Geography of Kwangtung Province for Hawaii Residents

BY

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



HAWAII CHINESE HISTORY CENTER

111 NORTH KING STREET, RM. 410

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

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GEOGRAPHY OF KWANGTUNG PROVINCE FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Since most of the Chinese in Hawaii identify their home districts with the Pearl River Delta (天 , 工 三 角 +), its tributaries and nearby areas, the materials and data presented here relate mostly to the delta and its environment and do not encompass the whole Kwangtung Province. (See maps #5, #6, #7, and Table #1).

There are over 70 in or hsien (), (district or county) in Kwangtung Province alone. Reference to dialectal speaking groups such as Punti, Sam Yup, Sze Yup and Hakka, when related to an area or district, do not imply that these various dialectal groups do not exist elsewhere throughout the province. In actuality these dialectal speaking groups are found in almost every district in Kwangtung, some in dominant and others in negligible numbers.

Under the PRC government today, putong hua
(普通話) is the standard national speech which is taught in all schools throughout the country. It has been known as Mandarin (官話) and kuo yu (图 話). Eventually various dialects will gradually diminish giving way to a unified dialect so that China can develop into a strong world nation.

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

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

During the Sung Dynasty (960-1280), this West River (西江) delta area lying west of the Pearl River (珠江) estuary, was named Heungshan In (香山縣) for the fragrant flowers growing there.

In 1925, Heungshan district or county was renamed Chungshan In (中山東), to honor its native son and revolutionary leader Dr. Sun Yat-sen (我这句). He was called by a Japanese name, Nakayama (中山), when he was in Japan to promote his revolutionary activities. With the success of the revolution in 1911, he became president of the Provisional Republic and became officially known as Sun Chung-Shan (37.中山).

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

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

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

- They were known as:

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

 - 3) Duck Doo (得都).
 4) Gook Doo (谷都).
 5) Kung Seong Doo (恭草都).
 6) Larm Doo (權都).

 - 7) Wong Leong Doo
 - (隆都) 8) Lung Doo
 - 9) See Doo (四部) which was later combined with
- 10) Dai Doo (大都) to become See Dai Doo (四大都).

Under the Nationalist government (1911-1949), the doo or sub-district system in Chungshan was changed into administrative units, like our precincts and called kee (186). There were nine of these precincts, still with Shekki as the county seat in precinct #1 - 13). There may have been slight boundary changes but generally, the system changed from doo to kee as follows:

- 1) Leong Doo became #1 (第一區
- Lung Doo became #2 (第二區). Larm Doo became #3 (第三區).
- See Dai Doo became #4 (第四區).
- Gook Doo became #5 (
- Kung Seong Doo became #6 (第六區

7) Outlying islands to the south became #7
(第工區) or (南海都).

8) Wong Leong Doo became #8 (第八區).

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

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

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

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

Example #1. Suppose you know that your parents came from Kung Seong Doo, and your village name is Sheong Chark (L). To find the location of your village on the map becomes relatively simple. First, look for Kung Seong Doo, which is in map #9-2. Its district number is 6. Next, check Table #2C under the number 6 Doo to confirm if your village Sheong Chark is listed. If it is, your village as shown in Table #2C, lies within the Har Chark Heung (This is and the suppose of the confirmation of the confir

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

Example #2. Say you were informed that your ancestral village was known as Dai Pak San (大角山), and there was no other information available. First, check the tables for the name of your village. You will find it listed in Table #2B under number 4 Kee and within See Dai Doo district. The table also refers to the village location within the Ung Fung Heung (五月前). Number 4 Kee or See Dai Doo is in section map #9-2, and the above heung is in the NW corner of See Dai Doo district.

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

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

(II) SAM YUP DISTRICT (三七) See map #7.

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

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

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

(III) SZE YUP DISTRICT (D &) See map #7.

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

1) Sunwui (新會) [Xinhui].
2) Toishan (台口) [Taishan].
3) Hoiping (開早) [Kaiping].
4) Yanping (因平) [Enping].

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

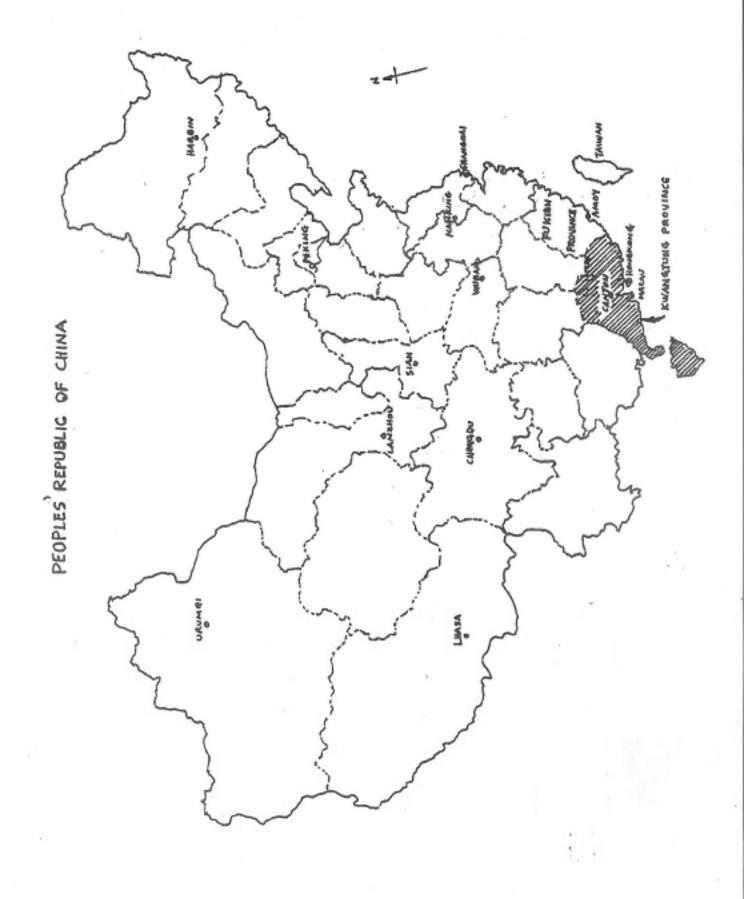
The Hakka people are not the original inhabitants of the regions which they now occupy. As the name implies, they were called "newcomers" or "guests" by the earlier settlers. Hakkas are found not only in Kwangtung Province but throughout the other provinces in China and in foreign countries. Except in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

