Anti-Asian housing discrimination in Berkeley

1920: Neighbors protest plans to sell 2211 Stuart to an Oriental, and council asks the Realty Board to further discourage sales.

1923: Neighbors protest home sale at Camelia & Stannage to Orientals, and council encourages neighbors to “arouse public sentiment” to prevent sale.


1914: School board opposes admitting two Hindoo students to Berkeley High.

1922: Council asks staff to find ways to prevent sale of 2510 Fulton to Japanese.

1923: Neighbors oppose the use of a building to house Chinese American orphans, complaining that it will introduce Orientals to the neighborhood.

1939: Resident asks council to pass law barring property sales to Asians and colored people, like Albany is attempting.

1920: Neighbors protest landlord renting to Japanese tenants at 1401 Spruce.

1938: 94% of property owners protest planned Hindu temple at Piedmont and Dwight, even though architect assures neighbors there will be no Oriental architecture, and no Orientals will attend.

1939: Anger at rumors of Japanese at 2510 Fulton.

1939: Despite the Realty Board’s work to encourage racial covenants, residents warn that Orientals and colored people might still be able to move in between Grove & Sacramento, Dwight & University. Councilman advises residents to establish 100% covenant coverage.

1907: Neighbors demand that four households of “coolies and Hindoos” be ejected from near 6th & Grayson and further west. The San Francisco Chronicle predicts a “race conflict.” Police try to avert an incident, and go on to arrest 14 Indian immigrants.

1909: Neighbors are up at arms about George Shima buying a home at College & Parker.

1936: Concerned neighbors spread rumors that property at Amador & Shattuck has been sold to Japanese.

1922: Property owner is allowed to move his home to Vine & Shattuck as long as he doesn’t have Japanese tenants.

1919: Council blocks Japanese housing at 2539 Fulton.

1923: Neighbors allow property reclassification at Ada & McGee as long as it’s never transferred to Orientals.

1939: Resident asks council to pass law barring property sales to Asians and colored people, like Albany is attempting.