# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHINESE AMERICAN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Interviewee: Eddie E. Lee
Chinese Name:
Date of Interview: 1/20/79
Interviewer: Jean Wong
Others Present:None
Language: English
Summarizer: Stella Ling

Interview	Number:	17
Number of	Tapes:	4
Length:	2 Hours 7 39	Minutes

Contents

Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary Tape: 1 Side A
1 019-020 021-024 025-033		Eddie E. Lee (EEL) was born on July 28, 1899. EEL's family came from the Sze Yup district of Canton. They were from Toishan.
		EEL's father was 72 when he passed away in 1922. He came to the United States when he was 16 years old. He came to the U.S. to work.
2 034-039		When EEL's father first came over, he worked in private families as a housekeeper and cook. He eventually became a family cook in American households.
	040-044	He lived in San Francisco for several years and then came to Los Angeles. He worked for several of the old pioneer families in Los Angeles like the Van Nuys and the Lankershims.
	045-051	Most of the Chinese at that time intended to come to the U.S. and eventually return to China for a visit or to bring some of their family over.
	052-065	EEL's father worked for several years in Los Angeles and decided he wanted to get married. He went to a Mission Home in San Francisco that was operated by an American church. they had English classes at night for Chinese. They also had an orphanage for Chinese girls that were brought over.
	066-069	The mission tried to rescue these girls when they arrived in San Francisco and place them in home where they were cared for and protected.
3 07	070-074	EEL's father wanted to get married. They approved of his records so he was allowed to marry one of the girls raised in the mission homes.
	075-081	EEL's mother arrived in the U.S. when she was 4 or 5. She was born in the Won Poo ( $\ddagger$ $i$ ) village near Canton.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Segment Number Summarv EEL never knew how much money his father earned. 3 082-084 085-100 After working as a family cook, EEL's father opened a curio store which was similar to an Oriental gift shop. At first he opened one on North Main Street near Temple. He then moved to Spring Street. Finally he moved to 136 East Third Street between Main Street and Los Angeles Street. That was where several children including EEL was born. 101-108 EEL's family lived there until 1907. They moved to a house at 1322 South Hill Street and lived there from 1922 to 1928. Δ 109 - 114EEL's mother then moved to a house on West 57th Street. By then, the family had scattered. EEL's sister and EEL were married. EEL's mother lived alone. 115-123 Originally, EEL had four brothers and five sisters. EEL was the youngest boy. All of EEL's brothers and two of his sisters have passed away. 124-139 EEL's oldest brother, Harry, graduated from the University of California in 1913 as a civil engineer. He passed the civil service examination in Los Angeles with the highest mark. He got a job with the Los Angeles City Engineering Department. He started as a graphsman with a salary of \$78 a month. He worked until he passed away in 1928. When he passed away he was the Assistant Engineer at the Storm Drain Division of the Engineering Department. 140-153 EEL's oldest sister worked as a dressmaker and designer. EEL's second sister was the first to get married. she was around 18 years old at the time. EEL's third and fourth sisters also worked mainly with the garment factories. 5 154 - 162EEL's youngest sister Laura graduated from UCLA and became an art teacher. She worked in Los Angeles for a while. She got married and moved to Honolulu. she taught for several years in the Honolulu school system. 163-173 EEL's second, third, and fourth brothers were sent to China to go to Chinese school. EEL does not remember seeing his second or third brother at home. 174-183 EEL returned to China in 1910 for a visit, he saw his two brothers at the school they were attending in Sunning in Canton. They attended school there for eight or nine years. 6 184-188 EEL's fourth brother got sick and passed away in China.

