These items were donated to the RHM in May of 2007 by Grant Serrell.

This collection of item pertaining to Ferry-Morse Seed Company and his career was compiled by Ned Banton. Banton worked for the Ferry Morse Seed Company. Information on what he did for FM. After his death, ### donated the items to the RHM.

Dexter Mason Ferry founded D.M. Ferry & Co. in Detroit, MI in 1856. A while later, Charles Copeland Morse founded C.C. Morse & Co. in Santa Clara, CA. There was a merger between the two companies in 1930 and they became known as the Ferry-Morse Seed Company. It was then one of the biggest seed growing and distributing companies with its headquarters in Detroit.

In 1960, Mountain View, CA was made the new international headquarters. It was moved to Modesto in 1985.

Ferry-Morse Seed Company became part of the Purex Company in 1969.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Alice Serrell          Oakland County History      War of 1812
American Indians       Pixley Memorial Chapel       Nat'l Bank of Detroit
American Medical Women’s Association  Revolutionary War
Avon Township History  Rochester Historical Commission
Bertha Van Hoosen, M. D. Rochester History
Civil War              Sarah Van Hoosen
H. J. Serrell          Sarah Van Hoosen Jones
Joseph Comstock Jones  Stoney Creek Village
Margaret Norton        Time Capsule
Michigan Governors     United States Presidents

Important correspondence in the collection are:

Margaret Norton
Alice Serrell
An Index to Subjects can be found on page 6.

Contents
& manuscript boxes
& a collection box
& a oversized documents box

Series I, Van Hoosen – Jones Family, 1895 -after 1972, Box 1
Articles and books relating to the Van Hoosen – Jones family.

Series II, Rochester Area, 1907 -1987, Box 1 & Oversized Documents: Collections

Series III, Oakland County, 1885 – 1940s, Box 2, 3, Oversized Documents: Collections
Books and maps relating to Oakland County.

Series IV, Non-manuscript Material, Photography Collection and Collection Box
Scrapbook, photographs, letter opener, and pencils relating to the Van Hoosen Farm, Van Hoosen/Jones family, Alice Serrell, and Pixley Memorial Chapel.
Series I
Van Hoosen – Jones Family, 1895 -after 1972
Box 1

Box I

1. Novel owned and Joseph Comstock Jones, 1895
2. Novel owned by Sarah Van Hoosen, 1901
3. Articles on Bertha Van Hoosen’s medical career and connection to AMWA and Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, c. 1950-after 1972

Series II
Rochester Area, 1907 -1987,
Box 1 & Oversized Documents: Collections

Books, a booklet, and papers pertaining to Rochester history, the Rochester Historical Commission, the Time Capsule, and Stoney Creek Village.

Box I

4. Book: Rochester 1907 which is full of information about the Rochester area at that time including residents, businesses, the fire department, Village officials, and churches;
   Book: Heedless Susan by Emma L. Brock, 1939. This is a fictional story about a girl’s experiences in Stoney Creek Village.

5. Rochester Remembered booklet with accompanying letter and note from Margaret Norton to Alice Serrell, 1987; Rochester Historical Commission 10 Year Summary, 1987; List of Contents of Time Capsule Buring June 14, 1987; Postcard; National Bank of Detroit bank slip.

Oversized Documents: Collections: Grant Serrell Collection

Zoning District Map of Avon Township, 1977. There is a paper stapled to the map with a list of 26 stops on a bus tour scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 1978. The route is outlined in green marker on the map.
Series III

Oakland County, 1885 – 1940s
Box 2, 3, Oversized Documents: Collections

Books and maps relating to the history and geography of Oakland County in general as well as focusing on different communities within OC.

Box 2

Book: Portrait and Biographical album of Oakland County, Michigan, 1885. Contains information on US Presidents, Michigan Governors, and select residents of Oakland County.

Box 3


Plat Book with maps of the cities and townships in Oakland County, c. 1940. There was a loose map of all of Oakland County by the same company inside the Plat Book which was put in Map Box: Grant Serrell file.
Series IV
Non-manuscript Material
Archival Photograph Collection, Collection Box

Non-manuscript materials pertaining to Sarah Van Hoosen Jones and Alice Serrel’s travels, the Van Hoosen Farm, Van Hoosen – Jones family, and Pixley Memorial Chapel.

Photography Collection

Photograph of a group of women and two children, c. 1909. This photograph was found inside of the Rochester 1907 book. Alice Serrel is labeled as one of the children.

Scrapbook made after the Van Hoosen Farmhouse was moved and renovated. It was most likely made by Sarah Van Hoosen Jones. It contains 22 photographs of the Van Hoosen Farmhouse, Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, Alice Van Hoosen Jones, the barn complex. The photographs are glued and taped on the black paper pages.

31 photographs of Sarah Van Hoosen Jones and Alice Serrell on their international travels, 1956-1979. They were removed from a sticky photograph album.

Collection Box

Metal letter opener with “Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen” on the handle. It came with a leather case with a floral design.

2 pencils: White with black text from the Pixley Memorial Chapel
Yellow with black text from the Van Hoosen Farm
Index to Subjects and Correspondence

(correspondence is indicated by an asterisk)

American Indians, Box 3
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