# Geography of Kwangtung Province for Hawaii Residents

BY WAI JANE CHAR / FRANCIS H. WOO





1981

HAWAII CHINESE HISTORY CENTER
111 NORTH KING STREET, RM. 410
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Early Chinese immigrants to Hawaii gave their place of origin as Kwangtung (Province) which was translated as the metropolis Canton (City). Few from this capital city came to Hawaii as immigrants. Today Hawaii's Chinese wish to find their roots and have asked the help of the Hawaii Chinese History Center. This publication was organized and written to answer such inquiries.

The Hawaii Chinese History Center is grateful to the following persons who assisted and contributed their time and efforts to this publication:

- Robert Y.K. Ching who sketched the map of Chungshan, which is also available through HCHC as a single print,
- Gilbert Foo, Albany, California, for his suggestions and research of Chungshan District,
- Larry C.W. Ing for his artistry in rewriting the Chinese characters of the villages in Table #2, and throughout the text,
- Rev. Dennis A. Kastens for the map of Hakka dominated districts, and who has written on Hakka Christians,
- Vicky Kim for her expert knowledge and suggestions in editing and reviewing our pamphlet,
- Henry Lee, President, Lung Doo Society, for the Lung Doo District map,
- Wah Chock Young whose family was active in the cause of the revolution with Sun Yat-Sen, for his copy of the Chungshan County map.

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BY

WAI JANE CHAR / FRANCIS H. WOO 訓陳慧珍 胡憲德、



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# 一人之光的不在其 "A man is a light not so much 言正在其意事

by his words, as by his deeds."

This aptly describes our talented co-authors, Wai Jane C. Char (謝陳慧珍) and Francis H. Woo (胡嘉德).

Both are second generation Chinese in Hawaii, attended schools in Hawaii, speak and write Chinese, lived in China for many years in their early lives, come from large families, worked hard and represent the ideals of success and sharing.

Wai Jane graduated from the University of Hawaii with a B.A. in Education and went on to a professional career in Social Work with the blind. She owned a flower shop and her artistic sensitivity was appreciated by the many in Honolulu who sought her out. She and her husband Tin Yuke Char, a prolific writer and scholar, delight in traveling, researching and writing, especially of the Chinese in Hawaii.

Francis graduated from St. John University of Shanghai with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and from the University of Michigan with a Master of Public Health degree. He is retired from the State Department of Health. He and his wife Mabel, a retired school teacher are frequent travelers and orchid fanciers.

The Hawaii Chinese History Center and the community it serves, are fortunate to have such a publication as this, authored by two talented and caring individuals.

> - Puanani Kini President, Hawaii Chinese History Center YAARDI VELSELAY LIGBARY

# CONTENTS

	X & 1/z
GEOGRA	APHY OF KWANGTUNG PROVINCE [QUANGDONG] ( ) 1
(I)	CHUNGSHAN DISTRICT ( ) [ZHONGSHAN] 3
(II)	SAM YUP DISTRICT (三邑)7
(III)	SZE YUP DISTRICT ( W 🕹 )
(IV)	HAKKA DISTRICT (客家居留地 ) 8
Number	MAPS
1	PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
2	AREA FROM WHICH MOST CHINESE IN HAWAII EMIGRATED 12
3	GUANGDONG PROVINCE 1971 (Pin Yin)
4	GUANGDONG PROVINCE 1971 (Chinese)
5	PEARL RIVER DELTA (Chinese)
6	PEARL RIVER DELTA (Pin Yin)
7	KWANGTUNG PROVINCE-CHUNGSHAN, SAM YUP, SZE YUP and HAKKA AREAS
8	KWANGTUNG PROVINCE-TUNG KONG (East River) AREA, BASEL MISSION MAP
9	MAP OF CHUNGSHAN COUNTY 20
9-1	SECTION MAP (Upper Chungshan County) 21
9-2	SECTION MAP (Middle Chungshan County) 22
9-3	SECTION MAP (Lower Chungshan County) 23
10-A	LUNG DOO DISTRICT (Upper Section) 30
10-B	LUNG DOO DISTRICT (Lower Section) 31
	TABLES
1	ORIGIN OF CHINESE CONTRACT LABORERS (1895-1897) AND CHINESE WOMEN (1893-1898) GRANTED PERMITS TO LAND IN HAWAII
2A	SUMMARY OF DISTRICTS (區, 都)
2B	SUB-DISTRICTS ( )
2C	VILLAGES ( 村 )

# GEOGRAPHY OF KWANGTUNG PROVINCE FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS

Since normalization between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC) took effect in 1971, many Chinese of American citizenship applied for visa to enter mainland China. It was for either a reunion or a first visit with relatives, a revisit or first visit to their ancestral village, or merely for sightseeing or for better understanding of China.

Most of the early migrants came to Hawaii principally from Kwangtung Province ( ) located in South China. (See Maps #1 and #2). Today, many of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th generation of Hawaii-born Chinese have shown interest in searching for their identities and their ancestral heritage. However, most of them are not knowledgeable of the geography of Kwangtung nor are they aware of the whereabouts of their ancestral villages.

