Smith was also enthusiastic about more modern farming methods especially the use of aeroplanes. He dealt with public relations for A D S (Aerial) Ltd, the largest firm of agricultural aviation contractors in Britain, and was a vociferous defender of the spraying of chemicals from the air. Smith was also an acknowledged expert on Dutch hydrological engineering. He died in 1993.

Records deposited in 1989 as a gift by C S Smith and in 1993 as a gift (bequest) by A P Smith

Record types

A1-7 Biographical and personal information
B1-13 Correspondence
C1-26 Research material
D1-72 Reference material
E1-15 Published works
F1-18 Draft copies of work
G1-7 Other Records
H1 Photographs

A BIOGRAPHICAL AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

A1	ARTICLE in the <i>Wiltshire Gazette & Herald</i> about “Peter Gurney” (C S Smith) being honoured by the Country Landowners’ Association	1971 (25 Nov)
A2	ARTICLE from <i>Wiltshire Gazette & Herald</i> about C S Smith	1983 (11 Aug)
A3	ARTICLE from <i>Wiltshire Gazette & Herald</i> about C S Smith publishing a book entitled <i>Shepherd Lore</i>	1985 (16 May)
A4	REVIEWS of “Peter Gurney’s” book <i>Shepherd Lore</i> in the <i>Country Landowner</i> and <i>Country Life</i>	1985
A5	ARTICLE from the <i>Evening Advertiser</i> about C S Smith’s	

attack on the proposed plans to build an hotel and conference centre near Avebury. Smith's letter to the paper outlining his objections is also included

- A6 PHOTOCOPY of an address presented to C S Smith 1991(Aug) on the occasion of his retirement from the National Association of Agricultural Contractors
- A7 NEWSLETTER of the National Association of Agricultural Contractors including an article about C S Smith's retirement as NAAC Public Relations Officer and Editor of the NAAC Newsletter 1991 (Oct/Nov)

B CORRESPONDENCE

- B1 FILE containing readers' letters to "Peter Gurney" and later correspondence with C S Smith 1933-1939, 1983-1985
- B2 CORRESPONDENCE Miscellaneous 1935-1991
- B3 LETTER from A Tingle at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to C S Smith about land reclamation 1965 (27 Jan)
- B4 LETTERS from Sir Peter Greenwell to the editor of *Farming Weekly* and C S Smith relating to the planting of potatoes and marsh enclosure 1965 (Mar)
- B5 LETTER from Barbara Harvey, Somerville College, Oxford to C S Smith in response to his enquiries relating to medieval agriculture 1965 (27 Dec)
- B6 CORRESPONDENCE relating to Forestry and aerial fertilization 1972-1976
- B7 LETTER from Professor W Ellison to C S Smith about bracken spraying, chemical fertilizers and a proposed future meeting 1975 (9 Jan)
- B8 CORRESPONDENCE Miscellaneous 1975-1992
- B9-B11** CORRESPONDENCE and papers resulting from C S Smith's position as National Association of Agricultural Contractors' Public Relations Officer.
- 9 1979-1986
- 10 1981-1983
- 11 (Contains a NAAC membership list) 1984-1990
- B12 CORRESPONDENCE relating to the Nature Conservancy Council and sites of special scientific interest 1980-1981

B13 CORRESPONDENCE relating to the Royal Show and aerial photography 1983

C RESEARCH MATERIAL

C1 FILE relating to sheep stampedes 1938-1985

C2 FILE relating to Avebury and planned development there 1938-1990

C3 FILE relating to the Piper "Pawnee", other aircraft and agricultural Aviation in general 1954-1980

C4 FILE relating to Frumetry c1955

C5 FILE relating to agricultural aviation and in particular aerial spraying c1956-
c1958

C6 FILE Miscellaneous research material 1950's-
1980's

C7 FILE relating to grain storage c1967

C8 FILE relating to agricultural aviation and contracting 1971-1984

C9 FILE containing correspondence, notes, photocopies etc relating to the pesticide 2,4,5-T 1972-1980

C10 FILE *Chemicals and Conservationists* relating to pesticides and food production c1973-
c1986

C11 FILE on A D S (Aerial) Ltd c1973

C12 FILE relating to the spraying of bracken 1975

C13 FILE containing correspondence, notes etc relating to an article about aircraft noise and poultry farming 1975-1976

C14 FILE about Melfort Farms Ltd, Kilmelford, Argyll, Scotland 1975-1981

C15 NOTEBOOK written in journalist shorthand c1970's

C16 FILE relating to agricultural aviation 1970's

C17 NOTES for an edition of the BBC radio programme *On You Farm* in which C S Smith took part 1970's

