



**of a Collection
of Research
Materials on
an Immigrant,
Builder and
Entrepreneur**

WONG AH FOOK COLLECTION

A Descriptive Catalogue

WONG AH FOOK COLLECTION
A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE
OF
A COLLECTION OF RESEARCH MATERIALS
ON AN IMMIGRANT, BUILDER AND ENTREPRENEUR

Donated to ISEAS Library
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The Family of Wong Ah Fook

2018

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A COLLECTION OF RESEARCH MATERIALS
ON AN IMMIGRANT, BUILDER AND ENTREPRENEUR



ISEAS – YUSOF ISHAK INSTITUTE

2018

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ISEAS Library
ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute
30 Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Singapore 119614

Email: iseaslib@iseas.edu.sg
Website: www.iseas.edu.sg/library
Online Catalogue: <https://sealion.iseas.edu.sg>

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FOREWORD

ISEAS Library is privileged to be the recipient of a collection of research materials on a 19th Century Malayan pioneer Wong Ah Fook from the Family of Wong Ah Fook and from Datin Patricia Lim Pui Huen. Datin Lim is not only a passionate researcher on Malaysian history but she was in fact the first and long serving Librarian with ISEAS. Wong Ah Fook was her Great-grandfather who apprenticed himself to a carpenter which eventually paved his path to a successful building contractor and later became the chief government contractor and built many heritage buildings in Johor. His works included the Istana Besar - the palace for Sultan Abu Bakar that we still see today, notwithstanding it having gone through several rounds of renovation and expansions.

Pat Lim, as her library colleagues used to call her, must have spent a great deal of her time researching and collating historical materials on Wong, the first milestone of this long journey leading to a short biography on the man published in 2002. It was titled *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur* which she adopted for the title of this catalogue. Wong Ah Fook is remembered as one of the founding fathers of the Chinese community and as one of the pioneers who built up the early settlement of Johor Bahru. An area of land granted to him by the Sultan became known as Kampong Wong Ah Fook, and the main street Jalan Wong Ah Fook was named after him, with three side streets Jalan Siu Nam, Jalan Siu Koon and Jalan Siu Chin named after his sons. The catalogue provides many more insightful information during the early development not only in Johor Bahru but in Singapore as well.

In particular, the catalogue documents Wong's business activities in Singapore, including his visionary undertaking in the establishment of Kwong Yik Bank in 1903 - the first Chinese bank in the turn of 20th Century, reflecting the close association between modern finance and the Chinese immigrant society. Other interesting folios worthy of highlighting include newspaper reports on the completion of the Istana Tyersall in 1892 - the Sultan of Johor's palace in Singapore and the opening ceremony of the

Victoria Memorial Hall in 1905, built from public donations in memory of the late Queen Victoria, where Wong was praised in the speech for his efforts building it as “the Cantonese contractor”.

Wong Ah Fook was not just a contractor or business man. He was very active in the fields of philanthropy and education. With a group of Cantonese merchants who wanted to provide Chinese immigrants with free medical services, he co-founded the Kwong Wai Shui Free Hospital in 1910 named after the clan associations from the three prefectures in Guangdong that were the main supporters of the hospital. Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital still provides healthcare services today at Serangoon Road. The Kwong Siew Wai Kuan that originally functioned as a home for the sick was also founded in Johor Bahru. In education, Wong was one of the founders of the Yeung Cheng School in Singapore, later merged and renamed as Yangzheng Primary School when it became a government school in 1988. In Johor Bahru, he helped established the Foon Yew School in 1913, and in his home village in Yanjingcun, he left a lasting legacy with the Zhiben School. In 1906, among a few other clan men, Wong established Kwong Wai Siew Peck San Theng Cemetery. While the graves had since been exhumed, the land remains familiar to many of us – it is the present Bishan, one of Singapore’s most sought after public housing estate.

In 1918, Wong Ah Fook fell ill and passed away on 12th September in his residence in Singapore at the age of 82. He was buried in the Peck San Theng Cemetery in the Fifth Theng in accordance to his instructions to be buried in Singapore. He was buried according to the purchased rank of Er Pin bestowed for three generations. The publication of this catalogue, *Wong Ah Fook Collection: A Descriptive Catalogue of a Collection of Research Materials on an Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, is a timely production in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Wong Fook Kee, better known as Wong Ah Fook when he arrived in Singapore in 1854 at the age of seventeen as the result of civil unrest in his hometown.

Pitt Kuan Wah

Head, Library, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute
15th April 2018

INTRODUCTION

Searching for Great-grandfather

The Family of Wong Ah Fook is pleased to donate family documents and research materials relating to our Great-grandfather to the Library of the ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute. As he was a historical in Singapore and Johor, we feel the best way of commemorating his memory is to deposit these materials in an academic institution so that they may be made available for research and study.

Great-grandfather Wong Fook Kee who became better known as Wong Ah Fook, arrived in Singapore in 1854 at the age of seventeen. Coming from an area in South China that had been suffering from years of civil conflict, he was to tell his grandchildren, “Arriving in Singapore was like entering heaven, paradise.”

Within the family, we know that he came from a small village called Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village) in Taishan, a county not far from Guangzhou city. He came to Singapore as a boy, apprenticed himself to a carpenter, went on to become a building contractor, and founded the first local bank. But this is only the bare outlines of a long and fulfilling life.

I therefore began a search for Great-grandfather. When I started in 1982, I did not know I that too was setting out on a long journey for his biography that is the result of this search, was only completed and published in 2002. The research materials listed in this catalogue, are the sources and references that I have discovered along the way.

I began the search in the memories of those who had known him - my aunts and uncles. However, they were children when Great-grandfather was alive so that their memories were the memories of children. They could not give much information about Great-grandfather’s active life.

I then turned to our family genealogy to see what it can tell us. Listed as the first items in the collection, the two versions of the Wenming Zu Jiapu (Genealogy of Wenming) are the most valuable

items in the Wong Ah Fook Collection. It is written in classical Chinese and the last edition was compiled by my Grandfather Wong Siew Nam who was better known in Guangzhou by his alternate name Wong Ging Tong. He was the eldest son who was sent to Guangzhou at the age of twelve to receive the classical education of a Chinese scholar. Chinese genealogies can be dated by the prefaces written by the successive compilers and the Genealogy of Wenming was first compiled in the Song Dynasty in 1178 followed by subsequent editions compiled in 1224, 1579, 1726, and 1840. It is a pity that Grandfather did not write a preface to tell us what he did but he would have completed it around 1910 as the last entry records the birth of his youngest son in that year. Two versions were printed, first in Guangzhou (Folio I/2) and then in Singapore (Folio I/1). Their contents are similar but not identical. Genealogical charts have been added to the Singapore version as well as the dates of the prefaces according to the Common Era.

We had been under the impression that copies of these two versions of the Genealogy of Wenming in the Wong Ah Fook Collection are the only copies extant. However, a second copy of the Singapore version belonging to a distant relative, Rex Wong, a Singaporean now living in New Zealand, has recently come to light. According to my cousin Wong Pui Yin, there is still another version, the original handwritten version that was in the possession of her father, and had been acquired by the provincial authorities.

These two versions of the Genealogy of Wenming are family treasures and a record of our lineage.

It is a genealogy that encompasses centuries of history and contains a depth of 132 generations. There are not many genealogies that record such a depth of history and such a depth of lineage. Most of the Wong/Huang genealogies published in Malaysia and Singapore that I have examined, are published by lineage associations within the last sixty years.¹ They are not family records and have been compiled to serve a different purpose.

The Singapore version is a unique publication in that it is a genealogy printed in Singapore about a Singapore family compiled

¹ See Lim, P.P.H., *Myth and Reality: Researching the Huang Genealogies*. ISEAS Working Papers, Social and Cultural Issues, no.1, 1998.

in the traditional style by a classically trained scholar born in Singapore.

Chinese genealogies are not easy to read not only because of the language in which they are written but because they are cast in a certain format with an emphasis on descent and the careful numbering of generations. The Trustees of the family very kindly sponsored a translation of our family genealogy and this translation has been published as Part 2 of The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook (Folio I/4). With careful reading, it is possible to trace the history of the lineage from its beginnings in the Yellow River basin in historical times and its southward migration over the centuries first to Fujian, then to Guangdong and finally to the rural county of Taishan.

The substantive part of the genealogy begins with Huang Juzheng (Wong Gui Cheng) who is revered as Ancestor of the First Generation by Cantonese Wong/Huang lineages. Great-grandfather was of the 26th Generation.

By some good fortune, another genealogy came to my family from Taishan, a slim mimeographed publication with the title Huangshi Yingzuo Fang: Yuanqu Wuhaio Zhipu (Yingzuo Lineage of the Huang Clan: Genealogy of Yuanqu's Countless Descendants). It was compiled by Huang Ruguang (Wong Yu Gong), a member of a collateral lineage. The Yingzuo Genealogy (Folio I/3.1) overlaps with the Genealogy of Wenming and continues the history of the lineage by recording its dispersal into the various districts of Taishan county. The information on the Singapore members of the lineage is regrettably incomplete and inaccurate. However, the introduction is valuable for its account of the turmoil in Guangdong during the late Qing Dynasty and tells us how conflicts between warring parties affected the small villages in the Taishan area. It gives us some understanding of the factors that pushed a young boy to migrate to an unknown land.

Researching the genealogies showed me the necessity of visiting Great-grandfather's village to see where he started from. I made two trips to Spectacles Village in 1987 and 1991 in the company of some family members including my cousin Wong Pui Yin who has been most helpful in my endeavours. These visits form the basis of Chapter 1 of Great-grandfather's biography while the

explorations in time through the genealogies are described in Chapter 2. The colour slides in the collection were taken on these trips.

In Johor Bahru, Wong Ah Fook is remembered as one of the pioneers who opened up the city in the nineteenth century. I spent long hours going through the files of the Johor/Malacca Branch of the National Archives of Malaysia (Johor Archives) and found many documents relating to his activities in Johor which are listed in Folio VI. This was perhaps the most interesting part of my search because the documents revealed new information about his life and character that had not been known to us. I discovered that his business activities in Johor were closely connected with the development of Johor Bahru and were also closely related to the reign of Sultan Abu Bakar.

Since Great-grandfather was the chief government contractor at the time, there are documents relating to his construction of palaces and other significant government buildings that form the bulk of the heritage buildings in the city today. The most important of them was the construction of a palace for Sultan Abu Bakar. The official opening of the Istana Besar on New Year's Day in 1866, was a landmark event in Johor history as the city, then known as Iskandar Puteri, was officially renamed Johor Bahru. Equally important, the event also marks the beginning of effective government as the palace was not only a royal residence but also the seat of government and the Johor Government moved from its location in Telok Blangah in Singapore to Johor.

Great-grandfather subsequently built another palace in Singapore, Istana Tyersall, which was opened in a grand ball in 1892.² These two palaces were magnificent buildings that enabled the Johor ruler to entertain colonial officials, European aristocrats and British royalty in pomp and style. They were intended to raise his prestige and impress colonial society and they did. This was diplomacy at the highest level because Sultan Abu Bakar's father did not have a royal title when he acquired sovereignty over the

² Istana Tyersall was subsequently destroyed by fire. The property has been acquired by the Singapore government and is being incorporated into the Singapore Botanic Gardens.

territory of Johor. The Sultan engaged in a long and sustained campaign to achieve royal status and finally succeeded in attaining the title of Sultan by treaty with the British Government in 1885.

As Sultan Abu Bakar built nine palaces during his reign, such continuous construction must have called for considerable financial investment. It was a prominent Johor Malay who told me, "He [Wong Ah Fook] was probably also one of the major financiers of Sultan Abu Bakar, no less important than Syed Mohamed Alsagoff" (Folio VIII/10). Documents relating to his financial relations with the Johor Government can be found in Folio VI.

The Johor Archives also contain many references about Great-grandfather's activities as a revenue farmer – what in today's language would be called the privatisation of government monopolies. In nineteenth century Malaya, farming (that is, privatising) the collecting of taxes on opium, spirits, gambling and pawning, was the major source of government revenue and in Johor, such revenue farming was connected with the planting of pepper and gambier that were the mainstays of the Johor economy at that time.

There are several documents that I wish to highlight.

- The Royal Command no 24, 1892, granted Wong Ah Fook ten lots of land in downtown Johor Bahru (Folio VI/1). This area became known as Kampong Wong Ah Fook.
- Revenue farming contract on the tax on pepper and gambier for 1886-88 (Folio VI/6) and the same contract renewed for 1889-91 (Folio VI/8). These two contracts mark his move from building construction to revenue farming.
- Civil suit no.13 of 1915, taken by Wong Ah Fook against the Johor Government under the British General Adviser defending his revenue farming rights in Kampong Wong Ah Fook (Folio VI/38). Several significant enactments were passed as a result of this court case.

The documents in the Johor Archives not only provide information on Great-grandfather's business involvements but also

tells us quite a great deal about the Chinese community in Johor, the tensions and competition between them and their relations with the Johor rulers.

His business activities in Singapore, on the other hand, are to be found in newspaper reports, and the two most notable events reported were the ball celebrating the completion of the Istana Tyersall, the Sultan of Johor's palace in Singapore (Folio VIII/1), and the opening ceremony of the Victoria Memorial Hall (Folio VIII/3). Great-grandfather was the contractor for both. Sultan Abu Bakar was a colourful figure in Singapore society. His extravagant balls and lavish parties as well as his relations with the colonial government, were well covered by Singapore newspapers, now available online thanks to the facilities developed by the National Library Board.

