

ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK  
ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK  
ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK

# Koji Lau-Ozawa

In February of 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed executive order 9066, allowing for the mass confinement of all people of Japanese Ancestry living on the West Coast of the United States. Ten incarceration camps were constructed to hold the 120,000 people impacted by the decision, two of which were forcibly built on Native American reservations in Arizona. My research focuses on the Gila River Incarceration Camp, located on the land of the Gila River Indian Community. Over the past five years, I have worked in collaboration with the Gila River Indian Community Cultural Resource Management Program to survey the camp and document landscaping features. Utilizing methodologies that allow for minimal impact, these surveys have revealed over 300 such features, ranging from paved platforms and rock lined boundary markers to ornamental garden ponds. In this talk I will discuss the findings of these survey efforts, as well as the new directions my research will be taking as I continue my fieldwork in the coming year. Weaving together, archaeological, archival, and oral historical ways of encountering the past, the material remains and landscapes of the Gila River Camp gain new meanings and reveal diverse connections.



## Landscapes of Confinement: Surveying the Gila River Incarceration Camp



Koji Lau-Ozawa is a PhD Candidate at Stanford University, in the department of Anthropology. His research focuses on the archaeology of the Japanese Diaspora, and in particular, the Gila River Incarceration Camp, the site where his grandparents were confined during WWII. He has recently expanded this project to examine extant collections excavated in Santa Barbara's *Nihonmachi*, an historical Japantown which thrived in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Before attending Stanford, Lau-Ozawa received his MA in anthropology from San Francisco State University and his undergraduate degree in archaeology and social anthropology from the University of Edinburgh. He has worked in the Bay Area in archaeology since 2008 for Stanford Heritage Services as well as the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Social Sciences 1, Room 261  
October 16, 2019 ••• 12–1 pm

ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK  
ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK  
ARCH-BIO LUNCH TALK