



THE TAKAHASHI TRADING COMPANY 200 RHODE ISLAND STREET

COMMUNITY SPONSORED LANDMARK APPLICATION

Historic Preservation Commission
November 17, 2021

Image Credit: Architectural Resources Group



San Francisco
Planning

200 Rhode Island Street **The Takahashi Trading Company**



Image Credit: Eagle View

200 Rhode Island Street **The Takahashi Trading Company**

Significance

- **Criterion 1 (Events)**
 - Post-War resettlement of Japanese-Americans
 - Redevelopment
- **Criterion 2 (People)**
 - Henri and Tomoye Takahashi, Masako Martha Suzuki
- **Criterion 3 (Architecture)**
 - Early, intact work of G. Albert Lansburg
- **Period of Significance : 1912, 1965-2019**

200 Rhode Island Street **The Takahashi Trading Company**



Takahashi Trading Co. Headquarters 200 Rhode Island Street



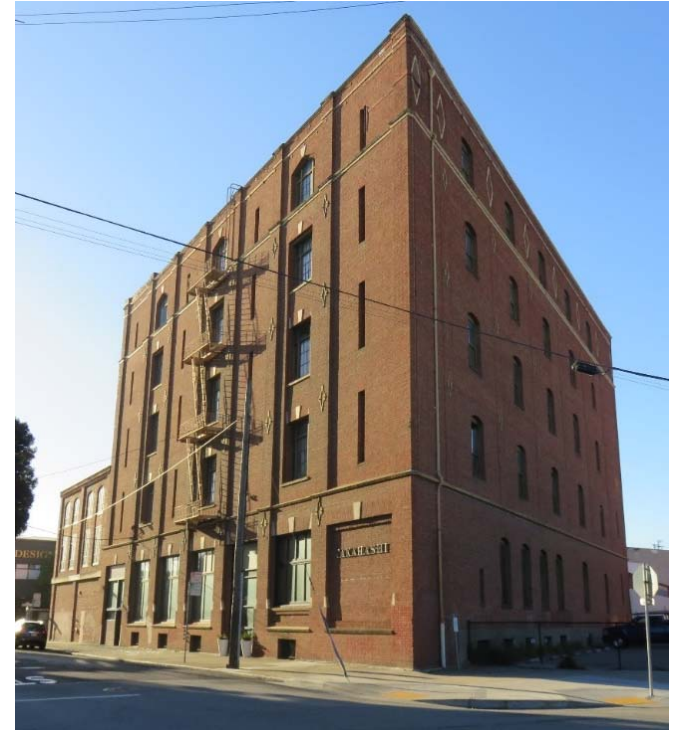
G. Albert Lansburgh

Pacific Coast Architecture Database.



1912

San Francisco Call, January 13, 1912.



Architectural Resources Group.

Tomoye & Henri Takahashi

AT DOLL PARTY




Anne Saito, (left), and Tomoye Nozawa, Japanese co-eds at the University of California, will preside as hostesses at a tea party to be held tomorrow afternoon at the International House on the campus during which a Japanese doll display will be exhibited. —Tribune photo.

Japanese Women to Give Benefit Doll Tea at U. C.

BERKELEY, March 2.—To raise funds for a clubhouse of their own, members of the Japanese Women's Club of the University of California will give a benefit tea party at the International House on the campus tomorrow afternoon. In addition to the usual fare, there will be a Japanese doll display.

Oakland Tribune, March 2, 1934.



TOMOYE K. NOZAWA
 San Francisco
 Letters and Science—Oriental Languages—Household Art
 Japanese Women Students Club; Phi Theta; Delta Chi Alpha; International House; Phrateres; Y. W. C. A.

1937

UC Berkeley yearbook, 1937.

REMINISCENCES BY HENRI TAKAHASHI

A POIGNANT DRAMA

It was just another boat leaving for Japan. And the usual farewells — hurried, poignant, here and there, little dramatic scenes of parting. Colored streamers waterfaling down the sides of the liner showering into the crowd below. Words of parting shouted hoarsely above the hubbub...

