Helene Catherine Snyder Smith (born February 6, 1935) is the daughter of John Bowie Snyder and his wife Frances Cecilia Arthur Snyder from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. She married Wayne E. Smith on June 8, 1958, and they had five children. She graduated from Westminster College in Westminster, Pennsylvania in 1958. Helene Smith was an amateur archaeologist, and is a published historian, freelance writer, novelist, playwright, and illustrator who has written extensively about Western Pennsylvania including *A Guidebook to Historic Western Pennsylvania, Sallie Civil War Dog, Great Whisky Rebellion, and Tavern Signs of America*. Helene Smith is also owner and president of McDonald & Swärd Publishing Company in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Content Note
This collection contains biographical information, newspaper articles, scrapbooks, and drafts of several publications by Helene Smith, and works by George Swetnam (*Manuscript Group 5*) which were published by McDonald/Swärd Publishing Company. The focus of her research has been Western Pennsylvania including *Tavern Signs of America – A Catalog* (1988) and *Tavern Signs of America – A History* (1989).

Provenance
This collection was donated by Helene Smith in 2015.

Restrictions
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Processor
The collection was organized and the finding aid was updated by Harrison Wick on September 2, 2015.

Content List
Box 1 Scrapbooks and Publications (17 Folders)
1. Biographical Information
2. Memoirs by Helene Smith: Life from Grade School to 80 years old (1)
3. Memoirs by Helene Smith (2)
4. Memoirs by Helene Smith (3)
5. Helene Smith Scrapbook 1 (1)
6. Helene Smith Scrapbook 1 (2)
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7. Helene Smith Scrapbook 2
8. Helene Smith Scrapbook 3
9. Helene Smith Scrapbook 4 (1) and memorabilia from Wayne Smith
10. Helene Smith Scrapbook 4 (2) and memorabilia from Wayne Smith
11. Helene Smith Publications:
   b. Play (1984): *Carry a Nation: One Woman’s War on Drugs*: One Woman Drama for reading or for the stage, written by Helene Smith, and edited by George Swetnam
12. Helene Smith Publication: Tobacco (1) research paper draft
13. Helene Smith Publication: Tobacco (2) research paper draft
14. Helene Smith Publication: Tobacco (3) research paper draft
16. Helene Smith Publication: *Tavern Signs of America* – Photographs used in publication (1)
17. Helene Smith Publication: *Tavern Signs of America* – Photographs used in publication (2)

Box 2 Publications by Helene Smith and George Swetnam, see Manuscript Group 5 (11 Folders)

2. Helene Smith Publication: *Tavern Signs of America: A history of American inns and public houses through the derivation of the names on their signs* (1989) by Helen Smith, first draft (1)
3. Helene Smith Publication: *Tavern Signs of America: A history of American inns and public houses through the derivation of the names on their signs* (1989) by Helen Smith, first draft (2)
4. Helene Smith Publication: *Tavern Signs of America: A history of American inns and public houses through the derivation of the names on their signs* (1989) by Helen Smith, second draft

Publications written by Dr. George Francis Swetnam (see also Manuscript Group 5)

5. *Devils, Ghosts, and Witches: Occult Folklore of the Upper Ohio Valley* by George Swetnam, printed and edited by Helene Smith (draft)
6. *A Newsman’s Life* by George Swetnam (draft)
7. Biographies about George Swetnam and the Swetnam Family
   a. *A Journey of Remembrance* by Walter Swetnam, George Swetnam’s brother (draft)
   b. *George: The little known historian* (1996) by Dolli Dudrick
8. George Francis Swetnam: A Biographical Note (1)
9. George Francis Swetnam: A Biographical Note (2)
10. Doctoral Dissertation: *Fire beneath our feet: Shays’ rebellion and its constitutional impact* by Rock Brynner, Columbia University, PhD Dissertation, third draft, sent to Helene Smith (1)
11. Doctoral Dissertation: *Fire beneath our feet: Shays’ rebellion and its constitutional impact* by Rock Brynner, Columbia University, PhD Dissertation, third draft, sent to Helene Smith (2)
Books cataloged and placed in the Pennsylvania Collection (Special Collections)

   Call Number: E99 .C92 S65 1993
   Call Number: F159 .H18 S62 1980
   Call Number: PS3569 .M53733 O8 1996
   Call Number: E315 .S65 1994
   Call Number: GR 110 .O48 S94 1988 (Special Collections)
   Call Number: F148 .S94 1990 (Special Collections)