

# New York Chinatown

A list of resources at the Chatham Square Branch Library

*These books are located in the Chinese-American Heritage Reference Collection,  
with circulating copies available in the Books About China section.*



## Histories and Studies

*Chinatown No More.* (1992)

Hsiang-shui Chen

305.8951 C | Circulating copies available.

Discusses Chinese immigration during the 1980s, provides a general background of Queens Chinatown and the Taiwanese immigrants living there, and attempts to contrast the social structure of Queens Chinatown with Manhattan Chinatown.

*Chinatown: Economic Adaption and Ethnic Identity of the Chinese.* (1982)

Bernard P. Wong

305.8951 W | Reference Only

A well-written guide to Chinatown, with chapters on history, social structure, work, family, identity, and festivals. Includes some pictures of recognizable landmarks around Chinatown.

*Chinatown: The Socioeconomic Potential of an Urban Enclave.* (1992)

Min Zhou

305.8951 Z | Circulating copies available.

Considers Chinatown as "an immigrant enclave with strong socioeconomic potential for channeling immigrant Chinese into the mainstream U.S. society."

*The New Chinatown.* (1987)

Peter Kwong

330.9747 K | Circulating copies available.

A discussion of the changing social structure of New York Chinatown, through waves of immigration and foreign investment. It attempts to problematize the idea that Chinese-Americans living there are successful and integrated, a "model minority."

*Chinatown, NY: Labor and Politics, 1930-1950.*

(1979)

Peter Kwong

331.6251 K | Circulating copies available.

Reconstructs the history of the labor movement in Chinatown, in an effort to dispel "a stereotype of Chinese passivity that is very much at odds with historical reality..."

*Red Boat on the Canal: Cantonese Opera in New York Chinatown.* (2000)

Isabelle Duchesne, Ph.D., Editor.

782 R | Circulating copy available.

From the Museum of Chinese in the Americas, a volume featuring essays about Chinatown opera clubs, with photographs of performances, instruments and costumes.

*A Pictorial History of Early Chinatown, New York City.* (1980)

917.471 H | Reference only.

The catalog of a permanent exhibition at the Chinese Community Center at 62 Mott Street, with approximately 70 pages of historical photographs.

*Chinatown: A Portrait of a Closed Society.* (1992)

Gwen Kinkead

974.71 K | Circulating copies available.

An introduction to the history and character of Chinatown and the Chinese people who live there from an outsider's perspective.

*Social and Political Change in New York's Chinatown:*

*The Role of Voluntary Associations.* (1977)

Chia-ling Kuo

974.71 K | Circulating copies available.

A sociological study of voluntary associations and their role in social change, tracing their history from the traditional Chinese form to the modern American. Considers that voluntary associations are social organizations that affect social change and encourage democracy.

*Reconstructing Chinatown: Ethnic Enclave, Global Change.* (1998)

Jan Lin

974.71 L | Circulating copies available.

An ethnographic (interpretive) overview of history and social change in Chinatown, considered on "the material, social, and symbolic levels." Particular attention is paid to stereotypes.



## Histories and Studies, continued

*Surviving the City: The Chinese Immigrant Experience in New York City, 1890-1970.* (2001)

Xinyang Wang

974.71 W | Circulating copies available.

Explores economic and labor issues that affected Chinese Immigrants in New York City.

## Biography

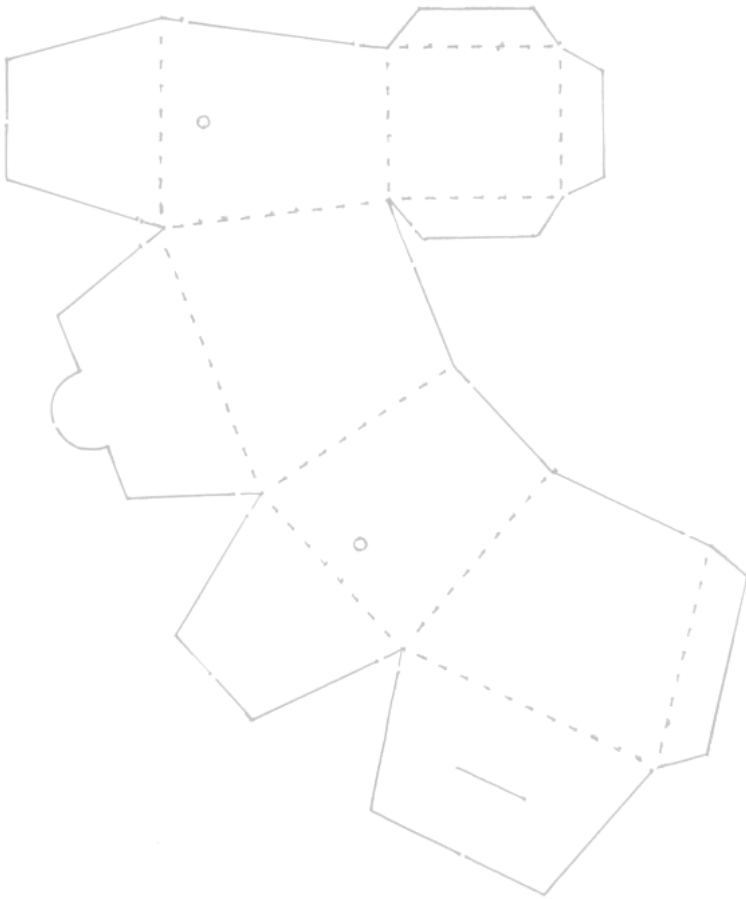
*Tea that Burns.* (1998)

Bruce Edward Hall

B Hall | Circulating copies available

An autobiography, a family history, and a history of Chinatown told through the stories of early immigrants, all in one.

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## Newspapers and Magazines

Articles can be found by searching NYPL's databases. A list of these can be found at the Electronic Resources page of the NYPL website, [www.nypl.org/databases](http://www.nypl.org/databases).

## Books at Other Branches

Chatham Square isn't the only branch with books about Chinatown. Ask a librarian to show you how to search LEO, the Branch Libraries catalog, to locate books at other branches.

## Additional Resources at NYPL

If you can't find the materials you need at Chatham Square or the Branch Libraries, you may want to consider a visit to the Research Libraries. In particular, The Humanities and Social Sciences Library has a large archive of books and periodicals related to New York Chinatown. Ask a librarian to show you how to search the Research Libraries catalog.

## Chinatown NYC Vertical File

Since the early 1970s, librarians at Chatham Square have been collecting fliers, pamphlets, and other ephemera from around Chinatown, and clipping articles from regional newspapers that are not archived anywhere else in the city.

The Vertical File includes folders about local organizations, charities, churches, museums and libraries. It also has folders for other subjects, including gangs, real estate, theater and transportation.

Speak with a librarian if you would like to do research in the Vertical File. A list of folder names is available upon request.

