

Red Roost and Red Rest, RG005.13

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La Jolla Historical Society
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Red Roost and Red Rest, RG005.13

Dates: 1906 - Present

Collection Number: RG005.13

Creator/Collector: La Jolla Historical Society

Extent: .5 linear feet

Repository: La Jolla Historical Society, La Jolla, California 92037

Abstract: The Red Rest and Red Roost (“Neptune”) Collection is made up of photographs, ephemera and archival material collected by the La Jolla Historical Society since the 1930s to use for historical research and reference. Built in 1894, the Cottages are redwood, raised, single story wooden “beach cottage bungalow” style houses. They are prime examples of early La Jolla housing and are on the National Register of Historic Places as well as being listed as City of San Diego Historic Landmark #101. The Red Roost (“Neptune”) has been called one of the best existing examples in all of California of the first generation of Pacific Ocean oriented vernacular residential types. It was a strong influence on the important architects of the day. This material pertains to the history and heritage of La Jolla, California; its people, places and events. A container list is included on the PDF and HTML versions.

Language of Material: English

Access: The Collection is open for research

Publication Rights: The La Jolla Historical Society holds the copyright to any unpublished materials

Preferred Citation: Courtesy of the La Jolla Historical Society

Acquisition Information: RG005.13

Biography/Administrative History: The La Jolla Historical Society inspires and empowers the community to make La Jolla’s diverse past a relevant part of contemporary life.

The La Jolla Historical Society’s Collections encompass over 80 years of actively collecting archival material, books, maps, scrapbooks, ephemera, fine art, newspapers, street and land use files, business and personal documents and historic and archaeological artifacts. The Society boasts over 20,000 photographs, over 1000 postcards, 400-plus architectural drawings and approximately 200 oral history recordings.

Collecting was initiated by Howard Randolph and volunteers on the historical committee of the Library Association of La Jolla. The Collection began by gathering photographs and documentation in the late 1930s, which later became the nucleus of the La Jolla Historical Society’s Collections. The Society was created in 1963.

Through many moves in location the Society continued collecting and expanding. Accumulated Collections took on its current construct in 2010 after the renovation of the La Jolla Historical Society’s campus of structures in central La Jolla, which consists of the 1904 Wisteria Cottage and 1940s Balmer Annex used for exhibits and programming, and a 1909 cottage used for business and research offices. The late Ellen Browning Scripps’ 1916 automobile garage was also renovated and now houses the Collection in a modern collections storage facility. Materials are housed in archival boxes,

sleeves, envelopes and other archival-safe materials and are cared for according to standards and best practices of the museum profession. In 2016, the Society initiated new PastPerfect Museum Software to manage and catalog its Collections and in 2018 started using the Online Archive of California to upload searchable information from its Collections to enable improved public access. The Society will continue these processes and look forward to utilizing new opportunities to collect, preserve and share the history of La Jolla.

Scope and Content of Collection: The Red Rest and Red Roost (“Neptune”) Collection is made up of photographs, ephemera and archival material collected by the La Jolla Historical Society since the 1930s to use for historical research and reference. Built in 1894, the Cottages are redwood, raised, single story wooden “beach cottage bungalow” style houses. They are prime examples of early La Jolla housing and are on the National Register of Historic Places as well as being listed as City of San Diego Historic Landmark #101. The Red Roost (“Neptune”) has been called one of the best existing examples in all of California of the first generation of Pacific Ocean oriented vernacular residential types. It was a strong influence on the important architects of the day. This material pertains to the history and heritage of La Jolla, California; its people, places and events. A container list is included on the PDF and HTML versions.

Container List Below

Container List

RG005 – Subject Files (Large) Collection Box 13 – Red Roost and Red Rest

Photographs

Pair of photographs. Top: Depicts the Cove from Alligator Head. The first bath house as well as Red Roost and Red Rest can be seen. "Circa early 1906."

