Descriptive Summary

Title: Morrison Wong papers

Date (inclusive): 1903-1994; undated

Collection Number: UA 099

Creator: Wong, Morrison Gideon, 1948-

Extent: 6.71 linear feet (9 boxes)

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

Abstract: The collection consists of interview transcripts and newspaper clippings related to the history of Japanese-Americans in the Inland Empire, particularly in Riverside, during the early half of the 20th century. Also included in the collection are videocassettes related to the Chinatown excavation in Riverside.

Languages: The collection is in English and Japanese.

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright Unknown: Some materials in these collections may be protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). In addition, the reproduction, and/or commercial use, of some materials may be restricted by gift or purchase agreements, donor restrictions, privacy and publicity rights, licensing agreement(s), and/or trademark rights. Distribution or reproduction of materials protected by copyright beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. To the extent other restrictions apply, permission for distribution or reproduction from the applicable rights holder is also required. Responsibility for obtaining permissions, and for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [date if possible]. Morrison Wong papers (UA 099). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Acquisition Information

Provenance unknown.

Processing History

Processed by Julianna Gil, Student Processing Assistant, 2018.

Processing of the Morrison Wong papers was completed by undergraduate students from the University of California, Riverside as part of the Special Collections & University Archives Backlog Processing Project started in 2015. This project was funded by the UCR Library and administered by Andrew Lippert, Special Collections Processing Archivist.

Historical Note

Riverside, California saw a sizeable community of Japanese immigrants contribute to the city's economy by the mid-1890s. Aside from working in the agricultural sector, many Japanese-Americans were business owners within the city.


In 1915, Jukichi Harada, an Issei restaurant owner, challenged the Alien Land Law, which prevented immigrants from owning property. When the state of California attempted to take the property from the Harada family, Harada took them to court, which eventually was escalated to the California Superior Court under the name "The People of the State of California vs Jukichi Harada." The court decided in favor of Harada, marking a significant event for Japanese immigrants. Harada and his wife Ken died in the Topaz Relocation Center in Utah, where they were forcibly removed to at the beginning of World War II. The Harada House is now listed as a National Historic Landmark.

Before the start of World War II, Japanese-Americans had farms located primarily in the Arlington area and the northern part of Riverside, California. On May 23, 1942, Japanese-Americans living in Riverside were forcibly removed to different incarceration camps in Poston, Arizona, and Manzanar, California. Between March and May of 1942, over 200 Japanese Americans were forcibly removed from Riverside and roughly 180 returned after World War II.

Aside from Japanese influence in Riverside, there were also two Chinatowns built, both of which are now gone. In the late 19th century, Chinese immigrants settled in Riverside and became central to the city's economy. The first Chinatown was located in the downtown area, but was later destroyed by a fire. This then led to the establishment of a second Chinatown...
in 1885. The second establishment was located in the Tequesquite Arroyo, which held a community of over four hundred Chinese residents. In 1893, the second Chinatown was destroyed by a fire but then rebuilt quickly. By the 1930s, the town’s Chinese population was in decline due to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. The last Chinatown resident was Wong Ho Leun, or George Wong.

Collection Scope and Contents
The collection contains interview transcripts and tape recordings of Japanese Americans who lived while the Alien Land Law of 1913 was in place in California, as well as those who were evacuated to relocation centers and internment camps during World War II. The collection also contains newspapers written in Japanese and English, as well as sociological studies about Japanese Americans in Riverside. Also included in the collection are video cassettes related to the excavation of Riverside’s Chinatowns.

The collection was created by Morrison Wong while working on his Ph.D. dissertation at UC Riverside in 1977.

Collection Arrangement
The collection is arranged into three series as follows:

Series 1. Interviews, 1904-1980, undated

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

Subjects
Riverside (Calif.)
Inland Empire (Calif.)
Japanese Americans
Chinatowns
Immigrants

Series 1. Interviews and biographies 1904-1980, undated

Sub-Series 1.1. Fujimoto family 1975
Box 1, Folder 3, Box 8
Mable Bristol interview and biography 1975
Box 1, Folder 4, Box 8
George Fujimoto, Jr. interview 1975
Box 1, Folder 5, Box 8
Sam Ogawa interview 1975

Sub-Series 1.2. Harada family 1915-1976
Box 1, Folder 7, Box 8
Sumi Harada interview 1974
Box 1, Folder 8, Box 8
Mine Harada Kido interview undated
Box 1, Folder 9
Nomination of Harada House as a Riverside Cultural Heritage Landmark 1976
Box 1, Folder 10
The People of the State of California vs. Jukishi Harada, et al. 1915

