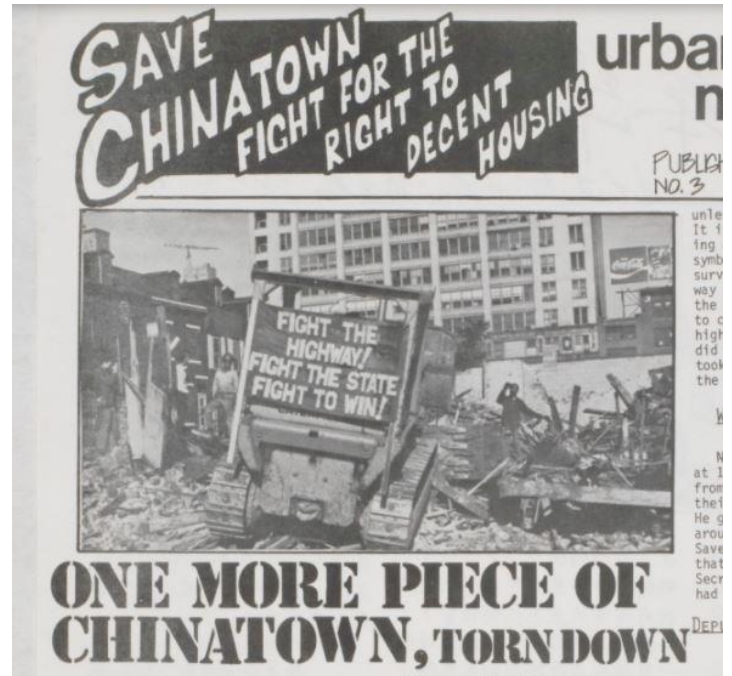


Saving Chinatown

The construction of the Vine Street Expressway in Philadelphia in the 1970s threatened to wipe out the Chinatown community. Community members led a grassroots campaign to resist the changes, mobilizing support from both inside and outside the neighborhood. They effectively used pickets, petitions, and persistent lobbying of lawmakers to pressure transportation authorities to incorporate community input in their plans. The result of their efforts was a significantly downsized construction project and the protection of important community hubs, like the Holy Redeemer Church and School from demolition.



Primary sources

- ❖ Yam Tong Hoh papers [Collection MSS126]
- ❖ "Chinatown Redevelopment Study," Drexel University Evening College. Philadelphia, PA, 1970. [Call no. F158.9.C5 D7x]
- ❖ Chinatown Oral History Project Interviews, from the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies [Collection D0447]
- ❖ *Save Chinatown* (documentary). Jon Wing Lum, producer and director. Philadelphia, PA, 1973.
 - http://digitallibrary.hsp.org/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/7590
- ❖ Images from HSP's Digital Library, including maps of the development project, pictures, flyers, and newspaper clippings:
 - <http://digitallibrary.hsp.org/index.php/Search/Index?search=chinatown>

Secondary sources

- ❖ Mary Yee. "The Save Chinatown Movement: Surviving against All Odds," *Pennsylvania Legacies*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (May 2012), 24-31.
 - https://hsp.org/sites/hsp.org/files/attachments/save_chinatown_movement.pdf