Bottom: Depicts the Cove from Goldfish Point. The Biological Station and the second bath house can be seen. During or after 1906.

Photograph with caption: "Red Rest & Red Roost 1974."

Photograph. Depicts two men appearing to be working on fencing beside an abandoned Red Rest.

Painting (watercolor and ink). Depicts Red Rest and part of Red Roost from Coast Blvd. "1999."

Pair of photographs. Depict Red Rest and Red Roost covered in protective tarps and boards.

Postcard (2 copies). Depicts a boarded-up Red Rest with the text "I finally found a home for under \$200,000 in California" displayed above it.

Photograph. Depicts Red Rest and Red Roost. April 1959.

Photograph. Depicts Red Rest and Red Roost with boarded windows from across the street. "Circa 1985."

Photograph. Depicts Red Rest. "February 20, 1971."

Series of photographs (10). Document the condition of disrepair of Red Rest and Red Roost from multiple angles.

Series of photographs (3). Depict Red Rest and Red Roost.

Photograph with caption: "Red Rest 1920, 1926, La Jolla."

Photograph (3 copies). Depicts a boarded up Red Rest from its western side. Several "No Trespassing" signs can be seen. "1991."

Photograph (credit: Carol Sonstein). Depicts a boarded up Red Rest from its western side. "*La Jolla Light*, May 14, 1987."

Photograph (credit: Carol Sonstein). Depicts Red Rest from its western side. Furniture can be seen piled up against the non-boarded windows. "1986."

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts Red Rest and Red Roost. A Volkswagen Beetle is parked on the street. "*La Jolla Light*. "October 17, 1974."

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts Red Rest and Red Roost from Coast Blvd.

Photograph. Depicts the front door and porch of Red Roost. "June 8, 1978."

Photograph. Depicts the front door and porch of Red Rest. "June 8, 1978."

Photograph. Depicts the front side of Red Rest from the Coast Blvd.

sidewalk. "July 1, 1976."

Series of photographs (4, negatives). Depict Red Rest (top 3 photos) and Red Roost (bottom photo) from multiple angles.

Photograph. Depicts the front steps and garage of Red Roost.

Photograph with caption: "Surrounded by 1970s La Jolla, the turn-of-the-century Red Rest and Red Roost cottages on Coast Boulevard (arrows), will become vacant today at the order of Jack Heimburge." "July 21, 1977."

Pair of photographs with captions. Excerpt: "'No Trespassing' signs are prominently displayed on the Red Rest, larger of the two ocean-view cottages. Earlier this summer, an arsonist tried to set both buildings ablaze." *San Diego Union-Tribune*.

Photograph with caption. "Historic cottages get a close shave." *La Jolla Light*. June 9, 1988.

Photograph with caption: "A picket fence went up recently in front of the Red Rest and the Red Roost..." "October 24, 1991."

Photograph with caption: "Boarded up and with a gaping hole in the roof (above), The Red Roost is one of two cottages at La Jolla cove that have fallen victim to more than 20 years of neglect." *San Diego Union-Tribune*.

Collection of photographs with captions by Eugene Ray. Includes photos of bungalows around the world built in the same vernacular style as Red Rest and Red Roost. 1973.

Poster. Photograph depicts Red Rest. Surrounding text calls for the preservation of the cottages and for restorative work.

Photograph. Depicts the fireplace and surrounding interior of Red Roost. "1975."

Photograph. Depicts Red Roost from northwest. "1973."

Photograph. Catherine Fletcher in front of Red Rest with ukelele. c1915.

Photographs (4). Red Rest and Red Roost.

Copy. Photograph of two men standing in front of Red Roost. c1908.

Newspaper Articles

Newspaper article. "Historic homes offer a look at a small-town La Jolla." *La Jolla Light*. August 18, 1988.

Newspaper article (reprinted). Regarding the state of the cottages and past controversies surrounding their proposed demolition. "February 3 or 10, 1977."

