

British Columbia Archives
TRANS-PACIFIC RECORDS RESEARCH GUIDE



The Oriental Home family, Victoria, 1908 C-07921

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Preserving and Providing Access to the Recorded Evidence of British Columbia's Past



INTRODUCTION

British Columbia has been the gateway to the Pacific for hundreds of years. Records of trans-Pacific crossings date back to the 1700s. Indigenous or mixed-race inhabitants from the Pacific Northwest¹ traveled to Asia in the 1840s, and sailors from China and Japan landed in the Pacific Northwest from earliest times. Chinese settlers arrived in the 1850s and were among the original settlers in the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples. This research guide provides a brief overview of some of the trans-Pacific holdings of the BC Archives: holdings related to Asia- Pacific Coast relations including migration, immigration and settlement, travel records, transportation, trade and diplomacy. This guide contains five main sections: Published Material, Government Textual Records, Non-Government Textual Records, Other Media, and Newspaper and Clippings Files. For a general orientation on how to use the Archives please see the [Research Orientation Guide](#).

This guide was produced with the assistance of TransPacific History students from the University of Victoria, and their instructor John Price.

PUBLISHED SOURCES

The BC Archives has a significant collection of published material related to TransPacific history. It consists of books, pamphlets, journal articles and sometimes theses (which may also be treated as manuscripts – see note under Primary Sources below). These sources are useful in gaining an understanding of historical developments and overall context, as well as in providing leads to further material.

Search the library catalogue using keywords, subjects, names, authors or titles that you have identified as being of interest to your research. Note that too broad or general a word (e.g. *pacific*) can yield a large number of references, many of which will not be relevant for your purposes. It is a good idea to start with the most specific terms and broaden your search if necessary.

When looking for information about a particular cultural group, check under the name, e.g. Sikh (or East Indians), as well as any geographic locations particularly associated with the community. If you have found relevant citations, look at the subject headings for those references. They may be useful in looking for further material.

Doing a paper for school and have limited time? Look for a book, scholarly article or thesis on your topic and check the bibliography, especially for journal articles and unpublished material.

The following selected titles are available at the BC Archives, but will also be available through most public and university libraries.

- Adachi, Ken. *The enemy that never was: a history of the Japanese Canadians*. 1976. **NW 325.71 A191**
- Anderson, Kay. *Vancouver's Chinatown: racial discourse in Canada, 1875-1980*. 1991. **NW 305.8951**

¹ The "Pacific Northwest" is loosely defined as that area of North America bounded by the Pacific Ocean on the west and the Rocky Mountains on the east. The northern boundary may or may not include the Yukon and southeast Alaska and the southern boundary northern California. The term is now commonly used to refer to British Columbia, Washington State and Oregon.

- Jagpal, Sarjeet Singh. *Becoming Canadians: pioneer Sikhs in their own words*. 1994. **NW 971.1008 J24**
- Roy, Patricia. *The Oriental question: consolidating a white man's province, 1914-41*. 2003. **NW 971.1 R687 2003**
- Roy, Patricia. *The triumph of citizenship: the Japanese and Chinese in Canada, 1941-67*. 2007. **NW 971.1004 R688 2007**
- Roy, Patricia. *A white man's province: British Columbia politicians and Chinese and Japanese immigrants, 1858-1914*. 1989. **NW 305.895 R888**
- Ward, Peter W. *White Canada forever: popular attitudes and public policy toward Orientals in British Columbia*, **NW 301.4519 W264 1990**
- Wickberg, Edgar, ed. *From China to Canada: a history of the Chinese community in Canada*. 1982. **NW 325.71 F931**

PRIMARY SOURCES

The majority of the holdings at the Archives are unpublished, textual records. They can be government or non-government (sometimes referred to as “private”) records and can be typed as well as handwritten. They are primary sources which you will need to analyse and interpret in order to make them useful to your research.

There is both a card and an online index to records. The pre-1974 card index (Government Records and Historical Manuscripts Catalogue – Old System) uses the old cataloguing classification (e.g. E/D/L58) and can be searched by subject, title and creator of the record. Some of these records have been described as *fonds* and can be searched online using the [Fonds Descriptions](#) search option or on [Memory BC](#) (formerly BCAUL).

Textual records indexed online are catalogued as either a government record accession (GR) or a non-government record accession (MS). Many have finding aids attached. Copies of finding aids are also located in the Reference Room. Finding aids can be box lists, file lists, volume lists, microfilm reel lists or indexes and should be consulted to help identify the items required. Newer record descriptions are organized by the creator or collector and are termed *fonds*. These are available online using the [Fonds Descriptions](#) search option or on [Memory BC](#). Note that a *fonds*, e.g. Ministry of Attorney General *fonds*, usually comprises several records accessions. Check the black duotang binders in the Reference Room, using the AAAA number, to obtain a list of accession numbers. Both our online catalogue and Memory BC can be searched by keyword.