We stood apart, viewing the scene dispassionately, for we had come out of pure curiosity. As we looked on we noticed a boy of about eleven years, alone, throwing streamers down to a middle aged man below, apparently his father. As yet he was unsuccessful in his attempts, his streamers either falling short landing into the water, or slipping entirely out of his hands.

Slowly the liner started to move. The boy desperately, nervously began throwing his streamer, aimed carefully, then hurled his last streamer. It sailed beautifully through the air towards its mark. His father eagerly ran to it. Tenderly reached for it. Almost grasped it at the edge of the pier, when a breeze watted the streamer tantalizingly out of his reach. "Ah!" sighed the crowd as one person.

The shoulders of the middle aged man slumped slightly. "O-shii na!" (What a pity!) commented a sympathetic person, uttering a sentiment which we felt only too keenly. It was just another boat leaving for Japan...

A SUMMARY REMARK

After a brisk climb we reached a clearing from where we had a beautiful view of a tranquil scene. Far below us imbedded in green was the famous Itsukushima Jinja of Miyajima. Beside the temple a five-storied pagoda rose majestically above gnarled pine trees. Reddish brown tile roofs of the temple buildings sparkled dully in the soft warm sunlight. Caressing waters lapped the bases of the historic Torii, as herds of deer lazily grazed in the soft grounds. The mirror lake beside the shrine reflected a crescent bridge which carved gracefully near by. We surveyed the scene quietly, a quiet which eloquently expressed our appreciation. After a brief pause one of the party pointed at a delicately-shaped maple leaf near by and exclaimed, "Even the maple leaf is beautiful!" thus neatly summarizing the whole scene in a phrase pregnant with meaning. Mers, but none landed accurately. By this time quite a few of the crowd was viewing this little drama with no uncertain interest. The boy paused for a moment. **ART EXHIBIT** We visited an art exhibit one fine day. We had a wonderful time browsing from Van Gogh to Cezanne to Picasso to Matisse to Renoir and to host of others. We assumed an air of authority as we scrutinized each picture. Our enjoyment, however, was not altogether centered on the paintings. We had a grand time listening to the comments of the various self-appointed critics who tried very hard to be heard beyond their little separate groups. As we loitered here and there we noticed among the crowd another Japanese also more or less engrossed in the exhibition. She noticed us too, it seemed, and no matter how hard we tried to concentrate on Van Gogh or Gauguin, we invariably rested art soaked eyes on her. Apparently she must have felt the same way for our eyes met several times causing no end of embarrassment. It got to be so bad that we no longer thought of the masterpieces hanging on the walls. Thinking that such a situation was somewhat sacrilegious in the presence of the ers we humbly departed.

1938

Shin Sekai Asahi Shinbun (New World Sun), September 5, 1938.

Tanforan Totalizer

TANFORAN
Totalizer

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 chika, **Henri Takahashi**,
 Ken Tsunetsuki

1942

Tanforan Totalizer, July 11, 1942.

July 11, 1942 Page 5

EDUCATION

When Americanization classes started June 18, 123 issei and kibei enrolled. There were 339 the next week. Since then the number has snowballed to 360, and the teaching staff expects the figure to be close to 500 before month's end.

The classes have attracted both men and women, the young and the old. At present 2/3 of the attendance is composed of women, most of them married. The age of the students extend from several kibei in their teens to G. Kodashiro, 77, who hasn't missed a single class from the first day.

Subjects now being offered include etiquette, social graces, letter writing, conversation, phonetics, vocabulary building, reading, writing and business English. An assembly is being planned at which well-known American folk-songs will be sung.

Increased enrollment has necessitated an enlargement of the teaching personnel. Opening for 2 more instructors with bilingual ability was announced this week by Tomoyo Takahashi, supervisor of the Americanization classes. College degrees are not essential. Applicants are asked to Contact Mrs. Takahashi

1942

Tanforan Totalizer, July 11, 1942.

