



William Smith
& His Family

The Smith Family

Captain Stephen Smith
born: 1782, died: 1833, married: Manuela Torres
(she was born: 1828, died: 1877) & Tsupu (Maria Checka)

William 'Bill' Smith Sr.
born: 1843, died: 1936, married: WallaWalla (she died in 1860s)
married2: Rosalie Charles 1876 (she was born: 1849, died: 1922)

Mary Smith
born: 1874, died: 1926, Rosalie's child, adopted
by William Smith, married: Joseph Martin,
children: Henry & one daughter

Florence Smith
born: 1889, died: 1888
unmarried

William Smith Jr.
born: 1889, died: 1969
unmarried

Edward Smith
born: 1895, died: 1975
unmarried

Stephen Smith Sr.
born: 1877, died: 1961, married: Mary Antone
married2: Lucy Ann Lorrato

Angelo Smith
born: 1879, died: 1963
married: Katherine Prescia

Sarah Smith
born: 1881, died: 1978, married: Frank
Williams, married2: Howard Ballard

Margaret Smith
born: 1884, died: 1973
married: Marc Lewis Duvelot

Stephen Smith Jr.
Geraldine Dollar
Stanley Smith
Marceline Delira
Douglas Smith
Kathleen Smith
Nancy Napoleon
William Smith
Stephen Russell Smith

Frances Smith
Clarence Smith
Angelina Peterson
Wealey Smith
Evelyn Napoli
Lucille Schaefer
Leonard
Don Robert

Lloyd Williams
Vernie Mayfohrt
Freda Pen
Dorothy Moreth
Carolin McNulty
David Pen
Adam McNulty
Blake McNulty
Olivia Duvelot
Maxine Duvelot
Marguerite Duvelot
Eugene Duvelot
Gene Duvelot
Ronald Hunter
Louise Damatto

Eli Smith
born: 1891, died: 1968
married: Josephine Prescia

Rosalie Ann Smith
born: 1893, died: 1978, married: Edward Philbrook
married2: Robert Prescia, married3: Martin Coady

Aileen Smith
born: 1898, died: 1987
married: Theodore Hall

Young Eagle Smith
born: 1900, died: 1969
married: Edith Smith

Vincent C. Smith
Vivian Smith
Bertoli
Irene Smith
married: Joe Paulini

Rosalie Oneita Philbrook
married: Clement Arthur Columbo

Elsine Linares
Panzu Gundrum
Theodore Hall
Nadine Grigone

William Smith
Leroy Smith
Young Eagle Smith Jr.
married: Kay

Jarice Billing
Vincent Smith
Charlene Moratto
Jerry Paulini

Carole Columbo
Jeani Buck

Lealie Hall
Kenneth Hall
Kathleen Havens
Beverly Drostus

Matthew Smith
Paul Smith

Laurie Timothy
Adrian Maria

Arthur Touch
Columbo

William Smith

son of Captain Stephen Smith & Maria 'Tsupu' Checka

William Smith, born: 1843 Bodega, Sonoma County California, died: 9 Nov 1936 Bodega, California, buried: Sebastopol Memorial Lawn, Sebastopol California, married: Rosalie Charles 1876 Bodega California, children: Separiano, Stephen, Angelo, Sarah, Margaret, William Eli, Rosalie, Edward, Aileen, Ernest

William Smith

in the 1900 United States Federal Census

Name:	William Smith
Birth Date:	1843
Birthplace:	California
Home in 1900:	Bodega, Sonoma, California
Race:	Indian (Native American)
Spouse's name:	Rosalina Smith
Marriage Year:	1876
Father's Birthplace:	Massachusetts
Mother's Birthplace:	California
Occupation:	Fisherman
House Owned or Rented:	O
Home Free or Mortgaged:	F
Farm or House:	H
Household Members:	
	Name
	Age
	William Smith
	Rosalina Smith 45
	Stephen Smith 23
	Angelo Smith 20
	Sarah Smith 18
	Margaret Smith 16
	William Smith 11
	Elie Smith 9
	Rosalina Smith 7
	Edward Smith 4
	Helena T Smith 2
	Baby Smith 3/12

Wm. Smith

in the 1880 United States Federal Census

Name:	Wm. Smith
Birth Date:	1843
Birthplace:	California
Home in 1880:	Coyote, Lake, California, USA
Race:	Indian (Native American)
Spouse's name:	Rosalea Smith
Father's Birthplace:	Massachusetts
Mother's Birthplace:	California
Occupation:	Laborer
Household Members:	
	Name
	Age
	Wm. Smith 37
	Rosalea Smith 40
	Seperiano Smith 5
	Stephen Smith 3

William Smith

William Smith (1843-1936) was the son of Tsupu and Captain Stephen Smith. Tsupu (also known as Maria Checka) is the ancestor of hundreds of Bodega Bay Smith family descendents. William married Rosalie Charles and had 12 children. With the help of his family, William Smith started the commercial fishing industry at Bodega Bay.