Note: A number of theses have been catalogued as manuscripts, others as library material. Search both the library and textual record catalogues if you are looking for a particular thesis.

SEARCH TIPS FOR GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT TEXTUAL RECORDS

When searching either the online or manual catalogues, use a variety of keywords. Some index terms used within the catalogues use older spellings or are words which are no longer in contemporary use. The catalogues and online descriptions and finding aids may also contain words which are not considered appropriate now, but which may be useful as search terms. For example, in addition to standard terms such as “Chinese”, “Japanese”, or “Sikh”, you should also check for references such as “Japs”, “Hindus”, “Hindoos”, “East Indians” or “Orientals”.

Be aware that the online Search automatically treats multiple keywords as a phrase. Thus, if you wish to search for records relating to Chinese in Vancouver, use the word “and” between the search terms, i.e. “Chinese and Vancouver”. This search will locate any catalogue entries or finding aids that contain both the terms “Chinese” and “Vancouver”. The wild card symbol is ?, and it may be used effectively to search for both singular and plural terms. For example, using the keyword “Jap?” will locate catalogue and finding aid entries that include the words Jap, Japan, Japs, and Japanese.

When searching within the textual records catalogue, it can also be useful to use the name of the record creator as the search term. This applies whether the creator is an individual or an organization.

Search results will be presented as a list of accessions which have matches to the keywords. Some of the accessions have an attached finding aid, which will provide further information about the accession, and provide microfilm reel numbers, box numbers or a file or item list. Use the finding aid to determine the call number (GR/MS-xxxx) and the number of the box or microfilm reel you need. Generally, microfilm is self serve.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

A number of government records and some private records will be restricted. The access status for government records is **not** currently provided in any of the catalogues. Donor restrictions for private records are noted. In additions, many records are stored off-site and will not immediately be available. Please speak to staff, or call the Reference Desk at 250-387-1952 for information about the access status and location of records.

GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Government records provide a wealth of information on living conditions, demographics, state perceptions of transpacific peoples, and many other topics. The following list identifies some of the principal holdings, arranged by relevance to a topic area. It is not an exhaustive list and the finding aids for each accession will need to be consulted in order to locate specific box and file numbers. Please note that any government records 100 years old or less are subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC)*.

CHINATOWN (VICTORIA)

- **GR-0429** Attorney General correspondence 1872-1937, 1950
- **GR-0441** Premier’s Records, 1883-1933
- **GR-0784** Commission On Victoria Police Commissioners, 1910
- **GR-1548** Heritage Conservation Branch restoration project files 1977 - 1982
- **GR-2940** Heritage Conservation Branch records 1960 – 1983

CRIME, DRUGS, PROSTITUTION AND ALCOHOL

The principal source of information about these topics will be court records, and records created by the Attorney General’s office. Court records include civil and criminal case files, and orders and judgements. The records are arranged by registry (i.e. court district) and court level (i.e. Supreme or County) and some have nominal indexes. For an example, look at:

- **GR-1949** Cumberland County Court civil case files 1897-1941
- **GR-1960** Ashcroft County Court criminal case files 1886-1942

Attorney General records will include preliminary hearings and correspondence about specific cases, the development of legislation, and policy decisions regarding law and order issues. Many of the records which are less than 100 years old will be restricted:

- **GR-0419** Attorney General document series (including preliminary hearings) 1857-1966
- **GR-0429** Attorney General correspondence 1872-1937, 1950
- **GR-0996** Attorney General correspondence inward 1883-1888
- **GR-1323** Attorney General correspondence 1902 - 1937
- **GR-1723** Attorney General correspondence 1938 - 1952
- **GR-1724** Attorney General correspondence 1952 – 1959
- **GR-1725** Attorney General correspondence, 1959 - 1965
- **GR-1726** Attorney General correspondence, 1959 - 1972

Other potentially relevant accessions include:

- **GR-0216** Cariboo government agency records 1860-1938
- **GR-0784** Commission On Victoria Police Commissioners, 1910
- **GR-1547** Central registry of the Immigration Branch 1873-1968
- **GR-1327** Inquisitions/inquests conducted by coroners 1872-1937

HEALTH

- **GR-0129** Tuberculosis Control Division director's records 1940-1959
- **GR-0429** Attorney General correspondence 1872-1937, 1950

IMMIGRATION, (including EXCLUSION, HEAD TAX AND NATAL ACT)

