Guide to the South Pacific Collections


Encoder:

Creator of Collection: Carlyle S. Smith

Collection Dates: 1957–1975

Acquisition Number: 516.1955

Repository:

Archaeological Research Center (ARC)
Biodiversity Institute
The University of Kansas
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Abstract:

In 1955, Carlyle Smith was invited to join Thor Heyerdahl’s Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific as one of four senior archaeologists. The purpose of Heyerdahl’s self-financed expedition was to bring professional archaeologists to an area in the Pacific where stratigraphic archaeology had not yet been attempted (Heyerdahl, 7). From September 1955 through August 1956, the expedition visited the Galapagos Group, Sala y Gomez, Easter Island, Ducie, Pitcairn, Henderson, Mangareva (The Gambier Group), Rapa Iti, Morotiri, Raivavae, Tubuai, Tahiti, Raiatea, the Marquesas, and Cocos Island performing surveys, tests, and excavations. Each senior archaeologist was responsible for post-expeditionary reports covering excavations and surveys in his charge. This resulted in a two-volume publication, The Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island, and the East Pacific, Volumes 1 & 2, published by The School of American Research and the Museum of New Mexico, 1961. The relationships and collaborations of the expedition members lasted well over twenty years.

Supported and funded by Heyerdahl’s Kon Tiki Museum as well as the University of Kansas, Smith returned to French Polynesia in 1963 to carry out archaeological excavations in the valley of Atuona on the island of
Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands. Smith was accompanied by his wife Judith and children Pamela and Evan, and assisted by Roger Rose. As leader of the expedition, Smith was responsible for all excavations, surveys, analysis, and reports.

**Access Restrictions:** Prior notification to ARC staff is required.

**Use Restrictions:**

ARC staff may determine use restrictions dependent upon the physical condition of the document. Researchers may be required to either purchase or use photocopies of fragile documents

**Extent:** 4.5 linear feet

**Dimensions:** Nine 5”x12”x11” boxes

**Associated Records:** correspondence / published manuscripts / unpublished manuscripts / abstracts / field notes / drawings / maps / site descriptions / financial information / artifact data / photographic images

**Biographical Name:** Carlyle S. Smith

**Biographical Note:** Carlyle Smith was born in 1915 in Great Neck, New York. He received his PhD from Columbia University where he trained under William Duncan Strong and was initially exposed to Plains archaeology. He joined the University of Kansas faculty in 1947 as an assistant professor with the Department of Anthropology and Sociology and assistant curator with the Natural History Museum. His fieldwork spanned 1938 to 1975 and included investigations in New York, South Dakota and Kansas, Easter Island and the Marquesas. During excavations in South Dakota, he developed an expertise in the identification of gunflints and gun parts. Carlyle Smith’s fieldwork and research significantly added to the collections at KU while his contribution to teaching prepared many students for a professional career in Anthropology. His leadership was a significant contribution to the development of a separate department of Anthropology in 1962 and the creation of the Museum of Anthropology in 1976.

**Scope and Contents:**

This collection is divided into two series based on unique differences between two expeditions commenced almost ten years apart.

**Series 1: Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific—1955–1956**
In 1955, Carlyle Smith was invited to join Thor Heyerdahl’s Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific as one of four senior archaeologists. The purpose of Heyerdahl’s self-financed expedition was to bring professional archaeologists to an area in the Pacific where stratigraphic archaeology had not yet been attempted (Heyerdahl, 7). From September 1955 through August 1956, the expedition visited the Galapagos Group, Sala y Gomez, Easter Island, Ducie, Pitcairn, Henderson, Mangareva (The Gambier Group), Rapa Iti, Morotiri, Raivavae, Tubuai, Tahiti, Raiatea, the Marquesas, and Cocos Island performing surveys, tests, and excavations. Each senior archaeologist was responsible for post-expeditionary reports covering excavations and surveys in his charge. This resulted in a two-volume publication, *The Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island, and the East Pacific, Volumes 1 & 2*, published by The School of American Research and the Museum of New Mexico, 1961. The relationships and collaborations of the expedition members lasted well over twenty years.

This series includes documents related to Carlyle Smith’s inclusion in the expedition, his work during the expedition, and efforts to create, edit, and publish post-expeditionary reports. Correspondence between the expedition members ranges from mid-1955 to 1975. General correspondence regarding the expedition ranges from 1955 to 1988. Included also are two later collaborations between Smith and aspiring archaeologists Christopher Stevenson and Charles Love regarding obsidian dating and Easter Island archaeology. In the mid-1960s the government of Chile requested the repatriation of all specimen and artifacts taken from Easter Island during the expedition. Included here is correspondence related to this issue.