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Fime Segment	Counter Number	Summary
6	189-197	EEL's second and third brothers eventually returned to Los Angeles. EEL's second brother had one daughter and the third brother had a son and a daughter. Both brothers passed away. Their children are living in the Los Angeles area.
	198-217	EEL's brother did not have much work to do after they returned from China. They worked in private families as housekeepers and cooks. Wages were very low in those days. They were live-in domestic help.
	218-223 224-243	EEL's father was the head of the household. At home, when the children were young, they spoke mostly Chinese. After they learned English in American schools, they would speak more English. EEL's parents would talk to the children in Chinese and they would reply in English. Eventually, some of the children forgot their Chinese. That was the main reason EEL's father sent EEL's three brothers back to China so they could learn more Chinese.
7	244-252	None of EEL's sisters had a chance to return to China so they spoke very little Chinese. They understood but they could only speak a little Chinese.
	253-263	EEL attended Chinese school in Los Angeles for about for years. He does not remember any of his siblings going to Chinese shcool. EEL attended Chinese school from 19 to 1914 or 1915.
	264-277	EEL was born on East Third Street. The first school he attended was a Catholic school on the corner of Second Street and Los Angeles Streets. He was there for about a week and then told his mother he did not want to go there any more. His teachers all had a strap around their waist and EEL was afraid they would give him a licking with the strap.
8 278-28	278-284	EEL then attended Boyle Street School which was four or five blocks from where they lived. He attended that school until the fourth or fifth grade when they moved to 1322 South Hill Street.
	285-290	EEL then attended a grammar school on 16th Street (now Adams Blvd) between Grand Avenue and Hill Street.
	291-298	After 6th grade, EEL went to 30th Street Intermediate School on 30th Street. He finished 7th, 8th and 9th grades there.
	299-306	Then EEL attended Poly Technic High School. EEL quit school between the 10th and 11st grade. He was 18 at the time.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Segment Number Summary 8 307-222 EEL did not care much for school. His mother wanted him to follow his oldest brother's footsteps. A friend EEL hung around with quit school and got a job at a battery company. Three or four weeks after that, EEL decided to quit school and find a job. 323-345 EEL found a job at an automobile blacksmith shop which installed shock absorbers. EEL worked as a blacksmith helper. The blacksmith was responsible for cutting and shaping the steel to fit the car. The helper's job was to stand by the blacksmith and help out. The helper usually cut the hot iron with a 12 pound sledge hammer. 9 346-356 EEL worked there for about two years. It was so much work that EEL used to work up an enormous appetite. He used to go home for lunch every day. His mother told him to quit the job because he ate more than he earned. EEL started at \$9 a week and was getting \$12 a week when 357-361 he decided to quit. 362-365 After that, EEL didn't do too much for a year or two. 366-381 EEL's father passed away in 1922. EEL took over his father's reed and rattan business. EEL's father would import reed and rattan from Hong Kong and then sell it to different reed and rattan furniture manufacaturers. Reed and rattan furniture was quite popular at that time. 382-385 EEL was in that business until 1927 or 1928. 10 386-392 EEL got married in 1928. In 1929, EEL and his wife went to Calexico in the Imperial Valley right across the Mexican border. 393-403 EEL invested some money in cotton farming in Baja, California. There were a lot of Chinese at that time engaging in cotton farming in Baja. 404-411 During the Depression, cotton prices dropped from \$24¢ down to 12¢ a pound. All the cotton farmers lost money. 412-418 EEL drifted around a little while and eventually returned to Los Angeles in 1932 or so. 419-434 At that time, the motion picture studios were making Chinese movies. EEL's wife encouraged EEL to go to work in Chinatown and try to find work in motion pictures. 435-450 EEL went to see Tom Gubbins who was the agent that hired Orientals to work as extras in movies. Tom Gubbins was one fourth Chinese. He was born in Shanghai and raised in Hong Kong. He spoke beautiful Cantonese.

