Reference Guide

Chinese Sources at the Hocken Collections


Hocken Collections/Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago Library
Welcome to the Hocken Collections

As you arrive

We seek to preserve all the taoka we hold for future generations. So that all taoka are properly protected, we ask that you:

- place your bags (including computer bags and sleeves) in the lockers provided
- leave all food and drink including water bottles in the lockers (we have a researcher lounge off the foyer which everyone is welcome to use)
- bring any materials you need for research and some ID in with you
- sign the Readers’ Register each day
- enquire at the reference desk first if you wish to take digital photographs

Beginning your research

This guide gives examples of the types of material relating to the Chinese held at the Hocken. All items must be used within the library. As the collection is large and constantly growing not every item is listed here, but you can search for other material on our Online Public Access Catalogues:

- for books, theses, journals, magazines, newspapers, maps, and audiovisual material, use Library Search | Ketu. The advanced search - https://goo.gl/HVNTqH gives you several search options, and you can refine your results to the Hocken Library on the left side of the screen.
  The Library Search Guide https://otago.libguides.com/ketuhelp contains helpful tips and assistance for using Library Search | Ketu;
- for pictures, photographs and archives and manuscripts, use Hākena - https://hakena.otago.ac.nz
  The Hākena Search Help Guide https://otago.libguides.com/hakena contains helpful tips and assistance for using Hākena;
some of the photographs from the Pictorial Collections are available for viewing online via Hocken Snapshop at https://hocken.recollect.co.nz/. Some other photographs and artworks can be viewed at http://otago.ourheritage.ac.nz/.

If you have any enquiries about ordering or other research questions please ask the reference desk staff – they will be happy to assist you.
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The Hocken Collections hold a number of sources relating to Chinese migrants, organisations, and businesses in Otago and throughout New Zealand, as well as material relating to New Zealanders who lived and worked in China.

**General**

**Publications**

Try a subject search on Library Search | Ketu with the terms:

- China -- Description and travel
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- History
- Chinese New Zealanders -- Biography
- Immigrants -- New Zealand -- History
- Minorities -- New Zealand
- New Zealanders -- China

You can add more specific terms to narrow your search. For example:

- Race discrimination -- New Zealand -- History
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Ethnic identity
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Dunedin

Some useful general histories relating to the Chinese in New Zealand include:


Newspapers and Journals

Search Library Search!Ketu for holdings of particular titles. Try a subject search with some of the following terms:

- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Periodicals
- Chinese -- periodicals
- Chinese -- newspapers

The Hocken Collections hold the following titles:

- Da ji yuan shi bao. [English ], Auckland, 2005 Sept. 13-26- 2008 May 27-June 9 (gaps)

Use the database Index New Zealand https://goo.gl/pP8da to locate newspaper articles and journals on the Chinese in New Zealand - try a subject search using the term ‘Chinese’ or ‘China’. This database is not full text so you need to check Library Search!Ketu for holdings of the relevant publication and then order it to view the article.

Papers Past https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/ includes a number of digitised New Zealand newspapers covering the years 1839 to 1949. Try a keyword search using these terms:

- Chinese
- Chinaman
- Yellow Peril
- Otago Mining
- Poll Tax
• Immigration Chinese
• Chinese Influx
• Chinese Naturalisation

See the University of Otago Asian Studies subject guide for tips on locating articles in other databases https://otago.libguides.com/asian_studies.

Theses

There are several theses held in the Hocken Collections that include research relating to the Chinese in New Zealand. Search Library Search\Ketu for holdings of particular titles. Holdings include:


Archives

Try a simple search with the term ‘Chinese’ in Hākena, the pictures, photographs, archives and manuscripts catalogue. You are also able to search by place in the advanced search. Some examples of the sources held in the archives and manuscripts collection with a Chinese connection are:

Roger Hall ‘Research papers relating to the Chinese in New Zealand (1871-1916) [MS-1445/021]. This is a restricted item - see Hākena for details.
New Zealand Chinese Association Inc., Otago and Southland Branch Records [MS-1150]. This collection comprises 65 boxes and is currently unlisted; please talk to desk staff. Access is also restricted - see Häkena for details.

Dr. James Ng, Papers (c.1970-2000). [ARC-0714]. James Ng is a medical doctor who was a general practitioner in Dunedn for many years. He has researched and written about the history of the Chinese on the New Zealand goldfields. The collection includes papers relating to various organisations, including the Dunedin Shanghai Association. There are other papers relating to New Zealand-China trade exchanges and to the history of Chinese goldminers in New Zealand.

