

La Jolla Elementary School, RG005.25

Finding aid created by La Jolla Historical Society staff using RecordEXPRESS
La Jolla Historical Society
7846 Eads Avenue
La Jolla, California 92037
(858) 459-5335
<https://lajollahistory.org/>
2023

Descriptive Summary

Title: La Jolla Elementary School

Dates: 1888 - Present

Collection Number: RG005.25

Creator/Collector: La Jolla Historical Society

Extent: 2.5 linear feet

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

Abstract: The La Jolla Elementary School Collection is made up of photographs, scrapbooks, ephemera, archival material and a 1921 yearbook collected by the La Jolla Historical Society since the 1930s to use for historical research and reference. The La Jolla Elementary School was the first school in La Jolla; at first meeting in the Botsford house, then moving to a vacant second floor of the Heald store at Wall and Herschel where there were twelve children attending by 1896. In 1898 a "little red schoolhouse" was built around the same area and was in use until 1906, when a two-story school was built farther south. Frances A. Brown was the teacher in the first schoolhouse. The first building of the current school was completed soon after construction began in 1914. The first Principal was Mary G. Cogswell, from 1896 to 1897. This material pertains to the history and heritage of La Jolla, California, its people, places and events. A container list is included in 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Publication Rights: The La Jolla Historical Society holds the copyright to any unpublished materials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: RG005.25

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 La Jolla Elementary School Collection is made up of photographs, scrapbooks, ephemera, archival material and a 1921 yearbook collected by the La Jolla Historical Society since the 1930s to use for historical research and reference. The La Jolla Elementary School was the first school in La Jolla; at first meeting in the Botsford house, then moving to a vacant second floor of the Heald store at Wall and Herschel where there were twelve children attending by 1896. In 1898 a “little red schoolhouse” was built around the same area and was in use until 1906, when a two-story school was built farther south. Frances A. Brown was the teacher in the first schoolhouse. The first building of the current school was completed soon after construction began in 1914. The first Principal was Mary G. Cogswell, from 1896 to 1897. This material pertains to the history and heritage of La Jolla, California, its people, places and events. A container list is included in the PDF and HTML versions.

Container List Below

Container List

RG005 – Subject Files (Large) Collection Box 25.1-.3 – La Jolla Elementary School

RG005.25.1

Not in folders

Large booklet (3 copies). "La Jolla Elementary School As Seen Through The Eyes Of Its Children." *La Jolla Elementary School*. "1997."

Spiral bound essay. "Growing Up in La Jolla 1956." July 12, 2012.

Photographs: General

Photograph. Depicts a group of students and a teacher wearing La Jolla Elementary t-shirts on the campus. "*La Jolla Light*, October 30, 1986."

Photograph. Depicts three girls doing arts and crafts, identified as Lauren Guttman, Allison Schulnik, and Tammy Rich.

Photograph. Depicts a girl in color guard uniform holding a stop sign. "*La Jolla Light*, May 22, 1986."

Photograph. Depicts three boys, identified as Ames Crawford, Terry Glynn, and Mike Radelow, dressed for their parts in a school production of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. "*La Jolla Light*, May 14, 1987."

Photograph. Depicts the school field and neighboring buildings from the surrounding hillside, looking northwest. "ca. 1940's."

Photograph. Depicts a line of students gathered a long outdoor table. "ca. 1939."

Photograph. Depicts three boys petting the class pet, which appears to be a hamster.

Photograph. Depicts students gathered around the giraffe enclosure at a zoo.

Photograph. Depicts students gathered around the elephant enclosure at a zoo.

Photograph. Depicts several 2nd graders posing in front of a large plane at Convair. "October 1953."

Photograph (portrait). Depicts Miss Irvin N. Cross, principal from 1925-1943. "June 28."

Series of photographs (5). Depict teachers and/or faculty (identified on back) posing for group photos. "Circa 1928."

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts one of the school's original buildings on its current site, looking north.

Photograph. Depicts 3 speakers speaking to a crowd of students and parents gathered on the school's lawn. "1997."

Photograph. Depicts 2 students crouched beside a small model house. "1997."

Photograph. Depicts a crowd of students attending a flag raising on the

school lawn for "Loyalty Day." "ca. 1950's."

