

Memorial to the Chinese Laborers

悼念於1874-1892建築水壩四位犧牲了性命以及其他為這水壩工作的無名華裔工人

在1889年9月16日的晚上四位華工正在隧道外的運河進行挖掘工程，不幸被炸喪生。在1888和1889年期間，華人挖掘及炸開了一條1,438 英尺的過山隧道。此隧道引淡水由Chabot湖經過670英尺的運河再到達San Leandro小溪，供應淡水給該區居民。雖然記錄不多，但根據資料顯示，華人的成就是非凡的。華人只是使用手工工具，例如鎬和鐵鍬，清除了333英畝灌木和叢木，挖掘了3,100英尺的隧道，建成超過15英里的公路和18英里的圍欄，和搬運了600,000立方碼的泥土。

我們追悼這批為我們獻身的華裔工人。他們的血汗及偉大奉獻精神，永存於加利福尼亞的歷史中。

Translation courtesy of Helen May-Hong Chou and Ernest Chann

The Alameda County Historical Society dedicates this panel to:

Ah Bing-41, Kim Yuen-29, Toy Sing-31, and Lock Sing-33, who died outside this tunnel. This panel is also dedicated to the countless unnamed and unsung Chinese laborers who worked on Lake Chabot Dam from 1874 to 1892.

In 1888 and 1889 Chinese laborers dug and dynamited 1,438 feet through rock hillside to make this spillway tunnel. Overflow water from the lake passes through the tunnel, into the 670 foot masonry-lined canal and then back to San Leandro Creek.

On the evening of September 16, 1889, a dynamite explosion killed four Chinese laborers who were digging the canal outside this tunnel.

While records of Chinese laborers are scant, their achievements were enormous. Using hand tools such as pickaxes and shovels, they cleared 333 acres of bush and timber, blasted 3,100 feet of tunnels, built more than 15 miles of roads and 18 miles of fences, and moved 600,000 cubic yards of earth.

Chinese laborers built Lake Chabot with back-breaking labor. Belatedly, we honor their significant contributions to the historic legacy of California.



courtesy of EBMUD

The hand cut stone used for the tunnel was quarried from creeks nearby and pulled by steamboat on a barge like the one above.

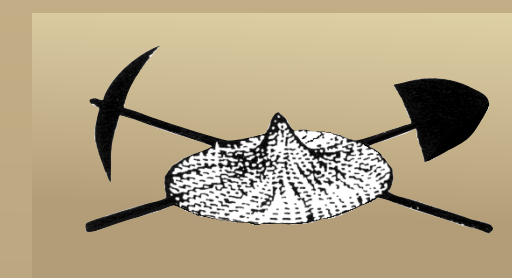


courtesy of EBMUD

The Chinese laborers employed techniques similar to those used in building the Trans-continental railroads.



Chinese Historical Society of America



The tunnel is the length of four football fields and connected to Lake Chabot. Note the fine hand-crafted masonry of chiseled stone, burnt brick, and Portland cement at the entrance. Can you see where the masonry shifts from stone to brick?



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