

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

Hints:

- It glows under a black light.
- These pieces are usually green or yellow.
- It was mundane when it was first created but has gotten more popular with collectors since the 1970s.

Yolo County Historical Collection

NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday December 20th, 1:00pm

“Chicago Cafe” Documentary Screening and Q & A. Directed by Kristie Chow and Jeff Wu. In a small Northern California town, a 100-year-old Chinese restaurant gets ready to close. This short film follows Paul Fong and his wife Nancy through quiet moments, old family footage and the slow process of letting go.

Saturday January 17th, 1:00pm

Curator’s Tour with Sarah Bartlett, Yolo County Museum Curator, and Bz Zhang, Exhibition Artist.



CURRENT EXHIBITION

GIVE FACE 给面子 (Gěimiànzi)

<https://yolocountylibrary.org/yolo-county-historical-collection/exhibitions/>

YCHC UPCOMING CLOSURES

Thursday, December 25th

Thursday, January 1st

Gibson House regular open hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12pm-4pm

Curator open hours one Saturday per month: 8am-4pm (12/20 | 1/17 | 2/21)

Admission is always FREE

August’s Mystery Object:

Wax Sealing Kit

YO1-023-061R

Gift of William Blaisdell

The two seals (left and bottom) would be pressed into melted wax to seal envelopes and act as signatures.

Did you know you can experience art and history in one trip?

The YoloArts Barn Gallery and Barn Studio are located behind the Gibson House and host contemporary art exhibitions and art education programs.

Barn Gallery Open Hours

Tuesday - Thursday | 12:00-5:00pm

Saturdays | 12:00-3:00pm

The Barn Gallery will be **closed** on November 26, 27, December 24, 25, 31, 2025 and January 1, 2026.

YOLOARTS EXHIBITION

Inspired...

On display through February 14, 2026

What if we consider inspiration as a cycle instead of a starting point? Before a tangible artwork can be created, inspiration and knowledge must come together to create the ideal conditions to spark a creator to take action. Inspired... centers what

these artists create and celebrates the cycle of inspiration that enables and fuels their own artistic practice. This show includes ceramic work by Linda Fitz Gibbon, digital illustration pieces by Mikaela Watson, installations by Emma Montalbano and Melissa Uroff, mixed media pieces by Angelo Esquivel and Melissa Uroff, paintings by Cara Gregor and Tomás Montoya, photography by Katie DelaVaughn, and mono / screen and risograph prints by Emma Montalbano.

Featured Artists: Katie DelaVaughn, Angelo Esquivel, Linda S Fitz Gibbon, Cara Gregor, Emma Montalbano, Tomás Montoya, Melissa Uroff & Mikaela Watson

Image: Linda Fitz Gibbon, California Chill, Ceramic, 2025, 11.5”h x 10.5”w x 4”h



FREE ART STUDIOS

After School Open Studio Tuesdays from 3:30- 5:00 PM and Mini Open Studio Wednesdays from 10-11:30 AM. Advanced reservation recommended.

See <https://yoloarts.org/the-barn-studio> for information on free open studios!

Collections Object Spotlight

By Maggie Chang

Insects: Injurious and Beneficial

By Matthew Cooke, 1883

YO1-748-1

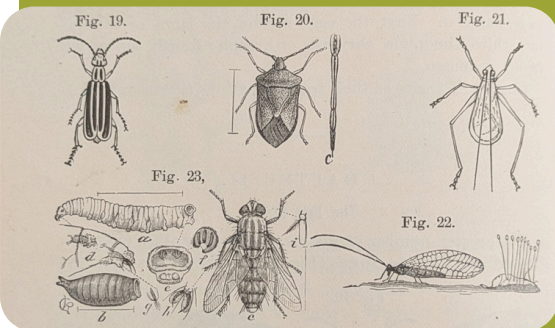
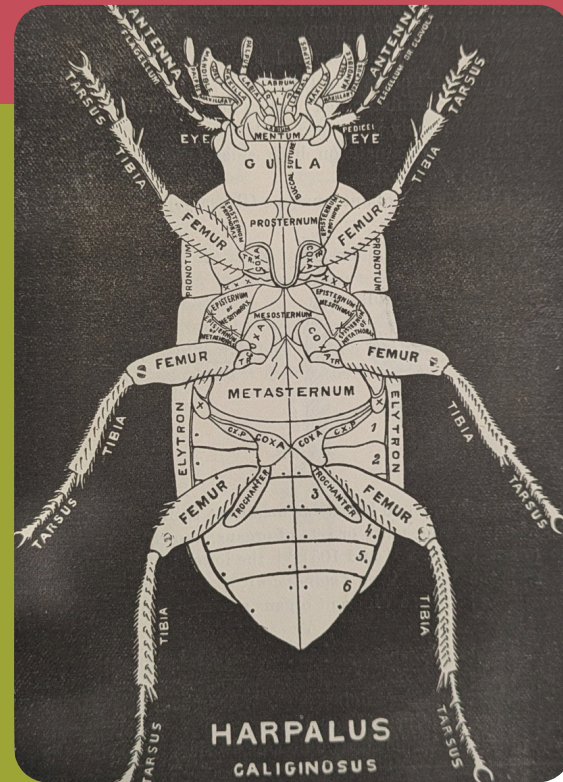
Gift of Fred and Cecilia (Rooney) Feltes

Insects are everywhere. Anyone with a garden knows of headache-inducing aphids and delightful butterflies. But researching insects for the sake of large-scale crop farming is a relatively new branch of science. The field of economic entomology studies insects' influence on humans, domestic animals, and crops.

The burgeoning farming industry in the mid-19th century California brought with it an equal proliferation of crop pests. As local pest annoyances became a state-wide farming crises, understanding and controlling insect populations became a vested interest for the growing agricultural field.

Matthew Cooke, California's Chief Executive Horticultural Officer, wrote *Insects: Injurious and Beneficial* (1883) as a beginners' guide to the mysterious world of insects. His dedication to using common names and simple, informal terms for anatomy allowed readers with little to no

background in science to still understand various identification methods. While the book is also offered as a school resource, its intended audience is gardeners and farmers, primarily focusing on insects that have direct relationships with plants. Given that entomology saved his business during the codling moth infestation of the 1870s, Cooke likely wished to share this powerful tool with other workers in his field. In the present day, he is considered California's first "economic entomologist". *Insects Injurious and Beneficial* was published in Sacramento by H. S. Crocker and Co., Printers and Stationers.




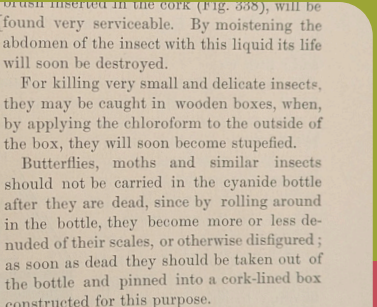

brush inserted in the cork (Fig. 338), will be found very serviceable. By moistening the abdomen of the insect with this liquid its life will soon be destroyed.

For killing very small and delicate insects, they may be caught in wooden boxes, when, by applying the chloroform to the outside of the box, they will soon become stupefied.

Butterflies, moths and similar insects should not be carried in the cyanide bottle after they are dead, since by rolling around in the bottle, they become more or less denuded of their scales, or otherwise disfigured; as soon as dead they should be taken out of the bottle and pinned into a cork-lined box constructed for this purpose.

In pinning beetles the pin should be thrust through the right wing-case (Fig. 339, a), so as to come out between the insertion of the middle and the hind pair of legs; bugs should be pinned through the scutellum (Fig. 339, b); all other insects should be pinned through the thorax.

In pinning insects for the cabi-



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