Great-grandfather's most visionary but most disastrous venture was the founding of the first local bank described in Chapter 8. The rise and fall of Kwong Yik Bank is reconstructed from microfilms of newspapers in the Central Library of the National University of Singapore and files in the National Archives of Singapore (Folio VII). With the benefit of hindsight, the collapse of the bank can be regarded as a learning experience for Singapore in its development as a financial centre because banking laws were reviewed and tightened. Although Kwong Yik Bank failed, it led the Chinese into banking and into the world of modern finance.

Great-grandfather's biography was published in 2002 with the title *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*. One of the happy consequences of its publication is that I have been approached by many people interested in some aspect of his life and work. Guangzhao Huiguan, the clan association that he founded in Johor Bahru sponsored a translation of the biography into Chinese so that it could be made available to the Chinese-reading public. The book has also reconnected me with distant relatives living in far flung places including one in Peru. MediaCorp made a documentary on Wong Ah Fook's life as part of its "Footprints" series. Raffles Institution students interviewed my family members for their history of Bishan project.

It is gratifying to know that his name still resonates in Singapore and in Johor. This reinforces what Professor Wang

Gungwu has pointed out in the foreword to the biography, and that is the unitary nature of the Singapore-Johor relationship. Nineteenth century pioneers like Great-grandfather developed and advanced this relationship and the unique relationship between Singapore and Johor continues today although in a very different form. In writing the biography, I have tried to tell his story in the context of Malayan history. The sources on which his story is based therefore reflect many aspects of the history of his times.

The donors of the Wong Ah Fook Collection who are the Trustees of the previous Estate of Wong Ah Fook, namely, Alfred Wong Hong Kwok, Wong Hong Sze and Franklin Wong Hong Pong, and myself as his biographer. We take great satisfaction that the documents, sources, references, maps and photographs relating to Great-grandfather's life have found a place in Library of the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute's Collection of Private Papers. We would like to express our thanks to the Library, especially to its Head Mr. Pitt Kuan Wah and his staff, for their kind assistance and for the care and conservation of the materials.

Patricia Lim Pui Huen

(Wong Pui Huen)

22nd April 2018

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF WONG AH FOOK

An Extract from The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook

The First Generation



Fook Kee,
personal name Yin
Theng, style Poh Tin.

b. 12 Mar 1837,
Yanjingcun, Taishan,
Guangdong, China

d. 12 Sept 1918,
Singapore
Honours: J.P., S.M.J. ³

³ S.M.J.: Setia Mahkota Johor (Order of the Crown of Johor).



m. Chew Yew
b. 28 Mar 1851, Taishan
d. 14 Feb 1932,
Singapore

Sons: Siew Nam
Siew Kuan
Siew Chan
Siew Qui

Daughters: Bee Keng
Bee Ho
Bee Soo

m. Madam Pang
b. 16 Jul 1866, Taishan
d. Guangzhou

Son: Siew Yuen
Daughter: Bee Woon

Great-grandfather Wong Fook Kee was known to all and sundry as Wong Ah Fook. In Chinese publications, he is often referred to by his *hao* (style) of Poh Tin, and there are documents in the Johor Archives as well as ceremonial objects he donated to the Kwong Siew Wai Kuan, Johor Bahru, inscribed with the name Yee Yee. In the Genealogy of Wenming, he is listed as being of the 26th Generation, the eldest son of Mau Chiu.

His biography, *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder, and Entrepreneur*, highlights three themes in his life. As an immigrant, he left his home village of Yanjingcun (Ngan Geng Chuen or Spectacles Village) to escape from poverty and the effects of the

devastating Hakka-Punti War. He arrived in Singapore in 1854 and apprenticed himself to a man in the wood working business. Starting life as a carpenter, he soon went on to building construction. As a builder, his most important job in Singapore was the construction of the Victoria Memorial Hall but it was in Johor that the legacy he left behind as a builder is most visible. He won the patronage of Sultan Abu Bakar and as the chief government contractor, he built many heritage buildings in Johor, most notably the Istana Besar or Grand Palace. The Johor Chinese regard him as one of the founding fathers of the Chinese community and as one of the pioneers who built up the early settlement of Johor Bahru. An area of land granted to him by the Sultan became known as Kampong Ah Fook. A main street in Johor Bahru, Jalan Wong Ah Fook, is named after him and three side streets Jalan Siu Nam, Jalan Siu Koon and Jalan Siu Chin are named after his sons. As an entrepreneur, he was in agriculture (pepper, gambier, and rubber), revenue farming (privatisation of government monopolies), gambling (leisure industries), and properties with investments in both Singapore and Johor. His most visionary undertaking was the establishment of the first local bank, the Kwong Yik Bank. Although the bank failed, it led the Chinese to venture into the world of modern finance.

The biography also reflects the values that were important to him. What is very obvious is the importance of family and what we now call family values came very naturally to him. It has been very gratifying to discover that he loved his daughters as much as he loved his sons. However, to him family also means the very extended family that included all the people in his village and everyone in the kinship structure. His sense of family embraced a historical awareness of ancestors from the past as well as the continuation onwards to future generations. Family continuity was therefore important to him, continuity from the past, and continuity to the future. In his two Wills, he provided for ancestor remembrance through the endowment of Jing Seong trusts that enabled ceremonies of “bai jo sin” to be held regularly. Those of us who grew up in Singapore would remember the feasts and good times at San Bah, the big family house where the family altar was kept. These ceremonies continued in the apartment that became the second “San Bah” after the old house was sold, right up to 1992

when they came to an end by Order of Court and the remaining family assets were distributed according to the terms of his Singapore Will.

He was a man of compulsive generosity. Twice in his life, he gave away all that he had. On the first occasion, he gave away his marriage savings to bury people who had been killed in civil war and had to postpone his wedding. On the second occasion, he publicly offered his whole fortune in a vain attempt to save the Kwong Yik Bank. As a community leader, he donated generously to charity. In Singapore, he founded the Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital that still provides services to the community today while in Johor Bahru, he founded the Kwong Siew Wai Kuan, a clan association that originally also functioned as a home for the sick and indigent.

He placed great faith in education. Although he had only a rudimentary education, he made sure that his children were given the best education, both his sons and his daughters. His eldest son was sent to China for a classical Chinese education, one son was sent to Oxford and another to Cambridge while his younger son went to a British mining school. More than a century ago, he had the foresight to hire an English lady to tutor his daughters in English. The founding of Yeung Cheng School in Singapore, Foon Yew School in Johor Bahru, and Zhiben School in Yanjingcun are his lasting legacy to future generations. There is a plaque in the old St. Joseph's Institute building, now housing the Singapore Art Museum, that carries his name among the list of donors.

Great-grandmother Chew Yew was from the neighbouring village of Fushi (Fau Sek or Floating Stone) in Taishan. She is remembered as a matriarch with a kind heart and generous disposition. Her grandsons remembered her Cantonese curry with nostalgia. She was also well known for cooking crab steamed with garlic and black bean sauce in true Taishan style (San Ning *hai*) as well as for her glutinous rice dumplings (*chung*) that looked like untidy bundles of bamboo leaves but melted in the mouth. However, she never forgot the hardship life in her home village and always practised an unusual degree of frugality despite the prosperity of her later years. Second Great-grandmother, Madam Pang, was also a lady from Taishan. She was a person of statuesque appearance and bequeathed a similar imposing stature to her

descendants. I am only sorry that we have been unable to find a photo of her.

Our Great-grandparents had two homes, San Bah (formal name Kah Yum Tong) in Singapore and Fah Yuen (formal name Tong Lai Yuen) in Guangzhou. Both were home to the very large extended family. Although the properties are no longer in the hands of the family, the stories and happy memories associated with the two houses will be remembered and passed on.



Wong Ah Fook's Singapore House

CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF WONG AH FOOK

- 1837** On the 15th day of the 10th Moon in the 17th Year of Daoguang (12th March 1837) Wong Fook Kee was born in Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village), Taishan. He was also known by his alternate name Wong Poh Tin but was better known as Wong Ah Fook.
- 1854 Left his village and arrived at Singapore at the age of 17, pushed to emigrate by the ravages of the Red Turban Rebellion, 1854-55, and the Hakka-Punti War, 1854-56. Apprenticed himself to the woodworking business and became a carpenter.
- 1863 Contract dated 1st October 1863, with Paterson Simons, Agent for the Johor Government, to build 2 godowns, probably in Singapore. Folio VI/2
- c.1864 Appointed contractor for the construction of the Istana Besar in Johor Bahru.
- c.1865 Returned to Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village) for his wedding but spent his marriage savings on burying the dead from the civil conflict.
- 1866 Completed construction of Istana Besar which was officially opened on 1st January. The city of Istana Puteri was renamed Johor Bahru on the same day.
- c.1869 Returned to Yanjingcun and married Chew Yew from the nearby village of Fushi (Floating Stone). She was 17 and he was 32.

- 1870 Birth of son Siew Nam on 1st July.
- 1873 Birth of daughter Bee Keng on 22nd January.
- 1875 Birth of daughter Bee Ho on 16th August.
- 1876 Signed indenture dated 28th November 1876, with Tunku Abdul Rahman, brother of the Sultan of Johor, to release 12 shophouses in Singapore. Folio VI/3
- 1877 Birth of daughter Bee Soo on 2nd August.
- 1878 Founded the Guangzhao Hui Guan (Kwong Siew Wai Kuan), Johor Bahru, an association for Cantonese people, and donated two shophouses for its premises.
- 1882 Contract dated 16th April 1882, to construct the jail on Jalan Ayer Molek, Johor Bahru. Folio VI/4
- 1883 Birth of son Siew Kuan on 12th December.
- c.1885 Married second wife Madam Pang.
- 1886 Birth of daughter Bee Woon to Madam Pang on [3rd] March.
- 1886 Revenue Farming contract dated 18th April 1886, with Johor Government, for leasing the tax on pepper and gambier for 1886-88. Folio VI/6
- 1886 Birth of son Siew Chan to Chew Yew on 4th July.
- 1888 Birth of son Siew Qui to Chew Yew on 23rd October.
- 1889 Birth of son Siew Yuen to Madam Pang on 25th April.

- 1889 Completed the construction of Istana Zahara and Balai Zaharah. The Istana Zahara was demolished in the 1960s but its audience chamber the Balai Zaharah has been restored. Folio VIII/10
- 1889 Second Revenue Farming contract dated 19th November 1889, with Johor Government, for leasing the tax on pepper and gambier, for 1889-91. Folio VI/8
- 1892 Completed construction of Istana Tyersall, the Sultan of Johor's palace in Singapore. The palace was burnt down in 1905. Folio VIII/1
- 1892 Royal Command dated 5th September 1892, granted him 10 lots of land in the heart of Johor Bahru which became known as Kampong Wong Ah Fook. Folio VI/1
- 1893 Completed the construction of the residence of Dato' Jaafar bin Mohamed, first Mentri Besar of Johor, at Bukit Senyum, Johor Bahru. The mansion, originally named "Senyum", is now known as the Dato' Jaafar Building.
- 1901 Purchased a country house and land for his Singapore home at Kampung Java Road, an address later changed to 75 Keng Lee Road. The house was known to the family as "San Bah".
- ?? Purchased Tangliyuan (Lichee Water Garden), as his family home in Guangzhou.
- 1903 Kwong Yik Bank, the first Chinese bank in Singapore, founded by Wong Ah Fook and a group of Cantonese entrepreneurs. Folio VII

- 1904 Awarded Setia Mahkota Johor (Order of the Crown of Johor).
- 1905 Completion of Victoria Memorial Hall which was officially opened on 18th October. Folio VIII/3
- 1906 Helped to establish Kwong Wai Siew Peck San Theng Cemetery. The graves have since been exhumed and the area now known as Bishan has been re-zoned for housing development.
- 1911 Signed a document with Governor Sir John Anderson to establish the Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital on 23rd February as a charity hospital. This hospital on Serangoon Road is still providing healthcare services today. Folio VIII/4
- 1913 Foon Yew School in Johor Bahru founded on 1st February. He was named “Manager” of the school.
- 1913 Kwong Yik Bank went into voluntary liquidation on 18th December. Folio VII
- 1915 Filed lawsuit against the Johor Government regarding his revenue farming rights in Kampong Wong Ah Fook. Judgement by M. H. Whitley was given in his favour. Folio VI/38
- 1918 Died in Singapore on the 8th day of the 8th Moon in the 7th Year of the Chinese Republic (12th September).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Introduction, Biography and Chronology of Wong Ah Fook

Datin Patricia LIM Pui Huen (WONG Pui Huen)

Foreword

Mr PITT Kuan Wah

Editorial and Typesetting

Mr PITT Kuan Wah

Ms LOO Lay Yen

Ms LIANG Shuang

Fumigation Treatment

Mr Yusri Bin YAHYA

Mr Ramli Bin MOHAMED

Conservation & Repository

Mr Colin TAN

Mr Yusri Bin YAHYA

Scanning & Selective Illustrations

Ms Priscilla WONG

A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE WONG AH FOOK COLLECTION

Documents, References, Maps & Photographs

Folio I: Genealogies

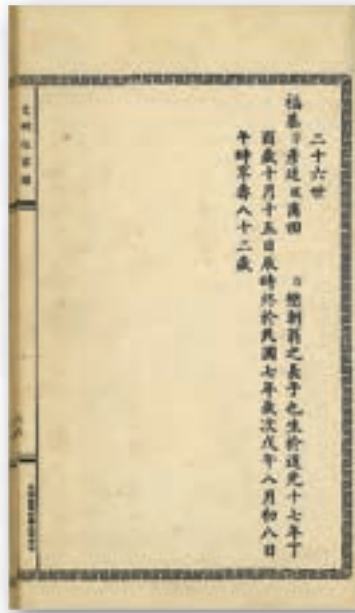
I/1 *Wenming Zu Jiapu* (Genealogy of Wenming). Singapore edition. c.1910. 文明祖家谱/星洲协和印物公司承印

The volume is bound in red paper covered cardboard, sewn and the spine pasted with black tape. The title is printed on the cover in gold. The volume fragile.

