SUMMARY OF AUSTRALIAN CHINESE-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER CONTENT THAT RELATES TO THE SYDNEY FIRM OF KWONG WAR CHONG.

COMMISSIONED BY THE CHINESE AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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INTRODUCTION

This document aims to identify, list and summarise texts and images in Australia's old Chinese-language newspapers that shed light on the Sydney firm of Kwong War Chong, the principal family connected therewith, and the historical and community significance of the Dixon Street edifice that both the firm and the family once occupied—the so-called Canton Buildings. The extent to which the document meets this aim has been limited by the narrow time frame allocated for its preparation; it cannot thus claim to be any more than a cursory overview, and it should be stressed that the newspapers contain far more relevant information that is not mentioned herein, especially as relates to proprietor Phillip Lee Chun's extensive social and charitable activities. Nevertheless, this document should give a glimpse into the wealth of relevant information that would appear to be available in Chinese-language records and unavailable in English-language records. All articles are identified by newspaper, date and page number, and can be accessed online via the accompanying permalinks to the National Library of Australia's Trove website.

1. THE FIRM'S OWNER MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN AND HIS BUSINESS AND FAMILY

ARTICLES WITH PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 1. From page 3 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 13th April 1907: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168794703
 - This article is a second instalment on the subject of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's 50th birthday celebrations, and is dedicated to a group photograph of the event.
 - While the photograph is barely visible on Trove, the original is quite clear, as can be seen from the appended high-resolution colour image, marked "Image 1", which was kindly provided—through the assistance of Mr. Peter Hack—by the State Library of New South Wales.
 - The photograph's captions supply the names of all individuals pictured within it. Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is seated immediately right of centre; his son Phillip Lee Some is seated at his right; and his wife is seated immediately left of centre, with their daughter on her lap.
 - The article provides (in Chinese) the maiden name of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's wife (余), and the names of his son Phillip Lee Some (李源深) and baby daughter (李若蘭). It also states that his son Phillip Lee Some was born in China, and his daughter in Sydney.
 - Read together with its first instalment (carried on page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for 23rd March 1907;

<u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168794743</u>), the article provides a wealth of information, of which the following is a summary of key points:

- Mr. Phillip Lee Chun was the proprietor and/or general manager of Kwong War Chong, and a man who enjoyed extensive social connections and the confidence and respect of his countrymen.
- His birthday—his 51st by the traditional Chinese reckoning and 50th by the Western reckoning—fell on the 26th day of the 1st month of the Chinese year. (This corresponds to the 10th of March 1907. His date of birth would thus have been the 20th of February 1857, or 成豐七年正月二十六日 "the 26th day of the 1st month of the 7th year of the Hsien Fêng era" by the Chinese calendar.)
- Mr. Phillip Lee Chun hailed from Heung Shan's subdistrict of 隆都 Loong Tu (which is home to a unique ethnic group and Hokkien-related vernacular).
- The celebrations were held on his birthday, which happened to fall on a Sunday (the 10th of March 1907 did indeed fall on a Sunday).
- The location for the celebrations was the second level of the premises of an organisation called the 博文書社 "Pok Man Shu She"¹ (or 博文社 "Pok Man She" for short), which was located on Campbell Street, neighbouring Kwong War Chong to the left. The upper floor in question was sumptuously decorated, and numerous Chinese couplets were hung about its walls. On the occasion of the celebration, a large 壽 "longevity" character was also hung up. (The description leaves the reader in no doubt that the photograph was taken in this room.)
- The "Pok Man Shu She" was a charitable organisation founded by Loong Tu people, each of whom contributed 10 shillings toward its establishment. Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, whose character was highly esteemed by his fellows, had been installed as its president.

¹ This and other romanisations presented in parentheses are merely the translator's coinages, and reflect standard Cantonese pronunciation, spelled according to the Hong Kong government system. Where romanisations are not presented in parentheses their use is attested to by contemporaneous records.

