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Standard References
A Buried Past II, compiled by Yuji Ichioka and Eiichiro Azuma. Los Angeles: UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 1999

Covers
Front: Item 38
Back: Item 33
A general treatment of the Japanese in America by a Waseda University professor and a Christian socialist. He views the exclusion movement as rooted in racial prejudice, looks for more emigration from Japan, and anticipates that the Pacific Coast will become the meeting ground for the East and West. The statistical data on Japanese agriculture and businesses are derived from the *Nichibei Nenkan* (Japanese American Yearbook), no. 1, 1905.”—*A Buried Past*, 263.

$2,000

In the late 19th century, Abe attended Hartford Theological Seminary, in Connecticut. In 1905, he took an opportunity to return to America, traveling from Los Angeles to Seattle. He predicted that as many as 6 million Japanese could find new homes in the US (p. 119). He devotes one chapter to women immigrants, and seems to have absorbed some of the ideas about independent women from the nascent Japanese feminist movement. He asks, “Why is it that our educated and refined women cannot go abroad for legitimate business?... I of course hope that the girls who come to the US will find a suitable spouse and marry, but I will not force them to do so” (Chapter 5; translation by your cataloguer).

For more on Abe, see chapter 3 of *The Making of Japanese Settler Colonialism* by Sidney Xu Lu which compares Abe’s views with two other leading Japanese thinkers about immigration.

[2], [6 leaves of half-tone plates], [2], 3, [1], 4, 216, 8 pages.

OCLC: 672848316 (Japan only). Despite apparently good sales (it was reprinted within months of this first printing), the book is quite scarce, with only the uncatalogued copy at UCLA referenced in *A Buried Past* identified in US libraries.

*First edition. A very good in original decorated wrappers missing a small corner piece from the front cover. (ID 363206)*
A Japanese American Herb Caen

02 Abe, Toyoji

[Shadow of Time: An Anthology]
Toki no kage: Shoyo manpitsushu

A collection from Abe Toyoji’s (1880–1946) “Shadow of Time” newspaper columns which was the most widely circulated Japanese column in the United States in the 1930s (see Shin Sekai Asahi Shinbun, January 24, 1937). He completed the manuscript for this book in early 1941 but its publication was interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War.

Abe edited the Portland newspaper Oshu Nippo for half a dozen years, beginning in 1909. He then moved to San Francisco to edit the Shin Sekai paper, where he remained until after Pearl Harbor, when he was arrested as a dangerous enemy alien and sent to a camp near Crystal City, Texas. He died there of a brain tumor in 1946. In 1968, his widow Abe Yuka returned to Japan for a visit and arranged for this private printing of Abe’s manuscript.

The book is rather scarce, with just two holdings in OCLC: 19404771 (UC Berkeley) and 673962195 (National Diet Library).

251 pages plus a frontispiece portrait of the author.

First edition (first printing). A fine copy in printed wrappers, probably lacking the publisher’s box. (ID 362517)
Japanese American Entrepreneurs

03 Ajisaka, Aisuke (editor)

[Album of Japanese Business Families Residing Along the Pacific Coast in America]
Taiheiyo engan zaibei doho jigyoka shashincho.

Perhaps the most extensive photographic record of the entrepreneurial Japanese American middle class before the Second World War, illustrated with more than 500 full-page half-tone photographs of families, farms, shops, restaurants, and hotels. The photos are captioned with information about the people depicted and their business.

SOLD

Seven years after this book was published, most people depicted in this substantial book were forcibly relocated to internment camps and almost all of their businesses were shuttered. Ajisake Aisuke’s documentary record of these entrepreneurial families brings home the economic devastation soon to be wreaked by internment.


[22], 500, [65] pages. The final section includes photographs of cultural organizations, actors, hotels, and ads for businesses.

OCLC: 708712352 (Stanford, Yale)

First edition. A very good copy (some abrasion to the binding cloth at the edges) in a good to very good cloth case lacking one of the bone ties.
(ID 362957)
So. Cal. Japanese American Photobook

04  Akashi, Kaoru (photographer)  
   [Album Commemorating Peace: Representative Japanese Residents in Southern California]  
   Heiwa kinen shashincho: Nanka zuryu daihyoteki nihonjin  
   Los Angeles: Parisu Shashinkan [Paris Photo Studio], 1922  

A book collecting 500 or more halftone images of the Japanese American community in Southern California, assembled by a Japanese immigrant photographer with a studio in Los Angeles’s Little Tokyo. The images are captioned in English and Japanese, with the names and addresses of those pictured. Families, farms, and shops, offices, and restaurants are included.

SOLD

A number of similar photo albums were published on the West Coast. This one is distinctive for its heavy focus on agricultural pursuits, with many views of ranches, farms, and crops.

The final images are a portrait of Akashi and of the Empire Printing Co. in Los Angeles, which manufactured this book. The latter image looks to include unfolded sheets from this very book. Akashi immigrated to the US around 1906. He operated the Paris Photo Studio for a number of years; he sold the business to Miyatake Toyoo (later Toyo) in 1923.

“Photographs of individuals, families, shops, businesses, farmlands, etc. in Southern California. Akashi Kaoru was a photographer and the owner of Paris Shashinkan in Little Tokyo.”—Japanese American National Museum bibliography, no. 20.

Unpaginated, but about 400 pages. 11 by 8 inches.

OCLC: 1021010478 (Japan only)
Early Chinese Physician Trained in the US

05  BoDurtha, Charles Hall (photographer)
   Cabinet Card Portrait of Medical Student Hü King Eng
   Delaware, OH: BoDurtha, [1884–1888]

A full standing portrait of the second Chinese woman to study medicine in the United States; she went on to be one of the first Western trained physicians in China. This albumen print on a thin photographer’s mount dates from Hü King Eng’s four years as an undergraduate at Ohio Wesleyan University (1884–1888), before she went to Women’s Medical College in Philadelphia.

SOLD

Hü (1865–1929) was a promising student at a Methodist school in Fuzhou, China, and was sent to study in the US, where she obtained a medical degree in 1894. After an internship, she returned to China and worked at two Christian Methodist Episcopal hospitals in her hometown, Magaw Memorial (also called Liang Au) and Woolston Memorial. She worked at the hospitals for more than two decades.

In 1908 (August 21), the Los Angeles Times reported, “In China there are now many women doctors who got their education in the United States. The pioneer of these Chinese women doctors was Miss Hu King Eng of Foo Chow... She went back to her country to be resident physician of the Liang Au hospital in 1896. At that time, she was the only native physician who understood modern medicine. There are now many women doctors in China.”

While this cabinet card has no identifying marks, your cataloguer has handled two other photographs of Hü from this same sitting. Hü’s living descendants in the Far East have also confirmed the identification.

A medium contrast image measuring 4⅛ by 5¾ inches on a 4¾ by 6⅜-inch brown mount. There is a small crack at the bottom of the image and minor chipping to the mount edges. The back of the mount is blank.

(ID 362880)
Post-war Chinese Businesses in Hawaii

06 Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu  
Classified Business Directory of the Members of the  
Chinese Chamber of Commerce / Tánxiangshan zhonghuá zongshanghuì shangháng mínglù  

A directory of about 500 Chinese business owners, organized by type of business, with addresses and phone numbers. SOLD

11 leaves.  
First edition. Bradbound; corners worn; cover somewhat spotted, else very good. (ID 362936)
Ella May Clemmons (who changed the spelling of her surname to suggest an association with Mark Twain) married the Chinese immigrant merchant Wong Sun Fue following the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Together they ran the curio shop Dug from the Ruins in Chinatown, selling artifacts from damaged buildings and Chinese imports of various kinds. They were the best-known interracial couple in San Francisco, and they sold real photo postcards of themselves for the decade following the earthquake.

The postcards were typically inscribed by Ella May using the couple’s distinctive Chinese-American nomenclature: Mr. & Mrs. Wong Sun Fue Clemens. She also inevitably added “Mrs. Howard Gould’s sister,” indicating that her sister had married into the wealthy Gould family.

