

**The Chinese in Britain:
Annotated Bibliography and Research Resources**

by

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David Parker completed his thesis on the cultural identities of young Chinese in Britain at the Department of Cultural Studies, University of Birmingham, where he will be a lecturer from January 1994. He helped establish Birmingham Chinese Youth Project and was a researcher on the BBC2 documentary 'Takeaway Lives'.

INTRODUCTION

This annotated bibliography stems from my doctoral research on the cultural identities of young Chinese in Britain. I found it extremely frustrating that so few of these materials were ever gathered together, and that so often what I found was based on chance. Although this list is not intended to be exhaustive, I hope it will ease the task of future researchers.

Due to the lack of full length academic studies on the Chinese in Britain, I have included newspaper articles, together with television and radio programmes. In these media representations the changing perceptions of the Chinese community can be traced.

As most Chinese in Britain originate from Hong Kong, I have included some references to recent work by Hong Kong sociologists on its distinctive culture and identity. The emergent generation of young Chinese in Britain look to Hong Kong popular culture more than to mainland China for a sense of Chinese cultural identity. An understanding of Hong Kong as it is now is therefore essential for appreciating the identity formation of the British educated Chinese.

For those interested in researching Chinese in Britain, the best sources for material are:

i) The library of the Hong Kong Government Office in London

By appointment, the library will grant access to its collection of materials on Chinese in Britain, which includes theses and projects donated by overseas Hong Kong students who studied the Chinese community during their stay here.

ii) The Public Record Office at Kew

The Home Office File HO45 /11843 /139147 contains over 150 pages of official documents concerning Chinese settlement prior to 1930. The papers illustrate the problematisation of the community in terms of drugs and interracial relationships. Particularly noteworthy are the minutes of the Aliens and Nationality Subcommittee set up just after the First World War to devise a repatriation scheme for Chinese seamen and aerodrome workers.

iii) Tower Hamlets Local History Library, Bancroft Road, London

In addition to the newspaper cuttings mentioned in greater detail in Section Two, the Library has a collection of black and white photographs of the Limehouse Chinese community in the interwar years.

iv) Chinese community centres and voluntary groups

The community groups listed in Section Three produce annual reports which can be a useful source of local information for those planning small scale studies.

This list of research resources is doubtless imperfect and I would welcome details of anything I have overlooked. Above all I hope this publication will enable scholars to pay greater attention to a community whose two centuries of presence in Britain has yet to be seriously reflected in the literature on ethnic relations.

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SECTION ONE

Bibliography Of Materials Relating to The Chinese In Britain

Anderson, K. (1987) "The Idea of Chinatown", in Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 77 No.4, 580-98.

-- Said's concept of Orientalism is applied to the discursive framing of the Chinese population of Vancouver by local government and media in the period 1880 to 1930. Argues that "the public nuisance definition" of Chinatown helped consolidate Western identity. Provides a framework for analysing the imaginative geography of Chinatowns as they have developed in Britain.

Baxter, S. (1986) The Chinese and Vietnamese in Birmingham. Birmingham City Council Race Relations and Equal Opportunities Unit

-- a research project responding to the Home Affairs Committee Report. The author outlines the history of Chinese migration to Britain and to Birmingham, explains the concentration in catering, highlights the particular difficulties of Vietnamese refugees and ends with policy recommendations to all the major city council departments in respect of the Chinese and Vietnamese populations.

Baxter, S. (1988a) A Political Economy of the Ethnic Chinese Catering Industry. Unpublished PhD thesis, Aston University.

-- a comprehensive historical materialist analysis of the Chinese catering economy. Britain's imperialist policies in China and Hong Kong are cited as a major determinant of Chinese migration. The author eschews culture as an explanation for Chinese entrepreneurship and through interview material brings out the "superexploitation" of family labour in the catering economy.

Baxter, S. (1988b) with Geoff Raw - "Fast food Fettered Work", in S. Westwood and P. Bhachu (eds.) Enterprising Women. Routledge, London.

-- Drawing on her thesis, the author argues for the relevance of a materialist analysis of Chinese family labour. Stresses the corrosive effects of long hours on the lives of Chinese women and children.

Berry, C. (ed.) (1991) Chinese Cinema. British Film Institute, London.

-- a valuable collection of articles on the new cinemas of China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, which taken together provide useful background material on Chinese culture more generally.

Broady, M. (1955) "The Social Adjustment of Chinese Immigrants in Liverpool", in Sociological Review Vol. 3, 1955, 65-74.

-- a brief history of the Chinese seafaring community of Liverpool precedes a short sketch of cultural adjustment patterns. Cites the "good and conscientious" Chinese husbands of English wives and argues that as Chinese men were not assimilated, they were not subject to cultural conflict and not perceived as a social problem.

Cayford, Joanne (1991) "In Search of John Chinaman: Press Representations of the Chinese in Cardiff 1906-11", in LLafur: Journal of Welsh Labour History, Vol.5 No.4, pp.37-50.

-- this article examines the reporting of the seamen's strike of July 1911 in local newspapers. Draws out the two strands in representations of Chinese seafarers: the issue of cheap labour and a deeper cultural antipathy to their alleged immorality; especially opium smoking, gambling and mixed marriages. The tentative attempts by the Western Mail to portray the Chinese more sympathetically were flawed by a patronising exoticisation and romanticisation.