Field notes and data analysis include test pits logs, site notes, carbon dating, photo logs, field logs, artifact catalogs, and statue diagrams.

Published and unpublished writings are included here from all expedition members, including Carlyle Smith, William Mulloy, Thor Heyerdahl, Edwin Ferdon, and Arne Skjolsvold. The controversy between Robert Suggs and Thor Heyerdahl is documented with correspondence (1959-1963) and one 1957 publication, “The East River and Windsor Aspects: A Reply.” Some news clippings and collected circulars as well as drawings, flyers, promotional materials, maps, and photographic images are also included.

**Series 2: Marquesas Expedition—1963–1964**

Supported and funded by Heyerdahl’s Kon Tiki Museum as well as the University of Kansas, Smith returned to French Polynesia in 1963 to carry out archaeological excavations in the valley of Atuona on the island of Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands. Smith was accompanied by his wife and children and assisted by Roger Rose. As leader of the expedition, Smith was responsible for all excavations, surveys, analysis, and reports.
This series includes documents related to Carlyle Smith’s excavations on Hiva Oa in the Marquesas Islands. General correspondence dates from 1962 to 1979. Information on a pottery hoax dates from 1963 to November 1964.

Financial records related to the expedition and field notes include information on test trenches, pit excavations, feature excavations. Carlyle Smith and Roger Rose recorded most of the material in field logs.

Published and unpublished manuscripts by Yoshihiko Sinoto and Carlyle Smith are included.

**Separated Material:** select representative pre-contact material (Easter Island – much of the Easter Island collections were returned to the government of Chile), photo scrap books created by Smith from the Norwegian Expedition; obsidian, shell, charcoal, ground stone, metal, glass, and faunal remains (Marquesas)

**Subject Terms:** Robert Suggs / Government of Chile / Easter Island / Poike Ditch / C-14 Dating / Pottery Hoax / Thor Heyerdahl / Archaeology / Kon-Tiki / Ahu / South Pacific

**Geographic Locations:** Easter Island / Pitcairn Island / Marquesas Island Group / Tahiti / Chile / United States / South Pacific Islands

**Personal Names:** Carlyle S. Smith / Thor Heyerdahl / William Mulloy / Edwin Ferdon / Arne Skjolsvold / Robert Suggs / Rupert Murrill / Gonzalo Figueroa / Yoshihiko Sinoto / Christopher Stevenson / Greta Mostny

**Corporate Names:** The University of Kansas / Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific / International Congress of Americanists / Social Science Research Council / National Science Foundation

**Language:** English / French / Spanish

**Acquisition Information:** Deposited with the University of Kansas on completion of the project. Additional materials were donated to the ARC by the estate of Carlyle S. Smith

**Custodial History:** Contents of the offices of the late Carlyle S. Smith at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas and at his home.

**Inventory:**

**Series 1: Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific—1955–1956**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Box 1
Folder 1  Expedition Members – 1955, 1956, 1957 (originals)
Folder 2  Expedition Members – 1955, 1956, 1957 (select fragile originals from folder 1, photocopies in folder 1)
Folder 3  Expedition Members – 1958 (originals)
Folder 4  Expedition Members - 1958 (select fragile originals from folder 3, photocopies in folder 3)
Folder 5  Expedition Members – 1959 (originals)
Folder 6  Expedition Members – 1959 (select fragile originals from folder 5, photocopies in folder 5)
Folder 7  Expedition Members – 1960: January 20, 1960 – April 18, 1960 (originals)
Folder 8  Expedition Members – 1960: January 20, 1960 – April 18, 1960 (select fragile originals from folder 7, photocopies in folder 7)
Folder 17  Expedition Members – 1962 (originals)
Folder 18  Expedition Members – 1962 (select fragile originals from folder 17, photocopies in folder 17)
Folder 19  Expedition Members – 1963, 1964 (originals)
Folder 20  Expedition Members – 1963, 1964 (select fragile originals from folder 19, photocopies in folder 19)
Folder 21  Expedition Members – 1965 (originals)
Folder 22  Expedition Members – 1965 (select fragile originals from folder 21, photocopies in folder 21)
Folder 23  Expedition Members – 1966, 1968, 1969, 1974; includes b/w print of jewelry sent from William Mulloy (originals)
Folder 25  Expedition Members – 1975
Folder 26  Correspondence from the American Museum of Natural History to Dr. Carlyle Smith and Mr. Thor Heyerdahl, dated October 5, 1955. Concerning artifacts of the oldest known Coastal culture from Northern Chile.

