



Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

Report Title: San Francisco's Chinatown **Name:** James Heffron
Other Team Members:
Program: Boston Program
Trip Dates: 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001 **Location Visited:** California
Post Fellowship Reporting Template: PFR Template 01

Project Summary: The objective of the original project was to investigate the role of the Chinese in 19th century California. When I arrived in California, where I was scheduled to spend two days, Chinatown was so immense and fascinating that I remained in San Francisco for the whole week. I decided to utilize the Chinatown Historical Society of America, located right in Chinatown, for my research base and match historical buildings in Chinatown with research at the CHSA. The plan came together nicely and I have developed some rich curriculum to use in both my US History II classes and Advanced Placement US History classes.

Career Impact: Having done some field research work while in graduate school this was not the first time I coupled travel with research. However, this was the first time I have been able to bring my travel experiences into the classroom. Showing students their teacher outside of the classroom seems to be fascinating to students. Bringing some of your personal experiences and passions into the classroom is great modeling for students. Some that have never thought of traveling and experiencing the world outside of their neighborhood have begun to show interest. I am going to try to organize curriculum around some of my past travels and build on this interest.

Classroom/Community Impact: The school I teach at has a large Asian-American population and often times in history I have struggled to connect their ethnicity in the traditional US history class. Using my journey to Chinatown as a lead in, I have been able to open up a larger unit on the role of the Chinese in the 19th century. I will build off this with a lesson on the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and then later utilize the Becoming American: the Chinese Experience documentary to bring it current.

Open Response: *Using past travel to enrich history
*Create lesson around Chinese Exclusion Act
*Use some of my photos from Angel Island to create lesson on Chinese immigration
*Tour Boston's Chinatown to create lessons comparing San Francisco's Chinatown and Boston's Chinatown

Quote: "It's like Chinatown's history is hidden. It's fun to find the building and little plaque that you read about in some book."

Photos:



The Famous Chinatown Gate



St. Mary's Church Clocktower with Some Advice



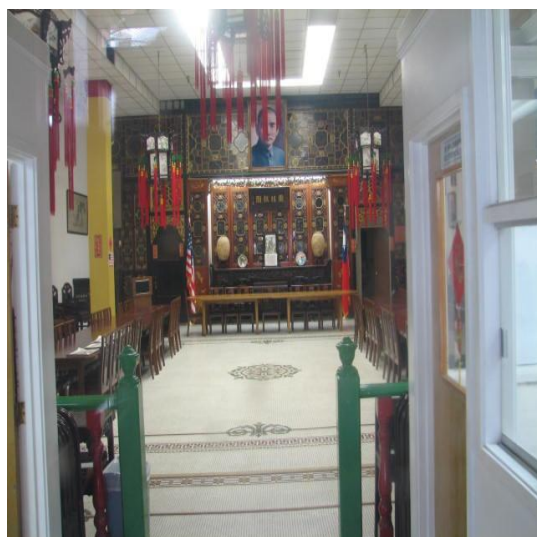
Nam Kue Chinese School



Sun Yat-Sen's Former Residence



Chinese Historical Society of America



Chinese Six Co.'s Building



Like My Bag?



Angel Island