Guide to the Alice Mathis Papers
Acc. # 90.58

Processed by Diane Fulkerson
2005
Edited by Olivia Fraser
2012
Updated by Stephanie Ball
February 2022

Schuyler C. Townson Library
RMSC Museum & Science Center
657 East Avenue
Rochester NY 14607
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Collection Summary

Title: Alice Mathis papers

Creator: Mathis, Alice

Dates: 1936-1989

Extent: 1.0 cubic feet (3 document boxes)

Language: English

Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Abstract: This collection consists of the papers of Alice Mathis, a seasonal farm laborer who lived and worked between Sanford, Florida and Western, New York. The materials are dated from 1936 to 1989. The papers are comprised of photographs, correspondence, advertisements, financial documents, programs, newspaper clippings, and other paper ephemera.
Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

This collection was donated to the RMSC Museum & Science Center by Alice Mathis in 1990, accession #90.58.

Custodial History:

The papers were collected and/or created through the daily activities of Alice Mathis. When Alice Mathis entered the hospital in January 1990, Sharon Clark, the Housing Specialist at Kennedy Towers, moved to save her collection by bringing it to the attention of the RMSC. Through Alice Mathis' Power of Attorney, she agreed to donate her collection to the RMSC.¹

Preferred Citation:

Alice Mathis papers, [box#:folder#]. RMSC Museum & Science Center, Rochester, NY.

Restrictions

Conditions Governing Use:

Copyright is held by the RMSC Museum & Science Center but may also be held by the authors, or their heirs or assigns. Researchers must obtain written permission of the copyright holder and the RMSC Museum & Science Center before transmission, reproduction, publication, or presentation (public display, performance, internet presentation, etc.) for images from the collection. Quotations used must be cited as above.

Conditions Governing Access:

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this collection. Please contact the Archivist to make an appointment for access to the collection at 585.697.1947.
Biographical Note

Alice Mathis was born in Monticello, Florida on July 2, 1898. Her parents died when she was a child and she was raised by her older siblings. At the age of twelve, Alice ran away from home and obtained employment as a domestic laborer. In 1936, Alice married B.W. Mathis.

Through the 1940s, Alice lived and worked in Jacksonville, Florida. She worked in a laundry in 1943 and a fertilizer factory in 1945. By 1954, Alice was living in Sanford, Florida where she would stay for the next twenty years. Mathis owned two homes during this time period, the first was a three room plank house without plumbing and the second was at 804 Bay Avenue that was made of stone and had up-to-date utilities.²

Due to segregation, there were very few jobs available for Black people outside of agricultural labor. Mathis was forced to travel between Sanford and upstate New York for agricultural or domestic labor to provide a means of making money. Seasonal agricultural laborers made very little money. Alice made around 27 dollars a week and her rent in the upstate New York camps was about $3 per week and most camps were without electricity or running water.

Low wages forced Alice to be resourceful. She was skilled in sewing and crafting, which allowed her to create necessary pieces of furniture from refurbished used items. Alice connected with African American traditions through her quilting. She pieced together quilts from the materials she had available, such as flour sacks for the quilt backing and old work clothes.

Mathis worked as an agricultural laborer into her 60s. In 1979 she permanently moved to Rochester and originally lived with her nephew Dennis Scurry and his family. Later she moved to FIGHT Village apartments on Joseph Avenue and in 1989 she moved to Kennedy Tower, a subsidized, assisted living, complex. Alice Mathis died on October 9, 1990. The RMSC curated exhibit, Goin’ North (Summer 1991) told Alice Mathis’ life story and used objects from the 200 that she donated to the museum. The collection of Alice Mathis objects was used again in Changemakers: Rochester Women Who Changed the World in 2021. Alice was a featured philanthropist “Changemaker” because she chose to donate her objects for preservation and to share her story and others for future generations.