[Panyu] Punyu Tsengshing [Zencheng] Poklo [Boluo] [Huizhou] Waichow 4) Tungkun [Dongguan] Pao-on [Bao-an] 6) called Sin On [Hua Xian] Fayuan Mei Hsien [Mei Xian] (

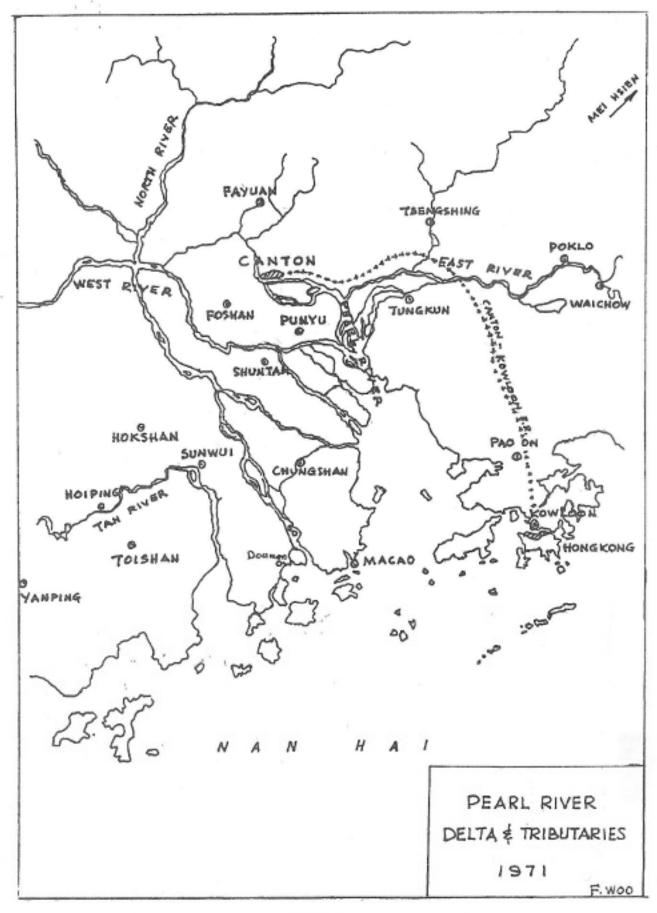
Members of the Basel Mission of Germany were among the earlier missionaries to spread Christianity into Kwangtung Province, being particularly successful evangelizing among the Hakka speaking people: Map #8 was prepared by the Basel Mission and indicates their sphere of activities and also shows the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

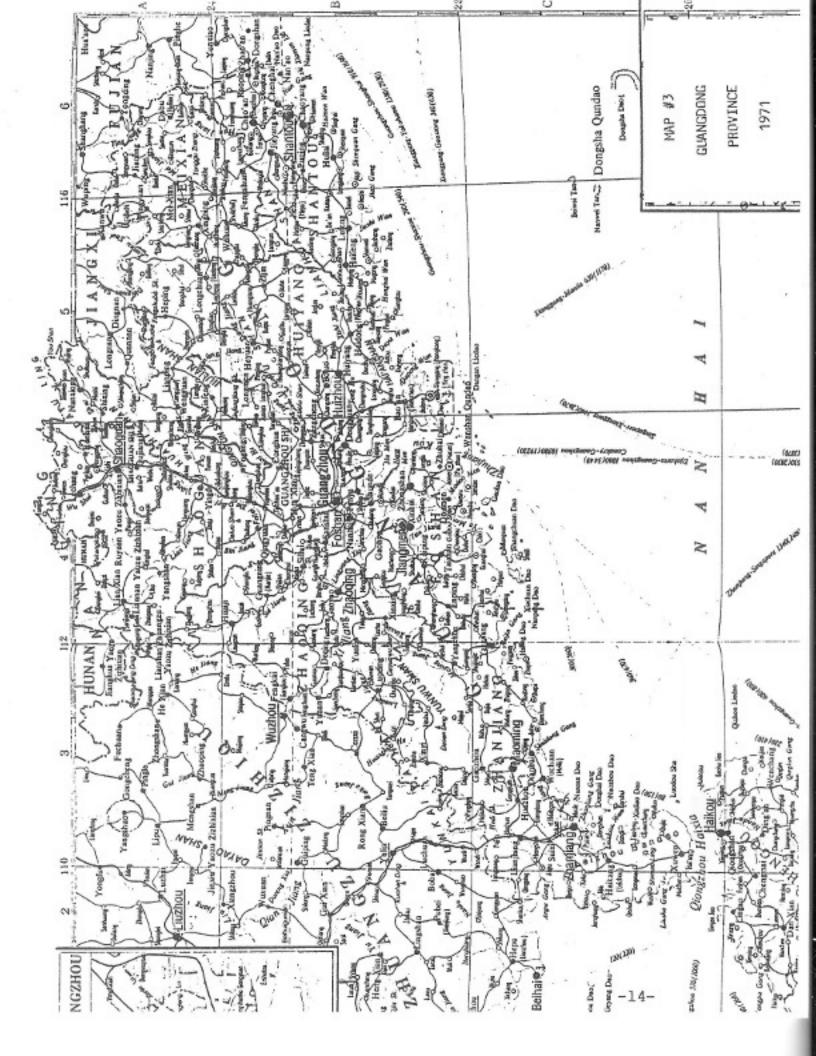
On map #1 is marked Amoy (夏門), Fukien Province (福建). Amoy is where the first group of contract laborers to Hawaii's sugar plantations came from in 1852 on the bark S. S. Thetis.

