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**MS 1242  
Tucson Chinese Collection  
ca. 1870-ca. 1960****DESCRIPTION**

This collection addresses the Chinese experience in the West. There are three series: The Chinese Experience in Arizona and Northern Mexico: 1870-1940, contains materials gathered in preparation of an exhibit presented at the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) in 1979; the other two series, the Tucson Chinese Collection and the Chinese Heritage Project, contain materials collected and copied from private collections of Tucson's Chinese-American community. The bulk of this collection is photographs. These images document the acculturation of Asian people in the United States. Through them, we are able to witness the metamorphosis—from queues and robes to Western cowboy attire to letter-sweaters and suits.

12 boxes, 7.5 linear ft.

**ACQUISITION**

**Series 1: The Chinese Experience in Arizona and Northern Mexico Exhibit: 1870-1940 (CEE).** This exhibit was produced by the AHS in 1979. These materials were collected by AHS staff in the process of researching and preparing the exhibit.

**Series 2: The Tucson Chinese Collection (TCC).** The photographs in this collection were displayed at the Sosa-Carillo-Fremont House, a branch of the AHS, in 1976. Members of Tucson's Chinese community brought their photos to the museum; they were copied and printed by Jack Sheaffer for display. This collection was donated to AHS by Henry and Rose Gee in 1994. Originally cataloged as PC 137, that collection has been removed and the materials merged with this collection.

**Series 3: The Chinese Heritage Project (CHP).** This series was acquired as the result of a grant awarded to the Tucson Chinese Association by the Arizona Humanities Council in 1998.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

See also Buehman Photo Collection files labeled "Subjects-Chinese"

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

**COPYRIGHT**

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Library and Archives Department. Please note that some of the photographs in this collection are copies of images that belong to other people and/or museums. It is the researcher's responsibility to contact the owners for permission to publish images.

## PROCESSING

Dena McDuffie processed this collection in May 2003.

## ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged topically.

## HISTORICAL NOTES

There are three significant periods in Chinese immigration to the United States: Before the Chinese Exclusion Act (ca. 1840 to 1882); after the act was passed (1882-1943); and after the act was rescinded (1943-present). This history is presented within these parameters.

### **Before the Chinese Exclusion Act (ca. 1840 to 1882)**

The first Chinese immigrants came to the United States around 1840. They came for the same reasons most immigrants come, to escape poverty, famine and oppression in their native land.

During the late-eighteenth century, Britain—trying to find a product to trade for China's tea and manufactured goods—had begun importing opium from India into China. Although the Chinese government tried to restrict this trade, drug addiction became a huge problem in China. After the government made opium illegal and began closing down opium dens, war broke out between the Chinese and the British. The far-superior British military had an enormous advantage; as a result, several Chinese cities were seized, China's economy suffered enormously and the traditional systems of agriculture and craftsmanship disintegrated. When the Opium Wars (1839-1842), as these confrontations became known, ended under the Treaty of Nanking, all restrictions on British trade (including the opium trade) were lifted, five ports were opened to British trade, and Hong Kong became a British territory.

Soon after the wars, inspired by the prospect of finding work and being able to send money back to family still in China, the first Chinese immigrants began arriving on the west coast of the United States. But it was not until the California Gold Rush of 1849—when the U.S. became known to the Chinese as *Gum San* (Gold Mountain)—that hundreds of thousands of Chinese men began arriving. Although they were initially welcomed as a solution to shortages in the labor forces, Chinese discrimination increased when gold mines began playing out and financial conditions got bad.

Chinese immigrants first came to Arizona in the 1860s, around the time Arizona became a U.S. territory. When construction of the Transcontinental Railroad began in 1864, many worked as laborers. In 1870, three men from the Wong family left their jobs with the railroad, came to Tucson and established the O.K. Restaurant at Church Plaza and Mesilla Street.

