

**Guide to the Oral History of  
SMITH, LATHROP E. (1902-1971)**

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

Lathrop E. Smith was Montgomery County Council Member and civic leader. He was born in New York City in 1902 and raised in a small town in North Carolina. He attended Cornell University and Georgetown University. Smith moved to Montgomery County in 1935. During World War II, he worked for the War Department General Staff Corps in Japan. He served as President of the Montgomery County Council from 1951 to 1952 and the Board of Education from 1957 to 1958. He was a recognized leader in soil conservation and water shed planning. In 1972, the Lathrop E. Smith Meadowside Nature Center was dedicated as a memorial to Smith.

**Interview** – Interviewed August 1971 by Helen M. Scharf for MBL.

**Subject**

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Board of Education  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Charter Movement  
Montgomery County (Md.) – Citizens Planning Association  
Montgomery County (Md.) – County Council  
Montgomery County Farm Bureau  
Rural Advisory Committee  
Soil Conservation District  
Upper Montgomery County Planning Commission

**Subject Names**

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