To facilitate and assist persons wishing to locate their villages, the HAWAII CHINESE HISTORY CENTER has collected and assembled available data in the form of this pamphlet for general use. For persons planning to visit their ancestral villages, this pamphlet also may be of assistance to them. Knowing the Chinese names and the location of their villages in relation to known landmarks will greatly facilitate their requests to officials of Kwangtung Province in making trip arrangements as well as contacting relatives.

No doubt the names of some villages have changed under the present PRC administration. The present pin yin (并音) form of spelling also adds to some confusion. For instance, former Hokshan village (相) is now listed as[Hecheng] (相). Shekki (石山) is now spelled [Sheqi] and

shown on maps as Zhongshan (中山 ) and Canton (廣州市 is spelled GUANGZHOU. See map #3 (pin yin) and map #4 (Chinese characters).

New roads, factories, land reforms and rural people's communes were set up widely in 1958 under the PRC socialist program. As a result there were numerous changes in political and administrative land boundaries. Some villages or hamlets may have been eliminated or consolidated with others. Even ancestral halls and homes were either demolished or converted to communal housing with the resultant loss of family records and genealogies. The repossessed lands were then added to food production fields, one of many national priorities.

It is of interest to note that some Hawaii Chinese returning for a visit after a lapse of 30 years could not find any resemblance of their former ancestral village; while others, like Wah Chan Ching, visiting in 1978, not only found his family village of On Ding (安定) nearby to Nam Long Village (南前村), See Dai Doo District (四大都), but also found his ancestral home intact. Family portraits and snapshots of their Hawaii clan, which had been sent to the village cousins many years ago, were still hanging on the walls.

Since most of the Chinese in Hawaii identify their home districts with the Pearl River Delta ( ] , its tributaries and nearby areas, the materials and data presented here relate mostly to the delta and its environment and do not encompass the whole Kwangtung Province. (See maps #5, #6, #7, and Table #1).

Under the PRC government today, putong hua

( 書 ) is the standard national speech which is taught in all schools throughout the country. It has been known as Mandarin ( 富 ) and kuo yu ( 國 ). Eventually various dialects will gradually diminish giving way to a unified dialect so that China can develop into a strong world nation.

In this pamphlet, Chinese names have been romanized from Chungshan pronunciation; for instance, the word for district ( ) is spelled in instead of hsien as pronounced in Mandarin. Words in square brackets [ ] are in pin yin spelling.

# (I) CHUNGSHAN DISTRICT (中山県) [ZHONGSHAN]

During the Sung Dynasty (960-1280), this West River (更江) delta area lying west of the Pearl River (武江) estuary, was named Heungshan In (五山景) for the fragrant flowers growing there.

In 1925, Heungshan district or county was renamed Chungshan In (中山原、), to honor its native son and revolutionary leader Dr. Sun Yat-sen ( 源之山). He was called by a Japanese name, Nakayama (中山), when he was in Japan to promote his revolutionary activities. With the success of the revolution in 1911, he became president of the Provisional Republic and became officially known as Sun Chung-Shan (源中山).

Chungshan district appopulation of nearly one million. Chungshan in itself has over 363 chuen ( ) or villages which are grouped into 68 heung ( ) or village clusters around a market or town. In most instances, heung and chuen are used interchangeably and often in combination as heungchuen ( ) to mean village area. With time some village names have been changed as redistricting occurred. The main town or county seat is Shekki [Sheqi] ( ). To the Chinese who migrated to Hawaii

during the 1850s to 1925, they identified their home district as Heungshan. This is readily seen on Hawaii's gravestone inscriptions, immigrant certificates, labor contracts, etc.

During the Manchu Ching Dynasty (清朝) (1644-1911), there were 10 sub-districts in Heungshan. Each was called doo

- ). They were known as:

  - 1) Leong Doo (良都).
    2) Yun Doo (仁都) which was later combined into Leong Doo (良都

  - 3) Duck Doo (得都).
    4) Gook Doo (谷都).
    5) Kung Seong Doo (恭常都
  - 6) Larm Doo
  - 7) Wong Leong Doo (黄粱都).
  - 8) Lung Doo (隆都).
  - 9) See Doo ( 四都 ) which was later combined with
  - Dai Doo (大都) to become See Dai Doo (四大都).

Under the Nationalist government (1911-1949), the doo or sub-district system in Chungshan was changed into administrative units, like our precincts and called kee ( 150 ). There were nine of these precincts, still with Shekki as the county seat in precinct #1 - Le ). There may have been slight boundary changes but generally, the system changed from doo to kee as follows:

- Leong Doo became #1 ( 第一區
- 2) Lung Doo became #2 (第二區).
  3) Larm Doo became #3 (第三區).
  4) See Dai Doo became #4 (第四區).

- 6) Kung Seong Doo became #6 (第六區

7) Outlying islands to the south became #7
(第太區) or (南海都).

8) Wong Leong Doo became #8 (第八區).

9) Tunghai Sup Look Sha (東海十六沙)
became #9 (第九區) or (東海都).

Since descendants of Chungshan County are dominant in Hawaii (75% - 80%) their county and district maps are available. As an aid to identify the location of their ancestral village, several simplified maps are included for ready reference. The following table of Chinese characters with their Chungshan spellings and as rendered into English equivalents can be helpful.