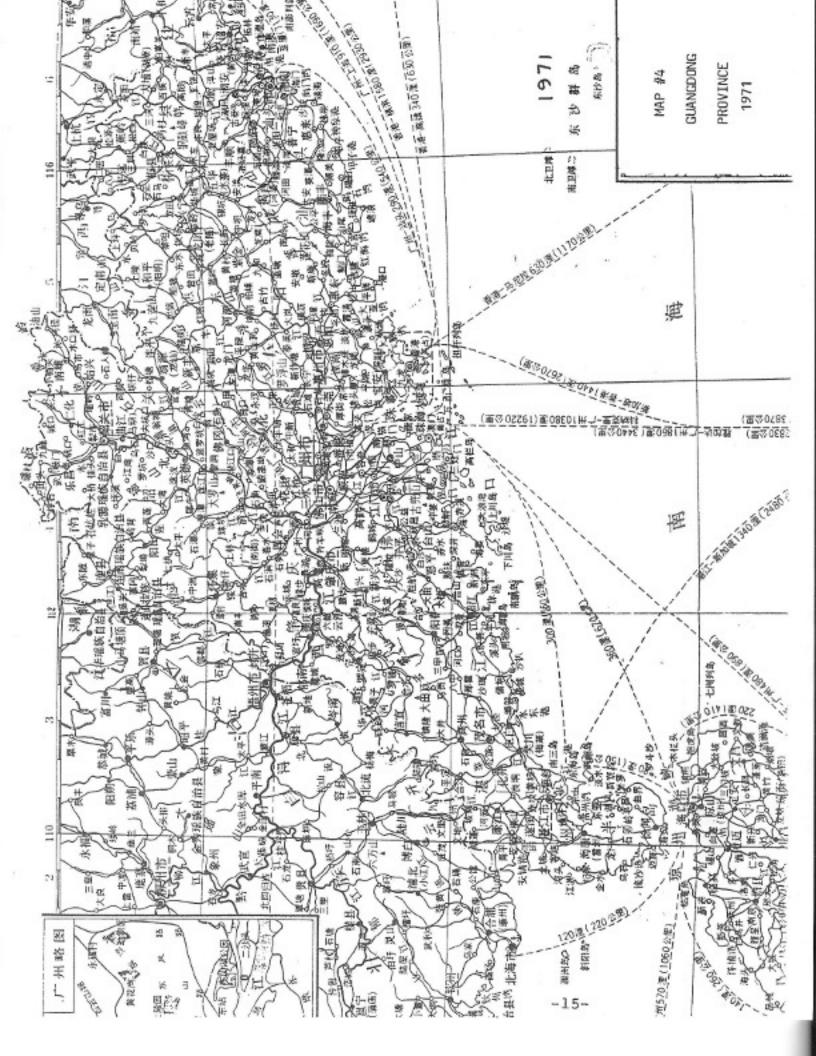
Maps of present day administrative and political boundaries and newer designations are unavailable locally. Except for Chungshan district, locations and names of smaller sub-districts of other districts are unavailable locally. Persons possessing helpful information, maps, or sketches are urged to submit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

