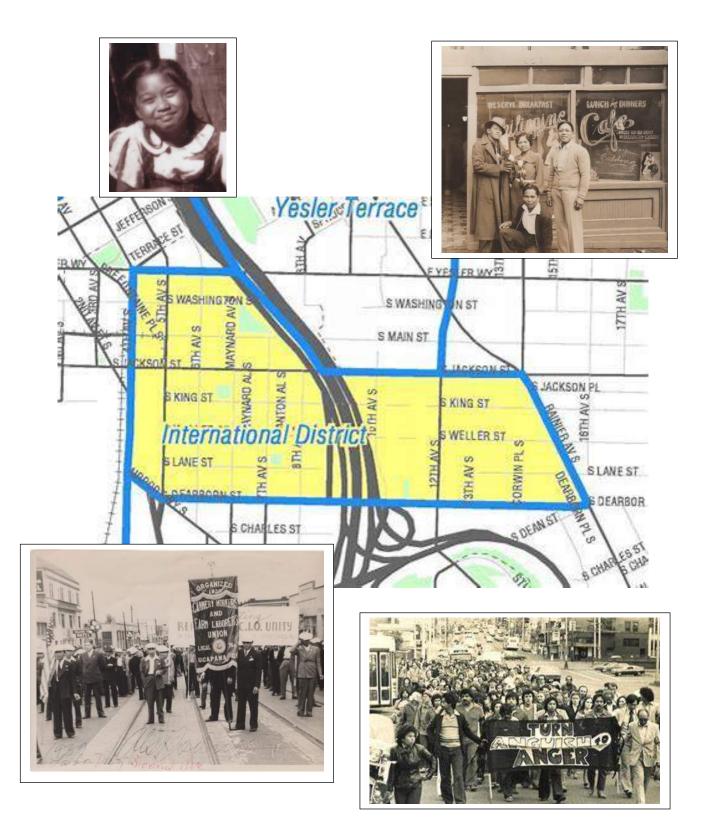


Filipinos in Chinatown ID Seattle, Washington: Mapping Filipino American Cultural Assets



Winter 2019-2020 Collaborative Research Project FANHS National Office, PWEKA and Seattle University Students Sponsored by Wing Luke Museum of Asian American Experience Funded by Seattle Office of Economic Development and the Mellon Foundation



FANHS Photo Collection from top left to right: Dolores Sibonga @late 1930s, Bibiana Castillano Laigo owner of Philippine Café@1936, Cannery Workers & Farm Labor Union March on Second Avenue 1939, and "Turn Anguish to Anger" march for Murdered Labor Leaders Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes 1981.

PROJECT NAME

"Filipinos in Chinatown ID" project, formally known as Filipino American Cultural Asset Mapping (FACAM) in the Chinatown-International District (CID) in Seattle Washington.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the "Filipinos in Chinatown ID" project is to identify Filipino historic establishments and add to the list of Filipino cultural assets compiled by Dr. Fred Cordova, Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) Co-founder and Archivist. The list is noted on the kiosk "Honoring Filipinos in Chinatown International District from 1910 to 2010" which is located on the SW corner of 6th and King.

RATIONALE

The Project helps preserve the CID neighborhood's diverse history and acknowledges the Filipino contributions towards making the Chinatown-International District the rich, multilayered, culturally authentic place it has been for over 100 years. This project also supports the continued community building, arts and cultural work, and business development and retention to sustain and revitalize the CID.

For the project researchers, this is a restorative justice project to honor our forbearers.



Image by Kiosk designed by Olivia Zapata.

GRATITUDE

Salamat po to Auntie Dorothy, also known as Dr. Dorothy Laigo Cordova, founder and Executive Director of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) for her guidance and generosity in sharing her CID experiences and vast knowledge of Filipino American history, and for providing ready access to FANHS Archives, historical documents, photographs and oral histories. This project was undertaken with Auntie Dorothy's guidance to look beyond the cultural assets and see the human stories of Filipinos in Seattle's CID.

Salamat po to Uncle Fred, also known as Dr. Fred Cordova, FANHS Archivist for providing the cultural asset inventory found on the Filipino Kiosk on 6th & King Street in the CID.