(In) = County, such as Chungshan county
or 都 (Kee or Doo) = District, such as
No. 2 Kee or Lung Doo district
(Heung) = Sub-district, made up of one
or more villages
(Chuen) = Village, such as Shek Moon
village

Map #9 is a reduced size map showing the general outline of Chungshan County. Obviously it is impossible to list all 363 villages on a small scale map. Map #9 has been enlarged, and the county district divided into 3 sections. Shown on these sectional maps are county and district boundaries or kees, the heungs, and major towns. For simplicity and clarity, roads, hills, and mountains are omitted. These sectional maps must be used in conjunction with Tables #2A, #2B and #2C, which lists the nine kees ( ), their respective villages ( ), and their corresponding heungs ( ).

The above <u>heung</u> is situated at the center of Kung Seong Doo district.

Example #2. Say you were informed that your ancestral village was known as Dai Pak San (大角山), and there was no other information available. First, check the tables for the name of your village. You will find it listed in Table #2B under number 4 Kee and within See Dai Doo district. The table also refers to the village location within the Ung Fung Heung (五角). Number 4 Kee or See Dai Doo is in section map #9-2, and the above heung is in the NW corner of See Dai Doo district.

A larger map of Chungshan County showing roads, hills, mountains and heungs is available in the files of the Hawaii Chinese History Center.

Map #10 A & B - Lung Doo District Map. There are 12 heungs and 54 chuens in this district. Since it is an excellent map, it is included here for reference purposes.

#### (三邑) See map #7. SAM YUP DISTRICT (II)

Chinese who came to Hawaii from these districts are fewer in number. The Sam Yup districts are generally located surrounding the city of Canton. These areas are:

- 1) Punyu (番場) [Panyu] district with Punyu village as district seat.
- ( 南海 ) [Nanhai] district, Namhoi with Fatshan ( ) [Foshan] as its. main town, 10 miles SW of Kwangchow, famous for its pottery.
- (川夏德) [Shunde] district, Shuntak village as its district seat, a silk producing region.

Canton or Kwangchow [Guangzhou], the capital of Kwangtung Province, lies in Punyu district. The municipality covers an area of some 1,678 square miles and a population of over 3 million. It is one of China's major trade centers as well as a principal tourist gateway. Most returning Chinese from overseas countries journey to their villages via Canton. The other major gateway to villages is Macau [Aomen] (浸炉).

#### (四是) See map #7. SZE YUP DISTRICT (III)

1 1967 KO 17/1 12/1

Migrants to Hawaii from Sze Yup districts are also fewer in number, but the great majority of the Chinese in California are of Sze Yup origin, mostly of the sub-district Toishan. These districts are:

- Sunwui [Xinhui]. 2) Toishan ( ) 1 3) Hoiping ( ) 4) Yanping ( ) 7 [Taishan]. 3) Hoiping4) Yanping [Kaiping].
- [Enping].

# (IV) HAKKA DISTRICT (客家居留地) See map #7.

The Hakka people are not the original inhabitants of the regions which they now occupy. As the name implies, they were called "newcomers" or "guests" by the earlier settlers. Hakkas are found not only in Kwangtung Province but throughout the other provinces in China and in foreign countries. Except in a few concentrated areas like Kiayingchou ( ), also known as Mei hsien ( ), Hakkas are dispersed in numerous other villages or hamlets throughout Kwangtung Province. The most important areas are:

1) Punyu [Panyu] ( 番禺).
2) Tsengshing [Zencheng] ( 增 城).
3) Poklo [Boluo] ( 博 羅).
4) Waichow [Huizhou] ( 惠 州 ).
5) Tungkun [Dongguan] ( 東芝).
6) Pao-on [Bao-an] ( 保 安 ), formerly called Sin On ( 新 安 ).
7) Fayuan [Hua Xian] ( 花 縣 ).
8) Mei Hsien [Mei Xian] ( 梅縣 ).

Members of the Basel Mission of Germany were among the earlier missionaries to spread Christianity into Kwangtung Province, being particularly successful evangelizing among the Hakka speaking people. Map #8 was prepared by the Basel Mission and indicates their sphere of activities and also shows the general distribution of the Hakka, Punti, and Ch'ao-chou or Teuchow ( > Ph + ) speaking people in the Kwangtung East River areas. The Basel Mission impact on the Hakkas was impressive as evident in the number of early migrants to Hawaii who were Christians, having been converted by the Basel missionaries in China.

On map #1 is marked Amoy ( ), Fukien Province ( ). Amoy is where the first group of contract laborers to Hawaii's sugar plantations came from in 1852 on the bark S. S. Thetis.

Maps of present day administrative and political boundaries and newer designations are unavailable locally. Except for Chungshan district, locations and names of smaller sub-districts of other districts are unavailable locally. Persons possessing helpful information, maps, or sketches are urged to submit them to the Hawaii Chinese History Center so the staff can improve and update its files.