Chan, Alfred (1986) Employment Prospects of Chinese Youth in Britain. Commission for Racial Equality.

-- a sample survey of 100 young Chinese; 60 in London, 40 in Edinburgh. Chinese young people are said to have a dream of *Saam si* - to enter one of three professions, medicine, law or accountancy. But poor English language skills, inadequate careers advice and the demands of helping in the family business hinder their progress.

Chan, Anita (1987) Migration, Settlement and Assimilation of Hong Kong Chinese in the U.K. Unpublished BA dissertation, Geography Department, Birmingham University.

-- a spatial analysis of the Chinese population reveals its wide dispersal. This does not imply assimilation as economic segregation precludes social integration. Suggests the new generation may create a cultural group independent of both Chinese and English cultures.

Chan, C.P. (1981) A Study of the Chinese Community in Birmingham and its Pattern of Life. Unpublished M.Soc. Sci. dissertation, University of Birmingham.

-- based on a sample of 46, and semi-structured interviews in Cantonese, the author argues that Chinese in Birmingham are less assimilated than other groups due to the long hours of catering employment and the consequent participation in all-Chinese associations and leisure activities.

Chan, K.C. (1990) "The Media and Telecommunications", in R. Wong and J. Cheng (eds.) The Other Hong Kong Report 1990. Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

-- the then Deputy Programme Controller of Asia Television Limited provides a comprehensive statistical overview of Hong Kong's media structure. Argues strongly that the main television channels are failing to reflect the greater diversity of viewing preferences in Hong Kong's emergent professional classes.

Chan, K.C. (1991) "The Media and Telecommunications", in Y. Sung and K. Lee (eds.) The Other Hong Kong Report 1991. Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

-- as above, updated statistically.

Chan, M. (1988) Education and Employment of Chinese on Merseyside. Liverpool Chinese Community Development Project.

-- a survey of 187 15 to 27 year olds on Merseyside exploring the educational achievements, aspirations and labour market experiences of young Chinese. Highlights the stereotypical conceptions careers advisers have, and points to the lack of information and guidance about training opportunities.

Chen, J. (1979) China and the West. Hutchinson, London.

-- a wide-ranging study of the mutual cultural understandings held by China and the West of each other. Particularly impressive on the role of overseas Chinese students in forming impressions of the West.

Chinese Action Group and Quaker Community Relations Committee (1979) The Chinese in the UK. Commission for Racial Equality, London.

-- report of a conference held in December 1978. Contains conference proceedings and additional short papers on Nationality, Education and Health.

Chinese Information and Advice Centre (1985) The Chinese Community in Britain. Conference Report.

-- contains proceedings of a Conference held in March 1985 in response to the Home Affairs Committee Report. Calls on the Chinese community to "cast aside for good the label of a silent minority".

Choi, Po King (1990a) "A Search For Cultural Identity: the Students' Movement of the Early Seventies", in A. Sweeting (ed.) Differences and Identities: Educational Argument in Late Twentieth Century. Hong Kong, University of Hong Kong.

-- an important piece locating the students movement of Hong Kong as part of the development of an indigenous Hong Kong identity, distinct from an identification with the Chinese mainland.

Choi, Po King (1990b) "From Dependence to Self Sufficiency: Rise of the Indigenous Culture of Hong Kong 1945-89", in Asian Culture, No. 14, April 1990.

-- the theme of a uniquely Hong Kong cultural identity is given extended treatment through a historical analysis of Hong Kong's film and television industry. Hong Kong's openness to the West has always given it a key place in the Chinese film industry. Only with the development of a local television industry did Hong Kong's distinctive film culture begin to develop.

Choi, Po King (1990c) "Popular Culture", in R. Wong and J. Cheng (eds.) The Other Hong Kong Report 1990, Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

-- a statistical and thematic analysis of Hong Kong popular music, cinema and popular literature. Argues that a Hong Kong vernacular language is developing in popular culture, and that the rapid ascent to stardom of local artists confirms "the common belief that rapid social ascent is not impossible."

Chow, Rey (1992) "Between Colonizers: Hong Kong's Postcolonial Self-Writing in the 1990s" in Diaspora 2:2, 1992.

-- a sharp analysis of Hong Kong's predicament poised between two colonizers. Through a reading of the ironic lyrics of songwriter Luo Dayou, the author argues for the articulation of a new third space. Both the nativist appeal to images of Chinese folkhood, and the blind cosmopolitanism of postmodern hybridity should be ignored in favour of a recognition of Hong Kong's unique "in-betweenness and impurity".

Chung, Yuen Key (1980) "At the Palace: Researching Gender and Ethnicity in a Chinese Restaurant", in Liz Stanley (ed.) Feminist Praxis. Routledge, London.

-- a detailed account of the researcher's experiences as a waitress in a Chinese restaurant in Manchester. Focuses on how interactions with customers were simultaneously gendered and racialised. Highlights the ambiguities of verbal and non-verbal communications and the harassment by male customers which had to be accepted as part of the job.

Commission for Racial Equality (1987) The Needs of the Chinese in the North West. Conference Report.

-- includes papers by community workers in Manchester and Liverpool. Dominant themes are: the language barriers faced by older Chinese who cannot speak English, the low take-up of welfare benefits and social services, and the failure of local government to respond to the particular problems of the local Chinese population.