Last but not least, salamat po to the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience and Cassie Chinn for her guidance, technical assistance and access to their collection and for funding from the Seattle Office of Economic Development Only in Seattle grant and the Mellon Foundation.

RESEARCH TEAM:

Team Members include:

- Project Manager/Primary Researcher Maria Batayola
- Research Advisor Dr. Dorothy L. Cordova, Executive Director of the Filipino American National Historical Society
- Project Advisor Cassie Chinn, Deputy Executive Director of the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience
- Research Associate Myron Banez, Seattle University Student Intern
- Research Assistant CJ Andrea Molo, Seattle University Intern
- Research Assistant Carlo Sanchez, Seattle University Intern



Seattle University Project Interns Winter 2019 from left to right: Research Assistant Carlo Luigi Sanchez, Research Associate Myron Joel Banez and Research Assistant CJ Andrea Molo.

CAUTION & HOPE

This research is but the beginning of a long journey to reclaim and proclaim Filipino presence and history in the CID. Please contact Maria Batayola at <u>mbjumpstart@msn.com</u>, FANHS National Office at 206.322.0204 or the Wing Luke Museum at <u>collections@wingluke.org</u> should you have information that adds to or clarifies the Filipino cultural assets in Seattle's CID.

FILIPINOS CULTURAL ASSET MAPPING IN CID

CID Boundaries:

The CID is a historical district with the following boundaries:

- Yesler Street to the north
- 4th Avenue South to the west
- Rainier Avenue to the east
- Dearborn/Charles Street to the south

Filipino Cultural Asset Baseline:

Through the years, Uncle Fred as FANHS Archivist would add to his list of Filipino establishments in the CID. The addresses and names of the establishments are on the Kiosk at 6th and King "Honoring the Contributions of Filipinos in Chinatown International District from 1910 to 2010." (Batayola subsequently added 1999 Carlos Bulosan Memorial and the 2004 Domingo Viernes Apartments to the list.)

Uncle Fred's list had 61 Filipino establishments in the CID and 6 in nearby Pioneer Square. The Filipino establishments in the CID included:

- 8 Affinity Groups with 3 (Caballeros Dimasalang, Legionarios Del Trabajo and Regional Philippine Grand Lodge of America) having multiple sub-groups.
- 2 Alaska Labor Contracting Companies
- 12 Barber Shops
- 11 Commercial Businesses, which include a clothing store and 2 photography studios, one woman owned (Aquilina Nator) with multiple businesses.
- 11 Cafes and Restaurants
- 3 Grocery Stores
- 1 Gym
- 2 Hotels
- 1 Newspaper
- 1 Card Room
- 4 Social Clubs, which included one that moved 4 times within the CID.
- 3 Union Offices
- 2 Other Establishments, which are not clear if one is a hotel or café and the other a newspaper or affinity group.

See pages 6, 7 and 8 for the list of baseline Filipino cultural assets that include names and addresses by type of establishments. <u>https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-gGH8ZEk8YOYpRU46?e=sNxoFG</u>