AREA FROM WHICH MOST CHINESE IN HAWAII EMIGRATED

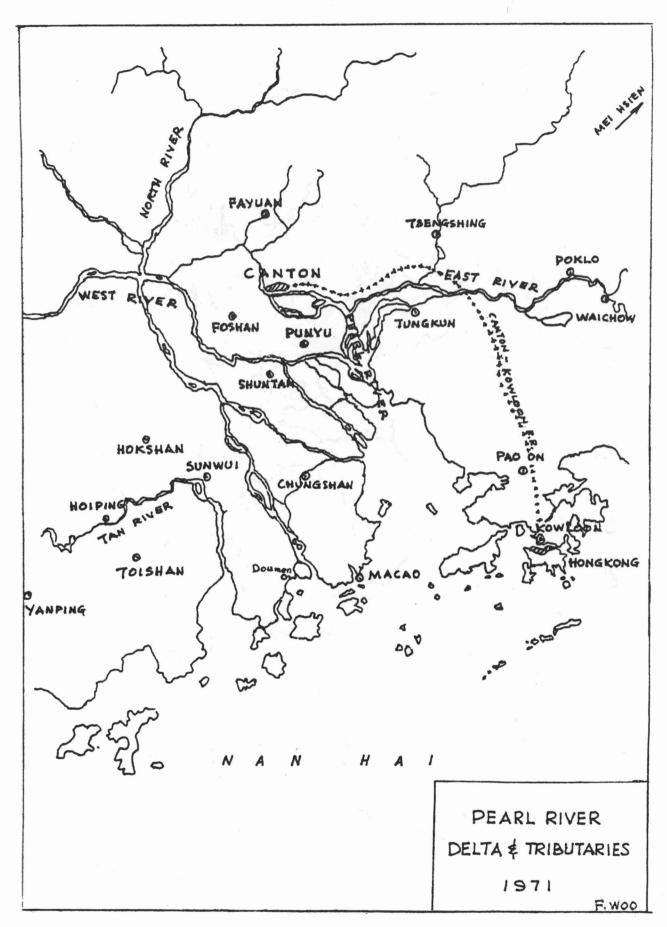


TABLE 1

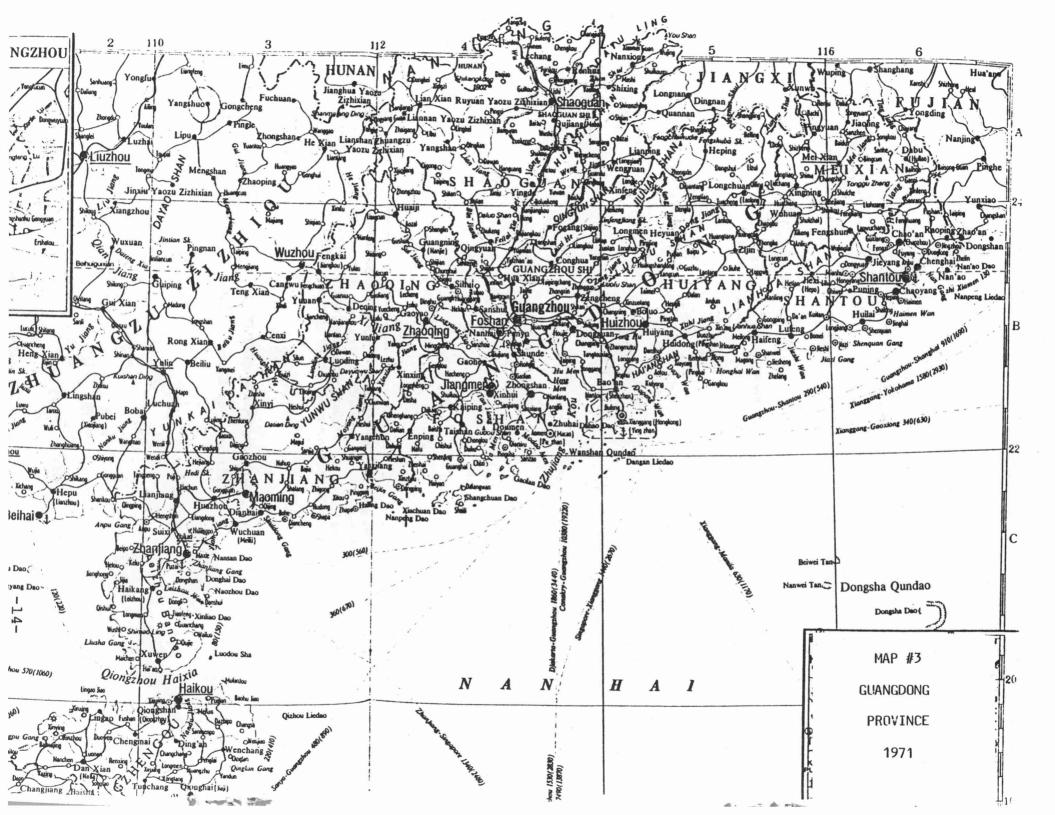
Origin of Chinese Contract Laborers (1895–1897) and Chinese Women (1893–1898) Granted