The Singapore edition is printed later than the Guangzhou edition. The information has been re-organised, genealogical charts have been inserted, and the dates of the prefaces according to the Common Era have been added. According to the prefaces, the first edition was compiled in 1178 A.D. by Huang Yuanshan.

This genealogy was compiled by Wong Ah Fook's eldest son, Wong Siew Nam, and the last entry recorded is the birth of his youngest son Wong Peng Wah (father of Wong Hong Sze), in 1910. For a history of the compilation of the genealogy, see the Preface of *The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook*. For the contents of the genealogy, see the Introduction of the volume.

We understand that the original hand-written volumes, formerly in the custody of the family of Wong Ah Fook's eldest grandson, Wong Peng Chew, have been acquired by the Guangzhou authorities.



(Left) Cover of Wenming Zu Jiapu (Genealogy of Wenming). Singapore edition. c. 1910. The Genealogy of Wenming was first compiled in 1178 by Juzheng's son Yuanshen. This edition was compiled by Wong Ah Fook's son Siew Nam and was probably completed in 1910. The name of the Singapore printing company can be seen on the lower left hand margin, as shown in the photo at right. Folio 1/1

(Right) Entry for Wong Ah Fook in his family genealogy, the Genealogy of Wenming. He was the Twenty-sixth Generation after Huang Juzheng of the First Generation. An abbreviated translation of the entry reads:

Twenty-sixth Generation Fook Kee, personal name Yin Theng, style Poh Tin, eldest son of Mau Chiu, born on 12th March 1837 and died on 12th September 1918, aged 82.

I/2

Wenming Zu Jiapu (Genealogy of Wenming). Guangzhou edition. c.1910. 文明祖 家谱/ 广东南雄府珠玑巷世系源流

The genealogy was originally bound in black cloth binding. It does not have a title and is printed in an antiquated typeface. The information is less well organised than the Singapore edition. This copy has been rebound in red and the cover been damaged by insects.

Notes have been added by hand by Violet Woo Tsz Chi, mother of the donor.



Wenming Zu Jiapu (Genealogy of Wenming).
Guangzhou edition. c.1910. Folio I/2

- 3.1 *Huangshi Yingzuo Fang: Yuanqu Wuhao Zhipu* (The Yingzuo Lineage of the Huang Clan: The Genealogy of Yuanqu's Countless Descendants), by Huang Ruguang. Taishan, 1988.
黄氏英佐房：圆趣无号支谱 (Calligraphy by 炳荣影) (Compiled by 黄如广)

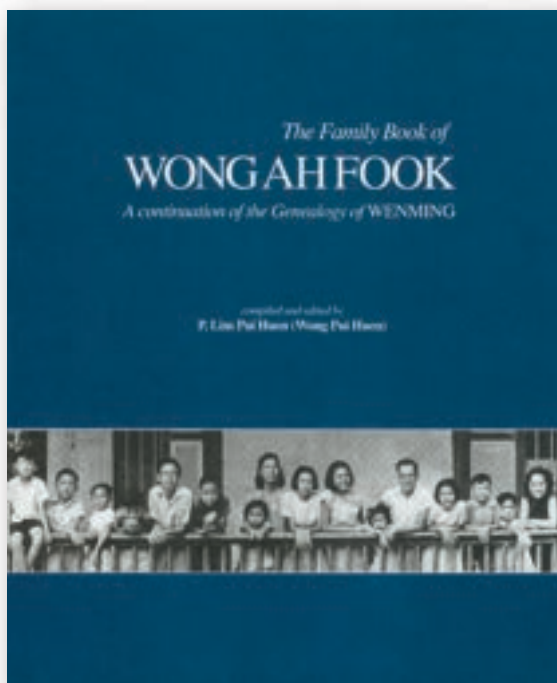


- 3.2 Translation of the text into English commissioned by the editor. The genealogical tables have not been translated.

The author, Huang Ruguang (Wong Yu Gong), a retired schoolteacher in Taishan, was the descendant of branch lineage from the neighbouring village of Dongyang. The information about the Singapore descendants (p.48) is incomplete and incorrect.

I/4

The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook: A Continuation of the Genealogy of Wenming. Compiled by P. Lim Pui Huen. Singapore: Published for the Family of Wong Ah Fook, 2005.



The Family Book contains: (Part I) - The Genealogy of Wong Ah Fook's descendants; and (Part II) - Translation of the Genealogy of Wenming into English. The translation was sponsored by the Trustees of the Estate of Wong Ah Fook, namely, Alfred Wong Hong Kwok, Wong Hong Sze and Franklin Wong Hong Pong. The Chinese characters of the names of family members have been added by hand by Wong Pui Yin to this copy in the Wong Ah Fook Collection.

This poem was written by Huang Juzheng when he migrated from Putian in Fujian Province to Nanxiong in Guangdong Province. He is venerated as the Ancestor of the First Generation by the Cantonese lineages of the Wong/Huang clan. See facing page of a translation and an explanation of the poem. The poem is reproduced from the Genealogy of Wenming, Singapore version. Folio 1/1

居正公由莆田縣遷居南雄沙水村有詩云

起馬登程出異鄉	任從隨地立綱常
年深外境猶吾境	日久他鄉似故鄉
晚夜莫忘親命語	晨昏須存祖宗香
願言蒼天垂庥庇	三七男兒總熾昌

(得聞熟念此言詩到處英靈可說歸呼)

**Huang Juzheng on Moving from Putian County
to Shashui Village in Nanxiang Prefecture**

*Mounted, we set forth to strange lands,
Setting up bonds of morality wherever we go.
The deepening years turn frontier into homestead,
As the days lengthen, foreign land becomes homeland.
Forget not the words of your parents,
Nor the daily offering of incense,
May Heaven bestow its blessings,
To the glory of the twenty-one sons.*

It is said that all members of the Huang family can recognise one another by reciting this poem.*

* The first four lines of this poem are reproduced on p. xlii. This poem is regarded as the clan poem of the larger Wong/Huang clan. It is reprinted in other Huang genealogies and hung in the homes and associations of people whose surname is Huang.

In some other genealogies, it is attributed to Huang Qiaoshan, the founder of the lineage that settled in Quanzhou prefecture, Fujian province. I have argued that the poem had not been written by one of them but by both.

The first four lines of the poem are likely to have been written by Huang Juzheng (Wong Gai Cheng) because he moved from Fujian to the rural county of Xintui county in Guangdong province, a journey across two provinces. These lines fit in with the sentiments of a man making a long journey and coming to terms with his new home. He had only three sons.

I have also argued that the second four lines are likely to have been written by Huang Qiaoshan who has three wives, each of whom bore him seven sons. His family had lived in Quanzhou for generations so that it is neither new land nor frontier.

*A translation and an explanation of the poem. Reproduced from p.102 of
The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook. Folio I/4*

I/5

The Family Book of Wong Ah Fook: A Continuation of the Genealogy of Wenming. Second edition. Compiled and edited by P. Lim Pui Huen (Wong Pui Huen). Singapore: Published for the Family of Wong Ah Fook by Lim Seng Gee and P. Lim Pui Huen, 2018.

In this Second Edition, the Chinese characters of the names of family members have been added. Limited updating has been done, namely, by recording the deaths of senior members and the births of new arrivals since the publication of the First Edition.

Folio II: Family Documents

- II/1** Wong Ah Fook's Singapore and Hong Kong Will. Probate 1919 no. 74, 3 Nov 1919.
- II/2a** Canton Will, 13 Sept 1916. Brushed in Chinese. 1 sheet 40 x 52 cm.
- II/2b** Canton Will, 13 Sept 1916. b/w photo (14 x 11 cm.), b/w negative (16 x 11.5 cm), and (A4 col. enlargement), and translation into English by P. Lim Pui Huen.
- II/3a** Will of Chew Yew, 19 Aug 1929. Brushed in Chinese. 3 sheets.
- II/3b** Will of Chew Yew, 19 Aug 1929. Translation no. 168 of 1932, Singapore. Attached to: Grant of Letters of Administration of an Estate Not Fully Administered, by the High Court, Johor Bahru, and issued to her grandson Pang Heng Hung, 14 Jul 1971.
- II/4** Epitaph of Wong Ah Fook. Text by Chen Xun of Xin Hui. Calligraphy by Liang Luan Cang of Nanhai. Stone rubbing by Lim Guan Hock.

- 4.1 Photocopy of stone rubbing.
- 4.2 3.5 mm negative film of above.
- 4.3 Photocopy of stone rubbing reproduced from the 1975 Annual Report of the National Archives of Singapore.
- 4.4 1975 Annual Report of the National Archives of Singapore. Reproduction of the stone rubbing is on p. 5.
- 4.5 Chinese typescript by Tooru Nomura.
- 4.6 English translation by the donor.

The epitaph was originally inscribed on a stone tablet mounted on a stone tortoise. The monument was located towards the east behind the grave of Wong Ah Fook and his wife Chew Yew. It was lost after the grave was exhumed in the course of the exhumation of the Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting (Kwong Wai Shiu Peck San Theng) cemetery. The land has since been rezoned for housing and is now known as Bishan.



Epitaph of Wong Ah Fook



Stone rubbing of the epitaph honouring Wong Ah Fook erected at his grave. The epitaph was mounted on a stone tortoise and was lost when the grave was exhumed and the area re-zoned for the development of Bishan in Singapore (see page 11). Folio XIV/1.6

II/5

Diquan (clay tiles) unearthed from Wong Ah Fook's grave. One tile carried the words, "Huang Fu Shan Quan" (Property of the Wong Family). The other consisted of a short biography of the deceased stating he was buried in the Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting Fifth Ting. The Chinese characters were written in lines running alternately in opposite directions

5.22 Photocopy of above, A4 size.

The two clay tiles were unearthed when the grave of Wong Ah Fook and his wife was exhumed. The *diquan* have been presented to the National Archives of Singapore.



Images of the two clay tiles from National Archives of Singapore were provided by the donor.

- II/6 Obituary of Wong Ah Fook, *Lat Pau* (12 Sept 1918). In Chinese. Photocopy.
- II/7 Obituary of Wong Ah Fook, *Straits Times* (13 Sept 1918): p. 9. Photocopy.
- II/8 Obituary of Mrs Wong Ah Fook (Chew Yew), *Straits Times* (15 Feb 1932): p. 10. Photocopy.
- II/9 Obituary of Mrs Wong Fook (Chew Yew), *Lat Pau* (16 Feb 1932). Photocopy. In Chinese.
- II/10 “Mrs Wong Ah Fook’s Funeral”, *Singapore Free Press* (2 Mar 1932): p. 140.
- II/11 Will of Ma Lai Wan (also spelt Mah Lye Wan), widow of Wong Ah Fook’s eldest son Wong Siew Nam, Singapore, 14 May 1941. Photocopy.
- II/12 Indenture between Wong Siew Qui (“Surviving Trustee”) and Wong Hong Kwok, Wong Hong Mun and Wong Hong Sze appointing them as new Trustees of the Estate of Wong Ah Fook, dated 20 Aug 1976, Singapore. Photocopy.
- II/13 List of properties in Fangcun (Fong Chuen), Guangzhou. In Chinese. Photocopy.
Wong Ah Fook used to own properties in Fangcun, at that time, a rural district in Guangzhou on the north bank of the Pearl River. The list does not give the names of the owners of the properties listed.

II/14

Wong Cheong Poh. "Biography of Wong Ah Fook."

14.1 Unpublished manuscript in Chinese, c.1930s. 5 pages foolscap size. Photocopy.

14.2 English translation by the donor. 5 pages.

14.3 Biography of Wong Cheong Poh extracted from the commemoration volume of the 130th anniversary of the Ning Yeung Wui Kuan. Photocopy.

Wong Cheong Poh was a Taishanese teacher who was headmaster (1922-32) of the school run by Ning Yeung Wui Kuan, the clan association for Taishan people.

II/15

Announcement by the Directors of Zhiben School, Taishan county, Guangdong. 3 Mar 1987. 1 sheet.

An announcement to kin persons of Liufuxiang about the history and progress of the school. Zhiben School was founded by Wong Ah Fook in 1917 and was supported by donations from him and other overseas kin people. Liufuxiang refers to the six neighbouring villages that are served by the school including Wong Ah Fook's home village of Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village).

