



Historical Society of Corona (Jean C. Bobbitt) Collection

c.1965-1982

706 textual records | 0.5 linear feet | one box

The Andrew Carnegie Library of Corona closed its' doors on 3 July 1971, having served the community well for 65 years. Corona City Council then had to decide what to do with the building, which needed to be brought up to code. An Ad Hoc Committee was formed with members of the Corona Art Association, Woman's Improvement Club, Chamber of Commerce, and interested individuals from the community. Jean C. Bobbitt was one of those individuals.

In July 1972 a group of individuals, mainly from the Ad Hoc group to 'Keep Our Old Library', formed the Historical Society of Corona. Jean C. Bobbitt was elected their first President. Their first project was to take the lead in the attempt to save the old library. These efforts were spearheaded by the President of the newly formed Historical Society of Corona, Jean C. Bobbitt. Recognition of her efforts were noted by many, resulting in her being elected to be the first President of the Riverside County Historical Society Historical Congress on October 1, 1977. Jean C. Bobbitt tendered her resignation as President of the Historical Society of Corona on 25 October 1977, having served since July 1972. No one stepped up to take her place at the Historical Society and the organization was dissolved.

Collection Description:

The *first series* includes records that document the formation and growth of the Historical Society of Corona in July 1972 until July 1974, most of the effort was on getting the society organized, writing by-laws, recruiting new members, and gaining official recognition.

The bulk of correspondence in *Series 2* pertains to efforts to save the old library. The effort started in earnest in July 1974 and continued until the Corona City Council sold the building in February 1978. The building was completely torn down by May 1978, thus ending a seven year struggle to 'Keep Our Old Library'.

The remainder of the collection covers the work of Jean C. Bobbitt in support of the Corona Bicentennial and the World Farm Foundation. She was also involved in the Riverside County Historical Congress in 1977, and became their first president.

The *last series*, The Woman's Improvement Club, illustrates Bobbitt's efforts working on historical sites through the Woman's Improvement Club, De Anza District #23.

This collection is a valuable resource as to how and why the Historical Society of Corona was formed. Contained in this collection is extensive correspondence pertaining to the attempt to save the Andrew Carnegie Library Building located on Eighth and South Main Streets.

Location: A5

W.D. Addison Heritage Room, 650 S. Main Street, Corona, CA 92882, (951) 279-3593

Hours: Monday & Tuesday 3 pm to 7 pm, Wednesday by appointment only, Thursday 10 am to 1 pm, Friday - Sunday Closed.**Gifts of Jean C. Bobbitt, for the Historical Society of Corona****Inventory:**

Call Number	Folder	Description	Leaves
M010/1	F1	Finding Aid and Accession Records	45
Series 1	Historical Society of Corona - Organization and Business		
M010/1	F2	By-Laws dated 26 Aug 1974; Typed copy of By-Laws (3 leaves) signed by Jean C. Bobbitt; Copy of the By-Laws	10
M010/1	F3	Handwritten minutes of meetings from the first meeting on 29 April 1974 through 7 February 1977. Also included are notes of things to do or bring up at various meetings.	42
M010/1	F4	Handwritten notes on dues paid. Most are undated.	8
M010/1	F5	Minutes of board meetings: 29 Jun 1974 - 22 Jan 1975	6
M010/1	F6	Lists of membership and resource contacts. Most are undated.	14
M010/1	F7	Blank letterhead and envelopes.	13
M010/1	F8	Monthly bank statements Jan 1976 - Mar 1977	15
M010/1	F9	Letter dated 31 Jul 1972 to D. I. from Jean C. Bobbitt thanking various for supporting the creation of the Historical Society of Corona - Sample letter on membership.	3
Series 2	Correspondence Pertaining to the 'Save the Andrew Carnegie Library Project'		
M010/1	F10	Hand written notes, addresses, schedules and rough drafts of letters to organizations seeking support for Carnegie Library preservation project (20 leaves).	32
M010/1	F11	Andrew Carnegie Library Correspondence May - June 1974; One handwritten note and official letters from various organizations and the Corona City Council (20 leaves)	20
M010/1	F12	Andrew Carnegie Library Correspondence August 1974. Handwritten and typed letters (52 leaves).	51
M010/1	F13	Andrew Carnegie Library Correspondence Sep-Dec 1974.(61+1pamphlet); Includes information from the State Parks & Recreation - September 19, 1974	61, 1 pamphlet
M010/1	F14	Andrew Carnegie Library Correspondence 1975; Additional copies of the Historical Society of Corona Resubmission of the Carnegie Library - July 15, 1975	95
M010/1	F15	Andrew Carnegie Library Correspondence 1976 - 1979.(Norco, Corona Study Map)	72
M010/1	F16	Andrew Carnegie Library Newspaper Clippings contained in the Information File.	7
M010/1	F26	Correspondence dated February 25, 1975 with Corona City Council	18
Series 3	Bi-Centennial Correspondence/ Events		
M010/1	F17	Copy of the California Bicentennial Quarterly Jul 1974.	20

M010/1	F18	Bi-Centennial - World Farm Foundation 1975	32
Series 4		Riverside County Historical Congress	
M010/1	F19	By-Laws, Rules & Regulations of Riverside City Historical Congress; Proposed changes in By-Laws, Riverside City Historical Congress, reported by Committee Appointed by Board of Directors; Articles of Incorporation of Riverside City Historical Congress.	15
M010/1	F20	Letter dated 19 May 1978 from IRS - Tax Exempt Status ending 31 December 1982.	3
M010/1	F21	Meeting Agendas and notes.	8
M010/1	F22	Minutes and notes for Executive Board Meetings October 1977, December 1977, June 1978, and September 1978;	16
M010/1	F23	Historical Congress Correspondence. 2 June 1977 - 4 August 1978.	46
M010/1	F24	Riverside County Historical Quarterly for 2 October 1977, January 1978, April 1978, August 1978, September 1979, and December/January 1980.	32
Series 5		Corona Woman's Improvement Club	
M010/1	F25	Miscellaneous documents concerning the Woman's Improvement Club (WIC), De Anza District #23. Includes history, reports and correspondence.(2 yellow booklets)	19, 2 booklets