Descriptive Summary

Title: Harry W. Lawton collection on Chinese in California

Date (bulk): 1870-1900

Collection Number: MS 153


Extent: 11.0 linear feet (22 document boxes)

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.
Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: This collection contains newspaper clippings, photographs, documents and other material collected by Harry W. Lawton pertaining to the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California, primarily in the Inland Empire region of Southern California. Includes material regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California, research material that was used in the book *Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown*, and a selection of newspaper clippings compiled by Lawton on the early Chinese immigrants that settled in Southern California.

Languages: The collection is primarily in English.

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation


Acquisition Information

Information unavailable.

Processing History

Processed by Brandy Royce, 2010.

Biography

Harry W. Lawton (1927-2005) was a writer, journalist, editor and historian interested in preserving the history of California. Lawton was best known for his book *Willie Boy: A Desert Manhunt* and his work to preserve the culture and history of Native American tribes in California. However, he was also heavily involved with the Chinese community of Riverside, California and served as the historian on the Great Basin Foundation’s archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California from 1984-1985. Through this involvement Lawton compiled an extensive collection of research material pertaining to the early Chinese immigrants that settled in California, primarily those in the Inland Empire region of Southern California.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection contains newspaper clippings, photographs, documents and other material collected by Harry W. Lawton pertaining to the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California, primarily in the Inland Empire region of Southern California. Includes material regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California, research material that was used in the book *Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown*, and a selection of newspaper clippings compiled by Lawton on the early Chinese immigrants that settled in Southern California.

Collection Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following six series:

- Series 1. Los Angeles County
- Series 2. Orange County
- Series 3. Riverside County
- Series 4. San Bernardino County

Guide to the Harry W. Lawton collection on Chinese in California  MS 153
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
California.
Chinatowns.
Chinese.
Excavations (Archaeology).
Riverside (Calif.).

Genres and Forms of Materials
Clippings (information artifacts).
Correspondence.
Photographs.

Series 1. Los Angeles County. 1852-1895.
Series Scope and Content Summary
This series contains newspaper clippings from Los Angeles County regarding the experiences of 19th century Chinese immigrants in California.
Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 12, Folder 5
Newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Daily Times (photocopies with original research notes). 1887.

Box 14, Folder 9
Newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Star and Los Angeles Times (photocopies). 1852-1882.

Box 21, Folder 2
Newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Star and Los Angeles Daily Star (photocopies). 1867-1879.

Box 21, Folder 3
Newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Daily Star and Los Angeles Times (photocopies). 1879-1882.

Box 21, Folder 4
Newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Times and Los Angeles Daily Times (photocopies). 1882-1895.

Series 2. Orange County. 1878-1887.
Series Scope and Content Summary
This series contains newspaper clippings from Orange County regarding the experiences of 19th century Chinese immigrants in California.
Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 14, Folder 4
Newspaper clippings from the Anaheim Weekly Gazette (photocopies). 1878-1887.

Box 14, Folder 5
Newspaper clippings from the Anaheim Weekly Gazette (photocopies with original research notes). 1878.

Box 14, Folder 6
Newspaper clippings from the Anaheim Weekly Gazette (photocopies with original research notes). 1880-1887.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains newspaper clippings, photographs, and other material regarding the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California. Includes material regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California, the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California, and the book *Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown*.

Series Arrangement

This series is arranged topically and then sequentially according to box and folder number.