C18 FILE relating to agricultural spraying from the air c1970's

C19 FILE *Marine Pollution Control* 1982

C20	FILE containing correspondence, notes etc relating to an article about aviation in agriculture	1982-1983
C21	FILE <i>Land Drainage</i>	1983-1984
C22	FILE relating to seed cleaning	c1983
C23	FILE containing list of press, radio and TV contacts	c1984
C24	FILE <i>Friends of the Earth</i>	1985-1988
C25	FILE about the Cunnington family, Wiltshire	c1986
C26	FILE containing notes, articles, correspondence and photographs about crop circles	1989-1990

D REFERENCE MATERIAL

D1	NEWSPAPER/JOURNAL ARTICLES Miscellaneous	1935-1990
D2	REPORTS and other papers relating to flooding in the Netherlands	1953-1958
D3	FILE of articles about bracken spraying	1955-1983
D4	ARTICLE about a plough for open main ditches. The original article by Taneli Juusela is in Finnish (<i>Altaoja-aura Koekaytossa</i>) but attached is an English translation that Juusela sent to C S Smith	1958
D5	LEAFLET <i>Technical Data of the NHI type H-3 "Kolibrje"</i>	1958
D6	NEWSLETTER <i>NHI News</i> , Netherlands Helicopter Industry NV	1958 (10 June)
D7	PAMPHLET <i>The Use of Aircraft in Canadian Agriculture</i> by L E Philpotts	1958(Jul)
D8	JOURNAL <i>The Butty</i> published by the Kennet & Avon Canal Association	1960(Dec)
D9	NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS from the <i>Guardian</i> , <i>Daily Telegraph</i> and another paper relating to the death of Dr W E Ripper, agricultural chemist, in a plane crash	1965 (Mar-May)
D10	BROCHURE Mastboom Vliegbedrijf NV, Rotterdam	c1965

Airport (Agricultural aviation company)

D11-D14	BOOKLETS published by the Forestry Commission	
11	<i>Forestry in the Landscape</i> (Booklet No 18)	1966
12	<i>Forestry in the Weald</i> (Booklet No 22)	1968
13	<i>Forestry in the British Scene</i> (Booklet No 24)	1968
14	<i>Forests of Central and Southern Scotland</i> (Booklet No 25)	1969
D15	CHART showing the types of farming in England and Wales	1968
D16	REPORT on Duddon Estuary Crossing produced by Cumberland County Council Highways and Bridges Department	1968(Jun)
D17	PAPER <i>Aerial Spraying - The Farmer's Practical View</i> presented by R B Mair, Director of High Mowthorpe Experimental Husbandry Farm, at the <i>Aircraft in Agriculture</i> Conference, National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire	1968 (1 Oct)
D18	JOURNAL <i>Agricultural Aviation</i> Vol 10, No 4	1968(Oct)
D19	ARTICLE <i>Aerial Photography in Agriculture</i> by G H Brenchley	1968(Nov)
D20	PAMPHLET <i>Waterless Spraying from the Air</i> produced by CIBA Ltd , Basle, Switzerland	1969
D21	PAMPHLET <i>Fifty Years of Forest Parks</i> by Herbert Edlin	1969
D22	SCRAPBOOK containing articles relating to agricultural aviation	1969-1973
D23	FACSIMILE of <i>The Reading Mercury or Weekly Entertainer</i> (Vol 1, No 1, July 8th 1723)	1960's
D24	BOOKLET <i>The Wash : Estuary Storage</i> published by the Water Resources Board	1970
D25	PAMPHLET <i>Aerial Application of Residual Herbicides</i> produced by CIBA-GEIGY, Ardsley, New York	1971
D26	BROCHURE about the Piper "Pawnee D" aircraft	1974
D27	NEWSPAPER <i>NAC News</i>	1974
D28	LEAFLET <i>Devizes Town Trail</i>	c1974
D29	POSTER advertising the new Piper "Pawnee" aircraft	1976