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Contents (cont'd)

Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
11 ·	451-462	Tom Gubbin's office was located in Chinatown. It was called Tom Gubbin's Asiatic Company. He had a curio store as well.
	463-479	Central Casting was the office that all the major studios contacted when they needed extras. Central Casting would then call their different agents to hrie extras. Tom Gubbins took care of the Orientals.
	480-484	Now they just have everyone call Central Casting to see if they have any jobs.
END OF TAP	PE 1 SIDE A	
		Tape 1 Side B
1	014-017	Different nationalities used to have different casting agents.
	018-024	EEL worked for Tom Gubbins for about nine years. Tom Gubbins was also involved in renting out Chinese and Japanese costumes and props to motion pictures.
	025-030	EEL learned the rental business when he was working for Tom Gubbins. In 1944, EEL bought out the inventory from a Japanese rental business.
	031-039	Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941 and after that, all the Japanese were ordered to leave the west coast. Most of the Japanese were moved to the east and midwest.
2	040-052	The Japanese EEL bought the costumes and props from had to leave the country. EEL started in the motion picture rental business in 1944. He retired from this business in 1962.
	053-065	The studios would give Tom Gubbins the number and descriptions of the people they needed. Tom would then go through his list and get the names of the people that fit into that category. He would then tell them what studio to go to and what time to show up.
	066-079	Most of the extras had very little to do. They would walk around on the streets and look around in shops. If the background of the scene was in China, then they would have rickshaws and wheel barrows on the streets. Most of the Chinese extras worked in the street scenes. some were shop keepers or in restaurants.
3	080-087	There were no speaking parts except for those with big parts. The ordinary extra would have very little to do.

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Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
3	088-100	The extras were paid \$5, \$7.50 or \$10 a day depending on the role they played. Those that did close-ups would receive \$10 a day because they were nearer the camera.
101-110	When the Screen Actors Guild was formed around 1937, it became unionized and they demanded higher wages from the studios. From then on, all the unionized extras received higher wages.	
4	111-126	A person who said some lines were getting \$15 a day. Endid this occasionally. Later on when the guild took over, speaking lines became \$25 a day minimum. From then on, wages gradually rose.
	127-130	EEL has not worked in the pictures since the 1950s. He had his rental business and could not stay away from the store too long since it was a one-man business.
	131-138	EEL used to take the jobs at the studios and no one would answer the phone in his store. EEL decided to stop working in the studios and just stay in the store.
134-153	EEL had quite a few speaking parts in the motion pictures. EEL was in "I'll Cry Tomorrow? with Susan Hayward. That was made in the 1950s. EEL still sees the movie during late night shows on television.	
5	154-179	EEL had a little grocery store in "I'll Cry Tomorrow." Susan Hayward plays the part of a drunk wobbling down the street. She comes into the store. She almost falls down and EEL catches her and sits her down. EEL tells his wife to get her a glass of water. They give her the glass of water and try to calm her down. EEL was paid \$100 a day for the part. He only worked on that part for about an hour.
	180-184	The scene took less than half an hour after it was edited.
6	185-214	EEL also worked on several pictures as a technical director in charge of the Chinese extras. Some of the Chinese extras did not understand English very well and so someone had to translate what kind of action the director wanted. The technical director also helped with the costumes of the extras. In those days, EEL started at \$150 a week and was hired on a term contract. They usually hired someone for the duration of the picture.

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Contents (cont'd)

Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
6	215-222	EEL's first job was on "Lost Horizon" made by Columbia Studios in 1936. 1936 was a big year for Chinese in motion pictures. There were two big expensive pictures made "Good Earth" and "Lost Horizon" and both were shooting at the same time. MGM was making "Good Earth."
	223-224	EEL was working for Tom Gubbins at the store.
	225-233	After EEL started working in pictures in 1932 or 1933, a few months later, Tom Gubbins asked EEL to work for him in the store. He also helped answer the phone.
7	234-242	In 1936, MGM made "Good Earth" and Tom Gubbins went to work for MGM as a technical director. Tom Gubbins sent EEL to Columbia Studios and EEL was the technical director for "Lost Horizon" for 8 or 9 weeks.
	243-246	After "Lost Horizon" EEL had several other technical jobs. One was for 20th Century Fox's "Stowaway" with Shirley Temple.
	247-251	EEL also worked as the technical director for several Universal Studios pictures. One was called "Smuggler's Island."
	252-271	In those days, very few Chinese made a living out of working in movies. Probably no one could use the amount of money they earned from working in pictures to sustain their expenses over a one year's time. In those days, it was like part time work. People would have steady jobs and use the studio work to earn extra money.
	272-280	It was not until later years when a few of them might have been able to make a living out of studio work people like Benson Fong, who is now a restaurant operator.
END OF TAI	PE 1 SIDE B	