植本学校董事会 告六福乡内外乡亲书

六福乡海内外同乡、亲朋好友：

丁卯之春，玉兔呈祥。我们植本学校董事会同人，衷心祝愿各位长辈、后辈身体健康，家康幸福，万事如意！

兹者，事关家乡植本学校办学之事，向之各位长辈、后辈，望方谅解。家乡植本学校早于一九一七年由海外华侨黄阿福先生创办，自一时期发展，即深得我乡内外宗亲的关注和支持。解其时，曾捐款每年共达港币四百元为办学经费。一九六一年及一九七二年，海外侨胞捐募、捐款、捐券、捐粮、送书、送伞、送鞋、赠鞋等物，先后共捐人民币二千五百多元。改建及修建校舍。一九八二年，为适应教育发展的需要，加修植本学校校舍共投资六万五千五百元，王母捐建五千元。新建了一幢面积有九百五十平方米，含有十间教室的二层楼式校舍。建设过程，乡同乡人，同心协力，献工献料。结束乡花轿，多办事，深受政府赞为勤俭办学典型。校舍建成后，旅游费向学生捐助价值港币八百元的操场一事，另捐港币五百元为建园绿化资金。黄德忠君捐助价值港币四百元向陈梅四氏。去年后，植本办学基金会又拨回一万伍仟元，此款存入银行，每年利息为设备及修筑办学基金会之用。无数事实说明，我乡内外宗亲，历来都有关心教育，支持教育的光荣传统。

植本学校创办已七十多年，培育人材，遍海内外。本立德彰。植本人群，可谓人材济济，誉满四乡。近几年，新校舍建成，创设优美环境。从一九七七年以来，连续六年被评为区勤工俭学先进单位，近三年连续被评为区教育先进单位。去年小学毕业生升入区高级中学十四人，为办学以来升学人数空前之多，升学率创全区首年。近年在该校毕业生中有一人升入大学就读，有一人升入台山一中就读。去年小学五年级数学竞赛，平均成绩居全区第一名，有二人由区选拔参加竞赛。（全区共选十二名学生）其中一人获三等奖。回首母校繁花吐艳，实践乡全体非常光荣，非同寻常校创办允始者黄翁之初衷。

而今，时代日新月异，尤其是台山讲乡，华僑办学兴起，新型校舍比比皆是，四邻兄弟学校，已朝教学设备现代化的目标迈进。而我乡校，虽经新校舍落成，但设备欠缺空出，学生课桌仍是陈旧的，体育、教学用具尤为欠缺。特别是近几年，由于国家电力不足，学校照明无法解决，教师

An announcement to kin persons of Liufuxiang about the history and progress of the Zhiben School founded by Wong Ah Fook in 1917 and was supported by donations from him and other overseas kin people. Folio II/15

- II/16**
- 16.1 “Street Named After a Slave”, *The Star* (18 May 1987).
 - 16.2 Wong Hong Kwok’s letter to *The Star* (19 Jun 1987).
 - 16.3 Wong Ah Fook Was Not a Slave”, Wong Hong Kwok’s letter published in *The Star* (25 Jun 1987): p. 12.

Wong Hong Kwok, on behalf of the Trustees of the Estate of Wong Ah Fook, responding to the story in *The Star* headlined, “Street Named after a Slave.”

- II/17**
- 17.1 “From Vice to Wall Street”, by Ravi Nambiar, *New Straits Times: Times Two* (11 Oct 1990): p. 2.
 - 17.2 Wong Hong Kwok’s undated letter to the *New Straits Times*.
 - 17.3 The same letter addressed to Tan Sri Muhyiddin bin Mohd Yassin, Menteri Besar, Johor.
 - 17.4 “Proper to Honour Wong Ah Fook.” Wong Hong Kwok’s letter published in the *New Straits Times* (8 Mar 1991). Wong Hong Kwok, on behalf of the Trustees of the Estate of Wong Ah Fook, responding to the story published in the *New Straits Times* with the title, “From Vice to Wall Street.”

Folio III: Tangliyuan (唐荔园)

Tangliyuan was the house Wong Ah Fook purchased in Guangzhou. Address in 1991 was: no. 21 Feng Yuan Dajia, Liwan District, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province, China.

- III/1
- 1.1 Undated (1991?) card containing message from Prof. Luo Xiao-Wei, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University, Shanghai, stating that Tangliyuan was not one of the four famous gardens in Guangzhou City built in the Qing Dynasty.
 - 1.2 Letter from donor to Prof. Luo thanking her for the paper by Prof. Lu Yuanding, 13 Dec 1991.
 - 1.3 “Tang Li Yuan”, by Prof. Lu Yuanding, Department of Architecture, South China University of Technology, Shipai, Guangzhou. 5p. including measured drawings.

In about 1949, Tangliyuan was taken over by the Guangzhou City Puppet Theatre to be used as its workshop and workers’ residence. In the 1980s, the house was sold to the government. Huang Mingbo (Wong Ming Pak) referred to in Prof. Lu’s paper was Wong Peng Chew. See Folio I/5: *Family Book of Wong Ah Fook*, p. 16.



See also Folio XIV/2: Colour Slides on the house Wong Ah Fook purchased in Guangzhou. The original house was known as Tangliyuan (Lichee Water Garden) in the Qing Dynasty. It was later taken over by the Guangzhou City Puppet Theatre to be used as its workshop and workers' residence. The photographs were taken in 1987.

III/2

Clear Book containing black/white photographs of a pair of scrolls. 64 b/w photographs size 20 x 26 cm. The scrolls were named:

- Tangliyuan Tu (Pictures of Lichee Water Garden).
- Nanguo Ming Yuan (A Famous Garden of the South).

The history of the scrolls is described in Prof. Lu's paper above. The scrolls comprise calligraphy by various scholars and 3 brush paintings. The reproductions are not arranged in the correct sequence, and there is some duplication and overlap. The original scrolls have been acquired by the Guangzhou authorities. The photographs were taken by the donor in 1987 in the home of her aunts, the widows of Wong Peng Chew.



A brush painting of Tangliyuan Tu. Folio III/2

Folio IV: Account Book, 1940-41

Wong Brothers, Johore Bahru. Cash book, 1940-41.

Records of rentals collected on family properties in Johor Bahru. The accounts were recorded by Wong Peng Shing for his uncles S.C. (Siew Chan), S.Q. (Siew Qui), S.Y. (Siew Yuen), and Wong Brothers, i.e., Estate of Wong Ah Fook for Jing Seong (see note below).



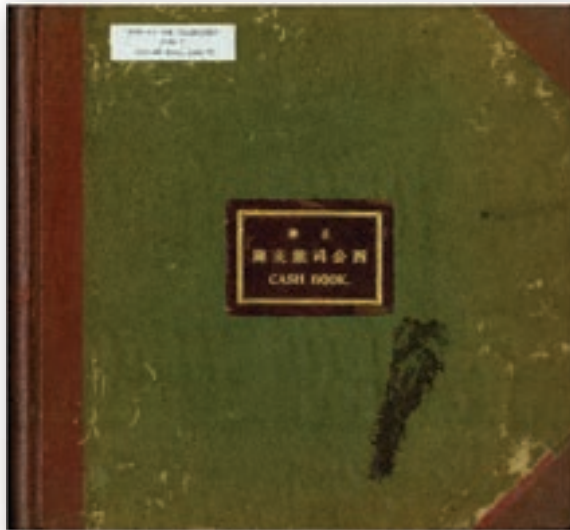
Wong Brothers, Johore Bahru. Cash Book, 1940-1941.

Folio V: Account Book, 1942-50

Si Gongsi Jinzhi Bu (Cash Book of the Four Companies), 1942-1950.

Records of rentals collected on family properties in Johor Bahru. The accounts were recorded by Wong Peng Shing for S.C. (Siew Chan), S.Q. (Siew Qui), S.Y. (Siew Yuen), M.P. (Ming Pak also known as Peng Chew), P.S. (Peng Shing), P.C. (Peng Cheong), P.W. (Peng Wah) and Zheng Chang (Jing Seong).

For an explanation of the concept and practice of Zheng Chang, the ancestral trust established by Wong Ah Fook, see Folio IX/3, "Wong Ah Fook and Ancestral Trusts", by P. Lim Pui Huen.



Cash Book of the Four Companies, 1942-1950.

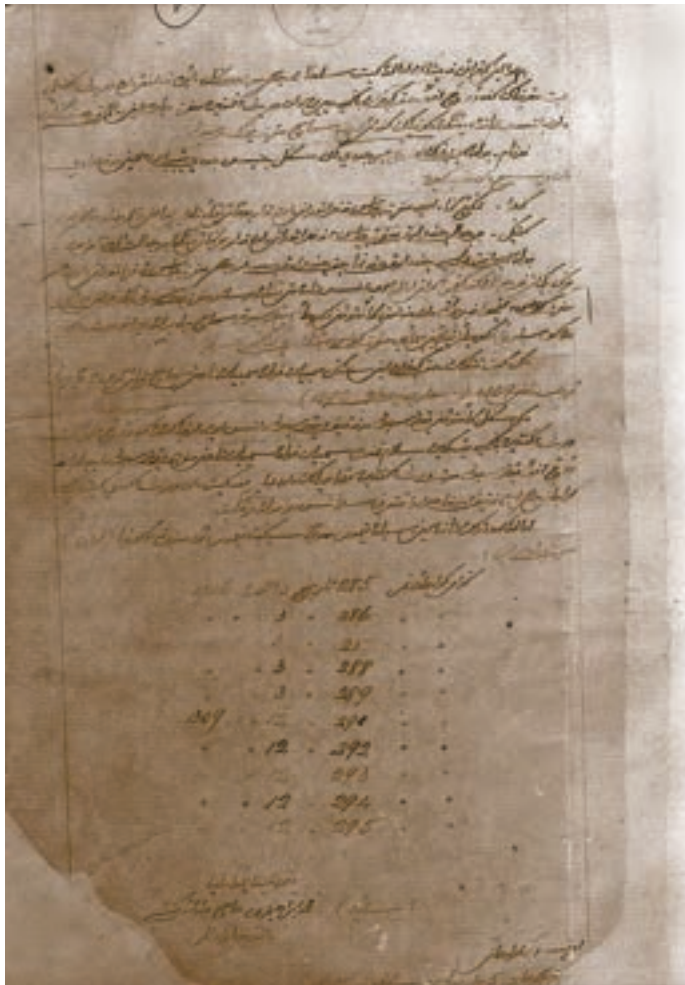
Folio VI: Johor Official Documents⁴

The documents listed in this folio are held by the Johor/Malacca Branch of the National Archives of Malaysia in Johor Bahru. The numbers listed in the 3rd column are the reference numbers of the Archives.⁵

VI/1	1892	Surat-surat Titah Perintah (Royal Commands), 1888-1920.
	1.1	No. 24: Document granting Wong Ah Fook 10 lots of land in Johor Bahru, comprising Lot nos. 285-289 and 291-295. Lot nos. 291 & 292 were subsequently acquired by government. See Folio VI/25
	1.2	Official translation into English extracted from G.A. 131/1915 [p.46-7].
	1.3	Official Rumi transliteration extracted from G.A. 131/1915 [p. 19-20]. Also in [p. 44-5].

⁴ “Johore” was the old spelling of the name of the state, the current spelling is “Johor”.

⁵ Abbreviations of archives series: G.A. (General Advisor); M.B. (Mentri Besar); S.S. (State Secretary); SUK (Setia Usaha Kerajaan).



*Royal Command of 1892 granted Wong Ah Fook ten lots of land in downtown Johor Bahru that came to be known as Kampong Wong Ah Fook.
Folio VI /1*

- VI/2** 1863 S. 28 “Surat-surat Perjanjian Paterson Simons dengan WAF kerana membuat dua gudang di-Singapura” (Contract between Wong Ah Fook and Paterson Simons to build 2 godowns in Singapore) at the cost of \$10,000, 1 Oct 1863. Typed summary of document only.
- VI/3** 1876 S. 80 “Surat Perjanjian Tunku Abdul Rahman dengan Wong Ah Fook memajakan 12 pintu sunah sewa di-Singapore” (Indenture between Wong Ah Fook and Tunku Abdul Rahman [brother of Sultan Abu Bakar], to lease 12 shophouses in Singapore), 28 Nov 1876. The rent was Spanish \$123.00 per month for 5 years. Typed summary of document only on same sheet as above.
- VI/4** 1882 S. 113 4.1 “Surat-surat Perjanjian membuat kota dan rumah-rumah dalam Jail Johor Bahru” (Agreement to construct the walls and buildings of the jail), 16 Apr 1882. Agreement between Wong Ah Fook and Ungku Haji Mohamed on behalf of the Government of Johor to build the walls and building of the jail at the cost of \$75.00 for every 10 feet. Jawi with Rumi transliteration.

4.2 The same agreement dated 17 Feb 1883 in which the total cost had been raised to \$30,000. Jawi with Rumi transliteration.

VI/5 1883 S. 115 “Surat Perjanjian Pajak Chandu / Arak / Gadai dan Judi” (Agreement for leasing the revenue on opium, spirits, pawning and gambling), 4 Jun 1883. Agreement between the Johor Government and Chieu Sin Jang and Lee Jim Tuan, for Muar and Kesang. Typescript.

VI/6 1886 S. 131 “Surat Tanggong dan Surat Perjanjian Wong Ah Fook berkenaan Pajak Chukai Gambir dan Lada Hitam” (Revenue Farming Contract between Wong Ah Fook and the Johor Government, for leasing the tax on pepper and gambier), 18 Apr 1886. The period is for 1886-88, at the rent of \$20,050.00 per month. In Jawi with Rumi transliteration and English summary.



Page 3 of the Revenue Farming Grant 1886 show Wong Ah Fook's signature behind the name Yi Yi which seems to be a business name he sometimes used. Folio VI/ 6

- VI/7** 1895 S. 133 “Kumpulan Surat-surat Akuan bagi kerja-kerja borong dan jadual kira-kira Hutang Kerajaan kepada Wong Ah Fook” (Accounts of the Johor Government's debit to Wong Ah Fook), 1887-95. Typed summary of accounts only. To be read together with S. 192.
2 copies.

- VI/8** 1888 S. 138 “Surat Perjanjian dan Surat Tanggong Pajak Hasil Gambir Lada kepada Wong Ah Fook” (Revenue Farming contract with Wong Ah Fook for leasing the tax on pepper and gambier) 19 Nov 1888. Contract is for the period 1889-91 at the rent of \$19,000 per month. In Jawi with Rumi transliteration.
- VI/9** 1901 State Secretariat Letter Book, 1900-02. Typescript of 3 letters:
- 9.1 No. 335: Dato’ Jaafar B.H. Mohamed, Mentri Besar, to Drew & Napier, acknowledging that the Government of Johore owes Wong Ah Fook the sum of \$170,113.72 according to the account agreed between himself, Dato’ Bintara Dalam and Wong Ah Fook’s attorney, Wong Ah Yam.
- 9.2 No. 338: Letter from Ibrahim B.A. [i.e. bin Abdullah Munsyi], to Drew & Napier, denying his agreement to any account against Johor Government.