Crawford Campbell, P. (1923) Chinese Coolie Emigration within the British Empire. D.S. King & Son, London

-- dispassionate historical analysis of the transportation of Chinese labourers to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, the Caribbean and South East Asia. The recruitment of Chinese labourers was equated to "the buying and selling of pigs", with the aim of accumulating "cities and money and rich plantations".

Daedalus (1991) Special Issue: The Living Tree: the Changing Meaning of Being Chinese Today, Vol 120 Spring 1991

-- world-renowned Chinese scholars and experts on China reflect on changing Chinese identity, both within China and throughout the Chinese diaspora.

Dawson, R. (1967) The Chinese Chameleon: an Analysis of European Conceptions of Chinese Civilization. Oxford University Press, London.

-- a lucid and accessible investigation of Europe's recurrent fascination with China. Traces the movement between exaltation at Chinese art, and contempt for Chinese food and Chinese labourers settled in the West.

Driver, C. (1983) The British at Table 1940-80, Chatto and Windus, London.

-- contains some of this food critic's observations on British attitudes to Chinese food.

Economist (1990), "The Chinese in Britain: A Chequered History" 28th April 35-36.

-- a very brief piece in the context of the 1990 Nationality Act arguing that lack of fluency in the English language has hampered the progress of the Chinese community in Britain.

Educational Opportunities Initiative (1992) Educational needs of Chinese adults. Liverpool.

-- a report on Chinese adults in Liverpool and their specific educational needs. A short survey of 52 Chinese people reveals aspirations to move beyond catering, but a sense of frustration in the face of experiences of racial discrimination and inadequate information about courses.

8000 Miles. Chinese Community magazine, London based, PO Box 341 London WC2H 7QJ

-- a bi-monthly magazine, mostly in Chinese but with some articles in English.

Fitchett, N. (1976) Chinese Children in Derby. Bishop Lonsdale College, Derby.

-- a study of Chinese schoolchildren notable for commending their adjustment to England under trying circumstances.

Freeberne, J. (1980) The Chinese Community in Britain, with special reference to Housing and Education. Unpublished PhD thesis, School of Oriental and African Studies, London University.

-- a wide ranging, highly subjective, investigation of the circumstances of Chinese families by "a 1950s RAF Chinese linguist" who spent four months in a New Territories village in Hong Kong. Includes a case study of the Lambeth Chinese population.

G.B. Parliament (1985a) House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Report on The Chinese Community in Britain (January 1985) HC102, HMSO London.

-- a major two year Select Committee investigation into the Chinese population of Britain. The report makes 77 recommendations, focussing on the need for more bilingual staff in Section 11 posts, improving English language teaching and ensuring sufficient Chinese language translation of social services information.

G.B. Parliament (1985b) The Government Reply to the Second Paper from the Home Affairs Committee (Cmnd 9586), HMSO London.

-- a feeble and non-committal response by the Government to the Home Affairs Report. No commitment of resources is given, merely an exhortation that Chinese in Britain "should not hesitate to make full use of the resources available to them."

G.B. Parliament (1985c) Swann Committee Report : Education for All. Cmnd 9453.

-- includes a chapter on the educational experiences of Chinese children. In the absence of extended ethnographic research, the Report gives an impressionistic gloss on the difficulties faced by Chinese young people. Makes the useful point that positive stereotypes of intelligent Chinese children can lead to their needs being ignored by teachers.

Garvey, A. and Jackson, B. (1975) Chinese Children. National Education Research and Development Trust.

-- a self-consciously pioneering work on Chinese children in the early 1970s. Paints a vivid picture of the confusing world faced by new arrivals from Hong Kong and ends with portents of discontent and delinquency.

Hong Kong Urban Council (1991) "Hong Kong Cinema in the Eighties". 15th Hong Kong International Film Festival.

-- a special thematic supplement to the 1991 Film Festival catalogue. The best starting place for an English language summary of contemporary Hong Kong cinema. Richly illustrated.

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (1989) A Matter of Honour: The Nationality Question in Hong Kong. JCWI, London.

-- published just prior to the passing of the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act, this analyses the impact of successive changes in immigration legislation on Hong Kong Chinese and makes a coherent case for Britain to discharge its "moral responsibility" and grant right of abode to all British nationals in Hong Kong.

Jin, Meiling (1986) Gifts from my Grandmother. Sheba Feminist Press, London.

-- a collection of writings by a Guyanese born Chinese woman poet.

Jones, D. (1979) "The Chinese in Britain", in New Community Vol. 7: 397-401.

Jones, D. (1987) "The Chinese in Britain", in New Community Vol. 14: 245-47.

-- These two articles provide a very brief overview of the Chinese community in Britain.

Kohn, M. (1992) Dope Girls: The Birth of the British Drugs Underground. Lawrence and Wishart, London.

-- sees the early twentieth century panic over drugs as a symptom of Britain's deeper crisis. The "heady cocktail of public anxieties" at times fixed on Chinatowns, and London's East End in particular. Fascinating account of the cases of Brilliant Chang, Yee Sing and the creation of the figure of the "Chinese dope king".

Lai, Annie, Little, B. and Little P. (1986) "Chinatown Annie: The East End Opium Trade 1920-35: The Story of a Woman Opium Dealer", in Oral History Journal, Vol. 14 No.1 pp.18-30.