### Tape 2 Side A

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Later on there were a few people that were earning enough money to make a living from working for the motion pictures. These people include Keye Luke, Phillip Ong, Benson Fong, Richard Loo, and Victor San Young. These people may have gotten enough money from pictures to sustain themselves. Outside of those, no one could get enough to pay all their expenses.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Segment Number Summary Aside from EEL's part time acting, he was also working 1 029-039 for Tom Gubbin's store. EEL was paid very little for working in the store during the Depression. Tom offered EEL \$50 a month but EEL said it was impossible because he had to support his wife and child and pay \$25 rent. 2 040-051 Because Tom Gubbins was eager to have EEL work for him, EEL said he would take the job on the condition that he and his wife would be given jobs when they came up from the studios. Tom agreed and EEL started going to work for him. 052-074 The motion picture rental business is called "feast or a famine" business because the business is so erratic and unpredictable. In motion pictures, you do not know when they will be making a Chinese picture or how much stuff they will use if they do. 3 075-082 EEL was in the rental business for 18 years. There were some bad and some good years. You had to look at it from year to year and not from day to day. 083-095 1955 was a prticularly good year for EEL's business. They made a picture called "Around the World in 80 Days." The film had sequences in India, China, and Japan, and so they used a lot of EEL's props and costumes. The picture took over a year to make so EEL's material was rented out for quite a long time. 096-111 Motion picture rental charges are based on the 10% devaluation of the article. In order to get enough money for the rental, you would have to raise the actual price of the material. For example, EEL would charge \$25 a week for a rickshaw. That would mean that a rickshaw would cost \$250. EEL would have rickshaws, wheelbarrows, food carts, and other props for street scenes. 4 112-121 Some of EEL's costumes were acquired when he bought the inventory of the Japanese owner. Some costumes EEL had made in the United States. Some were sent from Hong Kong. EEL would ship over some used clothing in good condition from Hong Kong. 122-128 EEL's wife didn't help in the rental business. She would stay at home. Occasionally she would work in the pictures. She worked in "Good Earth" for 6 or 7 weeks. 129-134 EEL's wife was an extra in "Good Earth". She did not have a speaking part. She was put on a contract and guaranteed a certain number of days of work.

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Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
4	135-149	EEL's wife worked at downtown Bullocks store in the 1940s. She worked there for quite a number of years. She was then transferred to the Bullocks Wilshire store and worked there for several years until she retired. When she retired she had almost put in 25 years in
		Bullocks.
5	150-155	EEL has three daughters. The oldest daughter, Gloria, was a school teacher and is now working for TWA.
	156-159	EEL's second daughter works for the Los Angeles Board of Education.
	160-161	EEL's youngest daughter, Marjorie, is a graduate nurse.
	162-173	Gloria and Faye both graduated from UCLA. Faye has her masters and is presently working on her Ph.D. Marjorie graduated from UC Berkeley. At that time, UCLA didn't have a medical center or a nursing school. After two years at UCLA, Marjorie transferred to UC Berkeley to study nursing.
	174-184	Marjorie graduated from Berkeley and returned to Los Angeles. She got a job at the County Health Department. She worked there for a few years and then transferred to the LA Board of Education. She then went to Columbia Teachers' College to get her masters.
6	185-195	In 1957, EEL drove Marjorie home after they saw her get her masters. While she was at Teachers' College, the Dean of Nursing at UCLA told her that they wanted her to be a nursing instructor at UCLA.
	196-216	Marjorie was interested so after she got her masters, she got a job at UCLA as a nursing instructor. After a few years she decided to have a family. She took a leave of absence from UCLA and has never been back since. The last two years she has been working for the Los Angeles Board of Education.
	217-229	EEL's own family spoke Sze Yup at home before they went to American school. EEL encouraged his children to spea Chinese so that they could speak both languages.
7	230-233	EEL's daughters are like his sisters because they can understand Chinese more than they can speak English. His daughters speak a little more than his sisters.
	234-246	Marjorie's husband, William ChunHoon is the first Chinese principal in the Los Angeles school system. He is the principal at the Castelar School in Chinatown. He has been there for 5 or 6 years.