Rosalie Charles Smith
1840-1922

Spouse & Children of Captain Stephen Smith

Tsupu

William Smith

1843-1936

William Smith

in the 1910 United States Federal Census

Name: William Smith

Age in 1910: 67

Birth Year: 1843

Birthplace: California

Home in 1910: Bodega, Sonoma, California

Race: Indian (Native American)

Spouse's name: Rosalee Smith

Father's Birthplace: Massachusetts

Mother's Birthplace: California

Occupation: Fisherman

Home Owned or Rented: Own

Home Free or Mortgaged: Free

Farm or House: House

Years Married: 34

Household Members:	Name	Age
	William Smith	67
	Rosalee Smith	70
	Steven Smith	33
	William Smith Jr.	31
	Elo Smith	20
	Rosalee Smith	17
	Edward Smith	14
	Aileen Smith	12
	Ernest Smith	10
brother	Thomas Smith	72
	Porlelis	90
	Harrell Antoni	6

Spouse & Children

Rosalie Charles Smith

1840-1922

Mary Smith

1874-

Seperiano Smith

1875-

Stephen Smith

1877 -1961

Angelo William Smith

1879-1963

Sarah Smith

1881-1978

Margaret Smith

1883-

William J. Smith

1889-

Eli Smith

1891-1968

Rosalie A Coady Smith

Philbrook

1893-1978

Edward Smith

1895-

Helena T Aileen Smith

1898-1987

Ernest Smith

1900-1969

William Smith Sr

in the 1920 United States Federal Census

Name: William Smith Sr

Birth Year: 1843

Birthplace: California

Home in 1920: Bodega, Sonoma, California

Street: Coast Road At Bodega Boy

House Number: Farm

Race: Mexican (Latino)

Spouse's name: Rosale Smith

Father's Birthplace: Massachusetts

Mother's Birthplace: California

Occupation: Farmer

Industry: General Farm

Home Owned or Rented: Owned

Home Free or Mortgaged: Free

Household Members:	Name	Age
	William Smith	77
	Rosale Smith	80
	Thomas Smith	88

Roselie Smith

Find A Grave Index

Name: Roselie Smith

Birth Date: 1840

Death Date: 1922

Cemetery: Sebastopol Memorial Lawn Cemetery

Burial or Cremation Place: Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California



Roselia Smith

California, Death Index

Name: Roselia Smith

Birth Year: 1840

Death Date: 3 Feb 1922

Age at Death: 82

Death Place: Sonoma California

William Smith

BIRTH 1843

DEATH 1936

BURIAL Sebastopol Memorial Lawn Cemetery
Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California,

William Smith

Find A Grave Index

Name: William Smith

Birth Date: 1843

Death Date: 1936

Cemetery: Sebastopol Memorial Lawn Cemetery

Burial or Cremation Place: Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California



William Smith

in the 1930 United States Federal Census

Name: William Smith

Birth Year: 1843

Race: Indian (Native American)

Birthplace: California

Marital status: Widowed

Home in 1930: Bodega, Sonoma, California,

Street address: Coast Road

Home Owned or
Rented: Owned

Radio Set: No

Lives on Farm: Yes

Occupation: Retired

Household Members:	Name	Age
	William Smith	87
	Steve Smith	55
	William Smith	42
	Ernest Smith	30
	Ida Smith	27
	Ernest Smith	3
	Leroy Smith	2

SMITH—In Bay, November 9. William Smith, dearly beloved husband of the late Roselie Smith; loving father of Stephen, Angelo, William, Edward and Ernest Smith of Bay, Eli Smith of Santa Rosa, Mrs. Sarah Ballard and Mrs. Roselie Philbrook of Bay, Mrs. Margaret Buvelot of Sebastopol and Mrs. Aileen Hall of Monterey. A native of Bodega, California.

Friends are respectfully invited to attend funeral services from the Memorial Chapel of Lafferty & Smith, Thursday, Nov. 12, at 9:15 A. M., thence to St. Rose's Church where Mass will be celebrated for the repose of his soul. Interment in the family plot in Sebastopol Cemetery, Sebastopol. The Rosary will be recited Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock at the Lafferty and Smith Chapel.