This grouping of ten postcards offers a good sample of the images issued by Dug from the Ruins. Two are from the immediate post-earthquake era, showing the Wongs in front of a wooden hut with a canvas roof; one shows the couple posed in front of a partially ruined brick building; five depict the couple inside their shop; and two are photographs of Chinese-American children (which are typical of the Chinatown views they also sold). An envelope for a postcard stamped with their shop’s address and an emblem of the Panama Pacific International Exposition is also included (which postcard was originally inside is not known).
1943 Critique of Internment

08 Ebina, Kazuo
[California and the Japanese]

Kariforunia to nihonjin

A very scarce wartime history of the Japanese in California that argues that the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans was a symptom of the same pervasive anti-Japanese attitudes among Americans that had contributed to the Second World War.

$1,850

The author, according to Yuji Ichioka in Before Internment (p. 263), was an “Issei who had lived in California for many years, working as a newspaperman for Japanese immigrant newspapers... The outbreak of the Pacific War found Ebina in Tokyo because he had returned to Japan in November 1941. At the beginning he was employed part-time by NHK Radio to write anti-American radio scripts and served as a commentator on the arrest and detention of Issei leaders and the eventual mass internment of the entire West Coast Japanese California.” Ebina’s December 1943 book, “Kariforunia to Nihonjin...rehashed the history of anti-Japanese racism in California and attributed the internment of the the West Coast Japanese population to this very same racism. Indeed, in chapter 9, entitled “Beikoku Kankan no Bogyaku” [Official American Atrocities], Ebina insisted that all the arrested and detained Issei leaders were ‘innocent non-combatants’ who were the victims of ‘vicious revenge.’”

“A history of Japanese immigrants in California by a former Issei journalist. Reflecting the anti-Anglo-American doctrine of the time, the main focus is on the past anti-Japanese exclusion movement. Includes the wartime internment of Japanese Americans.”—A Buried Past II, 1512.

OCLC: 49627122 (Hawaii, Berkeley), 672538907 (NDL)

First edition (first printing). A very good copy in tanned wrappers, with worn yapped edges. (ID 362061)
A Defense of Chinese American Culture

09  [Gong, Charles F.].
Guide of Chinatown and Souvenir Program
New York: Charles F. Gong, [1904]

An apparently unrecorded Chinese American work and one of the earliest works in English presenting Chinese American culture in a positive light. The publisher was a successful Chinese immigrant merchant, and the unidentified author seems to be writing from a Chinese American point of view.  

The author confronts the anti-Chinese sentiment so prevalent in the United States at the time, criticizing “the Chinese exclusion act which discriminates against the men of our land, although the American constitution does declare that ‘All men are free and equal.’” The author explains the purpose of the book is to fill the gap in the literature: “The books about the Chinese in America are not a dozen, and most of them are prejudiced, unscientific, and of little real value.”

The short chapters in this pamphlet, typically pairing a page of text with a page of ads for businesses in New York’s Chinatown, are Life in Chinatown; New York’s Chinese; The Chinese Theater; Restaurants; Opium Smoking; Chinese Funerals; The Chinaman’s Friends; and China’s Christmas (about Confucius).

The section on opium presents the drug in a positive light and insists that contrary to press accounts, the owners of opium dens have no interest in luring “young white girls” into their lairs.

It is possible that the publisher, Charles F. Gong, is the author. He was born in China about 1869 and emigrated to the United States around 1885.

24 pages. The copyright date on the front cover is September 16, 1903, but an ad on page 3 for a new Joss House is dated 1904. So this is likely a second or later edition. However all editions are very scarce, with no holdings in OCLC.

Minor staining and loss to the corners, including a small chip from the blank back cover (not affecting any text). (ID 362732)
Meiji-Era Description of the West

10 Gulick, O. H. [Orramel Hinckley]  
[Illustrated Journey Around the World]  
_Eiri sekai shuyu-ki_  
Kobe, Japan: Beikoku Haken Denkyoshi Jimukyoku  


[Gulick, born in Hawaii (1830–1923), was stationed in Japan from 1870 to 1892. In the early 1880s, he made an extended tour of the West, speaking widely on the efforts to convert Japanese to Christianity. This book, apparently only published in Japanese, introduces the West to Japanese converts and potential converts.]

The book is illustrated with ten engraved or woodblock plates (three folding), plus several in-text illustrations. The most affecting image is block print of an Arab woman, which makes good use of negative space.


Not in OCLC.

_First edition. A good copy, bound in paste paper over boards, with a cloth spine. Text block nearly detached from binding, thus a fair to good copy of a very scarce book._ (ID 362661)
Japanese PPIE View Book

[Image: Japanese PPIE View Book]

11 Hiroshi, Taishi (introduction)

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition [View Book] / Panama taiheiyo bankoku daihakurankai shashincho: Senkyuhyakujugonen beikoku sanfuranshisuko kaisai

San Francisco: Panama-Pacific International Exposition, 1915

An authorized reprint of the standard viewbook of the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE), with added Japanese-language captions and a new introduction by Taishi Hiroshi. The captions sometimes replace the original English-language captions, sometimes translate them, and sometimes offer additional information specifically aimed at a Japanese audience. **SOLD**

According to the introductory material, this viewbook was “published exclusively for Aoki Taisedo Book Co. by Robert A. Reid, Official Exposition View Book Publisher.”

[48] pages. 11¼ by 7¾ inches.

Not in OCLC (an earlier book with the same main title is recorded in a facsimile edition).

*Staples perished, thus only good.* (ID 362519)
Ito was a journalist for the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper in Tokyo. In the 1960s, he became interested in the Japanese American immigrant experience and began collecting anecdotes with the idea of publishing a book. The Japanese American communities in Portland, Oregon, and Seattle, Washington, enthusiastically embraced his idea and coordinated the collection of poetry, diaries, memoirs, and photographs. They also raised funds for the publication of the thousand-page book that resulted. This is the English translation, by Shinichiro Nakamura and Jean S. Gerard, published four years after the Japanese original.

xxviii, 1016 pages, plus maps and plates.

OCLC: 3698919, 238888287, 911953158, 1127717881

First edition. A near fine hardcover copy. In a near fine publisher’s slipcase. (ID 362787)
A rare manuscript document from the Japanese immigrant community in Utah. In this identity document, the secretary of the Japanese Association of Utah (Yuta Nihonjinkai), Suzuki Gorokichi, confirms the identity of Endo Jotaro, a copper miner at the Bingham mine. The document is approved and stamped by the consul-general in San Francisco.

In the first decade of the 20th century, crews of mostly Japanese labor built the Bingham and Garfield Railroad in Utah; when the tracks were finished, many of the laborers began working at the Bingham Copper Mine (later Kennecott Copper). Japanese American material from this era in Utah is quite uncommon.

13 by 9½ inches; rice paper. Mostly brush ink, with pre-printed text stamped in purple; the chop of the consul is red, as is the fingerprint of one of the signatories.

*Paper a bit wrinkled with some old folds. Nicely preserved.*

[ID 362662]
First(?) Japanese Guide to Settling in Mexico

14 Kamata, Sannosuke
[Emigrants’ Guide to Mexico in North America]  
_Hokubei mekishiko shokumin annai_  

One of the first, if not the first, Japanese guide to immigration to Mexico. This guide covers traveling to and in Mexico, agriculture, livestock, commerce, forestry, orchards, food, religion, language, climate, history, and politics. It concludes with a letter from a Mexican colonist. The publisher was _Seiko_ [Success], the Japanese self-help, rags-to-riches magazine of the era.

SOLD

After the Gentlemen’s Agreement of 1907 severely restricted immigration to the United States, a number of writers recommended Mexico as a destination for Japanese laborers and entrepreneurs, but the idea never really took hold. Instead, once the US was no longer viable, Brazil became the most popular destination, ultimately surpassing the US for the largest Japanese community outside of Japan.