- **GR-0429** Attorney General Correspondence 1872-1937
- **GR-0441** Premier's Records, 1883-1933
- **GR-1222** Premiers' papers 1917-1952
- **GR-1547** Central registry of the Immigration Branch (Canada) 1873-1968
- **GR-1655** Correspondence and reports from the Dept. of Provincial Secretary, 1887-1953
- **GR-1918** Immigration and Border Entry Lists 1908-1918.
- **GR-1970** Commission on Hindu Claims Following Refusal to Allow over 300 Hindus Aboard the S.S. Komagata Maru to Land at Vancouver, 1914

JAPANESE INTERNMENT

- **GR-1222** Premiers' papers 1917-1952
- **GR-1219** High School Correspondence Branch, 1942-1951
- **GR-0470** Elementary Correspondence School records, 1919-1969

LABOUR, MINING AND INDUSTRY

- **GR-0166** Applications to the indigents fund 1939-1942
- **GR-0429** Attorney General Correspondence 1872-1937
- **GR-0441** Premier's Records, 1883-1933
- **GR-0431** Coroner's Inquiries/Inquests, 1865-1937
- **GR-0432** Registers and indexes to coroner's inquiries and inquests, 1874-1937

POPULATION STATISTICS

See the federal censuses of 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 for British Columbia. The B.C. Archives has short guides for each. City directories may also be used to identify Chinese populations within communities.

PROVINCIAL POLICY

These executive level records contain information about high-level policy decisions on a range of topics.

- **GR-0441** Premier's records 1883-1933
- **GR-1222** Premiers' papers 1917-1952
- **GR-0429** Attorney General correspondence 1872-1937, 1950
- **GR-0996** Attorney General correspondence inward 1883-1888
- **GR-1323** Attorney General correspondence 1902 - 1937
- **GR-1326** Register of letters inward to the Attorney General 1916 – 1937
- **GR-1723** Attorney General correspondence 1938 - 1952
- **GR-1724** Attorney General correspondence 1952 – 1959
- **GR-1725** Attorney General correspondence, 1959 - 1965
- **GR-1726** Attorney General correspondence, 1959 - 1972

RACE RIOTS, STRIKES AND CIVIL UNREST

- **GR-0441** Premier's Records, 1883-1933
- **GR-0518** Commission on Claims Arising out of Riots in 1913 and 1914 on Vancouver Island, 1916
- **GR-0996** Attorney General correspondence inward 1883-1888
- **GR-1695** Strikes and Lockout Files, 1907-1945

TRANSPACIFIC AID

- **GR-2040** Legislative Assembly committee transcripts 1977 – 1978 (Includes records of a "Special Committee on Medical Aid to Vietnam")

TRANSPACIFIC TRADE

- **GR-1028** Customs and Excise memoranda and circulars 1911 – 1949
- **GR-2957** Colony of British Columbia, Custom House returns, 1859 - 1869

NON-GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Also referred to as “private” or “manuscript” records, these accessions were created by private individuals, organizations or companies. The following is a selection of some of the non-government accessions which might be used as primary sources for TransPacific research topics.

- **MS-0003** PATULLO, Thomas Dufferin – Premier of British Columbia.
Extensive collection of private and official correspondence, inward and outward, speeches, accounts, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, reports, memoranda and miscellaneous items. General Papers 1938-1941 section includes: Oriental Exclusion Franchise - correspondence, re: Japanese immigration, civil rights, service during war, involvement in British Columbia economy. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0006** DICKIE, Francis Joseph, 1890-1976. Quadra Island; writer.
Correspondence, manuscripts, accounts, photographs, newspaper clippings and has documents pertaining to Japanese in British Columbia. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0007** ELLISON, Price, 1851-1932. Vernon; rancher, politician.
Correspondence, accounts, agreements, and newspaper clippings with documents pertaining to ‘Orientals’ in British Columbia. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0012** WILSON, Halford D., 1905- . Vancouver; insurance agent, alderman.
Alderman Wilson's correspondence and papers pertaining to his anti-‘Oriental’ stand during the years 1938-1942. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0023** JONES, James William, 1869-1954. Kelowna, Victoria; businessman, politician.
Contains numerous documents pertaining to Japanese in B.C., trade relations between Japan and B.C., reports on ‘Oriental’ immigration and exclusion, among others. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0084** IMAI, Mitsuo (Frank), 1904- . Scotch Creek.
Japanese text of speech given by Mr. Imai at the dedication of Imai Park, Scotch Creek, 1974; also, typescript of English translation.
- **MS-0101** WING CHONG Co. Victoria, 1902-1906.
Contains six business account books (in Chinese).
- **MS-0103** NG FAMILY.
This is a collection pertaining to the history of the Ng family (20 volumes in Chinese).
- **MS-0256** SUTER, James K., 1823-1899. New Westminster; printer.
Contains a journal of voyages of the Empress of Japan (Ship). Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0264** FINDLAY, DURHAM and BRODIE. Victoria; commission agents.
Receipts and receipted bills, 1864-1866; landing warrants, 1867, 1871; customs documents, 1873, 1875; correspondence 1876-1886 (five letters); labour contract with Fong Oui, Hawaiian Islander.
- **MS-0415** STEPHENSON, Albert Thomas, 1883?-1968. New Westminster; Provincial Constable.
Tickets admitting Stephenson to the Provincial Gaol to witness the executions of Mawa Singh, January 11, 1915, Mario Montanari, January 15, 1915 and Ragmal, February 13, 1915.
- **MS-0446** ROCKINGHAM, John M., 1911- . Soldier.
"Recollections of Korea" (Typescript, 1975, 84 pages), by Major General John M. Rockingham, First Commander, 25 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group.
- **MS-0448** STAR SHIPYARD (MERCER'S) LIMITED, 1908-1970. New Westminster.
General correspondence, construction, repair and refit files pertaining to fishing boats and includes documents pertaining to Japanese in B.C.

