



University of Victoria Archives

AR457

David Lee fonds

1. Fonds-level description

Title

David Lee fonds

Dates

1848-1987

Extent

64 cm of textual and other records

Biographical sketch

David T. H. Lee, or Li Donghai, was born in 1915 in Taishan, China. Lee's grandfather, Li Yiyou (1856-1925), moved to Portland, Oregon in 1880 and until 1908 owned a laundry business there. Upon his return to China he owned several family businesses. Lee's father, Li Shiliang (also known as Li Binqiu or Lee Pin-ch'iu, 1888-1935), inherited the businesses from Yiyou. David Lee earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from Xiamen University. After working as a teacher at Guangfu School in Singapore from 1937 to 1939, Lee returned to China with his family. When the Communists took over mainland China, Lee and his family fled for Hong Kong. In 1953 the Lees immigrated to Victoria, British Columbia where David took a post as the principal of the Chinese Public School, which he held until 1966. Lee authored the 1967 book *A History of Chinese in Canada*, which was the first book on the subject. For ten years he was the secretary of the Chinese Consolidated Benefit Association (CCBA), and was vice president of the association from 1983 to 1984. Lee was also involved with the Hoy Sun Benevolent Association for Taishan immigrants in Victoria, and in the Chinese Nationalist League in Victoria. He died in 1988.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of assorted papers from Lee's life and career.

Notes

Acquired from Kenneth Lee via Zhongping Chen, October 2011.

Fonds has not been physically processed.

2. Structure

(no series or files)

3. Inventory

Accession 2011-057

1.1

Certificate of Merit (Commendation)—issued by Sino-Canadian Cultural & Economic Association, to David Lee (1973)

Letter of Appointment—issued by (Contract) Hong Kong Six-Counties (Liu Yi) Association to David Lee (1969)

Letter of Appointment—issued by (Taiwan) Chinese Culture University (1963)

1.2

Letter of Appointment—issued by Guangdong Association of Taipei (1980)

Letter of Appointment—issued by Federation of Overseas Chinese Association (Taiwan) (1973)

Letter of Appointment—issued by Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan) (1982)

Certificate of Election—issued by KMT Central Committee, Overseas Affairs Commission, Victoria (1977)

Certificate of Kinship Relationship—issued by the Notary office, Taisan, Guangdong, PRC (1980)

Postcards (Xiamen University)

Photographs

1.3

Newspaper Clippings

David Lee's CV

Letter of Appointment—issued by Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan) (1988)

The Minutes of the Conference (the 3rd Congress) of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Canada (1974)

Special issue of the 14th Congress of KMT, General branch in Canada (1960)

Lee's Monthly Magazine (vol.9 no. 19, Sep. 1980)

Letter—from Miss May Eng to David Lee (1970)

World Campus Afloat Association of Colleges and Universities, Conference Announcement (1974)

The 3rd Annual record of the Chinese Association of History, the Chinese Academy

Handwritten draft of "Speech for the 60th Anniversary of the Republic China"

Handwritten draft—"Inside the Chinese Community (2)" (1 page)

Handwritten, Index of "The Local Community and the Clan" (1 page)

Memo to "Xiaofeng" (date unknown)

1.4

Address book of the Alumni Association of Xiamen University in Hong Kong (1983)