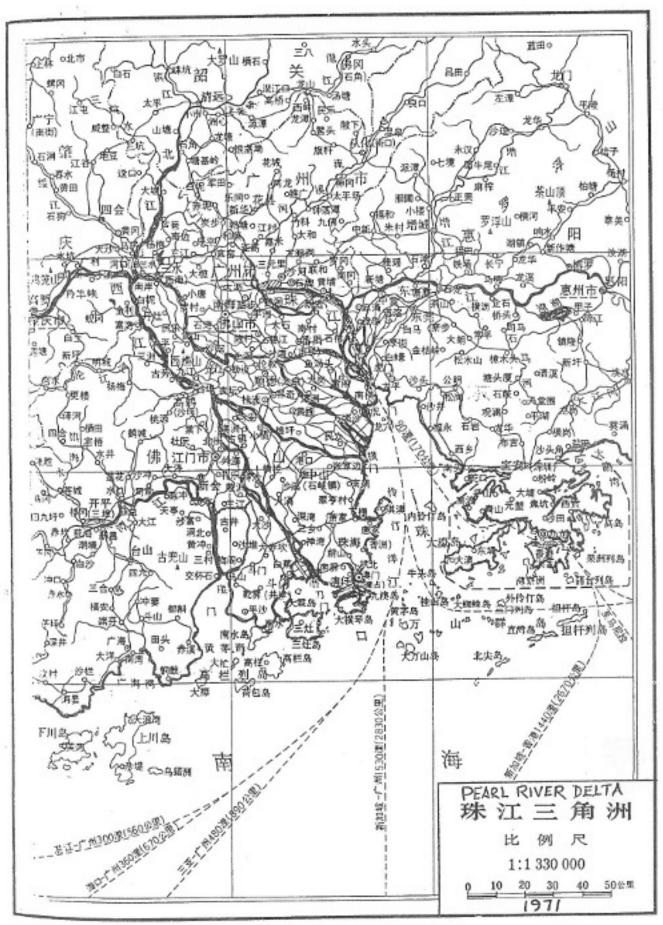


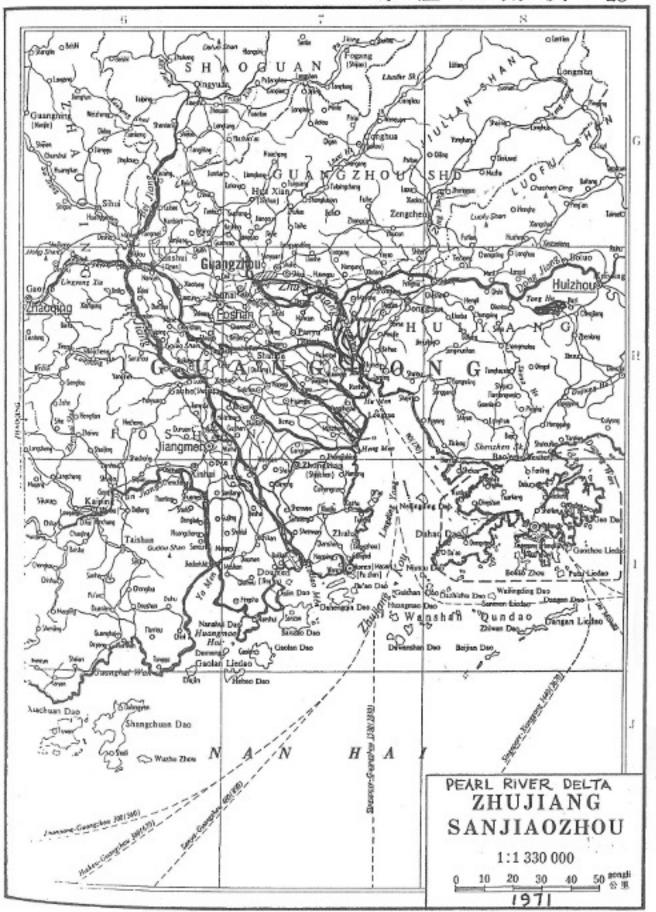
AREA FROM WHICH MOST CHINESE IN HAWAII EMIGRATED

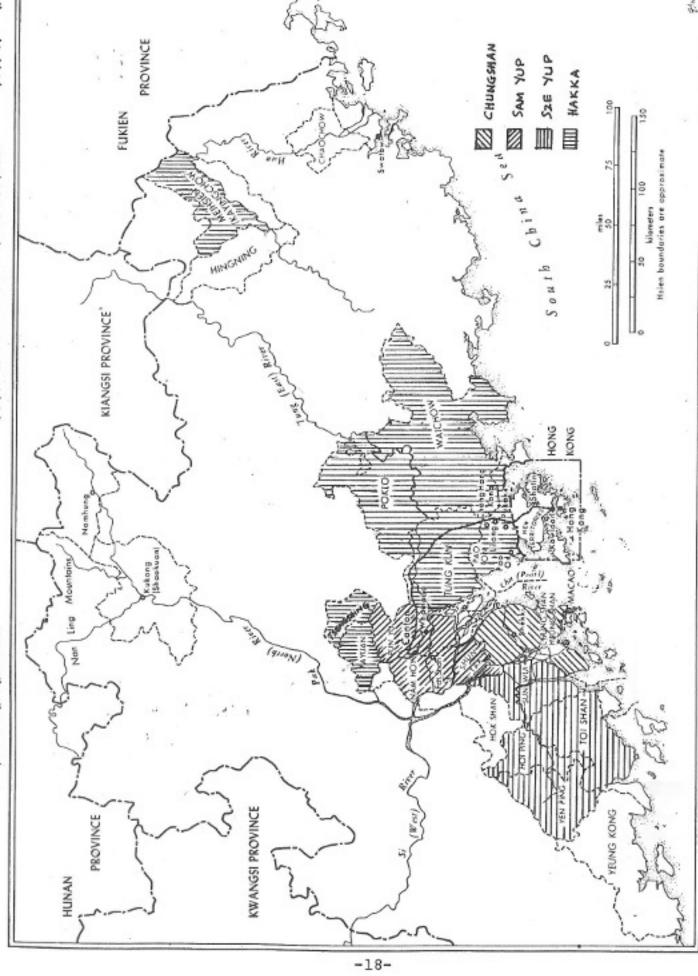




