

Alyson Palacios

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SOC 147

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### Museum Question

1. What is the history of this museum, and what was the reason it was placed in this community?

The museum was founded in 1980 by John Kuo Wei Then and Charles Lai to bring understanding of the experience of Chinese Americans. This museum addresses political concerns, and to elevate the stories of its immigrant population. Chinese in America was created with the intention of illustrating the long history of the Chinese existence in this country as well as the culture, customs, and perspectives of the American communities of Chinese descent. This museum seeks to involve everyone in a continuous historical conversation where people from many cultures and backgrounds can stop by to view American history from a crucial vantage point, reflect on their own experiences, and forge deep relationships.

2. What stood out as most prominent among the museum; exhibits? What made this the case for you?

I went to Shanghai Cafe after the exhibition because I was in the mood for Chinese food. "Have you eaten yet?" is a Chinese or Chinese American phrase that implies "how are you?" When China joined the United States as an ally during World War 2, a number of sentiments among Chinese people were altered. Chinese cuisine gave rise to new mentalities and has the opportunity for expansion culturally and cuisine wise. Chinese Americans were given job chances by Chinese folks. As an illustration, nightclubs. In peacetime, soldiers favored them. It

was lovely to see many menus and matchbooks with dragons, flowers, and pagodas in the display.

3. Do the staff represent the topic or group of people exhibited in the museum? Why? Why not?

Yes because the exhibit clearly demonstrated different aspects within the lives of the Chinese people. Le soy sauce is a food cuisine that is the art and secret for cooking. It is a way to impress Chinese husbands. Also, push and pull factors within Chinese immigration is clearly explained. The push factor is that the farms in California and the building of the Transcontinental Railroad both needed inexpensive manual labor. Agriculture in California and the Central Pacific Railroad both employed Chinese immigrants. About 322,000 Chinese immigrated to America between 1850 and 1882 were pulled for jobs and opportunities.

4. What is something you learned or were challenging about his visit?

With the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad, Chinese immigrants to America saw new chances for the employment of low skilled workers. In response, railroad owner Charles Crocker hired cheap Chinese immigrants in January 1865. When the construction on the Transcontinental finished, nearly 11,000 of the railroad's laborers were Chinese. The Transcontinental Railroad was risky, low paid, and difficult. The Chinese railroad workers went on strike to get better hours and pay, but their protests were unsuccessful.