ADDRESS	ESTABLISHMENT	TYPE	Owner
613 S King St	Burgos Lodge No 10	Affinity Group	
506 Maynard Ave S	Sons & Daughters of Sta. Marria Assn. Del's Orient Express Bake	Affinity Group	Constantine Baruso
409 S Maynard Ave.	Shoppe	Bakery	Mabansag, Delfin & Carol
513 1/2 Maynard Ave S	Bataan Excel Barber Shop	Barber Shop	Cornelio Asuncio (Prop.)
106 4th Ave S	Macapas Barber Shop	Barber Shop	
810 6th Ave S	Angelino Merlino & Sons	Business	
614 S King St	Corregidor Dye Works	Business	Mariano Fabros, Pablo Soria
518 S Jackson St	Dick De Asis	Business	Dick De Asis
602 6th Ave S	Mariano L. Balancio Office	Business	Mariano Balancio
524 S King St	Rushmore Mutual Life	Business	Max N. Salvador
6th Ave S & Dearborn	Shell	Business	Dick Sanislo
514 S King St	Victory Shower & Bath	Business	Alfonso Bolivar
621 S King St.	World Book	Business	V. A. Velasco
7th Ave S	707 Broiler	Food (Café Restaurant)	Lope Malla (Owner-Chef)
625 S King St	Hi-Lite Cafe	Food (Café Restaurant)	
613 S Jackson St.	Joe's Cafe	Food (Café Restaurant)	George Baba (Prop.)
614-616 S King St	Manila Recreation-Cafe	Food (Café Restaurant)	
501 King St	Publix Lunch	Food (Café Restaurant)	Bill T. Lavaris and Gus P. Routos (Props.)
625 S King St.	Publix Lunch	Food (Café Restaurant)	Pete Routos, Tom Lambros, Pete Myrkis (Prop.)
500 King St	Red Front Cafe	Food (Café Restaurant)	Carl Manalang & Bert Domales
500 S Jackson St.	Red Front Tavern	Food (Café Restaurant)	
817 8th Ave S	La Union Grocery	Grocery	Val Obillo (Prop.)
521 6th Ave S	M M Grocery	Grocery	Alex Ocasion
521 6th Ave S	MM Grocery	Grocery	Alex Ocasion
604 5th Ave S	MM Grocery	Grocery	Val Obillo
705 1/2 S King St.	L.V.M. Hotel	Housing	Samusal, Vincente
524 S King St	Bayanihan Tribune	Newspaper	Ely U. Orias (Publisher) & D.V. Corsilles (Editor)

Table 1: 2011 BASELINE OF FILIPINO ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CID

200 5th Ave	Connie's Pool Room	Recreation	Dan Sarusal, Mrs. Camposano (Prop.)
200 5th Ave S	Dan's Pool and Card Room	Recreation	Dan Sarusal (Prop.)
	Peter Pan International Pool		
505 S. King St.	Hall	Recreation	Calos, Max
514 King St	Filipino Pioneer's Club	Social Club	Ray Guarin
524 S King St	Filipino Service Club	Social Club	

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY TO LOCATE FILIPINO ESTABLISHMENTS:

Initially, inquiries were made to the City of Seattle business licensing office. Business information is not filed by ethnicity e.g. Filipino. Hence, the research team turned to Auntie Dorothy for access and guidance to the FANHS Archives and Collections.

The Research Interns reviewed the Wing Luke Museum database with oral history excerpts, which was not extensive. They then painstakingly combed through sampling of 1930 to 1975 Filipino Forum and Bayanihan Tribune hard copy newspapers from the FANHS Collection to harvest the name, address and at times, the owner or proprietor of the establishment.

The Ads for the Filipino establishments were used as proof positive that the Filipino establishments existed in the CID. Further research is necessary to determine when the establishments opened and when they closed their doors. (See samples on page10.)

Data Sets:

Sources were reviewed to identify Filipino establishments in the CID with the following results:

- Wing Luke Museum database and oral history list: <u>https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-qF1kFWqW6molCNEH?e=pD5pOM</u>
- Filipino establishments posted newspaper ads:
 - Filipino Forum Newspaper 1951 to 1958 <u>https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-qF1kFWqW6molCNEH?e=Sn6KOy</u>
 - Filipino Forum Newspaper 1960 to 1969 <u>https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-qF7Dys1smq8sAAKh?e=emWpnX</u>
 - Filipino Forum Newspaper 1970 & Bayani Tribune 1975 <u>https://1drv.ms/x/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-qF8xUZePAAB5ugrw?e=TVEjI1</u>

Research Assistant Sanchez observed that the March 1970 Bayani Tribune issue did not contain any advertising for businesses but rather focused on church and social happenings. The data was compared to Uncle Fred's baseline cultural asset data to remove duplications. 32 additional Filipino establishments were identified in the CID which included:

- 2 Affinity Groups
- o 1 Bakery
- o 2 Barbershops
- o 8 Businesses
- o 8 Cafes/Tavern
- o 4 Grocery Stores
- o 1 Housing Hotel
- 1 Newspaper
- 3 Recreation Pool and Card Rooms
- 2 Social Clubs