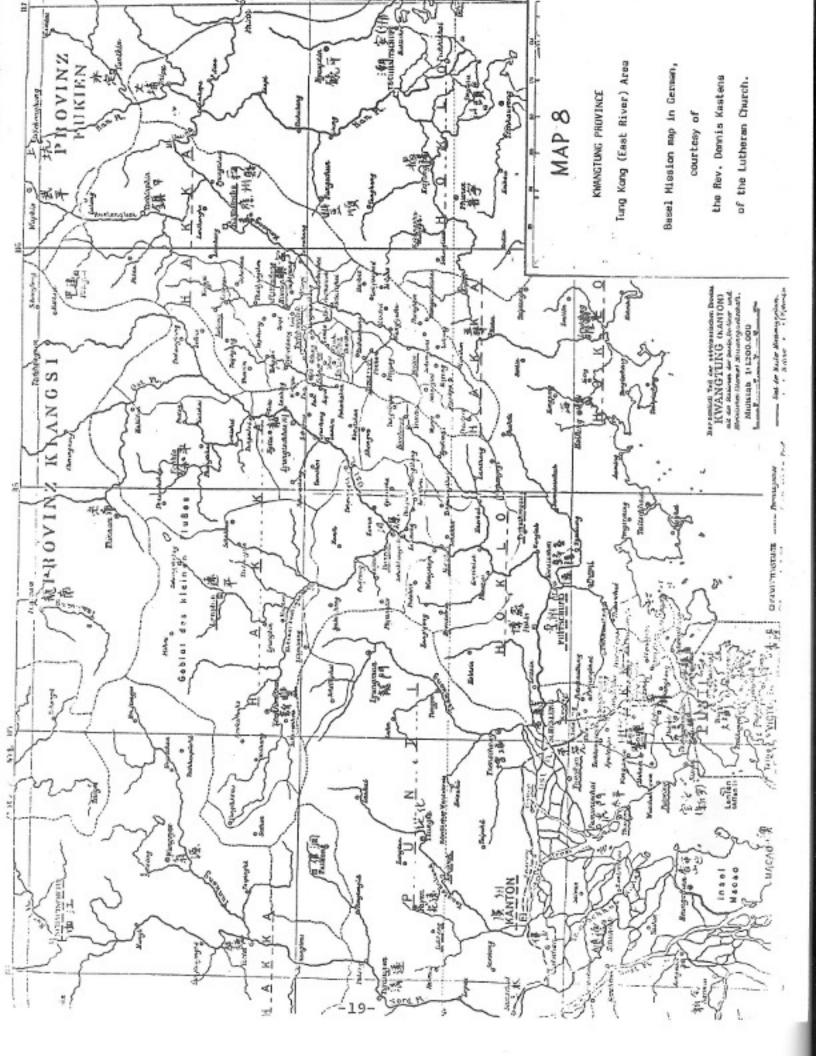


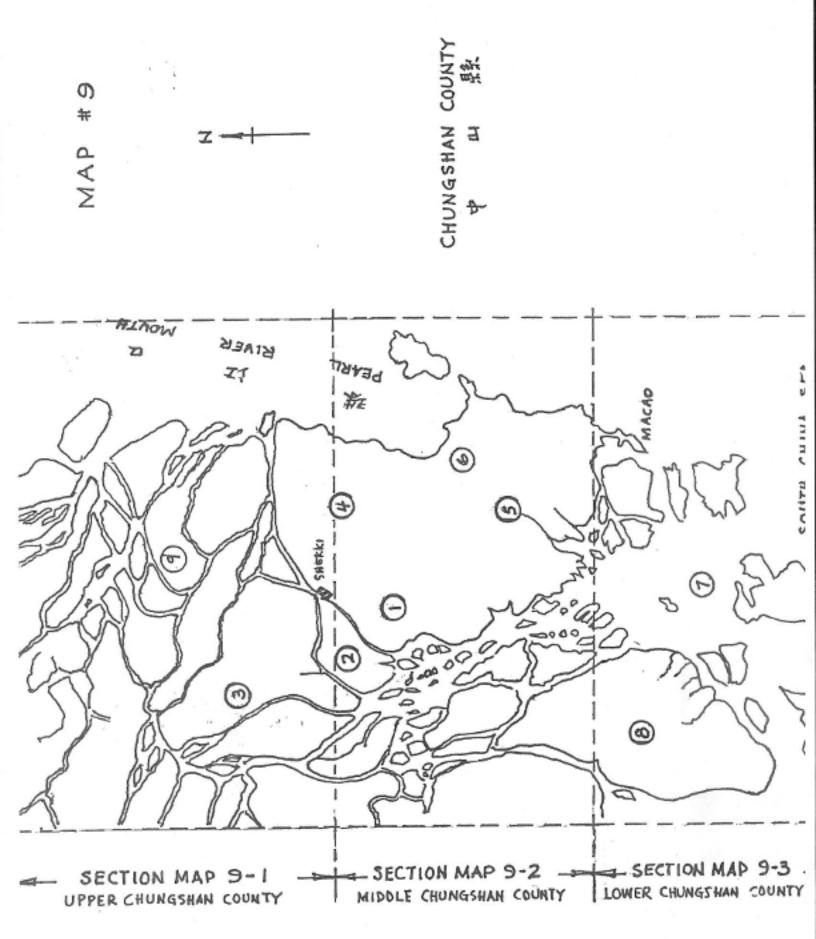


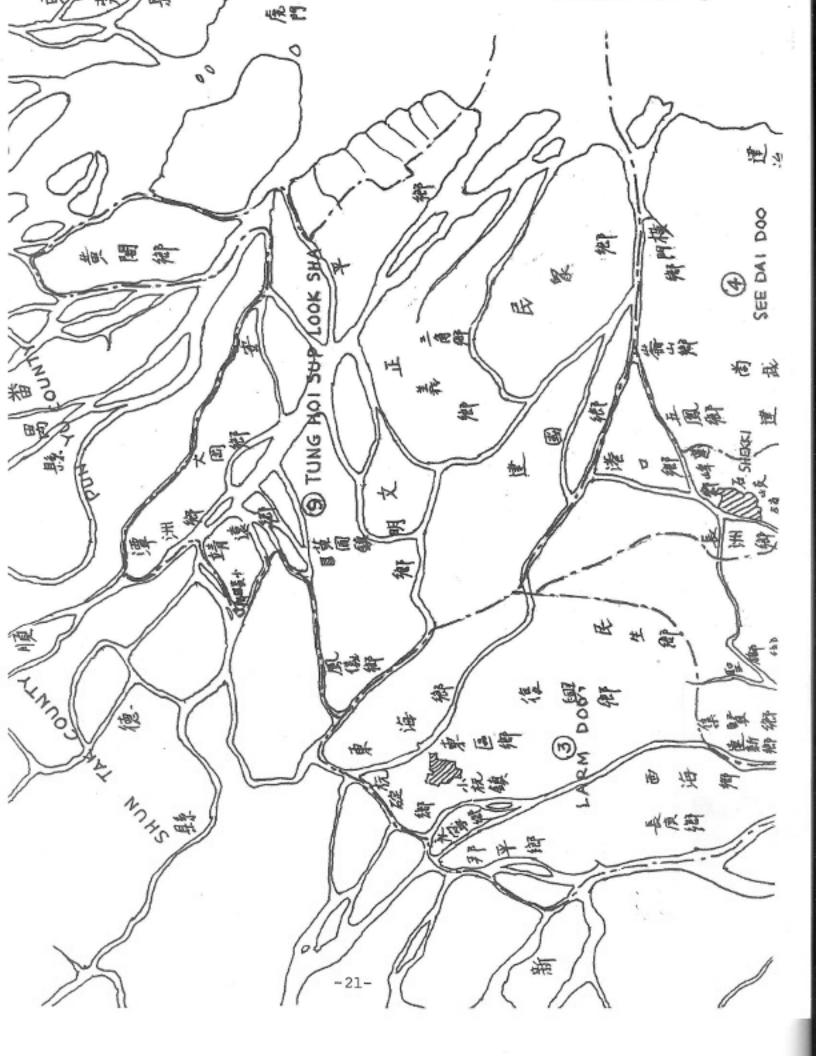


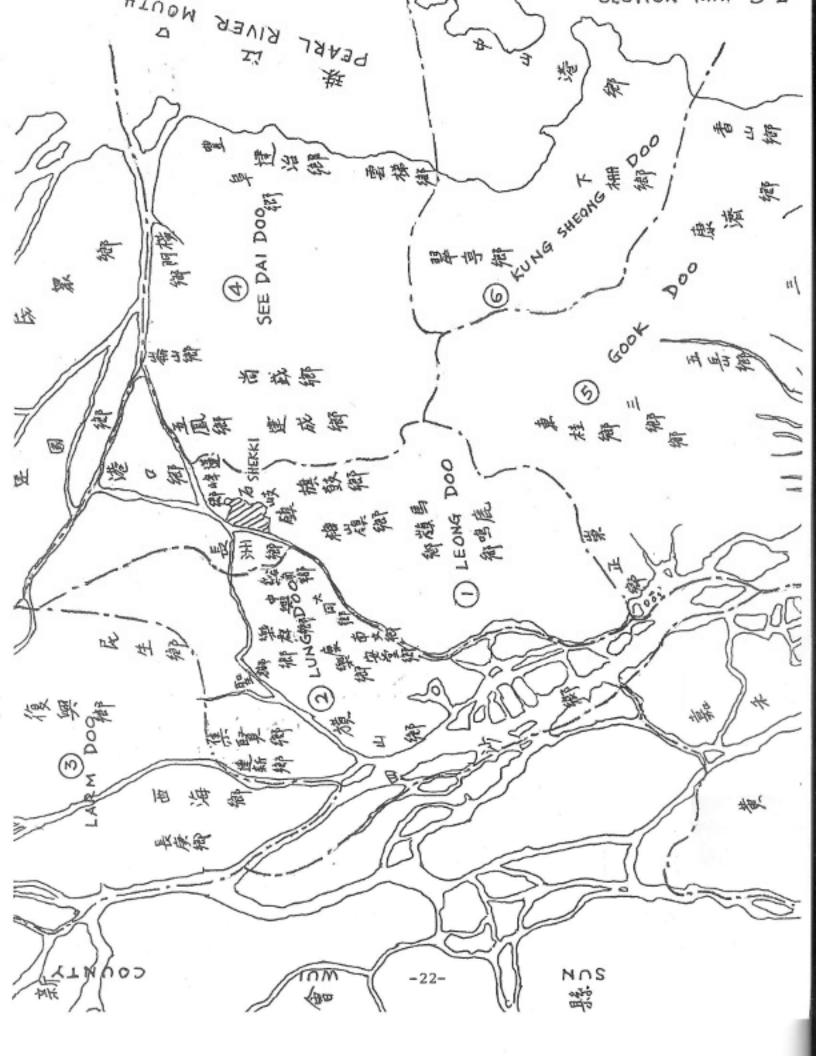