Letter to the editor. "She remembers cottages in 1915." *La Jolla Light*. December 26, 1974.

Letter to the editor. "Cottages not just a local issue." *La Jolla Light*. December 26, 1974.

Letter to the editor. "The cottage issue." "*La Jolla Light*." November 28, 1974.

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Newspaper article. "La Jolla Council Backs Bid To Save Bungalows." *La Jolla Light*, November 16, 1974."

Newspaper article. "Trustees, public will debate 2 imperiled cottages, parking." November 21, 1974.

Newspaper article. "Red Rest Residents Reminisce: La Jolla swimmer recalls Cove in 1910." "June 28, 1973."

Newspaper article. "New delay granted on cottages."

Letter to the editor. "Little did he realize he was making history." *La Jolla Light*." December 12, 1974.

Letter to the editor. "Let's take stock of La Jolla's jewels." *La Jolla Light*, December 12, 1974."

Letter to the editor. "Can't we develop financial formula to save cottages?" *La Jolla Light*, December 12, 1974."

Newspaper article. "A Victory for the Conservationists." *Los Angeles Times*. December 12, 1974.

Newspaper article. "New city vote on cottages due Jan. 3." *La Jolla Light*, December 12, 1974."

Newspaper article. "Group Urges Preservation Of Cottages." *San Diego Union*. December 13, 1974.

Newspaper article. "Historical society backs cottages." *La Jolla Light*, December 18, 1974."

Letter to the editor. "Compromise plan for cottages here." *La Jolla Light*, December 18, 1974."

Newspaper article. "Unit Backs Preserving 2 Cottages." *San Diego Union*, December 24, 1974."

Newspaper article. "City appeals board backs drive to save two cottages." *La Jolla Light*. December 26, 1974.

Letter to the editor. "The owner of Red Roost, Red Rest should sue city." December 12, 1974.

Letter to the editor. "Saving the bungalows." *San Diego Evening Tribune*, December 11, 1974."

Magazine article. "Progress Threatens Historical Red Rest and Red Roost Cottages." *La Jolla Magazine*, January 1975."

Letter to the editor. "Tyrolean Terrace, red cottages are vital to community." February 20, 1975.

Newspaper article. "Historic preservation session to include 2 cottages here." "April 3, 1975."

Newspaper article. "City Hall takes dim view of buying 2 red cottages." *La Jolla Light*. March 20, 1975.

Letter to the editor. "Use Suggested For Cottages." *San Diego Union*. "December 7, 1974."

Newspaper article. "Public hearings slated on fate of two cottages." "November 7, 1974."

Newspaper article. "500 Back Cottages." "October 26, 1974."

Newspaper article. "Historic sites here get study." *La Jolla Light*,

December 5, 1974.”

Newspaper article. “New Vote Slated On 1890 Houses.” *San Diego Union*, December 7, 1974.”

Newspaper article. “The cottages win historic site status.” *La Jolla Light*. January 3, 1975.

Newspaper article. “Trustees ask city to buy the cottages.” *La Jolla Light*, November 28, 1974.”

Newspaper article. “Council delays permit to demolish 2 cottages.” *La Jolla Light*, May 1, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “Cottages apparently doomed.” “May 8, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “New drive to save two red cottages.” “July 10, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “Coastal commission staff opposes cottage teardown.” “July 24, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “Two cottages history-bound.” “September 18, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “New plans stay cottage vote.” “July 29, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “2 cottages, palms on coastal agenda.” “August 5, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “Cottage feud renewed.” “July 15, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “Cottage evictions go to court.” “November 25, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “2 cottages get new reprieve.” “August 26, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “Red cottages stay.” “November 4, 1976.”

Newspaper article. “Hearing delayed on 2 cottages.” “August 19, 1976.”

Letters to the editor (2). “Red cottages draw support.” *La Jolla Light*. “April 14, 1977.”