-- an article based on a series of interviews with an English woman who lived with a Chinese opium dealer in Limehouse in the 1920s.

Lai, Linda (1975) Chinese families in London: a study into their social needs. Unpublished MA thesis, Brunel University.

-- an investigation of 24 Chinese families in the borough of Camden. Illuminating on the difficulties faced by young mothers and children newly arrived from Hong Kong, in particular cramped housing and poor knowledge of English.

Lambeth Chinese Community Association (1992) Exploring Our Chinese Identity, London.

-- a collection of short writings produced by participants in a drama group led by the actor David Yip. Some very pointed and poignant observations on "the joys of being a banana".

Lau, Kwok Wah (1989) A Cultural Interpretation of the Popular Cinema of China and Hong Kong. Unpublished PhD thesis, North Western University, Chicago.

-- An analysis of the differing cultural traditions underlying recent films in China and Hong Kong. Argues that whilst sharing some fundamental Chinese assumptions, the two cinemas are distinctive. China's films still stress *ching* - having concern for others - whereas Hong Kong's cutthroat capitalist environment places greater stress on the value of *jing* - being clever and resourceful in the pursuit of self interest.

Lau, Siu Kai (1982) Society and Politics in Hong Kong. Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

-- a systematic analysis of the postwar history and politics of Hong Kong. Aims to explain the achievement of breathtaking economic growth without political upheaval. Describes Hong Kong as a "minimally integrated political system" where stability is maintained through political apathy and minimal government intervention in the economy.

Lau, Siu Kai and Kuan, Hsin Chi (1988) The Ethos of the Hong Kong Chinese. Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

-- Draws on two extensive social surveys undertaken in Hong Kong after the 1984 Sino-British Agreement. The book captures the many facets of the distinctive Hong Kong identity, and the dynamic relationship between traditional and modern cultural elements. The ethos of the Hong Kong Chinese "establishes a clear demarcation between the public and private spheres and the relative autonomy of the social, economic and political sectors."

Lee, P. (1991) The Absorption and Indigenization of Foreign Media Cultures: a Study of a Cultural Meeting Point of the East and West: Hong Kong. Hong Kong Institute of Asia Pacific Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong Reprint Paper No.11.

-- Hong Kong is presented as a counter to the thesis of communications imperialism. With regard to film, television and popular music; four forms of absorption and indigenization of foreign cultures are identified. The strength of local consumer demand and local production systems in Hong Kong has prevented a simple replication of Western cultures.

Lent, J. (1990) The Asian Film Industry. Christopher Helm, Bromley.

-- contains chapters on the film industries of Taiwan, Hong Kong and China.

Li, Pui Ping (1992) "Health Needs of the Chinese Population", in W. Ahmad et al. (eds.) The Politics of Race and Health. Race Relations Research Unit, Bradford.

-- outlines the services offered by the London Chinese Health Resource Centre and the difficulties faced by Chinese people in communicating their health needs to general practitioners.

Liao, Yi (1992) The Chinese Community in Greater Manchester. Unpublished M. Phil. thesis, University of Manchester.

-- a survey of Manchester's Chinatown and the catering trade. Uses a statistical model to relate the pattern of Chinese business location to the proportion of single householders in a locality. Sees Manchester Chinatown as having a "symbolic existence much greater than its geographical size".

Lin Wong, Maria (1989) Chinese Liverpudlians. Liver Press, Wirral.

-- based on oral history and supported by extensive reproduction of family photographs, the author sensitively portrays the history of the pioneering Chinese communities of early twentieth century Liverpool. Gives an extended account of the role white women played in sustaining Chinese families.

Listener Magazine (1989) "Banana Split: Young Chinese in Britain Today" Sept 28.

-- The presenter of a BBC Radio 4 programme on British-born Chinese argues that the second generation are struggling to emerge from the takeaway sector. They consider themselves to be "bananas"; white on the inside, yellow on the outside. Despite the difficulties and ambivalences of negotiating two cultures "the only safe assumption is that the part they play in all our institutions will be a vital one."

Liverpool City Council (1907) "Report of Committee investigating Chinese Settlement in Liverpool". Council Proceedings June 1907.

-- this committee was set up in response to popular disquiet at the Chinese seamen in Liverpool. Designed to seek out evidence of widespread opium smoking, debauchery and illicit interracial liaisons with young English women; the report failed to find justification for contemporary xenophobia.

Loh Lynn, I. (1982) The Chinese Community in Liverpool: Their Unmet Needs with Respect to Education, Social Welfare and Housing. Merseyside Area Profile Group, Liverpool.

-- a report documenting the wide ranging disadvantages faced by Chinese people in relation to local institutions on Merseyside. The stereotype of a self sufficient and proudly independent Chinese community has prevented local authorities from responding to Chinese needs.

Ma, J. (1961) Look Back in Hope. Light and Salt Publishers, Liverpool City Library.

-- some fascinating recollections by a Chinese pastor in postwar Liverpool who served the Chinese seafaring communities at the Chinese Seamen's Centre.

May, J.P. (1973) The British Working Class and The Chinese 1870-1911, with particular reference to the Seamen's Union Strike of 1911. Unpublished MA dissertation University of Warwick.