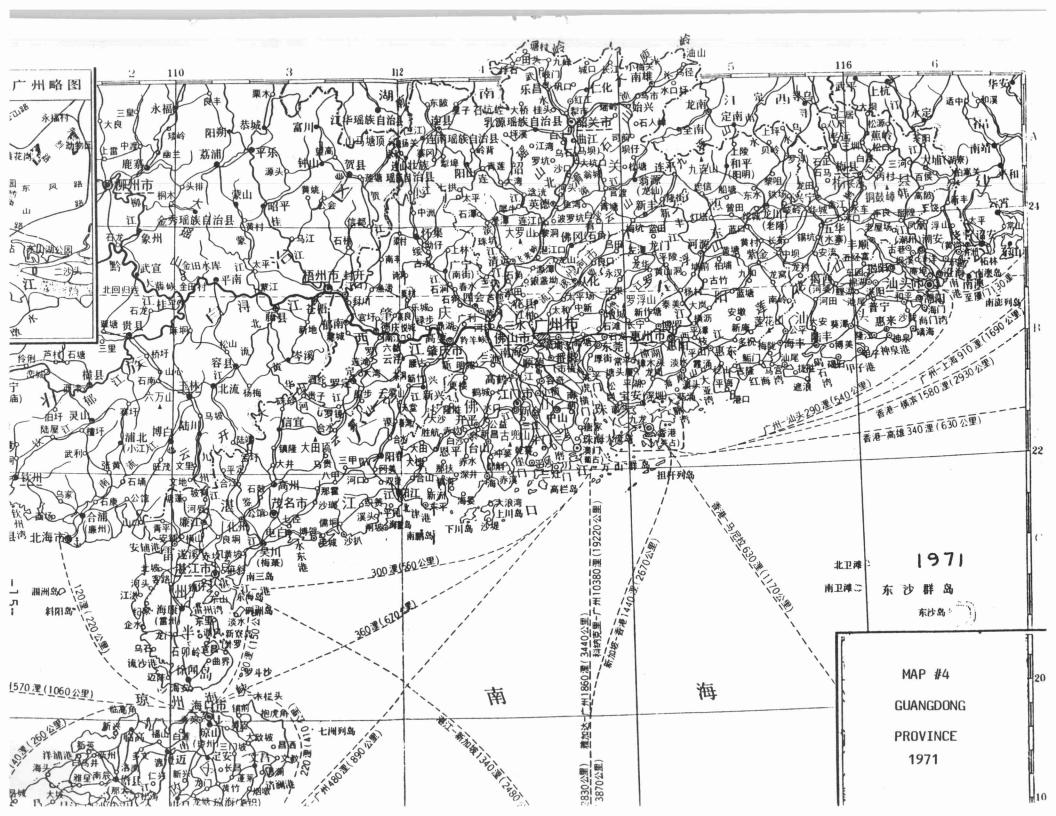
Permits to Land in Hawaii

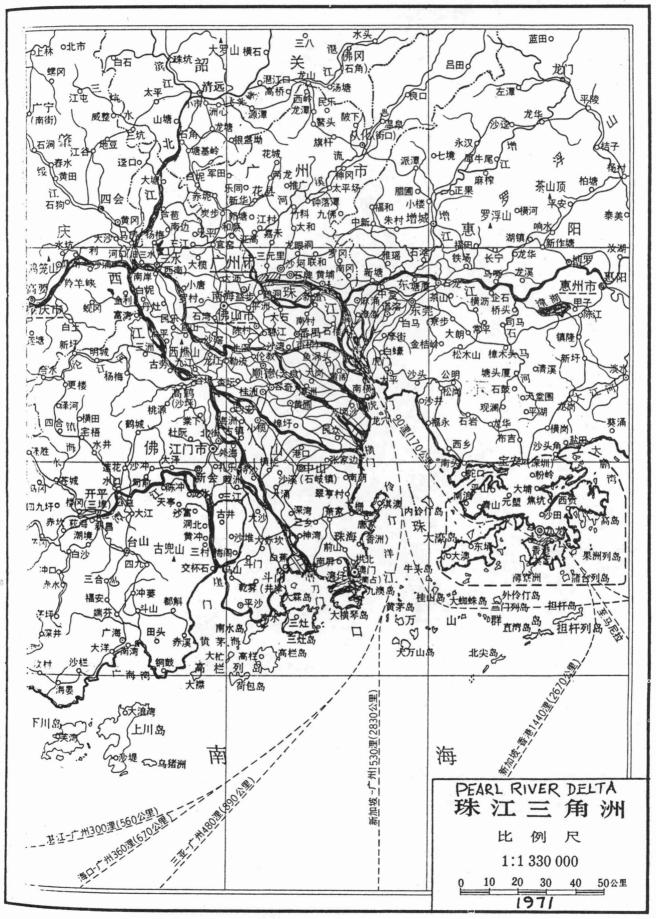
Area of Origin	Number of Chinese Contract Laborers (1895–1897)	Number of Chinese Women Migrants (1893–1898)
Heung Shan (Chung Shan)	2,269	190
See Yup districts		
Sun Ning (Toi Shan)	2,132	15
Sun Wui	778	10
Yen Ping	607	
Hoi Ping	414	2
Hok Shan	23	2
Hakka districts		
Sun On (Pao On)	436	54
Kwai Sing	109	19
Tung Kun	90	25
Other Hakka districts	36	3
Other districts	60	16
Unidentified	143	73
Total	7,097	409

Note: Data tabulated under the direction of the writer from records of the Board of Immigration now filed in the Archives of Hawaii. The records for men refer to Chinese brought in under "conditional permits" as contract laborers, mostly for the Haole-controlled sugar plantations. The figures for women refer to permits issued to Chinese women by the Board of Immigration validating their right to land. Not all the women actually arrived in Hawaii.