- **MS-0455** MEARES, Cecil Henry, 1877-1937. Victoria; traveller, British military officer. This collection contains documents describing his experiences in China, Siberia, Antarctica and Japan.
- **MS-0537** YALE, James Murray, ca. 1798-1871. Fort Langley; HBC Chief trader. Photocopies, 1851-1858, 22 pages. Contains letters pertaining to the Hudson's bay Company in Hawaii.
- **MS-0596** DAVIS, William Heath, 1822-1909. San Francisco; businessman. Originals, 1845-1847, 5 items. Contains one receipted invoice, HBC, Honolulu (1847)
- **MS-0608** MACDONALD, Roderick Charles, 1885- . New Westminster; Reeve of Coquitlam; Minister of Mines and Municipal Affairs. Originals, 1911, 1933-1973. Speeches (1945-1950), clipping books (1941-1952), and other documents, some pertaining to Japanese in British Columbia. Includes finding aid.
- **MS-0646** LEE QUONG, fl. 1870-1890. Centreville; miner. Originals, 1879-1887, 5 pages referring to Chinese in British Columbia - Cassiar district Free Miners Certificates, one of which is made out in the name of "Dree Quong." Found in a ruin by B.C. Provincial Police, 1936.
- **MS-0649** YEP SING AND COMPANY, fl. 1890-1910. McDame; mining company. Originals, 1891-1908, 8 pages relating to Chinese in British Columbia - Cassiar district. Receipts for water rights and mining licenses. Found in ruin by British Columbia Provincial Police, 1936.
- **MS-0654** GOWANS, John, ca. 1870-1890. Drynoch; miner. Originals, 1879-1881, 3 pages. Letters from Alfred H. Cadoux and Catherine Lillico pertaining to Australians in B.C.
- **MS-0721** MACDONALD, Alastair Douglas, 1874-1948. Victoria; Major, Royal Artillery. Originals, 1897-1913, 36 pages. This collection includes a letter from the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, among other documents.
- **MS-0807** HARRIS, Joseph Colebrook, 1871-1951. New Denver; rancher. Personal correspondence; letters to editors; essays, articles and lectures; poems and songs, most of which reflect Harris' socialist viewpoint. Also contains documents pertaining to Japanese in British Columbia.
- **MS-0828** Records of Ebenezer Dorr's shipping business 1790 – 1819. This collection contains original documents regarding the maritime fur trade business between Boston, the west coast of North America, and China.
- **MS-1027** LIM, Li Bang, 1880-1974. Victoria; businessman. Letter from Dr. Sun Yat-sen regarding fund-raising for Nationalist China, written in Chinese.
- **MS-1039** MacKENZIE, John Peter. Military engineer. Original, 1946, 1 page. Letter from Sam L. Bedson about efforts by Vancouver Chinese merchants to export goods to China, and offering comments about strikes and rumors of strikes in Vancouver area.
- **MS-1053** KNOWLTON, Willson E. Kamloops; collector. Original, 1858-1887. Business records of Kwong Lee and Co., and Hopkee and Co., including shares of British Columbia companies and agreement to transport Chinese to Victoria.
- **MS-1075** SCOTT, William Alfred, 1898-1979. China, Victoria; mechanic, Chinese Maritime Customs. Subject files reflecting his interest in philosophy, civil liberties, local politics; correspondence, reports and diaries regarding his life and work in China; family papers and correspondence.
- **MS-1079** FROST, Robert. Cobble Hill. Transcripts (typed), ca. 1979. Reminiscences of life in China from 1916: first as a ship's officer and, later as cargo superintendent with Jardine Mathesons; "To Russia with love from the Persian Gulf": an account of his work organizing the unloading of wartime cargo at Abadan in 1943; My Affair

with Kuan Yin: the memoirs of Robert Frost (Victoria, British Columbia, Morriss Printing Company, 1983).

