

Dr. Michael Smith's
CELEBRATED
Veterinary Collectibles
Roundtable

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Dr. E. J. Smith Veterinary Remedies

One of the many ways that collectors collect bottles is by finding a bottle with their name on it. Bottle want ads are filled with requests for bottles with this or that name as part of the title. Any collector would especially love to find an item from the area they collect with their name on it. With Smith being a common name, I was lucky enough to come up a winner in this area.

I bought my first Dr. E. J. Smith medicine in Hoosick, New York. I was traveling through New England and found a complete package of Smith's New Life Colic Remedy in an antique store. I remember the location because I was so happy to find a "Smith" veterinary medicine at the time. Unfortunately, I have not been able to find out much else

about the man or his company. The following is all the information I have been able to unearth.

Dr. Smith's logo, taken from a letterhead, states that the company was started in 1881. I have an early label only bottle of Smith's Veterinary Remedy patented in 1881 by E. J. Smith in Westport, New York. Inquiries in Westport have turned up no information about the company's dealings in that town.

The next clue about the company comes in the form of a letterhead dated September, 7, 1916. The company home office and laboratory was then listed as Greenwich, New York. Greenwich is a small town just 25 miles north of Hoosick, where I found my first Smith medicine.

No company information has been forthcoming from Greenwich. A second letterhead, dated 1924, gives no new information about the company. It is still located in Greenwich, where the company lasted until at least 1940. I have a bottle of Smith's Compound for Horses with its box. The box states that it was designed in 1940.

Who was E. J. Smith? When did he live and die? When did the company move to Greenwich from Westport? When did the company finally close? These are all questions to which we will probably never know the answers.

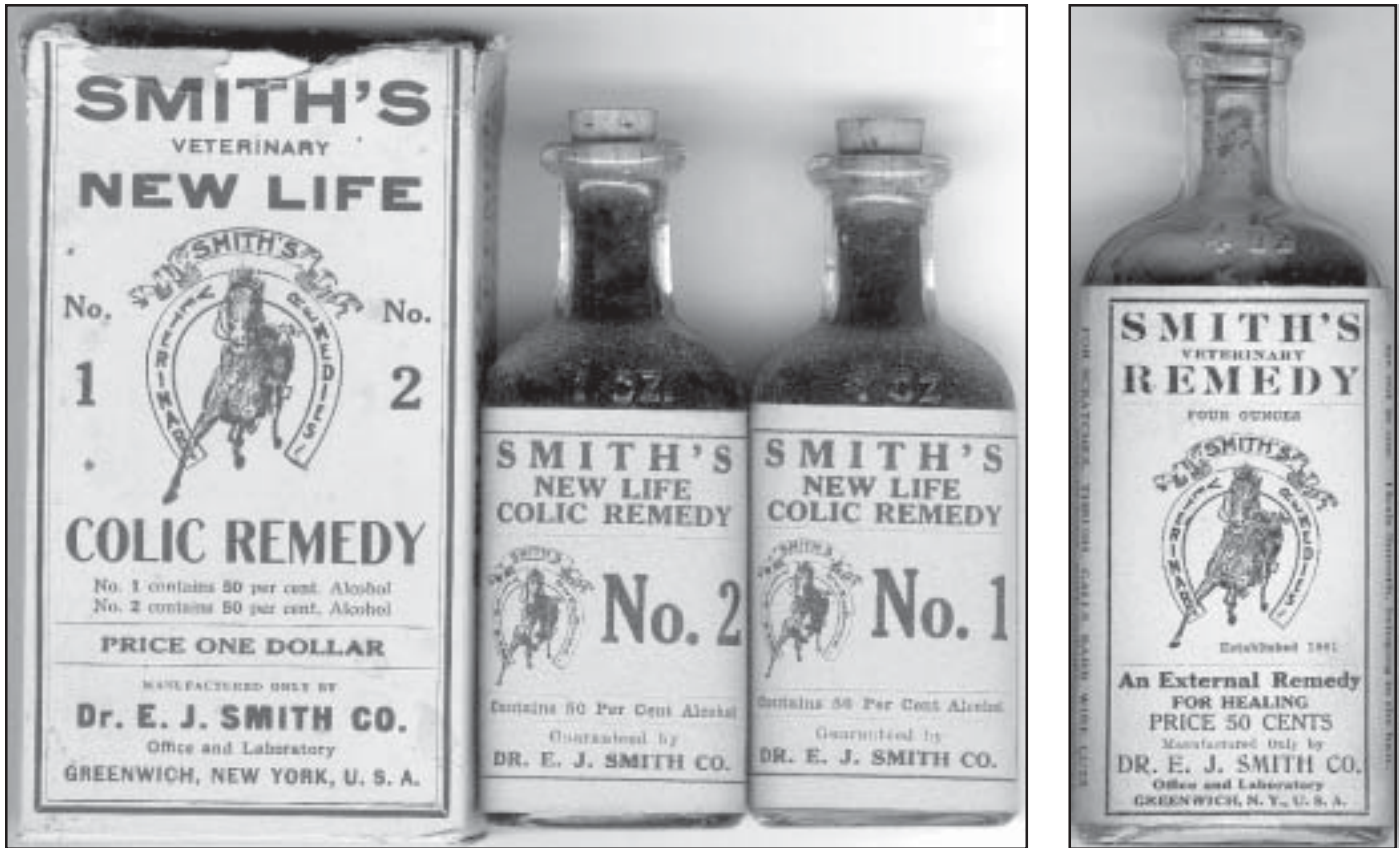
If you have any additional information about the life and times of Dr. E. J. Smith, I hope you will contact me at: Petvet@mindspring.com.