“People have to learn to, whether they want to or not, they have to learn to live together. And if this will help more people to understand better it is perfectly fine - whatever you decide to do with my things” - Alice Mathis

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Scope & Content

This collection consists of the papers of Alice Mathis, a seasonal farm laborer who lived and worked between Sanford, Florida and Western, New York. The materials are dated from 1936 to 1989. The papers are comprised of photographs, correspondence, advertisements, financial documents, programs, newspaper clippings, and other paper ephemera.

The correspondence in the collection includes statements from government agencies such as medicare, social security, Monroe County Department of Social Services, and the Rochester Housing Authority as well as letters from her sister Gertrude, former employers, and friends in Florida. There are no letters from Alice in the collection.

The photographs consist of images of Alice Mathis at different ages, a photo album, photographs and negatives of the City of Rochester, a framed photograph of Pearl Williams, and unidentified people. The photographs also contain religious imagery; 3 framed images and one unframed image that appears to be clipped from a calendar.

The collection also contains receipts, bills, and other financial documents. Receipts and bank statements indicate that Alice purchased furniture and household goods on credit and that she maintained bank accounts in the communities in which she was a part of. The financial documents also include medical bills, health and vehicle insurance, social security income stubs, loan contracts, moving company contracts, and money order receipts.

The Mathis collection contains advertisements; national, local, religious, and Rochester businesses. It also includes a ration book from World War II, S&H Green Stamp coupon books, an address book, programs, and Alice's official documents such as her fishing license, marriage certificate, vehicle inspection and registration, drivers license, and other identification cards.

A colorful department store cardboard box contains various personal items. This box contains paper doilies (still in the original packaging) of many different sizes, photographs, and religious items.
Arrangement

This collection consists of three document boxes.

Related Materials


Howard W. Coles collection, 98.100. RMSC, Rochester, NY.

Pilgrim and Patricia Black Family Papers, 2017.03, RMSC, Rochester, NY.

Separated Materials

The following three-dimensional materials have been placed in the History Vault:

Household appliances and tools

- Transistor radio
- Gasoline iron
- Clothespins (wood and metal)
- Clothespin bag
- Handmade pincushions

Beauty

- Beatles zippered case (contains bobby pins, hairnet, and comb)
- Ever-Ready razor
- Straight razor
- Hair-straightening comb
- Leather hair curlers
- Comb out (with use wax and pressing oil)
- Box of “Teezem Brown Face Powder”
• Dorothy Perkins Co. box (contains Jergens face powder)
• Brown box (contains powder mitt)
• False teeth, 1980
• Poudre Aerien Jaquet “Zinnia” powder box

**Jewelry/Jewelry containers**
- 1926 pin
- Earrings, 1960
- Small plastic jewelry box with Alice’s name

**Accessories**
- Eyeglasses, 1940-1950
- Belt with pocket patchwork
- Beatles zipper case (knife, Arnold bread bag, buttons, bobby pins, hairnet, comb)
- Handkerchief initialed B.M. to hold money

**Farming tools**
- Small ax with Alice’s name written on it
- 3 knives for cutting celery and cabbage
- Knife and sheath for cutting fruit
- New knife for cutting celery
- Two knives for cutting celery and cabbage
- Woven bag Alice tied to her waist to carry snuff

**Kitchen items**
- Small bottle of saltpeter
- Fork
- Butterknife sharpened to cut meat
- Butterknife
- Soup spoon, 1940
- Small green teapot
- Bromwell’s flour sifter with red handle
- Green mug
- 6 plates - 1 pink, 1 blue, 4 green
- Apron made from sheet

**Pillowcases**
- Two pillowcases with zippers
- Striped pillowcase with zipper
- Pillow cover made from flour sack material
- Pillow covers which go with mattress cover
- Two pillows with handmade covers
Sheets and bed coverings
- Top sheet with bed made from flour sacks, patched
- Patched sheet made from croker sacks
- Gray blanket from Montezuma, Florida
- Mattress cover that goes with pillow covers

Clothing
- White undershirt XL from Sears
- New longline bra from Sears (still in bag)
- New bra from Sears (still in bag)
- Store purchased bras
- Handmade bras with hook and eye closures
- Girdle, 1940s
- Pink corset
- Underpants (quantity 2)
- Set of six garters
- Handmade slip
- Slip handmade from flour sack materials
- Handmade slip made from flour sack with ribbons and pleats
- Patchwork homemade nightgown