- Over two-hundred well-wishers visited on the day in question. They were welcomed with food and music.
- Firecrackers were also set off, and the article notes that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun had applied for and received special dispensation for them, being considerate of Western requirements.
- Music was also played when the guests departed in the evening.
- The initial indications are that those pictured in the photograph were all members of Sydney's Loong Tu community.
- There are large vertical inscriptions on either side of the photograph that form a couplet. While most of the twenty-six characters in this couplet are partially obscured, more than half can be identified with relative confidence:

At right: 同〇更同心〇鉅任而展經綸〇 At left: 〇〇〇〇〇合〇〇而聯都邑〇 (Circles represent unidentified characters.)

The fragmentary nature of this text is not conducive to its translation, but it is clear from its wording that it relates to a district association, which clearly fits with the context.

- 2. From page 17 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078440
 - This article concerns Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his firm of Kwong War Chong, and its relocation from 46 Campbell Street. It contains a portrait of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, with a caption in Chinese and English. This portrait can be seen more clearly in the appended high-resolution colour image, marked "Image 2", which was kindly provided—through the assistance of Mr. Peter Hack—by the State Library of New South Wales.
 - The article is highly complementary with respect to Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's character, confirms that he hailed from Loong Tu, and states that he was voted in as president of the "Pok Man Shu She" when it was established several years ago.
 - The article also relates that, last year, on learning that a proposal to relocate the street market had been passed, Mr. Phillip Lee Chun immediately purchased a piece of land on Dixon Street, adjacent to the new street market, and had two stores built next to each other on it. While one of the stores is for his own use, the other has just been leased out to the 滿香棧 Moon Hong Jam restaurant.
 - The article also reports that soon after Mr. Phillip Lee Chun bought the land on Dixon Street another party offered him £500 over the buying price for it, an offer he turned down.
- 3. From page 15 of Sydney's English-language Daily Telegraph newspaper for Saturday 5th February 1910:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/238362461

• This article contains no mention of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, but is specifically referenced by the previous Chinese-language article as containing a portrait of him, his wife, and their son and daughter, which is clearly the top image of the set of three. The previous article also states that the Daily Telegraph posted the portrait given the

imminence of the Chinese new year, and that it was a source of pride to Chinese readers.

- It is clear that the portrait was taken in the same room on Campbell Street as the first listed above, and probably on the same occasion in 1907.
- The photograph below the portrait may also be of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, inside his store. Closer scrutiny of the image might be required in order to confirm this. If it can be confirmed, the photograph may be the earliest interior image of the Kwong War Chong store, though it could have been taken at either its Campbell Street or Dixon Street premises.
- 4. From page 10 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Monday 1st January 1917: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24358069
 - A captioned portrait of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun appears at top left.
- 5. From page 11 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 1st January 1918: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24358526</u>
 - This article relates to the China-Australia Mail Steamship Line, of which Mr. Phillip Lee Chun seems to have been a founder. A portrait of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun identical to that in the previous article appears, second from left, at the bottom of the page.
- From page 1 of the supplement to Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 25th December 1920:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24085762

- This article, which relates to the China-Australia Mail Steamship Line, contains a portrait of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun (third from the bottom at left).
- 7. From page 11 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 5th February 1927: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24101879</u>
 - This article contains a captioned portrait of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's son Mr. Arthur Lee Chun. In addition to identifying Loong Tu as his ancestral place, the caption provides the name of the relevant village area— 涌頭 Chung Tau—and confirms that Mr. Arthur Lee Chun's name was 慶雲 "Hing Wun".

MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN'S CHINESE NAMES:

- The newspaper articles indicate that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's Chinese surname was 李 Lee, and his given name 臨春 Lum Chun (confirmation of this is provided, for example, by the captions that accompany the preceding portraits). He was, however, more commonly referred to by the short form 李春 Lee Chun, in preference to the more formal 李臨春 Lee Lum Chun.
- 2. Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's courtesy name was 天曉 "Tin Hiu". For confirmation of this, compare the following two English-language and two Chinese-language reports, all of which concern the same event (the 1929 wedding of his son Mr. Harry Lee Chun): <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/117739049</u> (from page 12 of Sydney's Evening News for Thursday 20th June 1929)

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/182978300 (from page 14 of Brisbane's Telegraph for Tuesday 2nd July 1929)

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/225197048 (from page 6 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 22nd June 1929)

22 June 1929 <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/224804318</u> (from page 8 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 22nd June 1929)

(These articles also indicate that Mr. Harry Lee Chun's name was 李慶貽 Lee Hing Yee. One appears to state that he was Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's second-eldest son,² but the character for "second" is mutilated in the image, and could well be "third". The English-language articles provide further information about the Lee Chun family.)