Newspaper article. “Cottages not yet dead.” *La Jolla Light*. “November 11, 1976.”

Newspaper article (editorial). “Protecting the village.” *San Diego Evening Tribune*. October 17, 1974.

Newspaper article. “Environment Report Ordered On Drilling.” *San Diego Union*.” December 11, 1974.

Newspaper article. “Historical Sites Valued At \$350,000.” *San Diego Union*, April 8, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “City decides cottage issue.” *La Jolla Light*, April 17, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “Red Roost, Red Rest receive historical nod.” “April 22, 1976.”

Newspaper article (guest editorial). “George E. Kidd: Beach Bungalows Are Overrated.” *San Diego Union*, April 30, 1975.”

Newspaper article (guest editorial). “Eugene Ray: Cottages Have Historical Value.” *San Diego Union*, April 30, 1975.”

Newspaper article. “Two historic La Jolla bungalows get reprieve.” *San Diego Evening Tribune*. January 4, 1975.

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Newspaper article. "2 Cottages Designated As Historic." *San Diego Union*, January 4, 1975."

Newspaper article. "Red Rest and Roost remain in the spotlight." *La Jolla Light*. July 28, 1977.

Letters to the editor (3). "March 31, 1977."

Letters to the editor (2). "Red cottages draw support." "April 14, 1977."

Letter to the editor. "Keep the cottages." "May 12, 1977."

Newspaper article. "Disputed cottages vacated." "July 21, 1977."

Newspaper article (editorial). "Rustic Red Cottages Warrant Rescue."

Newspaper article. "A look inside controversial Red Rest cottage."
"March 24, 1977."

Newspaper article. "Cottage issue turning." March 10, 1977.

Newspaper article. "Commission to review project." March 10, 1977.

Newspaper article. "Cottage eviction upheld." "December 9, 1976."

Newspaper article. "SOHO asks funds for cottage tenants." "December 2, 1976."

Newspaper article. "Tenants must appeal ouster at cottages."
"December 16, 1976."

Newspaper article. "Tenants given time." "December 23, 1976."

Newspaper article. "Tenants appeal decision." "January 31, 1977."

Newspaper article. "Historic cottages slowly rot." *La Jolla Light*. March 27, 1986.

Cartoon. Depicts a suit-wearing man, presumably Jack Heimburge, saying the following regarding Red Rest and Red Roost: "The way we figure it, we've got to let 'em deteriorate in order to save 'em!" *La Jolla Light*. March 27, 1986.

Letter to the editor. "Dialogue needed to save cottages." *La Jolla Light*, April 30, 1987."

Newspaper article. "Red Roost, Red Rest lawsuit."

Newsletter article. "The La Jolla Saga Continues." *Save Our Heritage Organization Newsletter*. August 1977.

Newspaper article. "While Classic La Jolla War Rages, a Bit of History Fades." *Los Angeles Times*. September 12, 1988.

Newspaper article. "Future murky for neighbors of colony – Red Rest, Red Roost." *La Jolla Light*. "July 18, 1991."

Newspaper article. "Ordinance to address historic site confusion." *La Jolla Light*. "October 3, 1991."

Newspaper article. "Most La Jolla historic sites in good shape." *La Jolla Light*. "May 4, 1995."

Newspaper article (incomplete). "Historical cottages still sit in dilapidated state: City would like site to come to a resolution." *La Jolla Light*. "July 31, 1997."

Newspaper article. "'Quaint Was La Jolla, Quaint Little Place'." *La Jolla Village News*. March 7, 2001.

Newspaper article. "Controversial cottages reach century mark." *San*

Diego Union-Tribune. "October 22, 1994."

Newspaper article. "Activists push for repair of cottages." *San Diego Union-Tribune*. January 2, 2002.

Newspaper article. "SOHO sues city and Roost/Red cottage owners." *La Jolla Village News*. September 25, 2002.