University of Otago, Caversham Project Records [ARC-0502]. The Caversham Project was an interdisciplinary research project studying Caversham and other southern suburbs of Dunedin, during the period 1893-1940. The project, initiated by Professor Erik Olssen and Dr Tom Brooking of the Department of History in the mid-1970s, contains essays relating to ethnicity including ‘The Chinese in Caversham’ by Gillian Kaye [MS-2690/042], ‘Chinese Settlers in Caversham 1900-1920’ by Diane L. Rixon [MS-2690/073], and ‘Oral History Preliminary Work’ relating to the Chinese in Caversham c.2000 [MS-2690/361].

William Wah ‘The Chinese in New Zealand (1851-1930) [Misc-MS-0562]. This is a manuscript written around 1930 on the history of the Chinese in New Zealand, with a covering note to Jim Ng from Ken Logan.

Biography

There are a number of sources that you can use to locate information about individuals who were born in China and then settled in New Zealand, and vice versa. They include:


• Very Rev. Alexander Don (1857-1934); p.132-133
• Chin Fooi (1884-1957); p.93-94
• Yee Ngan Ang (1912-1993); p.94-95
• George Hunter McNeur (1874-1953); p.320
• Sam Chew Lain (c.1840-1903); p.93
• Chew Cheung Ding (1899-1993); p.131
• Ng Fon (c.1867-1924); p.364-5
• Kathleen, Pih-Chang (1903-1991); p.389
Southern Cemetery Dunedin, Volume Five, Chinese Portion – Transcription of Headstones
Located in the ready reference area this volume contains information about the plots and graves, and a transcription of Chinese headstones, that rest in the Southern Cemetery in Dunedin.

Some of the Central Otago cemetery transcripts in the ready reference collection include entries for Chinese individuals, e.g. Cromwell has a section dedicated to Chinese graves/plots. Search Library Search\Ketu for holdings of other cemetery transcripts.

Search for biographies of well-known New Zealanders via Te Ara The Encyclopedia of New Zealand [https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies]. Filter the essays by using the advanced biographies search option. This enables you to select China as the birthplace, and you can further narrow your selection to a particular district.

A search of Index New Zealand [https://goo.gl/pPJ8da] may give you journal article references to a particular individual - check Library Search\Ketu for holdings of the relevant publication and then order it to view the article.

Publications
Try a subject search of Library Search\Ketu under the name of the person you are researching or using the terms

- Chinese - New Zealand -- Biography
- New Zealanders -- China -- Biography

Holdings include:


Immigration

The Hocken Collections holds many sources relating to the settlement of Otago and the experiences of the Chinese migrants. The first wave of Chinese migration to New Zealand happened during the mid-1860s. Although invited by the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce, there was some resistance to Chinese migration by Europeans in Otago. This anti-Chinese feeling escalated, and in 1881 the New Zealand parliament passed the first legislation discriminating against the Chinese. The Chinese Immigrants Act 1881 imposed a £10 poll tax on each Chinese individual and a tonnage restriction of one Chinese passenger to 10 tons of a ship’s cargo. In 1896 the Act was amended to the Chinese Immigrants Act Amendment Act 1896, which increased the poll tax to £100 and the tonnage restriction to one Chinese


James Ng (1972). Who are the New Zealand Chinese? Dunedin: Otago Daily Times


Archives

Search Hākena with the name of the person you are interested in. Holdings include:

James Ng. ‘Choie Sew Hoy’ [MS-4008/043]

Noelene Meechang Turnbull: ‘The Meechang family’ (1988, 2012) [Misc-MS-2185]. The item consists of two copies of biographical information written by Noelene Meechang Turnbull relating to Wong Meechang who came to New Zealand from China around 1868, and lived in Otago and Southland, returning to China around 1906.

passenger per 200 tons of cargo. In 1907 a reading test of 100 words for any Chinese migrant wishing to enter into New Zealand was introduced, and in 1908 thumbprints were required upon arrival. It was not until 1944 that the immigration restrictions on Chinese were lifted, and the poll tax was formally repealed.


Publications
Try a subject search of Library Search | Ketu with the following terms:

- Poll tax -- New Zealand -- History
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- History
- Race discrimination -- New Zealand -- History
- New Zealand -- Emigration and immigration
- China -- Emigration and immigration

Holdings include:


Theses
There are several theses held in the Hocken Collections relating to Chinese emigration to New Zealand. Search Library Search | Ketu for holdings of particular titles. Holdings include:


The *Appendices to the Journals of House of Representatives* (*AJHR*) is a collection of government-related reports published each year from 1858. The reports cover many subjects, documenting the work of government departments and a wide range of other activities carried out by, or of interest to, the government of the day. Indexes to the *AJHR* from 1854 to 1963 are available on the ready reference shelves. The *AJHR* itself is also on the ready reference shelves for 1860 to 1945 – request years following that via Library Search/Ketu. Appendices for 1858-1950 are now available online at [https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/parliamentary](https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/parliamentary).