William Smith

Newspapers.com Obituary Index

Name: William Smith

Death Age: 93

Birth Date: 1843

Birth Place: Bodega

Residence Place: Bodega Bay

Death Date: 9 Nov 1936

Death Place: Bay

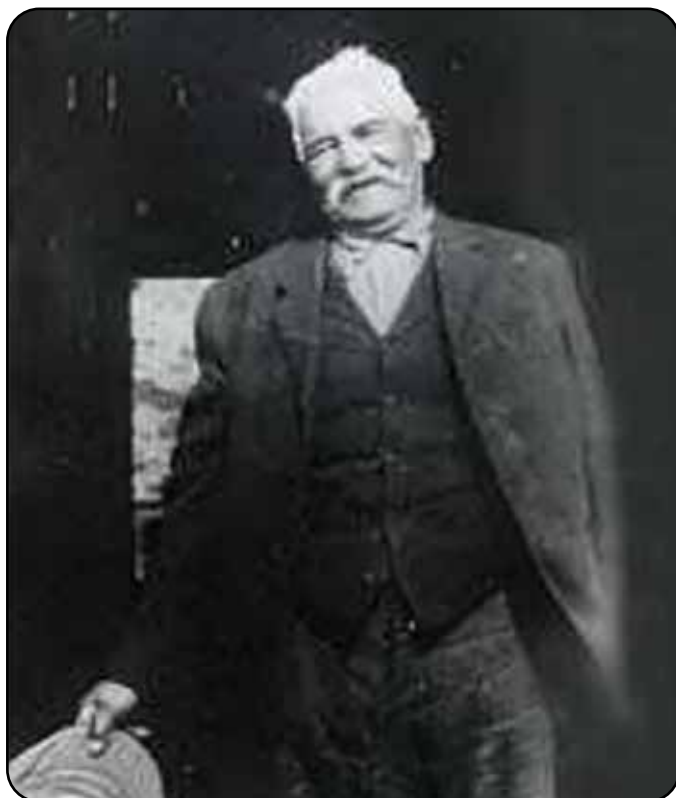
Obituary Date: 10 Nov 1936

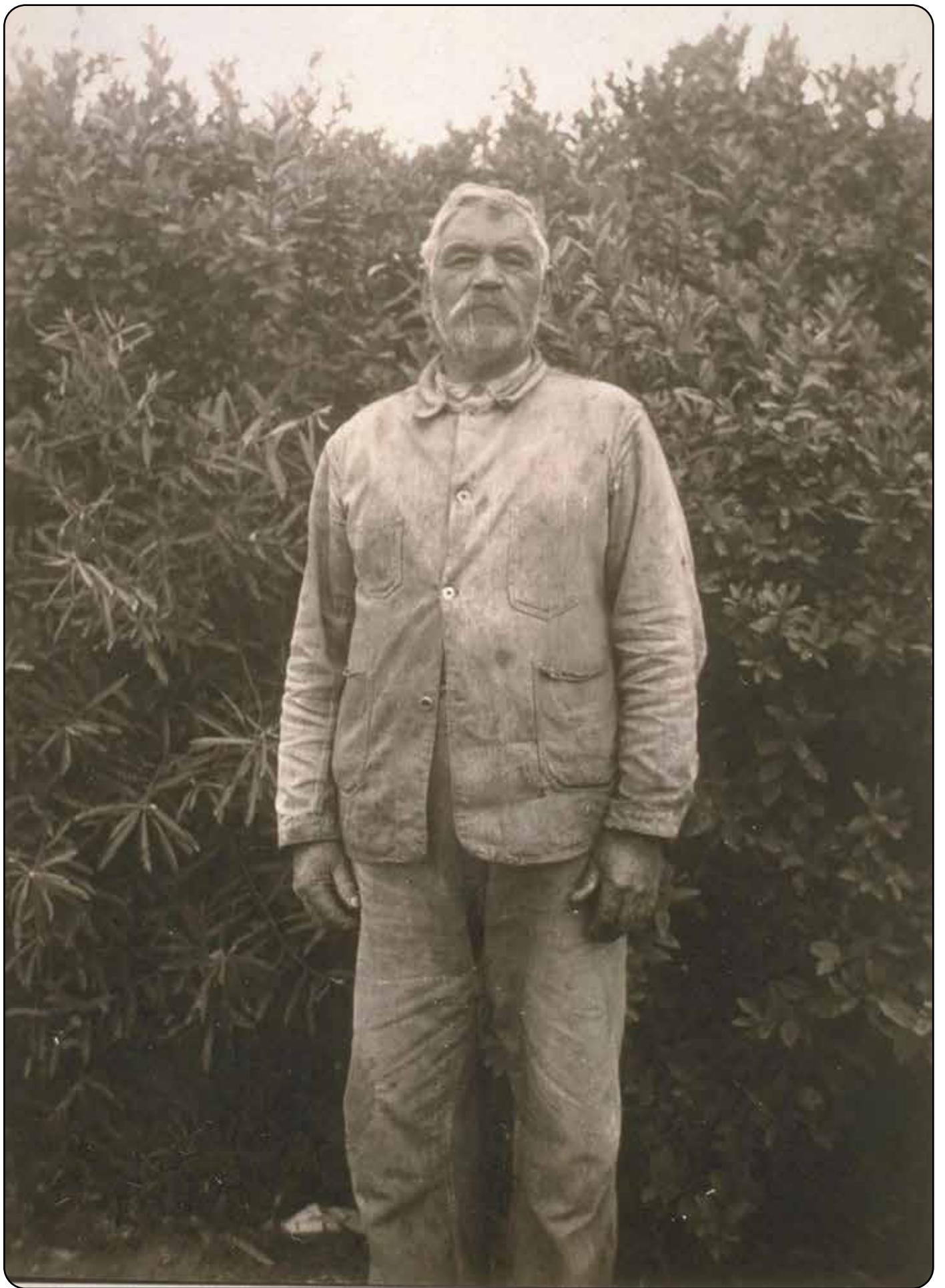
Obituary Place: Santa Rosa, California

Spouse: [Roselie Smith](#)

Child: [Steven Smith](#)
[Angelo Smith](#)
[William Smith](#)
[Edward Smith](#)
[Earnest Smith](#)
[Eli Smith](#)
[Sarah Ballard](#)
[Roselie Philbrook](#)
[Margaret Buvelot](#)
[Aileen T. Hall](#)

Siblings: [Thomas](#)





William Smith - 7

Rites Thursday For Wm. Smith, County Pioneer

Funeral services are to be held here Thursday for one of the county's oldest pioneer residents.

William Smith of Bay, 93, a lifelong resident of the county died at his Bay home yesterday and funeral services have been planned for Thursday at 9:15 o'clock from the Memorial chapel of Lafferty and Smith, thence to St. Rose's church where mass will be said for the repose of his soul. Interment will take place in Sebastopol cemetery.

Smith was one of the founders of the famous Smith Brothers fishing fleet and was born in Bodega in 1843. He never left the coast area as the sea and fishing was one of the traditions of the family.

His wife, the late Roselie Smith, died 14 years ago. He is survived by ten children, six sons and four daughters. They are Steven, Angelo, William, Edward and Ernest Smith of Bay, Eli Smith of Santa Rosa, Mrs. Sarah Ballard and Mrs. Roselie Philbrook of Bay, Mrs. Margaret Buvelot of Sebastopol and Mrs. Aileen T. Hall of Monterey.

William Smith, 93, Dies At Bodega

Wm. Smith, 93, a life-long resident of the Sonoma county coast area and one of the founders of the famous Smith Bros. fishing fleet, died at his home Monday, following a short illness.