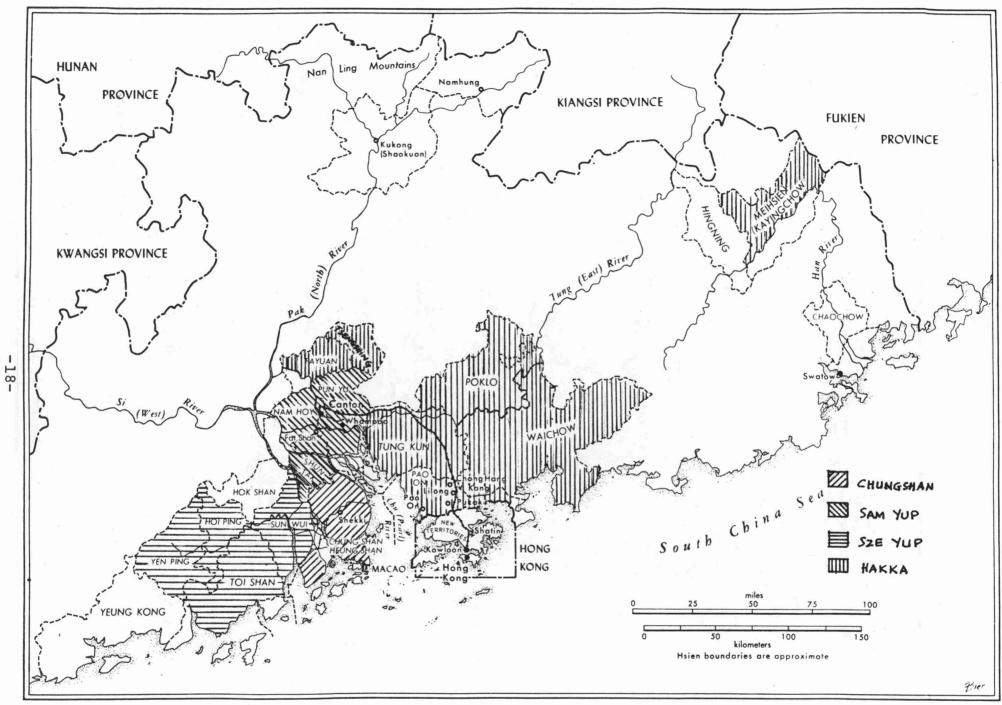
"SOJOURNERS AND SETTLERS" Clarence E. Glick - 1980