for agricultural aviation

D30	BOOK <i>The History of Pest Control</i> produced by Fisons Ltd	1976
D31	JOURNAL <i>Power Farming</i> containing an article about aerial spraying	1976(Mar)
D32	JOURNAL <i>Agricultural Aviation</i> Vol 18, No 1	1977(Jan)
D33	BOOKLET <i>Nature Conservation and Agriculture</i> produced by the Nature Conservancy Council	1977
D34	BOOK <i>The Aerial Application Certificate</i> produced by the Civil Aviation Authority	1978
D35	PAMPHLET <i>Correct aerial application of pesticides</i> produced by CIBA-GEIGY, Basle, Switzerland	1970's
D36	PAMPHLET <i>Aerial Spraying of Gorse by Marine Helicopters Ltd</i> (New Zealand)	1970's
D37	PHOTOCOPY of part of a publication about agriculture in the Sudan	1970's
D38	BROCHURE about the Rockwell Thrush Commander	1970's
D39	PAPERS presented at a conference <i>Farm Aviation - The Role of Aircraft</i> held at the National Agricultural Centre, Stonleigh	-1980(Jan)
D40	JOURNAL <i>The World of Agricultural Aviation</i>	1980(Mar)
D41	JOURNAL <i>Ford Farm News</i>	1980
D42	PAMPHLET <i>Agrochemicals Storage</i> published by the United Kingdom Agricultural Supply Trade Association Ltd	1981
D43	FILE of material relating to NDN Aircraft Ltd	1981-1982
D44	PAMPHLET <i>The Future with Rothamsted</i> produced by the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Herts	1983
D45	PAMPHLET <i>SSSIs : What you should know about Sites of Special Scientific Interest</i> published by the Nature Conservancy Council	1983
D46	TEXT of the 17th Burrows Lecture, <i>Essex Farming in the Last Two Centuries</i> given by Sir Nigel Strutt	1983 (7 Mar)

D47	ARTICLE in the <i>Wiltshire Gazette & Herald</i> about the death of Ernest Miles, a journalist from Chippenham	1983 (3 Nov)
D48	JOURNAL <i>Aeroplane Monthly</i> including an article about the aircraft designer Edgar Wikner Percival	1984(Sep)
D49	PAMPHLET <i>Irish Agricultural Museum : A Visitors Guide</i>	1987
D50	REPORT <i>Storm Damage of 16 October 1987</i> by the Agriculture Committee	1988
D51	FILE of promotional material about John Deere mowers	1988
D52	NEWS RELEASE about the JCB High Mobility Vehicle	c1988
D53-57	NEWSLETTERS National Association of Agricultural Contractors	
53		1988(Oct)
54		1988(Dec)
55		1992(May)
56		1992(Jul)
57	<i>NACC Update</i>	1992(Dec)
D58	ARTICLES about trees in Australia "Saltland Reclamation : Selection of superior Australian tree genotypes for discharge sites" by P G Van Der Moezel & D T Bell , Published in <i>Proceedings of the Ecological Society of Australia</i> "Biotechnology Enhances Utilization of Australian Woody Species for Pulp, Fuel and Land Rehabilitation" by Jen A McComb, Ian J Bennett, P G Van Der Moezel & D T Bell, Published in <i>Journal of Biotechnology</i>	1989
D59	FILE of newspaper articles about Wiltshire and in particular Avebury	1989
D60	LEAFLET about a two week course on the aerial application of pesticides held at Cranfield College of Aeronautics	1989
D61	PHOTOCOPY of a book <i>Tales and Yarns of Glendalough</i>	1990
D62	COPY of letter from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to Sir Christopher Booth, Chairman of the British Medical Association Working Party on Pesticides, about the working party's draft report on pesticides and health	1990 (2 Nov)

D63	TEXT of the inaugural Laphroaig Lecture <i>Clear Waters - Priorities for the National Rivers Authority after One Year's Work</i> given by Lord Crickhowell, Chairman of the National Rivers Authority	1990
D64	LEAFLET <i>Avoiding problems with Pesticide wastes</i> produced by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	1992
D65	ARTICLE from the <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> about the Vale of Pewsey	1992 (9 Feb)
D66	NEWSLETTER Great Western Society	1992(Mar)
D67	CORPORATE PLAN Agricultural and Food Research Council	1994
D68	MAPS of the area around Kirkconnel Farm, Kircudbright, Scotland [2 copies]	nd
D69	PHOTOCOPY of booklet <i>The Story of Briantspuddle</i> by C De Burgh & J Snoxell	nd
D70	PHOTOCOPY of a map of Cannock Chase with 2 areas marked	nd
D71	PHOTOCOPY of a map of the Fens	nd
D72	PHOTOCOPY of a map of the Wash and the Ysselmeer, Netherlands	nd