-- extensive survey of national and local newspapers and trade union journals tracing the relationships between British workers and Chinese migrants. Examining the 1906 General Election controversy over Chinese labour in South Africa and the 1911 disturbances in Cardiff; the author argues that working class antipathy was to "the Chinese as a symbol of all those forces of capitalism working against their interests".

May, J.P. (1978) "The Chinese in Britain 1860-1914", in C. Holmes (ed.) Immigrants and Minorities in British Society. Allen and Unwin, London.

-- describes the animosity directed towards Chinese in the early twentieth century: during the 1906 General Election over the use of "coolie" labour in South African mines; in Liverpool in 1906, and during the seamen's strike of 1911. Argues that because the Chinese population was so small, hostility was muted, particularly at the level of officialdom, until after the end of World War One.

May, R. and Cohen, R. (1974) "The Interaction between Race and Colonialism: A Case Study of the Liverpool Race Riots of 1919", in Race and Class Vol 16, No 2. pp 111-26.

-- Focussing mainly on the black population of Liverpool and the place of the 1919 riots in the history of racism in Britain, the piece makes reference to the antipathy of white crews towards Chinese seamen and the deportation after 1918 of many Chinese who had been brought to England to work in agriculture.

McFarland, E.W. (1991) "Clyde Opinion on an Old Controversy: Indian and Chinese Seafarers in Glasgow", in Ethnic and Racial Studies, Vol 14/4.

-- traces the history of Chinese and Indian seafarers in Glasgow from the 1850s onwards. Argues that seafarers were problematised, first as a moral threat, and in the early twentieth century as an economic threat. Points to the role of "pioneers" who settled and formed a bridgehead for post 1945 migrants.

NFCW (1988) National Federation of Chinese Women. Report on the Needs of Chinese Women based on an inaugural conference held in September 1988, Birmingham.

-- a bilingual report containing short sections on the needs of Chinese women; health, employment and education and British born Chinese experiences.

Newell, V. (1989) "A Note on the Chinese New Year Celebration in London", in Western Folklore, Vol.48 January 1989, 61-66

-- gives an account of the part played by the Chinatown Chinese Association and Westminster City Council in redesigning Chinatown as a tourist attraction and promoting the annual New Year festivities. The views of local Chinese businessmen are sharply contradicted by younger community workers who regard the celebrations as "a pantomime put on for tourists and English people by wealthy restaurateurs."

Ng, A. (1982) Learning of Chinese by Chinese immigrant children. Unpublished B.Phil thesis, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

-- a study of 251 Chinese adolescents in ten Chinese language schools nationwide. Critical of the lack of innovative teaching methods and argues for more active involvement of parents in the Chinese education of their children.

Ng, K.C. (1968) The Chinese in London. Institute of Race Relations, London.

-- close ethnographic work amongst the Chinese associations and welfare groups of early 1960s London led Ng to argue that Chinese immigrants had the least contact of all postwar migrants with British society. Being a small and dispersed community had not caused the Chinese to assimilate. By restricting themselves to catering, the Chinese were not widely viewed as a social problem.

Ng, R. (1986) "My People - The Chinese Community in the North East", in Multi Cultural Teaching, Vol. 43.

-- a short background sketch of Chinese history and culture ends with a plea for Newcastle City Council to work more closely with local Chinese voluntary organisations in North East England.

O'Neill, J. (1972) The role of family and community in the social adjustment of the Chinese in Liverpool. MA thesis, University of Liverpool.

-- a participant observation study of 30 Chinese families in Liverpool. Describes three family types - traditional Chinese, modern Chinese and Anglicised. Sees the Liverpool Chinese as heterogeneous, without much sense of solidarity and anxious to be accepted without making claims on the dominant society.

Pan, Lynn (1990) Sons of The Yellow Emperor - The Story Of The Overseas Chinese. Mandarin, London.

-- a highly readable account of overseas Chinese settlement throughout the world. Contains sections on early and contemporary Chinese settlement in Britain. Argues that the British Chinese are a long way behind their American Chinese counterparts in securing their rights.

Parker, D. (1993) The Cultural Identities of Young People of Chinese Origin in Britain. Unpublished PhD thesis, Department of Cultural Studies, University of Birmingham.

-- after a review of theories of cultural identity, and a historical contextualisation of Chinese settlement; a questionnaire survey and extensive interview material provide an account of the range of identities formed by young Chinese. The public articulation of new ethnicities seen in the black and Asian communities is less well developed. However, an embryonic British Chinese identity is beginning to emerge in cultural production and youth work with young Chinese people.

Runnymede Trust (1986) The Chinese Community in Britain. Runnymede Trust, London.

-- a useful summary of the Home Affairs Committee Report is followed by a response from the Chinese Advice and Information Centre which argues that the Report fails to address questions of institutional racism.

Scheffauer, H. (1911) "The Chinese in England", in The London Magazine, June and July 1911.

-- taken together this two part article by a San Francisco journalist is the best illustration of early twentieth century demonisation of the Chinese communities of Britain's seaports. Opium dens, miscegenation, mysterious food and music are highlighted in a bid to warn the British of "the growing national problem" in their midst.

Shang, Anthony (1984) The Chinese in Britain. Batsford, London.

-- a well illustrated book for young people, telling the story of Chinese in Britain, exemplified by three Chinese families.

see also:

Shang, Anthony (1985) "Chinatown and Beyond", in Ten 8, No.16, 62-69.