OTHER ARTICLES THAT RELATE TO MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN:

- 1. From page 3 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 31st March 1900: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227915257
 - This segment contains a notice posted by Lee Lum Chun of 涌頭村 Chung Tau village, 香邑 Heung Shan, i.e. Mr. Phillip Lee Chun. The notice advises that, having been now in Sydney for many years, and having accrued more than sufficient funds to pay the cost of his passage, he wishes to return to his home village, and leaves by the Kasuga Maru on the 29th instant. He thanks friends for their gifts and kindness.
 - Western newspaper reports confirm that the Kasuga Maru did depart Sydney on the 29th of March 1900, confirming that notice was referencing the Gregorian not the Chinese calendar, and that it was posted after his departure (it did not appear in previous editions of the newspaper). This suggests that it should be read in the past tense, which, its wording being ambiguous as to tense, is possible.
- From page 1 of the supplement to Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 15th October 1904:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/247427258

- The last article in this segment reports that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and five others left on a train for Melbourne last Thursday evening with the intent of quelling tensions within that city's Chinese community, which had recently developed into armed conflict.
- 3. From page 1 of the supplement to Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 5th November 1904:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/247430077

- The second article in this segment reports that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun was one of a group of Chinese merchants who accepted an invitation from the Japanese ambassador to join a river cruise to celebrate the 53rd birthday of the Emperor of Japan.
- 4. From page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 7th October 1905: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168946393
 - This article, which this translator has recently translated in full on a private commission, provides an overview of Chinese enterprise in New South Wales, and relates that Kwong War Chong, of Campbell Street, Sydney, which is run by Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, is "flourishing year round".
- 5. From page 5 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 10th November 1906: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/247428096</u>

² A February 1st 1915 letter written by Mr. Phillip Lee Chun to the Collector of Customs states that there was another son born of an earlier marriage, and thus raises the possibility that the article might only be referencing sons born of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's second marriage. The letter forms part of the collection of the National Archives of Australia (NAA: SP42/1, C1936/813 PART 1 OF 2, "Lily Lee [formerly Lily Lee Ung Land] [includes 6 photographs showing front and side views ...", item barcode 31109482) and can be consulted online, being readily locatable by the item barcode. It contains many other interesting details.

- This article relates to Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's prominent involvement in the welcoming to Sydney of Chinese Imperial Commissioner Hwang Hou Cheng³ (黃厚成 本前), who was visiting Australia from Great Britain.
- 6. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 4th April 1908: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246934007</u>
 - This article relates to a meeting of Chinese merchants to discuss a boycott of Japanese goods. Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is one of a number of merchants whose statements in favour of a boycott are quoted. The head of the association, Mr. Y. Ping Nam, made a point of observing in his opening speech that the proposal to boycott did not reflect any animosity held for the Japanese people themselves.
- 7. From page 5 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 15th August 1908: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168792301</u>
 - This article gives Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, of the firm of Kwong War Chong, to be a director of Sydney's Lin Yik Tong merchant association. A number of the preceding "Articles with Photographs" also make reference to his holding this important position.
- 8. From page 8 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 5th December 1908: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246932986</u>
 - This article relates to donations collected by the Loong Tu branch of the Anti-Opium League.
 - Both Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and the firm of Kwong War Chong are listed among the most generous donors. Also listed are the names of a number of persons pictured in Image 1.
- 9. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 20th February 1909: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246924150
 - This article relates that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun was one of a number of speakers at a Gipps, Bright and Company dinner who delivered addresses on the subject of such things as the good diplomatic and mercantile relations persisting between China and Britain.
- 10. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 19th June 1909: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246928276</u>
 - This article relates that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun was one of a number of speakers at a dinner for the Chinese ambassador, who was visiting from Melbourne.
- 11. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 18th December 1909: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246928810</u>
 - This article indicates that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun worked as a volunteer at a new Chinese-language school in Sydney.
 - The article features a portrait of the schoolteacher.
- 12. From page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 21st February 1914: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/226553456

³ This name was and still is often misspelt in English as "Hwang Hon Cheng" or "Hwang Hon Chong".

