



HISTORY V. MILLER FREEMAN: ENGAGING COMMUNITIES FURTHEST FROM ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

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PROGRAM ON THE ENVIRONMENT



Introduction

- There is a disparity between populations that experience the adverse effects of changes in the environment
- In a racialized society, race can be a factor in decision-making and exacerbate environmental justice issues
- NOAA's Miller Freeman exhibit project examines the history of consequential figures, exploring their role in conservation and anti-japanese activities

Research Question

How do government institutions perpetuate environmental justice issues and what can we learn from these cases?

Internship & Methods



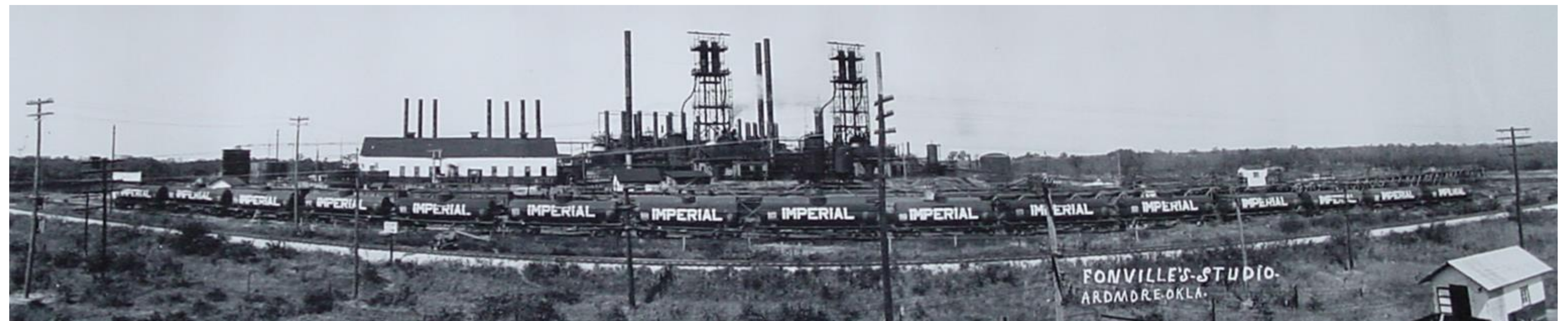
(Left) UW Special collections (Right) Digitizing films

- Interned with NOAA's education and outreach to update the Miller Freeman exhibit
- Collaborated with NOAA staff to collate and scan Bell Shimada documents
- Conducted research on Miller Freeman's marine conservation and anti-japanese efforts

Results

- Exploitation of resources can lead to resource competition and disenfranchisement of different groups
- Regulation is an effective tool for conservation, but can also inadvertently exacerbate disenfranchisement of different groups using a resource
- Racialized history plays a role in continuing environmental justice issues today, which can't be addressed with a colorblind approach

(Right) Photo of Miller Freeman serving as WA House representative (Bottom) Train carrying oil from the Imperial refining Co. Superfund site, Ardmore, OK



Significance

- These results are important because they present an opportunity for other government institutions to increase awareness about environmental justice issues.
 - Creating and funding programs (i.e., NOAA's heritage program) can uplift the voices of marginalized communities
 - Celebrating diversity while also acknowledging the role of discrimination and racial history in the U.S
- Creating mechanisms that empower citizens in political processes



Photo of NOAA Scientist Bell Shimada

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to my site supervisor Lisa Hiruki-Raring for giving me the opportunity to intern with NOAA, Faculty advisor Lubna Alzaroo, TA Jess and Mel, as well as my peers who have given me feedback on my project