
Finding aid prepared by Audra Eagle Yun
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Title: John M. Liu collection of Orange County Chinese American photographs
Identifier/Call Number: MS.R.151
Contributing Institution: Special Collections and Archives, University of California, Irvine Libraries
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 1.8 Linear feet (2 boxes.)
Date (inclusive): 1900-1992
Abstract: John M. Liu was a professor in the Comparative Culture program at the University of California, Irvine and chair of the Chinese American Council of the Historical and Cultural Foundation in 1992 when he curated an exhibit of historical photographs depicting the experiences of Chinese Americans in Orange County. The collection includes mounted photographs, captions, and a compact disc (CD) with exhibit information and captions.
Creator: Liu, John M.
Processing History
Processed by Audra Eagle Yun, 2011.
Acquisition Information
Gift of John M. Liu, October 2011.
Preferred Citation
For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.
Publication Rights
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Access
The collection is open for research.
Historical Background
The Historical and Cultural Foundation of Orange County (California) was founded by Linda Leung Lau in 1985 to promote understanding of ethnic heritage and arts through exhibits and other events. John M. Liu was a professor in the Comparative Culture program at the University of California, Irvine and chair of the Chinese American Council of the Historical and Cultural Foundation in 1992 when he curated an exhibit of historical photographs depicting the experiences of Chinese Americans in Orange County. Assisted by Rose Cheung and Patricia Lin, Liu presented the exhibit at the 1992 Kaleidoscope Festival in Irvine, California. John M. Liu is currently a senior lecturer at the University of California, Irvine.
Collection Scope and Content Summary
In 1992, John M. Liu curated an exhibit of historical photographs depicting the experiences of Chinese Americans in Orange County. The exhibit photographs were duplicated from the Elizabeth Shultz Collection of the Anaheim Public Library, the First American Title Insurance Company, and from the family albums of Marcus Gih, Fred Lau, Linda Lau, Margaret Lew, Pamela Tom, Amy Wong, David Wong, and May Wong. The exhibit was broadly divided into three sections: the early years of immigration from 1870-1900, the transition years from 1901-1945, and the contemporary years from 1946-1992. The collection includes mounted photographs, captions, and a compact disc (CD) with exhibit information and captions.
Arrangement
This collection is arranged in five series, reflecting the original themes of the exhibit:
Series 1. Entering
Series 2. Agriculture
Series 3. Merchants
Series 4. Other
Series 5. Modern
When received, the collection was not arranged. The processor re-established order by arranging the photographs according to the exhibit caption list included with the collection, which was broken into five themes. Exhibit caption boards were placed together in a separate folder.
Subjects and Indexing Terms

Liu, John M.
Chinese American businesspeople -- California -- Orange County -- Photographs
Chinese American Families -- California -- Orange County -- Photographs
Chinese American grocers -- California -- Orange County -- Photographs
Chinese Americans -- California -- Archives.

Box 1, Folder 1

Exhibit captions, printed and CD-R 1992

Entering Series 1.

Box 1, Folder 2
Map of Kwangtung Province, China undated

Box 1, Folder 2
Arch Beach smuggling checkpoint undated

Box 2, Folder 9
Chinese American men wearing merchant attire undated

Box 2, Folder 9
Aging Chinese man undated

Box 2, Folder 7
Chinese American railroad workers undated

Box 2, Folder 5
Chinese American railroad workers in Sierra Nevada, illustration undated

Box 2, Folder 10
Ling Fat at the Del Campo Hotel ca. 1905

Box 2, Folder 10
Eighth grade class portrait of Ling Fat 1905

Box 2, Folder 11
United States entry visa for Fred Lau 1927

Box 2, Folder 2
Family portrait of Gin Gor Ju 1936

Box 2, Folder 2
Gin Gor Ju and family at Disneyland ca. 1956

Box 2, Folder 10
Unidentified Chinese family in Anaheim ca. 1900

Agriculture Series 2.

Box 1, Folder 2
Orange County's first Valencia orchard undated

Box 1, Folder 5
Chinese American tending small vegetable crop undated

Box 1, Folder 7
Chinese field workers undated

Box 1, Folder 4
Chinese field workers wearing straw hats and cotton tunics undated

Box 1, Folder 8
Chinese orchard worker undated

Box 1, Folder 9
Chinese field workers tending vegetable flats undated

Box 2, Folder 2
Gin Gor Ju on his farm in Buena Park ca. 1950s

Box 2, Folder 3
Dick Tom and family at Laguna Beach ca. 1938

Box 1, Folder 6
Henry Wong's farm in Norwalk 1929

Box 2, Folder 4
Amy Ju Wong in her father's strawberry field undated

Box 2, Folder 1
Chinese women field workers with baskets undated

Box 2, Folder 3
Mrs. Dick Tom at their Laguna Beach farm, Wan Lee ca. 1937

Box 2, Folder 3
Dick Tom family portrait ca. 1937

Box 2, Folder 4
Harvesting white radishes on Mr. Ju's farm ca. 1950s

Box 2, Folder 1
Chinese workers fumigating an orchard undated

Box 2, Folder 5
Chinese wine workers, illustration undated

Box 2, Folder 5
Chinese wine workers, illustration undated

Merchants Series 3.

Box 2, Folder 7
Peddler carrying baskets on a shoulder pole undated

Box 2, Folder 6
Chinese peddler with horse and wagon undated

Box 1, Folder 3
Chinese peddler in cart with horse undated

Box 2, Folder 6
Chinese grocery store undated

Box 2, Folder 6
Wong's Food Market undated

Box 1, Folder 2
Chinie Lu, Tustin's vegetable man undated

Box 2, Folder 6
Chinese peddler Tom with Ball children 1930

Box 2, Folder 11
Fred Lau and family at Santa Ana Food Market 1954

Box 2, Folder 11
Louis Lau, son of Fred Lau undated

Box 1, Folder 13
Bob Wong commercial properties in Anaheim ca. 1960s
**Other Series 4.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2, 8</td>
<td>Chinese laundry owner undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 8</td>
<td>Lee Yick storefront undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 8</td>
<td>Chinese leather worker undated</td>
</tr>
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**Modern Series 5.**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1, 14</td>
<td>Engineers' party in Los Angeles 8 December 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 14</td>
<td>Tom Yuen, founder of AST Computers undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 10</td>
<td>Dr. Chang-Lin Tien, UC Berkeley chancellor ca. 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 14</td>
<td>Dr. Roy Lau, first Asian to be elected president of the Orange County Surgical Society undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 11</td>
<td>Tenth anniversary of the Orange County Chinese Potluck Association 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 12</td>
<td>Chinese Women's Association 1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 14</td>
<td>Dr. Raymond Chin, dentist undated</td>
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