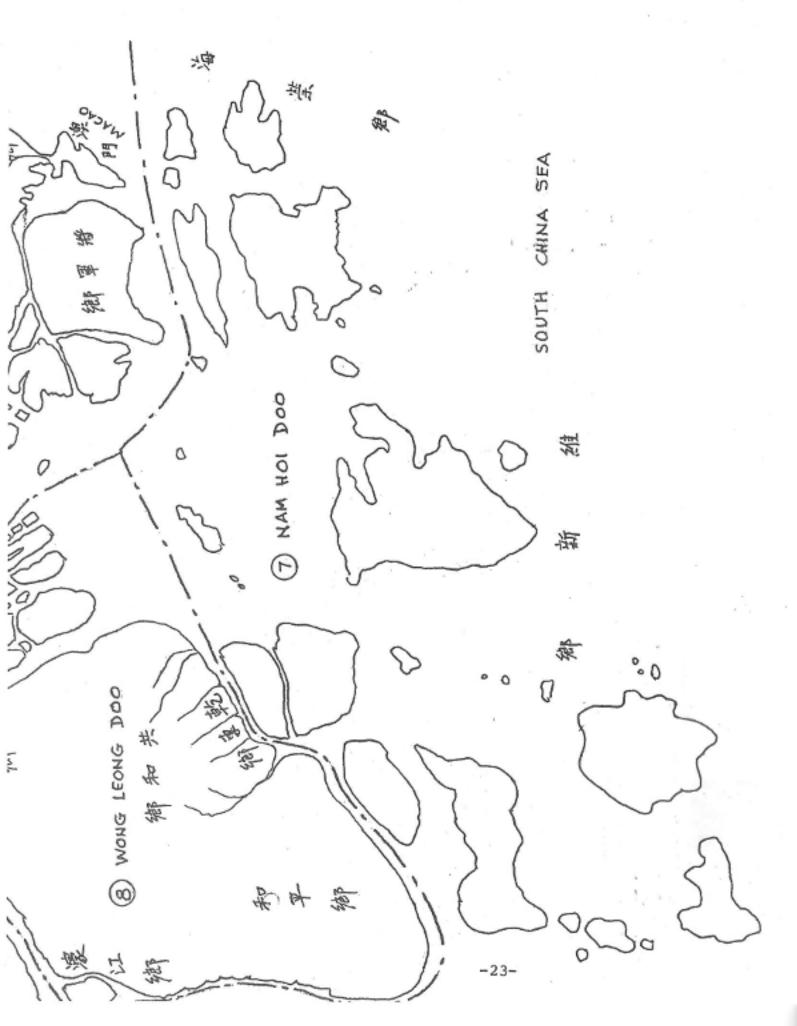
Source: Tin-Yuke Char, The Southbook Monotons (Honojulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1975), pp. 18-19.