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Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
7	247-263	EEL's parents used to use Chinese herbs for colds. EEL tried it once or twice and did not like the taste of it because it was bitter. EEL's family did not rely on Chinese medicine. They used Chinese herbs more for cooking, such as ox tail.
	264-276	For dinner, EEL's family usually ate Chinese food and rice. They do not eat much for breakfast or lunch.
8	277-297	EEL gets hungry for Chinese food when he is away from home. EEL lost six pounds during his tour in Europe in 1977 because he was not accustomed to the food over there.
	298-307	EEL also traveled to the Holy Lands during his tour in 1977. During the same year they went to London for a week. EEL enjoyed London a lot. It was a big city and there were a lot of Chinese and Chinese restaurants over there.
	308-330	In 1910, EEL accompanied his uncle back to China. His uncle was going back to get married. EEL was ten years old at the time. EEL stayed with his father's sister in the village. She was a widow.
9	331-339	EEL's uncle stayed in another village which was a day's walk away.
	340-354	When EEL returned to China, that was before Sun Yat-sen's revolution of October, 1911, so all the men and boys had queues. EEL's mother told his uncle to cut EEL's hai when it got to be too long.
·	355-361	EEL's uncle used to go to EEL's village once a month to c his hair. He would just put a bowl on the top of EEL's head and then cut all around.
	362-365	EEL was in China for more than four months. He had a lot of fun there. He would play with the kids every day.
• •	366-372	The first week or so, EEL had a terrible time because the children, about 15 to 20 of them, would call EEL "fan guey zai" ( 茶 泡 1子) because he did not have a queue.
	373-382	In the village, every house had a pig and most of them had a water buffalo which were used to plow the rice fields.
10	383-395	Water buffalos would excrete anytime and any place. The sutff would dry until it was like cake. When EEL walked along there would be a whole gang of kids behind him calling him "fan guey zai" and occasionally someone would throw dried feces at him. It would scatter like

sawdust.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Segment Number Summary 10 396-402 Finally, EEL did not want to leave the house because once he stepped out of the house one kid would spot him and call all the other kids over to tease EEL. 403-424 After a week, EEL finally though of a way to stop the kids from teasing him. He remembered that people would love soap or dried fruit as presents for friends in China. So EEL got his five pounds of raisins that someone gave him. He did not care much for raisins. 425-432 When all the kids saw EEL's raisins, their hands reached into the box and in about 5 seconds the box was empty. After that eveyrone became EEL's friend and they stopped teasing him. 433-450 EEL's friends taught him how to steal sweet potatoes. There are two kinds of sweet potatoes one was orange and the other had a red skin and was snow white inside. they also taught EEL how to build a fire to bake the potatoes. 11 451-464 The kids also taught EEL how to catch shrimps, snails and snakes out in the rice paddies. 465-472 EEL's aunt asked EEL if he wanted to go to Chinese school. She took him to school to see if he would like it. END OF TAPE 2 SIDE A Tape 2 Side B EEL's aunt took him to the Chinese school in the village. 1 014-024 The school room had a big table with a teacher and about 25 to 30 children in the class. 025-034 EEL and his aunt just stood in the back to watch. In those days, Chinese school teachers did not explain the meaining of the words the pupils were told to memorize and recite. 2 035-047 A pupil went to the front of the class to recite. He just hesitated for a second and the teacher immediately hit him with a rattan stick across the forehead. When EEL saw that he told his aunt that he did not want to go to school. 048-049 EEL went to Chinese school in Los Angeles Chinatown and there the teachers would explain to the students the meaning of each character. 050-053 EEL's uncle got married in China and returned to the U.S. to work. He was a domestic cook.

