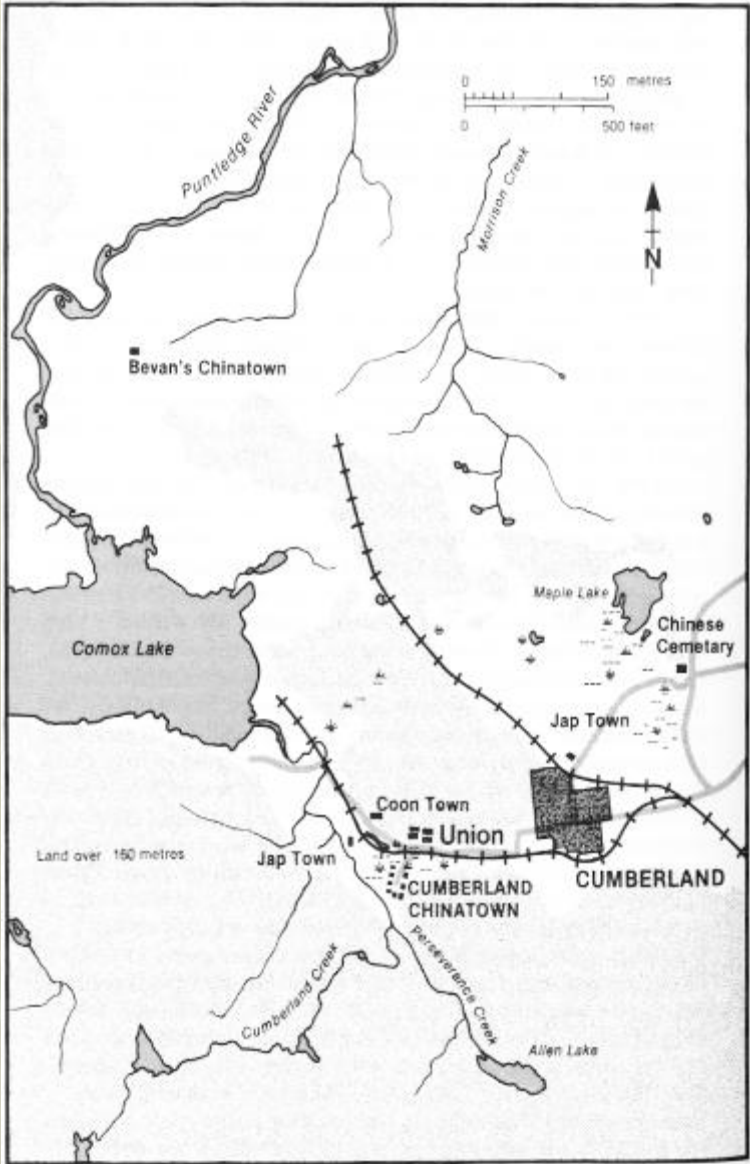
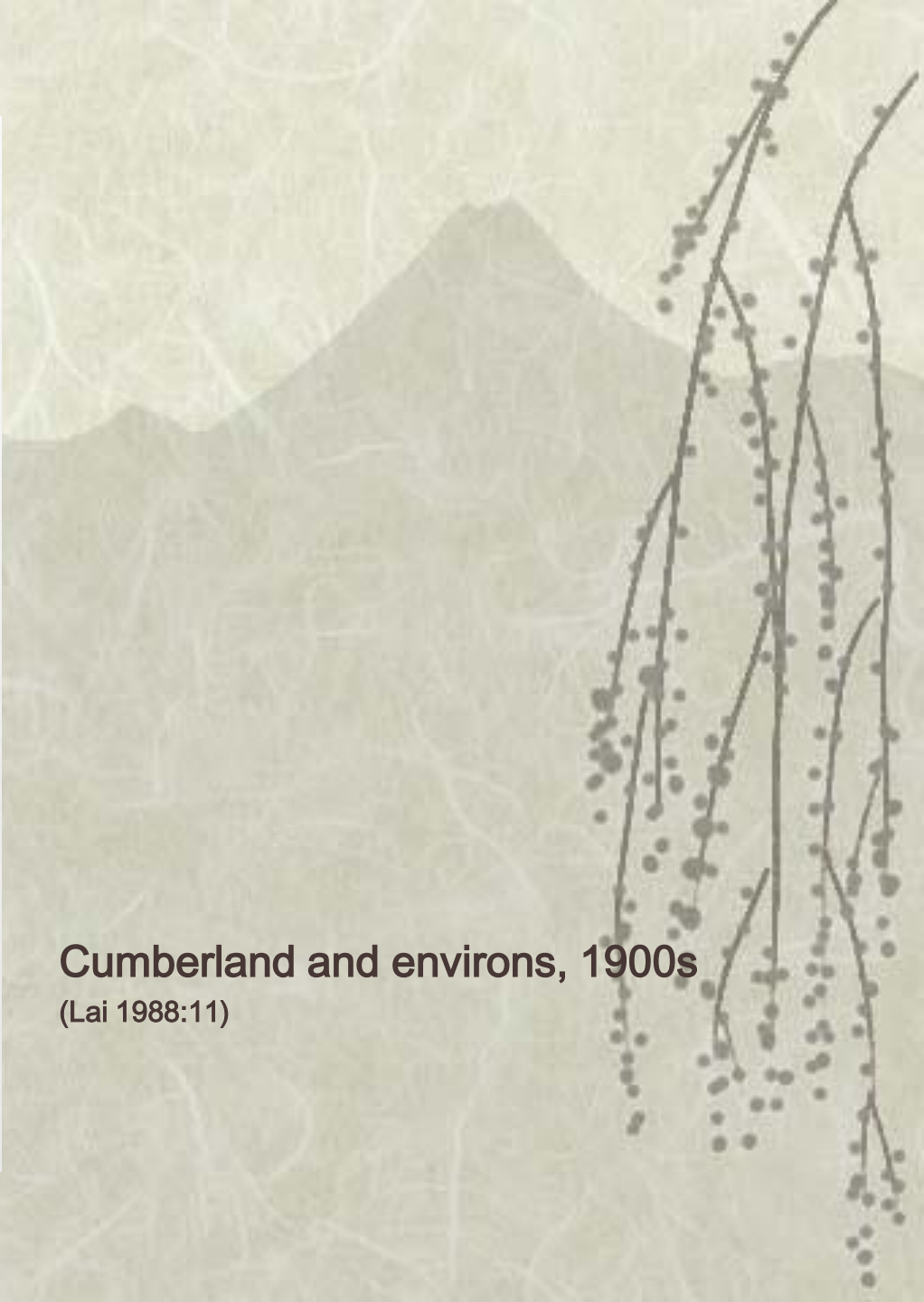
The background features a soft, textured landscape. In the upper right, a mountain range is visible in a muted, earthy tone. On the right side, a willow tree with long, drooping branches and small, dark buds is depicted. The overall color palette is warm and natural, consisting of various shades of beige, tan, and light brown.