Born in Bodega in 1843, Mr. Smith was a member of a family that, as early coast settlers, was destined to play a major part in the molding of Sonoma county's history.

The sea was a tradition in the family and Mr. Smith never left the coast, spending his lifetime in the business of commercial fishing.

He, and his brother, Thomas, who died more than a year ago at the estimated age of over 100 years, were first to build the Smith Bros. fishing fleet which has made commercial fishing one of Sonoma county's major industries.

The Smith family figured prominently in publications of "Sonoma County History," compiled by Honoria Toomey.

His wife, Roselie Smith, died 14 years ago. He is survived by a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters.

They are Steven, Angelo, William, Edward and Earnest Smith, of Bay; Eli Smith, Santa Rosa; Mrs. Sarah Ballard and Mrs. Roselie Philbrook, Bay; Mrs. Margaret Buvelot, of Sebastopol, and Mrs. Aileen T. Hall, of Monterey.

The body is at the Memorial chapel of Lafferty & Smith in Santa Rosa.

The Smith Brothers in Bodega Bay

Stephen, Angelo, William Jr, Eli, Edward, Ernest

As one of the oldest families in America, the Smith Family legacy begins with the native Coast Miwoks who inhabited this area some 12,000 years ago. Thought of as friendly, peaceful, well-established hunter-gatherers that left spear heads, acorn grinding holes, beautiful baskets, middens and other artifacts to tell us their story, Coast Miwoks were first documented by English explorers in 1579 when Sir Francis Drake landed on our shores. Here in Rancho Bodega, it is thought that the Coast Miwoks inhabited the area south of Salmon Creek. They shared the land north of Salmon Creek and south of the Russian River with the Kashaya Pomo who lived north of the Russian River.