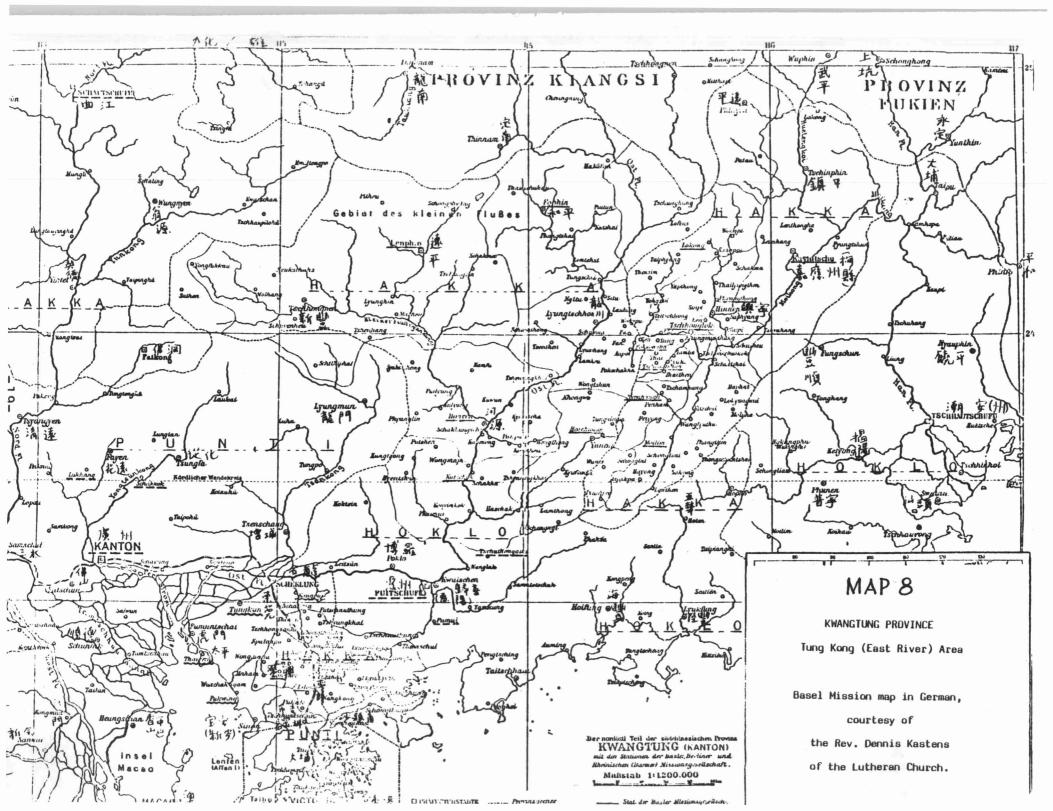




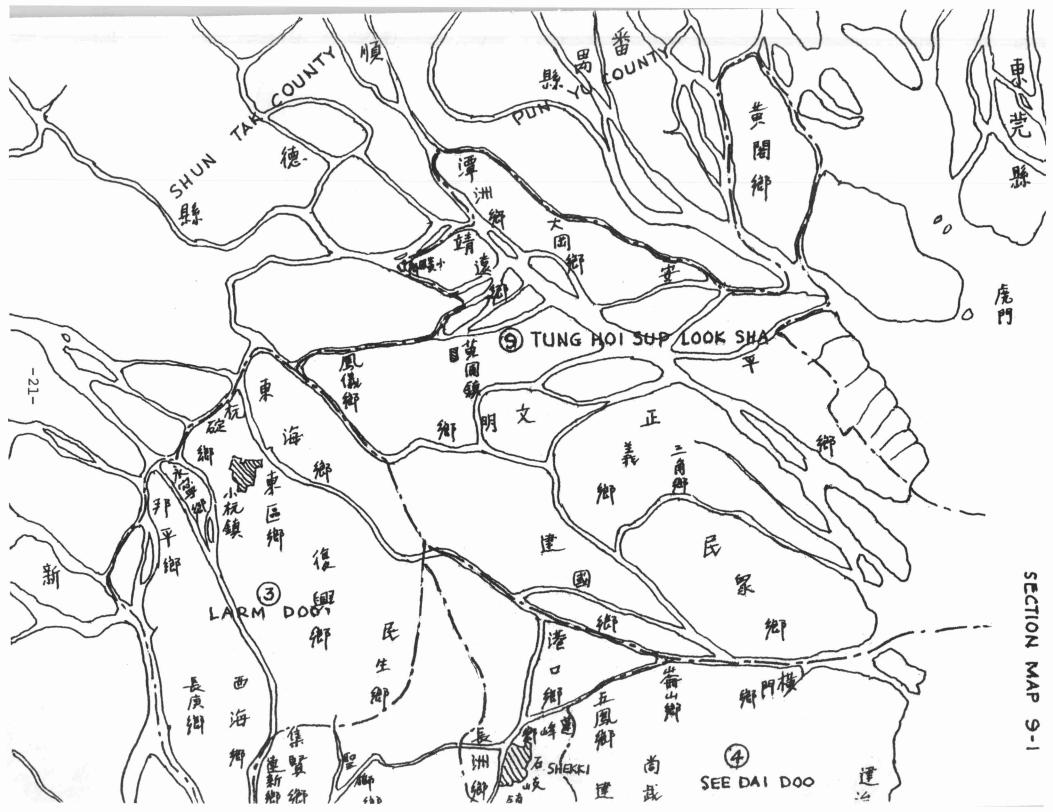
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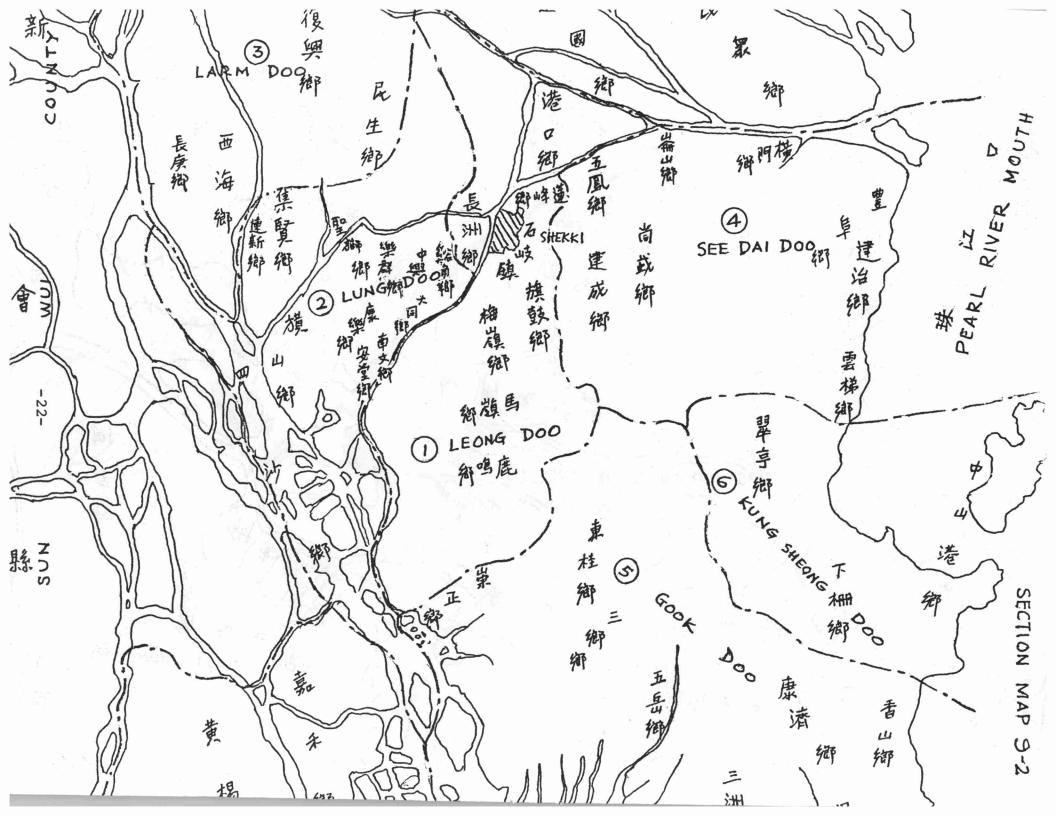