The title of this book includes the Japanese word “shokumin”, or colonial migration, which was a Meiji-era neologism to differentiate colonial, imperialist migration from regular emigration. Under shokumin, Japanese emigrants were looking to expand the influence and economic sphere of the Japanese empire by establishing colonies and settlements in Asia and the Americas.

[4 leaves, halftone plates], 2, 3, [1], 186, [10] pages.

OCLC: 672848346 (Japan only); 50626833 (University of Chicago)

_First edition (first printing). Rear cover cracked at hinge, else a very good copy of an uncommon book._ (ID 362708)
Who’s Who in Seattle

15 Katayama, Kageo and Ajisaka Aisuke
[A Guide to Japanese People in America]
Zaibei jinbutsu kan

A very scarce biographical directory of the Japanese elite in and around Seattle, Washington. The introduction notes that while the title suggests the book encompasses all of the United States, in fact, the book is limited to the Seattle area.

This book includes biographical sketches of more than 100 Japanese immigrants, mostly illustrated with halftone portrait photos of the person, their family, or their business. While published in Seattle, the book was printed in Tokyo, according to the colophon.

The author expresses plans to expand the geographical coverage in later volumes, which he did in Zaibei jinbutsu soran (1916) and Beika shussei nihon jido (1918).

Rare, with no recorded institutional holdings in the US or Japan.


First edition. Lower outer corner bumped, else very good in the publisher’s green cloth stamped with a botanical design in white.
(ID 362709)
16 Katayama, Sen

[Student’s Guide to America]

_Gakusei tobei annai_


“A brief guide to America primarily for students and laborers. The author describes his own 13-year experience in America as a student and laborer from 1884 to 1896. Also reprints short notes from students studying in America. The appendix consists of basic English.”—_A Buried Past_, 117. The appendix presents words in Japanese kanji, with the phonetic pronunciation in English using katakana characters. (NB: _Gakusei tobei annai_ and _Tobei annai_ are the same book with slightly different titles). $1,250

This guide was published by the socialist Labor Press and was a publication of Katayama’s immigration company, the Association for the America-Bound (Tobei Kyokai). Among the courses of study Katayama recommends is medine, since “the anatomy of Americans, Japanese and Indians are all the same” (pp. 47–48).

Katayama (1859–1933) was born in Japan, emigrated to the United States in the 1880s, and converted to socialism while a divinity student at Yale in 1894. He was a founding member of both the U.S. and Japanese Communist parties. He also organized Japanese labor unions, the Japanese socialist party, and attempted to start a rice farming colony in Texas in the early 20th century. He advocated that the Japanese working class emigrate to the United States for greater economic opportunity.

2, 2, 68, 11, [5, colophon and ads] pages.

OCLC: 834795066 (Waseda), 672477056 (National Diet Library)

A near fine copy in the original wrappers. (ID 361100)
Success in the USA

17 Katayama, Sen
[The Secret of Going to America]
Tobei no hiketsu

“An updated and expanded guide to America which has information on employment, the Texas Japanese rice colony, and a special section on women. The 54-page appendix consists of basic English.”—A Buried Past, 118. $1,250

This is one of many guides to studying and immigrating to the United States by Katayama Sen that he published under a variety of similar titles with somewhat different content. This guide came out near the end of the brief period of open Japanese immigration to the United States. The Gentlemen’s Agreement of 1907 would significantly curtail immigration.

Katayama spent a dozen years in the United States, returning to Japan in 1896. He discovered socialism while in America and became one of the founding members of the Socialist party in Japan. He saw emigration to the United States as an opportunity for the Japanese working class and founded the Tobei Kyokai (the Going to America Association) and published a magazine devoted to emigration.

OCLC: 672477118 (National Diet Library)

[8, ads], 8, 4, 144, 54, [4, ads] pages.

A very good copy in white wrappers printed in red and blue. Chipping to the margin of the rear cover (not affecting any text). Scarce. (ID 361101)
State of Japanese & Americans After WWI

18 Kato, Bungo
 [Our Brothers in America (cover title)] [The Present Condition of the Japanese in America]
 Saikin no zaibei doho
 Tokyo: Nihon Tosho Shuppan, 1921 (Taisho 10).

“A book divided into two parts. The first looks at the political and military significance of the Pacific area, the importance and role of the Hawaiian Islands, the American national character, the American economy, and finally U.S.-Japanese trade relations. The second half provides a summary of the economic and social life of the Japanese, mainly in California, and surveys the exclusion movement.”—A Buried Past, 246. $2,500

The front and back matter, including the endpapers, have ads for many Japanese American businesses, with the majority located in San Francisco and Stockton, California.

[16], 5, [1], 12, 506, [2], 18, [14] pages. The 18-page appendix before the final group of ads is a bit of boosterism for Monterey, California. Due to the typically complex pagination of Japanese books, it is not clear if all copies have the appendix.

OCLC: 682927365, 33758665, 682927365

First edition. A very good or better copy in blue cloth. In the publisher’s paper slipcase. (ID 362045)
The Geisha Sadayakko’s First Western Tour

Kawakami, Otojiro

[The Complete Romance of Sadayakko by Otojiro Kawakami]

Kawakami otojiro sadayakko man'yuki: Zen

An autobiographical account of Japanese theater pioneers Kawakami Otojiro and Kawakami Sadayakko’s first tour of the West, including the United States, London, and Paris in 1899 and 1900. On the West Coast part of their tour, the Kawakamis’ troupe performed for mostly Japanese audiences, but as they moved East, they adapted their performances to emphasize dance and physical theater that would be intelligible to audiences that had never before seen a Japanese play.

SADAYAKKO, a geisha, soon entranced Western audiences with her dancing and affecting acting. The Kawakamis were nearly broke when they landed in the United States; by the end of the tour they were international sensations, feted by the rich and powerful. Sadayakko inspired prints, kimonos, and other products marketed using her name (if not her permission).

This volume is illustrated with 11 leaves (22 pages) of reproductions of woodcuts of scenes from the tour and of the plays, often with English captions. Otojiro published two books in 1901 about their adventures; this is the second; it is also the longest and the rarest (one copy in OCLC, in Japan, 673732459).

11, 85, [1] leaves (22, 170, 2 pages), printed fukuro-toji style (on one side of a folded sheet), sewn in traditional style at the spine, with paper title labels in English and Japanese.

For more on the Kawakamis, see Lesley Downer’s Madame Sadayakko: The Geisha Who Bewitched the West (2003).
Kawamura, Tetsutaro

[Guide to Current Jobs in North America]

Saikin katsudo hokubei jigyo annai


A scarce and interesting look at a Japanese laborer's view of the possibilities of working in America at the height of Japanese immigration to this country. $3,000

“Based on the author's 4-year personal experience in America, this book presents facts on labor conditions and wages by skilled versus unskilled, urban versus rural job categories and on the prospects for employment for Japanese workers.”—A Buried Past, 120.

Kawamura (who shares a name with a well-known Japanese banker) provides one of the most detailed guides to working in the United States published in the Meiji era, just before the Gentlemen’s Agreement severely restricted Japanese immigration to the United States. He provides anecdotal and detailed information on dozens of professions and industries in the United States accessible to Japanese immigrants, from work in mines and railroads to farming (with separate entries for dozens of crops) to service jobs in cities. He seems to have had first hand knowledge working for labor contractors as well.

Illustrated with eight pages of halftone photographs of (mostly white) people at work in various jobs and eight pages of ads for travel-to-America and get-rich books.

[2], [8 blue halftones], 6, 2, 14, 340, 8 (ads) pages.