The First Settlers in Rancho Bodega came by Sea. A well-traveled ship master for 30 years, Captain Stephen Smith was a Quaker and native of Dartmouth, Massachusetts who first visited the Sonoma Coast in 1839 and 1841 as a trader. He recognized the area as a source for lumber, food and leather for the small but growing city. Bodega Bay became Captain Smith's shipping port. His vessels shipped passengers and goods from his Port in Bodega to San Francisco.

In this part of Alta California the Mexicans encouraged settlement by awarding land grants called "ranchos." At age 57, Stephen Smith proposed to the Mexican Governor that he construct a saw mill, become a Catholic and marry into a prominent Spanish Family so that he could qualify and be awarded a land grant. He married 16-year-old Manuela Torres, the educated daughter of wealthy Peruvian aristocrats. In 1844 he was granted "Rancho Bodega" a land grant that stretched 55 square miles along the Pacific Coast from today's southern border of Sonoma County at the Estero Americano, north to the Russian River.

The Matriarch of this branch of the Smith Family was Tsupu, a Coast Miwok woman. In 1843 the year before receiving his land grant, Captain Stephen Smith and Tsupu had a son William (Bill) Smith. Bill, a Miwok, first married another Miwok, Walla Walla, who died young. In 1876, he married Rosalie Charles and they had 12 children. In the early 1900's with the help of his large Bodega Miwok family, Bill Smith founded the commercial fishing industry in Bodega Bay.

Language: Members of the Smith family, Sarah, Eileen, Rose and Maggie were the last to speak the Miwok language. Russian words had been incorporated into the language, but it was rarely spoken because there was a bounty for catching Native Americans speaking their native language.

Discrimination: Names were changed to protect the innocent Native Americans. Tsupu, the known matriarch was also known as María Checka. Being given an English name helped protect the family and allowed them to own land, particularly another half-brother Tom Smith. They were fisherman and sold fish in Santa Rosa. They started in a small boat and grew the fleet to two larger boats. Angelo sold crab, Eli, who died in 1968, was considered to be the smart one. He didn't do the fishing, he sold the fish on West A and Fourth Streets in Santa Rosa.

The day of the 1906 earthquake the ocean was dead calm, like a lake. Then the water started bubbling and up came the fish. A great catch! But when they went to San Francisco to the port, the family was waiting to escape. They sailed up the Sacramento River to Pittsburg where they still live today. There is a Miwok tale that William's half-brother Tom Smith was mad that day and did a dance – then the earthquake happened!

Sarah Smith was a sweet midwife with a special touch who always found a kind word to say about even the most despicable characters. But the whites often didn't want the only midwife for miles. Many in the family were talented artists. Clarence and Angelo painted. Sarah painted several pictures of Bodega Bay. They embroidered too. They were happy in beautiful Bodega Bay!

**Smith Brothers fishing on
one of their boats**



William Smith

born: 1843 Bodega, California, died: 9 Nov 1936 Bodega, California, buried: Sebastopol California, married: Rosalie Charles 1876 Bodega California, children: Separiano (died young), Stephen 1877, Angelo 1879, Sarah 1881, Margaret 1883, William 1889, Eli 1891, Rosalie 1893, Edward 1895, Aileen 1898, Ernest 1900

Stephen Smith

born: 5 Mar 1877 California, died: 5 Dec 1961 Sonoma County California, buried: Sebastopol California, married1: Mary Antone, married2: Lucy Ann Lorinto

Angelo William Smith

born: 4 Aug 1879 Healdsburg California, died: 10 Apr 1963 Monterey California, buried: Sebastopol California, married: Katherine Frescia 1902 Sonoma County California (she was born: 1885 California, died: 1948 Sonoma County California)

Sarah Smith

born: 15 Nov 1881 Bodega Bay, California, died: 6 Mar 1978 Santa Rosa, California, married1: Burdit Williams (he was born: 1874), married2: Howard Ballard (he was born: 1878)

Margaret Smith

born: 3 Jan 1883 Bodega Bay, California, died: 15 Sep 1973 San Francisco California, married: Marc Buvelot (he was born: 1866 Switzerland)

William Smith Jr.

born: 4 Mar 1889 Bodega Bay, California, died: 8 Mar 1969 Bodega Bay, California, buried: Sebastopol, Sonoma California

Eli Smith

born: 4 May 1891 Bodega Bay, California, died: 27 Jun 1968 Santa Rosa, California, married: Josephine Frescia (she was born: 1890)