- **MS-1201** KWONG LEE and Co. Originals, 1885 (25 pages).
Contains statement of accounts in the matter of Kwong Lee and Company; receipts.
- **MS-1249** Malcolm McLeod (1821-1899) barrister and writer.
Numerous documents including many pertaining to Ranald Macdonald, the first English teacher in Japan, 1848-1849, correspondence with Macdonald, reminiscences and Japanese glossaries by Macdonald, and manuscripts by McLeod entitled "Japan, story of adventure of Ranald Macdonald".
- **MS-1304** HARRISON, Eli, 1852-1930. Victoria; judge. Original, 1886, 1 page
Letter from Caspar Phair, Sheriff of Lillooet, to Mr. Justice Harrison regarding the sitting of County Court and the gold discoveries made by Chinese miners at Cayoosh Creek.
- **MS-1641** MacMILLAN BLOEDEL LIMITED. ALBERNI PACIFIC DIVISION.
Schedule showing wages paid to apprentices, equipment operators, laborers, tradesmen, etc. at the Alberni operations of Macmillan Bloedel and its predecessors, 1930-1979.
Includes wage scale surveys and nominal lists of Chinese, East Indians and Japanese employed at Great Central Sawmill, 1934-1941.
- **MS-2056** BISSETT, James, ca. 1831-1900. Honolulu, Victoria, Montreal; HBC Chief Trader, Chief Factor officer.
Diaries (1854-1883), covering travels from Lachine to Honolulu (1859), the voyage to Victoria (1860), journeys to Europe (1865 and 1880), travel from Montreal, where he was Chief Factor (1872, 1875, 1877, 1879), and a journey to Japan and China (1882-1883), among others.
- **MS-2107** LEE, Jack H. Victoria. Originals, 1957, 15 items.
This collection includes draft transfers, bank money orders, receipts re payments of money sent to his family in China in 1957.
- **MS-2119** AWMACK, Winifred J. Victoria; teacher.
This collection has papers relating to the Japanese relocation centre at Tashme during WWII, letters from students taught at Tashme camp sent both from in Canada and Japan, as well as government documents regarding Japanese Canadian deportation.
- **MS-2429** CORNISH, Clive Grierson, 1908- . Vancouver.
Typescript, ca. 1946 (2 volumes). CONDITION YELLOW (an unpublished novel concerning the internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II).
- **MS-2439** ORIENTAL HOME AND SCHOOL (VICTORIA, B.C.) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Microfilm (neg.).
This collection includes the minute book of the Advisory committee of the Chinese Rescue Home, 1896-1915 (the name of the home was changed to the oriental Home and School on Aug. 24, 1909).
- **MS-2537** YEE LUN ARK KEE, Ltd. Victoria; merchant. Originals, 1924-1969.
This collection contains a description filed within the documents, which include correspondence and notes on a variety of subjects: bank draft to Chian Kai, 1942; notes in Chinese; letters in English from lawyers re business dealing; list of dental expenses; Victoria road and poll tax receipt for inhabitants of 534 Fisgard. Permits to import fireworks and licenses for magazines. Brokerage firm records re items, mainly food, imported by Yee Lun Ark Kee.
- **MS-2562** TYE CHUNG LUNG and CO. (Originals, 1875, 2 cm)
Chinese business in B.C. records (in Chinese).
- **MS-2794** SMITH, Marian Wesley, 1907-1961. U.S.A. and London, England; anthropologist.
Microfilm copy of the Marian Wesley Smith Collection (originals at the Royal Anthropological Institute). Records are of her work on the Salish and Kwakiutl Indians and in the Punjab and Bengal and on the Sikhs in Canada.

OTHER MEDIA: MAPS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER IMAGES, SOUND RECORDINGS, MOVING IMAGES

A general description of and access tools for these resources can be found in the *Research Orientation Guide*.

Photographs, Paintings and Prints

Look for photographs in the Photo Reference Room collection organized by place name and in the portrait files, organized by surname. Search online by keyword for photographs, paintings, drawings and prints. Try variant names and spellings, truncation and wild cards (e.g. chin?)

