

corner of Gay and Water Streets, until death; also maintained a residence in Baltimore County, by 1783 until death. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: Samuel Smith (1693–1784), who immigrated to Pennsylvania with his wife and children in 1728 and to Baltimore Town in 1759, a merchant and member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, 1737–1738. MOTHER: Sidney Gamble (?–1759). SISTERS: Sydney, who married John Montgomery, Esq., of Pennsylvania; Esther (?–by 1810), who married in 1750 *William Buchanan* (1732–1804); and (first name unknown), who married James Roddy. MARRIED IN 1750 Mary (1729–1782), daughter of Robert Buchanan (1696–1748), who immigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1720, and Janet (Jane) Boyd (?–1799). Her brothers were James (1731–1751); *William Buchanan* (1732–1804). Her sisters were Elizabeth (1733–1784), who married in 1752 William Smith (1728–1814); Margaret (1736–?), who married Major (first name unknown) Galbraith. Her niece was Janet Smith (1752–1812), who married *Josias Carvil Hall* (1746–1814). **CHILDREN.** SONS: Samuel (1752–1839), a merchant, lt. colonel in the Continental Army, major-general in the War of 1812, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, 1790, 1791–1792, a representative in the U.S. Congress, 1793–1803, 1816–1822, a senator in the U.S. Congress, 1803–1815, 1822–1833, who married in 1778 Margaret Spear (1750–1842); John (1754–ca. 1805), a merchant, who married by 1774 Elizabeth; James; and Robert (1757–1842), a lawyer, member of the Maryland Senate, 1793, 1794, 1795, Maryland House of Delegates, 1796, 1797, 1800, Secretary of the U.S. Navy, 1801–1809, U.S. Secretary of State, 1809–1811, who married in 1790 his cousin Margaret Smith (1765–1842). **DAUGHTERS:** Mary (1755–1806), who married in 1778 George Nicholas (?–1799), a delegate to the Virginia Assembly and attorney general of Kentucky; Elizabeth, who married in 1779 John Spear; Janet (1762–1832), who married in 1785 John Hollins; Margaret (1765–1849), who married in 1785 Wilson Cary Nicholas (1761–1820), a delegate to the Virginia Assembly, a U.S. senator and representative, and governor of Virginia, brother of George Nicholas; Sydney; and Esther (1767–?), who married in 1791 George P. Stevenson. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Presbyterian, member First Presbyterian Church of Baltimore. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., by 1777. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: merchant. Smith began his career as owner of a general store in Carlisle,

Pennsylvania, shipping the wheat he received from his customers through Baltimore Town. When he moved to Baltimore he and *William Buchanan* (1732–1804) established the mercantile firm of Smith and Buchanan. Smith took his two eldest sons into partnership in 1774, and their firm, known as John Smith & Sons, traded with Europe and the West Indies. During the Revolution Smith supplied gunpowder, cloth, and other items to the American troops. His firm also had an interest in at least one privateer. By 1779 Smith had built at least one warehouse and a wharf on fill land adjoining his lot on Gay Street and was leasing a warehouse to the state. His son Samuel assumed the major responsibility for the business after 1779, and by 1784 John had resigned from the firm. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: 9th Convention, Baltimore Town, 1776 (Claims; Loan Office); Lower House, Baltimore Town, 1777 (Claims 1, 2; Manufactories 1), 1777–1778 (Claims 1–3; Manufactories 1), 1778–1779 (Claims 1, 3; Tax Commissioners 1); Senate, Western Shore, Term of 1781–1786: 1781–1782, 1782–1783, 1783, 1784 (elected president on January 13, 1785), 1785, Term of 1786–1791: 1786–1787 (elected president on January 8, 1787, for remainder of the first session), 1787–1788 (elected president on May 24, 1788, for one day), 1788, 1789 (elected president on December 7, 1789, to replace Daniel Carroll), 1790. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Baltimore County, 1772–1775 (quorum 1774–1775); Committee of Correspondence, Baltimore County, elected 1774; Committee of Observation, Baltimore County, elected 1776. **OUT OF COLONY SERVICE:** justice, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 1757; representative, Pennsylvania Assembly, 1754–1759. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** Smith's letterbooks indicate that he was a firm supporter of the American cause during the Revolution, but that he hoped to be able to maintain his European contacts and resume trade after the war. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £583.6.5, including 8 slaves and 80 oz. plate, Baltimore County only, 1783; probably 9 slaves, Baltimore Town, 1790. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** Said to have entered Maryland with capital of £40,000, 1759; estimated the net profits of his mercantile firm at something under £15,000, 1777; owned shares in the Susquehanna Canal valued at £500.0.0, by 1791. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 1 lot in Baltimore Town, 1 lot on Fell's Point, 99-year lease on half of 1 lot in Baltimore Town, and probably land in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, and Virginia (a!)