華	日本憲	B永康
と	華新	然而等
0個	南大鄉	核腐
AII	新班	青萄、花鳳溪、春百、南村、大湖、大河、全後、石井
Z C	海韓海 海海河	鏡頭溪。龍發暖·東星斯·水黑雾·秋下
(D) C	中黑海	厚山,有頭,清边,副首,変石·水溪·水美園、上瓜然写,随与,中明百丁、新写,数山,林之槽,上写,下潭珠園,傷冥先,香頭
	秦樂章	100 10 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
	大同鄉	石門·大石即·麦美國·沙平下·尤美·氨陶·湯清·豪吐·岐尊
LEONG DOO 良都 ①第一區	石港長連旗 馬梅鹿 岐口 洲蜂鼓褐嶺鳴鎮鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉鄉	石收獲 港口 長州 張溪·夏峯·基也·摩與·收頭·大敗·大數 沙崗·薩衛·攻南·沙涌·昭美·什秀團·上塘 長環·依衛·新科·廣漢·當衛衛·出号·曾边·石數·梅坪·龍塘廣漢·福浦南涌·南流·察後·金角環
DOO 都 KEE 區	HEUNG	VILLAGE NAME

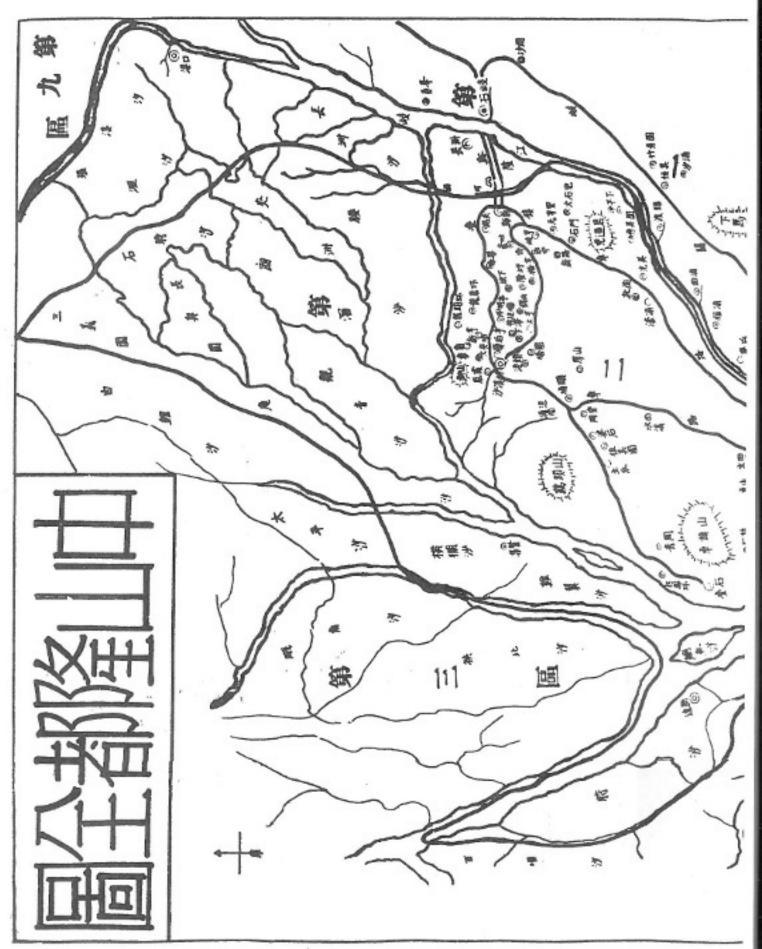
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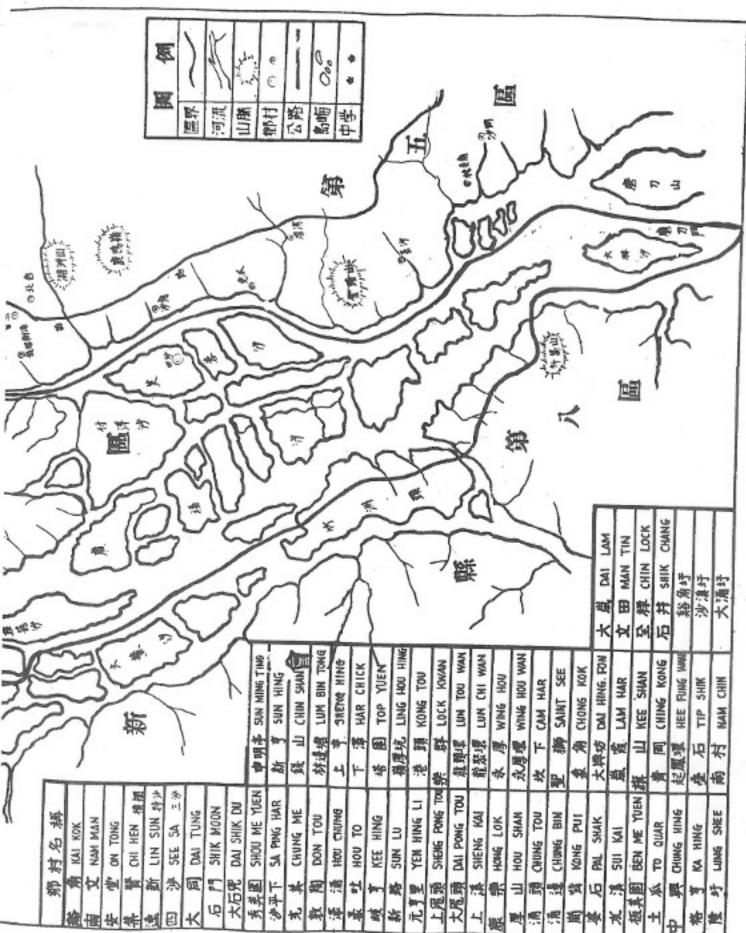
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	SEE DAI DOO 四大都	的衛星 妻 横曹 建 震 鄉鄉鄉鄉 鄉 物海 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉 鄉	法鬼頭·西極·葛花·大類·隊問·上巷·銷煙·新村·白廟·聚豪芝·紹記·沙达·泗門 豪國·老黃頭·白沙灣·廣東·午起灣·土瓜鎮山際尾大柏山·海門·華見·華見·新村·祭馬顧天發漢·小繁·溪·上殷頭·長江五保三三角曆。下改頭·長江五保三三角曆 下改頭·長江五保三百曆。 大孩小問·東經·神順·花村·鄉州·關塘浦·土堂前 內全員頭裡·具頭·湖頭出麻子·岐山與是漢·南衛。 衛边·茶東·茶西·當出·後州·飲出,林星之(廣清·南塘。 清日左去頭田父·孝定大時頭·黃美·南前·太平。合水口徑
一人 を配し	LARM DOO 海河斯 ③ 寧 二區	公米來獨民獨田長來於衛 海海區 依生獨洛原治年	小寶額 永等御 強大。親西 大子、質がら経道也 大子、高沙の経道也 よび、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高沙、高水
	DOO当 KEE 區	HEUNG ART	NAME -27-