9.3 No. 361: Letter from J. [sic] B. Abdullah [Ibrahim bin Abdullah Munsyi], Dato' Bintara Dalam, to Drew & Napier, stating that he did not ask for any particulars of Wong Ah Fook's account with the Johor Government.

VI/10 1905 S. 146 Indenture between the Rev. William Murray and Dato' Jaafar bin Mohamed and Sultan Ibrahim regarding the late James Meldrum's Steam Sawmills... 26 Sept 1905.

Only the map of the location which includes some of Wong Ah Fook's properties has been extracted from the Indenture.

VI/11 1893 S. 147 Surat Hutang Wong Ah Fook. Agreement to pay Ungku Omar bin Ungku Ahmad, Ungku Alliah and Ibrahim bin Abdullah, the sum of \$2,000 each on 3 lots of land on Hong Kong Street, 22 Aug 1893. Typed summary of document only.

VI/12 1903 S. 166 Letter from Paterson Simons Co. to Sultan of Johor regarding rent and repairs to his property on Collyer Quay, 6 Jul 1903. Wong Ah Fook was called to do the repairs. Summary of document only.

- VI/13** 1904 S. 169 “Bayaran Hutang Kerajaan kepada Taukeh Wong Ah Fook, Pemborong Kerja Raya” (Government debt to Taukeh Wong Ah Fook, Public Works Contractor), 10 Mar 1904. Includes Minutes of Council of Ministers held to discuss this problem. In Jawi with Rumi transliteration and English translation.
- VI/14** 1906 S. 175 “Surat-surat Tawaran Tender Pajak Judi Kampung Bandar Johor” (Government Tenders for the Kampung Johor Bahru Gambling Farm). Documents in Jawi, English and Chinese relating to tenders for 1907-09, and summary of the tenders dated 31 Dec 1906.
- VI/15** 1909 Letter dated 13 Nov 1909 from Mohd bin Mahbob to Sultan Ibrahim regarding an application from Wong Ah Fook concerning a piece of land with house in Siglap, Teluk Karau. Rumi typescript. Source not given.
- VI/16** 1910 S. 192 “Kira-kira Hutang Kerajaan kepada Taukeh Wong Ah Fook” (Accounts of the Johor Government’s debt to Wong Ah Fook), 10 Oct 1905.
- 16.1 Jawi documents and Wong Ah Fook’s letter acknowledgement receipt of \$213,475.00.

16.2 Accounts summary in English
by Aris Mohamed.

VI/17 G.A.52/1910 “Settlement of Wong Ah Fook’s claim
against the Government.”

VI/18 G.A.75/1911 “Law dealing with Revenue Farms in
Johore.”

18.1 File documents includes (i)
Agreement on Johor Gambling
Farm between the Government and
Wong Ah Fook and Lee Seng Sang
Kee; and, (ii) Agreement on the
Muar Gambling Farm.

18.2 Typescript of the Johor agreement.

18.3 Summary of the file in English.

VI/19 G.A.82/1911 “Lim Ah Siang’s Farm Contract.”

VI/20 G.A.99/1911 “Pawnbroking Farm.”

VI/21 G.A.137/1911 “Recommendation that the block of
swampy land lying to the North of
Jalan Lumba Kuda (now Jalan Stesyen)
and between Jalan Wong Ah Fook and
the Railway be resumed by Govt.”
These comprised 2 lots of land granted
to Wong Ah Fook. See Folio VI/25

VI/22 G.A.168/1911 “The Leasing of Gaming and Pawnbroking Farms of Johore Bahru Town and other places.”

Re Loke Chow Kit.

VI/23 G.A. 168/1911 “Proof of Farmer’s Contract.”

Re Loke Chow Kit.

VI/24 1912 *Johore Government Gazette*, 18 Jan 1912:

No. 12: “The Revenue Farms Enactment Bill. Constitution of Gaming Farm.” Contains reference to Kampong Ah Fook.

No. 13: “The Revenue Farms Enactment Bill. Constitution of Pawnbroking Farm.” Contains reference to Kampong Ah Fook.

VI/25 1912 *Johore Government Gazette*, 18 Jan 1912:

No. 23: “Declaration under Section 94 of the “Land Enactment, 1910”- Acquisition of Land for Public Purposes. Includes acquisition of 2 lots of land belong to Wong Ah Fook, Lots 291 & 292. See Folio VI/21

VI/26 1912

“List Perkara-perkara, June 1912.”

Memo dated 5 Jun 1912 from the Assistant land Commissioner that the Government intends to resume the land being Grant no. 293 belonging to Wong Ah Fook at the compensation of 50 cents per square foot amounting to \$76,000. Original lacking, Rumi transliteration only.

VI/27 176/1913

Supt of Surveys: Mr. J. Griffiths to be an arbitrator for the Johor Govt: in the matter of acquisition of certain land belonging to Towkay Wong Ah Fook.

Grant nos. 291 & 292 were acquired by government. Award was \$4,400. File includes map of Grants no. 288 & 289, 291 & 292. The site is now occupied by the Johor Bahru City Square. See also Folio XIII/4

VI/28 1913

Johore Government Gazette, 20 Dec 1913.

No. 101: Notice of loss of title. Wong Ah Fook's application to the Collector of Land Revenue re loss of his title of Malay Grant no. 294.

VI/29 G.A. 75/1913

“Messrs Rodyke & Davidson – Inquiring as to whether the Govt would raise any objection to a Charge or Mortgage on the enclosed concession made by Wong Ah Fook.” Includes a copy of Wong Ah Fook’s grant. In Jawi.

VI/30 1914(?)

Johore Government Gazette, 1 Aug 1914 (?):

No. 105: “The Revenue Farm Enactment, 1911.”

Gaming Farm Rules

VI/31 1914

Johore Government Gazette, 1 Oct 1914.

No. 124: “The Revenue Farms Enactment Bill.”

Constitution of Gaming Farm, contains reference to Kampong Ah Fook.

No. 125: “The Revenue Farms Enactment Bill.”

Constitution of Pawnbroking Farm, contains reference to Kampong Ah Fook.

VI/32 G.A.772/1914

“Wong Ah Fook’s gaming right.”

Query raised by Loke Chow Kit.

VI/33 G.A.803/1914 “Proposal to erect shop houses in Johore Bahru.”

Application from Loke Chow Kit.

VI/34 G.A.863/1914 “Tender for Gaming Farm Rights for 1916, 1917 and 1918.”

Tender from Loke Chow Kit.

VI/35 G.A.51/1915 “Letter from Messrs Rodyke & Davidson re notice prohibiting outsiders from coming & gambling in Kampong Ah Fook.”

VI/36 G.A.87/1915 “Detectives stationed on Wong Ah Fook’s Gambling premises.”

VI/37 G.A.87/1915 “Kang Chu rights granted to Tan Eng Kwang.”

VI/38 G.A.131/1915 “Concession covering certain gaming, pawnbroking & trading rights granted by the late Sultan to Wong Ah Fook.”

Summary of the file:

[p.1-11]: File notes by D.G. Campbell, General Adviser, with other British officials.

[p.12-37]: Correspondence and legal opinions.

[p.38-54]: Civil Suit no. 13 of 1915.

[p.55-77]: Judgement by M.H. Whitley.

[p.78-93]: Memorandum by M.H. Whitley to General Adviser, 11 Jul 1916.

Wong Ah Fook's suit against the Johor Government in which he defended his rights granted by Sultan Abu Bakar in the grant of 1892 (Folio VI/1).

- VI/39** G.A.230/1915 "Returns of the purchase & sale of Chandu for 1911, 1912, 1913 & 1914."
- VI/40** G.A.263/1915 "Wong Ah Fook's Gaming Concession." Includes editor's summary of the file.
- VI/41** G.A.307/1915 "Interference by Mr. Wong Ah Fook with his [Loke Chow Kit] gaming rights."
- VI/42** G.A.395/1915 "Gaming Farm on the Kluang Road. Reports, on behalf of the State Commissioner, the circumstances leading to its opening."

- VI/43** G.A.396/1915 “Asst Adviser, Batu Pahat – Asks for a list of the farms recognised by Govt, as established prior to the exclusive right granted to the General Farmer under the Gaming Farm Contract.”
- VI/44** G.A.519/1915 “Loke Chow Kit – Applies for permission to erect a stage for Chinese Wayang in connection with his Gambling Farm.”
- VI/45** G.A.575/1915 “Drew & Napier – Forward copy of letter addressed to the State Secretary regarding concession granted to Lim Ah Siang in Endau.”
- VI/46** G.A.628/1915 “Loke Chow Kit – Tenders for (a) The General Farm; (b) Muar; (c) Kota Tinggi, Muar & Endau.”
- VI/47** G.A.678/1915 “Legislation for the compulsory acquisition of Concessionaires’ rights in Johore.” Includes editor’s summary.
- VI/48** G.A.764/1915 “Kukup General Farm, 1916-1917.”
- VI/49** G.A. 811/1915 “Wong Ah Fook v. The State of Johore.” File summary only.

VI/50 G.A.852/1915

“New Station Road, Johore Bahru.”

50.1 Map showing 7 lots of Wong Ah Fook’s property and Johor Bahru Railway Station. Scale: 4 chains to 1 inch. Photocopy A4 size.

50.2 Map showing the area of each of the 7 lots of Wong Ah Fook’s property and the Johor Bahru Railway Station. Scale: 2 chains to 1 inch. Photocopy A4 size.

50.3 “Plan of Johore Bahru Town. 1916.” Outer boundaries plotted from Johore Survey, details (including shophouse lots) filled in from measurements. Scale: 33 ft. to ? Photocopy A3 size.

Maps of the area known as Kampong Wong Ah Fook. See also XIII/6.

VI/51 G.A.304/1916

“Wong Ah Fook vs. Govt of Johore. Payment of damages amounting to \$6,000.”

VI/52 S.S.365/1916

“Wong Ah Fook v. Govt of Johore. Referring to the damages to be paid to Wong Ah Fook.”

VI/53 G.A.520/1916

“List of Surat Sungai with free particulars for H.E. the Governor.” In Jawi and Rumi. Includes:

- Editor’s summary.
- List of rivers and kangchu.
- Translation of appointment letter to kangchu containing regulations governing appointment.
- Call for tenders of Gaming and Pawnbroking Farms under the Revenue Farms Act, 1911.

VI/54 G.A.701/1916 “Wong Ah Fook v. The State of Johore.”

On Wong Ah Fook’s account with the Government of Johor.

VI/55 G.A.829/1916

“Final resumption of Wong Ah Fook’s Gaming Farm Concession for a sum of \$600,000.”

VI/56 S.S.180/1917

“Cooper & Wong – Enquiring whether the Govt. would be prepared to renew his client’s (Wong Tong Choh) lease for Chandu & Spirit rights, Kampong Ah Fook.”

S.Q. Wong, son of Wong Ah Fook, was a partner in this law firm which had its office in Jalan Wong Ah Fook.

VI/57 S.S.585/1917 “Proposed back lane at Kampong Ah Fook.” Includes map also listed as Folio XIII/5.



*Map dated 1917, showing land granted to Wong Ah Fook by the Sultan of Johor. The area became known as Kanpung Wong Ah Fook, 1917. Jalan Wong Ah Fook is now one of the busiest thoroughfares in Johor Bahru.
Folio XIII/5*

VI/58 G.A.621/1917 “Resumption of land & houses for Back Lanes at Kampong Ah Fook.”

VI/59 G.A.625/1917 “Acquisition of land & houses at Kampong Ah Fook for the purposes of Back Lanes.”

- VI/60** G.A.515/1918 “Back Lanes Scheme, Kampong Ah Fook.”
- VI/61** S.S.635/1918 Cooper & Wong – Encroachment of land by F.M.S. [Federated Malay States] Railway on Chew Yew’s land. File summary only.
- VI/62** G.A.833/1920 “S.Q. Wong – Applying for the permission of H.M. The King to wear the Order of S.M.J. recently conferred upon me by H.H. The Sultan of Johore, outside the State of Johore.”⁶
- VI/63** M.B.10/1921 Appointment of S.Q. Wong as a member of the Council of State. Includes a letter in Jawi from Sultan Ibrahim to Dato’ Jaafar Mohamed directing him to appoint S.Q. Wong as a member. Jawi and English.
- VI/64** J/SUK 11 “Transliterasi” Salinan Surat-surat Dato’ Menteri dan Setiausaha Kerajaan Johor, 1891-1899 (Transliterations [from Jawi to Rumi] of the correspondence of the Mentri Besar’s Office and the State Secretary’s Office). Jilid 1: 1-430; Jilid 2: 341-891. Selected documents relating Wong Ah Fook only.

⁶ S.M.J.: Setia Mahkota Johor (Order of the Crown of Johor).

Folio VII: Kwong Yik Bank

Kwong Yik Bank was the first Chinese bank established in Singapore and was founded by members of the Cantonese community led by Wong Ah Fook. It was established in 1903 and collapsed in 1913. The references listed in Folio VII/1 have been found in the National Archives of Singapore. The other official documents relating to the case appear to have been destroyed by Order of Court. For an account of the rise and fall of the bank, see *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, Chapter 8.

VII/1 Kwong Yik Banking Co. Ltd. File no. 10, 1903, in the National Archives of Singapore. Photocopies.

1.1 In the Supreme Court of Singapore. Suit no. 604 of 1913. In the Matter of the Companies Ordinance 1889, and, Om the Matter of the Kwong Yik Banking Company Limited.