Letter to the editor. "Why not move Red Roost and Red Rest cottages?" "October 2002."

Letter to the editor. "Should La Jolla do more to preserve its heritage?" "*San Diego Union-Tribune*, August 8, 2002."

Newspaper article. "Suit filed to force upkeep of cottages.: Preservationists say the city must require owners to preserve Red Roost, Red Rest." *La Jolla Light*. September 19, 2002.

Newspaper article. "Give Them Shelter: It's Time To Settle The Fight Over 2 Historic Cottages At La Jolla Cove." *San Diego Union-Tribune*. "August 4, 2002."

Newspaper article. "No action taken on historic Red Roost and Red Rest." *La Jolla Light*. August 8, 2002.

Newspaper article. "Cottage owners denied." *La Jolla Village News*.

Newspaper article. "City goes code red over two cottages." *La Jolla Village News*. May 29, 2002.

Newspaper article. "History sinking into oblivion? Preservation group sees red over deteriorating cottages." *La Jolla Village News*. January 9, 2002.

Newspaper article. "Historic Red Roost, Red Rest beginning process of restoration." *La Jolla Light*. November 4, 2004.

Newspaper article. "New ideas for historic property raise some of same old protests: Fate of red cottages in La Jolla debated." *San Diego Union-Tribune*. March 10, 2003.

Newspaper article. "Historic Bungalows May Be Part of Time Share Project." *San Diego Business Journal*. February 17, 2003.

Newspaper article. "Repair work on Red Roost, Red Rest begins." *La Jolla Light*. October 17, 2002.

Newspaper article (guest editorial). "We must save the Red Roost & the Red Rest." *La Jolla Village News*. October 2, 2002.

Letter to the editor. "Move the cottages." *La Jolla Light*. September 26, 2002.

Letter to the editor. "Where were preservationists then?" *La Jolla Light*. September 26, 2002.

Letter to the editor. "Listen to experts: Save the bungalows." *La Jolla Light*. September 26, 2002.

Newsletter article. "Red Rest and Red Roost Update." *Save Our Heritage Organization Newsletter*. October 2003.

Newspaper article. "Red Roost cottage owners unveil preservation plan." *La Jolla Light*. March 13, 2003.

Newspaper article. "Fate of historic beachfront cottages as yet

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undecided." *La Jolla Light*. March 16, 2006.

Newspaper notice (2 copies). "The ownership of the Red Rest..." *La Jolla Journal*, March 10, 1922."

Press release. Declares support for the preservation of the cottages shortly after their initial vacancy. *Save Our Heritage Organization*. "July 26."

Newspaper article. "Historic beach cottages back on market." *La Jolla Light*. July 1, 2010.

Newspaper article. "Cottage owners, city are talking." *La Jolla Light*. January 15, 2010.

Newspaper article. "Cottage rehab plan hits new roadblock." *La Jolla Light*. August 7, 2008.

Magazine article. "Nicks of Time: After 25 years, a Standoff between Owners and Preservationists Ends, and La Jolla's Oldest Cottages Narrowly Escape Demolition by Neglect." *National Trust For Historic Preservation*. August 29, 2003.

Newspaper article. "Fate of historic beachfront cottages as yet undecided." *La Jolla Light*. March 14, 2006.

Newspaper article (obituary). "Jack M. Heimburge, 77; part-owner of Universal Boot Shops." *San Diego Union-Tribune*. July 7, 1998.

Correspondence

Correspondence. From Barry E. Hager (Save Our Heritage Organization) to Sharren Carr (City of San Diego). December 11, 2001.

Correspondence (2 letters) and attached document. From Bruce Coons (Save Our Heritage Organization) to Tina Christiansen (City of San Diego). March 29, 2001, September 20, 2000, and February 1, 2001.

Correspondence (2 copies). From Jeffrey Cook (Professor at Arizona State University) to "whom it may concern." January 2, 1975.