NAMES
VILLAGE
DISTRICT
CHUNGSHAN
20
TABLE

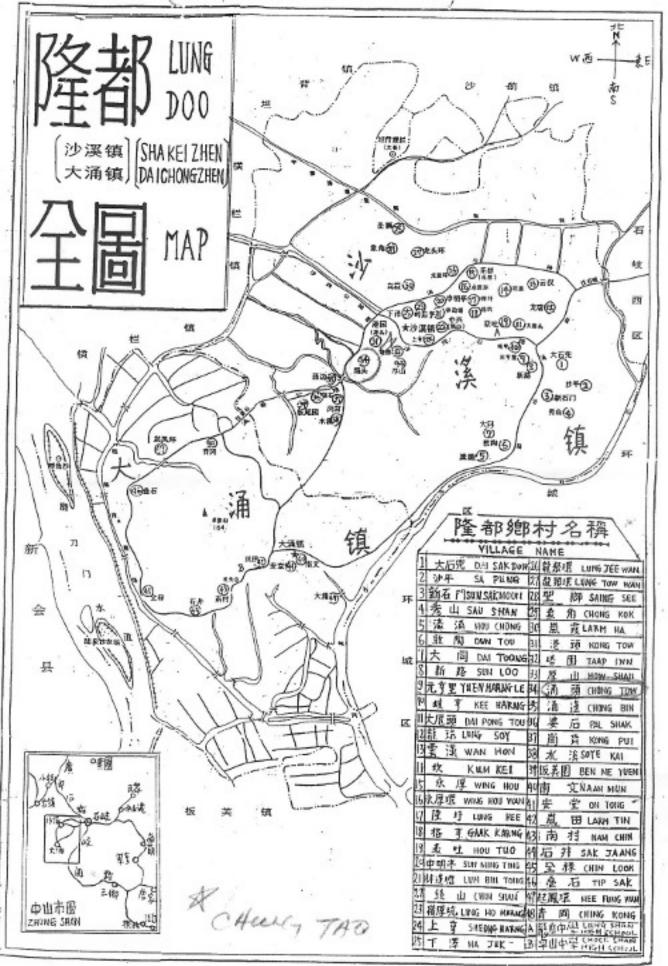
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WONG LEGNG DOO	操中聚	影響・東海出・南山・南山・南山・南山・南山・南山・南山・南山・東河・小大京河・小大京水・小さ水・小されて、	· 卷山· 華 · 豫消 亦於· 李 · 小花· 沙帽	如今解教	海塔	
NAM WAI DOO	親を設	大轉奏小 春花·星沙·根竹園少	横延了卷 李田·大松。	・小菜の年はより東海外・田心様で	右本本の日本人の対	MK-
NUMF SEONG DOO	多少年 多少年 不多多年 不多多年	農家・洪雪子は	家.安.那.	事一种。	医·椒科 猫	
DOO 學 KEE 腳	HEUNG ARP	VILLAGE	NAM -29-			

MAP IOA





-31-



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

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

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

一人之光 刨 不在其言-正在其甚事

"A man is a light not so much by his words, as by his deeds."

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

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

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

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

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

⁻ Puanani Kini President, Hawaii Chinese History Center 1981