1.2 Liquidator's reports:

1.21 1st, 1914.

1.22 2nd, 1915.

1.23 3rd, 1916.

1.24 4th, 1917.

1.25 5th, 1918.

1.26 6th, 1919.

1.27 7th, 1920.

1.28 8th, 1921. In English and Chinese.

1.29 10th and final, 1923.

VII/2 The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914. Extracts and documents relating to the passing of the ordinance.

- 2.1 The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 1913.
- 2.2 First Reading, in Straits Settlements. *Shorthand Report of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, 1914.*
- 2.3 Second Reading.
- 2.4 In Committee.
- 2.5 Third Reading.
- 2.6 Ordinance no. IX of 1914: The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 1914.

VII/3 Straits Settlements. *Shorthand Report of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, 1914.* Extracts and documents relating to the passing of the Companies Ordinance, 1915.

- 3.1 First Reading.
- 3.2 Second Reading.
- 3.3 In Committee.
- 3.4 Third Reading.
- 3.5 Ordinance no. XXV of 1915: The Companies Ordinance 1915.

VII/4 *Lat Pau* (16 & 22 Dec 1903, 20 Nov – 31 Dec 1913). Printouts from microfilms in National University of Singapore Libraries. In Chinese. 20 items.

- 5.1 Printouts of article.
- 5.2 Handwritten copy.
- 5.3 English translation.
- VII/6** *Union Times / Zong Hui Xun Bao* (25 Nov 1913 – 13 Jan 1914). Printouts from microfilms in National University of Singapore Libraries. In Chinese. 24 items.
- VII/7** *Union Times / Zong Hui Xun Bao* (15 & 16 Dec 1913).
- 7.1 Wong Ah Fook's "Explanatory Notice" offering all his properties for mortgage on behalf of Kwong Yik Bank. Printout of notice.
- 7.2 English translation.
- VII/8** Chinese press reports. Summaries of the reports in the *Lat Pau* and *Union Times* in English.
- VII/9** *Straits Times* (24 Nov – 31 Dec 1913). References from microfilms in National Library and National University of Singapore Libraries. 14 items A3 size.
- VII/10** "Kwong Yik Bank Ltd." In *Twentieth Century Impressions of British Malaya*. Editor-in-chief: Arnold Wright. London, 1908: pp. 145-46. Typescript. 2 pp.

- VII/11** Tan Ee Leong. "The Chinese Banks Incorporated in Singapore & the Federation of Malaya, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Malayan Branch* 25 pt. 1 (1953): pp. 113-39.
- VII/12** Lee Sheng-yi. "Development of Commercial Banks." In his *The Monetary and Banking Development of Singapore and Malaysia*. 3rd ed. Singapore: Singapore University Press, 1990: pp. 34-42.
- VII/13** Lee Sheng-yi. "The Development of Commercial Banking in Singapore and the States of Malaya," *Malayan Review* 11 no. 1 (Apr 1966): pp. 84-100.
- VII/14** Lee Sheng-yi's comments on Kwong Yik Bank, 1991-92.
- VII/15** "Quong Yik Bank Claim [Wong Ah Fook Affair]." Johor Archives S.Sec: [State Secretary] Misc-a 33/1910. Correspondence relating to the Sultan of Johor's account with the Kwong Yik Bank. 10 items.
- VII/16** Unnamed file in Johor Archives relating to the Johor Government's account with Kwong Yik Bank / Chinese Bank, 1910-07. In Jawi with transcription into Rumi by Ismail Nyeh Osman. 21 items.
- VII/17** Correspondence with Chin Kee Onn regarding Kwong Yik Bank (Selangor) and Kwong Yik Bank (Singapore), and other documents. 7 items.

VII/18 "Tale of Veteran Bankers," *The Star: Starspecial* (31 Aug [2003]): pp. 24-26.

On Kwong Yik Bank Berhad and other pioneer Malaysian banks.



Folio VII/18: Newspaper clipping on Kwong Yik Bank Berhad and other pioneer Malaysian banks. Source from *The Star: Starspecial* (31 Aug 2003): pp. 24-26.

Folio VIII: Singapore and Johor

VIII/1 “H.H. The Sultan of Johore ‘At Home’ at New Tyersall,” *Singapore Free Press* (5 Dec 1892). 4 p. Printout from microfilm.

Press report on the opening of the Sultan of Johor’s New Istana Tyersall. Wong Ah Fook is mentioned as the contractor.

VIII/2 Guthrie Scholarships.

2.1 “Guthrie Scholarships: Raffles Institution,” *Straits Settlements Government Gazette* (10 Jul 1903): p. 79. Photocopy.

Announcement of regulations for the awarding of the Guthrie Scholarships.

2.2 No. 741, *Straits Settlements Government Gazette* (18 Dec 1903): p. 1944. Photocopy.

Announcement that the Guthrie Scholarships for the year ending 1 Oct 1903, have been awarded to Wong Siew Qui and Wong Siew Yuen.

VIII/3 Victoria Memorial Hall.

The Victoria Memorial Hall was built from public donations in memory of the late Queen Victoria and was officially opened by Governor Sir John Anderson on 1 Oct 1905. His namesake, John Anderson, head of Guthrie & Co., was chairman of the committee for the building project. In his long speech, he praised the construction work of the Cantonese contractor.

- 3.1 "Victoria Memorial Hall Opening Ceremony. Speeches by the Governor, Mr. J. Anderson and the Municipal President," *Straits Times* (19 Oct 1905). 2 pp. A3 size photocopy, enlarged from printout from microfilm.
- 3.2 Typed copy of the above. 21 pp.
- 3.3 6 plans, dated 1904 (1 sheet), 1906 (1 sheet), 1908 (3 sheets), 1 sheet undated. Photocopies A3 size.

VIII/4 Guang Hui Zhao (Kwong Wai Shiu) Hospital.

Guang Hui Zhao Hospital was founded in 1910 by the Cantonese community led by Wong Ah Fook and Leong Mun Sau. The hospital is named after the clan associations from the three prefectures in Guangdong that were the main supporters of the hospital, namely, Guangzhou (Kwong Chau), Huizhou (Wai Chau) and Zhaoqing (Shiu Heng). The associations used to maintain the Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting cemetery and now maintains the successor columbarium. See Folio VIII/8

- 4.1 “An Ordinance to Incorporate the Kwong-Wai-Shiu Free Hospital” Ordinance No. XVI of 1910, *Straits Settlements Government Gazette* (10 Jun 1910): p. 1314-18. Photocopy.
- 4.2 “Rules made by the Committee of the ‘Kwong-Wai-Shiu’ Free Hospital and approved by the Governor in pursuance of Section 19 of The Kwong-Wai-Shiu Free Hospital Ordinance 1910,” *Straits Settlements Government Gazette* (10 Feb 1911): pp. 207-11. Photocopy.
- 4.3 “Kwong Wai Siu Free Hospital established at the former site of the Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Serangoon Road,” *Journal of Southeast Asian Researches* 5(1969): p. 57. Photocopy.
- 4.4 “Why no Progress on Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital?” *Straits Times: Streets* (8 Jan 2003). Photocopy.
- 4.5 “Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital – 100th Anniversary,” *Straits Times Special* (25 Nov 2010): pp. C8-9.

VIII/5 *Straits Settlements Government Gazette* (25 Apr 1913): p. 647.

Appointments of Justices of the Peace for Singapore, Penang and Malacca. Photocopy. Wong Ah Fook’s name is listed among the Justices of the Peace for Singapore.

VIII/6 "Telok Blangah Land Case," *Straits Times* (5 & 6 Dec 1913). Photocopy.

Report on a case before the Court of Appeal in which Wong Ah Fook having purchased the land from the executors of the Estate of Sultan Abu Bakar, claimed possession of the land from the defendants who in turn claimed it by long adverse possession.

VIII/7 Appropriation of land by the Japanese Military Administration.

7.1 Notice dated 17 Nov 2064 (1944) from Kanzai Katyo, Municipality of Syonan, re the appropriation of land in Kampong Bahru Road belonging to the Estate of Wong Ah Fook, and the compensation to be paid. Photocopy.

7.2 Letter dated 30 Nov 2604 (1944) from Kanzai Katyo, Municipality of Syonan, to Messrs. Chan & Ong, confirming the appropriation of land in Kampong Bahru Road by the Japanese Military.

VIII/8 "Xiao Shi" (School history)," *Magazine in Commemoration of the Inauguration of the New School Building of Yeung Ching School*. Singapore, 1967. Photocopy.

Page 9 of the history of Yeung Ching School names Wong Poh Tin (Huang Putian) as one of the founders of the school. Wong Poh Tin is Wong Ah Fook's *hao* (an alternate name), and is a name by which he is frequently referred.

VIII/9 List of Kangchu (Master of the River) in Johor, extracted from a publication of the Johor Bahru Teochew Association (Chaozhou Bayi Huiguan). In Chinese. Photocopy.

Wong Ah Fook is listed as Kangchu of Mersing. A kangchu is a concessionaire who has been granted permission by the Johor Government to cultivate pepper and gambier on the banks of tributaries and rivers.

VIII/10 Letter from Dato' Abdullah Mohamed, to the donor dated 25 Nov 1993. 3 pp.

Dato' Abdullah Mohamed was former State Secretary of Johor and a respected authority on Johor history. In his letter, he stated that (i) Wong Ah Fook built 4 major buildings in Johor Bahru, namely Istana Besar, Istana Bukit Zaharah, Balai Zaharah, and Bangunan Dato' Jaafar Mohamed (residence of the first Mentri Besar of Johor); (ii) Wong Ah Fook was one of Sultan Abu Bakar's financiers; and, (iii) his son Dato' S.Q. Wong was a member of the Johor Executive Council and personal friend of Sultan Ibrahim.

VII/10

Dato' Abdullah
Samud
Dato' Abdullah
25th Nov. 1993

Dear Dato' Peh,

Thank you very much for the loan of your
book biography of Wong Ah Fook. It is an excellent
piece of work, well-documented. However, for
Johoreans it is somewhat tantalizing. Wong Ah
Fook was probably the Chinese pioneer among
many others who were closely connected with
Alor Gajah in the building up of Johor Bahru.
He was probably also one of the major financiers
of Alor Gajah, no less important than Tan
Mehand Alangoff (Wong Ah Fook). It was not for
nothing that he was awarded a "kampung" right
in the heart of the first growing capital of the
State. His pioneer status has given much
recognition.

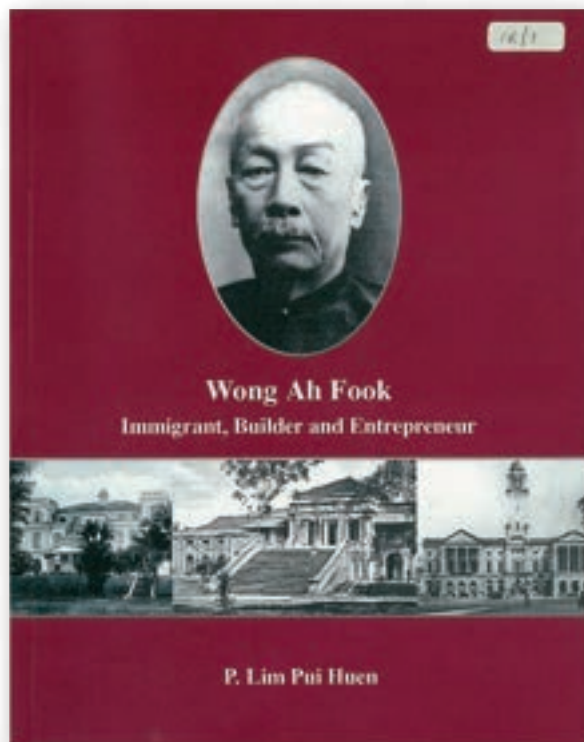
For modern State politicians like
the knowledge or the imagination to appreciate
fully the role played by these Chinese
pioneers in the growth & development of JB.
It is not unreasonable that in the not too
distant future some politicians might
suggest that Johan Ah Fook should be
replaced by Johan Tan Ah X in Dato' of

Letter from Dato' Abdullah Mohamed, retired State Secretary of
Johor, 25th Nov 1993, on Wong Ah Fook's role in early Johor Bahru.
Folio VIII/10

Folio IX: Biographies and Commentaries

IX/1

Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur,
by P. Lim Pui Huen. Singapore: Times Editions, 2002.



DS610.53 W87L73

IX/2

Huang Ya Fu Zhuan: Yimin, Jianzhushang, Qiyejia.
Translated by Teo Cheng Kang. Johore Bahru: Kwong
Siew Wai Kuan, 2010.

Translation of the book, *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, into Chinese. Translation was sponsored and published by Guangzhao Huiguan (Kwong Siew Wai Kuan), an association in Johor Bahru founded by Wong Ah Fook.



DS610.53 W87L731

IX/3 *CHC [Chinese Heritage Centre] Bulletin 2 (Sept 2003)*, containing the following articles by P. Lim Pui Huen:

pp. 16-20: "Wong Ah Fook: The Man and the Book."

pp. 21-24: "Wong Ah Fook and Ancestral Trusts."

Ancestral trusts used to be endowed for the provision of ancestor worship. Referred to as Zheng Chang (Jing Seong) in the Genealogy of Wenming, it featured prominently in Wong Ah Fook's Will. The second article discusses the concept and practice of ancestral trusts among the Chinese.

IX/4 "Wong Ah Fook." In *Present Day Impressions of the Far East and Prominent Chinese at Home and Abroad*. Editor-in-chief: W. Feldwick. London: Globe Encyclopedia, 1917: pp. 637-8.

Includes biographies of his sons Siew Chan, Siew Yuen and Siew Qui.

