

MAPPING THE CHINESE COMMUNITY OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

DELIVERABLE

PROBLEM

In Bellevue's museums there is an absence and underrepresentation of Washington's Chinese community in addition to a gap within the recorded history of this community. This project intends to address this absence by centering this community in a Bellevue heritage center/museum, the Eastside Heritage Center, through a detailed map of sites and locations relevant to the Chinese community.

PURPOSE & IMPACT

The Eastside Heritage Center expressed a desire to focus more of their programs and collections on non-white communities and histories. This project will be made available to the Eastside Heritage center to include in their own programming.

RESULTS & INTENTIONS

The map highlights a small window of the expansive history of the Chinese community across Western Washington. Documenting a snapshot of these sites and histories in a handheld format (and digital format) makes this information more accessible and engaging to individuals who might not have known the history covered in the map. This project will be a step toward enhancing the awareness of this community within a Bellevue heritage center, highlighting this community's experiences and key individuals while moving through the history of the region. The map's availability in both a physical and digital format will allow it to reach the audience of in-person museum visitors in addition to virtual and potential visitors through the online format.

EARLY STEPS

Research host site & determine gap in offering; review existing history in literature & host site's website; survey & discuss host site's needs from project & timeline for completion

Define scope; determine 1-10 locations to highlight in map along with key individuals from community

DESIGN

Develop 1-2 designs with varying layouts for map content; determine available space & photo presence

Workshop designs, discuss with thesis committee members & faculty advisor

PRINTING

Send all final elements to thesis committee members for final feedback & edits

Send maps to print and fold for shipping, mail final maps to Eastside Heritage Center

REFERENCES

CHESLEY, FRANK. "GOON DIP (CA. 1862-1933)". MAY 26, 2009.
CHEW, RON. "THE IE TURNS 50: THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT CHINATOWN-ID EVENTS EVERYONE FORGOT ABOUT." INTERNATIONAL EXAMINER, JULY 28, 2023.
CHIN, DOUGH, AND CHIN, ART. THE LEGACY OF WASHINGTON STATE'S EARLY CHINESE PIONEERS. THE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINER, 1987.
KLINGLE, MATTHEW W. "A HISTORY BURSTING WITH TELLING: ASIAN AMERICANS IN WASHINGTON STATE." CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. "SEATTLE CHINATOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT (U.S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE)." NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE.
TAKAMI, DAVID. CHINESE AMERICANS IN WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 17, 1999.