Box labeled Mathis Toys and Costume Jewelry
- Bag full of beaded necklaces
- Bag full of small toy seashells
- Rocks
- Corncob pipe

Box labeled Mathis Shoes
- Shoes and socks - including winter work socks
- New pair of sneakers with price tag
- White and navy shoes in original box and bag from Mr. K's Shoes with price tag of $12.99

Box labeled hats
- Red and black winter work hat
- Red, white, and blue striped golf hat
- "Dress hat" worn to Kennedy Tower
- Brown velvet hat used on Sunday, 1920s
- Black cotton hat with tie, good summer hat not used for work
- Black hat, fur lined, used for winter work in Port Byron, 1940-1950s
- Crocheted tam

Box labeled wigs and hair
- Straight hair wig from Dixie Wig Shop, Rochester, NY
- Bag of oiled hair
- Curly hair wig purchased in Rochester
Box labeled doll
- Contains doll with cloth body and porcelain head, hands, and legs

Box labeled doll clothes
- Contains clothes Alice purchased for doll including underwear and shoes

Top of cabinet
- Tub for laundry and bathing
- Four quote bucket
- Small tub for washing feet

Rack of clothes
- Long black dress, 1920s
- Dress with belt, 1950s
- Red dress worn to church, 1950s
- Checked dress, 1950s
- Handmade red checked dress, 1975-1980
- Pink house dress
- Green dress worn to church, 1950s
- White silk dress worn to usher, 1940-1950
- White waitress uniform
- Blue house dress
- Black overcoat
- Navy sweater vest with Sears tag
- Handmade sweater
- Sweater worn for work, 1946
- Blue flannel jacket lined and patched by Alice
- Khaki work pants
- Denim jeans with price tag from Sears
- Work jeans Alice paid to have altered
- Sweatshirt worn for work, 1946
- Maid uniform
- Blue work top with Sears tag
- Red work top

Processing Information
In 1990, staff members of the RMSC began to study Alice’s legacy to the community. Johnnie Mae Sutton and several other people that were close to Alice, volunteered their time and efforts to help in the identification and interpretation of the Mathis Collection.
Subject Headings

- Migrant agricultural laborers
- Florida–Sanford
- Harvest
- Quilting
- Women, Black
- African American women

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<td>Decorated cardboard box containing various personal items</td>
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Appendix A: Legacy Finding Aid

Alice Mathis Collection

Arranged and Described by

Diane Fulkerson, M.L.S.
University at Buffalo, the State University of New York

Edited by Olivia Fraser
2012
Migrant workers are often stereotyped as being nomadic, living in poverty, owning few personal possessions and being poorly educated. Alice Mathis did not fit the stereotype of migrant workers. She was illiterate but worked hard and saved her money. She owned two homes in Florida, a car, furniture, and appliances. She always had a savings account at a bank in Florida or in Rochester, NY. Alice may not have earned a lot of money but she saved it wisely.

Alice Mathis was born in Monticello, Florida on July 2, 1898. Her parents died when she was a child and Alice was raised by her older siblings. At the age of 12 she ran away from home and obtained employment with a white family as a domestic servant. The correspondence and documents Alice saved indicated she lived in Jacksonville, Florida in the 1940s and worked in a laundry and a fertilizer factory. She also worked as a migrant farm worker and divided her time between Florida and upstate New York. In Florida she often lived with her sisters, Gertrude or Lucendie. In New York she had a room of her own in the camp. When she first moved to Rochester in 1979 she lived with her nephew Dennis Scurry and his family.

