

# HOMESCAPES/WARSCAPES <sup>25</sup>/<sub>30</sub>

## The Delta is in the Heart: Excavating the Historical Archaeology of Isleton's Chinese American Community

October 27, 2016

12:30 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

Humanities Interim Classroom Facility 100K

University of California, Irvine

*For more information, please contact Professor Judy Wu at [j.wu@uci.edu](mailto:j.wu@uci.edu)*

In the late 19th century, Chinese American laborers constructed levees in Northern California along the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers in the Sacramento Delta. These levees transformed the swampy Delta into a rich agricultural region that demanded labor. Chinatowns formed in small rural Delta towns, which became home to many permanent and transient Asian American farmworkers through the middle of the 20th century. This talk focuses on the interdisciplinary historical archaeological study of Isleton Chinatown under the period of Exclusion, and the possibilities of material culture to explore everyday social histories of individuals, families, and communities.



Kelly Fong

*Dr. Kelly Fong is a fifth-generation Chinese American, historical archaeologist, and Asian American Studies scholar. Her work bridges her passion for Asian American social histories, family histories, and historical archaeology to study everyday life in Exclusion-era Isleton Chinatown, located in California's Sacramento Delta. She currently teaches in Asian American Studies at California State University, Northridge.*