OCLC: 672478010 (National Diet Library)
First edition (first printing). A very good copy in a very good example of the exceptionally scarce dust jacket (which are rarely preserved on Meiji-era books). The jacket design is different from the design printed on the wrappers. The wrappers show North and South America overprinted with botanical motifs. The off-white paper jacket is printed in red and blue, with a shield-and-stars design similar to that used on some US coins, with added cartoonish emblems of an eagle and a buffalo. (ID 363207)
The Great Struggle of the Japanese in Hawaii

21 Kihara, Ryukichi

[History of the Japanese in Hawaii]

Hawai nihonjin shi


The deluxe issue in a brilliant purple cloth binding, a paper clamshell case, and a wooden box. “A standard prewar history of the Japanese in Hawaii with sections on history, demography, print media, finance, commerce, agriculture, religion, education, and community organizations. Includes descriptions of Hawaiian geography, society, customs, commerce, industry, and history. Also includes an Issei Who’s Who.”—A Buried Past II, 1817.13 for a facsimile. $3,500

“One of the ‘standard’ histories of the Japanese in Hawaii, written by a former newspaper reporter. Divided into three parts: (1) a survey of history, geography, and current conditions; (2) history of change in various aspects of Japanese life; and (3) a collection of historical anecdotes relating to the Hawaiian Japanese, chronologically arranged. Many statistical tables are provided, drawn from Hawaii government and Japanese consular documents as well as from old newspapers and published books.”—The Japanese in Hawaii: An Annotated Bibliography of Japanese Americans, p. 193.

Kihara (1898–1973) provides a very detailed history of Japanese settlement in the island, with considerable focus on discrimination and unfair treatment of immigrants. In the May 1, 1935 issue of the Jitsugyo no Hawaii newspaper, this book was advertised as an account of “the great struggle of the Japanese in Hawaii.”

[10 halftone plates], 2, 2, 4, 18, 891, 32 (ads) pages, including many halftone plates of prominent Japanese men and businesses.

The outer box measures roughly 10½ by 8 by 2¼ inches.

OCLC: 35024506, 33586308, 675909542

First edition, bound in brilliant purple cloth (the trade issue has canvas cloth covers), laid into a purple paper clamshell box with yellow title labels. The clamshell box lays into a lacquered koa wood box with a decal of the coat of arms of the Hawaiian Kingdom. The book is a lovely example of fine Japanese product presentation. The book is a bit musty; the lacquer finish on the top of the lid is a bit uneven, otherwise this is a fine copy of a rare deluxe issue. (ID 360879)
A Japanese Traveler in 1930s America

Kimura, Ki (Takeshi).

*S.O.S no Amerika*


A Japanese literary critic and novelist comments on American life based on a year-long tour of the country, visiting Japanese American communities during the Great Depression. $750

Kimura and two friends pooled their money and bought a Ford, ultimately putting 15,000 miles on the odometer before selling it for most of what they paid initially. Kimura, while not (apparently) a Communist, was definitely a sympathizer and much of his commentary discusses the radical left in the United States. One chapter is devoted to American views on the Japanese socialist Katayama Sen. Other chapters consider Leon Trotsky and Upton Sinclair.

[2], 5, [1], 3, [1], 374, [8] pages.

OCLC: 673327595 (National Diet Library)

*First edition (first printing). A very good copy in the publisher’s light green cloth-covered boards printed with a skyscraper design. Probably lacking either a dust jacket, a publisher’s box, or both.* (ID 362524)
**Portland Chinese Exclusion Law Document**

23  [Lee, Wah]

*Chinese Merchant Return Certificate from Portland, Oregon, 1896*

A rare surviving 19th century return certificate prepared for a Chinese merchant in Portland, Oregon, under the 1894 Chinese Exclusion laws, which required two non-Chinese persons to swear to the identity and employment of a Chinese national who planned to visit China and come back to the United States.  

$2,500

Beginning in the 1880s, the United States enacted increasingly strict immigration laws intended to block new Chinese immigrants and to make it more difficult for Chinese nationals to re-enter the country if they left. Established merchants could visit China and come back, but they needed paperwork to do so.

The paperwork, typically called “return certificates”, were initially local affairs since two white citizens who knew the Chinese person in question had to affirm that they were legally able to re-enter the country (by the 1920s, the federal government standardized the forms). This is an example from Multnomah County, Oregon, in January 1896. It consists of:

- A notarized statement by Lee Wah that he was a merchant and a member of Hing Kee & Co. (a store selling Chinese merchandise).

- A notarized statement by two residents of Portland saying they were “well acquainted with Lee Wah” and that they knew with “personal knowledge that he is a merchant and a member of the Chinese firm of Hing Kee & Co.”

Lee apparently left the United States for an 18-month visit to China. His statement is overwritten with a note from the Tacoma, Washington, Collector (the immigration official charged with determining whether Chinese nationals could enter the country), “Arrived at Tacoma, Wash. Aug 3d 1897, on St[eame]r Olympia from China, J. C. Sanders Collector.”

*The documents are pasted into a folded sheet, like a legal docket; docket wrapper splitting at the fold, which has been strengthened with Japanese tissue.* (ID 361652)
Fishing in West Seattle

24 Martin, F. F.

*Photograph of the Seattle Docks*

*West Seattle, WA: F. F. Martin, 1907*

Photograph of Asian and Anglo men apparently involved in fish processing in West Seattle, Washington. **$850**

The photograph measures 8 by 6¼ inches on a larger (9 by 11 inches) dark gray mount with the photographer’s ink stamp in the upper left corner, “F. F. Martin | West Seattle, Wash” followed by a date stamp, “Nov 25 1907.”

*The image has good contrast and tonal range. There is a bit of silvering to the lower right corner. The mount has a surface chip at the upper left corner. A nice image, identified by location and date.*

(ID 363060)
Japan Protests 1913 Alien Land Law

A bilingual pamphlet detailing the origins of and the official Japanese response to the 1913 Alien Land Law passed in California. The law prohibited foreigners who were not eligible to obtain citizenship from purchasing land or entering into leases longer than three years. It applied almost entirely to Asian immigrants, who were barred from becoming naturalized American citizens.

This book opens with a brief introduction and the text of the California law, followed by the texts of the official protests made by the Japanese government to officials in Washington, DC, along with the American diplomatic responses. The Japanese protests are refreshingly narrative and detailed rather than legalistic in style. Among the American respondents is William Jennings Bryan, acting in his official capacity as Secretary of State in the Woodrow Wilson administration.

18, [2], 58, [1] (English), 79 (Japanese) pages.

OCLC: 835810960 (Waseda); 840108220 (National Diet Library), 44716908 (Trinity College)

First edition (first printing). Covers foxed and spotted, spine ends a bit chipped, else very good. (ID 362949)
Japan Responds to 1924 Immigration Law

26 Ministry of Foreign Affairs ] Gaimushu
[The Enactment of the 1924 Immigration
Act and the Course of Japanese-
American Negotiations with the
supplement Official Documents and
Related English Sources (with the
supplement)]
Senkyuhyakunijuyonen Beikoku iminho
seitei oyobi kore ni kansuru Nichi-Bei
kosho keika ... 
Tokyo: Gaimushu (Ministry of Foreign

“A Japanese Foreign Ministry publication which
compiles into one volume the communications
between the Foreign Ministry and the Japanese
Embassy on the 1924 Immigration Act and other proposed
discriminatory legislation. Also contains Japanese translations of
English materials relating to the Act and other proposed legislation and
the Japanese government’s formal protest notes.”—A Buried Past, 210
and 211 (“A supplement to above”). The supplement is in English, with
texts of legislation, communiques, and other documents. $850

The Japanese government viewed the 1924 Johnson-Reed Immigration
Act as a violation of the 1907 Gentlemen’s Agreement, in which the
Japanese government voluntarily restricted emigration to the United
States. The Johnson-Reed Act set quotas for European immigration and
barred immigrants from Asia.