- This article lists Mr. Phillip Lee Chun among the owners of the Chinese Republic News.
- 13. From page 5 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 30th October 1915: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/226552270</u>
 - This notice suggests that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun was the managing director of a Sydney Loong Tu-associated charitable organisation named the 同善堂 "Tung Shin Tong", which conducted bone repatriation.
- 14. From page 6 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News and page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald, respectively, for Saturday 12th June 1920: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/225207370</u> <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168565673</u>
 - This article, which was carried on the same day in two newspapers, reports the cancellation of legal action against Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and the return of £1000 worth of liquor that had been seized from him by the police, after he instructed a barrister and made an appeal.
 - Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is characterised in the article as an eminent and wealthy Sydney merchant, and a man of seniority, influence and methodical bent, who deals with others in a spirit of sincerity, and does his level best on behalf of all his countrymen who meet with trouble.
- 15. From page 7 of Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 9th November 1918: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/226016211
 - This article relates to a fundraising effort in support of a proposal to construct a fortified tower (a *dīaolóu*) in the Loong Tu village area of 涌頭 "Chung Tau".
 - It begins with a vivid literary statement of the reasons for the proposal.
 - Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is the first party named in the list of Sydney fundraisers, and the first donor listed. His donation was the most generous: £15.
- 16. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 13th November 1920: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227018187</u>
 - This article indicates that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and Kwong War Chong made donations to Heung Shan's 愛惠醫院 "Oi Wai Hospital", which would appear to now form part of the 中山市人民醫院 "Zhongshan City People's Hospital":

MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN'S SON PHILLIP LEE SOME (A.K.A. LEE SOME):

- 1. From page 3 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 13th April 1907: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168794703
 - This is the first of the "Articles with Photographs" listed above. See the comments made there with respect to Lee Some, and his position in the group photograph.
- 2. From page 19 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078435
 - This is the second of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 2: The Canton Buildings. See the comments made there with respect to Phillip Lee Some's laying of the Canton Buildings' foundation stone.
- 3. From page 18 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 2nd January 1915: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/169066160

- This article relates to a visit paid by the reporter to Sydney Grammar School, and is dedicated to detailing the exemplary performance at the school of Chinese student Lee Some, who is explicitly identified as the son of Lee Chun of the firm of Kwong War Chong.
- The article features a photograph of Lee Some's school report from June 1914. It also relates the praise lavished on him by the school's "head of education", who reportedly said that he showed great promise.
- Lee Some is given to be fourteen years of age, possibly by the Chinese reckoning, which would equate to thirteen years of age by the Western reckoning. This would give a birthdate of around 1902, which tallies with that given in the next article below.
- Lee Some's name appears in both English and Chinese in the article. (It is clear from the various newspaper articles about him that his full Chinese name was 李源深 "Lee Yuen Some", but that he often went by the short-form 李深 Lee Some. The short form seems to have been treated as his surname in English. His English given name was the same as his father's: Phillip.)
- 4. From page 3 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 30th December 1916: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168660207</u>
 - This article concerns Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's son Lee Some. (Note: the Chinese character used in the article for Lee Some's given name is an erroneous homophone— 森 "Some" in place of 深 "Some"—but there is no doubt as to the boy's identity.) It relates that he is fourteen years old (which if given by the traditional Chinese reckoning, which seems likely, would be thirteen by the Western reckoning) and is enrolled at Sydney Grammar School. He is given to be the only Chinese child in a class of over fifty. His exemplary performance in various subjects is then detailed, and it is related that countrymen have made suggestions to his father of him becoming a barrister or a physician. His father is reported to have replied that his son is yet young and that such decisions can be made later.
 - The article also states that Kwong War Chong, of 84 Dixon Street, is the Sydney store that issues the most ship tickets for Chinese people returning to China.
- From page 13 of Sydney's English-language Daily Telegraph for Wednesday 13th February 1918:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/239250693

