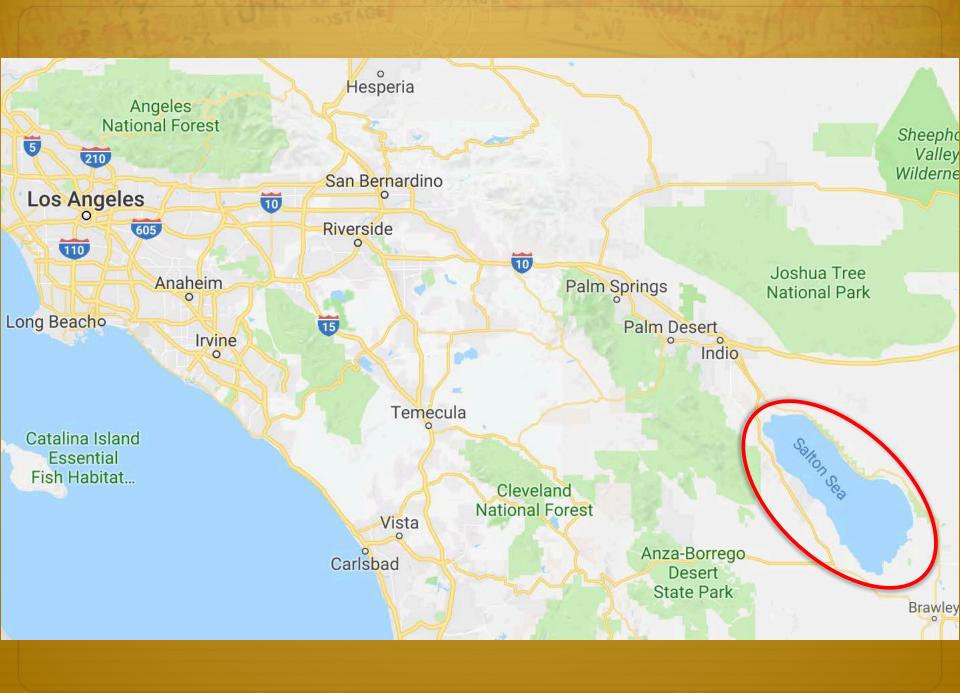
Saving More Than the Sea: Reviving the Salton Sea History Museum

Julia Hause, MLIS
Post-Master's Certificate Student, Archival Studies
UCLA



The SSHM Story

- → Founded by Jennie Kelly, local historian and Salton Sea advocate
- ♦ Opened May 1, 2010 at the North Shore Beach & Yacht Club grand reopening
- ❖ Forced to relocate in June2011

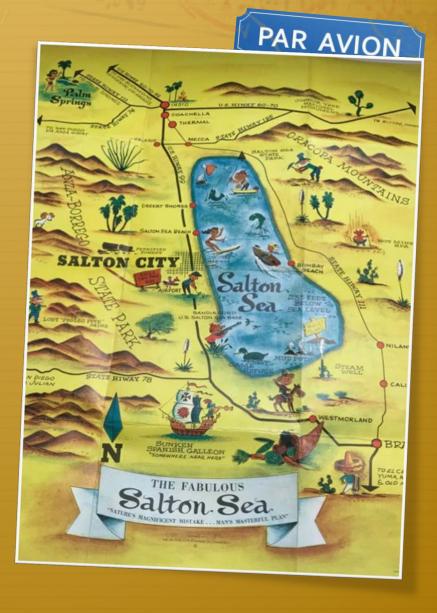








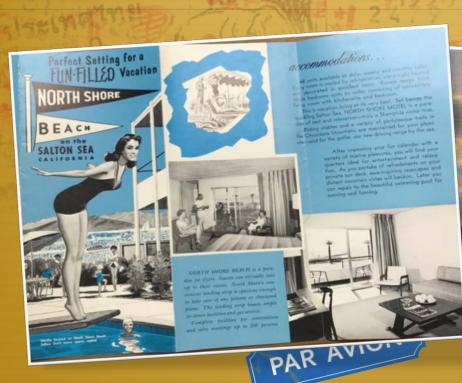
Photo credits: https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/salton-sea-history-museum

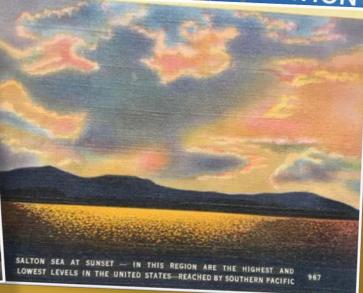
- ✦ Reopened February 3, 2012 at the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Wetlands property
- ♦ Operated in this location until 2013
- ♦ The collection was then moved to the home of Kelly and her husband, Steve Johnson
- ♦ Some materials were moved to spare office space near
 Oasis



- ♦ Sadly, Jennie Kelly passed away in 2015
- SSHM was never able to reopen and the collection remained in storage
- * SSHM board dissolved and its nonprofit status was suspended







Saving SSHM



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MECCA, CALIFORNIA

Salton Sea History Museum

A museum dedicated to a sea that should have never been.