-- a short article based largely on the above book

Siyu - a monthly Chinese community magazine/newspaper. Available from 4th Floor Nicholas St., Manchester.

-- this newspaper has a circulation of over 30,000 and contains several pages in English.

Simpson, M. (1987) Children of the Dragon. Bradford and Ilkley Community College.

-- a study of Chinese primary school children in Yorkshire. The author brings out the difficulties faced by young Chinese coming from non-English speaking homes into schools where there are few other Chinese pupils.

Simsova, S. and Chin, W (1982) Library Needs of Chinese in London. School of Librarianship and Information Studies, Polytechnic of North London.

-- through a survey of Chinese library users in London, the authors make a series of recommendations to improve the provision of library services to Chinese people.

Summerskill, M. (1982) China On The Western Front. Michael Summerskill, London.

-- a fascinating and well-researched account of the part played in World War One by the Chinese Labour Corps; 100,000 Chinese men imported by France and Britain to provide food and transport for Allied soldiers in the trenches.

Tan, S. (1982) Food Ideology and Food Habits of Chinese Immigrants in London, and the Growth of their Young Children. Report of a Survey. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

-- a survey of 50 Chinese families throughout London. Illustrates the continuing prevalence of a Chinese conception of the role of food in ensuring health through balancing "hot" and "cold" forces. Argues strongly for Chinese dietary needs to be recognised in hospitals and schools.

Taylor, M. (1987) Chinese Pupils In Britain. NFER, London.

-- as part of the Swann Committee Report, this book marshals all the evidence hitherto gathered by researchers on the Chinese population and presents a concise summary of their findings. Concludes that the invisible Chinese have been "ignored by default" both by educational researchers and institutions.

Tsow, Ming (1984) Mother Tongue Maintenance. Commission for Racial Equality, London.

-- based on a large number of interviews with Chinese children attending part-time voluntary Chinese language classes, their parents and the volunteer teachers. Emphasises the lack of support from statutory bodies for the classes and the lack of adequate classrooms and teaching resources.

Turner, Jo Ann (1989) Chinatown London. Dissertation, Humberside College of Further Education.

-- a survey of land use in London's Chinatown district. Argues that Chinatown is no longer seen as a hindrance to integration and instead marks recognition of the permanent presence of the Chinese in Britain.

Waller, P.J. (1970) "Racial Phobia: The Chinese Scare 1906-14, An Historical Study", in Essays to C.M. Bowra. The Alden Press, Oxford.

-- documents popular anti-Chinese hysteria in the wake of the 1905 Aliens Act. Extracts from newspaper and magazine articles form a "stock pattern" of racial propaganda comprising diet, sexuality, economic competition and religious bigotry.

Waller, P.J. (1985) "The Chinese", in History Today, September 1985.

-- a more general article drawing out the persistent ambivalence in British conceptions of the Chinese: admiration of Chinoiserie yet denigration of "heathen" Orientals, and the fear of the "yellow peril".

Watson, J. (1975) Emigration and the Chinese Lineage. University of California Press, Berkeley.

-- extensive fieldwork in both Hong Kong and London underpins this detailed account of the chain migration system operated by the Man clan.

Watson, J. (1977) "The Chinese: Hong Kong Villagers in the British Catering Trade", in Watson, J. (ed.) (1977) Between Two Cultures. Basil Blackwell, Oxford.

-- a general survey of the Chinese community in Britain. The dispersed settlement pattern and concentration in catering contribute to a "low profile" with a notable lack of unifying nationwide voluntary associations. Argues that by the mid 70s no "British Chinese" culture had emerged.

Wong, Grace Koon Wah (1989) Assimilation, Stress, Coping Resources and Coping Strategies as Predictors of Psychological Well-Being in British Chinese. Unpublished PhD thesis, Department of Psychology, University of Birmingham.

-- a quantitative analysis of British Chinese mental well-being, coping mechanisms and degree of assimilation. Argues that Chinese may have specific coping mechanisms that produce similar well-being to non Chinese in Britain.

Wong, Lornita Yuen Fan (1991) "The Hong Kong Chinese Speech Community", in S. Alladina and V. Edwards (eds.) Multilingualism in the British Isles: Africa, the Middle East Asia. Longman, London.

-- sees the desire of Chinese parents to maintain the mother tongue as a crucial indicator of community coherence. The dispersed settlement pattern has precluded a satisfactory solution to the problems faced by voluntary Chinese language classes.

Wong, Lornita Yuen Fan (1992) Education of Chinese Children in Britain and the USA. MultiLingual Matters, Clevedon.

-- compares provision for Chinese language education in Britain and the USA. Argues that Chinese pupils' difficulties could be alleviated by the training of bilingual support staff and the use of more relevant teaching resources for those learning Chinese. Hopes voluntary language schools becoming more friendly and active will provide a valuable site for Chinese children to make friends and feel less isolated.

SECTION TWO

Selected Media Reports And Representations

Newspaper Articles

1. Early Chinese Settlement in Britain

The best source for collected newspaper articles on the Chinese in Britain is the Local History Section of Tower Hamlets Library. Diligently preserved are a series of articles from both local and national newspapers on the Chinese settlements of the Limehouse area.

Of particular note are the following:

Morning Chronicle, No.4118 July 1782.