Try searching with the keywords:

- Chinese Immigration
- Chinese Poll-Tax
- Chinese Question
- Chinese Labour Laws
- Chinese Select Committee
- Chinese Petition
• Chinese Influx
• Chinese Migration
• Chinese Restriction

Religion

For details of our extensive holdings of religion and missionary sources please see the separate research guides https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html.

Publications

The Hocken Collections hold a number of publications on various religious institutions throughout New Zealand, but particularly those in the Otago and Southland area. Try a search of Library Search | Ketu using the name of the institution that you are interested in, e.g. Dunedin Chinese Church and refining the search results to the Hocken Library, or try a subject search with the terms:

• Don, Alexander, 1857-1934
• Chinese Church -- New Zealand
• Chinese missions -- New Zealand

Holdings include:


The publications collection includes five shelves of religious publications from the Dunedin Presbyterian Chinese Church Mission Library that are printed in Chinese. Holdings include:

- Chiao hui kung pao = Chinese Christian review
- Chung hsi chiao hui pao = Chung si kiao hwui pao = Missionary review
- Hua t´u hsin pao = The Chinese illustrated news
- Wan kuo kung pao = Wan kwoh kung pau = Chinese globe magazine

Individual titles are listed on Library Search\Ketu but please talk to desk staff if you have any inquiries about this material.

Archives

Search Hākena with the name of the institution that you are interested in or try a keyword search eg. ‘Missions to Chinese’. The archives collection includes the following records:

Connie Anderson papers (c.1927-1979) [ARC-0490]. Constance M. Hopkinson, originally from Suffolk, England, worked as a trained nurse for the Church Missionary Society in Foochow, China. Her nursing and missionary work continued until 1934 when she returned to England on sabbatical. Hopkinson went back to China in 1936 and later that year married Peter Anderson. After her marriage, she joined her husband at the English Presbyterian Mission in Kulangsu. Their son John was born in June 1939, and in January 1941 the family left China for New Zealand, where they settled in Dunedin. This collection contains an almost complete set of diaries. They document Anderson’s first years in China, including the language difficulties and Chinese traditions and attitudes. However the diaries focus mainly on her daily routines and the various patients and medical situations she was involved with. After her marriage in 1936 Anderson was less involved in her medical career but continued to record her daily life in China, as well as the rumours and realities of war.

Chinese Class Register and an account of the Chinese mission (1899-1913) [MS-2790/120]. This item is a part of the Dunedin City Baptist Church records (c.1863-1999) that also includes a banner given to the Church by the first Chinese congregation.
Ron Malcolm papers (1867 - 1993) [AG-775]. Anna Trudinger was a member of a religious family with a strong missionary background. She trained as a missionary and taught in the China Inland Mission. She married Rev. William Robertson Malcolm, a Presbyterian missionary, and they had one child, August Ronald (Ron) Malcolm. Ron spent several years at Chefoo, the boys school for the China Inland Missions where his parents were teachers. William gave up missionary work in 1923 and the family returned to New Zealand. The collection contains correspondence and material relating to Anna and William and the Chinese Missionary fields.

McNeur family papers (c.1813 - 1992) [ARC-0038]. George McNeur was born in 1874. Bought up in a strict Presbyterian family, George trained as a missionary, first travelling to China in 1901. In 1903 he married Margaret Sinclair, who was also interested in the Chinese mission. George and Margaret returned to New Zealand in 1927 as George was elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Church. They later returned to Canton but retired in 1939, after Canton fell to the Japanese army. Their daughter Jean returned to China as a trainee missionary. In 1936 she married fellow missionary Dr Samuel Moore (Mooi). The couple spent time in Hong Kong and Ireland where Margaret, the first of their three children, was born in 1938. They returned to Hong Kong and in 1944 travelled to India. In 1947 they returned to Hong Kong and were especially involved with drug addicts. The collection includes diaries, correspondence, and photographs.