- This report lists "Phillip Lee Some" among the names of Sydney Grammar School students who have been conferred intermediate certificates, which mark the successful completion of their first two years of secondary schooling.
- 6. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 3rd August 1918: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227016257</u>
 - This article lists the names of persons who are eligible for election to the China-Australia Mail Steamship Line's board of directors, on account of their holding £100 pounds' worth of shares. The names of 李源深 "Lee Yuen Some" (which is Lee Some's full Chinese name) and Mr. Phillip Lee Chun appear in close proximity to each other in the list.
- 7. From page 8 of Sydney's English-language Daily Telegraph for Friday 23rd January 1920: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/239658516</u>

- This article lists "P. Lee Some" among the names of Sydney Grammar School students who have been conferred leaving certificates, which mark the successful completion of their secondary schooling.
- From page 9 of Sydney's English-language Sun newspaper for Friday 24th December 1920:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/222657391

- This article lists "P. Lee Some" among the names of Sydney University students who obtained a pass in chemistry.
- 9. The following National Archives of Australia record of the issuance to Phillip Lee Some of a Certificate of Exemption from the Dictation Test suggests that he left Australia in 1923:

NAA: ST84/1, 1923/352/21-30, "Charles Fong, Ah On, Moon Choy, Phillip Lee Some ... [Certificate Exempting from Dictation Test - includes left hand impression and photographs]", item barcode 7288355, contents date range 1923–1923.

- 10. From page 12 of Sydney's English-language Evening News for Thursday 20th June 1929: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/117739049</u>
 - This is the same article as is referenced at point 2 under the section in this part entitled "Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's Chinese Names". It concerns Mr. Harry Lee Chun's wedding, but also gives details of his siblings, noting that "A brother of the bridegroom is a doctor in Hong-kong, after graduating at Sydney University. Another brother is an architect, while a third, still at the University, is already a B.A." It seems likely that Phillip Lee Some was the Hong Kong doctor referred to.

MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN'S SON ARTHUR H. W. LEE CHUN:

 From page 10 of Sydney's English-language Daily Telegraph for Tuesday 27th January 1925:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/245272520

- This article lists "Arthur Lee Chun" among the names of students who were conferred honours on their leaving certificates, which mark the successful completion of their secondary schooling.
- A document in the National Archives of Australia gives Phillip Lee Chun's date of birth to be the 7th of April 1908, which appears to fit with this graduation date (see NAA: B4747, LEE CHUN/ARTHUR, "Lee Chun, Arthur; Army Number Not Given; Date of birth 07 April 1908", barcode 9294627).
- 2. From page 11 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 5th February 1927: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24101879
 - This is the same article as is referenced at point 7 under the section in this part entitled "Articles with Photographs". It contains English-language accounts—which are rare for the Chinese-language newspaper—on the subject of Sydney University's former Chinese graduates and current Chinese students. Mr. Arthur Lee Chun is featured as a current student. Curiously, the article makes no mention of his brother Phillip Lee Some's graduation.
- 3. The following English-language articles all concern Mr. Arthur Lee Chun's progress at Sydney University and 1930 departure for Oxford University. The middle initials by which he is referred to—H. W.—clearly correspond to his Chinese name 慶雲 "Hing

Wun" (see comments made at point 7 under the section in this part entitled "Articles with Photographs").