Lee Tung Hai's passports

Chui Ping Lee's (Nee Wong) passports

- 1.5
Letter from David Lee to Jiang Yanshi (1981)
Chinese Newspaper Clippings
Donations to the Canada/Vancouver Hoysun Ningyung Benevolent Association (1942)
- 1.6
Chinese Newspaper Clippings (1988)
Handwritten news draft
Handwritten news article
Memo from “Zhi Rong” to “Li Song” (1988)
- 1.7
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Monthly records of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (July, 1987)
Copy of the official letter from Guo Jiye to Zhang Jiabin (July 9, 1987)
Recruitment Notices (Engineering Draftsman III)—issued by the Capital Regional District, Victoria, BC (Feb. 1991)
Interim Agreement (1987)
Foreword (unknown magazine) by David Lee
Map of Hong Kong
Renaissance Monthly (June, 1971)
- 1.8
Official letter from Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan) to David Lee (1966)
Letter from Ma Shuli to David Lee (1965)
Memo to David Lee (sender unknown)
Statement—issued by the Directors of Chinese Community Centers across Canada to require that Chinese Communists to be debarred from the UN (April 11, 1961)
- 1.9
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Map of Hong Kong
Lee’s Monthly Magazine (vol.22 no. 5, May 1983)
Proposed Diagram of the General Building of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada
Constitutions of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada
The record of the 2nd Congress of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada (1987)
Map of Taipei and Routes of Public Transit (1968)
- 1.10
Chinese Newspaper Clippings
Notice of Election—issued by Chinese Benevolent Association, Vancouver (July 14, 1978)
Essay—“The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association in Victoria: Its Origins and Functions” by Chuen-Yan Lai (BC Studies, no.5, Autumn 1972)
- 1.11
Letter of Appointment—issued by Victoria Hoysun Ningyung (Taishan Ningyang) Benevolent Association (Jan. 1977)

- Letter of Appointment—issued by Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan)
(1974)
- Letter of Appointment—issued by Federation of Overseas Chinese Association (Taiwan)
(July, 1973)
- English Newspaper Clippings
- 1.12
- Certificate of Merit—issued by Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan)
(1960)
- Letter of Appointment—issued by the Preparatory office for the 4th Congress of the
Canadian
Taishan Compatriot (1984)
- Letter of Appointment—issued by Federation of Overseas Chinese Association (Taiwan)
(1985)
- Letter of Appointment—issued by Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent
Association
(1987)
- Certificate of Election—issued by Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of
Canada
(1984)
- Photocopied “Agenda of Conference” (date unknown)
- Letter from Huang Kongwei/Huang Yingjie to David Lee
- Letter from David Lee to Pu(?) Zhen (1960)
- Photograph (notes by Sun Yi-san in 1923)
- 1.13
- David Lee’s business cards
- Advertising poster for “History of Chinese in Canada”
- 1.14
- Lee Mong Kow’s Chinese Herbal Medicine Publishing Project (ca. 1900)
- 1.15
- Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
- Introduction of Celebrity with Surname Lee (2 page)
- Memo from “Juezhi” to David Lee (1967)
- Letter from David Lee to “XinHan” (date unknown)
- Invoice issued by Haiwang (Taipei) printing Co.
- Handwritten record of mailing history of “History of Chinese in Canada” (1968)
- Receipt (post office)
- Photographs
- Miscellaneous Notes about Chinese immigrants in Canada (1958-1945)
- 1.16
- Newspaper Clippings
- Map of Edmonton
- Index of some periodical
- Report for School Affairs

- Outline of “Aspects of the Chinese Community in Canada” (1 page)
- Official letter from (Taiwan) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Macao Office to David Lee (1953)
- Lee’s Monthly Magazine (Oct. 1980; Nov. 1983)
- Lee’s Quarterly Magazine (April 1987)
- Regulations for the reconstruction of Water House (Shui Lou) School
- Donations to Water House (Shui Lou) School (1980)
- Photographs (2)
- Essays by Guan Zhuhua and Li Yesen (about Chinese School)
- 1.17 Chin Gee Hee’s Canton Railroad—The Lee Connection (1890s-1900s)
- 1.18 The World Lee Monthly Magazine (Jan. 10, 1987)
- Chinese Clippings
- Letter from David Lee to “Song” (date unknown)
- Letter from David Lee’s nephew Lee Song to David Lee (date unknown)
- List of attending (some activity in Taiwan?) from Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1979)
- Employee list of Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1978)
- Outline of the preparatory for the 95th/80th Anniversary of Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association/Chinese Public School (1979)
- Financial Statement—Victoria Chinese Public School (Feb. 1979)
- Financial Statement—Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1978?)
- 1.19 Chinese Clippings
- Letter of Appointment—issued by Victoria Hoysun Ningyung (Taishan Ningyang) Benevolent Association (1988)
- Letter from Li Ruihe to David Lee (1987)
- Letter from Xu (?)
- Building insurance—Lee’s Benevolent Association (1981-1982)
- 1.20 Blank paper and envelopes
- Miscellaneous handwritten news drafts
- Handwritten draft to “Songnian” (Mao Songnian?)
- Letter from Shu Wing Lum to David Lee (July 2, 1980)
- Speech draft by W. M. Jian (Hiao?) (July 2, 1980)
- Letter from David Lee to Shu Wing Lum
- Letter to Canadian Citizenship and Immigration Centre (1979)
- KMT internal document
- Handwritten name list (1 copy)

