The papers of Alice D. Serrell were placed at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm in March of 1997 by Grant Serrell, her nephew. The papers were opened for research in May of 1998.

Alice D. Serrell was born 2 August 1906 in Avon Township, Michigan, now known as Rochester Hills. Ms. Serrell graduated from Pontiac High School, then attended Pontiac Junior College for one semester. She entered Ferris Institute (now Ferris State College) for a second semester. Though initially planning to become a librarian, Ms. Serrell worked as a bookkeeper. After participating in politics and working at various places, she became the bookkeeper for Dr. Sarah Van Hoosen Jones at Van Hoosen Farm on 2 December 1936.

In 1952, both Dr. Jones and Ms. Serrell retired, and Ms. Serrell moved into the Van Hoosen farmhouse in February, 1952. Ms. Serrell and Dr. Jones traveled the world from 1953 until Dr. Jones’ death in 1972. Ms. Serrell continued to travel with friends, visiting about ninety countries in all her travels. Ms. Serrell stayed on the farm until December of 1981 when she moved to Fort Pierce, Florida, where she remained until her death on 4 February 1997.

The papers of Ms. Serrell reflect her involvement in the community, her travels, the Van Hoosen family, and her personal life and interests.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

- Genealogy
  - Jones/Van Hoosen/Taylor families
  - Stoney Creek Cemetery
- Travels
- Van Hoosen Jones Stoney Creek Cemetery

Among the important correspondents are:

- U.S. Representative William S. Broomfield
- Alice Van Hoosen Jones
- Dr. Sarah Van Hoosen Jones
Dr. Clara Raven
Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen

An index to correspondence will be found on page 8.

This collection also includes a large slide collection as well as non-manuscript materials and oral history audio tapes.
Contents
7 storage boxes
1 oversized box
9 scrapbooks

Series I, Personal Files, 1870-1997, Boxes 1-2:
Clippings, correspondence, genealogy, obituaries, scrapbook

Series II, Civic Activities, 1965-1991, Box 2:
Correspondence, minutes, and programs relating to Ms. Serrell’s involvement in community organizations

Series III, Van Hoosen Family, 1885-1985, Boxes 2-3:
Clippings, correspondence, and genealogy belonging to or relating to the Van Hoosen family

Series IV, Travels, 1906-1982, Boxes 3-7:
Postcards and scrapbooks containing agendas, pamphlets, and receipts relating to Ms. Serrell’s travels

Non-Manuscript Material:
Hundreds of slides relating to Ms. Serrell’s travels, the Van Hoosen Farm, farmhouse and grounds have been placed in the Museum’s photograph archives. Non-manuscript materials such as textiles, pins and other memorabilia have been placed in the Museum’s artifact collection.
Series I
Personal Files, 1870-1997
Boxes 1-2

This series contains correspondence, clippings, genealogy, information on Stoney Creek Cemetery, Van Hoosen Jones Stoney Creek Cemetery, and other items that document Ms. Serrell’s personal life from 1870 to her death in 1997. Most of the materials concern information on genealogy and local cemeteries, as well as correspondence relating to the Taylor/Van Hoosen family and farmhouse. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject and then chronologically per item. There are gaps in material covering the early 1900s.

Box 1

1 Address books/Note books, 1952, n.d.
2-3 Books, 1947, 1986
4 Clippings, 1877-1984
5-6 Correspondence, 1947-1992
7 Death notices, 7 Feb - 15 Feb 1997
8-10 Genealogy, 1968, n.d.
11 Manuscripts of articles, 1975-1976
12 Memoirs, n.d.
13 Michigan State University, 1955
14 Miscellaneous, 1935-1990
15 Obituaries, 1960-1983
16 Oral history, 1982
17 Pamphlets/Booklets, 1977-1992
18 Scrapbooks, 1887-1983

Box 2

1-2 Stoney Creek Cemetery, 1870-1978, n.d.
6 Will, 1974
Series II
Civic Activities, 1965-1991
Box 2

This series contains materials related to Ms. Serrell’s involvement in civic organizations. Records include correspondence, minutes, invitations and programs relating to various organizations. Files are arranged alphabetically by organization and then chronologically per item.

Box 2

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<thead>
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<td>Van Hoosen Junior High School, 1974</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Young Woman’s Christian Association, 1965</td>
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</tbody>
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Series III
This series contains correspondence, clippings, and genealogy belonging to or relating to the Van Hoosen family from 1885-1985. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject and then chronologically per item. In Box 3, Folder 1, correspondence is intermingled with the genealogical information. In Box 3, Folder 2, the backside of the genealogical notes contains the rough draft to Dr. Sarah Van Hoosen’s autobiography, *Chronicle of Van Hoosen Centenary Farm*.

**Box 2**

11 Book, 1939  
12 Clippings, 1921-1985  
13 Correspondence, 1885-1966  

**Box 3**

1-4 Genealogy, 1911-1971  
5 History, 1980, n.d.  
6 Ledger, n.d.  
7 Miscellaneous, 1916-1970  
8 Publication, 1909  
10 Rosters, 1942-1943  
11 Travels, 1909-1965  
12-13 Van Hoosen Farm, 1942-1972, n.d.

**Series IV**

6
This series contains scrapbook contents, including travel brochures, receipts, correspondence, and clippings, as well as a postcard collection documenting Ms. Serrell’s travels from 1906-1982. Files are arranged alphabetically by location, then chronologically by year, if applicable.

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14-17 Postcards, Australia/New Zealand, 1986
18 Postcards, China, 1979

Box 4
1-2 Postcards, Europe, 1982

Box 5
1 Postcards, Michigan, 1909-1933, n.d.
2 Postcards, Morocco, Lisbon, Granada, Toledo, n.d.
3-8 Postcards, United States of America, East, 1933-1982, n.d.
9 Postcards, United States of America, South & West, 1926-1969, n.d.

Box 6
1-2 Scrapbook, Africa, 1974
3-4 Scrapbook, Europe, 1953
5-7 Scrapbook, Europe, 1960
8-10 Scrapbook, North Cape, 1958
11-14 Scrapbook, World, 1956
15 Scrapbook, World, 1960s

Box 7
1-3 Scrapbook, World, 1956
4-6 Scrapbook, World, 1973
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