Through her hard work Alice was able to save her money and purchased two homes in Sanford, Florida. One home was a three room plank house without indoor plumbing, the other a seven room house with modern utilities. Both houses were insured and Alice purchased furniture and appliances for the second house through installment loans from a local merchant. As a migrant worker Alice made approximately $27.00-$30.00 per week. Her rent in the camp was $2.50-$3.00 per week. According to Johnnie Mae Sutton, a co-worker and caregiver, “Miss Alice was a hard worker” Alice worked as a farm laborer into her 60s. A letter to Joseph Albano in 1964, requesting he send her a ticket to work in Red Creek, New York, indicated that she could not do any work that required crawling or kneeling but could work standing.

Alice Mathis could not read or write but could sign her name. In spite of her illiteracy, Alice was able to obtain a fishing license in Florida, register to vote in Monroe County, register for Social Security, open a savings account, sign up for food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, and home health care in her later years. Alice was able to maneuver her way through a complex and confusing social welfare system to obtain the aid she needed. Alice developed skills that allowed her to overcome her lack of formal education and survive on very little income.

Alice married B.W. Mathis, a minister or preacher, in 1936. The marriage did not last. In the paperwork completed by Monroe County Department of Social Services for public assistance Alice indicated she was separated from her husband and did not know his address. There is no correspondence to indicate why they separated.

Alice was a saver and recycled long before it was fashionable. She saved the buckets and washtubs she used while living in the camps. She saved old clothes and flour sacks which she used in her quilt making or sewed into clothes for herself. She made the quilts for herself and many of them survive. Quilt making allowed her to be creative after working all day as a farm laborer. Alice, in spite of her low income, liked nice things which is reflected in her quilts and personal possessions. Among her possessions were some paper doilies still in their original packages. She saved S&H Green

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4 Schmitt, p.7.
5 Johnnie Mae Sutton, interview by Rochester Museum & Science Center, 1991, “Goin’ North” Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester NY.
Stamps and probably redeemed them for items from her apartment in Rochester. She had a telephone, television, and tape deck still in their boxes when her possessions were inventoried by the Rochester Museum & Science Center.

In 1979 when Alice was 80 years old she permanently moved to Rochester. She first lived with her nephew Dennis Scurry and his family. Later she moved to FIGHT Village apartments on Joseph Avenue. In 1989 she moved to Kennedy Tower, subsidized apartments for the elderly, on Plymouth Avenue. Paperwork from Social Security and the Monroe County Department of Social Services indicate Alice received $300.00 a month in Social Security and $10.00 a month in food stamps. Her rent in FIGHT Village was subsidized and she paid $83.00 a month for rent. The medical bills and statements from hospitals and other correspondence indicated Alice suffered from diabetes and had difficulty walking. By August of 1989 Alice received daily visits from a home health aid to provide assistance. In spite of her infirmities she still maneuvered through the system to obtain the care and assistance she required.

Alice Mathis did not think her personal possessions and correspondence would be of any value. Fortunately, there were others who realized the importance of her collection. Through the collection of Alice Mathis we come to understand the hard work migrant farm laborers endure. Her collection teaches us that everyone has value and importance in our society. Alice Mathis eked out a meager living but was able to provide for herself and obtain the services she needed and required in her later years. As Alice stated to Victoria Schmitt in an interview,

“People have to learn to, whether they want to or not, they have to learn to live together. And if this will help more people to understand better it is perfectly fine–whatever you decide to do with my things.”

---

6 Alice Mathis, interview by Victoria Schmitt, July 18, 1990, at Rochester General Hospital, Alice Mathis Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, NY.
Scope and Content Notes
Alice Mathis Collection

The correspondence and physical objects contained within the Alice Mathis collection provide insight into the life of a woman who spent most of her life employed as a migrant worker. The correspondence includes statements from Medicare, Social Security, the Monroe County Department of Social Services and Rochester Housing Authority. Alice saved many letters from her sister, Gertrude, former employers, and friends in Florida. While the letters indicate Alice corresponded with them there are no letters from Alice to her sister, friends, or employers contained within the collection. The collection also contains receipts and bank statements that indicate Alice purchased furniture and other household goods on installment and had savings accounts in the communities in which she lived. She owned two houses in Florida and each house was insured. The receipts indicate she paid her bills with a bank check or money order. The statements from Social Security indicated in 1989 she received $356.00 per month in Social Security benefits and an additional $118.00 per month in Supplemental Security Income and $10.00 per month in food stamps.