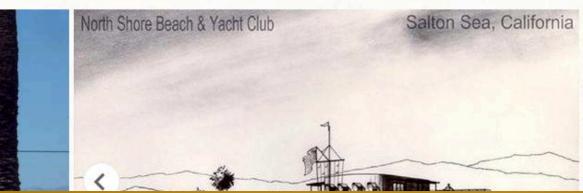


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ADD PHOTO





is uncertain. Currently, the Salton Sea History Museum does not have a permanent home, and has been waiting for the reinstatement of its lease at the North Shore Beach and Yacht Club community center since the center reopened. While it was temporarily located in Mecca, California, the museum's lease was terminated by the property, and the museum remains in limbo.

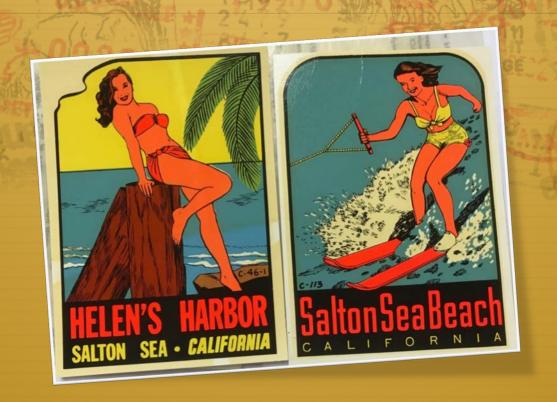
Know Before You Go

Closed and currently awaiting a new location.

- ♦ In fall of 2017, I decided to focus my capstone project at UCLA on the SSHM collection
- → I struggled to find information about the collection, but was finally connected with a local journalist, Ann Japenga
- ♦ Through her extensive network, I was introduced to several beneficial community members

- ♦ Steve Johnson, Jennie Kelly's widower, supported the project, but asked to be excluded from future planning
- ♣ Bruce Wilcox, Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy at the California Natural Resources Agency, has provided assistance with legal and political issues
- ◆ Juan De Lara, President of the Salton Sea Action
 Committee, provided access to the collection materials
- → Between October 2017 and February 2018, I conducted a collection survey and developed an inventory



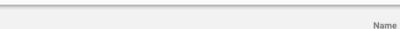


- ❖ In total, I surveyed 116 boxes of material, plus several oversized items
- ♦ 59 boxes of archival material, 46 boxes of SSHM merchandise, 11 boxes of giveaway pamphlets/maps



Day Newshar	Folder/them:							
Box Number	Folder/Item	Year	Description	Arrangement Notes	Condition/Housing Notes			
1	"Archives Misc. Cabinet 2"	ca. 1950s-	Old newspaper clippings, books, mug, patches for fire	Historical Archives, Memorabilia,	Some water			
		1970s	departments, letters, postcards, newsletters, Rail Classics	Local Publications,	damage			
			(1973-1977; 1979, Hot Rod (1966), 1952 The Rudder: The	Correspondence, Environmental,				
			Magazine for Yachtsmen, pamphlets/booklets about saving	Local Organizations, Books,				
			the sea	Newspapers, Mainstream				
				Publications				
2	"Books"		Outdoor California magazine (1984-1987), California	Historical Archives, Local	Some damage to			
			Explorer newsletter (1987-1988), California magazine, 1967	Publications, Books, Local	books			
			North Shore News; books by Ed Ainsworth; books by Fierro	Organizations, Ed Ainsworth,				
			Blanco; books about Anza Borrego, the general Coachella	Environmental				
			Valley area, flower book with pressed specimens inside;					
			Salton Sea Landowner Association papers					
3	"Archives Cabinet 1"	1960-2010	Souvenirs, hotel room keys (replicas?), correspondence,	Historical Archives, Memorabilia,	Some wear			
			historical postcards, maps, brochures, photographs (some	Correspondence, Maps,				
			of Ed Ainsworth)	Photographs, Ed Ainsworth				
4	"Salton Sea History Museum/Autos"	1960-1994	Deed of gift forms for museum donations, posters,	Historical Archives, SSHM	Some oversized			
			photographs, issues of Periscope (Coachella Valley	Archives, SSHM Deed of Gifts,				
			Historical Society publication), Helldiver award trophy,	Photographs, North Shore Beach				
			North Shore Yacht Club (NSYC) wine list,	and Yacht Club				
5	"Archives Misc."	1960-2006	Newer books about CA history, 1990s plan for solar panels	Historical Archives, Books,	Some wear/damage			
			installation near the sea, VHS tapes, Lost Ship of the Desert	Environmental, A/V Materials,				
			book, Vacationing at the Salton Sea booklet, info about	Salton Sea Historical Repository,				
			documents stored in Salton Sea Historical Repository(?),	Local Politics				
			1960 vacation guides (Vacationing at Fabulous Salton Sea,					
			etc.), Highway 86 El Centro construction report/Senator					
			Ellis; Just Imagine by McMurren (signed)					
6	Books	1987-2000	Salton Sea Restoration Project 2000 report, Richard Scarry	Historical Archives,				
			book?, "Adventuring in the CA Desert" by Lynne Foster	Environmental, Books				
			(1987)					
7	Books/Movies	1893-2005	Books, movies (VHS/DVD), and a CD labeled "Leonard	Historical Archives, SSHM	Some wear/damage			
			Knight's World Wide Revival" - some feature films, not	Merchandise, A/V Materials,				
			apparent why they were included; Gold Road to La Paz by	Books				
			Ross, On Desert Trails Today and Yesterday by Henderson,					
			History and Directory of Riverside County, 1893-1894 by					
			Bynon					
8	"Treasure Trails"	1989-2008	Hat, documents for Treasure Trails off-road treasure hunt	Historical Archives, Memorabilia,	Some items are			
			1989-2008, 1997/1998 Salton Seafarer, late 90s CORVA	Local Publications, Treasure Trails	dirty			
			newsletters/magazines (California Off Road Vehicle					
			Association)					
			Association)					