-- report of an attack on a Chinese man in Stepney.

Daily Express, 1st October 1920: "Yellow Peril in London".

-- fanciful account of "a vast syndicate of vice" at work in the East End of London.

Evening News, 4th October 1920: "The Lure of the Yellowman".

-- article referring to the "moral suicide" of English girls and the "frantic" problem of their marriages to Chinese men. The piece sparked several subsequent articles in other newspapers.

Daily Sketch, 12 Feb 1927: "What Mr Saw Has Seen". Photostory.

-- adoption of Fung Saw, a Chinese seamen's leader, as prospective Labour candidate for Holborn. (He was later deselected on the grounds of his suspected Communist affiliations and did not contest the seat in the subsequent General Election).

Evening News, 11 April 1931: "The Life of London's 190,000 Foreigners".

-- a series of sketches of the different ethnic communities of interwar London includes several paragraphs on Chinese settlers. Finds little criminality but portrays the part-Chinese children as "tragic" and the real "Broken Blossoms".

Evening Standard, 2nd September 1933: "Way Down East".

-- "Terry and Mendoza" tour London's Chinatown and are disappointed not to find the lurid underworld of popular mythology.

Daily Sketch, 30 April 1934: "Limehouse Memories".

-- Sax Rohmer, the author of the Fu Manchu series of novels, reflects nostalgically on the disappearance of Limehouse Causeway, the games of pak-a-pu and the opium dens.

Liverpool City Library also has some materials relating to the early Chinese community there. Amongst these are:

Liverpool Echo, 6 June 1919, Editorial.

-- in the aftermath of the race riots of 1919, the editor cautions against the formation of a segregated Chinese community in Chinatown.

Liverpool Courier, 11/6/1919.

-- reports on the refusal of crews on the Blue Funnel Line to serve under a Chinese chief steward.

Liverpool Diocesan Review, August 1935: "St Michael's Pitt Street - The Church of Many Nations".

-- a depiction of the multiethnic congregation. Author appears fascinated by the mixed race children and argues that "the children present a special problem...they speak English but their mode of thought is Eastern."

Finally, the role of the Chinese Labour Corps in World War One is registered in Plymouth.

Western Evening Herald, July 6 1917: "Funeral of Three Chinamen at Plymouth".

-- reports on the burial of three Chinese men at Egg Buckland Cemetery, Plymouth and the attendance at the service of other ill and wounded Chinese, "all of whom uncovered their heads and bowed several times."

2. More recent reports

Daily Mail, 15 October 1965: "It's boomtime for Tem Suin Yuk".

-- reports on how "the Chinese have revolutionised British catering in the past ten years, with their readiness to keep open late and serve meals at any time."

The Times, 18 April 1968: "The Lonely Chinese in London".

-- a review of K.C. Ng's research

The Guardian, 3 May 1977: "Chinese Women in Britain".

-- Amrit Wilson describes the "desolate lives of some Chinese women in Britain and sees a glimmer of hope for them in the future".

Sunday Times, 22 May 1977: "The Silent Dragon".

-- colour magazine feature on Chinese in Britain.

The Times, 20 July 1977: "Why the quiet migrants cannot wait to go back home".

-- a piece based on James Watson's research in *Between Two Cultures* (see Watson 1977).

The Times, 10 July 1982.

-- CRE receives undertaking from Birmingham Bull Ring Shop Tenants' Association about opposition to a Chinese bookshop opening.

Sunday Times, 24 February 1985: "No escaping this wok ethic".

-- an irritatingly jocular piece on the Chinese being restricted to catering employment.

Observer Sunday Magazine, 9 February 1986: "Chinese Breakaway".

-- features David Nam, a Chinese local councillor in Carmarthen, and Zingari, the only British Chinese pop group to date.

The Times 3 August 1986: "Anger as Tories bar Chinese nominees".

-- local Conservative party in Oxford refused membership to five Chinese people.

Observer Sunday Magazine, 5 March 1989: "Sharks in Chinatown".

-- a report on the activities of Chinese Triad gangs throughout Britain.

The Independent, 7 August 1989: "Sunday Best Spells Business at little China in the North."

-- a brief account of the growth of Manchester's Chinatown and the development of social and cultural institutions for the Chinese in North West England.

The Sun 22 December 1989: "Why I'll be voting with Labour on Hong Kong", article by Norman Tebbit.

-- argues against making a special case for the Hong Kong Chinese and altering British immigration controls.

The Times, 23 January 1990: "Racist populism?"

-- article by Norman Tebbit in which he sets out his position against giving passports to residents of Hong Kong, pointing to "the hazards of promoting a new wave of immigration".

The Independent, 9 January 1990: "Why MPs fear the Chinese effect".

-- two articles: the first explores why Conservative MPs support Tebbit's stance against the issuing of passports to Hong Kong residents; the second focuses on attitudes in Mid Staffordshire, finding among local Conservatives "a certain discomfort in addressing the issue."

The Independent on Sunday, 8 April 1990: "Britons opposed to HK Chinese immigration".

-- an opinion poll finds that 65% oppose the Government plan to allow 50,000 Chinese families to settle in Britain.

Birmingham Evening Mail, 20 to 22 February 1991

-- a three part feature on the Chinese community in Birmingham, predictably including an article on the Triads.

Daily Mail, February 1 1993: "Secret of the winners".