Real photo post card c1907, of Dr. Smith's medicines traveling wagon. It is unknown if the man in the wagon is Dr. Smith or just a traveling salesman employed by his company. The number 21 on the side of the wagon is interesting. Does it represent the number of wagons selling Dr. Smith's Veterinary Remedies? Did he have more than 21 wagons? For such a small company from such a small town, it seems to me to be a lot of wagons. This is just one more incident in which we have more questions than answers in history research.



Early label only bottle from Dr. Smith during his Westport, New York days. Patent date on the bottle is 1881.



Above left: Colic remedy package. Colic is a stomach and intestinal disease in horses. Typical of patent medicine colic remedies, this box contained two different bottled medicines. A dose of bottle #1 was followed by a dose of medicine #2. A sure cure was soon to follow.
Above right: Label only bottle from Greenwich, New York. Dr. Smith's Veterinary Remedy shown here is the most commonly found example of his medicines. It can be found in several size bottles, including a free sample size.



OFFICE OF THE
DR. E. J. SMITH COMPANY
 MANUFACTURER OF
SMITH'S VETERINARY REMEDIES

HOME OFFICE AND LABORATORY
 GREENWICH, NEW YORK, U. S. A. *Greenwich, N. Y., Sept 22 1916*

NO GOODS CONSIGNED
 Goods taken from wagons, CASH.
 \$50 Orders or more, Two Per Cent. Discount

TERMS - 30 Days Net; Ten Days, Two Per Cent.

ESTABLISHED 1891.

Guaranteed by Dr. E. J. Smith Co. under the Food and Drug Act, June 30, 1906 - Serial Number 2155

1oz. \$1.00 size Smith's Veterinary Remedy,	\$1.00 per doz.
5oz. - Smith's Veterinary Remedy,	\$4.00 per doz.
5oz. - Smith's Cough Distemper Remedy,	\$1.00 per doz.
5oz. - Smith's New Life Colic Remedy,	\$1.00 per doz.
5oz. - Smith's New Life Hoof Dressing,	\$1.00 per doz.
5oz. - Smith's Pure Queen Liniment,	\$1.00 per doz.

Above: Company letterhead dated 1916 from Greenwich, New York. It contains a listing of all the medicines produced by the company.
Left: Cough and Distemper Remedy is one of Dr. Smith's less common patent medicines found today.