

Kamloops Museum and Archives

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Charles Lee, jr. fonds

2012.004

Compiled by
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Revised by
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KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Charles Lee Jr. fonds

2012.004

Textual. Graphic

[193-?]-1953
0.06 metres

Title: Charles Lee Jr. fonds

Dates of Creation: [193-?]-1953

Physical Description: 1 cm of textual records and 5 cm of photographic material

Biographical sketch:

Charles Lee Jr. was born on August 31, 1916 at Ashcroft, British Columbia, the son of Charles Lee, who is thought to have been the first Chinese child born in Kamloops, and Jessie Hing, who belonged to one of the earliest Chinese pioneer families in B.C. Charles Lee Jr. was active throughout his life with various community service groups, including the Prince George and Kamloops Central Lions Club, the Kamloops Fish and Game Club, the United Way, Kamloops Rockhounds, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, and the Royal Canadian Air Force Association. He married Laura Chow in ca. 1943 and they lived for a period during the 1940s in Hamilton, Ontario, before returning to B.C. He died in Kamloops on October 28, 1990 at age 74.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of a small amount of material related to Charles Lee Jr., son of Kamloops Chinese pioneers, Charles Lee Sr. and Jessie Lee. The fonds includes approximately 170 family photographs, many taken in Kamloops and Hamilton, Ontario, with views of Lee family and friends. The majority of the photographs, however, are unidentified. Also included are 2 letters addressed to Charles Lee Jr. and his wife Laura Lee; blank stationery with the letterheads of four Chinese associations in Kamloops; and, a single handwritten Chinese-language document on Chinese Patriotic Association letterhead.

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Custodial history

Records in this fonds were acquired from a garage sale in North Kamloops by Karen Grauer on August 30, 2003. The individual holding the garage sale had likely obtained the records from a garbage bin outside of Whitmore's Second-Hand Store in Kamloops when the store went out of business. Karen and Peter Grauer donated the records to the Kamloops Museum and Archives on September 15, 2003.

Additional information relating to these records was gathered on August 28, 2019 by Elsie Cheung, George Cheug, Joe Leong, and Richard Lee (the brother of Charles Lee Jr.), and was added to the fonds during reprocessing in 2019.

Notes:

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of fonds.

Arrangement: Order that fonds arrived in was maintained by the archivist.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access. The archivist reserves the right to restrict access to any fragile material for preservation purposes.

Terms governing use and reproduction: No reproduction permitted without consent of copyright holder. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission for the reproduction of materials for publication or dissemination.

Finding aids: File list is available for this collection.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

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Accession	Description	Dates	Box/Folder
2012.004/001(01)	Chinese Patriotic Association Kamloops – File contains a temporary receipt issued to Mr. Lee from the Chinese Patriotic Association of Kamloops for a construction bond and interest. – 1 textual record	1941	1/1
2012.004/001(02)	Stationary of Various Chinese Associations in Kamloops – File contains blank letterhead and envelopes from the Chinese Patriotic Association, Chinese Patriotic [sic] Association, Overseas Chinese Friends of Wounded Soldiers, and the Kuo Min Tang (Chinese Nationalist League). – 10 textual records	[194-?]	1/2
2012.004/001(03)	Letter to Charles Lee Jr. from “Scotty” – File contains a letter to Charles Lee Jr. from his friend “Scotty” (David Hutchison) discussing their mutual friends “Dicky” (Richard Lee) and “Toots” (Norman Lee). Also includes a meeting notice for the San Min Chu I Youth Association, Canadian Red Cross Society subscription card, pay envelope, and BC Electric invoice. – 6 textual records	1943-1953	1/3
2012.004/001(04)	Laura Lee Photographs and Letter – File contains a letter and envelope addressed to Laura Lee, and four photographs of Laura Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Wing, and Elsie Cheung. – 2 textual records and 4 b&w photographs	[193-?]- 1951	1/4
2012.004/001(05)	Photograph of M.Q.K. Sing[?] – File contains a photographs of M.W.K. Sing. – 1 b&w photograph	[193-?]	1/5
2012.004/001(06)	Unidentified Photographs – File contains two photographs of men with a baby. – 2 b&w photographs	[194-?]	1/6
2012.004/001(07)-(13)	Family Photographs – Files contain family photographs, which are largely unidentified. See Appendix 1 for listing of identified photographs. – 4 cm of b&w photographs and 19 b&w negatives	[193-?]- [194-?]	1/7-13

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Appendix 1: Family Photographs (Identified)

File 7:

1. Jean Lee, August 30, 1944.
2. Charles Lee with deer.
4. Laura Lee with deer.
7. Charles and Laura Lee, Jean, and three unidentified people.
14. Charles Lee with "Silver Jim" Lee.
17. Marina Jim and unidentified man.
20. Jean Lee (left) and unidentified group.
23. Charles Lee's deer at Riverside Park.
24. "Silver Jim."

File 8:

3. Laura Lee and friends.
4. Laura Lee.
5. Laura Lee.
6. Charles Lee and canon.
7. Charles Lee.
8. Jean Lee, July 191, Niagra Falls.
12. Jean Lee, Laura Lee, and group.
13. Laura Lee.
15. May 30, 1943, Hy Me Cook (?), Hazel, David, and Phyllis Lee, Toronto, Ontario.

File 10:

5. Gung Loy Jim and Thomas Co Humble, Little Fort, B.C.
8. Gung Loy Jim and Thomas Co Humble, Little Fort, B.C.

File 13:

25. Mr. and Mrs. Art Dixon.