In 1878, when the first railroad tracks were laid in Yuma, Chinese laborers were paid 50 cents a day; Anglo workers were paid \$1 per day. Their willingness to work hard and for little pay may have contributed to the prejudice that grew against them. Many accused them of robbing Hispanics and women of work opportunities, of threatening the growth of unionism, and of causing all kinds of financial problems in the United States.

In 1879, the *Arizona Weekly Star* ran an editorial portraying the Chinese as "an ignorant, filthy, leprous horde." The Tucson paper, *El Fronterizo*, described the Chinese in 1892 as "the most pernicious and degraded race on the globe," and in 1894 as "a fungus that lives in isolation, sucking the sap of the other plants." This kind of racism, and the fear of having to compete with Chinese

workers for jobs, led Anglo and Mexican laborers to attack Chinese workers in railroad camps and mining towns. As a "solution" to the violence, railroad and mine managers began phasing out Chinese laborers resulting in the exclusion of Chinese from Arizona's mines and railroads by the early twentieth century.

Still, there were opportunities for Chinese workers in Arizona. When the railroad reached Tucson, many Chinese men remained. They became merchants, gardeners, cooks, miners and launderers (a lucrative profession in a community with a large bachelor population). Around 1880, Chan Tin-Wo opened a general merchandise store in Tucson on North Main Street. Chan became politically active and is listed in the 1882 Great Register as a naturalized citizen who voted in elections. During the 1880s, Chinese farmers began growing vegetables in Tucson on land owned by Leopoldo Carillo, Sam Hughes, Solomon Warner and the Sisters of St. Joseph. At one time, over 100 acres were under cultivation by the Chinese in the Tucson area. Although there were frequent disputes between Mexican and Chinese gardeners over water rights, no one denied that the Chinese farmers grew, according to one account, "everything in the vegetable line from an artichoke to the biggest cabbage..."

The 1880 U.S. Census showed 160 Chinese living in Tucson (including two women); two-thirds were self employed. Eleven Chinese worked (and presumably lived) at Fort Lowell.

### **After the Chinese Exclusion Act was Passed (1882-1943)**

In 1882, the United States passed the Oriental Exclusion Act which read, in part: "Whereas, in the opinion of the Government of the United States the coming of Chinese laborers to this country endangers the good order of certain localities within the territory thereof..." This was the first federal attempt to limit immigration to the U.S. by nationality. The act prohibited immigration of Chinese laborers for unskilled and mining jobs and required those already in the country to carry identification certificates. The only Chinese immigrants subsequently admitted to the U.S. legally were students, diplomats and merchants. Those already in the country were confined to defined neighborhoods, often called Chinatowns. The act stated that Chinese would not be denied entry if they could prove their citizenship through family ties, so Chinese-American citizens began identifying friends and the children of friends as family. This loophole in the act became known as Paper Sons and Daughters and an interrogation process was created to determine if the immigrants were related as they claimed. As a result of this act, Chinese-Americans became even more self-sufficient and often kept to themselves. But the community continued to grow and by 1908, Tucson had 37 Chinese businesses.

The original Tucson Chinatown, at the west end of Pennington Street, is defined on an 1883 map with a joss house, opium dens, grocery stores and laundries indicated within its boundaries. When the Tucson Womens Club built its offices around 1910, much of the original Chinatown was displaced. When the city hall was built in 1916, the remainder was demolished. A new Chinatown was established on the block bounded on the north and south by Broadway and Jackson streets and on the east and west by Main and Meyer streets

By 1886, Anti-Chinese leagues had formed in Flagstaff, Prescott, Tombstone, Bisbee, Benson and Willcox, endorsed by the Republican Party of Arizona. Bisbee even passed an ordinance forbidding Chinese from staying overnight and Chinese were hung in effigy on the road entering the city.