The following images are samples that may be of particular interest:

- **A-025458** "Photographer Noah Shakespeare," Maynard Studio, c. 1862. Shakespeare was a photographer, politician and leader of the anti-Chinese movement in Victoria.
- **F-05161** "Victoria, Portrait of a Chinese Woman," Maynard Studio, c.187?
- **B-08405** "Japanese Fishing Crew Rescued in the China Sea by the Barque, 'Tiger', these men are believed to be the first Japanese in Victoria," Maynard Studio, 1883
- **A-02461** "Noah Shakespeare," Gibson, c. 1890
- **C-07944** "Musical Group in Chinese Church, Victoria," c. 1892
- **C-07934** "First Chinese Auxiliary, Victoria, BC," c. 1900
- **A-03129** "Luncheon Party Given by Mr. George Philips, for Officers of the Japanese Navy, At the Naval Store Officer's House, Esquimalt Naval Yard," 1909
- **I-81729** "Noah Shakespeare," c. 1910
- **B-02586** "A.E. Fowler," nd. [This is possibly the same A.E. Fowler who was the secretary of the Seattle Branch of the Japanese-Korean Exclusion League, and who spoke at a mass meeting at Vancouver City Hall on September 7, 1907 that lead to rioting targeted at Asians living in the city.]
- **C-07985** "The Reverend C.Y. Chow, Metropolitan Church, Victoria", nd. [Rev. Yee Jing Chow (b. 1899) was a Chinese Christian Missionary who immigrated to British Columbia in 1912. See also oral history interviews with C.Y. Chow, T3715:0001.]
- **F-07382** "Reverend C.Y. Chow," c. 1913
- **E-05065** "Richmond, BC, Cannery, 'Just a Whiff of Opium,'" F. Dundas Todd, 1913
- **E-05027** "BC Canneries, Hindu Unloading Salmon, Richmond," F. Dundas Todd, 1913
- **E-05041** "Richmond Canneries, Japanese Women with babies on their backs, filling cans" Todd F. Dundas, 1913
- **E-05069** "Richmond, BC Canneries, Japanese Quarters," F. Dundas Todd, 1913
- **E-05076** "Richmond, BC Canneries, two little Japanese Girls Play on the Wharf,"F. Dundas Todd, 1913
- **A-01615** "The HMS Rainbow and the SS Komagata Maru in Vancouver Harbour" 1914
- **D-05577** "Sikh delegation returning to the SS Komagata Maru," 1914
- **D-06736** "Sightseers at the SS Komagata Maru in Vancouver Harbour, 1914
- **D-07570** "HMCS Rainbow and the SS Komagata Maru Leaving Vancouver Harbour," 1914
- **D-09117** "The SS Komagata Maru in Vancouver Harbour," 1914
- **D-09120** "East Indians Aboard the SS Komagata Maru, Vancouver," 1914
- **A-02478** "The Honourable H.H. Stevens," M.P., nd
- **F-06583** "Sikhs photographed on steps of Victoria Temple before boarding the 'Empress of Australia' to return to India to fight for Independence," 1924
- **I-68722** "The Sikh Temple, Victoria," Howard J. Chapman, 1924

- **B-07117** "Miss Ruth Akagawa, Port Essington Nurse," c. 193?
- **F-07385** "Reverend and Mrs. C.Y. Chow, at the Cranbrook Methodist Mission, c. 1930)
- **I-68717** "Sikh Parachute Jump, Lansdown Road, Ishar Singh, Victoria," J. Howard A. Chapman, 1930
- **B-01010** "Group in Front of Victoria Chinese United Church on the Occasion of its 50th Anniversary," nd. 1935
- **A-02916, A-02917** "Hindu Cremation, Victoria" two images, 1936
- **A-05762** "Chinese Women's Committee Tag Day for War Victims in China, Victoria," C.C. Pemberton, 1938
- **C-05267** "Seized Fishboats of Japanese-Canadians Near Robson Island, New Westminster," 1942
- **E-09910** "Japanese Internment Camp, possibly Agassiz or Princeton," 1942
- **E-09913** "The Tashme Japanese Internment Camp," c. 1943
- **B-01080** "Kaslo United Church Japanese Sunday School Group," c. 1943
- **H-03213** "Japanese Internment Camp at Lemon Creek, Slocan," W.G. Funamoto Album, nd.
- **B-01082** "Japanese United Church Group, Lemon Creek," 1945
- **C-07907** "Girls of the Chinese United Church Canadian Girls in Training (C.G.I.T), Victoria," ca. 1946
- **B-01016** "Japanese and Chinese Church, New Westminster," nd.
- **PDP02161** "Cook Street, Chinese Farm"; farm between Cook and Moss Streets, 1895

Sound Recordings

These include oral history as well as radio broadcasts. Collections likely to have relevance for trans-Pacific topics are described briefly below, but this is not an exhaustive compilation. Searching the online Sound Recordings Index using the collection's title will allow you to browse all of the items in that collection, or you can search for the names of people, places, or subjects to locate items directly.

Oral Histories

An entry point into the BC Archives holdings of oral history materials can be made through the *Sound Heritage* series, published by the BC Archives between 1973 and 1983 and available in the Archives library (**NW 902 S725**) as well as several Canadian libraries. Selections from the journal have been collected in Saeko Usukawa, ed. *Sound Heritage: Voices from British Columbia* (**NW 902 S726**).

