Guide to the Lue Gim Gong collection, 1886-1935

Descriptive Summary

Title: Lue Gim Gong collection
Creator: Lue, Gim Gong (1860-1925)
Dates: 1886-1935
ID Number: G06
Size: 1.00 box
Language(s): English

Repository: Special Collections
University of South Florida Libraries
4202 East Fowler Ave., LIB122
Tampa, Florida 33620
Phone: 813-974-2731 - Fax: 813-396-9006
Contact Special Collections

Administrative Summary

Provenance: Lue, Gim Gong, 1860-1925
Acquisition Information: acquisition
Use Conditions: None. The contents of this collection may be subject to copyright. Visit the United States Copyright Office's website at http://www.copyright.gov for more information.
Processing History: Complete
Preferred Citation: Lue Gim Gong Collection, Special Collections Department, Tampa Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.

Biographical Note

Lue (pronounced Loo-ee) Gim Gong grew up in the southern Chinese village of Lung On, where he first began experimenting with horticulture as a child. In 1872, at the age of twelve, he came to the United States, where Lue found work in shoe factories, first in San Francisco, and then in North Adams, Massachusetts. His Christian tutor, Fanny Burlingame, took an interest in his gardening skills and became his sponsor, eventually taking Lou into her family's home. When Lou became ill with tuberculosis, Fanny suggested he relocate to her family's citrus groves in DeLand, Florida. In 1887, with the help of Fanny, Lou became a United States citizen. Lou developed both an orange and a grapefruit variety that could withstand freezes and were more flavorful than previous varieties. Lou gained much respect and admiration from the horticulture community, receiving the Silver Wilder Medal from the American Pomological Society in 1911. On June 3, 1925, the "Father of Florida's Citrus Industry" died in DeLand, FL, Arson, Virginia. Gift of the Unicorn: The Story of Lue Gim Gong, Florida's Citrus Wizard. Sarasota, FL: Pineapple Press, 2002. Lue Gim Gong, 1859-1925: Father of Florida's Citrus Industry. http://www.firm.edu/civiced/games/faces/gong/html. Retrieved April 6, 2005.

Scope Note

The collection primarily consists of photographs of Lue Gim Gong with the Burlingame family, the citrus grove in DeLand, and the many visitors who came to the family home. Also includes newspaper clippings, legal papers, and a Bible study journal.

Arrangement Note: Organized by subject.

Arrangement

Organized by subject.

Subject Headings

Subject Terms: Citrus -- Florida -- De Land -- History
Fruit growers -- Florida -- De Land (Fla.)
Horticulture

COLLECTION CONTENTS
FOLDER 1: Bible study journal - approx. 300 pages, consisting primarily of Bible excerpts in Lue Gim Gong's hand.

FOLDER 2: Biographical Material

FOLDER 3: Correspondence

FOLDER 4: Legal Papers

FOLDER 5: Mickler's Floridiana - Notes on the collection

FOLDER 6: Newspapers - Citrus Industry Section, 1/9/1931

Scope/Content: Article "Leu Gim Gong, Philosopher and Scientist" by Earl Brown. [Photocopy also in Folder 2]

FOLDER 7: Newspapers - New York American, 8/8/1909

FOLDER 8: Newspapers - San Min Morning Paper [Chicago, IL], 8/14/1933

Scope/Content: In Chinese.

FOLDER 9: Photographs - China

FOLDER 10: Photographs - Florida Scenes, etc.

FOLDER 11: Photographs - House and Grounds

FOLDER 12: Photographs - Lue Gim Gong [alone]

FOLDER 13: Photographs - Lue Gim Gong [early, 1880's & 1890's]

FOLDER 14: Photographs - Lue Gim Gong and Groups [mostly unidentified groups of visitors]

FOLDER 15: Photographs - Lue Gim Gong and Groups in Grove [mostly unidentified groups of visitors in Lue Gim Gong's citrus grove]

FOLDER 16: Photographs - Lue Gim Gong and Horses [mostly taken near house or in citrus grove]

FOLDER 17: Photographs - Miscellaneous, Non-Florida

FOLDER 18: Photographs - People [Identified]

FOLDER 19: Photographs - People [Unidentified]
FOLDER 20: Photographs - People - Marcellus Family

FOLDER 21: Photographs - Pets [Dogs and cats]

Last modified on May 27th, 2020

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