-- a gushing tribute by the Daily Mail to "The Chinese Entrepreneurs who show how business really works."

The Guardian, July 7 1993: "Over the Counter".

-- the Chinese in Britain are still an "invisible" community, concentrated in catering businesses. Focuses on Chinese in East Anglia; the older generation wanting to return to Hong Kong, the young people striving to be a part of Britain.

The Times, 23 July 1993: "We are but islands in a bitter sea".

-- a variety of perspectives on Chinese life in Britain.

Television Programmes About Chinese in Britain

Telescope on "The Chinese in Britain". BBC 1, 23rd December 1965

-- 25 minute documentary on Chinese catering workers BBC in the Midlands

"Goodbye Chop Suey". Channel 4, 22 February 1985

-- documentary examining the structure of the Chinese catering economy, its implications for the lives of young Chinese people and their families, and the attempts to secure employment rights for catering workers.

"Chinese in Britain". Channel 4, 1st and 2nd February 1986

-- Two part documentary on Chinese in Britain

Programme One - "Oriental Expressions"
Chinese artists and musicians in Britain
30 minutes

Programme Two - "Vote for Wong"
Chinese politics in Britain
30 minutes

"South of Watford". London Weekend Television, 30 January 1987

-- features young Chinese successfully moving beyond catering employment and working as actresses, singers and designers.

"Cockney John Chinaman". Channel 4, 16 April 1988

-- portrayal of the history of London's early twentieth century Chinese community in Limehouse.

"Orientations". Channel 4

-- Weekly 35 minute magazine programme about Chinese culture and issues. Broadcast on Sundays at 9.25 a.m.

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|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Series One | 16 October 1988 to 18 December 1988 |
| Series Two | 8 October 1989 to 4 February 1990 |
| Series Three | 21 October 1990 to 23 December 1990 |

"Takeaway Lives". BBC 2, 12th July 1993

-- 30 minute documentary on young Chinese women working in catering and negotiating British and Chinese cultures.

Radio Documentaries

"Children of the Dragon Seed". BBC Radio 4, 1st October 1989, 45 minutes.

-- Gabrielle Mcphadrean presents a sensitive portrayal of the lives of second generation young Chinese throughout Britain. Notable for the space given to young Chinese people to speak out eloquently, humorously and movingly.

"Rites of passage". BBC Radio 4, 26th September 1993, 30 minutes.

-- a rich and detailed account of the rituals associated with Chinese funerals in Manchester.

SECTION THREE

Useful Addresses And Organisations

Hong Kong Government Office
6 Grafton Street
London
W1X 3LB
071 499 9821

Chinese Embassy
31 Portland Place
London
W1N 3AG
071 636 5637

Chinese Community Organisations

Belfast Chinese Welfare Association
17 Eblana St
Belfast 7
Belfast 238220

Birmingham Chinese Community Centre
Unit B 205
Arcadian Centre
Birmingham
B5 4TD
021 622 3003

Birmingham Chinese Youth Project
Unit B 108
Arcadian Centre
Birmingham
B5 4TD
021 622 4292

Camden Chinese Community Centre
173 Arlington Road
London NW1
071 267 3019

Chinese Advisory Service
117 Portland St
Manchester
062 228 7506

Chinese Arts Centre
36 Charlotte Street
Manchester M1 4FD
061 236 9251

Chinese Association of Tower Hamlets
Sailor's Palace
680 Commercial Road
London E14 7HA
071 515 5598

Chinese Community Centre
44 Gerrard Street
2/F
London W1V 7DF
071 439 3822

Chinese Education, Culture and Community Centre
61 Dickenson Street
Manchester
061 228 3926

Chinese Health Information Centre
39 George Street
Manchester
061 228 0138

Chinese Information Advice Centre
68 Shaftesbury Avenue
London W1V 7DF
071 836 8291

Glasgow Chinese Community Association
19-23 Farnell St
Glasgow
G4 9SE
041 332 9422

Greenwich Chinese Association
c/o West Greenwich House
141 Greenwich High Road
London SE10
081 858 2410

Hackney Chinese Community Services
15 Pearson Street
London E2
081 986 6171

Haringey Chinese Community Centre
211 Langham Road
London N15
081 881 8649

Hounslow Chinese Community Centre
Hounslow United Reform Church Hall
114 Hanworth Road
Hounslow
Middlesex
081 577 2034

Islington Chinese Association
33 Giesback Road
London
N 19 3DA
071 263 5986

Lai Yin Association (for Chinese Women)
Mount Pleasant Community Centre
Sharrow Lane
Sheffield
0742 500931

Lambeth Chinese Community Association
69 Stockwell Road
London SW9 9YP
071 733 4377

Leicester Chinese Community Centre
170a Belgrave Gate
Leicester
LE1 3XL
0533 517583

Liverpool Chinese Community Advisory Service
Henry St
Liverpool
L1 5BS
051 708 5197

London Chinese Health Resource Centre
43 Dean Street
London
W1V 5AP
071 287 0904

Newham Chinese Association
Room 8 Park House
64 West Ham Lane
London E15
081 519 6488

North East Chinese Association
25 Stowell Street
Newcastle
NE1 4YB
091 261 8583

Tower Hamlets Chinese Youth Project
680 Commercial Road
London
E14 7HA
071 538 9764