

Basic Detail Report



Spoon

Date
1850-1906

Medium
Clay

Description
This spoon’s form is typical of those used to consume Chinese food. Characterized by a flat bottom, these spoons are mostly used in the consumption of soups. Typically, such spoons are decorated with traditional designs in various colors. These types of spoons are used by Chinese people, the immigrant populations of China, and non-Chinese people who visit Chinese restaurants, including those in areas such as San Francisco Chinatown. This particular Chinatown was the first to be established in the United States in the 1850s. In 1906, the city suffered a devastating earthquake. This quake and its resulting fires completely destroyed the Chinatown neighborhood. Residents of the area fled their homes and took only essential or important items with them. Spoons such as this would not necessarily have been taken from homes during the emergency, which resulted in various items being left behind in the area’s rubble.

Dimensions
4 × 1 1/2 × 1 1/2 in. (10.2 × 3.8 × 3.8 cm)