OCLC: 16523765 (both volumes: Stanford, UC Berkeley, LC, Hawaii)
First editions of both volumes. Ex-library copies with shelf labels on the
front covers and a red chop stamp marked discarded on the last page of
each volume. Covers worn and stained. (ID 362060)
27 Nakagawa, Musho (editor)
[Record of the Fighting Spirit of the Japanese in North America]
Zaibei toshiroku

Part history, part literary anthology, this large volume by an Issei historian devotes chapters to the Japanese exclusion laws, the history of Japanese American farming, particularly in California, and Japanese language schools. The bulk of the book is an anthology of Japanese American poetry (in Japanese) and first-person accounts by Japanese immigrants of life in the United States, mostly in California but with some contributions from the Pacific Northwest. **$2,500**

The book begins with 36 leaves of halftone photographs, mostly two per page, and a foldout with two small panoramic photographs, one of Japanese American baseball teams and the other of a large Japanese-owned farm. One of the photographs depicts a sign at the entrance to a neighborhood in Los Angeles: “Japs don’t let the sun set on you here. Keep moving. This is Rose Hill.” While “sundown” towns where African Americans were not permitted to spend the night are well documented, this is the first example your cataloguer has seen of a sundown town for Japanese Americans.

[6], [36], [2, foldout], 17, [3], 5, [3], 655, [2] pages.

OCLC: 24917931 (Stanford, UCLA, Washington)

*First edition (first printing). A very good copy in the original publisher’s boards. Probably lacking a slipcase.* (ID 361849)
On California’s Alien Land Laws

28 Nakagawa, Takezo
[The Truth About California]
*Kashu mondai no shinso*


A very scarce (no US library holdings) survey of anti-Japanese legislation in California, concluding with the additional restrictions proposed to be placed on Japanese immigrants by the 1920 Alien Land Law ballot measure, which passed overwhelmingly a few weeks after this book was published. California’s Alien Land Laws allowed immigrants eligible for naturalization to own land and enter into long-term leases. Japanese (and Chinese) residents of the state were denied American citizenship and therefore could not purchase property or enter into leases for commercial spaces or agricultural land. **SOLD**

In his introduction, the publisher, Tokutomi Iichiro cites the “California problem” as an existential one for the Japanese because to accept the anti-Japanese measures enacted by Californians would be to accept that the Japanese were inferior to the white race. In the following year (1921), Tokutomi would publish his own book, translated into English as *Japanese-American Relations*, with chapters on the Alien Land Law and other anti-Japanese measures. It seems likely that *Kashu mondai no shinso* influenced Tokutomi.


OCLC: 673839691 (National Diet Library)

*First edition (first printing). A very good copy (staples rusted).*

(ID 362948)
First(?) Japanese American Kids’ Book

Nakazawa, Ken
The Weaver of the Frost

Perhaps the first book for children written by a Japanese-American writer, a collection of Japanese legends and fairytales. Illustrated after line drawings by S. Mizuno. $400

Nakazawa obtained a Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Oregon, and he was the first professor of Japanese descent at a major US institution, teaching at the University of Southern California for sixteen years. He was also a vice-consul with the Japanese Consulate in Los Angeles and gave speeches and wrote articles promoting Japanese culture and politics, particularly the Japanese invasion of China in the late 1930s. For this reason he was on the FBI’s list of potential threats and was arrested hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Nakazawa’s 1943 book Amerika gokuchu yori doho ni tsugu [Report to My Compatriots from an American Prison] is arguably the first memoir of the Japanese internment. Nakazawa was repatriated to Japan at the beginning of the war; two of his American sons joined the US army. Nakazawa was allowed to return to the US after the war; he died while seeking to become a naturalized citizen.

120 pages, plus six full-page black-and-white illustrations.

First edition (stated, with code K-B on the copyright page, indicating a date of October 1927). A very good copy in a good dust jacket, missing the top inch or so of the back panel and with a number of old tape repairs to the back (verso) of the jacket. The binding is plain patterned boards (there are also copies with illustrated paper-covered boards matching the dust jacket, with a paper label on the spine). The jacket is thin and brittle; the book is scarce in jacket.
(ID 363035)
So. Cal. Farmers’ Association History

30 Nanka Nogyo Kumiai [Japanese Farmers’ Association of Southern California]
[Our 21-Year History]
Warera no rekishi nijuichinenshi

A primary source for the history of one of the most important Japanese American agricultural organizations of the early 20th century. The Japanese Farmers’ Association of Southern California (Nanka Nogyo Kumiai) played a central role in the formation of Los Angeles’s City Market (often called the Ninth Avenue Market by Japanese American residents of Los Angeles), the large, mostly immigrant, produce market founded in 1910. SOLD

According to this history, the co-operative’s shareholders included 94 Japanese, 373 Chinese, and 41 white Americans who collectively owned 18, 41, and 41 percent of the company (pp. 86–88).


The book addresses competition with other markets, gives the history of the Nanka Kogyo Kumiai, and concludes with short biographies of officers at the time of publication. It is illustrated with halftone photographs of gatherings of members and a fold-out, doubled-sided panoramic leaf of views of the market.

OCLC: 50776925 (Yale) and 1020999813 (Japan).

First edition (first printing). A good-only copy in green cloth, wearing at the spine ends. Hinges reglued. Panorama repaired with old tape.

(ID 307842)
1914 Directory of Japanese New York

31 Nichibei Shuho

_Japanese-American Commercial Year Book / Nichibei taisei nenkan: 1914_


The first and only yearbook/almanac issued by the Japanese-American Commercial Weekly (Nichibei Shuho, later Nichibei Jiho). While similar in format to the yearbooks and directories published at the time on the West Coast, this book is much more focused on the import-export businesses that were located on the East Coast, as opposed to the heavily agricultural economies of Japanese-American communities in California and the surrounding states. $1,500

The yearbook/almanac-style section covers the history of US-Japan relations, including the Gentlemen’s Agreement, an explanation of the US Constitution, a summary of the Pure Food Law, copyright, banking, and all manner of government forms and permits. The Who’s Who section provides profiles (in Japanese) of many if not all of the business men and government representatives listed in the accompanying short English-language directory. The end of the book (or the beginning, if it is opened in the Western fashion) collects English-language press items and speeches by well-known Americans on the benefits of improved US-Japan relations.

[2], [3 leaves of plates], 2 (introduction), 8 (contents), 224 (yearbook), 112 (Who’s Who), 16 (ads), 20 (guide to New York), 17–22 (ads continued), 14 (business and organization directory in English), 56 (English section) pages. With ad leaves printed on green paper inserted between most of the sections.

See A Buried Past, 646, for the newspaper.

OCLC: 40218345 (as Nichi-Bei taisei nenkan)

First edition (first printing). A very good copy in the publisher’s red cloth binding. Inscription in Japanese on the title page. (ID 362710)
Nitobe, Inazo (1862–1933), the author known for *Bushido: The Soul of Japan* and one of the most prominent Japanese internationalists of the early 20th century, writes an anecdotal memoir of studying abroad in the 1880s. While Nitobe actually spent more time studying in Germany, a greater share of this book is devoted to his experiences in the United States, a country with which he had great affinity. Nitobe wrote *Bushido*, an English-language book about samurai values that is still in print, while living in the United States.

Nitobe was a prominent intellectual in Japan during his lifetime, but he drifted into obscurity until the release of Japanese currency with his portrait incorporated into the design and the Tom Cruise film *The Last Samurai*, which drew on Nitobe’s ideas in *Bushido*. Subsequently, Nitobe’s collected works were published in 23 volumes and he has been the subject of academic books and papers.

[Nitobe, Inazo](#)  
*Student Days Abroad, literally Reeds from a Returning Wild Goose*  
*Kigan no ashi*  

$1,000

OCLC: 672526831 (Japan), 38973930 (Berkeley, UCLA, Colorado, Minnesota). Additional holdings for a 1908 printing.

*First edition. A very good copy in the original decorated boards.*  
(ID 362038)
An extensive group of materials documenting the Japanese-American investment company, New York Acreage Estates (and related companies), founded by the immigrant Okamoto Yonezo (1881–1967). The collection, dating primarily from ca. 1912 to 1928, includes nearly 100 separate pieces, including books, pamphlets, maps, prospectuses, inscription documents, reports, and several letters and extensive draft manuscripts of documents. Present are both working material from the company as well as items sent to investors and potential investors.

