



Appraisals, Restoration and Conservation FAQ

- Who can use the San Diego History Center Research Archives?
 - How can I find out the value of a map, book, document, artwork, and its provenance or attribution?
 - Where would I go to have an artwork restored?
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Who can use the San Diego History Center Research Archives?

In-person Library and Research Resources are currently unavailable until further notice. While we are currently working on providing our visitors and researchers with digital access to our collections, under special circumstances, we are able to answer some questions via email or phone. Please email our [Collections Department](mailto:collections@sandiegohistory.org) at collections@sandiegohistory.org for any questions related to the photo collection, document archives, and 3-D object collection, which includes historic clothing, fine art, and ephemera, furniture and objects of everyday life.

How can I find out the value of a map, book, document, artwork, and its provenance or attribution?

Museum staff are not able to provide monetary fair market values for maps, documents, books, artworks nor their exact provenance or attribution. Please find a list of reputable organizations that help people with those questions:

[National Institute of Appraisers](#)

73450 Country Club Dr. #181

Palm Desert, CA 92260

Phone: (800) 676-2148

www.appraiseroffineart.com

[American Society of Appraisers](#)

P.O. Box 17265

Washington, D.C. 20041

Phone: (800) 272-8258

www.appraisers.org

[Appraisers Association of America](#)

386 Park Avenue South

New York, NY 10016

Phone: (212) 889-5404, ext.11

www.appraisersassoc.org

[Art Dealers Association of America](#)

American Society of Appraisers

11107 Sunset Hills Rd, Suite 310

Reston, VA 20190

www.artdealers.org

Auction Houses

[Bonhams](#)

7601 W. Sunset Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90046

Phone: (323) 850-7500

www.Bonhams.com

[Christie's](#)

20 Rockefeller Plaza

New York, NY 10020

Phone: (212) 636-2000

www.christies.com

[Sotheby's](#)

1334 York Avenue

New York, NY 10021

Phone: (541) 312-5682

www.sothebys.com

While the San Diego History Center does not provide authentications or appraisals to third parties, as part of the History Center's educational mission, museum staff may discuss general parameters of connoisseurship, relative importance, quality and condition. To the extent any third parties obtain Connoisseurship Information, they acknowledge and understand that it may not be relied upon, and neither the History Center nor its staff have any liability arising from its use.

Where would I go to have an artwork restored?

If you are interested in museum-quality conservation treatments, investigative technical imaging and analysis for paintings and works on paper, please contact the [Balboa Art Conservation Center](#) (BACC)
www.bacc.org

For other media please refer to the following reputable organization:

[American Institute for Conservation](#)

AIC and FAIC

727 15th Street NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005

www.culturalheritage.org

Phone: (202) 452-9545

Email: info@culturalheritage.org