The physical objects contained in the collection include some of the clothes and quilts Alice made by hand. There are handmade bras, slips, nightgowns, and pillowcases. Included in the collection are some of Alice’s household goods and tools she used as a migrant farm worker. There is a small hatchet, knives, buckets, and washtub all in excellent condition. The knives are labeled as to the type of vegetables they were used to cut in the field. There are also three cans of unopened snuff sent to her by her sister Gertrude. A photo album that Alice owned has several photographs but the people in the photos are not identified. There are a few photos of Alice including a Florida driver’s license and identification card. Among Alice’s personal possessions was a bag full of beaded necklaces that she purchased at rummage sales. She also had a doll with a cloth body, porcelain head, hands, and legs. Included in the box with the doll are the clothes she purchased for this doll. It appears the clothes may be baby clothes she purchased second hand. There are a few dishes, a transistor radio, wigs, a bag of hair, and shoes. A few of the clothes that Alice wore are included in the collection. There is a black evening dress from the 1920s and a uniform she wore while working as a cook for the family. There are dresses she wore to church and to usher at church. Alice kept some of the clothes she wore as a farm worker.

The correspondence and objects contained with the Alice Mathis collection will allow a researcher to piece together the places Alice lived and the type of work she performed. Alice could sign her name but could not read. The collection indicates, in spite of her illiteracy, Alice made her way through a complex network of government agencies to obtain the services she was entitled to receive. The Alice Mathis collection provides a new perspective on migrant farm workers.
Box 1

Folder 1    Automobile insurance, inspection, registration and driver’s manuals.
Folder 4    Household Insurance.
Folder 5    Loan contracts, newspaper clipping, travel receipts, miscellaneous brochures.
Folder 6    Medical bills and insurance 1971-1989.
Folder 7    Money order receipts and miscellaneous receipts.
Folder 9    Newspapers and advertisements.
Folder 10   Rochester Housing Authority 1979-1989.
Folder 14   Local contracts and railroad tickets.
Folder 15   Newspapers “Communicade” and donation requests.
Folder 16   Department of Social Services- Medicaid 1972-1989.
Folder 17   Medicare.
Folder 18   World War II ration book.
Folder 20   Employment- job references, ID cards

Box 2

Folder 1    Blank envelopes and paper
Folder 2    Instructions for gasoline iron
Folder 3    Rules for? – Missionary Poem
Folder 4    Correspondence 1939-1960
Folder 5    Correspondence 1961-1970
Folder 6    Correspondence 1971-1980
Folder 7    Personal Correspondence 1981-1983
Folder 8    Official Documentation- Marriage Certificate, Driver’s license, ID cards, fishing permit
Folder 9    Souvenir Program- New Mount Zion Baptist Church
Folder 10   Address Book: contains contents of address book
Folder 11   S&H Green Stamps and Top Value Trading Stamps
Folder 12   Various phone numbers and addresses.
Folder 13   Miscellaneous brochures and advertisements received in the mail.
Folder 14   Personal Address book: contains papers found in address book
Folder 15   Notebook with contents
Folder 16   Religious Advertisements
Folder 17   Nationwide Advertisements
Folder 18   Rochester, NY Business Advertisements
Folder 19   Miscellaneous Advertisements
Folder 20   Items found in Pastor’s handbook
Folder 21   Mathis Photos
Items from Alice Mathis Collection used in Goin' North Exhibit, listed by type

Photographs
Photo of guardian angel watching over child which appears to be cut from a calendar (Box 2: envelope labeled Religious Photos)
Photo album (Alice Mathis Photo Album)
Small double photo frame with small photo of Pearl Williams (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)
Three framed religious photos (Box 2: envelope labeled Religious Photos)
Photo copies of pictures of Alice Mathis (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)
Folder containing photos and negatives of the city of Rochester (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)
Baby photo (unidentified) (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)
2 photos of an unidentified young woman (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)
Framed color tinted photo of a woman with a child (Box 2: Alice Mathis Photos)