RESEARCH

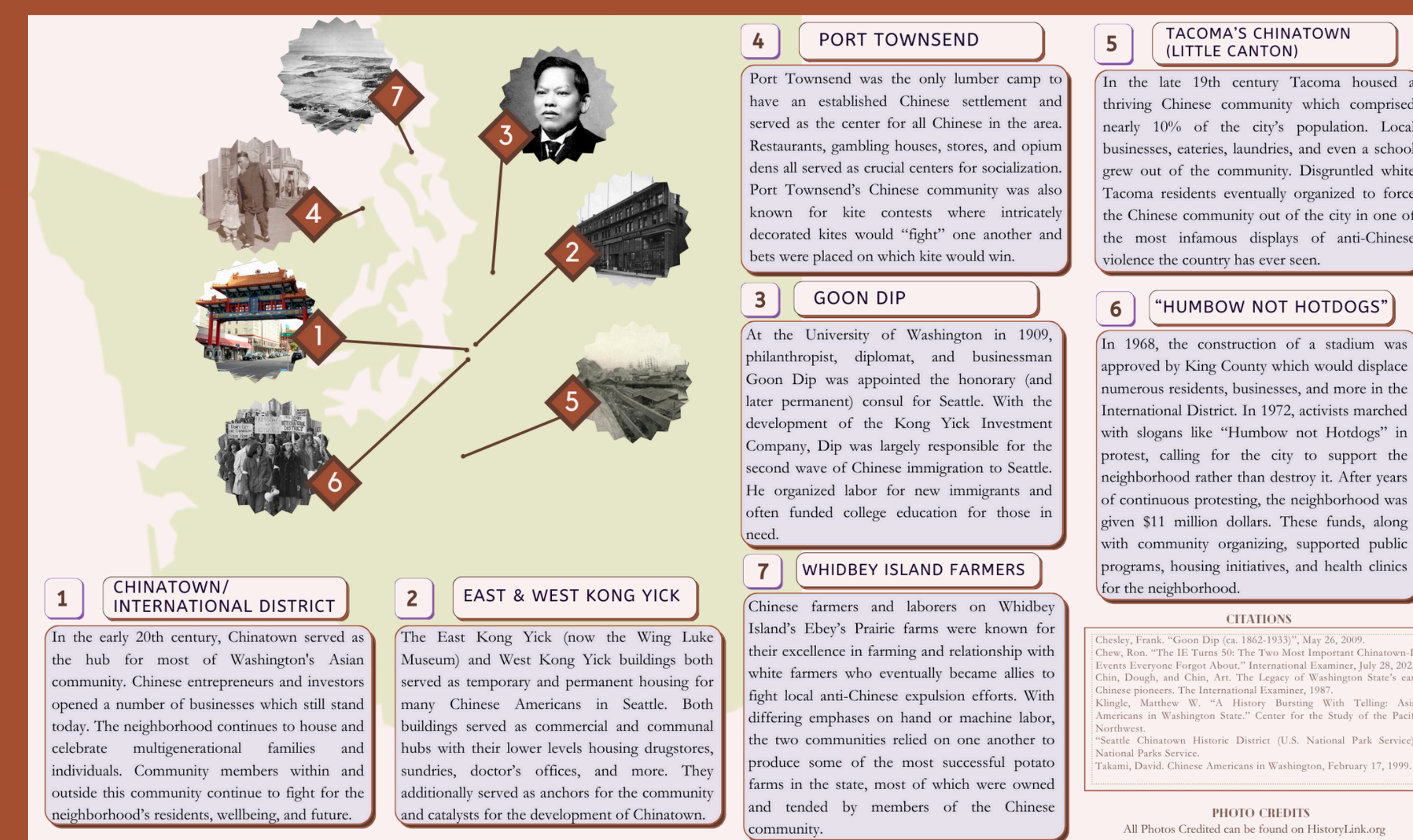
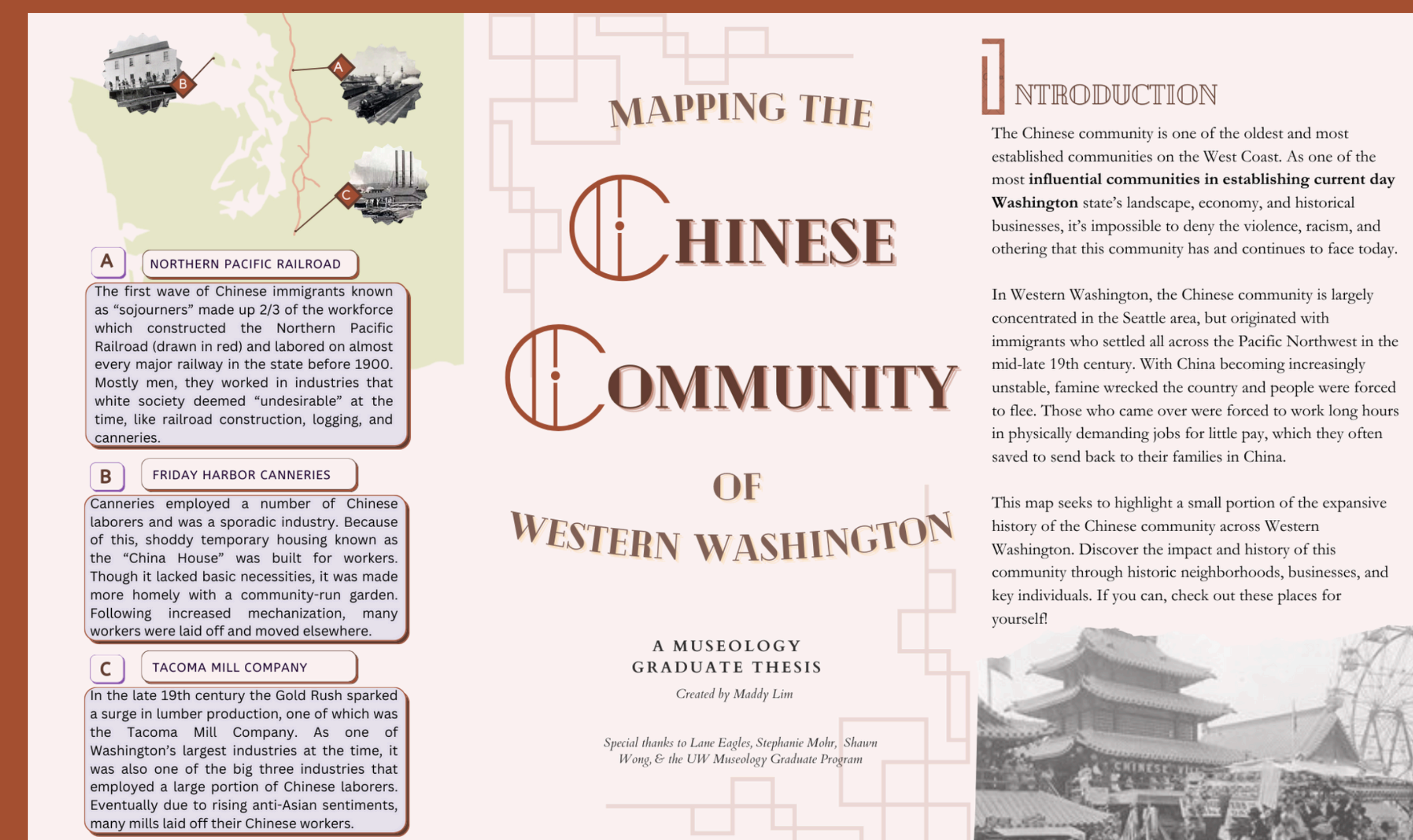
Research similar concepts and map designs to determine layout for images, content, & locations

Research history of Chinese Identify main events & locations for the community throughout 19th and 20th centuries

REFINEMENT

Review design feedback and finalize map design with chosen topics for map content; finalize map content through editing process

Complete 2-3 iterations of map before reaching final draft stages



REFLECTIONS & NEXT STEPS

The finalized map will be mailed to the Eastside Heritage Center to display in-person and online. While it's near impossible to include the entirety of this community's history into this project, the map highlights some of the largest and most influential settlements and individuals within the community. Ideally this project is a small step towards the implementation of marginalized communities into discussions and understandings of U.S. history and culture.