General

- **Box 1, Folder 6**: Grant proposal and outline for documentary film "Orange Groves and Rice Bowls: The Story of Riverside's Pioneer Chinese Community." 1984.
- **Box 6, Folder 1**: Correspondence from Stewart Malloch to Harry Lawton regarding drafts of "Orange Groves and Rice Bowls: The Story of Riverside's Pioneer Chinese Community." 1977-1988.
- **Box 6, Folder 2**: Correspondence from Stewart Malloch to Harry Lawton regarding drafts of "Orange Groves and Rice Bowls: The Story of Riverside's Pioneer Chinese Community." 1986-1987.
- **Box 6, Folder 3**: Correspondence regarding research about the Chinese community in Riverside, California. 1968-1991.
- **Box 6, Folder 4**: Correspondence regarding research about the former Chinatown in Riverside, California. 1985-1986.
- **Box 6, Folder 5**: Correspondence regarding research about the former Chinatown in Riverside, California. 1987-1990.
- **Box 6, Folder 6**: Newspaper clippings and photographs of the George Wong estate auction (photocopies). 1974.
- **Box 6, Folder 7**: Scrapbook regarding George Wong. 1974.
- **Box 6, Folder 8**: Newspaper clippings and speech written by Harry W. Lawton about the former Chinatown in Riverside, California (photocopies included). 1959-1987.
- **Box 8, Folder 4**: Academic paper *Chinese Who Died in Riverside, California 1886-1939* (original with photographs and photocopy). 1984.
- **Box 8, Folder 5**: Academic papers regarding Riverside Chinatown and Chinese. 1974-1985.
- **Box 8, Folder 6**: Academic papers regarding the lives of Chinese in Riverside. undated.
- **Box 8, Folder 7**: Maps and lease information regarding Riverside Chinatown. 1882-1914.
- **Box 10, Folder 1**: Newspaper clippings and pamphlets regarding the *From China to California* exhibit at the Riverside Municipal Museum. 1984-1985.
- **Box 11, Folder 5**: Notes regarding research sources on the former Chinatown in Riverside, California. undated.
- **Box 12, Folder 1**: Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Enterprise* and the *Rialto Record* (photocopies with original research notes). 1918-1924.
- **Box 12, Folder 7**: Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Enterprise* (photocopies with original research notes). 1898-1922.
- **Box 12, Folder 9**: Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Press and Horticulutres and the Los Angeles Daily Times* (photocopies with original research notes). 1883-1887.
- **Box 12, Folder 11**: Research notes by Harry Lawton regarding newspaper clippings. undated.
- **Box 12, Folder 12**: Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Press and Horticulturist* (photocopies with original research notes). 1884.
- **Box 13, Folder 1**: Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1867-1885.
- **Box 13, Folder 2**: Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1886-1888.
- **Box 13, Folder 3**: Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1889-1891.
| Box 13, Folder 4 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1892-1896. |
| Box 13, Folder 5 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1897-1985. |
| Box 13, Folder 6 | Research notes by Harry Lawton from the *Riverside Press* series on the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1959. |
| Box 14, Folder 3 | Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Press and Horticulturist* and *Riverside Daily Press* (photocopies). 1882-1928. |
| Box 14, Folder 7 | Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Enterprise* (photocopies with original research notes). 1917. |
| Box 14, Folder 8 | Newspaper clippings from the *Riverside Enterprise* (photocopies with original research notes). 1920. |
| Box 15, Folder 1 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1863-1880. |
| Box 15, Folder 2 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1880-1884. |
| Box 15, Folder 3 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1885. |
| Box 15, Folder 4 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1885-1886. |
| Box 15, Folder 5 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1886-1887. |
| Box 16, Folder 1 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1888-1889. |
| Box 16, Folder 2 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1891-1892. |
| Box 16, Folder 3 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1893. |
| Box 16, Folder 4 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1893-1894. |
| Box 16, Folder 5 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1895-1897. |
| Box 17, Folder 1 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1898-1900. |
| Box 17, Folder 2 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1900-1915. |
| Box 17, Folder 3 | Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Riverside, California (photocopies). 1915-1985. |
| Box 17, Folder 4 | Manuscript titled “*Riverside’s Chinese Merchants; as found in the Assessment Books of the Property of the City of Riverside, 1864-1907*” compiled by Mary H. Haggland. May 1986. |
| Box 19, Folder 5 | Newspaper clippings from the *Arlington Times* (photocopies). 1908-1928. |

**Chinatown Archaeological Dig (Riverside, California)**

| Box 1, Folder 2 | Newspaper clippings regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California (includes photocopies). 1984. |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Newspaper clippings regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California (includes photocopies). 1985. |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Newspaper clippings regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California (includes photocopies). 1986-1990. |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Notes regarding documentaries regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California 1984-1985. |
| Box 1, Folder 8 | Contracts for analysis regarding the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California 1984-1987. |
Box 1, Folder 12  Notes documenting the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 2, Folder 5  Newspaper clippings and correspondence regarding the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1986-1990.