In many ways, the progress of the Chinese in America has resembled a see-saw. In 1890, a law was passed in Arizona preventing Chinese from competing with Anglos for jobs. The same year, antidiscrimination organizations were formed in Arizona. In Tucson, the Ying On Association, which worked to assist members of the Chinese community when they were threatened by unfair, discriminatory business practices, and provided housing and social opportunities to the community,

was housed in a gray building on Main Street between Broadway and Ochoa. The need for organized support was very real. For example, in 1893 a petition was presented to the Tucson City Council proposing that Chinese businesses be segregated to a certain part of town. This measure was rejected as unconstitutional, and Chinese businesses were free to locate wherever there was a need for their services or products. In 1901, a law was passed in Arizona prohibiting marriage between Chinese and Anglos.

The 1900 U.S. Census showed 224 Asians living in Tucson. In 1908, Lee Park Lin and his wife, Chan Fuk-tai, arrived in Tucson. Lee Park Lin was an agent for Immigration and Naturalization Services. He was a deacon at the First Baptist Church where he helped establish a school where Chinese immigrants could learn English. Of course, gospel was also taught at these classes, and many Chinese converted to the Baptist religion. Chan Fuk-tai assisted neighborhood women in childbirth and wrote letters for them.

During World War I, after Arizona's Chinese community was active in pledging money to Red Cross war funds, the newspapers declared them "loyal republican brothers." After the war, servicemen of Asian ancestry received right of naturalization.

In the 1920s, a Chinese Chamber of Commerce was established on south Meyer Street. Its mission was to ensure fairness for the Asian community in legal issues such as immigration, taxation, and ordinances that might discriminate against Chinese-Americans. In 1926, a Chinese Evangelical Church was built on Main and Mesilla streets where, 15 years after immigrants struggled to learn English, classes were held where young Asian students could learn Chinese. The acculturation process had come full circle!

### **After the Chinese Exclusion Act was Rescinded (1943-present)**

It is amazing to consider that the Chinese Exclusion Act remained in effect, in varying degrees, until 1943 when it was reversed by Franklin Roosevelt, primarily because the U.S. and China were allies during World War II. It is also amazing that it took until 1947 to amend the 1945 War Brides Act to include a provision allowing Chinese-American veterans to bring their brides into the U.S. After this, Chinese-Americans experienced less discrimination than previously. The 1952 Walter-McCarren Act allowed first-generation Americans to apply for citizenship.

The Civil Rights movement and the Immigration and Nationality Act of the 1960s opened new avenues for Chinese-Americans, providing opportunities to participate in American science, politics and business.

Recent census information reports that there are now about 2.5 million Chinese-Americans in the U.S. and that their level of education and median household incomes are higher than those of Anglo Americans. Discrimination is mild compared to that of a century ago.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Tucson Chinese Collection is an artificial collection (i.e., a group of materials "collected" for some reason, often by a member of the community or organization, archivists, or local historians) that includes both manuscripts and photographs relating to the Chinese experience in the United States from the early days of their immigration (ca. 1800s) until contemporary times (ca. 1960). The bulk of the collection is photographs; the images are all copy prints rather than original photographs.

Information and photographs included in this collection document the progress of a culture in a new, frequently hostile, environment. They relate to businesses, families, celebrations, documents and certificates, railroads and mining, organizations, customs, religion, prejudice and achievement.

## SERIES NOTES

**Series 1: The Chinese Experience in Arizona and Northern Mexico: 1870-1940 Exhibit:** In 1979, the Arizona Historical Society produced an exhibit, funded in part by the Arizona Humanities Council, chronicling the lives of Chinese-Americans in the Southwest. Guest Curator Larry Fong and then-Photo Curator Heather Hatch, both of the Arizona Historical Society, curated the exhibit. Exhaustive research was conducted and many collections (including the Arizona Historical Foundation in Phoenix, Casa Grande Valley Historical Society, Gila Valley National Bank in Clifton, Greenlee County Historical Society in Clifton, National Archives in Washington, D.C., Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, University of Arizona Library Special Collections, and the University of California at Berkeley's Bancroft Library) were visited. The collections of numerous people (including M. De Leon of Clifton, James Don, Maude Don, Marian Lim, Lee Park Lin of Tucson 1908-1920, Lucy Luen, Elizabeth Sweeting of Clifton, Bonnie Low Tang, Gene Tang of Phoenix, Paul S. Tang of Phoenix, Don Chun Wo, Hi Wo of Benson, and Jim Wong of Marana) were accessed. This series contains the research completed in preparation for the exhibit and photographs included in the display, as well as correspondence and paperwork associated with the project.