- i. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16389797</u> (from page 6 of the Sydney Morning Herald for Tuesday 5th April 1927)
- ii. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/237529341</u> (from page 4 of Sydney's Labor Daily for Tuesday 13th March 1928)
- iii. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/118095909</u> (from page 31 of the Sydney newspaper the Freeman's Journal for Thursday 18th April 1929)
- iv. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/237021063</u> (from page 4 of Sydney's Labor Daily for Monday 24th February 1930)
- v. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16630381</u> (from page 16 of the Sydney Morning Herald for Tuesday 4th March 1930)

MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN'S SON MR. HARRY H. Y. LEE CHUN:

- 1. See the articles listed above under "Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's Chinese Names" for detail on Mr. Harry Lee Chun's society wedding, his Chinese name, and place in the family.
- 2. These English-language sources concern the death of Mr. Harry Lee Chun (a.k.a. Mr. Harry Hing Yee Lee Chun, Hing Yee being his Chinese name) in 1954 at the age of 47 years:
 - i. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18441319</u> (from page 12 of the Sydney Morning Herald for Thursday 22nd July 1954)
 - ii. <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18427520</u> (from page 52 of the Sydney Morning Herald for Saturday 3rd July 1954)
 - iii. <u>https://records-</u> primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1ebnd11/ADLIB_RNSW110792292

MR. PHILLIP LEE CHUN'S OTHER CHILDREN:

For mention of Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's numerous other children, and further detail on the firm of Kwong War Chong, see Mr. Malcolm Oakes' paper about Phillip, Arthur and Harry's younger sibling Mr. William Lee: Malcolm Oakes SC, "William Lee: First barrister of Chinese descent admitted to the New South Wales Bar", in *Bar News: The Journal of the New South Wales Bar Association*, [2015] (Winter), Sydney: NSW Bar Association, pp. 73–76.

2. THE CANTON BUILDINGS

ARTICLES WITH PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 1. From page 18 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/15331576
 - This article—of which the appended "Image 3" is a high-resolution colour image that was kindly provided, through the assistance of Mr. Peter Hack, by the State Library of New South Wales—is accompanied by a large photograph of the newly constructed Canton Buildings at 82 and 84 Dixon Street. The photograph provides clear evidence that the current façade is in large part original, and would no doubt be a useful reference for future restoration work.
 - The article is an advertisement for Kwong War Chong, which was posted by Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, and states that the firm is soon to relocate to 84 Dixon Street from its original premises at 46 Campbell Street. It advertises the firm's remittance services and the following classes of goods: rice, tea, cloth, chinaware, lacquerware, fruit, vegetables, and other groceries. It also names the firm in Hong Kong and Shekki with which the firm cooperates to provide its remittance services.
 - There is a significant quantity of text in the photograph, though most of it is barely discernible. The street numbers "82" and "84" are clearly written to the left of each respective door. The words "Phillip Lee Chun" would appear to emblazoned above the door to 84 Dixon Street. The words on the glass to the right thereof may read "Kwong War Chong & Co. Merchants & Importers". The horizontal characters below "82" may be "客寓" "Lodgings/Guest House" (written from right to left in the traditional fashion), while the vertical characters below them may be "各色鮮食" "A Wide Variety of Fresh Dishes". The translator cannot be confident of every determination, though, given the blurriness of the image. The three characters above the door to 82 Dixon Street presumably read, from right to left, "滿香棧" "Moon Hong Jam"; they are, however, unreadable in the photograph.
- 2. From page 19 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078435</u>
 - With respect to Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's construction of the Canton Buildings, this article states that:
 - on the 14th of October 1909 his builders "Grace and Boulton", his architects, and his iron-supplier, "Macintosh", requested that his son "Phillip Lee Some" perform the foundation laying ceremony;
 - o in just over three months from that date the building work was finished;
 - on the 20th of January 1910 (which fell 20 days before the beginning of the Chinese new year) the contractors handed the completed shops over to Mr. Phillip Lee Chun, for him to enter into residence;
 - and that in commemoration of Lee Some's laying of the foundation stone, the contractors have now bestowed an engraved silver trowel.
 - A translation (into Chinese) of the message engraved on the trowel is provided at the end of the article.
 - The article features a photograph of the trowel (which may be far clearer in the original newspaper than the image on Trove suggests).
- From page 1 of the supplement to Sydney's Chinese Republic News for Saturday 25th December 1920:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/24085762

• A small captioned photograph of the Canton Buildings appears second from left at the bottom of this article, which concerns the China-Australia Mail Steamship Line. More detail would no doubt be discernible in a higher resolution image of the original, including, perhaps, the face of the man who is pictured standing in front of the Kwong War Chong store.