Photograph. Depicts the school band playing on the lawn for the "Spring Festival." "May 19, 1954."

Photograph. Depicts the school band and conductor looking at the camera. "ca. 1950's."

Photograph. Depicts several boys doing a gymnastics performance with American flags. May 13, 1931.

Photograph. Depicts several boys in military uniforms standing in formation on the lawn. "ca. 1950's."

Photograph. Depicts several teachers and/or faculty posing on the school steps. "ca. 1950's."

Photograph. Depicts several teachers and/or faculty posing for a group photo on the school steps. Before 1962.

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts the front of the school and the flagpole. Before 1962.

Photograph. Depicts several dolls, model sailboats, and a doll house. June 11, 1940.

Photograph. Depicts 3 students working with hammers and nails. June 11, 1940.

Photograph. Depicts a circle of 3rd graders (identified on back) outside with their hands on each other's shoulders. "May 10, 1918."

Pair of photographs. Depicts 2 boys (Randall Eppe and Sonny France) working together on a chemistry experiment. "ca. early 20th century."

Photograph (class photo). Before 1962.

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 5th grade class. 1921-1922.

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Students identified on back. "1917."

Photograph (3 copies, class photo). Depicts the 8th grade class of 1921 students identified on back. For original, see "Yearbook." June 1921.

Series of photographs (3, portraits). Depicts 3 students (John Lessig, Lillian Lewis, Harriet P. McCartney) with biographical information. For original, see "Yearbook." June 1921.

Photograph. Depicts the early mission-style school building, looking south. "1915."

Photograph. Depicts the Chase and Ludington store on Prospect St.

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts the school band in the play yard at the Little Red School House on Herschel Ave. and Kline St.

Photograph (3 copies, with caption). Depicts several students and a teacher posing by two hogs they helped raise in 1918 to buy war bonds, students identified on back. Republished September 2, 1976.

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts the 7th and 8th grade Girls Glee Club and teacher Mayme Carroll at the first outdoor amphitheater, with attached list of student's names. November 6, 1925.

Photograph (aerial). Depicts the school and its vicinity, looking southeast. "December 18, 1952."

Container List

Photograph. Depicts the front of the school. "July 24, 1961."

Photograph (aerial). Depicts the school and its vicinity, looking northeast. "1997."

Photograph (2 copies and negative). Depicts 2 students posing with local historians Jay Wilson, Isabel Baresch, and Bob Wilson. "Summer 1977."

Photograph (group portrait). Depicts a large group of young students posing on the first outdoor amphitheater. November 7, 1925.

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts several students dressed for a play of the Nativity at the second outdoor amphitheater. "c. 1936-1960."

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts a large crowd at the second outdoor amphitheater gathered around a Native American chief.

Photograph. Depicts several students performing at the first outdoor amphitheater wearing old European style costumes. "Prior to 1925."

Photograph (with caption). Depicts the May Day Queen (Laura Morgan) and her attendants, dressed in white dresses on the first outdoor amphitheater stage. "1926."

Photograph. Depicts four preschool students being surprised by a clown. "*La Jolla Light*, November 20, 1986."

Photograph. Depicts principal Robert Jones standing next to the La Jolla Elementary School sign. "*La Jolla Light*, August 9, 1990."

Photograph. Depicts 5th grader, Chris Lopez inspecting a book at the science fair. "*La Jolla Light*, June 4, 1987."

Photograph. Depicts 6th grader, Sarah Self posing in front of her trifold poster at the science fair. "*La Jolla Light*, June 4, 1987."

Photograph (with caption): "Analuisa Contreras, 5, yawns while waiting in line to find out classroom assignment."

Photograph. Depicts Lisa Ann Volker holding a doll, playing the part of Madonna and child for the Christmas play. "c. late 1960's."

Photographs: Class Photos

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Depicts a class of younger students. "c. 1919."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 7th grade class, students identified on back. 1921-1922.

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the student population and teachers outside the first schoolhouse. "March 5, 1897."

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Depicts the 6th grade class, students identified on front. 1921-1922.