All of the photographs and negatives in this collection are copy prints and copy negatives. Many of the images were copied from collections other than the Arizona Historical Society's. When this is the case, the home collection is noted on the back of the image.

**Series 2: Tucson Chinese Collection:** These photographs were displayed at the Sosa-Carillo-Fremont House, a branch of the Arizona Historical Society, in 1976. Members of Tucson's Chinese community brought their photos to the museum. Photographer Jack Sheaffer (1929-1999) copied and printed these images for display. Formerly PC 137, this series of photographs has as its focus the ca. 1950 Tucson Chinese community. The photographs document Chinese-American families, organizations and gatherings in Arizona.

The photographs in this collection are numbered with their original acquisition numbers. Sadly, they are all dry-mounted on non-acid-free matboard. ***In the absence of donor agreement paperwork, the decision was made that reproductions of these images are available only by photocopying and only for research purposes.***

**Series 3: Chinese Heritage Project:** This collection is the product of a grant awarded to the Tucson Chinese Association and funded by the Arizona Historical Society and the Arizona Humanities Council in 1999. The grant was designed to bring the Chinese community together to document their history in Tucson. The project called for meetings and workshops designed to make contact with Chinese-Americans in Tucson, provide them with information on recording their history, and make copies of their photo collections for inclusion in the Arizona Historical Society's archives. In addition, AHS Library and Archives staff presented training sessions in oral history and photo conservation to Tucson's Chinese-American community. The photographs and materials included in this portion of the collection are a product of the grant. Unfortunately, very few of the photographs, of people or places, were identified by the donors. [Please note: Comments identified with the initials "A.D." were made by Anna Don in 2002.]

Those who made their photographs available to the AHS include: Lily Jew Nichols, Paul Don, Judy Tom, Sue Dong, Raymond Lim, Walter and Jane Wong, Stella (Don) Lim, Mrs. Nin Lee and Goldie Huie. Brief biographies of two of the participants in this project, Carmen Lee and James June Wong, follow.

**Carmen Lee:** Henry Lee was born in China and moved to San Francisco when he was two. His family settled in Tucson when Henry was nine.

In 1945, Henry returned from military stints in North Africa and Italy during World War II. He started working at the Chinese restaurant that Carmen Lee ran and the couple were married in 1949. They went on to run the OK Market in Armory Park until 1952, when they moved to Los Angeles. In 1972 they returned to Tucson, where Henry Lee died around 1999.

Henry Lee is among those people pictured in the Tucson street scenes mural at the Broadway overpass. The 1942 photograph of Lee shows him walking around downtown, showing off his rodeo attire.

**James June Wong:** Wong June was born in San Francisco in 1882. His mother died in 1885 in San Francisco and his father died in 1896 in Alaska where he was foreman in a cannery. Wong June married Lee Kim Sun, who had bound feet, in 1904. They had one child, Ben Sen, in 1905; Lee Kim Sun died early in 1908. Wong June worked in the mines near Prescott for two years, then worked in a laundry at Ash Fork, Arizona for about a year. Wong June made three trips to China, in 1904, 1908, and 1915. In 1908, he married his second wife, Dear Yu, in China (Dear Yu had natural feet). In 1915, he returned to China to bring back his wife and two sons (Wong Ben Sen from his first marriage and Wong Ben June [b. 1911] from his second). They moved to Flagstaff where Wong June ran a laundry. Wong June and Dear Yu had nine children. In the 1920s, Wong June owned the American Kitchen which allegedly had an underground tunnel where Chinese people hid whenever they were driven from town.