Source: Tin-Yuke Char, The Sundahwood Mountains (Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1975), pp. 18-19.



-20-





DOO 都 KEE 區	LEONG DOO 良都 ①第一區	LUNG DOO 隆都 ② 第二區
HEUNG 飨	石港長蓮旗馬梅鹿 岐口洲峰鼓嶺嶺鳴 鎮鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉	育 康中 樂聖旗安南集連谿四鄉 樂與 群鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉
VILLAGE NAME **	石收鎮 石收鎮 石收鎮 石收鎮 石收鎮 一百溪,月有	石門、大石兜、委美園、沙平下、充美、敦陶、瀑涌、豪吐、岐京新路、元享里、上尼頭、上溪、水、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、大型、

# -	1 A D A A TOP	SEF DAI DOO 四大都	GOOK DOO 公都
DOO都 KEE 區	LARM DOO 預都 ③第三區	金第四區	GOOK DOO 谷都 (5) 第五區
VEC E	9 4 - 2	9 /	
HEUNG 鄉	小来東續民復四長東郑 寶翠區 促生 脚海原海平 鎮鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉	尚高重建 横豐 建海鄉 鄉鄉鄉鄉	三五崇東 康 青三将鳳 鄉 鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉
VILLAGE NAME  -27-	海海 鎮海 大型 海沙 在	正是頭·西拉·医花·大鎮·陵岡·上巷·前尾·新村·白南·大環小學·東西·沙漠·海東·牛赵灣·土瓜嶺山際尾天柏山南京。等尾·新村·紫馬嶺天鰲溪·小鰲溪·上陵頭·南京。等尾·新村·紫馬嶺天鰲溪·小鰲溪·上陵頭·南村·安頭·景東經·神鴻·荔村·湖洲·關塘塘土草湖·下陂頭·景東經·神鴻·荔村·湖洲·關塘塘土草湖·下陂頭·景東經·神鴻·荔村·湖洲·關塘塘土草湖·下陂頭·景東經·神鴻·荔村·湖洲·關塘塘土草湖·南塘·大震沙·茶東·茶西·莆山·赤坎·西江里·大東一次海·南塘·南村·台南北	平嵐·馬石·橋頭 平嵐·馬石·橋頭 平嵐·馬石·橋頭 平嵐·馬石·橋頭 一里湖·馬子·拉·東京一灣。 一里湖·新州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 一里湖·新州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 一里湖·新州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 一里湖·高河·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月湖·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月湖·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月湖·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月湖·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月湖·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月鄉·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 四月鄉·南州·神前一天大洲·寧夏·南村·新村 三溪·西口石麻子·河溪·南麓·神湾古夏、南村·新村 三溪·西口石麻子·河溪·南麓·神湾古夏、南村·新村 三溪·西口石麻子·河溪·南麓·神河一天山。 一里湖·馬石·橋頭

TABLE 2C CHUNGSHAN DISTRICT VILLAGE NAMES

D00都	KUNG SEONG DOO 恭 学 都	NAM HOI DOO 海海都	WONG LEONG DOO	TUNG HOI SUP LOOK SHA
KEE B	⑥第六區	9第七區	8第八區	9 第九區
HEUNG	製出 亨 港棚 鄉鄉鄉	海維新鄉	乾和豪黄嘉共和東平江福东和鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉	黄黄安潭大靖少正三文 夏建民 夏朝 東海鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉
VILLAGE NAME -29-	程等北山外沙九堡主席家、淇澳、東岸、鶏山	月堂魚塘列聖大森小森和大横琴小横琴小横琴一横琴一横琴一横琴一满地大大横坑中春花屋边茅田大灶横坑田根竹图。上莲南水北水、木頭	乾霧東澳 大震湖·小震沙李星·小涯 大震湖·小震沙李星·小涯 大震湖·小震沙李星·小涯 大震水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水	海州海河大南北湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖湖
	水雌豆·河頭埔.塘·會同·黃寧塘	歌魚弄雅墩·聖堂·草堂 田·横石基·正表·英表 題演·高楝·飛沙奇色	坡·西坑	要学期,新沙 等學期本在軍沙