Education

For details of our extensive holdings of records concerning education please see the separate research guide https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html.
Try a subject search of Library Search | Ketu using the following terms:

- Chinese -- education
- Asian students -- Education -- New Zealand
- Asian students -- Education (Higher) -- New Zealand
- Students, Foreign -- Education (Higher) -- New Zealand
- Students, Foreign -- Education (Secondary) -- New Zealand -- Public opinion
- Children of immigrants -- Education (Secondary) -- New Zealand -- Public opinion

Holdings include:


**Language**

Try a subject search in Library Search | Ketu using the following terms:

- Chinese language -- Readers
- Chinese language -- History
- Chinese language -- New Zealand -- Periodicals

You are able to search by language in the advanced search options. Holdings include:


Culture

Publications

The publications collections includes many items relating to various aspects of Chinese culture. Try a subject search of Library Search!Ketu using the following terms:

- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Ethnic identity
- Chinese -- Social life and customs
- Cooking, Chinese

Holdings include:


The Hunter Collection, a formed collection donated by Ted Hunter (1904-1980) of local and international material chiefly published in the 1930s-1950s and focusing on communism, socialism, trade unionism, international relations, economics and politics, includes many
items that were published in China and/or feature life in China. Search Library Search\Ketu with the terms ‘Hocken Library Hunter Collection China’ to locate relevant material.

**Business**

The Hocken Collections has significant holdings of business records. For details of our holdings of records relating to business, please see the separate research guide. [https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html](https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html).

**Publications**

Try a search of Library Search\Ketu using the name of the business that you are interested in. A search of Index New Zealand may provide many useful references to newspaper and journal articles.

We have a large collection of directories and almanacs. Our holdings of Otago and Southland directories are the most complete, but we do hold some for other regions as well. These are useful for identifying where a business or organisation was located and when it was operating. Many directories include a section organised by surname, as well as a section organised by location and one for trades. Try the trades sections of *Stone’s Otago & Southland Directory* (in the ready reference section or on the public computers) for the occupations you are interested in, such as fruiterers, laundries and restaurants; and the streets Stafford Street, Carroll Street and Hope Street in the Dunedin street section.

Holdings include:

Janice Adamson and Hans-Dieter Bader (2013). “Garden to Prosperity: The History and Archaeology of Chan Dah Chee and the Chinese Market Garden at Carlaw Park, Auckland.” In *Finding Our Recent Past: Historical Archaeology in New Zealand*. 143-165. This book discusses the archaeological findings of the dig at Chan Dah Chee’s market garden, also gives summary about market gardening and Chinese migration in general.


Mining

For more sources on mining throughout New Zealand, refer to the mining reference guide https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html.

Try a subject search on Library Search | Ketu with the terms

- New Zealand -- Gabriel’s Gully
- Otago (N.Z.) -- Gold discoveries
- Gold miners -- New Zealand -- History -- 19th century
- Gabriel's Gully (N.Z.) -- History
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Otago -- History
- Clutha District (N.Z.) -- History

Holdings include:


Matthew C. McKeown (1893). Some Memories of a Miner’s Life; Or Five Years on the Goldfields of New Zealand. Barnesville, Ohio: s.n. (Microfilm [10253]).


Images

For details of our holdings of records concerning art history please see the separate research guide https://www.otago.ac.nz/library/hocken/otago038951.html.
Publications

Try a subject search on Library Search|Ketu using the subject terms:

- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Pictorial works
- Chinese -- New Zealand -- Caricatures and cartoons

Our holdings include:


Pictures Collection

Try an advanced search on Hākena by subject with the term ‘China’ and refine results to the Pictures Collection. The collection includes several works by Grete (Margaret Helena) Graetzer, 1901-1968, and J.A. (John Alexander) Gilfillan, 1793-1864, that feature Chinese landscapes and village scenes. Holdings also include:


- Artist unknown. Bungalow occupied by A. Don in Shameen (ca. 1880) [Companion piece to Teacher Chau Yip Fung and Alexander Don, Shameen]. Accession number 93/87b.

Photographs Collection

Try an advanced search on Hākena by subject with the term ‘Chinese - New Zealand’ and refine results to the Photographs Collection. Holdings include:

- Chinamen, gold mining by the side of the South Tokomairiro River, Otago, New Zealand (1873-[1880]). [Box-127-001]. This is a large format albumen print of Chinese gold miners in their workings on the West branch of the Tokomairiro River. You are able to view this image via Hākena.
James Ng, Photographs particularly related to Kirkland family and Chinese in New Zealand [P2002-53]. This material consists of seven albums of mainly copy prints of Chinese-related material used by James Ng in his four-volume work, ‘Windows on a Chinese Past’. Album numbers relate to book volumes.

Hugh and Fanny Sew Hoy Family Portraits. [P2007-020]. This collection contains approximately 2410 prints, 1 china plate and 6 albums of photographs relating to the Sew Hoy family. Access is restricted. Please talk to desk staff if you wish to view this material.