Rosalie Smith

born: 28 Apr 1893 California, died: Mar 1978 Bodega Bay, California, married1: Edward Philbook, married2: Martin Coady, married3: Robert Frescia

Edward Smith

born: 22 Jul 1895 Bodega Bay, California, died: 4 Jul 1975 Sonoma County California

Aileen Smith

born: 2 Jan 1898 California, died: 16 Feb 1987 Monterey California, married: Theodore Hall (he was born: 1888)

Young Ernest Smith

born: 4 Feb 1900 Healdsburg, California, died: 9 Jan 1969 Santa Rosa California, married: Ida Phillips (she was born: 1904, died: 2006)



Eddy Smith, Bill Orr, Harold Ames & William Smith Jr.



Back row:
Angelo,
Young Ernest,
Stephen, on
right: William
Smith Jr.

A brief history of the Fishing Industry in Bodega Bay

It all began with the Smith family, descendants of Capt. Stephen Smith, the 1840's grantee of the Bodega Rancho and their Coast Miwok mother named Tsupu (also known as Maria Checka). Captain Smith's and Tsupu's son William (Bill) Smith was born in 1843. He married Rosalie Charles and they had 12 children.

By the turn of the 20th century William Smith was fishing from small boats off the sand spit now known as Doran Beach. He sold his catch from a truck at his small fish market on the 300th block of Santa Rosa's Fourth Street. In 1919, Williams six sons, the "Smith Brothers" bought the first drag boats into the Bay and contracted to sell fish in San Francisco establishing themselves as the first true commercial fishermen in Bodega Bay.

It was in August 1844 when Captain Stephen Smith successfully petitioned the Mexican Governor of California, Manuel Micheltorena to grant him 35,487 acres of land. Captain Smith purchased the buildings from John Sutter, who had purchased Fort Ross from the Russians. Smith's Bodega Rancho stretched from the Russian River along the coast south to Estero Americano. Captain Smith owned a small vessel called the Fayaway, which he sailed between the Port of Bodega and San Francisco. In 1849 the passenger fare was \$14. Bodega Bay was Smith's shipping port which helped develop the area into a commercial fishing port.

In the early 1900's with the help of his Coast Miwok family, William Smith founded the commercial fishing industry in Bodega Bay. William Smith purchased land along the bay from the Doran's for a place for his fishing business and home. The family home was located where the Bodega Coast Inn now stands, next to the post office.

Their business lasted until the early 1970s. The Smith Brothers wharf and warehouse was the first in Bodega Bay. Smith Brothers Road is named in honor of the brothers. The Smith Brothers wharf was where the Bodega Harbour Yacht Club is currently located diagonally across from the Bodega Bay Post Office.

For years Bill Smith continued selling his catch in Sonoma County making a fair living for his family. As his children reached maturity they too became involved in the business. In 1911 five of the Smith brothers went to fish in Alaska. In just one season they earned enough to buy two 50-foot trawlers from the Boat Works in Sausalito, named Smith Brothers #1 and #2. The brothers began selling their catch at the fish market they operated on Fourth Street in Santa Rosa.

Salmon Discovered. It was sometime around the "Great War" World War I when Bill's sons discovered large runs of salmon at Bodega Bay. Up until then salmon fishing was farther north at Fort Bragg but during the war fisherman were too short-handed to go that far. Discovering salmon caused a tremendous surge of fishing in Bodega Bay.

Sometime before 1927 the Smith Brothers Fishery was incorporated with five of the working brothers. The port was more mud flat than water. There was no real town just a community known simply as Bay with a schoolhouse and a few houses. By the 1930s the Smith brothers had the largest fleet in the bay and were doing business with Paladini, the San Francisco fish firm. The Smith Brothers' fleet would take fifty or seventy boxes of salmon or bottom fish per day. After more than 70 years as a fisherman Bill Smith passed away on November 9, 1936.