This collection includes a small amount of material related to Okamoto’s participation in a land subdivision project in Yonkers, New York (where he settled). The bulk of the collection relates to New York Acreage Estates, which purchased land in New Jersey on the proposition that once the Holland Tunnel (1927) and the George Washington Bridge (1931) were complete, that land opposite Manhattan across the Hudson River would become valuable.

Okamoto appears to have been very financially successful. Whether New York Acreage Estates was a legitimate investment or a land speculation fraud, your cataloguer cannot say. Okamoto came to the US in 1904. He claimed to be a self-made man who the press described as a real estate investor, an exporter of machinery to Japan, and the owner of a school textbook publisher in Japan. By 1915, he and his wife, Shina, had purchased a large house in Yonkers, New York, where their son Yoichi Okamoto was born (1915–1985). Yoichi was Lyndon Johnson’s official White House photographer.

Almost nothing has been written about the Okamoto family in the academic literature of the Japanese immigrant experience, and none of his publications—such as the real estate prospectuses included here nor the literary works which went through many editions in Japan—are recorded in the two-volume bibliography, *A Buried Past*.
This collection includes the following items:


_Another copy of the above_; good condition (spine cracked). Annotated in Japanese in the upper margins of many pages.

_Second edition of the above_ (1916; Taisho 5); near fine with the original printed dust jacket. OCLC 673340923. 134+ pages, with additional foldout illustrations and a small map of the tip of Manhattan (without the large fold-out map of the first edition). The additional pages include documents for New York Acreage Estates.

_Kabushiki gaisha Okamoto hiroyuki shuisho genko_ [Manuscript of the Okamoto Overseas Corporation Prospectus (cover title)]. Circa 1919 (Taisho 8). 75 manuscript leaves plus 20 printed leaves. Handwritten draft versions of eight (?) documents. The printed leaves include blank examples of forms and organizational documents for an import-export stock company. Very good.


_Numerous other printed and mimeographed documents and maps._

_Very good overall._ (ID 360870)
The UK edition of Yoko Ono’s conceptual art book, first published in 1964 in Japan, which mostly consists of instructions for performances or individual actions (“Carry a bag of peas. Leave a pea wherever you go”). Many of the pieces cannot (yet) be performed: “Prescribe pills for going through the wall and have only the hair come back.” The first instruction, printed on the jacket flap, is “Burn this book after you’ve read it.”

This 1970 version expands somewhat on the Japanese original. It also includes an “introduction” by John Lennon, which consists of reproductions of a couple of sketches and the text, “Hi! My name is John Lennon / I’d like you to meet Yoko Ono.”

288 pages (according to the jacket). About 5-1/2 inches square. This UK edition was published on June 11, 1970 (according to the Liverpool Daily Post of June 10) and it has a different jacket design than the US edition, which was published a few months earlier.

First British edition (stated). A very good copy in a very good dust jacket missing a triangular piece (1/2 by 1 inch) from the bottom edge of the front panel. This copy is inscribed by Ono with small drawings to a previous owner, whose bookplate is on the facing page: “To John Hunou, love, Yoko Ono Copenhagen ’97.” Yono has added a sun and four clouds to the page. Uncommon inscribed; scarce with drawings. (ID 362102)
Diary of a Tea Merchant in the West

Otani, Kahyoe (also Romanized Kahei)

[Diary of a Tour of the United States and Europe]

Obei man'yu nisshi


The book provides brief day-by-day accounts of his travels, the scenery, business meetings and dinners he attended, with regular mentions (without much description) of tea shops and tea merchants he visited along the way.

Otani was a merchant in Yokohama and worked as “a buyer for Smith, Baker and Co., one of the large Western merchant houses active in the city. Apparently with financial backing from this firm, he became an export merchant himself in 1868, and he rose to become the leading figure in the Yokohama tea export trade by 1890”—Edward Pratt, Japan’s Protoindustrial Elite (Harvard University Asia Center, 1999, p. 93).

[4], [28 leaves of monochrome halftone photographs], [4], 365, [2] pages. The photographs are a combination of commercial images of noteworthy buildings and snapshots of Otani.

OCLC: 16710895 (Yale, LC, Cleveland Public), 672422495 (National Diet Library); OCLC also locates single copies of 1903 and 1908 editions, as well as a 1987 reprint.

First edition (first printing). A very good copy in the original green cloth covered boards. Probably lacking a paper slipcase. (ID 361857)
Rare California Chinese School Anthology

36  [Sacramento Chinese School]
    [Sacramento Chinese School Student Anthology]
Èr bù zhōnghuá xuéxiào xuéshēng wénjí
Er bu [Sacramento, CA]: Er bu zhonghua xuexiao, 1928.
First Edition.

A rare student anthology from a Chinese language school in Sacramento, California. 

While first- and second-generation Japanese Americans produced a large and varied printed record (enough to fill a couple of bibliographies), the number of printed works from Chinese Americans is comparatively quite small. This anthology of short student essays is the first such publication from a Chinese school that your cataloger has handled. The essays are mostly on Chinese culture and history, often written in response to a specific prompt from a teacher.

The introduction makes the claim that “It is especially important for overseas Chinese who are far from their hometowns to study Chinese culture.”

Illustrated with three halftone plates of photographs of students, faculty, and staff, plus a foldout panorama of the assembled students.

[3 leaves], [4 leaves of halftones], [1 folding halftone plate], [2], 70, [2] pages.

First edition. A fine copy in the original printed wrappers. 
(ID 362979)
37  Sasai, Shikanosuke et al. (compiled by) and 
Toyo Miyatake (photographer)  
[Photographic Album  
Commemorating the Kanto  
Earthquake Relief Work]  
Bokoku shinsai kyuusai jigyou kinen  
shashin jou  
Los Angeles: Bokoku Shinsai Kyusai  
Jigyo Kinen Shashincho Hakkojo,  

A printed commemorative of the extensive relief fundraising efforts made by the Japanese American community in Los Angeles following the devastating 1923 Kanto earthquake. The book is illustrated with more than 100 halftone photographs, many taken by Toyo Miyatake, one of the most acclaimed Little Tokyo photographers.  

“After the Great Earthquake, the Japanese American community organized an active relief project that included general American groups and people. Includes photographs of disastrous scenes in Japan as well as groups and people who participated in the project.”—Japanese American National Museum bibliography, 152.

[4], 66, [44] pages. 12 by 9½ inches (oblong).

OCLC: 672981923 (Japan only).

First edition. A very good copy, string-bound in paper covers, as issued. With a two-inch split at the spine and typical wear to the yapped edges.

The massive quake, followed by a forty-foot tsunami and extensive fires, destroyed much of Tokyo and Yokohama, leaving more than 100,000 dead. The first 20-odd pages of this album are devoted to before and after images in Japan. The next forty pages are devoted to fundraising events held in Los Angeles’s Japantown, followed by more than forty pages of ads from supporting Japanese American businesses. The events included music, theater, and dance performances, as well as a bazaar.

“An album of an emergency committee in Southern California established to render assistance to the victims of the 1923 Kanto earthquake”—A Buried Past, 965.
Pre-War Japanese Guide to New York

38 Shimamori, Susumu

Nyu Yoku annai / New York Guide


A tourist and entrepreneur’s guide to New York City, including a 16-page directory of Japanese businesses. The guide covers the main attractions, travel routes, and even summarizes relevant laws. Illustrated with reproductions of line drawings of well-known buildings; includes many ads for Japanese American businesses. SOLD

10, 165, 16, 3 pages, [1] folded leaf of plates

OCLC: 24926978 (UCB, UCLA, Harvard); 1020888067 (Japan)

First edition. A very good copy in colorful wrappers.
(ID 362955)
Manga Artist’s American Memoirs

39 Shishido, Sako (Sagyo)
[America Sideways: Cartoon Ramblings]
*Amerika no yokoppara: Manga mandan*

An illustrated collection of comical adventures in the United States written and drawn by one of the key figures in the development of modern-day manga, Shishido Sako. Shishido’s *Supido Taro* is widely cited as the first manga to incorporate storytelling techniques from American films. Shishido’s adaptation of American newspaper comic strip style and camera angles from film is widely cited as originating from the travels described in this book.

