

# **Clarissa Smith local history research**

**02**

**Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Sarah  
Leu through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden  
Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.**

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Last updated on September 24, 2014.

Marple Historical Society

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Marple Historical Society
<b>Creator</b>	Smith, Clarissa, 1904-1980
<b>Title</b>	Clarissa Smith local history research
<b>Call number</b>	02
<b>Date</b>	circa 1950-1966
<b>Extent</b>	1.75 linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	Clarissa Smith (1904-1980) was a local historian and journalist based in Broomall, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The Clarissa Smith local history research, circa 1950-1966, consists of eleven volumes compiled by Clarissa Smith on local history topics in the vicinity of Marple Township, Pennsylvania.

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## Biography/History

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Clarissa Smith (1904-1980) was a local historian and journalist based in Broomall, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. She was a founding member of the Marple-Newtown Historical Society and was also instrumental in the preservation of the 1696 Thomas Massey House. She worked as a correspondent for several newspapers including *Upper Darby News*. Her husband was Rolland H. Smith.

## Scope and Contents

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This collection consists of eleven volumes compiled by Clarissa Smith on local history topics in the vicinity of Marple Township (Delaware County, PA). Eight smaller binders contain mostly handwritten and typed research notes and document transcriptions, with a few newspaper clippings, research related correspondence, at least one map, and other materials. Organized by topic, subjects covered include: Marple chronology; Marple churches, schools, industries, buildings, and post offices; local people and families, including Massey, Lawrence, Lewis, Smith, Wayne, and others; adjacent counties; and more general topics, such as American Indians, Underground Railroad, and textiles. There are also three larger binders containing newspaper articles written by Smith, with some drafts and notes for the articles.

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## Administrative Information

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Marple Historical Society

Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Sarah Leu through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.

### Sponsor

This preliminary finding aid was created as part of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories. The HCI-PSAR project was made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

### Access Restrictions

Contact Marple Historical Society for information about accessing this collection.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition Note

Gift of Phyllis Stevens, circa 1980.

### Processing Information Note

Summary descriptive information on this collection was compiled in 2012-2014 as part of a project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories (HCI-PSAR) was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

This is a preliminary finding aid. No physical processing, rehousing, reorganizing, or folder listing was accomplished during the HCI-PSAR project.

In some cases, more detailed inventories or finding aids may be available on-site at the repository where this collection is held; please contact Marple Historical Society directly for more information.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Geographic Name(s)

- Delaware County (Pa.)
- Marple (Pa. : Township)

### Subject(s)

- Genealogy
- Local history