The La Jolla Reading Club is formed by a group of La Jolla women, and begins meeting at The La Jolla Park Hotel.

Florence Sawyer joins The Reading Club, then donates land and a small cottage at the corner of Wall St. and Girard Ave., which becomes known as The Reading Room, or The La Jolla Library.

The Library Association of La Jolla is formed at The Reading Room, with local philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps serving as the first president of the association.

The San Diego Public Library begins renting space from The Library Association of La Jolla. All materials are donated to SDPL, except for those relating to arts and music. The Library Association changes its name to Athenaeum Music and Arts Library.

The Reading Room is replaced by a Spanish Colonial Revival Style building designed by noted architect William Templeton Johnson. Horticulturalist Kate Sessions plants a "reading court" garden.

The San Diego Public Library collection is moved and expanded to the current library location on Draper Ave., due to the generosity of a donation of land by Ms. Florence Riford.

After closing for a year of new construction, the La Jolla/Riford Library reopens its doors. The new Joan and Irwin Jacobs Annex expands the library to 25,000 sq. ft. with new upper and underground levels, with the addition of the La Jolla History Room.

Visit the La Jolla History Room in the Library

Library Upper Level/Second Floor

Learn more about the library and other local landmarks by visiting our History Room on the second floor, which contains a comprehensive collection of La Jolla histories and newspaper archives.