E PUBLISHED WORK

E1	ARTICLE <i>The Genius of the Lansdowne Family</i> published in <i>Evening Advertiser</i>	1935 (25 Oct)
E2	SCRAPBOOK containing articles by C S Smith	1935-1936
E3	ARTICLE <i>Home of a World-Famous Herd</i> (by "Peter Gurney") published in <i>North Wilts Herald</i>	1936 (6 March)
E4	FILE of articles by C S Smith	1935-1985
E5	ARTICLE <i>Planes Again Assist Farmers</i> about agricultural aviation in Bulgaria	1957
E6	ARTICLE <i>Oversowing Techniques Can Improve Hill Grazings...</i> published in <i>Farming News</i>	1959 (Oct 3)

E7	ARTICLE <i>Kill . . . Couch At Its Source</i> published in <i>Farm & Country</i>	1960 (17 Feb)
E8	ARTICLE <i>Watercourse Reed Clearance</i> published in <i>Civil Engineering</i>	1960(Mar)
E9	ARTICLE <i>Taking Land from the Sea</i> published in the <i>Times Supplement on Agriculture</i>	1965 (6 Jul)
E10	ARTICLE <i>Scottish Links With Dutch Dykes</i> published in the <i>Glasgow Herald</i>	1965 (27 Oct)
E11	JOURNALS <i>Esso Farmer</i> containing articles by C S Smith [6 items]	1964- 1975
E12	ARTICLE <i>Is This Progress or the Road to Barbarism?</i> published in the <i>Gazette and Herald Farming Review</i>	1971 (Mar 19)
E13	ARTICLE <i>James Sharp : Pioneer of Rolling Carts</i> published in <i>Country Life</i>	1972 (7 Dec)
E14	ARTICLE <i>Bought - The Last Great Wilderness</i> published in a Hampshire/Surrey paper	1984
E15	ARTICLES by C S Smith in the <i>Gazette and Herald</i> containing his reminiscences	1984-1985

F DRAFT COPIES OF WORK

F1	DRAFT COPY of article <i>The Pusey Horn</i>	1955
F2	DRAFT COPY of article <i>The Compleat Agricultural Flying Machine</i>	1960
F3	DRAFT COPY of article about the Stretham Old Engine which was used for pumping water in the Fens	1965
F4	DRAFT COPY of a CLA press release about the Chiltern Woodlands	1960's
F5	DRAFT COPY of a CLA press release about farm waste	1960's
F6	DRAFT COPY of article <i>Black Sugar for Mener Menne</i>	1960's
F7	DRAFT COPY of article <i>The Wetlands</i>	1970
F8	DRAFT COPY of article <i>Stubble Turnips</i>	1976 (23 Feb)
F9	DRAFT COPY of article <i>Look back Centuries and Smile</i>	1970's

F10	DRAFT COPY of an article about the Dee estuary	1970's
F11	DRAFT COPY of an article about Henry Best, an estate owner in the Yorkshire Wolds during the 17th Century and writer of a "Farming Book"	1970's
F12	DRAFT COPY of article <i>The Haunting of Sam'l Leadbetter</i>	1970's
F13	DRAFT COPY of C S Smith's book <i>Sheep Lore</i> and correspondence relating to it	1983-1984
F14	DRAFT COPY <i>Aerial Crop Spraying - Some Facts</i>	1984
F15	DRAFT COPY of article <i>Tourist Routes</i>	1988 (30 Jan)
F16	FILE of draft copies of articles about agricultural aviation and <i>Gurney Memoirs No 19</i>	1980's
F17	DRAFT COPY of an article about sites of special scientific interest	1980's
F18	DRAFT COPY of article <i>Farm Wage Control Began at the Black Death</i>	1991

G OTHER RECORDS

G1	FILE relating to an edition of the television programme <i>Farming</i> entitled <i>Farming in the Air</i> and featuring C S Smith	1959
G2	PAPER on estuarial barrages submitted by C S Smith to the Country Landowners' Association East Anglian Standing Committee on Regional Planning	1970(Mar)
G3	PAPER <i>Agricultural Aviation</i> presented by C S Smith, Sedbergh, Yorkshire	1972 (Dec 7)
G4	PAPER <i>History of Agricultural Aviation</i> presented by C S Smith to a hill farmers' meeting, Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria	1973
G5	PAPER <i>Aircraft in Agriculture</i> presented by C S Smith to the Institute of Agricultural Engineers	1977
G6	TEXT of C S Smith's review of the book <i>Early Agricultural Machinery</i> on the BBC radio programme <i>On Your Farm</i>	1977 (29 Mar)

G7 FILE relating to a conference *Farming with the contractor* held at the Royal Showground, Stonleigh. 1981
 This was arranged by the NAAC and involved C S Smith (20 Jan)

H PHOTOGRAPHS

H1 NEGATIVES, CONTACT SHEETS & PHOTOGRAPHS c1950's-
 relating to agricultural and rural matters including the use c1980's
 of aeroplanes in agriculture [3 boxes]

Associated Material

Articles in *Farmers Weekly* by C S Smith and articles by others relating to agricultural aviation.

