



Do you know what this object is?  
 Pop back in October to see the answer!

Hints:

- It was used in an agricultural context.
- The answer is not as easy as you think it is.
- It was made before 1930.

Yolo County Historical Collection

# NEWSLETTER

## EXHIBITION TALK

### The Chinese Restaurant Project Presentation

By UC Davis Professor Gabriel "Jack" Chin Edward L. Barrett Jr. Chair and  
 Martin Luther King Jr. Professor of Law

Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 1pm

Join Professor Gabriel "Jack" Chin on Saturday, August 16th at 1pm at the Gibson House for a talk about his Chinese Restaurant Project. Professor Chin will speak about his research, including his finding that the Chicago Café in Woodland is the longest continuously operating Chinese restaurant in California. This talk is presented as part of the programming for the Yolo County Historical Collection's current exhibition Give Face 给面子 (Gěimiànzi).

Give Face 给面子 (Gěimiànzi) opened at the Gibson House at the end of June. Visitors were able to talk to Bz Zhang about their art and its connection to the Historical Collection. Come explore the exhibition for yourself!

For Gibson House exhibition information visit [www.yolocountylibrary.org/ychc/exhibitions](http://www.yolocountylibrary.org/ychc/exhibitions)



The Gibson House is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm to 4pm and will be open  
 Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 8am to 4pm

# Gibson House Spotlight

## The Lone Oak Valley Oak Tree

Between 300 and 400 years old

Many visitors to the Gibson House are mesmerized by the very large oak tree situated in front of it. This oak tree is a valley oak. Valley oak trees are the largest oak trees in North America and are native to California. There were once many more valley oak trees throughout Woodland. In fact, Gertrude Freeman—the wife of Franklin S. Freeman, founder of Woodland—suggested that Woodland be called

Woodland due to all of the trees. Valley oaks are fast growing trees. A five-year-old tree can be 20 feet tall. Based on the size of this tree, West Coast Arborists estimate that it is more than 300 years old and could be close to 400. The Gibsons bought the Gibson House property in 1857 meaning that this tree was there long before they were and long before white settlers came to this area. According to David Wilkinson, the Gibsons chose to build their house under the giant valley oak to keep it cool in the summer. Mary and William Gibson named their property “Lone Oak” after this massive tree.

The large scar on the south side of the tree is the only major damage the tree has incurred after all these years. Robert Gibson reported that the limb that was there fell off in 1929 due to its weight. Today, the tree is regularly checked and maintained by Arborists to ensure such things don't happen.

1.1. Wilkinson, David (2021). Gertrude's Oaks: the History and Legacy of Woodland's Urban Forest, 197-99.



### Junes Mystery Object:

YO1-814-02

Gift of Mrs. DeWitt Burnham

Hemoglobinometer by Rieker Instruments

Used to detect anemia by comparing blood samples on slides based on their color. This particular model was invented by Philadelphia physician Arthur Dare.

[yoloarts.org](http://yoloarts.org)

[yolocountylibrary.org/yhc](http://yolocountylibrary.org/yhc)

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