$3,000

Shishido spent nine years in the US, beginning in 1912. According to these memoirs, he went to the movies almost every day. Their influence can be seen in many of the 101 full-page drawings in the book. Shishido frequently draws scenes from the point of view of a high-angle camera shot. He also regularly employs split screens to show simultaneous action and disappearing walls to depict actions behind closed doors. The prevalence of guns, fist fights, and robberies also suggest the influence of American movies. Cubism is another Western influence. Shishido also adapts the dense, crowded scenes of 19th-century manga to 20th century American subjects.

While all of Shishido’s human figures are grotesque, his depictions of African Americans too often stray into black-face caricature.


OCLC: 37308617 (Columbia, University of Washington); 673266418 (National Diet Library).

*[color title page], [2 color frontispieces], [2], 8, 417, [5] pages. With illustrated endpapers, and more than 100 illustrations. In an illustrated paper-covered box.*

*First edition (first printing). A very good or better copy in the publisher’s black paper-covered boards printed with a yellow modern-art-style face. In a very good, somewhat scuffed slipcase. (ID 362969)*
First English Language Book on Go

Smith, Arthur

The Game of Go: The National Game of Japan


The book that introduced the game of go to the English-speaking world. Smith’s book drew heavily on the articles on the game by Oskar Korschelt, which were published in a German journal of Far Eastern studies. Korschelt learned the game from Murase Shobo, the best player in the 1870s. Smith credits his knowledge of go to Mokichi Nakamura, a Japanese American immigrant in New York, and Jihei Hashiguchi, the editor of The Japan Current, in Seattle, Washington.

$1,500

Smith’s book has been reprinted and reissued many times in the century since it first appeared. Go, like chess, has relatively simple rules but is one of the most complex games to play.

About Mokichi Nakamura, Smith’s primary Japanese-American informant, not much is known. He registered for the draft at the beginning of the First World War, at which time he was living and working as a butler on the Upper East Side of New York. He seems to have died in 1925. The Japanese-American contribution to the introduction of go in the US has largely gone unremarked.

xvi, 220 pages plus two plates, one in color.

First edition (first printing, with “Published, July, 1908” on the copyright page). This is a very good, spine-faded copy in a very good dust jacket, and it is inscribed by the author to the music critic for The New York Times, “William B. Chase, July 1908, with the author’s compliments.” The jacket has several tears and a bit of loss to the corners; its unlikely survival is due to its having been folded and inserted into the book, which has left old fold lines. Rare in a jacket and especially signed. (ID 362700)
The first annual issued by the Southern California Japanese Chamber of Commerce, which was founded in 1951. This publication includes a directory of members, with names and addresses in English and names, the type of business, and the prefecture from which they (or their families) came in Japanese. The text, mostly in Japanese, includes a background of the organization, a statement by the Japanese Consul in Los Angeles, testimonials of a few members, and a description of the work of the chamber’s various committees. The bylaws of the organization are printed in English; most of the ads are also in English.

50 pages. 8-1/2 by 11 inches. Apparently not in OCLC (although annuals from the 1960s to the 1980s are).

Stapled rusted; many of the leaves are loose in the printed paper wrappers. (ID 362522)
Rare SoCal Japanese American Who’s Who

42  [Southern California Mie Prefectural Society]
   [Origins: History of the Development of the People in Southern California from Mie Prefecture]
   Hassho: Nanka Mie kenjin hatten kinenshi

A very scarce Japanese-American history and Who’s Who printed in Los Angeles in the Taisho era. $3,500

Many Japanese immigrants to the US participated in organizations centered around their family’s native prefecture. This book was published by the Mie Prefectural Association, an organization of Japanese immigrants from the central southern coast of Japan. Not surprisingly, given their coastal origins, a chapter of this book is devoted to fishing. Immigrants from Mie prefecture were also very active in agriculture, particularly growing nursery plants and cut flowers. The book includes a fold-out panoramic halftone of the Japanese produce market in Los Angeles.

About two-thirds of the book is devoted to biographies of residents and their families; more so than other similar books, the accompanying photographs often include entire families, and not just the male head of household.

Not in OCLC (which records modern facsimiles only) or A Buried Past or any other bibliography. 56, 184 pages.

First edition (first printing). A near fine copy with minor wear to the publisher’s cloth. Errata slip tipped to the rear free endpaper.
(ID 362523)
In all likelihood, this is the first published book to describe the internment of the Japanese in the United States following the attack on Pearl Harbor. Taguchi (1905–1956), a Japanese documentary filmmaker and cinematographer, had been in the United States for several years making newsreels for American studios; he was also the head of the US office of the Nippon News Film Corporation.

In early December 1941, FBI agents arrested and questioned Taguchi. He was imprisoned on Ellis Island along with other Japanese, German and Italian nationals, all of whom had also been classified as enemy aliens. Taguchi was returned to Japan in 1942 as part of a negotiated prisoner exchange with the Japanese government. He published this blow-by-blow account of the indignities of the process in December 1942.

Taguchi’s experience at the start of the war was similar to that of many Japanese immigrants in the US. As far as I am aware, no other writer wrote such a detailed account, and certainly not so soon after the events. His experience was also unusual in that Taguchi was on the East Coast and very few Japanese outside of the Pacific states were interned during the war.

Despite the unfair treatment Taguchi felt he was given, he remained pro-American and was hired by the US government to make propaganda films to be shown in occupied Japan (see Taguchi’s Japanese Wikipedia page for more details).
Japanese American New York Stories

44  Tani, Joji [pseudonym of Hasegawa Kaitaro]
[A Modern Decameron]
Modan Dekameron

A sequel to Tekisasu mushuku ta sanjuichi pen [Hoboing in Texas and Thirty-one Other Stories] modeled after The Decameron. $2,000

Hasegawa “spins stories about people’s lives in an urban space, although the time and place are no longer the medieval Rome of the Decameron but twentieth-century New York. The main characters are ‘Merican-Japs [‘meriken jappu’] whose background and reasons for immigration and migration vary, but what is common to them is that they live in a poor, dark neighborhood in Manhattan. Living like hobos, they work as gamblers, acrobats, bootleggers, owners of illegal bars, poets, or assistants to tipsters.”—Kyoko Omori, Detecting Japanese Vernacular Modernism, p. 239.

These stories are set amongst the immigrants of Third Avenue in New York: “It may be said they happily established a country – a country that exists even if it does not appear on a map of the world... A Bulgarian marries a Turk and has an American baby girl. The American baby girl grows up and falls in love with a Chinese, and they have a family. An Armenian lodges at their house. This Armenian works at a store owned by Jews, dines at a Greek restaurant where he listens to Jazz played by Hawaiian musicians. He has Spanish polish on his shoes, says hello to an Irish policeman, buys meat at a German butcher and bread from a French bakery” (translation by Omori from Modan Dekameron, p. 240).

Hasegawa’s father was an English teacher and journalist, and Hasegawa attended good Japanese schools. In 1920, his parents sent him to Oberlin College for an American education. He attended class for a few months before dropping out and traveling around the country working odd jobs for four years. This experience is the basis of his meriken jappu stories. He returned to Japan in 1924, hitching a ride on a tramp steamer and working for his passage. He intended to go back to the United States but was denied a visa. Instead, he began writing for Japanese detective magazines and then wrote many novels and books under a variety of pseudonyms. His works were serialized, published as books, and adapted for the movies. Hasegawa died at age 35 from an asthma attack.

Very scarce. OCLC: 674154413 (Japan), 231381761 (U. Wash.)