Box 3, Folder 2  Photographs of the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 3, Folder 4  Photographs of the archaeological dig site and artifacts at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 3, Folder 5  Photographs of artifacts found at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. undated.

Box 3, Folder 6  Photographs of artifacts found at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. undated.

Box 3, Folder 7  Photographs of the archaeological dig site at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1984-1985.

Box 4, Folder 3  Illustrations and notes regarding artifacts found at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 4, Folder 5  Document tables of glass bottles found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by John Blanford. undated.

Box 4, Folder 6  Document tables of opium bowls found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by Jerry Wylie. undated.

Box 4, Folder 7  Document tables of fossils found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by Paul Langenwalter. undated.

Box 4, Folder 8  Artwork for the Great Basin Foundation. undated.

Box 4, Folder 9  Press kit for the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 5, Folder 1  Photographs of the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. undated.

Box 5, Folder 2  Slides of the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1984-1985.

Box 5, Folder 3  Slides of the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 5, Folder 4  Slides of the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. 1985.

Box 11, Folder 6  Notes regarding material found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California. undated.

Box 22, Folder 1  Document tables of porcelain found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by Fred Mueller. undated.

Box 22, Folder 2  Document tables identifying fish species and remains found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by James Hall. undated.

Box 22, Folder 3  Document tables of fish bones found during the archaeological dig at the former Chinatown site in Riverside, California completed by Donna Collins. undated.

Box 1, Folder 9  Program, newspaper clippings, and other material regarding the Riverside Chinatown Centennial Ball. 1985.

Box 1, Folder 10  Receipts from the Riverside Chinatown Centennial Ball. 1985.

Box 1, Folder 11  Financial statements regarding the Riverside Chinatown Centennial Ball. 1985-1986.

Box 3, Folder 3  Photographs taken of the Riverside Chinatown Centennial Ball. undated.

Box 2, Folder 1  Documents regarding the proposed Riverside Chinatown Historic Park. 1985-1989.

Box 2, Folder 2  Proposals for planning the Riverside Chinatown Historic Park. 1987.

Box 2, Folder 3  Proposals for planning the Riverside Chinatown Historic Park. 1987.

Box 2, Folder 4  Proposals for planning the Riverside Chinatown Historic Park. 1987.

Box 7, Folder 4  Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese Pavilion in Riverside, California. 1985-1987.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7, Folder 5</th>
<th>Program for the Chinese Pavilion in Riverside, California dedication week and fundraiser events. 1987.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, Folder 6</td>
<td>Documents regarding the Chinese Pavilion in Riverside, California. 1986-1987. Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown (Riverside, California)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 1</td>
<td>Photographs (black and white) used in <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 8</td>
<td>Artwork used in the book <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 9</td>
<td>Photographs of the artwork used for the covers of Volume 1-2 of <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 1</td>
<td>Original drawings used in Volume 2 of <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 2</td>
<td>Original drawings used in Volume 2 of <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 4</td>
<td>Drawings (original) used in Volume 2 of <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 6</td>
<td>Floppy disks regarding both volumes of <em>Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown</em>. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 3</td>
<td>Research notes handwritten by Harry Lawton. undated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Series 4. San Bernardino County. 1867-1986, undated.**