Sub-Series 1.3. Hino family 1966-1975
Box 1, Folder 13
Robert Hino biography 1975
Box 1, Folder 14
Madonna Kimiko Hino pedigree chart 1966
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Series 1.4. Martha Iseda 1946-1951, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Series 1.5. Kaneko family 1904-1980</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Series 1.6. Lewis family 1976</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Series 1.7. Other interviews and biographies 1975-1976, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 1, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 11, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 12, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 16, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 17, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 18, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 27, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 29, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 30, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 31, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 33, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 34, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 35, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 37, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 38, Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 1. Interviews and biographies 1904-1980, undated
Sub-Series 1.7. Other interviews and biographies 1975-1976, undated

Box 1, Folder 39, Box 8
James Tsubota biography undated

Box 1, Folder 40, Box 8
Mr. & Mrs. Heido Yoshida biography and interview undated

Box 8
Rafu Shimpo interview undated


Box 2, Folder 1
Family Correspondence 1945-1976

Box 2, Folder 2
Correspondence regarding the "UCR Japanese American in Riverside Research Project" 1975

Box 2, Folder 3
Information regarding the Japanese Evacuation undated

Box 2, Folder 4
"The Japanese in Riverside" Study undated

Box 2, Folder 5
Riverside Museum Historical Society - "Ethnic Minorities in Riverside, Japanese" undated

Box 2, Folder 6
"Social Relations within the Japanese Community in Riverside" 1975

Box 2, Folder 7
Roy Ito - History of the Japanese Community in the Inland Empire undated

Box 2, Folder 8
Calendar of research notes 1961-1964

Box 2, Folder 9
Family trees of Japanese Americans undated

Box 2, Folder 10
Photocopied photographs of Japanese Americans undated

Box 2, Folder 11
Translation of Articles by G. Sakoguchi and Rafu Shimpo 1955-1961

Box 2, Folder 12
Articles on Japanese land ownership in Riverside 1920

Box 2, Folder 13
Articles on Japanese Americans involved in World War II undated

Box 2, Folder 14
Newspaper clippings in Japanese and English 1952-1955

Box 2, Folder 15
Newspaper clippings in Japanese 1956-1958

Box 2, Folder 16
Newspaper clippings in Japanese 1959-1961

Box 2, Folder 17
Newspaper clippings in Japanese 1961-1964

Box 2, Folder 18
Newspaper clippings in Japanese 1965-1967

Box 2, Folder 19
Newspaper clippings in Japanese 1903-1976

Box 8
Japanese in Riverside Library Lecture 1974

Box 9
Articles on the Japanese Community in Riverside (Microfilm) undated

Box 9
Index Cards with Names and Addresses undated

Series 3. Audio and visual materials 1984-1994, undated

Box 3
Tape T: RCT - Near End of Dig; Lab/UCR Film Team/ Digging undated

Box 3
Riverside Museum Exhibition of Chinese Dig; Lincoln’s Birthday 1985

Box 3
Last Day, Last Tape; Blue Jay 1985

Box 3
Taping Inside Feature Without Tripod 1985

Box 3
Japanese American (#1 of 3) undated

Box 3
Japanese American (#2 of 3) undated

Box 3
Japanese American (#3 of 3) undated

Box 3
The Eng Family Memories (Vol. 1 Part 1) undated

Box 3
The Eng Family Memories (Vol. 1 Part 2) undated

Box 3
The Eng Family Memories (Vol. 1) undated

Box 3
The Eng Family Memories (Vol. 2) undated

Box 4
Untitled Videocassette 1 undated

Box 4
Untitled Videocassette 2 undated

Box 4
Untitled Videocassette 3 undated

Box 4
Untitled Videocassette 4 undated

Box 5
Untitled Videocassette 5 undated

Box 6
Tape 1: Opening Ceremonies - RCT; Speeches, Fireworks, Performances 1985

Box 6
Tape 2: Opening Ceremony 1985

Box 6
Tape 3: RCT Excavation 1985

Box 6
Tape 4: Field Lab, Explanations 1985

Box 6
Tape 5: Units 4/1 - Was Taped Before Tape 4 1985

Box 6
Tape 6: Paul & Basement #2/ Paul with Map 1985

Box 6
Tape 8: Pit 1 1985

Box 6
Tape C: Phase 1 - Backhoe Shots & Close Dig undated

Box 6
Tape D: Chinatown 1984
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Frontier Productions Stock Footage - Philippines 1994; Indigenous People 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Sample Footage for Tutorial undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>The Story of Orange County undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Rockefeller Retreat - Master for Dubs 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>China Clips 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Sample Footage for Tutorial undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Inside Features 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Untitled MBU 18s Tape undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape H: RCT - Museum Archive Photos undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape K: RCT/ At Mayor’s Office 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape L: RCT - Mayor’s Reception &amp; Chinese on Site 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape P: Bonanza 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape R: Color Bars on Head 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Tape U: Closeup of Lab Table 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>On New Ground undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>