OTHER ARTICLES:

- 1. From page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 13th March 1909: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168080171</u>
 - This article relates the decision of the Sydney council to move the street market to the corner of Engine and Hay Streets; the size of the area of land concerned; the identity of the building contractor; and the cost of the construction.
 - It also states that numerous Chinese firms are expected to move in light of the market's relocation, and that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is understood to have already purchased, on behalf of his company, a large plot of land nearby, which is 45 feet wide and 80 feet deep, on which to build a general store.
- 2. From page 5 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 23rd October 1909: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078729
 - This article is dedicated to the laying of the Canton Buildings' foundations, and relates that:
 - the construction of the market is nearing completion, and many Chinese merchants are desirous of relocating;
 - upon learning of the decision of council to move the street market, manager of the firm of Kwong War Chong Mr. Phillip Lee Chun immediately purchased a plot of land proximal to the new market, on which to build two three-storey adjoining shops, each with a frontage in excess of 20 feet, at a cost agreed with his Western contractors of over £2000;
 - the foundation-laying ceremony took place on the first day of the ninth month (this equates to the 14th of October on the Gregorian calendar), with a dragon flag raised high for the occasion, and Western and Chinese guests present, who all voted that it be performed by the eight-year-old (this would equate to seven-year-old by the Western reckoning) eldest son of the owner, whose name is 源深 "Yuen Some" (Phillip Lee Some);
 - with a trowel held in hand, Phillip Lee Some engaged in the construction to several shouts of acclaim from those assembled;
 - on completion of the ceremony, the guests withdrew to the premises of the 博文 書社 "Pok Man Shu She" (see the first of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family) to partake of champagne;
 - several tens of Western and Chinese persons were present for the celebration, and all praised the mercantile success of the Kwong War Chong firm;
 - it is expected that the construction will be finished in three months, but the ground being not far from Darling Harbour, and water having flooded the ditches excavated for the walls, it has already proved necessary to expend around £300 on concreting, to ensure the structure remains sturdy in the long term;
 - over the last several months, following Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's purchase of this plot of land, property prices have gradually increased, and are now near double what they were, from which is evidenced Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's order, method and shrewdness in enterprise.

- 3. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 22nd January 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246932085
 - The fourth article in this segment relates that:
 - on the ninth day of the current Chinese month (which equates to Sunday the 19th of January on the Gregorian calendar), the contractors who constructed the shop invited Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his son, who had previously performed the laying of the foundation stone on the first day of the ninth month (which equates to the 14th of October on the Gregorian calendar), to together conduct a rite celebrating the completion of the building, which coincides with the completion of the street market and the decision of many Chinese merchants to relocate to its vicinity;
 - the contractors have bestowed a silver implement on Mr. Phillip Lee Chun's son, which is engraved in English, and which they had especially made as a memento;
 - the Canton Buildings were built by builders "Grace and Boulton" and are grand in scale and sturdy of structure;
 - the neighbouring premises of Moon Hong Jam were built by the same builders and are of the same pattern;
 - Moon Hong Jam has already relocated and opened anew;
 - Kwong War Chong is set to relocate from the Chinese New Year (the first day of which fell on the 10th of February);
 - the nearby new and resplendent buildings of 公利盛 Goon Lee Shing and other firms are soon to be completed, all of which will necessarily bring about an upturn in the state of Chinese commerce.
- From page 15 of Sydney's English-language Daily Telegraph newspaper for Saturday 5th February 1910:

https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/238362461

- This is the third of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family. See the comments made in that part with respect to the possibility that the article features a photograph of the interior of the Kwong War Chong store.
- 5. From page 17 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078440
 - This is the second of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family. See the comments made in that part with respect to the information the article contains about the Canton Buildings.
- 6. From page 6 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 14th January 1911: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168798929
 - This is one of numerous advertisements for Kwong War Chong that feature an illustration of the Canton Buildings. The panelled and windowed façade is clearly depicted in the illustration.