There are photographs depicting Chinese individuals in our reader access file in the pictorial collections reading area. These are also available via Hocken Snapshop at https://hocken.recollect.co.nz/. Try a keyword search using the terms “China” or “Chinese”. You can browse the collection by selecting from the list of subjects e.g. “Chinese in New Zealand”.

Archives
Try an advanced search on Hākena by subject with the term ‘Chinese - New Zealand’ and refine results to the Archives Collection. Holdings include:

McNeur family papers (c.1813 - 1992) [ARC-0038]. George McNeur was born in 1874. Bought up in a strict Presbyterian family, George trained as a missionary, first travelling to China in 1901. In 1903 he married Margaret Sinclair, who was also interested in the Chinese mission. The collection includes several photographs and photograph albums. Of particular interest is the Photograph Album of Chinese goldminers in Central Otago (c.1898-1903) [MS-1007-009/009] Please note that access to the original item is restricted and researchers should request the preservation copy (PC-0120) instead. You are able to view images from this album via their records on Hākena.

Ephemera and Posters
The ephemera and posters collections include a few Chinese-related items. They range from decorative posters used to advertise Dunedin businesses, local Chinese restaurant menus and a Chinese calendar. The ephemera and posters collections are not yet listed on an online catalogue so please ask at the reference desk for assistance.

Maps
For maps and land plans, try a keyword search on Library Search|Ketu for the place or particular area which interests you and refine your results to Maps. Holdings include:

R. G. Lister and George Wong (1985). *Map Showing Countries from which Chinese Immigrants came to N.Z.*

**Audiovisual resources**

We hold DVD/video recordings featuring the Chinese in New Zealand. We also hold music recordings by artists such as Wing and Jun Yan. Search Library Search | Ketu for holdings of particular titles or look under the subject that interests you and then refine results to “Audio visual”. Holdings include:


*Illustrious Energy*. Wellington, New Zealand: New Zealand Film Commission, 1988


Please note: items that are video VHS or cassette tape recordings are housed in cool storage and need to be requested at least 24 hours in advance to acclimatise before they can be viewed.

**Websites**

The [Asia New Zealand Foundation](https://www.asianz.org.nz/) is New Zealand’s leading non-profit, nonpartisan authority on Asia. Click on ‘China’ on their ‘Education Resources’ page. Their online resource library (click on ‘Reports’) contains surveys, reports, research, analysis and other resources on New Zealand’s business, governmental and social relations with Asia. It includes a 2009 report “Asians in Dunedin: Not a new story” by Dr Wardlow Friesen and a 2015 report “Beyond the Metropoles: The Asian presence in small city New Zealand” by Dr Wardlow Friesen.
Archives New Zealand online regional exhibition - Chinese Portraits. This exhibition is a small selection of photographs from the certificates of registration. These were issued by the Collector of Customs in Dunedin, and allowed Chinese and other alien residents to re-enter New Zealand, if leaving temporarily [link](http://gallery.archives.govt.nz/v/dunedin/Chinese+Portraits/)

The Chinese in New Zealand – a New Zealand Geographic documentary, produced by NHNZ [link](https://www.nzgeo.com/video/the-chinese-in-new-zealand/)

DigitalNZ – provides access to a range of digital resources relating to China and the Chinese [link](https://digitalnz.org/)


Lakes District Museum & Gallery Hands on History Education Programme - Chinese Miners: New Gold Hills [link](http://www.handsonhistory.co.nz/students/chinese-minners/)

The Lost Voyage of 499. [link](https://www.maoritelevision.com/tv/shows/pakipumeka-aotearoa-new-zealand-documentaries/S01E001/lost-voyage-499)

New Zealand China Friendship Society Inc. [link](http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/)

New Zealand Chinese Association [link](https://www.nzchinese.org.nz/)

The New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre is New Zealand’s national research centre on China. It is based at Victoria University of Wellington with New Zealand’s other seven universities all being University Members of the Centre. The centre promotes knowledge and understanding of contemporary China in New Zealand through research, conferences, lectures, seminars, visiting scholars and short courses. Their activities cover all aspects of China Studies, including Chinese economy and business, Chinese history, culture, politics and society, and China’s international engagement [link](https://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre)

The Office of Ethnic Communities [link](https://ethniccommunities.govt.nz/)

Otago and Southland Chinese Association [link](http://www.osca.org.nz/)

Te Ara The Encyclopedia of New Zealand includes a section on the Chinese in New Zealand [link](https://teara.govt.nz/en/chinese)

Jennifer Jeffery and Katherine Milburn, Hocken Collections, January 2019