The BC Archives holds over two hundred oral histories collected in British Columbia by the Reynoldston Research and Studies programme in the early 1970s. Many of these oral histories are interviews with immigrants from Asia and Canadians of Asian descent. More information about this oral history collection is available in the *Reynoldston Research and Studies Publication*, available in the Archives library (**NW 902 R466p**) as well as in other research libraries and online.²

In 1978 the Coal Tyee Society produced an oral history of the coal mining industry on Vancouver Island consisting of 140 tapes of interviews, with transcripts. Some of the interviews deal with the Japanese and Chinese workers who participated in the Vancouver Island Mining Industry. See in particular the interview with Dick Mah, (**T4051:0080**). In 1979 the Downtown

² www.reynoldstonnewyork.org/category/oral-history-research/reynoldston-research-and-studies-publications-bc/.

Eastside Women's Centre collected a number of oral histories, of women living in the Downtown East Side, including those of a number of Chinese-Canadian women (**T3689-T3694**; **T3706-T3709**). Also of interest are the interviews by Daphne Marlatt and Carole Itter with residents of Vancouver's Strathcona neighbourhood, recorded as research for the book "Opening Doors: Vancouver's East End" (*Sound Heritage*, vol. 8, no. 1 and 2, 1979).³

Selected oral history interviews:

- **T0068: 0001-0004** Kiyō Goto Interview, Reynoldston, 1972
Kiyō Goto was a Japanese picture bride who came to Canada in 1915. She talks about her experience working as a housekeeper, then running a restaurant and brothel in Vancouver, and opening a gambling house while interned at Greenwood camp during the Second World War. Interview is conducted in Japanese.
- **T0103:0001-0006, T3944:0046** Tatsuro 'Buck' Suzuki interviews (Reynoldston, CBC, Richmond Arts Centre, Howie Smith), ca. 1972 – 1977
Tatsuro Suzuki (b. 1916) was a second generation Japanese-Canadian, who was prominent in the Japanese Fisherman's Union and the Japanese-Canadian Citizen's Association. He discusses the Japanese community in the twentieth century, including the fishing industry, Japanese rituals and festivals, race relations, the internment of Japanese Canadians, and the struggle for the enfranchisement of Japanese Canadians.
- **T2402:0001-0002** Edward Banno Interview, Provincial Archives of BC, ca. 1976
Edward Banno was a member of a delegation of Japanese-Canadians who traveled to Ottawa in 1936 to plead for the right to vote.
- **T2740:0001-0004** Yun Ho Chang interview, Strathcona project collection, 1977.
Strathcona neighbourhood : the Chinese community, ca. 1920s-1930s.
- **T3131:0001-0003** Gordon (Won) Cumyow interview, Strathcona project collection, 1977.
Grandfather ran supply store for gold rush miners in Fort Douglas; later moved to New Westminster; father was first Chinese born in Canada (possibly); also was first Chinese court interpreter; spoke Chinook as well.
- **T3715:0001** Rev. Yee Jing Chow interviews, Provincial Archives of BC, 1980
Rev. Yee Jing Chow (b. 1899) was a Chinese Christian Missionary who immigrated to British Columbia in 1912. He discusses Chinese – white relations, the Chinese communities in Nelson, Vancouver and Victoria, and the Oriental Girl's Mission in Victoria. The interview was conducted in Chinese.
- **T3712:0001** "Koo Shee Chan: Chinese Pioneer Woman," Provincial Archives of British Columbia Interview Collection, 1980
Koo Shee Chan immigrated to Canada in 1911 as a 'picture bride.' She talks about her experiences raising a family in Victoria, including Chinese Christian Church, indentured waitresses in restaurants in Chinatown, and the Oriental Girl's Mission. The interview was conducted in Chinese.

Radio Broadcasts

The BC Archives holds many sound recordings from private radio stations as well as the CBC. The material is organized into collections based on provenance.

A number of CBC radio producers have also donated material, which may contain material related to the trans-Pacific. In particular see the Jurgen Hesse Fonds (**T4230**), which includes 242 sound tape reels created between 1964 and 1984 and including interviews, speeches, and

³ Recently reissued as *Opening Doors in Vancouver's East End: Strathcona*, Harbour, 2011.

other radio programs. Also see the Imbert Orchard Fonds (**T4222; T4103; T4255; F1985:13**), which dates from 1961 to 1972 and includes over 900 sound recordings, as well as textual documents and photographs (**MS-0364; 97811-2; 98602-18; 98107-80**). There is also material from the CBC donated by Robert Chesterman and Don Mowatt.

