



Vancouver Island: The Chinese Restaurant

Imogene Lim
Pecha Kucha
26 September 2015

CHINATOWN TREASURES

By NORMAN CARTER



Memories of Chinatown

Chinese pottery, the workaday variety made for practical, not aesthetic purposes, is a collectible of particular interest for it welds together B.C.'s past, in which the early Chinese immigrants played their part, and the present. The pottery, its form and function little changed in a hundred years, can still be bought, filled with Oriental goodies, in Chinatown markets, though a serious collector will prefer "historic" versions, which came to the province in sailing ships and are sometimes unearthed from entombment in goldrush ghost towns. The old pottery was hand-made, shapely and glazed both inside and out in a variety of mostly brown shades. And it's still relatively inexpensive and in good supply.

Chinese laborers came to B.C. in the middle 1800s from San Francisco to join the Fraser River gold rush. But not all

of them went up country. When coal was discovered at Nanaimo, a considerable number were recruited for the mines. The Chinese were housed in ghettos on the outskirts of the mining towns and in time these grew into thriving mini cities. The Chinatown in Cumberland, started in 1869, is said to have had a population of 2,000. In later years that of Nanaimo was probably as large. Both had stores, boarding houses, fan-tan parlors, opium dens, an opera house and a Buddhist temple. The white communities took no interest whatever in the "Chinamen" and to this day little is known of them.

Whether panning for gold along the upper Fraser, grubbing for coal in the Vancouver Island collieries, or working as houseboys for the timber barons of Victoria, the Chinese patronized their own stores and their own imports. And the goods they bought came not in cans

or glass jars but in sturdy ceramic pots.

Tam Irving, potter and teacher of West Vancouver, says that these pots are vitrified ware of considerable density and that though the inside glaze was necessary to retain liquids, the beautiful exterior glaze was put there solely for the sake of appearance. He can point to the 120-year-old finger prints of the potter who, rather than immerse the vessel in liquid glaze, held it inverted over the tub and applied the glaze with a ladle. This accounts, too, for the uneven line of the glazing down near the bottom of the pots. Because of their strength, they were able to survive being tossed out on the garbage heaps from which a number of them have been recovered. The ghost town middens of such places as Cumberland and Sandon have proved rich treasure troves for pot-hunters.

The Chinese have great respect for



1978.215.001



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Home

Nanaimo's Chinatowns

While few physical vestiges of Nanaimo's once thriving Chinese community remain, the story of Chinese settlement offers fascinating insight into one of Nanaimo's oldest, and the important economic and cultural role it played in the City's development.

Origins of Chinese Settlement in Nanaimo

Gold rushes brought many Chinese to North America in the mid-1800s; first to the United

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Historic evidence of Chinese settlement

Mah Bing Kee
“Second” Chinatown



Chinatown destroyed by fire, 30 September 1960



Vancouver Island Directory 1950-51 Nanaimo Restaurants

Nanaimo - Albert St. Fish & Chips, 680
Albert
Nanaimo - Balmoral Cafe, 126 Halburt-
ton
Nanaimo - Blue Bird Coffee Shop, 1207
Stewart
Nanaimo - Bob's Coffee Bar, 67 Victoria
Nanaimo - Bond's Fish & Chips, 530
Haliburton
Nanaimo - Canton Restaurant, 594 Pine
Nanaimo - Cowie, Miss M., E & N Ry.
Station
Nanaimo - Esquire Grill Ltd., ws unit
blk Coml.
Nanaimo - Harriet's Snack Bar, 445
Nicol
Nanaimo - Hazelwood Cafe, 200 Bas-
tton
Nanaimo - Island Topper, 95 Bridge
Nanaimo - Jeffs Bros., Bastion St.
Nanaimo - Koffee Kup, 1350 Brechin
Rd.
Nanaimo - Kong Nam Loo, 588 Pine
Nanaimo - Lotus Coffee Shop, 160
Bastion
Nanaimo - MALASPINA HOTEL, Front
Street - Phone 1400. (See also Back-
bone and advt. Hotels - Yellow Pages)
Nanaimo - Mardi Gras Cafe, 50 Coml.
Nanaimo - Nanaimo Civic Arena Con-
cession, 96 Departure Bay Rd.
Nanaimo - Oasis Cafe, 162 Coml.
Nanaimo - Pioneer Cafe, 87 Coml.
Nanaimo - PLAZA CAFE, (adjoining
Plaza Hotel), Church Street - Phone
116. (See also advt. Hotels - Yellow
Pages)
Nanaimo - Read's Snack Bar, 95 De-
parture Bay Rd.
Nanaimo - Shasta Cafe, 224 Coml.
Nanaimo - Venice Cafe, 85 Victoria
Crescent
Nanaimo - Wallace Street Coffee Bar,
256 Wallace
Nanaimo - White Owl Coffee Shop, 137
Bastion
Nanaimo - Wong Ack Wong, 598 Pine
Nanaimo Bay - Forest Shanty Lunch

What do these items have in common?