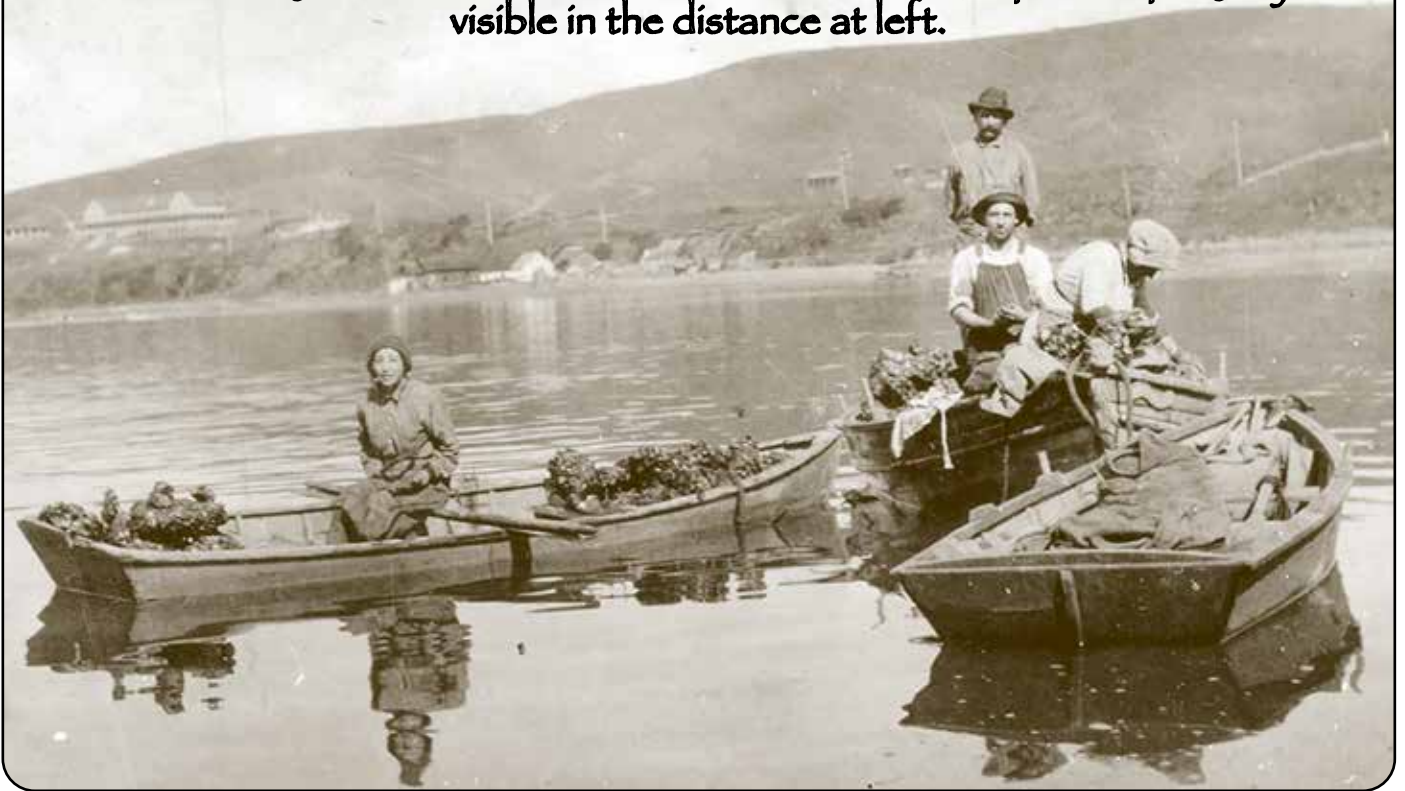
The business Bill started prospered and his sons continued running the Smith Brothers Fishery. Bill Smith Jr. recalled the "old days" when the brothers were just boys and their father started the commercial fishing industry. He said that his family had been fishing in Bodega Bay "almost ever since there's been a bay here." Adding "There's a lot more to commercial fishing than just going out with an empty boat and coming back with one filled with fish or crabs. There's a lot of work bringing it to the table."

The "golden age of the fishing industry begins." The 1940's were when Dungeness crab became part of the fishery. Although the Smith family had netted crabs in the bay and ocean for years, the crab industry was really born during World War II. The early 1940s brought forth quick freezing techniques. Changes in technology turned the crab industry into a new line of work for fishermen and women. By 1943, "the fishing industry at Bodega Bay had shore-side installations valued at \$230,000 and locally owned boats valued in excess of half a million dollars."

During the Second World War, commercial boats were exempt from fuel rationing. Glenice Ames Carpenter wrote "During this time, the fishing boats were engaged in catching soup fin sharks because their liver was valuable for vitamins. Catching sharks for livers brought a boom to Bodega Bay's fishing industry." But when synthetic vitamins began to be commercially produced, "Many fishermen were left with a shed full of nets and nothing to fish." Earl Carpenter fished for a half a century from Bodega Bay. Earl said "The Smith brothers made enough money from shark fishing to build their wharf." The fleet numbered about a dozen when the Carpenters arrived in 1942 and increased with the dredging of the channel in the early 1940's, when the "golden age of the fishing industry began."