Series of photographs (3). #1: Depicts a young boy leapfrogging over another boy. The schoolhouse at Wall St. and Herschel Ave. can be seen in the background. "c. 1899-1906."

#2: Depicts Dorothy Agall and Doris Taylor outside the Little Red Schoolhouse at Herschel Ave. and Kline St. "c. 1906-1914."

#3: Depicts the students and teachers at Pacific Beach School seated

for the photo, students identified by attached list. "c.1894-1895."
Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 5th grade class, students identified on back. "c. 1920's."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 6th grade class, students identified on back. "1928-1929."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 6th grade class, teachers, and principal. "June 13, 1958."

Photograph (group photo). Depicts the school band at the 12th annual May Festival. "May 19, 1954."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 6th grade class, students identified on back. "1926."

Photograph (6 copies, class photo). Depicts the 5th grade class, students identified on attached list. Gregory Peck and David Balmer can be seen. 1925-1926.

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Students identified on back.

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the kindergarten class of Miss Manly, students identified on attached list. 1921-1922.

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Depicts the 6th grade class.

Pair of photographs (class photos). Depict a class posing outside on the lawn by the flagpole. "ca. 1950's."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts a class posing outside on the lawn. "ca. 1950's."

Photograph (2 copies). Depicts a teacher and her class (identified on back) seated in the classroom at the "Little Red Schoolhouse" at Herschel Ave. and Kline St. June 6, 1906.

Photograph (class photo). Depicts a class, students identified on back. "1925-1926."

Photograph (2 copies, class photo). Depicts the 4th grade class, students identified on the back. 1925-1926

Photograph (class photo). "ca. 1920's."

Photograph (class photo). "ca. 1920's."

Series of photographs (6, class portraits). Depicts the 5th grade class, students identified on attached list. 1948-1949.

Pair of photographs (with attached manuscript). 1: Class photo depicting the 1st and 2nd grade classes of teacher Alice V. Woods. 1917. 2: Depicts the empty classroom of teacher Alice V. Woods decorated for Christmas.

Photograph (class portraits). Depicts the kindergarten class of Mrs. Whelan. February 1967.

Photograph (class photo). "1925."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the 5th and 6th grade class of teacher Agnes Work, students identified on back. 1917.

Photograph (class photo). Possibly the class of Alice V. Woods. "Prior to 1925."

Photograph (class photo). Depicts the class of 1934 posing by some

Container List

bleachers, students identified on attached list.

Photograph (class photo). Students identified on back. "c. 1920's."

Photograph (class photo). Students identified on back. Higgins, Rannells, Warren, Richter, MacIntyre, Boyd, Henry, Morgan, Allison, Ingram, Stewart, Washburn, Martinez, Hinds, Cross, Hope, Thede, Palmer, Maler, Strout, Bishof, Ernest.

Photograph. (class photo). Second Grade, Mrs. Zang. Student names listed on back. 1962.

Newspaper Articles

Newspaper article. "100 Years of La Jolla School." *Olde San Diego Gazette*. April 1997.

Newspaper article. "Christmas Play of Long Ago Fondly Recalled." December 17, 1970.

Newspaper article (2 copies). "Nostalgia Lane: The First Public Schools." *La Jolla Journal*, October 10, 1963."

Newspaper article. "L.J. Elementary School Taught First Classes In Private Home." May 26, 1954.

Magazine article. "New Leaf: Inventive Use of Public Space." Re: Wordplay Garden. *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles*. September 2006.

Newspaper article. "School receives anonymous gift of \$100 K." *La Jolla Light*. September 23, 2004.

Newspaper article. "Library donation opens minds." *La Jolla Village News*. October 21, 2004.

Newspaper article. "Farewell to family members of La Jolla Elementary: Three teachers look forward to exploring life after retirement." *La Jolla Light*. June 12, 2003.

Newspaper article. "Favorite teachers: La Jolla Elementary's Marjorie Hutchinson." *La Jolla Village News*. January 12, 2000.

Newspaper article. "SOFA to stage fund-raiser." March 20, 1975.

Newspaper article. "School's centennial plans right on target." *La Jolla Light*. "October 17, 1996."

Newspaper article. "LJ Elementary parents make a decision: Students have the option of dressing alike this year." *La Jolla Light*. August 28, 1997.