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lime Segment	Counter Number	Summary
2	053-055	It was probably an arranged marriage. Most of the marriages were arranged in those days.
056-057 058-065	EEL's own marriage was not arranged. EEL did not notice that Sze Yup and Sam Yup people tende to marry within their respective clans. EEL knows a lot of Sze Yup people that married Sam Yup people.	
	066-072	Most of the Chinese in the U.S. spoke a foreign dialect anyway. The most popular dialect was Sam Yup.
3	073-083	EEL used to understand more Sam Yup because he used to b around them more. Most people would understand Sam Yup or Sze Yup.
	084-106	EEL used to play baseball when he wsa young. His finger got crooked because he caught the ball with the glove in such an angle that it hit his finger. He did that two or three times. He did not tell his mother because he was afraid she would not let him play ball anymore. Without any remedial measures, the finger eventually felt better but it grew crooked.
4	107-114	During his free time after he started working, EEL would go to the movies with a friend of his named George Haku.
	115-117	They went to see American movies. There were no Chinese movies at that time.
	118-121	When EEL was still going to school at the age of 17 or 19, they would have a Chinese baseball team that would play against other amateur teams on Sundays.
	122-132	EEL used to go to movies once or twice a week. In those days, a first run movie on Broadway was only 10¢ for general admission and 20¢ for lodges. A second run movie on Main Street was only 5¢. Now a movie is about \$5.
	133-140	When the family was small, they used to go for a ride on a Sunday afternoon. They could not go to movies when the children were small.
	141-162	EEL's wife always went to church ever since she was little. She attended a Chrinese Presbyterian Church. A few years ago, in 1966, they did not want to have an an ethnic restriction so they changed the name of the Church to the True Light Presbyterian Church. All the Presbyterian Churches changed their names.
5	163–171	When EEL's daughters were small, they all attended Sunda school. EEL used to take his wife to Church for several years. He was not baptized until 1975.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Number Segment Summary 5 172-186 EEL does not remember his parents going to church. His mother was raised in a mission home and would like to sing hymns at home. 6 187-200 EEL's family observes Chinese holidays only to the extent that they will have something special on the dinner table. EEL's wife always went to Sunday school when she was 201-205 small. 206-211 EEL's mother was raised in a mission home in San Francisco and enjoyed singing hymns at home. 212-216 EEL doe snot remember his parents going to church. EEL's own family observes Chinese holidays only to the 217-235 extent that they will have something special on the dinner table. 7 236-243 EEL was in the rental business until 1962 when he retired. He then sold all his props to Universal Studios and most of the costumes to the Western Costume Company. EEL has not worked since then. 244-248 Tom Gubbins passed away quite a few years ago. not had any contact with the studios at all. 249-267 EEL never heard any criticism of the Chinese roles in motion pictures. The Chinese were happy to take the jobs and earn extra money. In the old days, the Chinese used to frown upon acting as an occupation. 268-270 There is a different attitude today and they do not have those ideas any more. 271-284 EEL's father passed away in 1922 which was long before EEL worked in the studios. EEL's mother passed away in 1954 and did not object to EEL's studio work. END OF TAPE 2 SIDE B Tape 3 Side A 1 001-004 Introduction. 005-023 EEL thought the way Chinese were portrayed in the movies was accurate due to the assistance of the technical director.

> 024-029 Most of the time Chinese were portrayed in good taste, but some times it wasn't because the part called for it. 030-033

EEL didn't know anybody who protested against the way Chinese were portrayed.