Puss-in-Boots Cafe

Chinese Menu

— Soups and Appetizers —

Green Peas and Egg	35c	Grapefruit Juice	15c
Chicken and Rice	25c	Orange Juice	15c
Mushroom and Egg	45c	Tomato Juice	15c

— Chow Mein —

Chicken Chow Mein	90c
Pork Chow Mein	75c
Shrimp Chow Mein	1.25

— Spareribs —

Sweet and Sour Pork Spareribs	85c
Breaded Dry Pork Spareribs	85c

— Chop Suey —

Chicken Chop Suey	95c
Pork Chop Suey	85c
Mushroom and Pork Chop Suey	95c

— Special Chinese Style Chicken Dinners —

Breaded Almond Chicken	1.50
Deep Fried Chicken	1.50
Breaded Chicken with Tomato	1.65

— Fried Rice —

Chicken Fried Rice	90c
Pork Fried Rice	75c
Mushroom Fried Rice	90c

— Puss-In-Boots Specialties —

Pineapple Spareribs	1.25
Deep Fried Shrimp	1.50
Diced Almond Chicken Chop Suey	1.50
Sweet and Sour Pork (boneless)	1.25
Puss-in-Boots Special Chow Mein	1.25
Steamed Garlic Spareribs	1.35
Pot Roast Chicken	1.85
Egg Fu-yung	75c
Fried Pork with Green Peas	85c
Pork Noodles	60c
Fried Bean Sprouts with Beef	85c
String Beans and Pork	75c
Steamed Rice	10c
Sesame Seeds	10c

Puss-in-Boots Cafe

Breaded Almond Chicken	1.50
Deep Fried Shrimps	1.50
Steamed Garlic Spareribs	1.35
Sweet & Sours Pork (boneless)	1.25
Pineapple Sweet & Sours	1.25
Sweet & Sours Spareribs	.85
Dry Breaded Spareribs	.85
Mushroom & Pork Chop Suey	.95
Pork Chop Suey	.85
Mushroom & Pork Chow Mein	.90 ✓
Pork Chow Mein	.75
Mushroom Fried Rice	.90
Pork Fried Rice	.75
Egg Fu Yung	.75
Fried Peas & Pork	.85
T-Bone Steak, French Frys	1.75
Breaded Pork Cutlets	.80
Fresh Fried Oysters	.80
Ham & Eggs-Toast	.75
Hot Pork Sandwich	.70
Special Denver with French Frys	.60

THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*

TO WHET THE APPETITE

SEAFOOD COCKTAIL	3.95
SOUP DU JOUR	1.25
CLAM CHOWDER	1.50
TOSSED GREEN SALAD	1.50
FRENCH ONION SOUP	2.50

SALADS

TURKEY	4.95
SHRIMP	5.95
VEGETARIAN	3.95

Includes choice of dressing and toast.

GOOD ANYTIME

BACON & EGGS	3.95
HAM OMLETTE	3.95
CHEESE OMLETTE	3.95
MUSHROOM OMLETTE	3.95

Includes french fries and toast.

SANDWICHES

GRILLED CHEESE	2.50
OPEN DENVER	3.15
SHRIMPWICH	4.95
CLUBHOUSE	4.50
COLD TURKEY	2.75
COLD HAM	2.75
COLD BEEF	2.75
GRILLED HAM & CHEESE	2.95
BACON & TOMATO	2.95
BARON OF BEEF DIP	4.75
STEAK SANDWICH	4.95

Includes french fries.
Potato salad on request.

SIDE ORDERS

FRENCH FRIES	1.50
ONION RINGS	1.25
STIR FRIED VEGIES	3.25
SAUTEED MUSHROOMS	1.95
TOAST & JAM	1.00

BURGERS

FISH BURGER (SOLE)	3.15
PLAIN BURGER	2.75
DELUXE BURGER	2.95
CHEESE BURGER	3.15
CHICKEN STEAK ON A RUN	4.95

Includes french fries.