Newspaper article. "LJ Elementary makes uniforms mandatory." *La Jolla Village News*. August 28, 1997.

Newspaper article. "Old School Building Must Be Removed: Should Be Replaced By Modern Structure." *La Jolla Light*. January 11, 1924.

Newspaper article (2 copies). "La Jolla Torrey: School Spares A Lonesome Pine." *San Diego Union*. "1960."

Newspaper article. "La Jolla Elementary School top choice among parents." "May 26, 1983."

Newspaper article. "New principal named at elementary school." Re: Robert Jones. *La Jolla Light*. "August 2, 1990."

Newspaper article. "World of ideas shakes... as usual: February: After three years of service, Bob Jones left La Jolla Elementary School..." *La Jolla Light*. December 29, 1994.

Newspaper article. "The Years Of Peck." *San Diego Union*. March 17, 1963.

Newspaper article (incomplete headline). "Who's who in the second grade. La Jolla Elementary, 1924." *La Jolla Village News*. "October 25, 2000."

1921 Yearbook

Yearbook (unbound). "The Annual." Contains photos of the class, faculty, and club officers, student portraits, short stories, autographs, and otherwise reflects on the happenings of the school year. *La Jolla Elementary School*. June 1921.

Misc. Documents

Document (3 copies). "Principals of La Jolla Elementary School." List of, from 1896 to 1983

Document. "La Jolla Elementary School." History of, from 1888 to 1955. April 22, 1955.

Newsletter (3 copies). *Centennial Gazette, La Jolla Elementary 1897-1997*. April 1997.

Letter (2 copies). From Sherry Ahern (Friends of La Jolla Elementary School) to "the Merchants and Business Community of La Jolla." Re: Communicating plans to start a farmer's market fundraiser on the campus. "December 1, 2005."

Map. Depicts La Jolla Elementary School. "c. 1920."

Letter. From Miss Irvin N. Cross. Re: List of principals at La Jolla Elementary from 1896 to 1945. "1945."

Essay excerpt (from "Some Memories of a La Jolla Childhood" by Nancy C. Johnstone). Re: Relates the author's experiences attending La Jolla Elementary. "1982."

Speech script. "Seventy Years In Story And Style" by Willis Fallis. Re: Script for presenter at the PTA's Founder's Day event commemorating the 70th anniversary of the school, providing a brief history of the school. 1965.

Document. Provides a brief history of the school's different campus grounds.

Certificate. Given to Gloria Gould from Miss Irvin N. Cross in recognition of her membership in the San Diego School Savings Association. June 10, 1938.

Event program. "Girard Avenue Project: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony." *La Jolla Elementary School*. Event planned for February 5, 1999.

Event program (within envelope). "La Jolla School." Re: Series of patriotic and/or war-themed songs put on by the students. *La Jolla Elementary*. "May 18, 1917."

Essay excerpt (by Robert Wilson). Re: Relates the author's experiences

Container List

attending La Jolla Elementary in the 1910's. "1981."

Event program. "La Jolla Elementary School's Historical Fashion Show & Tea." *La Jolla Elementary School*. Event planned for March 20, 1997.

Document. Re: List of 6th grade student names and home addresses for the 1934-1935 school year.

Document. Provides a brief history of the school and a list of its principals. April 22, 1955.

Booklet. "New Curriculum Tests in Arithmetic Processes and Individual Progress Chart: Grade V." *The John C. Winston Co.* 1936.

RG005.25.2

Not in folders

Scrapbook (donated by Miss Irvin N. Cross). Features photos of school plays, school events, field trips, students, and teachers. Also includes letters, newspaper articles, employment records, and student drawings. 1920-1942.

RG005.25.3

Not in folders

Scrapbook. "Scrap Book." Features newspaper article clippings, mostly from a recurring editorial page in the La Jolla Light known as "Elementary School Corner," featuring the writing of La Jolla Elementary students. 1946-1947.

Scrapbook (donated by Miss Irvin N. Cross). "Photos and Scraps." Features photos of school plays, school events, field trips, the campus grounds, students, teachers, and classes. Also includes student rosters for all years listed. 1921-1940.