See below and page 9 for a list of the additional Filipino cultural assets that include names and addresses by type of establishments. <u>https://1drv.ms/u/s!AsxiHr7uaVr-gGRQTHeQYOoHydAy?e=4fdnE2</u>

Table 2: 2020 ADDITIONAL FILIPINO ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CID			
ADDRESS	ESTABLISHMENT	TYPE	Owner
613 S King St	Burgos Lodge No 10	Affinity Group	
506 Maynard Ave S	Sons & Daughters of Sta. Marria Assn.	Affinity Group	Constantine Baruso
409 S Maynard Ave.	Del's Orient Express Bake Shoppe	Bakery	Mabansag, Delfin & Carol
513 1/2 Maynard Ave S	Bataan Excel Barber Shop	Barber Shop	Cornelio Asuncio (Prop.)
106 4th Ave S	Macapas Barber Shop	Barber Shop	
810 6th Ave S	Angelino Merlino & Sons	Business	
614 S King St	Corregidor Dye Works	Business	Mariano Fabros, Pablo Soria
518 S Jackson St	Dick De Asis	Business	Dick De Asis
602 6th Ave S	Mariano L. Balancio Office	Business	Mariano Balancio
524 S King St	Rushmore Mutual Life	Business	Max N. Salvador
6th Ave S & Dearborn	Shell	Business	Dick Sanislo
514 S King St	Victory Shower & Bath	Business	Alfonso Bolivar
621 S King St.	World Book	Business	V. A. Velasco
7th Ave S	707 Broiler	Food (Café Restaurant)	Lope Malla (Owner- Chef)
625 S King St	Hi-Lite Café	Food (Café Restaurant)	
613 S Jackson St.	Joe's Café	Food (Café Restaurant)	George Baba (Prop.)
614-616 S King St	Manila Recreation-Cafe	Food (Café Restaurant)	

Table 2: 2020 ADDITIONAL FILIPINO ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CID

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501 King St	Publix Lunch	Food (Café Restaurant)	Bill T. Lavaris and Gus P. Routos (Props.)
			Pete Routos, Tom
		Food (Café	Lambros, Pete Myrkis
625 S King St.	Publix Lunch	Restaurant)	(Prop.)
		Food (Café	Carl Manalang & Bert
500 King St	Red Front Café	Restaurant)	Domales
		Food (Café	
500 S Jackson St.	Red Front Tavern	Restaurant)	
		Food (Café	
	Estigoy Café (and pool hall)	Restaurant)	Estigoy Family
6 th & King St.	Bhilippping Cofé	Food (Café Restaunrant)	Ribiana Laiga
ŭ	Philipppine Café		Bibiana Laigo
817 8th Ave S	La Union Grocery	Grocery	Val Obillo (Prop.)
705 1/2 S King St.	L.V.M. Hotel	Housing	Samusal, Vincente
			Ely U. Orias
F04 0 1/1 01			(Publisher) & D.V.
524 S King St	Bayanihan Tribune	Newspaper	Corsilles (Editor) Dan Sarusal, Mrs.
200 5th Ave	Connie's Pool Room	Recreation	Camposano (Prop.)
200 5th Ave S	Dan's Pool and Card Room	Recreation	Dan Sarusal (Prop.)
505 S. King St.	Peter Pan International Pool Hall	Recreation	Calos, Max
514 King St	Filipino Pioneer's Club	Social Club	Ray Guarin
524 S King St	Filipino Service Club	Social Club	

TABLE 3: TOTAL FILIPINO ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CID

	Uncel Fred's		Total
	List	FACAM Results	Total
Affinity Groups	8	2	10
Alaska Labor Contractors	2		2
Bakery		1	1
Barber Shops	12	2	14
Businesses	11	8	19
Cafes & Restaurants	11	10	21
Grocery Stores	3	1	4
Gym	1		1
Hotels/Inns	2	1	3
Newspapers	1	1	2
Recreation/Card Pool Halls	1	3	4
Social Clubs	4	2	6
Union Offices	3		3
Not Clear	2		2
Total	61	31	92