Box 2

Folder 1  General – Undated, 1955, 1956, 1957
Folder 2  General – 1958, 1959 (originals)
Folder 3  General – 1958, 1959 (select fragile originals from folder 2, photocopies in folder 2)
Folder 4  General – 1960
Folder 5  General – 1961 – January to April (originals)
Folder 6  General – 1961 – January to April (select fragile originals from folder 5, photocopies in folder 5)
Folder 7  General – 1961 – May to December
Folder 8  General – 1962 – January to June (originals)

Folder 9  General – 1962 – January to June (select fragile originals from folder 8, photocopies in folder 8)

Folder 10 General – 1962 – July to November


Folder 13 Christopher Stevenson and Carlyle Smith regarding obsidian dating – 1980-1981

Folder 14 Charles Love and Carlyle Smith – 1981-1984

Folder 15 Chile Repatriation issue – 1962, 1965, 1966 (originals)

Folder 16 Chile Repatriation issue – 1962, 1965, 1966 (select fragile originals from folder 15, photocopies in folder 15)

FIELD NOTES / DATA ANALYSIS

Box 3

Folder 1 Primary Data (general information from all sites) – list of sites on Easter Island, tabulation of artifacts, adze distribution lists

Folder 2 Secondary Data (descriptions by non-expedition members and post-trip notes by Carlyle Smith including chronology and history of Easter Island

Folder 3 Poike test pits – Poike Ditch Log, December 9, 1955 (original)

Folder 4 Poike test pits – Poike Ditch Log, December 9, 1955 (photocopy of folder 3)

Folder 5 Site Notes – E 19, tabulations; E 24, descriptions (originals)

Folder 6 Site Notes – E 19, tabulations; E 24, descriptions (photocopies of folder 5)
Folder 7  Site Notes – E 7 (Pua Pau), scale drawings and profiles, tabulation, analysis, artifact itemization (originals)

Folder 8  Site Notes – E 7 (Pua Pau), scale drawings and profiles, tabulation, analysis, artifact itemization (photocopies of folder 7)

Folder 9  Site Notes – E 1, tabulation, analysis, inventory of artifacts, site report (originals)

Folder 10 Site Notes – E 1, tabulation, analysis, inventory of artifacts, site report (photocopies of folder 9)

Folder 11  Site Notes – E 13 (Ahu Tepeu), artifact analysis; E 18 (Ahu Te Pito Kura), artifact analysis; E 7, catalog of artifacts (originals)

Folder 12  Site Notes – E 13 (Ahu Tepeu), artifact analysis; E 18 (Ahu Te Pito Kura), artifact analysis; E 7, catalog of artifacts (photocopies of folder 11)

Box 4

Folder 1  Carbon Dating – results, tabulation, analysis (originals)

Folder 2  Carbon Dating – results, tabulation, analysis (photocopies of folder 1)

Folder 3  Journal—Extract from the Journal of Carlyle S. Smith, October 13, 1955 to July 30, 1956, On the Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific—1 of 3 (photocopy—original is in photo scrapbook titled “South Pacific Expedition: Rapa to Marquesas and Cocos)

Folder 4  Journal—Extract from the Journal of Carlyle S. Smith, October 13, 1955 to July 30, 1956, On the Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific—2 of 3 (photocopy—original is in photo scrapbook titled “South Pacific Expedition: Rapa to Marquesas and Cocos)

Folder 5  Journal—Extract from the Journal of Carlyle S. Smith, October 13, 1955 to July 30, 1956, On the Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific—3 of 3 (photocopy—original is in photo scrapbook titled “South Pacific Expedition: Rapa to Marquesas and Cocos)
Folder 6  Field notebook from Easter Island and Henderson Island, 11/12/55-4/16/56; Photo log of archaeological specimens from Easter Island photographed by John R. May (originals)

Folder 7  Field notebook from Easter Island and Henderson Island, 11/12/55-4/16/56; Photo log of archaeological specimens from Easter Island photographed by John R. May (photocopies of folder 6)

Folder 8  Index cards used as artifact catalogs from sites E 1, E 7, and E 24; Rapa field analysis notepad (originals)

Folder 9  Index cards used as artifact catalogs from sites E 1, E 7, and E 24; Rapa field analysis notepad (photocopies of folder 8)

Folder 10  Site Notes – E 24, artifact provenience; E 17, site dimensions and drawings; E 15, artifact dimensions and drawings (originals)

Folder 11  Site Notes – E 24, artifact provenience; E 17, site dimensions and drawings; E 15, artifact dimensions and drawings (photocopies of folder 10)

Folder 12  Easter Island statue diagrams from Bill Mulloy

MANUSCRIPTS / PUBLICATIONS

Box 5

Folder 1  Carlyle Smith
“‘A Temporal Sequence Derived from Certain Ahu’” (image plates included)