James June Wong was born 1935 in Flagstaff, Arizona, the youngest child of the Wong family (siblings: Wong June Jr., George, Robert, William, Jack, Margaret, Edith and Marjorie).

## **BOX & FOLDER LIST**

### **Series 1: The Chinese Experience in Arizona and Northern Mexico (CEE): 1870-1940**

#### **Exhibit Planning**

##### **Box 1**

- F. 1 Correspondence Related to Exhibit, 1973-1978
- F. 2 Correspondence Related to Exhibit, 1979-1989
- F. 3 Educational Materials
- F. 4 Exhibit Funding-Arizona Commission on the Arts
- F. 5 Exhibit Funding-Arizona Humanities Council
- F. 6 Exhibit Funding-Budgets and Invoices
- F. 7 Exhibit Labels and Acknowledgments
- F. 8-9 Notes on Exhibit

##### **Box 2**

- F. 10-11 Notes on Exhibit
- F. 12 Exhibit Planning
- F. 13 Exhibit Promotion and Publicity
- F. 14 Exhibit Travel
- F. 15 Exhibits about Chinese-Americans, *not* AHS

#### **Exhibit Research**

- F. 16 Bibliographies
- F. 17 Correspondence, Historical

##### **Box 3**

- F. 18 Culture, Customs
- F. 19 Culture, Prejudice
- F. 20 Employment, Business, Retail
- F. 21 Employment, Business, Laundries and Truck Gardens
- F. 22 Employment, Business, Military
- F. 23 Employment, Business, Mines and Mining
- F. 24 Employment, Business, Railroads
- F. 25 Legal-Exclusion Laws
- F. 26 Legal-Immigration
- F. 27 Legal Documents-Cochise County
- F. 28 Legal Documents-Coconino County
- F. 29 Legal Documents-Miscellaneous

##### **Box 4**

- F. 30 Legal Documents-Pima County
- F. 31 Manuscripts-Chinese
- F. 32 Manuscripts-"The Western Reaction to Relocated Japanese Americans: The Case of Wyoming" by Roger Daniels
- F. 33 Manuscripts-"Culture and Role of Chinese Health Professionals with Multi-Ethnic Clients" by Ellen G. Harkness (partial manuscript)
- F. 34 Manuscripts-"Immigrants to a Developing Society: The Chinese in Northern Mexico, 1875-1932" by Evelyn Hu-DeHart
- F. 35 Manuscripts-"The Railroads of Southern Arizona" by David Myrick

- F. 36 Maps
- F. 37 Organizations [In Tucson, voluntary organizations (called "tongs" by the Anglos) were not only business-oriented, but acted as a support for the local elders in settling intra-group disputes. For many early Chinese businesses, extended lines of credit and trade were arranged with already-established firms in California and Arizona.). Among the organizations in Tucson were the Confucian Church (This organization belongs to the whole community and all community activity is held there. Made up mostly up of first-generation immigrants, the most active and influential members run the board of directors); the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (comprised of businessmen in Tucson); Chinese American Citizen's Alliance (which fights for Chinese rights in the U.S.); Ying On Association (a politically neutral, fraternal organization [kind of like the Odd Fellows]; China Council; Tucson-Taichung Sister City Committee (Half of the members of the committee are Chinese merchants and half are American businessmen who work together to support student exchanges, promoting trade and cultural exchange); and Family Associations (Family groups meet to handle family problems, bring children together, provide a sense of family)]
- F. 38 People-Lee Kwong/Marian Lim [see also Box 9, F. 105]
- F. 39 People-Lee Park Lin [Lee Park Lin was born in San Francisco in 1878, the son of a laborer who had come to America prior to the exclusion acts of 1892. At age 13, he was a steward on the USS Albatross, a Navy-manned iron-hulled twin-screw steamer assigned to the United States Fish Commission, reputedly the first vessel ever built especially for marine research. He married Chan-Shih and was baptized in Baptist Church. In 1908 he was appointed to Tucson as the Chinese interpreter for the U.S. Commissioner of Immigration. Ironically, his duty was to help enforce the Chinese Exclusion Act. By World War I, he was a deacon of the Baptist Church which helped establish a language school for Chinese and Mexicans. He served on committees raising money for war bonds.
- F. 40 People-Wing F. Ong [Wing F. Ong was born in China and came to America around 1918, moving first to San Francisco and later to Phoenix. Although he began his career as a dishwasher and clerk, he became a lawyer, restaurateur and real estate executive. He became the first Chinese-American elected a state legislator in the U.S., serving two terms in the state House of Representatives and one term in the state Senate. He died in 1977.]
- F. 41 People-Joe K. Wong [Joe Wong was born in China in 1940. In his correspondence, he discusses similarities between the Hopi and Navajo languages and Chinese. He also discusses other Chinese immigrants to the U.S., including Kwong Kee, Sam Kee and Mar Kim.]
- F. 42 People-Miscellaneous
- F. 43 Places in Arizona, Benson and Bisbee