Topaz Times

Topaz Times May 29, 1943

SPORTS PARADE

BY HENRI TAKAHASHI

HOSPITAL REDS NOSE OUT COMMISSARY SQUAD, 9-8

Before 400 yelling spectators, the powerful Hospital Redshirts bunched their 6 blows to defeat the Commissary team, 9-8, despite a thrilling last inning rally staged by the Distributors.

In the 3rd inning, the Medicos counted 5 times on 3 safeties, 4 walks and 2 costly errors, giving them a 6 run lead.

The commissary scored a run in the 4th, another in the 5th, and then counted 4 runs in the 6th.

INDUSTRIAL AA STANDINGS			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Hospital	2	0	1.000

1943

Topaz Times, May 29, 1943.

WOMEN'S MIRROR

By Tomoyo Takahashi

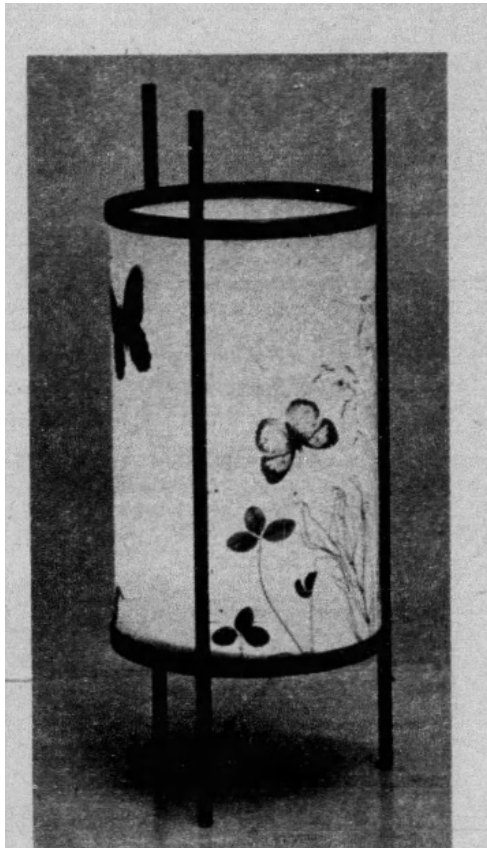
OUR IDEAL

We stick our neck out too far this time by daring to form an ideal man of the composite with the intelligence of Mike Masaoka, the mind of Paul Fujii, the linguistic ability of James Oki and the diplomacy of James Hirano, the honor and character of Bill Fujita, the drive of Ernie Takahashi, the personality of Dave Tatsuno, the refinement of Warren Watanabe, the artistic sensibilities of Mas Yabuki and Wat Miura, the wit and humor of Tak Yatabe, the organizing ability of Bob Tsuda, the managing skill of Tad Hirota, Newton Tani's and Tom Tsuji's musical talent, the poise of Norman Nakashima, the voice of Victor Abe and John Yoshino, the patient understanding of Henri Takahashi, the business head of Toby Ogawa, the height of Hiramaki, the look of Michael Okusa, the wit of Harry Takahashi, and the build and the strength of Izumi...Just one girl's idea. And yours?

1943

Topaz Times, May 15, 1943.

Takahashi Trading Co.



Tomoye Takahashi designed this yard-high lamp, inspired by Japanese court bedroom lamp of 12th century; frame is wood.

1954

Los Angeles Times, July 18, 1954.



Various pottery marks and stickers, Modern Japanese Pottery and Porcelain Marks.



San Francisco Public Library.

Architectural Resources Group.



Tomoye Takahashi (1915-2016) &
Henri Takahashi (1914-2002)



Martha Suzuki
(1921-2012)



Martha Suzuki & Tomoye Takahashi



**The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi
Charitable Foundation**