

Tooru.

Took a bit more time than I anticipated but hope the following helps.

1931-33 period was my grammar school-jr. high period and my knowledge of Little Tokyo is quite scant. Therefore, I went to the first reliable historian I could think of: Harry Honda of the P.C., who a few years back was writing a weekly column in the P.C. on the history of Little Tokyo.

Harry says the four corners were (as you mentioned) the Miyako Hotel, southwest, Tomio Building (later Taul Building and currently S.K. Uyeda), southeast; Kataoka Jewelers, northwest, (a book on Little Tokyo\* has a photograph of the northside of First & San Pedro, 1932, which indicates a sukiyaki restaurant on the corner. Harry believes the restaurant "Fuji" was upstairs). The other corner, was occupied by the Iseri Drugs Store.

Harry believes that the L.A. Times columnist (Green Verdugo Hills) might have been a fellow named Harry Carr who wrote a daily column in the Metro section. The only columnists I can recall from that period were Bill Henry and Braven Dyer--so you can see where my interests were.

JAU basketball game sites: Harry believes that high school gyms were not used during those years. Rather, JAU used city playground gyms and he believes that the Evergreen Playground was probably the one of your reference. I know I used to play in the "Y" league and we used the 22nd Street Playground Gym as did the Anchovies who played JAU.

No one knows the whereabouts of Brownie Furutani.

I believe that the family had an Essex sedan during the time of the Olympics. This was replaced around that time by a Model A Ford sedan.

\* - per your request I ordered a copy of the book which I have. It's Little Tokyo, One Hundred Years in Pictures by Ichiro Mike Murase. (Mike was one of the top men for Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign in California). P.C. have them in stock. I asked Harry to mail one out to you. He didn't know price but he figured it was around \$20 which is about what it cost me. P.C.'s prices are all discounted. He'll bill you.

If your book and writings refer in any appreciable measure to Little Tokyo, the book should prove invaluable with its photographs dating from the late 1800's to those of the 1980's. Also, Murase provides a brief written history of the Japanese in the U.S.

All best,



19 February 89

Vincent T. Tait

← correct street name

- enjoy your holiday newsletters