- Nominations for KMT Committee members in General Branch, Canada (1980)
Opinions on “(Taiwan) Nomination for the Members of the Legislative and Control Yuan”
- 1.21
Photocopied essays
Taishan Jing Xiu Monthly Magazine (no.1, 1987)
Special issue for the 3rd Congress of the Canadian Taishan Compatriot and the 90th anniversary of Taisan Benevolent Association (1980)
- 1.22
Photocopied essays
Letter from David Lee to Donald Munro (July 8, 1979; Dec. 15, 1979)
Letter of Appointment—issued by Overseas Chinese Welfare Association (or Vancouver Chinese Drop-in Centre?) (1981)
Handwritten draft about Shui Lou (Water House county)
Affidavit (1978)
- 1.23
Letter from Zhang Qiyun to David Lee (Aug. 28, year unknown)
Official letter from Ko Shubao/Mao Shognian/Zhang Zongliang to David Lee (1977)
Official letter from Mao Songnian to David Lee (1976)
Letter from Ma Shuli to David Lee (1979)
Letter from Dai Bo (?) to David Lee (Nov. 9, year unknown)
Letter from Zhang Qiyun to David Lee (1963?)
Letter from the Committee of the Nomination for the Members of the Legislative and Control Yuan to David Lee (1980)
Official letter from (Taiwan) Consulate General in Seattle to David Lee (Dec. 31, 1975)
Letter from Yang (?) to David Lee (Nov. 17, 1975)
Memo from “Sinian” (?) to David Lee (1961, 1962, some date unknown)
Letter from B. Stuart-Stubbs (UBC Library Special Collections Division) to David Lee (Oct. 14, 1961)
Conference Schedule (University of Guelph, Ontario) (Mar. 25, 1969)
Letter from Martin Deming Lewis (Sir George Williams University) to David Lee (Jan. 30, 1969)
Letter from Yu-Tang Daniel Lew to David Lee (Jan. 1, 1969)
- 1.24
Memorial book for Lee’s mother
- 1.25
The 1st revised constitutions of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada (1967)
Reports to the Lee Compatriot in Canada by Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada
Advertising poster for the World Lee Genealogy (1979)
Lee’s Monthly Magazine (vol.18 no.4; Apr. 1, 1979) (vol.19 no.6; June 1, 1980)
Lee’s Quarterly Magazine (vol.26 no.1; Jan. 1, 1987)
List of Donations (3 pages)

- 1.26
Chinese Newspaper Clippings
Foreword (unknown magazine) (1959)
- 1.27
Constitutions of Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1981)
Reports by Chinese Community Centre of Ontario Incorp (Sep. 8, 1983)
The Declaration of Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Canada at the 1980
Annual Congress
“Reasons to print ‘the history of Ancient Gangzhou’” by Le Yiji
Proposal by Chinese Community Centre of Ontario Incorp (Sep. 10, 1983)
Advertising for Fund-raising by Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
(1957)
Foreword + the (school) anthem
Advertising for Fund-raising by Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
(June
25, 1961)
Letter from Shu-wing Lum (Chairman, Chinese Benevolent Association of Canada) to
Multiculturalism Directorate, Ottawa, Ontario (May 26, 1980)
Bookmark (Munro’s Books)
- 1.28
Newspaper Clippings
Liu Gongquan Copybook for practicing Calligraphy
Introduction of Celebrity with Surname Lee in Canada (1 page)
Essay by Liang Jiabin
- 1.29
English Newspaper Clippings
- 1.30
Regulations for Registration (Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (Version of
July
15, 1932)
List of Donations to the Canada/Vancouver Hoysun Ningyung Benevolent Association
(1942)
Miscellaneous Notes about Chinese immigrants in Canada
Essays by David Lee “The Relations of China and North America Before 19th Century
and Earlier)
Outline of Memorial Process
- 1.31
Chinese Newspaper Clippings and pictures
- 1.32
English Newspaper Clippings
Essays by David Lee “The Relations of China and North America Before 19th Century
and Earlier”
- 1.33