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

This series contains newspaper clippings from San Bernardino County regarding the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Newspaper clippings regarding archaeological digs of Chinatown sites in San Bernardino and Redlands, California (includes photocopies). 1944-1986.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 1</td>
<td>Articles and academic papers regarding the chinatown in San Bernardino, California. undated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 2</td>
<td>Academic papers regarding the chinatown in Redlands, California. 1957-1979.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 3</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings from the <em>Colton Semi-Tropic</em> (photocopies with original research notes). 1880.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 4</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings from the <em>San Bernardino Daily Times</em> (photocopies with original research notes). 1888-1890.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 8</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings from the <em>San Bernardino, The Kaleidoscope</em> (photocopies with original research notes). 1891-1894.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 10</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings from the <em>Daily Courier, San Bernardino</em> (photocopies with original research notes). 1893-1894.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 1</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Redlands, California (photocopies). 1889-1898.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 2</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1874-1980.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18, Folder 1</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1867-1876.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18, Folder 2</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1876-1878.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18, Folder 3</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1879.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18, Folder 4</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1879-1886.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 18, Folder 5</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1887-1888.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guide to the Harry W. Lawton collection on Chinese in California

Box 19, Folder 1
Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1888-1893.
Box 19, Folder 2
Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in San Bernardino, California (photocopies). 1893-1894.
Box 19, Folder 3
Newspaper clippings regarding the Chinese community in Redlands, California (photocopies). 1892-1901.
Box 19, Folder 4
Newspaper clippings from the Redlands Citrograph (photocopies). 1887-1892.

Series 5. San Francisco County. 1877-1900.

Series Scope and Content Summary
This series contains newspaper clippings from San Francisco County regarding the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 20, Folder 4
Newspaper clippings from the Pacific Rural Press (photocopies). 1877-1881.
Box 20, Folder 5
Newspaper clippings from the Pacific Rural Press (photocopies). 1882-1887.
Box 20, Folder 6
Newspaper clippings from the Pacific Rural Press (photocopies). 1888-1900.


Scope and Content Summary
This series contains newspaper clippings and other material from throughout California regarding the experiences of 19th-20th century Chinese immigrants in California.

Arrangement
This series is arranged sequentially according to box and folder number.

Box 1, Folder 7
Box 5, Folder 5
Photographs and negatives regarding the Chinese community and Chinatowns in California. undated.
Box 7, Folder 1
Box 7, Folder 2
Box 7, Folder 3
Box 8, Folder 8
Box 9, Folder 1
Articles regarding Chinatowns in Northern California. 1954-1986.
Box 9, Folder 1
Articles regarding Chinatowns across the world. 1959-1985.
Box 9, Folder 3
Articles regarding Chinatowns in Southern California. 1887-1979.
Box 9, Folder 4
Articles and sections from books regarding Chinatowns in Southern California. 1976-1989.
Box 9, Folder 5
Box 10, Folder 2
Articles regarding ethnicity. 1974-1976.
Box 10, Folder 3
Box 10, Folder 4
Box 10, Folder 5
Articles regarding agricultural in Southern California. 1890-1987.
Box 10, Folder 6
Articles and academic papers regarding archaeological surveys of Chinatowns. 1910-1987.
Box 10, Folder 7
Articles and academic papers regarding archaeological Chinatown surveys. 1979-1988.
Box 11, Folder 1
Newsletter titled Gom-Benn. undated.
Box 11, Folder 2
Chinese language sources. undated.
Box 12, Folder 2
Newspaper clippings from area newspapers in Riverside and Orange counties (photocopies). 1872-1951.
Box 12, Folder 6
Newspaper clippings from the Semi-Tropic California (photocopies with original notes). 1880-1882.
Box 14, Folder 11
Newspaper clippings from area newspapers in Riverside and San Bernardino counties (photocopies). 1886-1898.
| Box 14, Folder 12 | Newspaper clippings from area newspapers in Riverside and San Bernardino counties (photocopies). 1900-1931. |
| Box 20, Folder 1  | Newspaper clippings from the *Rural Californian* (photocopies). 1885-1900. |
| Box 20, Folder 2  | Newspaper clippings from the *California Fruit Grower* (photocopies). 1889-1895. |
| Box 20, Folder 3  | Newspaper clippings from the *Irrigation Age* (photocopies). 1893-1895. |
| Box 21, Folder 1  | Newspaper clippings from the *San Diego Union* (photocopies). 1881-1882. |
| Box 22, Folder 4  | Articles regarding Chinatowns in Southern California (photocopies). 1880-1972. |