

Leo Quie



The early Rock Springs Chinese community was mainly comprised of merchants, coal miners, and later, restaurateurs. Some had relatives who were present during the 1885 Chinese Massacre. Most were men because laws did not favor the immigration of Chinese women, but some were able to bring their wives to the U.S. Nearly all lived in the Rock Springs Chinatown, which is no longer extant, but has been archaeologically investigated.

Descendants of some of these five Chinese residents have collaborated with Grinnell College on excavations and historical research and we would like to give them a special thanks.

Follow our research on the **Buried Chinatowns Blog**:
<https://buriedchinatowns.sites.grinnell.edu/>



Leo Quie, also known as Lew Hong Quon (1884-1956), was born in the Chinatown located in Evanston, Wyoming. He and his siblings were probably some of the first Chinese children born in the territory of Wyoming. His father, Ah Say, was very prominent in the Rock Springs and Evanston Chinese communities and his last name 廖 was one of the most common in Rock Springs Chinatown. While Leo Quie was in Wyoming during the 1885 Chinese Massacre, he was just a toddler, and his family soon left to live in China. Leo Quie would return to the U.S. as a merchant in Rock Springs in the Lun Sing Chong. Later, he moved to Sioux City, IA to run a Chinese café.



Read more about this Rock Springs Chinatown merchant by scanning this QR code with your phone. Authored by Julia Ghorai.

Leo Hung



Leo Hung (1888-1992) immigrated to the U.S. from Hoisan County, China as a student in 1912. He joined his father, a coal miner, in Rock Springs, but his first job was as a dishwasher at the Grand Café, which he would later co-own. The restaurant was the site of Union Pacific farewell dinners for retiring Chinese coal miners. In 1917, he fought in WWI for the U.S. Army and later received a Purple Heart. He would co-own the popular restaurant, The New Grand Café. Throughout most of his life he moved back and forth between Rock Springs and Hoisan to run his restaurant in the U.S. and visit family in China.



Read more about this Rock Springs restaurateur by scanning this QR code with your phone. Authored by Jorge Salinas.

Leo Bing Wah



Leo Bing Wah, also known as Leo Chan Kong, (1871-1942) immigrated to Rock Springs, WY from Hawk Jiu village in the Pearl River Delta region of China in 1900. He joined relatives who were already in the Rock Springs Chinatown and worked at the Lun Sing Chong and Company—a store that sold Chinese goods. He would bring his wife Yup Shee to the U.S. in 1913 and they would go on to have eight children together (4 boys and 4 girls). They were one of the few families in Rock Springs Chinatown between the 1910s and 1920s. Later, they would move to Omaha, Nebraska where Leo Bing Wah also worked as a merchant and herbalist.



Read more about this Rock Springs Chinatown merchant by scanning this QR code with your phone. Authored by Luis Lopez.

Leo Pack Jung



Leo Pack Jung (1855-1913) was a Chinese immigrant who worked in the Rock Springs Chinatown as a Chinese herbalist and merchant at the turn of the 19th century. In 1901, he was a restaurateur in Kemmerer, WY and married a Chinese American woman named Lucille Gong. They had six children and settled in Portland, OR where he worked for C. Gee Wo Chinese Medicine Co.



Read more about this Rock Springs Chinatown merchant by scanning this QR code with your phone. Authored by Laura W. Ng.

Leo Yee Litt



Leo Yee Litt (1874-1966) was a Chinese immigrant, coal miner, and resident of the Rock Springs Chinatown. Over three generations, his family worked in Rock Springs for the Union Pacific Coal Company and three of his sons fought in WWII in international battlefields. His father survived the 1885 Chinese massacre, and his family persisted, contributing to a country that had excluded them.



Read more about this Rock Springs Chinatown coal miner by scanning this QR code with your phone. Authored by Avajane Lei.