*A Place Called Home:
Women and Families in
Cumberland*

**Imogene L. Lim, PhD
Malaspina University-College**



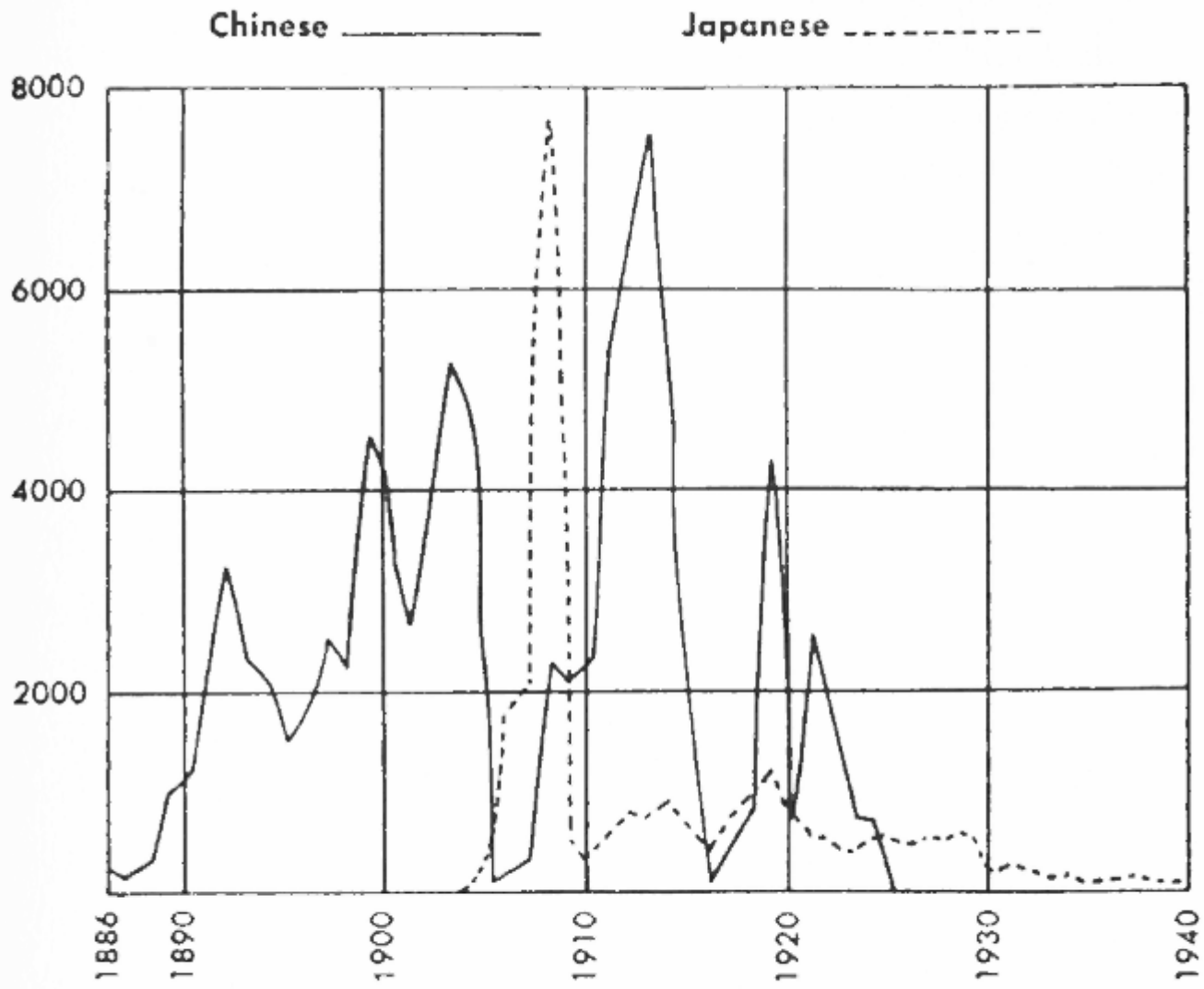
Cumberland and environs, 1900s
(Lai 1988:11)



Number of Japanese Landed at Canadian Ports, 1897-1901

1897	691
1898	1,189
1899	1,875
1900	10,302
1901	1,223
Total	<hr/> 15,280

(Woodsworth 1941:51)



CHINESE AND JAPANESE IMMIGRATION INTO CANADA



Restrictive Legislation directed at Chinese Immigrants

1885	Head tax - \$50
1901	Head tax - \$100
1904	Head tax - \$500
1923	Chinese Immigration (Exclusion) Act

Highlights of “Gentlemen’s Agreement” of 1907 (Hayashi-Lemieux)

Classes of emigrants permitted to emigrate:

- previously residing in Canada, including wives and children
- engaged by Japanese residents in personal or domestic service
- contract emigrants; contract approved by Canadian Government

Limits Japanese immigration to **400 per annum** male labourers and domestic servants

Revised Agreement of 1928

“... the Government of Japan does not contemplate that the total number of emigrants to Canada, including agricultural labourers and domestic servants, and **wives and children** of Japanese emigrants resident in Canada, will exceed **a total of 150 annually**. We have further been informed that steps will be taken to terminate the practice of sending for so-called ‘picture brides’.” (1928 *Debates*, quoted by Woodsworth 1941:296)



Women



CMA:140-036



CMA:140-015

Male/Female Populations and Sex Ratios of Chinese in Selected BC Communities

Year	Community	Males	Females	M/F Ratio
1921	Vancouver	5790	585	10/1
	Victoria	2938	503	6/1
	Cumberland	802	52	16/1
	Vernon	136	31	4.5/1
	Nanaimo	379	54	7/1
	New Westminster	702	45	17/1
1931	Vancouver	11952	1059	11/1
	Victoria	3192	510	6/1
	New Westminster	561	38	15/1
1941	Vancouver	5973	1201	5/1
	Victoria	2549	488	5/1

(Wickberg 1988:306-307, Table 10)

“Picture Brides”

“... brought stability to life in the Japanese community in its formative years. [...] They were the rock, the foundation of the community.” (Ito 1994:73)



CMA:140-495

Their children were the beginning of the Nisei generation.