1942 - Sep 11	1952 - Jan 4, 18, 25	1958 - Mar 7
1946 - Jun 28	Feb 1	April 18, 25
Aug 2, 16, 30	Mar 7, 14	May 9, 23
Sep 27	Apr 10, 18, 25	Jun 13, 20
Oct 4, 11, 18, 25	May 2, 9	Jul 4, 11, 25
Nov 29	Jun 13, 20, 27	Aug 8, 29
Dec 20, 27	Jul 4, 11, 18	Sep 5
1947 - Jan 3, 10, 17, 24	Sep 12, 26	Nov 14, 21, 28
Feb 7	Oct 10, 24, 31	Dec 5, 26
Mar 7, 21, 28	Nov 7, 14	1959 - Jan 30
Apr 3, 18, 25	1953 - Jan 30	Feb 6, 27
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Feb 13, 20	Mar 13, 27
Jun 20, 27	Mar 13	May 29
Jul 11, 25	Apr 10, 17, 24	Dec 23
Aug 15, 29	May 1, 29	1964 - Jun 5
Sep 19, 26	Jun 19	1965 - Jan 8, 15, 22, 29
Oct 3	Jul 31	Feb 5, 12
1948 - Jan 30	Aug 28	Mar 5, 12, 19, 26
Feb 6, 13	Sep 4, 18, 25	Apr 16, 30
Mar 5, 19	Oct 9, 30	1966 - Jan 21
Apr 2	Nov 6, 13, 27	Feb 25
May 28	Dec 4, 24	Mar 4
Jul 9, 16, 23, 30	1954 - Jan 1, 29	May 20, 27
Aug 6, 13, 20	Feb 12, 26	Oct 28
Sep 10, 17, 24	Mar 5, 19, 26	1967 - Feb 10, 17
Oct 15	Apr 2, 9, 15, 23	Mar 3
Nov 12	May 14, 28	Jun 16
1949 - Jan 7	Jun 4, 25	Feb 24
Feb 4	Jul 2, 9, 23	Mar 10
Mar 4	Aug 27	Oct 6
Apr 8, 22	Sep 10, 17	Dec 22
May 13	Oct 15	1968 - Jan 19
Jun 3, 10, 24	Nov 19	Feb 16

	Jul 1, 15	Dec 3, 24	Jun 21, 28
	Aug 19	1955 - Jan 14, 21, 28	Sep 6
	Sep 2, 9, 16, 30	Feb 4, 11, 18	1969 - Jan 10, 24
	Oct 7, 21	Mar 11, 18, 25	Apr 4, 25
	Nov 18	Apr 29	May 16
	Dec 16, 23	May 6, 20	Jul 25
1950 -	Jan 20	Jun 17	1970 - May 22
	Feb 3, 24	Jul 29	1971 - Jan 8
	Apr 21, 28	Aug 19	1972 - Jul 21
	Mar 3, 17, 24	Sep 2, 16, 30	1973 - May 4
	May 5, 12, 26	Oct 14	Nov 9
	Jun 9	Nov 11, 18	1974 - Feb 15
	Aug 11	Dec 2	1975 - May 9
	Sep 8, 15	1956 - Jan 13, 27	1976 - Feb 13
	Oct 20	Mar 2, 9	1978 - Sep 15
	Nov 3, 10, 17	Apr 13	1981 - Feb 20
1951 -	Jan 19, 16	May 25	
	Mar 2, 16, 22, 30	Nov 16, 30	
	Apr 6, 20, 27	1957 - May 31	
	May 11, 18	Jun 28	
	Jun 1, 8, 15	Jul 5	
	Aug 17		
	Sep 7, 28		
	Oct 12, 19, 26		
	Nov 2, 9, 16, 23		
	Dec 28		

Book deposited in Rural History Centre Library by C S Smith

Jackson, John Edward (ed) *Wiltshire : the topographical collections of John Aubrey*
(1862)

Book in Rural History Centre Library by C S Smith

Shepherd Lore : The last years of traditional shepherding in Wiltshire (Writing as Peter Gurney, 1985)