Folder 2  Carlyle Smith
“‘The Poike Ditch’”
“‘Tuu Ko Ihu Village’”
“‘Two Habitation Caves on Easter Island’” (image plates included)

Folder 3  Carlyle Smith
“‘Radio Carbon Dates from Easter Island’”
“‘The Confirmation of an Easter Island Legend Through Archaeology’”
“The Stratigraphic Occurrence of the Mataa In Two Caves on Easter Island” (image plates included)

Folder 4  Carlyle Smith

“Three Sites in Anapori Valley, Rapa”
“Two Caves on Henderson Island”
“House Sites at the Head of Baie D’Ahurei”
“Burial Customs on the Island of Rapa, French Polynesia”
Review: “Easter Island Ahu Archaeology 25 Years After the Norwegian Expedition”, William Mulloy

Folder 5  Carlyle Smith

“Easter Island”
“An Outline of Easter Island Archaeology”
“Puapau Cave”
“The Burial Complex on the Island of Rapa”
“Test Excavations and Surveys of Miscellaneous Sites on the Island of Rapa”

Folder 6  Carlyle Smith

“Easter Island Culture Periods as Revealed by a Study of the Image Ahu” (abstract)
“Radiocarbon Dates from Rapa Iti, Raivaae, and the Marquesas”
“Manga Tapu”
“Ahu Hekii”
Letter to Editor: “Easter Island – Reply to Barthel’s Review”
Review: “Island at the Center of the World – New Light on Easter Island,” Sebastian Englert

Folder 7  Carlyle Smith

“The Manga Auhepa House Site” (includes outlines, maps, and research for manuscript)

Folder 8  Carlyle Smith
“Stone Adzes from Easter Island”

Folder 9  William Mulloy

“The Fortified Village of Morongouta” (revised July 1962)

Folder 10  William Mulloy

“Ceremonial Center of Vinapu” (1 of 5 folders)

Folder 11  William Mulloy

“Ceremonial Center of Vinapu” (2 of 5 folders)

Folder 12  William Mulloy

“Ceremonial Center of Vinapu” (3 of 5 folders)

Folder 13  William Mulloy

“Ceremonial Center of Vinapu” (4 of 5 folders)

Folder 14  William Mulloy

“Ceremonial Center of Vinapu” (5 of 5 folders)

Folder 15  William Mulloy

“Tupa of Hiramoko”

Folder 16  William Mulloy

“The Fortified Village of Morongouta” (1 of 2 folders)

Folder 17  William Mulloy

“The Fortified Village of Morongouta” (2 of 2 folders)

Box 6

Folder 1  Thor Heyerdahl

“A Forest Rich in Species Formerly Covered Easter Island”
Unidentified author

“Sea Routes to Polynesia”

Folder 2 Edwin N. Ferdon

“Problems and Relationships of Easter Island Archaeology”
“Sites E 4 and E 5”
“The Crater Site of E 21”
“Site E 6: An Easter Island Hare Moa”

Folder 3 Edwin N. Ferdon

“The Ceremonial Site of Orongo”

Folder 4 Arne Skjolsvold

“Report on the Investigations on Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands”
“Investigations at the site of Ipiona, Puamau Valley, Hivaoa”

Folder 5 Arne Skjolsvold

“Maunga Auhepe or ‘Hat Brim Hill’ Exploring Trench”
“Investigation of ‘Hoto Matua’s House’”
“Report on Archaeological Investigations on Pitcairn”
“House Foundations (Hare Paenga) at Rano Raraku”
“Excavation of Site E 2, Anakena West”
“Hill Terraces at Vaiuru, Raivavae”

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTATION

Folder 6 Robert Suggs controversy; includes correspondence (1959-1963) and one 1957 publication, “The East River and Windsor Aspects: A Reply”

Folder 7 News clippings, pamphlets, and circulars

Folder 8 Ephemera – drawings, flyers, promotional materials

Folder 9 World map demarking expedition route

Folder 10 Photographic Images

Folder 11 Notes from Reidak Solslik. A Ph.D. candidate from University of Oslo who came to do research on C. Smith’s collections on the Marquesas. He provided notes regarding Smith’s expedition to
Easter Island and an inventory of the collection from Easter Island, and Marquesas/Pekia.