Insurance Documents
National Standard Insurance Co. identification card for health insurance dated 11/30/53 (Box 2: Official Documentation)
Insurance renewal certificate dated 10/17/63 for house at:
1808 W/S Sipes Ave.
Sanford, Seminole, Florida
(Box 2: Official Documentation)
Insurance for household goods in storage dated 2/21/50 for the sum of $1000 (Box 2: Official Documentation)
Insurance receipt from Carraway and McKibbin Agency to Alice at Albano Farms in Red Creek (Box 1: Household Insurance)

Identification (All Contained in Box 2: Official Documentation)
Florida driver's license issued 8/10/78, which indicated Alice's date of birth as July 20, 1910
ID card for town of Jupiter Island, Florida, issued 2/1/74
ID card issued by Palm Beach, Florida police department issued December 7,1949

Correspondence
Letter dated August 1962 to Alice from Maime Evans (Box 2: Correspondence 1939-1960)
Letter from Joseph Albano dated 5/5/60, which contains a bus ticket for Alice to travel from Florida to Red Creek, NY to work at Albano's farm (Box 2: Correspondence 1939-1960)
Letter from Alice's sister Gertrude to Alice dated July 1, 1952 (Box 2: Correspondence 1939-1960)
Letter to Alice from Gannie Dennie dated August 1964 (Box 2: Correspondence 1961-1970)
Letter to Alice from Gertrude dated 12/31/79 (Box 2: Correspondence 1971-1980)
Letter from Gertrude dated October 29, 1967 (Box 2: Correspondence 1961-1970)
Moving Papers (All Contained in Box 1: Moving company contracts 1950-1979)
Bill of lading from Elder Moving and storage in Florida
Envelope from Hobe Sound National Bank containing an order for service and freight bill plus motor vehicle descriptive inventory to move Alice from Florida to Rochester. Also includes descriptive inventory of household goods

Addresses and Phone Numbers:
Note paper from Jerome Dienstag with phone number for Mrs. Nirenberg (Box 2: Various Phone Numbers and Addresses)
Social security record book from 1961 used by Alice to keep track of her wages and used as an address book (Box 1: Social Security 1961-1989)
Address book with two pencils, pages once interleaved with pieces of paper with names and addresses (Box 2: Address Book: Contains Contents)
ID card from Palm Beach, Florida lists address of employer (Box 2: Official Documentation)
Letter of recommendation from Pair-O-Dice, Hobe Sound, Florida and signed by Mrs. M. Donald Grant containing address label for Dennis Scurry in Rochester, NY (Box 1: Employment- job references, ID cards)

Building Permits
Building permit to build room and flue heater at 804 Bay Ave in Sanford, Florida (Box 2: Official Documentation)
Requirements for building code compliance in Seminole County, Florida (Box 2: Official Documentation)

Receipts
Receipt for Gracie Lee Mathis in envelope dated October 2, 1939 (Box 2: Correspondence 1939-1960)

Personal
Souvenir program for 64th anniversary celebration from New Mount Zion Baptist Church, North Hobe Sound, Florida, dated November 18, 1973 (Box 2: Souvenir Program New Mount Zion Baptist Church)
Campaign literature from New York State Assemblyman David Gantt (Box 1: Voting and assembly letters 1983-1989)
Pastor's handbook (Box 2: folder labeled Contents of Pastor’s Handbook)
Contents of Storage Cabinet

**Household Appliances and Tools**
- Transistor Radio (General Electric)
- Gasoline iron
- Clothespins (wood and metal)
- Clothespin bag
- Handmade Pincushions

**Beauty**
- Bobby pins, hairnet, and comb contained in Beatles zipper case
- Ever-Ready Razor
- Straight Razor
- Hair-straightening comb
- Leather hair curlers from 195-1960
- Comb out with a hot comb use wax and pressing oil
- Box of Teezem Brown Face Powder “brightens dark skin”
- Jergens face powder inside round box from Dorothy Perkins Co.
- Powder mitt at bottom of round box
- False teeth 1980
- Powder box labeled Poudre Arien Jaquet “Zinnia”
- Jewelry/Jewelry containers
- 1926 pin
- Earrings from 1960
- Small plastic box with Alice's name used for jewelry