- Scrapbook (with Chinese Newspaper clippings/essays)
- 1.34
- Blank paper
 - Map of Taishan
 - Income Tax Act, Sec. 149 (1972)
 - Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
 - Miscellaneous Chinese notes
 - Miscellaneous English notes
- 1.35
- Guangdong Lee's genealogy
 - The World Map
 - Map of Western Canada
 - Map of Greater New York
 - Blank paper
 - Chinese Clippings
 - Letter of Appointment—issued by Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan) (1984)
 - “Review of the service for the Lee Clan during 1982-1983” by Li Song
 - Handwritten notes about Lee family affairs
- 1.36
- Historical pictures
- 1.37
- Chinese Newspaper Clippings
 - Essay by David Lee “The Past and Present of Chinese in Canada” (1 page)
 - David Lee's CV
 - Elegiac Couplets (funeral scrolls) by various people
- 1.38
- Memo from Li Juezhi to David Lee
 - Memo from “Qin” to his father-in-law (unknown person, possible David Lee?)
 - Lee's Benevolent Association of Canada Financial Statement (Dec. 31, 1986)
 - Financial statement (Some store in Hong Kong in Jan. 1937)
 - Letter of Appointment—issued by Yangchun High School to David Lee (1945-46)
 - Letter of Appointment—issued by Taishan High School to David Lee (1947)
 - Letter of Appointment—issued by Guangdai High School to David Lee (1948)
 - Letter of Appointment—issued by Taishan Girl's Formal School to David Lee (1949)
 - Receipts from Southwest High School
 - Letter from David Lee to Dr. Bunje (Dec. 20, 1952) (about Medical exam)
 - Letter from Department of Citizenship and Immigration Re Mr. Benny Louie (Chairman of Board of School Trustees, Victoria Chinese Public School) (Nov. 26, 1952) (about Application for Temporary Admission of Lee Tung Hai)
 - Letter from Department of National Revenue Re Chinese Public School (Feb. 7, 1955)
 - American President Lines, Ltd Hong Kong Baggage receipt (sailing Feb. 8, 1953)
 - American President Lines Ticket receipt (Nov. 27, 1952)

- American President Lines Currency exchange receipt (Jan. 26, 1953)
- Tax Exemption certificate (Jan. 26, 1953)
- Hong Kong Identity Card (issued on Apr. 19, 1951)
- H.K. Government Miscellaneous receipt (Dec. 18, 1952)
- Affirmation in lieu of a passport (receipt issued by Brutton @ Co) (Dec. 18, 1952)
- Employment Letter issued by Hong Kong Cheung Fung Co. (Dec. 12, 1952)
- Blank envelopes
- Some scattered papers
- 1.39 Essay by David Lee “History of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada” (1 page)
- 1.40 Photocopied Chinese and English Clippings
- 1.41 David Lee’s CV
- 1.42 Photocopied Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
- 1.43 Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
- Employment Letter—from Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association to
Citizenships and Immigration Canada (Mar. 13, 1962)
- Employment Letter—from Victoria Chinese Public School to Citizenships and
Immigration Canada
- Letter of Financial resource confirmation—issued by the Royal Bank (Mar. 8, 1962)
- “Appealing for Fund-rising for the 1885 ‘Sino-French War’ by Huang Xiquan
- A self-composed poem (1962)
- 1.44 Mandarin Teaching Materials
- Box 2
- 1.1 Letter from the Committee of the Nomination for the Members of the Legislative and
Control Yuan to David Lee (1972)
- Letter from Ma Shuli to David Lee (1968, 1971)
- Letter from Lin Qingjiang to David Lee (1977)
- Letter from Chinese Association of History, the Chinese Academy, to David Lee (1970)*
- Newspaper Clippings
- Letter from Yu Chaoping to the Editor (1986)
- Draft of letter Re Yu Chaoping
- Letter from Xu Xin (?) to David Lee (date unknown)
- 1.2 Constitutions of Lee’s Benevolent Association of Canada
- Newspaper Clippings