Selected items of interest:

- **SD0177:0563** “Hon. Lee Chow,” CKWX records, 1945
Lee Chow was the Chinese Consul General in Vancouver. This a recording of his speech about the end of the Pacific War in 1945.
- **SD0177:0451 – 0457** “Prime Minister Nehru in Vancouver,” CKWX records, 1949
News coverage of the visit of Indian Prime Minister Jawharlal Nehru to Vancouver in 1949. Includes Hindustani language material.
- **T0327:0001 – 0003** Three CBC interviews with H.H. Stevens, M.P., c. 1966 – 1967
H.H. Stevens (1878 – 1973) was a British Columbia Member of Parliament and cabinet minister between 1911 and 1940. He was a vocal opponent of Asian immigration. In the interviews he discusses his political career as well as Hindus and Japanese in British Columbia.
- **T1343:0001** Interview with Roy Mah, CBC, c. 1970
Roy Mah was director of the Vancouver Chinese Publicity Bureau, and editor of the “Chinaman News.” He talks about Chinese-White relations, the Chinese education in Vancouver and the race riots of 1907.
- **T1959:0001** “The Komagata Maru Affair,” Imbert Orchard Records, 1970
CBC Documentary about the Komagata Maru incident in Vancouver Harbour, 1914.

Moving Images

Search the online database by keyword or subject. If a specific term does not yield anything, or anything relevant, try broadening your search and checking the description and subject headings of likely citations for more useful search terms. Two useful guides to films produced in British Columbia are *Motion Picture Production in British Columbia, 1898-1940* (NW 791.43 B882) and *Camera West: British Columbia on Film, 1941-1965* (NW 791.43 D858).

Selected items of interest:

- **V1997:01 REF** The Secrets of Chinatown, Feature Film, 1933
A murder mystery set in Victoria’s Chinatown.
- **V1999:08/002** “Clough Family Films,” ca. 1937-1944
Footage of Clough family activities in Slocan City and area, including footage of sports day at the Japanese internment camp at Bay Farm.
- **V1981:07** Tatsuro ‘Buck’ Suzuki Interview, Reynoldston Research and Studies, ca. 1972.
Tatsuro Suzuki (b. 1916) was a second generation Japanese-Canadian, who was prominent in the Japanese Fisherman’s Union and the Japanese-Canadian Citizen’s Association. (See also audio interviews with Tatsuro Suzuki **T0193:0001 – 0006, T3944:0046**.)
- **V1989:05/002.02** Chinese theatre performance [Vancouver], 1944. Burritt collection.
- **V1991:01/001.02** Chinese funeral parade, Victoria, 1918. Alan D. Taylor collection.
- **V2005:02/010.02** “Heritage Buildings, Lai at Immigration Building,” CHEK-TV, ca. 1977
Television stock footage, including tour of Immigration Building in Victoria by Dr. David Lai. He talks about Chinese immigration, the head tax, and transcribes Chinese writing on the walls of holding cells.

- **V2007:02/014.02** Where's Winston?, British Columbia Attorney General Records, Force Four Productions, 1989
Instructional video loosely based on the real-life story of a Chinese-Canadian youth who became involved in criminal gang activities.

Maps and Plans

Maps and cartographic materials can be searched by subject headings in a card file at the archives and viewed on microfiche. Some collections have individual finding aids.

Selected items of interest:

- **CM-A828** "Chinese in Victoria: Plan of Block G," Davies, J.P. & Co., 1901
Map of Chinatown in Victoria. Includes labels of various businesses in and around Chinatown.
- **CM-B44** "Chinatown Cumberland, BC," 1939
A sketch map of Chinatown in Cumberland, BC
- Fire Insurance Plans (various call numbers – see finding aid in the Reference Room) will sometimes show the location of a "Chinatown" within a community, and the type of construction materials used for buildings.

Newspaper and Clipping Files

Clippings files (ca. 1930-1981) are available on microfilm (115 reels, catalogued as D-19) and are subject files, arranged alphabetically. Consult the indexes just outside the Microfilm Room. The clippings files contain newspaper articles about noteworthy individuals or subjects. Look for standard subject headings such as "Chinese", "Japanese", "Komagata Maru", "Vancouver Race Riots" or individual names.

The B.C. Archives also has 15,000 reels of community newspapers on microfilm. A full list of all of the titles is available at <http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/library/newspapr/newspapr.htm>
These may be used to research any event within a community if the approximate date is known.

An additional tool is the Legislative Library BC Newspaper Index 1900-1970. Available at the Archives on microfilm, it is a selective index to the Vancouver and Victoria daily newspapers. The Archives does not have the indexed newspapers with the exception of the *Colonist*, 1858-1939. The index can nevertheless be helpful in determining dates of events and coverage that can then be used to guide a search of the daily newspapers available at university or public libraries. Note: The filmed index is not the latest version and lacks indexing for 1911-1917.

There is also an index, on fiche, for selected 19th century newspapers. Note that this index covers the *Colonist*, which is also available online from 1858-1910 at www.britishcolonist.ca.