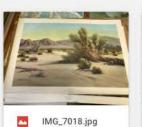
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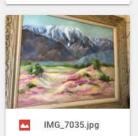


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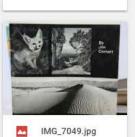




































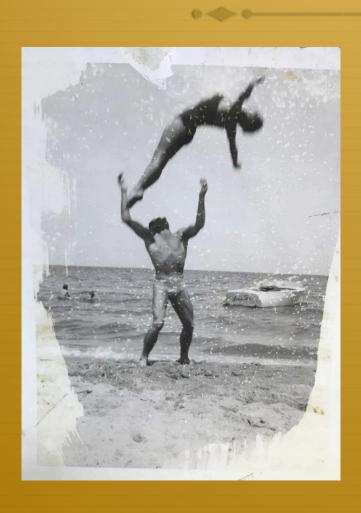


Folders						Name ↑
Box 1: Archives M	Box 2: Archival B	Box 3: Archives C	Box 4: SSHM/Aut	Box 5: Archives M	Box 7: Books/Mo	Box 8: Treasure T
Box 9/12: Mercha	Box 10: Archival T	Box 14: Dos Palm	Box 16: SSHM Bu	Box 17: Helen Bur	Box 18: North Sh	Box 19: Archive/0
Box 20: North Sh	Box 21: Archives	Box 22: Archival	Box 23: Archives	Box 24: Archival	Box 25: Archives	Box 26: Desert M
Box 27: Archival	Box 28: Desert M	Box 29: Archives	Box 31: Archives	Box 32: SSHM Re	Box 33: Archival	Box 34: Archival
Box 35: Archives	Box 36: Blue File	Box 39: Office (19	Box 42: Plaques a	Box 46: Archival	Box 47: Archival	Box 49: NSYC and
Box 50: SSHM Ar	Box 51: Archives (Box 52: Archives (Box 53: Native A	Box 54: Merchan	Box 56: Merchan	Box 57: Merchan
Box 58: Merchan	Box 59: Merchan	Box 60: Merchan	Box 61: Merchan	Box 62: Merchan	Box 63: Merchan	Box 64: Merchan
Box 65: Merchan	Box 66: Merchan	Box 67: Merchan	Box 68: Merchan	Box 69: Merchan	Box 70: Merchan	Box 71: Merchan
Box 72: Merchan	Box 73: Merchan	Box 74: Merchan	Box 75: Merchan	Box 76: Merchan	Box 77: Merchan	Box 78: Merchan
Box 79: Merchan	Box 80: Merchan	Box 81: Merchan	Box 101: Archival	Box 102: Displays	Box 103: SSHM D	Box 104: Mercha
Box 111-116: Mer	General Collectio	Office Supplies/F	Oversized Items			

Next Steps

- ♦ Reestablishing the board, finding permanent storage, and securing funding
- Currently, working on developing a processing plan





- ✦ Possible exhibit through
 a partnership with the
 Sea and Desert
 Interpretive Association
- Funding may be available through the Salton Sea Action
 Committee

 Representatives from College of the Desert and CSU San Bernardino have also shown interest in possible partnerships