**Box 5**

- F. 44 Places in Arizona, Phoenix
- F. 45 Places in Arizona, Prescott
- F. 46 Places in Arizona, Tombstone
- F. 47 Places in Arizona, Tucson
- F. 48 Places in Arizona, Yuma
- F. 49 Places, outside Arizona, California
- F. 50 Places outside Arizona, Mexico
- F. 51 Places outside Arizona, Nevada and Utah
- F. 52 Primary Source Materials [This file contains biographical information from an oral history survey of Chinese-American residents in Arizona, conducted by John Nicholson, Associate Professor at Northern Arizona University. Information sheets concerning Hoy Toag Don,



- Mamie G. Lee, William Hsu, Peter Mao, John Dong, Bing John Dong and Roy Ong. Also contains an Arizona Pioneers Historical Society biographical sketch of Chun Wo Don.]
- F. 53 Publications, Articles, Miscellaneous
  - F. 54 Publications, Articles, *Journal of Arizona History*
  - F. 55 Publications, Newsletters and Flyers
  - F. 56 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, 1867-1880
  - F. 57 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, 1881-1889

### **Box 6**

- F. 58 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, 1890-1930
- F. 59 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, 1931-1980
- F. 60 Publications, Newspaper Clippings, Chinese
- F. 61 Statistics and Chronologies

### **Photographs**

#### **Exhibit Planning**

- F. 62 Copy prints from other collections
- F. 63 Displays
- F. 64 People
- F. 65 Travel-Casa Grande Historical Society
- F. 66 Travel-Greenlee County Historical Society [Includes photos of Harriet Sweeting and Al Fernandez at the opening]
- F. 67 Travel-Phoenix and Globe

#### **Exhibit Research**

#### **People**

- F. 68 Portraits-Men
- F. 69 Portraits-Women
- F. 70 Portraits-Children
- F. 71 Portraits-Group

### **Box 7**

- F. 72 Portraits-Group-Children
- F. 73 Portraits-Group-Family
- F. 74 Portraits-Group-Organizations [meetings of Kuo Min Tang, an anti-Communist political organization. It was founded in China by Sun Yat Sen (1886-1925), first President of the Republic of China, 1911-1912) and aimed to establish a modern republic in China.]