THE FIRM OF MOON HONG JAM (A.K.A. MOON HOON JANG, MOONG HANG JAN):

1. From page 6 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 17th February 1906: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/247430656</u>

- This is a notice of the transfer of ownership of Moon Hong Jam, 42 Campbell Street, from four shareholders to two remaining shareholders. All shareholders are named.
- 2. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 29th January 1910: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246932435</u>
 - This is an advertisement for "Moon Hoon Jang" of 82 Dixon Street, Haymarket, Sydney, which advises of the shop's recent relocation. (The new address is actually given in Chinese as 83 Dixon Street and in English as 82 Dixon Street, the former being, presumably, a misprint.)
 - In addition to describing the restaurant's offerings and services, the advertisement also states that guest beds are available upstairs. (The availability of accommodation fits with the 棧 "Jam" in the firm's Chinese name, which has "inn" as one of its senses. The characters that precede it—満香 "Moon Hong"—carry the sense of "filled with fine scents", the character 香 Hong "fine scents" being used to describe everything from the aroma of good food to the fragrance of incense".)
- 3. From page 17 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald for Saturday 12th February 1910: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168078440
 - This is the second of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family. See the comments made in that part with respect to the Moon Hong Jam restaurant entering into tenancy upon the completion of the Canton Buildings.
- 4. From page 36 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 12th February 1910: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/246926417</u>
 - This is an advertisement for "Moon Hong Jam & Co." of 82 Dixon Street, Haymarket, Sydney, which advises of the shop's recent relocation. (82 Dixon Street is the address given in both Chinese and English.)
 - The names of the firm's proprietors and/or general managers are provided.
- 5. From page 7 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times, and page 2 of Sydney's Chinese Australian Herald, respectively, for Saturday 13th January 1912: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227971134</u> <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168800720</u>
 - These articles, and numerous English-language articles published around the same time (such as <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/111365564</u> which identifies the "fine structure" in question as the "Canton Buildings"), relate to a conflagration at the Moon Hong Jam restaurant, 82 Dixon Street, Sydney. The fire is reported to have started around 2:30 a.m. and to have been spotted by neighbours. Firefighters prevented its spread to 84 Dixon Street, and extinguished it entirely by 3 a.m., but the interior of 82 Dixon Street, especially its third floor, suffered extensive damage.
 - It is noted that Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is the owner of the property, and had insurance with the Union Insurance Company to the value of £1250.
 - A man named 吳膠 Ung Gow, of the district of 高要 Ko Yiu, who had worked at the restaurant as a cook, is reported to have died in the fire, on the third floor. His corpse was removed by the firefighters.

3. THE HISTORY OF THE FIRM

(See also part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family)

- 1. From page 3 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 19th October 1901: https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227923948
 - This is the earliest advertisement for the firm of Kwong War Chong that could be identified.
 - The firm's English name is given within as "Kwang War Chong, & Co.". While it is possible that "Kwang" is merely a misspelling of "Kwong", it seems that the name was not always spelled consistently at this early stage in the business's history, "Kwang War Chung" being yet another recorded spelling.
 - The advertisement gives an address of 46 Campbell Street, and lists nearly the exact same range of goods and services (including remittance services) that are described in the Image 1 advertisement (see the first of the "Articles with Photographs" listed in part 1: The Firm's Owner Mr. Phillip Lee Chun and his Business and Family).
 - Unlike the Image 1 advertisement, in this advertisement Mr. Phillip Lee Chun is not listed as the sole proprietor and/or general manager: there are two others, who are named.
- 2. From page 4 of Sydney's Tung Wah Times for Saturday 26th December 1936: <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/227442667</u>
 - This is the latest advertisement for the firm of Kwong War Chong that could be identified. It appears in the last copy of the Tung Wah Times that is available on Trove.
 - The advertisement references the firm's long history and established reputation, and lists the following goods and services (in more specific terms): a variety of groceries; medicines; fireworks; a range of alcoholic beverages, supplied under a government approved liquor licence; and remittance services, in respect of which the names of the "goldfield agency" in Hong Kong and the bank in Shekki with which the firm cooperates are provided.
 - The firm's address is still given to be 84 Dixon Street. A telephone number and postal address are also supplied.