**Accessories**
- Eyeglasses 1940-1950
- Belt with pocket patchwork
- Beatles zipper case: total contents: knife, Arnold bread bag, buttons, bobby pins, hairnet, and comb
- Handkerchief initialed B.M. to hold money

**Farming Tools**
- Small ax with Alice's name written on it
- Three knives for cutting celery and cabbage
- Knife and sheath for cutting fruit
- New knife for cutting celery
- Two knives for cutting celery and cabbage
- Woven bag Alice tied to her waist while working to carry snuff
**Kitchen Items**

Small bottle of salt peter
Arnold bread bag (contained in Beatles zipper case)
Fork
Butterknife sharpened to cut meat
Butterknife
Soup spoon 1940
Small green teapot heated on stove
Bromwell's flour sifter with red handle
Green mug
6 plates- 1 pink, 1 blue, 4 green
Apron made from sheet

**Pillowcases**

Two pillowcases with zippers handmade
Striped pillowcase with zipper
Pillow cover made from flour sack material for small pillow to sit on
Pillow Covers which go with mattress cover
Two pillows with handmade covers
Sheets and Bed Coverings
Top sheet for bed made from flour sacks patched
Patched sheet made from croker sacks
Gray blanket from Montezuma, Florida appears edges were repaired by Alice
Green and red quilt made by Alice
Mattress cover that goes with pillow covers

**Clothing**

White undershirt XL from Sears
New longline bra from Sears still in bag
New bra still in bag from Sears
Store purchased bra
Handmade bra with hook and eye closures
Girdle 1940s
Pink corset
Two pairs of underpants
Set of six garters
Handmade slip
Slip handmade from flour sack materials around 50 years old
Slip made from 50 year old flour sack with ribbon and pleats
Patchwork homemade nightgown

**Box labeled Mathis Toys and Costume Jewelry**

Bag full of beaded necklaces .
Bag of small toys seashells
Rocks
Corncob pipe

**Box labeled Mathis Shoes**
Shoes and socks—including winter work socks.
New pair of sneakers with price tag.
White and navy shoes in original box and bag from Mr. Ks shoes with price tag of $12.99

**Box labeled Hats**
Red and black plaid winter work hat.
Red, white and blue striped golf hat.
“Dress Hat” worn to Kennedy Tower.
Brown velvet hat used on Sunday from 1920s.
Black cotton hat with tie, good Summer hat not used for work.
Black hat fur lined used for Winter work in Port Byron 1940-1950s.
Crocheted tam.

**Box labeled Wigs and Hair**
Straight hair wig from Dixie Wig Shop, Rochester, New York.
Bag of oiled hair.
Curly hair wig purchased in Rochester.

**Box labeled Doll**
Contains doll with cloth body and porcelain head, hands, legs.
Box labeled Doll Clothes
Contains clothes Alice purchased for doll including underwear and shoes.

**Top of Cabinet**
Tub for laundry and bathing.
Four quart bucket for drinking water in the house with a dipper.
Small tub for washing feet before bed.

**Rack of Clothes**
Long black dress from 1920s.
Dress from 1950s with belt.
Red dress worn to church in 1950s.
Checked dress 1950s.
Pink house dress.
Green dress worn to church 1950s.
White silk dress worn to usher 1940-1950.
White waitress uniform may have been used to usher in church.
Blue house dress.
Black overcoat.
Navy sweater vest with Sears tag.
Handmade sweater.
Sweater worn for work 1946.
Blue flannel jacket lined and patched by Alice.
Khaki work pants.
Denim jeans with price tag from Sears.
Work jeans Alice paid to have altered.
Sweatshirt worn for work 1946.
Maid uniform she used when she cooked for people.
Blue work top with Sears tag.
Red work top.