- Photographs
Hand-drawn Map of Water House (Shui Lou) County
Handwritten “the alternative of the translation for Chinatowns during the era of the gold fever”
Miscellaneous notes about Chinese immigrants in Canada (1848-1894)
The 34 Terms issued by the British regarding the imports by the Chinese in 1901
- 1.3
Handwritten draft of Lee’s family history + genealogy
Handwritten notes about the statistics of the population of the Lee clan in Taishan (2 pages)
Letter to “Songguang”
Handwritten news drafts
- 1.4
Message to Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (Taiwan)
Blank forms
- 1.5
Lee’s Monthly Magazine (Dec. 1977; Jan. 1982)
Handwritten draft of the Lee family genealogy
- 1.6
Photographs
- 1.7
Pictures
- 1.8
“Sung Poems Set to Music” by Y. H. Ku (1968)
“Christian Youth” edited by Chinese Young Men’s Christian Institute, Toronto*
- 1.9
Photocopied essays
Essay by Zhao Zongtan
- 1.10
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
- 1.11
Employee list—Victoria Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
General Reports by Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Canada (1985)
Debriefing by Ontario Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1985)
Debriefing by Manitoba Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (1985)
The Schedule and Proposals of the 1985 annual conference of Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Canada
Blank paper
List of Donations to the establishment of Shui Lou (Water House) School (1980-1983)
Draft of a speech
Handwritten “Zhuzi’s family motto”
Essay “On Mao Zedong’s Poems” by Lin Yuhe
Chung Hwa Culture Study Society (no. 6, 1987)*

- Advertising poster for Fund-raising for Taishan Lee's Jing Xiu Secondary School
Xinmin Supplement (1954) (1 page)
Poster for general meeting information in Vancouver
Chinese Newspaper Clippings
- 1.12
Photographs
- 1.13
Map of Hong Kong
- 1.14
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Letter of Appointment—issued by Federation of Overseas Chinese Association (Taiwan)
(1981)
Terms of Math
Essay about China
- 1.15
Map of PRC
- 1.16
Advertising poster for “History of Chinese in Canada”
Photocopied Newspaper Clippings
Instructions for Compatriots attending the Tea party held by the President and the First
Lady (1975)
Letter to Parents from Lambrick Park Secondary School, Victoria (1979)
- 1.17
Overseas-Chinese & Our Freedom Magazine (no. 9, 1978)
- 1.18
Chinese Newspaper Clippings (1960-1962)
- 1.19
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
QiaoXun (Overseas Chinese News) Bi-weekly Magazine (Aug. 16, 1976; Sep. 1, 1976)
- 1.20
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Photograph
Victoria Times Weekend Magazine (vol.24 no. 29, July 20, 1974)
- 1.21
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Photographs
Handwritten draft about the history of Lee's ancestors (2 pages)
- 1.22
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Handwritten news drafts
- 1.23
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Article about Xu Beihong

- Foreword by David Lee
The pamphlet of the Uvic Twelfth Annual convocation (1975)
“The Chinese Situation” by Shuhsi Hsu (1964)
Special issue for the reconstruction of the Pavilion for the Chinese by the Chinese
Consolidated Benevolent Association of Canada (1974)
- 1.24
Postcards + Photographs
Chinese and English Clippings
Letter from “Wenren” to David Lee
Shuhsi Hsu CV (1963)
Letter of Appointment—issued by the Kaiping First High School to David Lee (1946)
Essay by David Lee (1961)
- 1.25
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
English News Article: The Maoists (Toronto Daily Star: May 30, 1970)
- 1.26
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings
Miscellaneous notes about the Chinese in Canada (2 pages)
- 1.27
Chinese and English Newspaper Clippings