The Smith Brothers Fishery continued with the five Smith brothers. When two of the brothers passed away the Fishery closed in 1963. The three remaining brothers fished until 1970 or so. The Golden Age of Commercial fishing was over. Unfortunately salmon fishing took a turn for the worse in 1989 when human alteration and damage to streams and rivers where Coho salmon spawn took its toll on the fish population. This turn of events sent many a fisherman looking for other employment while those that remained looked for short-term relief and long-term solutions. In the spring of 1995, Salmon fishing prospects began to look good again, but the previous few years tempered the optimism with caution. It recognized that the health of the fishing industry is too fragile to take for granted.

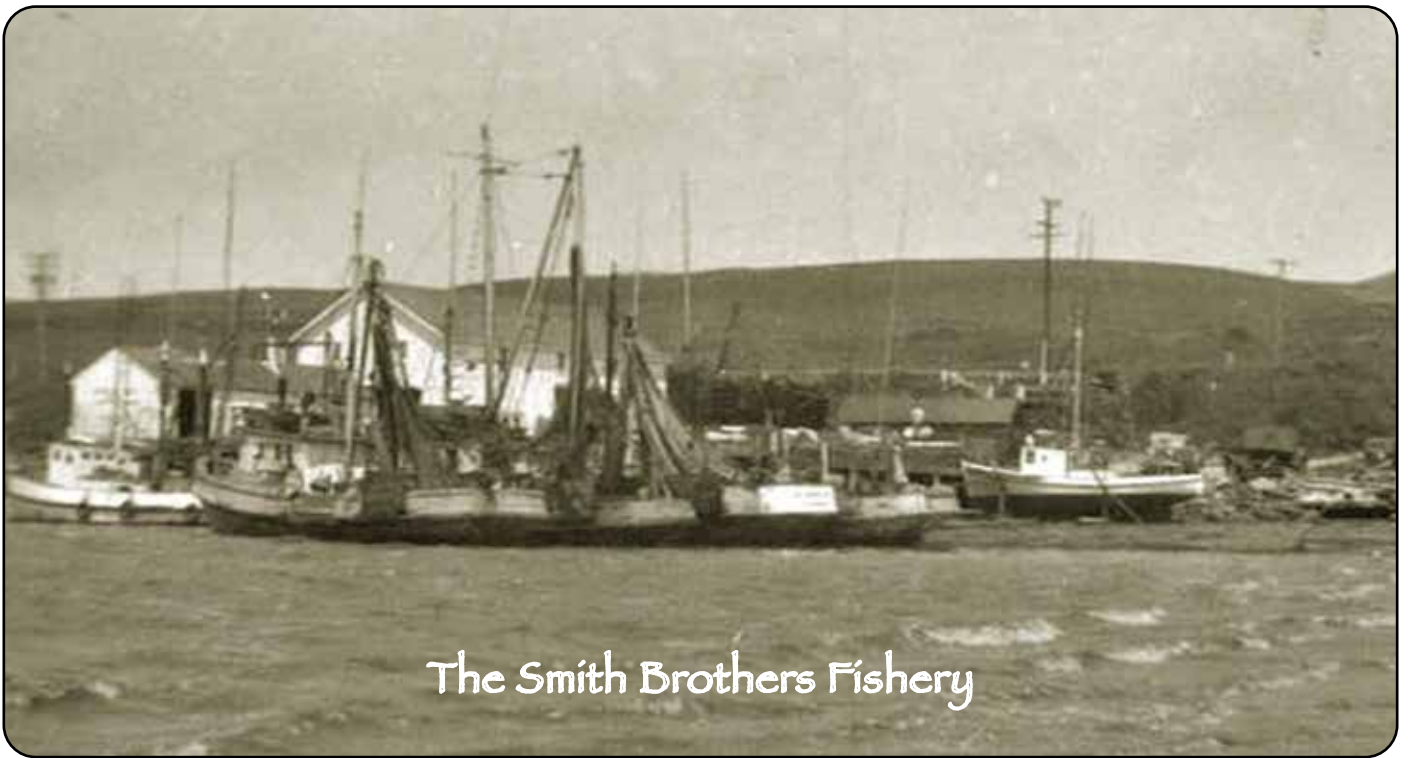
Members of the well-known Smith family of fishermen, harvesting oysters in Tomales Bay, circa 1917. The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company is just visible in the distance at left.



Six Brothers Five Sisters

Two of the Smith brothers' boats were named Six Brothers and Five Sisters, in honor of the eleven children of Bill and Rosalie Charles Smith.





The Smith Brothers Fishery

Smith Brothers boat leaving the Bodega Bay Harbor.



EARLY MORNING - SMITH BROS.
FISHING BORTS LEAVING
BODEGA BAY, CALIF.