**Series 2: Marquesas Expedition—1963–1964**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Box 7

Folder 1  General – 1962, 1963 (originals)

Folder 2  General – 1962, 1963 (select fragile originals from folder 1, photocopies in original sequence in folder 1)


Folder 5  General – 1964: March 25, 1964 – December 29, 1964 (select fragile originals from folder 4, photocopies in original sequence in folder 4)

Folder 6  General – 1965

Folder 7  General – 1966, 1967

Folder 8  General – 1969, 1975, 1979, and one document with an unidentified date


Folder 11  Pottery Hoax – 1964: June 23, 1964 – November 1964; includes photographic prints of man making fake pottery sherd as well as one undated letter and two manuscript pages with no connecting correspondence (originals)

Folder 12  Pottery Hoax – 1964: June 23, 1964 – November 1964 (select fragile originals from folder 11, photocopies in original sequence in folder 11)

**FINANCIAL RECORDS**
Folder 13  Expedition expenses ledger, including labor and equipment expenditures

Folder 14  Correspondence and budgetary documents from funding organizations and Carlyle S. Smith (originals)

Folder 15  Correspondence and budgetary documents from funding organizations and Carlyle S. Smith (select fragile originals from folder 14, photocopies in original sequence in folder 14)

FIELD NOTES / DATA ANALYSIS

Folder 16  Test Trenches 7, 8, 11, 13, and 30 – data forms, maps, and descriptions (originals)

Folder 17  Test Trenches 7, 8, 11, 13, and 30 – data forms, maps, and descriptions (photocopies of folder 16)

Folder 18  Pit Excavations 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 – maps and descriptions (originals)

Folder 19  Pit Excavations 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 – maps and descriptions (photocopies of folder 18)

Folder 20  Feature 1 – excavation notes and maps (originals)

Folder 21  Feature 1 – excavation notes and maps (photocopies of folder 20)

Folder 22  Test Trenches (without carbon) 2, 6, 10, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, and 34 – excavation notes, maps, and descriptions (originals)

Folder 23  Test Trenches (without carbon) 2, 6, 10, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, and 34 – excavation notes, maps, and descriptions (photocopies of folder 22)

Folder 24  Test Trenches (with carbon) 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 22, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 35 – excavation notes, maps, and descriptions (originals)

Folder 25  Test Trenches (with carbon) 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 22, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 35 – excavation notes, maps, and descriptions (photocopies of folder 24)

Box 8
Folder 1  Terraces – data forms, excavation notes, and descriptions (originals)

Folder 2  Terraces – data forms, excavation notes, and descriptions (photocopies of folder 1)

Folder 3  Platforms (Pekia Site) – data forms and descriptions (originals)

Folder 4  Platforms (Pekia Site) – data forms and descriptions (photocopies of folder 3)

Folder 5  Field log of Roger Rose – notebook 1, Atuona 1963 (original)

Folder 6  Field log of Roger Rose – notebook 1, Atuona 1963 (photocopy of folder 5)

Folder 7  Field log of Roger Rose – notebook 2, Atuona, 1963 (original)

Folder 8  Field log of Roger Rose – notebook 2, Atuona, 1963 (photocopy of folder 7)

Folder 9  Field log of Carlyle Smith – general notes, 1963 (original)

Folder 10  Field log of Carlyle Smith – general notes, 1963 (photocopy of folder 9)

Folder 11  Travel times – spiral notebook, 1963 (original)

Folder 12  Travel times – spiral notebook, 1963 (photocopy of folder 11)

Folder 13  Log of field work hours – spiral notebook, includes preliminary research outline (original)

Folder 14  Log of field work hours – spiral notebook, includes preliminary research outline (photocopy of folder 13)

Folder 15  Catalog of specimens and artifacts from Atuona (original)

Folder 16  Catalog of specimens and artifacts from Atuona (photocopy of folder 15)

Box 9

Folder 1  Carbon 14 Dating, includes correspondence, contracts, and calculations
Folder 2  Photographic record index – Architectural sequences at Pekia, Rolls A-G

MANUSCRIPTS / PUBLICATIONS

Folder 3  Yoshihiko Sinoto

“A Brief Description of the Archaeological Sites in Atuona, Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands”

Folder 4  Carlyle Smith

“A letter to all who have wondered what happened to the Smiths”
“An Archaeological Hoax in the Marquesas”
“Archaeological Investigations at Pekia, Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands” (includes abstract)

Folder 5  Carlyle Smith

Incomplete manuscript on Adze typology

Folder 6  Carlyle Smith

Rough draft for manuscript on Adze typology

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTATION

Folder 7  Printed maps of Pekia and the Marquesas Islands

Folder 8  Background research and resource materials, includes reports from Suggs, Kenneth Emory, and Ed Ferdon

Folder 9  Photographic images – Mataa from Puapau cave, photographs of fake pottery sherd, and reference images of comparative sherds