#### **Places**

- F. 75 Places, Arizona
- F. 76 Places outside Arizona, California
- F. 77 Places outside Arizona, Mexico
- F. 78 Places outside Arizona, Miscellaneous

#### **Subjects**

- F. 79 Artifacts
- F. 80 Banking and signature cards
- F. 81 Business-Advertising
- F. 82 Business-Groceries
- F. 83 Business-Laundries
- F. 84 Business-Mercantile

## **Box 8**

- F. 85 Business-Mexico
- F. 86 Business-Mining
- F. 87 Business-Miscellaneous
- F. 88 Business-Railroads
- F. 89 Business-Restaurants
- F. 90 Business-Servants
- F. 91 Certificates and Documents
- F. 92 Certificates and Documents, Mexico
- F. 93 Customs
- F. 94 Entertainment
- F. 95 Illustrations
- F. 96 Immigration-Arizona and Mexico
- F. 97 Manuscripts, Chinese
- F. 98 Military
- F. 99 Military, Mexico
- F. 100 Politics-Mexico [Includes Union of Women Workers parade in Cananea and Ramon Corral parade (Corral was an unpopular and notorious governor of Sonora and was Porfiro Diaz' vice-president during the Mexican Revolution. Some say that Diaz chose Corral precisely because he was so hated, assuming that no one would attempt to assassinate Diaz if Corral was in line to succeed him)]
- F. 101 News Articles
- F. 102 Religion [Includes pictures of a joss house, a center for worship, education, community fellowship, and a place to find letter-writing and business services. The joss house also served as the place to discuss legal matters. In the United States, it was the center of Chinese community for immigrants from the 1870s through the early 1920s.]
- F. 103 Schools

## **Box 9**

- F. 104 Proclamation declaring the week of May 4, 1979 as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Week, signed by then-governor Bruce E. Babbitt
- F. 105 Photographs of the Lee Kwong/Marian Lim family, some at Tumacacori [see also Box 4, F. 38]

## **Box 10, Oversize**

### **Series 2: The Tucson Chinese Collection (TCC)**

- F. 106 Chinese-American Air Force cadets
- F. 107 Wing On Association meetings [In 1890 Chinese anti-discrimination organizations were formed in Arizona. These organizations, such as the Ying On Association, worked to assist members of the Chinese community when they were threatened by unfair, discriminatory business practices. Working as a group, the Chinese gained leverage to help ensure a fair business environment for Chinese owned businesses. Their concern about fair business practices was very real. For example, in 1893 a petition was presented to the Tucson City Council proposing that Chinese businesses be segregated to a certain part of town. This measure was defeated, and Chinese businesses were free to locate wherever there was a need for their services or products. Ying On also acted as a support for elders in the Chinese community in settling disagreements between feuding family groups.]

- Tucson's Chinese-American population worked as individuals and as a community to counter prejudice. Education and hard work have always been valued in the Chinese culture. By 1890 the Chinese Mission School was operating on Ott Street.]
- F. 108 Wedding banquet of Donald and May Lim, 1953
  - F. 109 Miscellaneous [Includes young Penny Tom posing in front of a giant firecracker; the Joe Tang family; and Armistice Day celebration, all ca. 1950]

### **Box 11**

#### **Series 3: Chinese Heritage Project (CHP)**

- F. 110 Certificates-Immigration

#### **Photographs**

- F. 111 Portraits-Children
- F. 112-113 Portraits-Men
- F. 114 Portraits-Men-Military
- F. 115-116 Portraits-Women
- F. 117-119 Group Portraits
- F. 120 Group Portraits-Men
- F. 121 Group Portraits-Women

### **Box 12**

#### **Places**

- F. 122 Places-California
- F. 123 Places-Tucson

#### **Subjects**

- F. 124 Album pages [Since participants in this project brought albums to be copied, entire pages were sometimes photographed. Because the subject matter is often mixed on album pages, these photographs have been assigned to a separate group.]
- F. 125 Business
- F. 126 Celebrations and Holidays
- F. 127 Cemeteries
- F. 128 Entertainment
- F. 129 Graduation, Tucson High School
- F. 130 Organizations [Includes Young Chinese Students Club (YCSC) and Wing On Association]
- F. 131 Ranches and Horses
- F. 132 Religion
- F. 133 Restaurants
- F. 134 Sports
- F. 135 Transportation