IX/5 P. Lim Pui Huen. "The Man from Spectacles Village: Wong Ah Fook, Builder and Banker," *Asian Entrepreneur* (Oct 1999): pp. 73-5.

IX/6 100th Anniversary publication of the Guangzhao Huiguan (Kwong Siew Wai Kuan). Johor Bahru, 1978.

The association was founded in 1878 by Wong Ah Fook who donated two shophouses for its premises. He is featured in their Heritage Museum.

IX/7 "Huang Ya Fu ji qi zi yi" (Wong Ah Fook and his descendants), by Lim Wong Pui Huen. In 123th Anniversary Commemoration Volume of the Guangzhao Huiguan (Kwong Siew Wai Kuan). Johor Bahru, 2001: pp. 28-31.

On Wong Ah Fook, his sons and nephew, and Kampong Wong Ah Fook.

IX/8 Book reviews of *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*.

8.1 Rahimah Abdul Aziz in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Malaysian Branch* 77 pt.2 (2004): pp. 129-32.

8.2 Anthony Milner in *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 35 (2004): pp. 372-4.

8.3 Carl A. Trocki in *Asian Studies Review* 28 (2004): pp. 208-9.

IX/9 Press reports on *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, English edition and Chinese translation.

9.1-9 Nine items in English, Chinese and Malay.

IX/10

Low Yit Leng. "Relatively Speaking: Singapore Tatler takes a Stroll Down Memory Lane to Talk to People Whose Grandfathers were Pioneers on the Island," *Singapore Tatler* (December 1997): pp. 138-43.

On Wong Ah Fook, Lim Boon Keng, Tan Keong Saik, and their families.

Folio X: Press Cuttings

X/1

Press cuttings from the English press. 15 items.

X/2

Press cuttings from the Chinese press. 11 items.

Folio XI: Taishan

Prior to 1914, the county was known as Xinning. Taishan is one of the counties in Guangdong Province with a high level of out-migration.

XI/1 "Chinese Emigration, the Sunning Railway and the Development of Toisan," by Lucie Cheng and Liu Yuzun, *Ameriasia* 9 no. 1 (1982): pp. 59-74. Photocopy.

XI/2 "Stone Inscription on the Occasion of the Rebuilding of Ningyang Huiguan (Ning Yeung Wui Koon)." Appendix IV/1 of *Chinese Regionalism in West-Malaysia and Singapore*, by Wolfgang Moese, Gottfried Reinknecht and Eva Schmitz-Selber. Hamburg, 1979: pp. 585-87. Photocopy

XI/3 Plate 22: [Ningyang Huiguan]. In *An Early Surveyor in Singapore: John Turnbull Thomson in Singapore, 1841-1853*. Singapore, 1979: pp. 76-7. Photocopy.

Picture of the original Ningyang Huiguan (Ning Yeung Wui Koon), the clan association for the Taishanese people. Wong Ah Fook's grandson, Wong Peng Shing was active in its committee.

- XI/4** *Xin Ning Magazine* (Taishan City, 1994). In Chinese.
- 4.1 no. 1.
- 4.2 no. 2.
- 4.3 no. 4.
-
- XI/5** *Tai Kai Fengmao* (Views and features of Taishan and Kaiping). Hong Kong, n.d. Photocopy.
-
- XI/6** *Xinning Xiangtu Dili* (Geography of Xinning). Guangzhou, 1st year of Xuantong (1908). Photocopy.
-
- XI/7** Zhujixiang. Extracts from *Zhujixiang Minzu Nan Qianji* (Account of the southward migration of Zhujixiang's clans). Source not known. Photocopy.
- pp. 136-7 Huang Cibo. "San Wai Gedi Xingzu Kao" (Identification of surnames and clans scattered in all places).
- pp.138-51 Chen Lesu. "Zhujixiang Shi Shi" (The Zhujixiang historical incident).

“Tragedy at Zhuji Lane,” in *The Guangdong Cantonese Opera Academy Troupe, December 1991*. Singapore, 1991: pp. 18-9.

The opera tells the tragic story of Imperial Concubine Lady Hu (Hu Guifei) and Huang Zhuwen at Zhujixiang, a story that historian Chen Lesu regards as a romantic interpretation of the mass migration of population southwards into Guangdong province. The Wong/ Huang clan led by Huang Juzheng was part of this migration.



A story that historian Chen Lesu regards as a romantic interpretation of the mass migration of population southwards into Guangdong province. *The Guangdong Cantonese Opera Academy Troupe, December 1991*. Singapore, 1991: pp. 18-9. Folio XI/8

XI/9 *Taishan Luxing Shouce* (Taishan Travel Handbook).
Taishan, c.1989.

XI/10 Wu Shikun and Huang Xinian. *Siyi: Difang Xiao Zhi Zhi Shi* (The Four Districts: A Selected Local History).
Taipei: Overseas Series Publisher, 1957. 46 pp.
Photocopy.

Folio XII: Money and Credit


References relating to money and credit among the Chinese, the background to the founding of Kwong Yik Bank.

XII/1 Jacques, E.W. *A Chinese Loan Society*, reviewed by
E.W.H. Jacques *Man* (1931): pp. 225-6. Photocopy.

XII/2 Gamble, Sidney D. "A Chinese Mutual Savings
Society," *Far Eastern Quarterly* 4 (1944/45): pp. 41-
52. Photocopy.

XII/3 "Annual Remittances by Chinese Immigrants in
Singapore to their Families in China," *Journal of the
Indian Archipelago and Eastern Asia*, Series 1, 2
(1847): pp. 35-7. Photocopy.

- XII/4** Chen Ta. "Remittances" in his *Emigrant Communities in South China: A Study of Overseas Migration and its Influence on Standards of Living and Social Change*. New York, 1940: pp. 73-85. Photocopy.
- XII/5** "Banking in Malaya." In Allen, G.C., and Donnithorne, Audrey G. *Western Enterprise in Indonesia and Malaya: A Study in Economic Development*. New York, 1957: pp. 200-09. Photocopy.
- XII/6** Freedman, Maurice. "The Handling of Money: A Note on the Background of the Economic Sophistication of Overseas Chinese." In *Readings in Malayan Economics*. Edited by T.H. Silcock. Singapore, 1961: p. 38-42. Reprinted from *Man* 59 (1959): pp. 64-5. Photocopy.
- XII/7** Geertz, Clifford. "The Rotating Credit Association: A 'Middle Rung' in Development," *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 10 (1961/62): pp. 241-63. Photocopy.
- XII/8** Yang Lien-sheng. *Money and Credit in China: A Short History*. Cambridge, Mass, 1952: pp. 1-79. Photocopy.
- XII/9** Litton, Henry, and Chang, Denis. "Chinese Money-loan Associations – I," *Hong Kong Law Journal* 1 (1971): pp. 194-273. Photocopy.

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- XII/10** Litton, Henry, and Chang, Denis. "Chit-fund Companies or 'Ngan Wuis'," *Hong Kong Law Journal* 2 (1972): pp. 77-83. Photocopy.
- XII/11** "Tontine Woman's Sentence Reduced to Day's Jail and Fine." *Straits Times* (22 Oct 1995). Photocopy.
- XII/12** "The Currency Note Issue," *Straits Times* (27 Jan 1995). Reprint from *Straits Times* (26 Mar 1900).

Folio XIII: Maps and Illustrations

Maps of Taishan, China

XIII/1 Map of Xinning extracted from *Xinning Xianzhi* (Xinning gazetteer). 26 chuan. 1893. The original publication is held by the C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University, New York. Three copies of this map are made as follows:

- 1.1 b/w photograph size 20 x 25 cm.
- 1.2 Photocopy of the photograph enlarged to A3 size with Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village) marked.
- 1.3 Negative film 10 x 12.5 cm.



*Map of Xinning extracted from
Xinning Xianzhi (Xinning gazetteer)
1893, with Yanjingcun (Spectacles
Village) marked. Folio XIII/1*

XIII/2 Map of *Xinning* extracted from *Guangdong Yudi Quantu* (Complete maps of Guangdong Province). *Zhongguo Fangzhi Congshu* (Reprint of the Gazetteers of China), vol. 108. Taipei: Chengwen Publishing House, 1956. The original publication is held by the Chinese Library, National University of Singapore Libraries. Five copies of this map are made as follows:

- 2.1 b/w photograph 22 x 26.5 cm of complete map.
- 2.2 b/w photograph of 23 x 30.5 cm, enlarged of part of map.
- 2.3 Photocopy of complete map enlarged to A3 size.
- 2.4 Photocopy enlargement of part of the map to show the location of Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village). A3 size.
- 2.5 Negative film. 2 exposures 35 mm.

XIII/3 *Taishanxian Jiaotong Youlan Tu / Taishan County Tourist Map*. Guangzhou: Guangzhou Surveying and Mapping Technology Corp., 1987.

Maps of Kampong Wong Ah Fook, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

Kampong Wong Ah Fook was an area in downtown Johor Bahru granted to Wong Ah Fook by Sultan Abu Bakar. See Folio VI/1 for reference to the grant document and *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, Chapter 7, for a discussion on the history of the grant.

XIII/4 Map showing Wong Ah Fook's grants nos. 288 & 289, 291 & 292. 1913.

1 sheet A4 size. Photocopy.

Grant nos. 291 & 292 were acquired by government. The site is now occupied by Johor Bahru City Square. See Folio VI/27.

XIII/5 Map of Kampong Wong Ah Fook, 1917, showing the area from Kampong Wong Ah Fook to Jalan Ayer Molek, the area now comprising the Central Business District. See Folio VI/57 (S.S. 585/1917).

1 sheet A3 size. Photocopy.

XIII/6 Maps of Kampong Wong Ah Fook.

Extracted from Folio VI/50 (G.A. 852/1915): "New Station Road, Johore Bahru."

6.1 Map showing 7 lots of Wong Ah Fook's property and Johor Bahru Railway Station. Scale: 4 chains to 1 inch. Photocopy A3 size.

- 6.2 Map showing the area of each of the 7 lots of Wong Ah Fook's property and the Johor Bahru Railway Station. Scale 2 chains to 1 inch. Photocopy A3 size.
- 6.3 "Plan of Johore Bahru Town. 1916." Outer boundaries plotted from Johore Survey, details (including shophouse lots) filled in from measurements. Scale: 33 ft. to 1 sheet 100 x 53.5 cm. Photocopy.

XIII/7 "Plan of Part of Johore Bahru Town." 1917. Map showing Jalan Wong Ah Fook, Jalan Sawmill, Jalan Lumba Kuda (now Jalan Stesyen) and unnamed road now known as Jalan Tun Abdul Razak. 1 sheet 84 x 102 cm. Scale: 33 feet to 1 inch. Photocopy.

Map of Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting Cemetery, Singapore

XIII/8 "Bishan Yesteryears." Map of the Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting cemetery, showing the site of Wong Ah Fook's grave. In *Bishan Heritage Trail*. Singapore, 2009: pp. 34-5.

The Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting (Kwong Wai Shiu Peck San Theng) cemetery used to be maintained by the clan associations from the three prefectures, namely, Guangzhao, Huizhao and Zhaoqing. In 1982 when the graves were exhumed and the area, now known as Bishan, was re-zoned for housing. The associations still maintain the columbarium and temple and the Guang Hui Zhao Hospital. See Folio VIII/4.



*Map of the Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting cemetery.
Bishan Heritage Trail. Singapore, 2009: pp. 34-5. Folio XIII/8*

Documentary

XIII/9 Ep 2 – Settled Lands (Chinese). Narrator: David Kersten; Executive Producers: Ong Lay Hong, Mok Choy Lin; Producer/Director: Chong Yew Ming. 1 DVD (60 min.)

Ep 2 of “Footprints”, a 4-part Mediacorp Programme on the four main communities in Singapore. 2014. Much on Wong Ah Fook.

Folio Photographs & Colour Slides

XIV:

The photographs are family photographs. The colour slides were taken by the donor on a field trip to Guangzhou and Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village) in 1987.

XIV/1 Photographs

- XIV/1.1 Wong Fook Kee, also known as Wong Ah Fook, 1837-1918. b/w photo, size 5R.
- XIV/1.2 Wong Fook Kee, also known as Wong Ah Fook, 1837-1918. Portrait in oval frame. b/w photo, size 5R.
- XIV/1.3 Chew Yew, wife of Wong Ah Fook, 1851-1932. b/w photo, size 5R.
- XIV/1.4 Grave of Wong Ah Fook and Chew Yew, in Guang Hui Zhao Bishan Ting cemetery.
- 1.41 View of the grave. b/w photo, size 5R.
- 1.42 Another view of the grave. b/w photo, size 5R.
- XIV/1.5 Tombstone of Wong Ah Fook and Chew Yew. Col. photo, size 5R.

XIV/1.6 Epitaph honouring Wong Ah Fook. Col. photo, size 5R.

The epitaph was originally inscribed on a stone tablet mounted on a stone tortoise. The monument was located towards the east behind the grave of Wong Ah Fook and his wife Chew Yew. It was lost after the grave was exhumed in the course of the exhumation of the Peck San Theng cemetery. See Folio II/4 for a clear version of the text.

XIV/1.7 Porcelain vase, approx. 2 ½ feet high, from Wong Ah Fook's family house, donated to National Museum of Singapore. b/w photo, postcard size.

XIV/1.8 Cloisonné vase, approx. 12 inches high, from Wong Ah Fook's family house, donated to National Museum of Singapore. b/w photo, postcard size.

XIV/1.9 Wong Wang Yeung, Wong Ah Fook's great-grandfather. Original portrait with Edward Wong Hong Yan. Col. photo, 12.5 x 9 cm.