¹⁰ Percentage Age and Sex Distribution in British Columbia, 1931

Age Group	Japanese Population			Total Population		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
0-19	24.2	22.1	46.3	17.0	16.6	33.6
20-44	21.5	15.9	37.4	20.9	16.8	37.7
45+	13.0	3.3	16.3	17.6	11.1	28.7
Total	58.7	41.3	100.0	55.5	44.5	100.0

¹¹ Birth rates in British Columbia by Racial Groups, 1931

	Per 1,000 Population	Index Number	Per 1,000 Women Age 20-44	Index Number
British	13.3	100	76.5	100
French	14.1	106	89.4	117
Scandinavian	15.7	118	97.6	128
German	17.4	131	102.8	134
Italian	20.2	152	126.8	166
Chinese	5.7	43	219.8	287
Japanese	36.4	274	229.4	300

¹² Number of Births to Oriental Mothers in British Columbia, 1929-39

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Chinese.....	179	164	151	146	137	120	115	109	116	115	119
Japanese.....	842	809	809	689	630	611	531	547	502	529	458



CMA:090-010



CMA:140-266



CMA:190-070

Families



CMA:140-093



CMA:140-163

Children

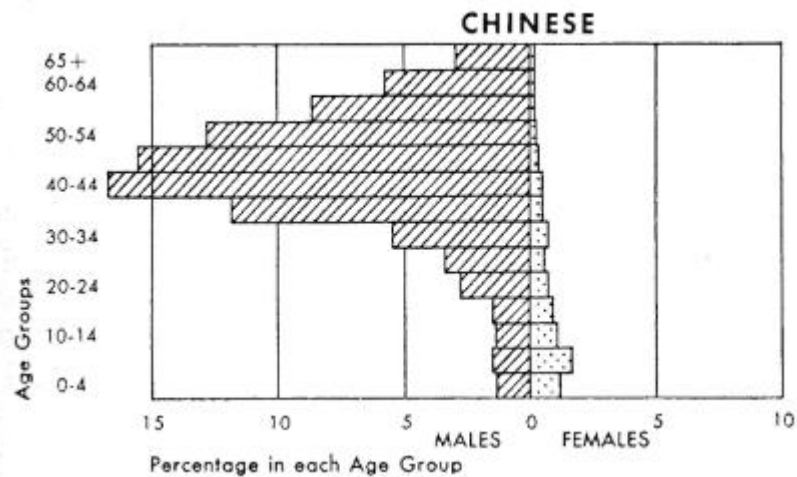
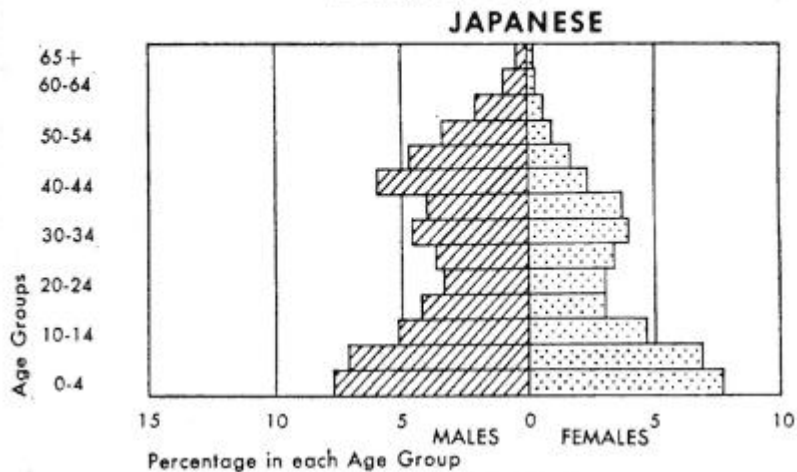


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CMA:140-213

AGE PYRAMIDS
 CHINESE AND JAPANESE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
 (Census of 1931)



(Woodsworth 1941:127)

Home



CMA:140-172



CMA:140-170



*Japanese Language School
at Cumberland*



CMA:140-367

Cumberland: A Multi-Ethnic Place



CMA:240-012



CMA:140-130



CMA:180-005



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