First edition. One-inch split at base of the spine, else very good in original decorated wrappers with a modernist design. (ID 362033)
Meiji-era Novel of Immigration to the US

45 Tengai Kikaku [a nom de plume translating as “Returnee to the Heavenly Shores”]
[America on the Cheap: Tales of the Pursuit of Prosperity]
Hokubei musen toko: Risshi boken

A little known Meiji-era novel narrated by a young Japanese immigrant in the United States. The narrator seems to have come from the class of poor young people with knowledge of the modern world but little chance of advancement in tradition-bound Japan.

$1,250

He offers opinions and philosophical musings on life, making this a combination of travelog, immigration guide, and sardonic look at 20th century life. A sense of the writer’s attitude can be found in his nom de plume, which translates to “returnee to the heavenly shores,” although the character for heaven (天) can also mean imperial. From the tone of the book, the double entendre heavenly/imperial is offered sarcastically.

For more on this and similar books, see “Meiji go hanki no tobei netsu: America no ryuukou” by Tachikawa Kenji (Shirin, Vol. 69, no. 3, May 1986).

OCLC: 672445413 (National Diet Library)

First edition. A very good or better copy but for a crack on the back wrapper. With the English-language ownership stamp of G. K. Tanji. (ID 363205)
Pre-War History of Japanese Buddhism

46  Terakawa, Hoko (editor)
    [History of the North American Hongwanji Mission]
    Hokubei kaikyo enkakushi
    San Francisco: Hongwanji Hokubei Kaikyo Honbu, 1936


“Best source on this most powerful religious faction, including a history of the church, sketches of each member church and its activities, with many pictures of Buddhist priests and lay leaders.”—Magistretti, “A Bibliography of Historical Materials in the Japanese Language on the West Coast Japanese”, III.2.

This history of Hongan-ji Buddhism in the United States was published to mark the 2500th anniversary of the birth of the Buddha and the 35th anniversary of the rite’s founding in the US.

[4], 4, [3], 9, [1], [14 leaves], [2], 4 (numbered 9–12), 588, [1] pages. The preliminary leaves are halftone photographs and reproductions of messages in Japanese. There are unnumbered monochrome halftones inserted throughout.

OCLC: 23019282, 68313129

First edition (first printing). There are spots of glassine adhered to the covers, perhaps indicating the one-time presence of a tissue jacket, else near fine in a very good paper slipcase. (ID 362051)
19 C. American Business Practices

Tozo (or Fujizo), Fukamachi
[American Merchant House Practices]
Beikoku shoka jikkenroku

A data dump of everything the author learned about the internal operations of a large American mercantile house during a six-year stay in the United States beginning in the mid-1880s.
SOLD


OCLC: 672889348 (National Diet Library)

First edition (first printing). A very good or better copy in the original printed wrappers. (ID 362040)
The final report on the relocation, internment, and incarceration of Japanese immigrants and of Japanese Americans following the Japanese Navy’s attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

While the book’s chronology begins in January 1942, the chapter called “The Price of Prejudice” notes that the FBI reported on December 11 that more than 1200 Japanese aliens had already been arrested. This report, like many of the post-War publications by the staff of the War Relocation Authority, is critical of the decision to intern the Japanese and is sympathetic to the hardships Japanese and Japanese Americans faced. The book also covers the little-remembered activities of the Farm Security Administration and the Federal Reserve Bank, which was responsible for internees’ property.

xvi, 212 pages. Illustrated with halftone photographs.

First edition (first printing). A very good copy in the original printed wrappers. (ID 363182)
R. J. Waters operated a photography studio at 110 Sutter Street in San Francisco (listed in the 1900 San Francisco Crocker-Langley Directory). He offered small-format photographs, captioned in the margins, of San Francisco and Bay Area scenes designed for use in scrapbooks. This group includes:

267. Chinese Grocery;
274. Club Room Chinese Merchant;
288. Stage Chinatown Theater; and
335. Funeral Feast.

$125

The Bancroft Library has a group of these images, including all of the above but no. 267. 4⅜ by 2⅛ inches.

These images were (unfortunately) removed from a scrapbook, with remnants of the black scrapbook pages on the backs (versos) of each image. The theater stage image is silvered at one edge. (ID 363033)
This is a collection of family photos of Quong “Chan” Wong (Panyu District, near Guangdong, China, 1888 – New Hampshire, 1956) and his wife, the New Hampshire native Alice Abbott (1872–1956). The Wongs were a rare example of a “mixed” Chinese-Caucasian marriage in the first half of the 20th century. These photographs include portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. Wong, their daughter Elsie Wong, Mrs. Wong’s Chinese-American grandson, and her Caucasian relatives.

$1,250

This small archive includes 2 photo postcards of Alice and Chan Wong together; 1 family portrait of Alice, Chan, and Elsie Wong; 7 individual portraits of Chan Wong; 5 individual portraits of Alice Wong; 3 individual portraits of Elsie Wong; 1 individual portrait of Frank Tong (Alice’s grandson, see below), and 1 individual portrait of Ellen Langley Tong (see below). With some duplicates and other images of Abbott family members. Most of the images measure roughly 3½ by 5½ inches, with a number of photo postcards; a few are smaller, a couple bigger. Almost all of the images are captioned on the back.

The story here, while still needing much research, is unusual. Alice Abbott’s first marriage was to Rufus Langley, of Tilton, N.H. In 1911, their daughter, Ellen, married Edward (Su Hong) Tong, a fellow student at the Tilton Seminary. The Boston Evening Transcript (July 25, 1911) recorded this as the first American-Chinese marriage in New Hampshire. The Tongs had a son, Frank (later Frank T. Joyce), whose boyhood picture is included here.

By 1912, Alice (née Abbott) Langley and Chan Tong were involved, as there are two photographs of them dated in that year. In 1913, the Langley’s divorced and Alice soon married Chan Wong. Under the 1907 Marriage Expatriation Act, Alice (like her daughter Ellen before her), lost her US citizenship when she married a Chinese national. The Wong family visited China at least once, returning to the United States on the Suwa Maru on June 9, 1921. All three Wongs are listed on the manifest (viewable on Ancestry.com) of “alien” passengers, with their nationality given as “Chinese.” Elsie Wong, however, had birthright citizenship, and her entry is over stamped “U.S. Citizen.”

The effects of the Chinese Exclusion Art and the Marriage Expatriation Act are generally known, although it is nice to put a face to a few of the many names affected by the Asian exclusion laws. For more on mixed marriages, see the book Eurasian by Emma Jinhua Teng (University of California Press, 2013). The definitive study of the expatriation law is Leti Volpp’s “Divesting Citizenship” in the UCLA Law Review (vol. 53, 2005).
Uncommon Prefectural History

Yatsu, Riichiro

[History of the Japanese from Miyagi Prefecture in America]

Zaibei Miyagi kenjinshi


“A history of the Japanese from Miyagi Prefecture. Contains a short background on emigration from this prefecture, some population statistics, and a list of Japanese from Miyagi living in Southern California. Also includes brief histories of the Southern California Miyagi Prefectural Association and the Northern California Tohoku Association. Concludes with over 200 biographies and a directory.”—A Buried Past, 324.

$1,850

[1], [38 leaves of plates], 11, 7, 11, 351, [1] pages. The plates are mostly halftone photographs of prominent Issei couples posed with their Nisei children. With some additional in-text halftones.

OCLC: 46709413, 673550256.

First edition (first printing). A very nice copy, lacking the publisher’s stiff paper box.

(ID 362956)
Chinese Minister in San Francisco

52 Zhou, Biqin [who transliterated his name as Pik-Kum Chau]

[Religion and Life]

Zong jiao yu ren sheng


A book promoting Christianity intended to counter what the author perceived as growing anti-Christian prejudice among the Chinese people. The writer was a minister at the First Chinese Baptist Church in San Francisco. $250

10, 2, 204 pages. Text in Chinese, with a preface and the table of contents in English.

OCLC: 122708492 (Stanford, Columbia, Graduate Theological Union)

First edition (first printing). A near fine hardcover copy, inscribed by Zhou in English and Chinese to Dr. J. W. Bailey. (ID 308170)
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