Correspondence (2 copies). From Charles Moore (Fellow of the American Institute of Architects) to Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University). February 3, 1975.

Correspondence (3 copies). From Vincent Scully (Professor at Yale University) to Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University). December 7, 1974.

Correspondence (3 copies). From Robert Heck (Professor at Louisiana State University) to Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University). December 9, 1974.

Correspondence (2 copies). From Bernard Boyle (Professor at University of California, Berkeley) to Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University). January 14, 1975.

Correspondence (2 copies). From Bernard Lemann (Professor at Tulane University) to Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University). December 11, 1974.

Correspondence (3 copies). From David Gebhard (Professor at University of California, Santa Barbara) to Eugene Ray (Professor at

San Diego State University). December 6, 1974.

Correspondence (handwritten letter). From George E. Kidd to La Jolla Light. March 28, 1986.

Correspondence. From Eugene Ray (Professor at San Diego State University) to C.W. Ridenour (City of San Diego). November 27, 1974.

Correspondence (handwritten letter). From "Laura" (daughter) to "Papa." March 29, 1908.

Correspondence (handwritten letter). From "Irene" (daughter) to "Papa." March 27, 1908.

Financial statement. A payment of \$21.75 from a Mrs. Ragland to Mrs. Anson P. Mills for a stay at the Red Rest and fumigation services. May 21, 1908.

Correspondence (email). From Mark Richert to Janet Lowe. December 18, 2009.

Signed document (incomplete). From Virginia Grizzle. November 4, 1974.

Research Report

Large booklet. "A Research Report On The Red Rest And Red Roost Cottages." By Eugene Ray, Tony Ciani, et al. Research report and accompanying historical designation documents. November 1974.

History

Press release. Declares support for the preservation of the cottages shortly after their initial vacancy. *Save Our Heritage Organization*. "July 26."

Document. Untitled proposal for Red Rest and Red Roost involving their purchase and restoration by the city as well as subsequent uses for each.

Document and letter of summary (3 copies of each). "Historical Importance Of The Red Rest And Red Roost Bungalows And Necessity For Retention At The Cove Beach Site In La Jolla California" by Eugene Ray. November 1974.

Document (2 copies). "Record Of Title To Portions Of Lots 1, 2 & 3, Block 59, La Jolla Park." Record of title to Red Rest and Red Roost. From June 3, 1887 to September 13, 1967.

Architectural plans. Floor plans of Red Rest and Red Roost, as well as site plan of both cottages.

Handwritten document. "Brief Date List (submitted by Tony Ciani) regarding Red Rest / Red Roost." Brief chronology of the controversy surrounding the cottage's potential demolition. On or after October 25, 1976.

Handwritten document. "Red Rest - Red Roost." Brief chronology of the controversy surrounding the cottages' potential demolition. 1976.

Website printout. "Commodore George J. Leovy." Brief biography of George Leovy and of his family.

Collection of notes. Research notes providing details on the

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controversies surrounding the two cottages and documenting tenants over the years. 2010.

Interview summary. "Memories of Red Rest: Dr. Walter Munk Recalls 1952-3." December 11, 2009.

Website printout. Compilation of obituaries and of biographical information of Jack Heimburge. *Roots Web World Connect: Ancestry.com*.

Website printout (annotated). "Company Info: La Jolla Cove Suites." Biography of Max Heimburge and of purchase and development of the La Jolla Cove Suites. Accessed November 25, 2009.

Document. "Administrative Permit." Filed by Jack Heimburge (granted). Permit to modify fencing surrounding Red Rest and Red Roost. *San Diego Coast Regional Commission*. March 11, 1977.

Document. "Historic American Buildings Survey: Red Rest and Red Roost (Neptune) Cottages." *National Park Service*. Written summer of 1975, edited 1985.

Card with Photograph. Brockton Villa fundraiser to save Red Rest and Red Roost.