Contents (cont'd)

Time Counter Segment Number Summary 2 034-039 EEL was satisfied with his job. 040-052 EEL didn't think there were that many movie works for the Chinese except the making of "Good Earth" and "Lost Horizon." EEL worked about ten days a month. 053-059 060-080 Never joined any family associations. EEL didn't feel there was any need to join any association. In terms of business, EEL associated with non-Chinese. 3 081-089 090-096 EEL didn't know how many people who had paper names. 097-107 EEL felt more Chinese and never felt sorry for being Chinese. 4 108-124 Spoke more Chinese before going to school. After attending school, EEL started speaking English with his parents. 125-140 EEL enjoyed the Chinese school and was able to read and write Chinese. He didn't have a chance to use the written language, so he forgot how to write Chinese. 141-150 Due to the lack of time, EEL stopped going to Chinese school. 5 151-164 Occasionally father would send money back to his sister. 165-185 EEL didn't know any relatives in the village, so he didn't write back to China. 6 186-199 There were some Chinese who kept in contact with their relatives in China. They would send money back to China. 200-216 The Wong Family Association was a big association. 217-257 Fong See was an importer of Chinese merchandise. He was quite influential. Dr. Lee was the first Chinese dentist in Chinatown. 7 258-282 Most Chinese worked in the laundries, restaurants and farming. There were many wholesale businessmen. 8 283-292 Hand laundries and restaurants were all Chinese occupations. 293-321 Average income for Chinese before World War II was \$75 a month. Everything was cheap then. In 1932, EEL rented a house for \$25 a month for a two bedroom house. Roast pork cost 35¢ a pound then. 322-329 There was very little left for savings.

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Contents (cont'd) Time Counter Segment Number Summary Chinese were affected by the Depression. Usually the 9 330-355 friends would help out. 356-394 There were people who saved money and there were Chinese who loved to gamble. There wre quite a few gambling houses running wide open. 10 395-428 EEL didn't know anybody who got involved in politics. There wer some who were involved in supporting China Reief. There were Chinese who helped Sun Yat-sen's Revolution but didn't come out and say they did. 429-452 There was discrimination in existence. A lot of the time Chinese were sent to sit in the upstairs at movie houses even if they had tickets for downstairs seats. 11 453-466 Chinese didn't protest and accepted what was there. END OF TAPE 3 SIDE A Tape 3 Side B 1 004-028 Sometimes, EEL was not served in the non-Chinese restaurants. 029-035 EEL thought Chinese had done just as well as the others. 2 036-048 Didn't know there was a comparison between Chinese and Jewish people. In the old days, most people went back to China for 049-058 marriage. Today's generation is different. 059-067 Most people left their wives in China. 3 068-080 EEL met his wife in the International House where different minority groups of people had their social gatherings. 081-089 In the old days Chinese preferred sons rather than daughters. But today's parents don't think that way. 090-094 EEL didn't prefer having a son. 095-129 In the old days, not to many people thought about interracial marriage. Fong See married a Caucasian wife. He was a very successful man and got along with people very well. 4

130-149 Most of the older generation thought of returning to China. But the younger generation didn't think about it. The American born didn't think China was their home.

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Contents (cont'd)

Time Segment	Counter Number	Summary
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5	150-167	There were about 25% of the old timers who went back to China to retire.
	168-179	Some people liked to go to Chinese school to learn Chinese.
END OF TAPE	3 SIDE B	
		Tape 4 Side A
1	001-004	Introduction.
	005-009	Children went to Chinese school partly voluntarily and partly by their parent's influence.
÷	010-017	Chinese didn't have much choice in jobs. They didn't have enough training and education for certain jobs.
	018-029	Chinese wished that they could do some other jobs rather than restaurant work, laundry and houswork.
	030-044	Since the younger generation had more education they could have a better opportunity in jobs.

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END OF TAPE 4 SIDE A

END OF INTERVIEW

# EDDIE E. LEE

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