Folio XIV/1.9

XIV/1.10 Ancestor portrait of Wong Ah Fook. Col. photo, size 5R.



Folio XIV/1.10

XIV/1.11 Ancestor portrait of Chew Yew. Col. photo, size 5R.



Folio XIV/1.11

XIV/1.12 Wong Siew Nam, eldest son of Wong Ah Fook. He was better known by his alternate name Wong Ging Tong in Guangzhou. b/w photo 24 x 15.5 cm.

XIV/1.13 Wong Siew Nam, another photo. b/w photo, postcard size.



Wong Siew Nam, Wong Ah Fook's eldest son, a classical scholar who compiled the last edition of the family genealogy. Folio XIV/1.12

XIV/1.14 Ma Lai Wan (also spelt Mah Lye Wan), wife of Wong Siew Nam, on her 60th birthday. b/w photo, 25.5 x 22.5 cm.



Folio XIV/1.14

XIV/1.15 Wong Siew Kuan, second son of Wong Ah Fook. b/w photo, postcard size.

XIV/1.16 Wong Siew Chin, third son of Wong Ah Fook. b/w photo, postcard size.



Folio XIV/1.15



Folio XIV/1.16

XIV/1.17 Wong Siew Qui, fourth son of Wong Ah Fook, was better known as Dato' S.Q. Wong. Image only.

XIV/1.18 Wong Siew Yuen, fifth son of Wong Ah Fook. b/w photo, postcard size.



(Left) Wong Siew Qui, fourth son of Wong Ah Fook, was also known as Dato S.Q. Wong. He was a prominent businessman who among many positions held, also served as a member of the Singapore Municipal Commission and as a long-term member of the Johor State Council. He would have played a key role at the time when Singapore began constructing its water works in Johor. Folio XIV/1.17

(Right) Wong Siew Yuen, also known as S.Y. Wong, was the youngest son of Wong Ah Fook. He was a mining engineer and a highly respected authority on antiques. Folio XIV/1.18

XIV/1.19a Wong Bee Keng, eldest daughter of Wong Ah Fook.
Image only.

XIV/1.19b Wong Bee Ho, second daughter of Wong Ah Fook,
who was known as Hwang Dian Xian in educational
circles. b/w photo, postcard size.

XIV / 1.19c Wong Bee Soo, third daughter of Wong Ah Fook.
Image only.



*Wong Bee Keng, Wong Ah
Fook's eldest daughter.
Folio XIV/1.19a*



*A charming picture of young Wong Bee
Soo as a fashionable girl.
Folio XIV/1.19c*



*Wong Bee Ho, second daughter of Wong
Ah Fook, who was known as Wong Din
Sin (Huang Tien Hsien) in educational
circles. She was the founder and
headmistress of the Huaqiao Girls
School on New Bridge Road established
in 1905. Folio XIV/1.19b*

XIV/1.20 The third generation at 10 Kim Yam Road, 1924. They were the children of Wong Siew Qui and Wong Siew Yuen. b/w photo, 15.5 x 24 cm

From left. 1st row: 2nd-4th, Nancy Wong, Nellie Wong, Joyce Wong. 2nd row: 3rd, 6th & 7th, Wong Peng Kun, Rosalind Wong, Albert Wong. 3rd row: 1st and 4th, Mabel Wong and Amy Wong.



Folio XIV/1.20

XIV/1.21 The fourth generation at the family house at 75 Keng Lee Road known to the family as San Bah, 1945. b/w photo, 15.5 x 21.5 cm.

From left: Kenneth Kwan, Wong Hong Fu, Patrick Pang, Wong Hong Mun, Alfred Wong, Peter Pang, Pauline Wong, Violet Woo (wife Wong Peng Shing), Diana Wong, Patricia Wong, Margaret Joyce Wong, Wong Peng Wah, Katherine Wong, Kwan Teet Ming, Edward of Wong, Tang Yung Hing (wife of Wong Peng Wah).



Tenth from left: Patricia Wong Pui Huen, author of Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur. Folio XIV/1.21

- XIV/1.22 Wong Ah Fook's House in Bukit Meldrum, Johor Bahru, 1955. It was demolished by the owner in 2014. Laminated b/w photo, 26 x 30 cm.
- XIV/1.23 Wong Ah Fook's House in Bukit Meldrum, Johor Bahru. Col. photo, 20.5 x 30 cm.
- XIV/1.24 Seated portrait of Chew Yew, wife of Wong Ah Fook, 1851-1932. b/w photo, size 22 x 7cm.



*A studio portrait of Wong Ah Fook's wife, Chew Yew.
Folio XIV/1.24*

XIV/2 Colour Slides

Wong Ah Fook's house in Guangzhou

Address of the house in 1991 was: no. 21 Feng Yuan Da Jia, Li Wan District, Guangzhou, China. In the Qing Dynasty, the original house was known as Tangliyuan, meaning Lichee Water Garden. Qing Dynasty paintings of the original property showed an area profusely planted with lichee trees and well-watered by streams and ponds that was located in a bend of the river Licheewan or Lichee Bay. For a description of the house, see Lim, *Wong Ah Fook: Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, p. 134.

In about 1949, the property was taken over by the Guangzhou City Puppet Theatre to be used as its workshop and workers' residence. In the 1980s, the house was sold to the government. The photographs were taken in 1987.

XIV/2.1 Lane leading to the entrance of the property.

XIV/2.2 Another view of the lane leading to the entrance of the property.

XIV/2.3 Another view of the lane leading to the entrance of the property.

XIV/2.4 Another view of the lane leading to the entrance of the property.

- XIV/2.5 Entrance showing the name of the puppet company currently occupying the premises.



Folio XIV/2.5

- XIV/2.6 Another view of the entrance.
- XIV/2.7 Behind the entrance.
- XIV/2.8 Lobby. This used to be the place where guests dismounted from their sedan chairs or other conveyance.
- XIV/2.9 Another view of the lobby.

- XIV/2.10 Another view of the courtyard and porch of the ancestral hall.
- XIV/2.11 Courtyard looking towards the workers' apartments.
- XIV/2.12 The porch of the ancestral hall.
- XIV/2.13 The ancestral hall built in 1937 to celebrate Wong Ah Fook's 100th birth anniversary.
- XIV/2.14 Porch of ancestral hall looking towards the courtyard.
- XIV/2.15 The building used to house Wong Siew Nam's study named "Siew Wah Fong Chai" (Library of the Small Painting of a Pleasure Boat). It has now been restored as a heritage building in Guangzhou.
- XIV/2.16 Entrance to the study building.
- XIV/2.17 Looking out from the study window.
- XIV/2.18 View outside window, it used to be a view of the river.
- XIV/2.19 Decorated screen divider.



Folio XIV/2.15

- XIV/2.20 Outside view of the study.
- XIV/2.21 View of the river from the steps outside the study. The steps can be seen in XIV/2.26 and other paintings in Folio III/2.
- XIV/2.22 View of the upper storey of the study.
- XIV/2.23 View of the entrance of the study.
- XIV/2.24 Miniature rock garden that was removed from Wong Ah Fook's house after 1949, and placed as street decoration in Guangzhou.



Colour slides in Folio XIV/2

Tangliyuan (Lichee Water Garden)

See Folio III /2 for a description of the pair of scrolls on Tangliyuan that contain calligraphy by various scholars and 3 brush paintings. The original scrolls have been acquired by the Guangzhou authorities. The b/w photographs were taken by the donor in 1987 in the home of her aunts, the widows of Wong Peng Chew.

XIV/2.25 Calligraphy reads “Tangliyuan Tu (Pictures of Lichee Water Garden)”.

XIV/2.26 One of the three brush painting of Tangliyuan contained in the scrolls. This painting has been reproduced in Lim, *Wong Ah Fook, Immigrant, Builder and Entrepreneur*, pp. 136-57.

XIV/2.27 Another photo of the same.

XIV/2.28 Another photo of the same.

XIV/2.29-
XIV/2.39 Calligraphy.

XIV/2.40 Silk decoration at the end of the scroll.

Taishan Landscapes

The photographs were taken in 1987.

XIV/2.41 Harvested rice fields against the backdrop of village buildings.

XIV/2.42 Another view of the harvested rice fields.



Harvested Rice Fields. Folio XIV/2.42

XIV/2.43 Monument and rice fields.

XIV/2.44 View of river.

- XIV/2.45 Rice fields beside the road.
- XIV/2.46 Rice fields.
- XIV/2.47 A Taishan village.
- XIV/2.48 View of the road on the bridge.
- XIV/2.49 View of a river from the bridge.
- XIV/2.50 Distant view of a Taishan township.
- XIV/2.51 More rice fields.
- XIV/2.52 Rice fields with a village in the distance.
- XIV/2.53 Taishan village with its crops in the foreground.
- XIV/2.54 Nearer view of village and its crops.
- XIV/2.55 Streetscape of a Taishan township.
- XIV/2.56 Another streetscape of a Taishan township.
- XIV/2.57 Another streetscape with people.

XIV/2.58 Streetscape of road junction.

XIV/2.59 *Pailou* (arch) at the entrance to Nanchang Village.



Folio XIV/2.59

XIV/2.60 View of Nanchang Village.

XIV/2.61 Harvesting rice.

XIV/2.62 Villager standing amongst harvesting rice.

XIV/2.63 Harvested rice fields with village in the background.



Folio XIV/2.62

Yanjingcun (Spectacles Village)

The colour slides were taken in 1987 except for the last colour photo taken in 1991.

XIV/2.64 The road to Spectacles Village.



Folio XIV/2.64

- XIV/2.65 River near Spectacles Village.
- XIV/2.66 Bananas growing on the bank of the river.
- XIV/2.67 Path through the rice fields.
- XIV/2.68 Road near Spectacles Village.
- XIV/2.69 Arriving at Spectacles Village. The main road runs past the village.
- XIV/2.70 Buildings on the edge of the main road with a view of the hills in the background.

- XIV/2.71 Distant view of the village and hills from the main road.
- XIV/2.72 Closer view of the village.
- XIV/2.73 View of the village with the visitors in the foreground.
- XIV/2.74 A village street.
- XIV/2.75 Zhiben School, founded by Wong Ah Fook in 1917. The new school buildings were completed in 1982.



Folio XIV/2.75

- XIV/2.76 The old school buildings, now used for stores.
- XIV/2.77 (L-R) Wong Pui Yin, the donor, driver, village elders, and elected village administrator.
- XIV/2.78 The hills behind Spectacles Village that gave it its name, hills that to the villagers, look like a pair of spectacles perched on a man's nose. The building on the right is the ancestral hall (*citing*) named after the first ancestor or founder of the village, Huang Chunsong. The building is now used as a recreational centre.



View of Spectacles Village (Yancingcun) and the hills that give the village its name. Folio XIV/2.78

- XIV/2.79 View of the hills with the old buildings of Zhiben School on the left and the new buildings on the right.
- XIV/2.80 A lane on the outskirts of the village.
- XIV/2.81 The same lane nearer the village.
- XIV/2.82 The back of the recreation centre.
- XIV/2.83 The entrance of the recreation centre with the building's original name still displayed above the door, "Citang of Huang Chunsong."
- XIV/2.84 Another view of the entrance of the recreation centre.
- XIV/2.85 A peep inside the recreation centre.
- XIV/2.86 Plaque in the recreation centre.
- XIV/2.87 Another plaque in recreation centre.
- XIV/2.88 A lane between houses.



*Doorway carries the founder and
common ancestor of the Village. Folio XIV/2.84*

XIV/2.89 Further along the same lane.

XIV/2.90 A village couple.

XIV/2.91 Inside a village home.

XIV/2.92 A women inside her home.

XIV/2.93 A woman and her husband.

XIV/2.94 The doors of a house said to have belonged to Wong Ah Fook.



Folio XIV/2.94

XIV/2.95 Open area in the village for sorting and sunning produce.

XIV/2.96 People working at the open area in front of the recreation centre.

XIV/2.97 Another view of people working at the open area in front of the recreation centre.



Folio XIV/2.97

XIV/2.98 Another view of people working at the open area in front of the recreation centre.

XIV/2.99 Village scene.

- XIV/2.100 Grain being sunned.
- XIV/2.101 View of the grain being sunned seen against the background of the village and the hills in the distance.
- XIV/2.102 View of the village with four children in the foreground and the sunning grain in the background.
- XIV/2.103 Street scene with children.
- XIV/2.104 Village scene.
- XIV/2.105 Steps up to the roof of a house.
- XIV/2.106 Village house.
- XIV/2.107 Village houses against the hills.
- XIV/2.108 Houses on the edge of the village near the main road.
- XIV/2.109 View of Spectacles Village on the other side of the main road.

XIV/2.110 Departing view of Spectacles Village.

XIV/2.110i Villagers and visitors gather below a banner of welcome. The visitors are standing in the front row, from right (2nd – 7th) Wong Hong Sze, Wong Pui Har (Katherine Young), Leong Moo Ying, Wong Pui Yin (Lina Lee), Wong Pui Huen (Patricia Lim), and Wong Yim Fong. Col. photo 5R.



Villager and visitors below a banner of welcome in 1991. The visitors are standing in the front row, from right (2nd – 7th) Wong Hong Sze, Wong Pui Har (Katherine Young), Leong Moo Ying, Wong Pui Yin (Lina Lee), Wong Pui Huen (Patricia Lim), and Wong Yim Fong. Folio XIV/2.110i

Fushi (Floating Stone)

Home Village of Chew Yew, Wong Ah Fook's Wife

The colour slides taken in 1987.

XIV/2.111 The *pailou* (arch) marking the entrance to the village.

XIV/2.112 View of Fushi.

XIV/2.113 Another view of Fushi.



Folio XIV/2.111

My Notes

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