ENTREE CHOICES

LIVER & ONIONS	4.25
VEAL CUTLETS	6.95
CHICKEN STEAK	6.95
PORK CHOPS	6.95
ROAST REEF	6.95
NEW YORK STEAKS:	
8 oz.	8.95
12 oz.	11.95
SALMON STEAK	5.95
SEAFOOD PLATTER	9.50
FILET OF SOLE	4.95
PAN FRIED OYSTERS	5.95
FISH & CHIPS	3.95
R.Q. CHICKEN	5.95

ENTREES include vegetables and choice of potatoes or steamed rice and one of Gunners' popular buns.

A COMPLETE LISTING OF CHINESE ENTREES IS ON THE NEXT PAGE.
THE FOLLOWING WAS OMITTED DUE TO SHORTAGE OF ROOM.

- MOST CHINESE ENTREES CAN BE ORDERED AS A COMBINATION.
- SOME OF THE MOST POPULAR INCLUDE:

CHOW MEIN & SWEET & SOUR PORK 7.00
TOMATO FRIED RICE & DEEP FRIED PRAWNS 8.40

From our Chinese Kitchen

APPETIZERS

EGG ROLL	1.25
SLICED B.Q. PORK	4.25
DEEP FRIED WON TON	3.50

CHOW MEIN

with CHICKEN	6.00
with BARBECUED PORK	6.00
with SHRIMP	6.50
with MUSHROOMS	6.00
with CHICKEN & MUSH.	6.50
with BEEF & TOMATO	6.50
RENDEZVOUS SPECIAL	7.50

SEAFOOD

DEEP FRIED PRAWNS	9.50
DEEP FRIED PRAWNS with PINEAPPLE SAUCE	9.75
with TOMATO SAUCE	9.75
with SWEET & SOUR	9.75
CURRIED PRAWNS with Steamed Rice	8.75
CURRIED SHRIMP with Steamed Rice	7.75
PAN FRIED PRAWNS with ONIONS	10.50
SAUTEED PRAWNS with BLACK BEAN SAUCE	10.50
SAUTEED PRAWNS with BARBECUE SAUCE	10.50

FRIED RICE

with SHRIMP	6.50
with BARBECUED PORK	6.00
with CHICKEN	6.00
with HAM	6.00
with TOMATO SAUCE	6.25
with CURRY	6.00
STEAMED WHITE RICE	1.25
STEAMED WHITE RICE with PORK & CURRY SAUCE	2.95

SOUPS

GREEN PEA EGG DROP	1.25
NOODLES WITH PORK OR CHICKEN	
SMALL	2.75
LARGE	4.25
WON TON SOUP	
SMALL	3.25
LARGE	5.50

SPARERIRS

RONELESS DEEP FRIED	6.95
RONELESS SWEET & SOUR	6.95
RONELESS SWEET & SOUR with PINEAPPLE	7.25
STEAMED GARLIC RIRS	8.25

CHOP SUEY

with BARBECUED PORK	6.75
with REEF	6.75
with CHICKEN	6.75
with REEF & TOMATO	7.25
RENDEZVOUS SPECIAL	7.95
GUY DING with ALMONDS	6.75
GUY DING with CASHEWS	6.75


EGG FOO YOUNG

with SHRIMP	6.50
with BARBECUED PORK	6.00
with HAM	6.00
with CHICKEN	6.00
RENDEZVOUS SPECIAL	7.50

CHICKEN

R.Q. CHICKEN WINGS	6.95
CURRIED RONELESS	8.25
POT ROAST SOYA	8.25
BREADED RONELESS CHICKEN	
with CRUSHED ALMONDS	7.75
with TOMATO SAUCE	7.75
with PINEAPPLE SAUCE	7.75
with SWEET & SOUR SAUCE	7.75

Chinese Canadian Cuisine



 THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*

 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	SERVER NO.	PI	TABLE	PERSONS
May 16	7	43200	20	2
1				
2	Rand chopsuey	8.50	17.00	WINE
3	cumy chick	8.50	-7.00	LIQR
4			24.00	B
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10	2 spanish	7.00		
11	corn			
12	@ 3.50		-7.00	
13				
14				
15				
16			FOOD	17.00
			FOOD TAX	-
			LIQUOR	7.00
			TOTAL	24.00

THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*


 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	AMOUNT
DATE	AMOUNT
	43200

Thank You, Come Again.



 THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*

 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	SERVER NO.	PI	TABLE	PERSONS
May 16	7	44301	20	3
1				
2	SS boneless	7.50		
3	ccm	6.50	30.50	WINE
4	lo chopsuey	7.25	30.50	B
5				
6	Veal Cutlets	7.75	-0.00	A
7				
8				
9				
10				
11	3 corn	1.50		
12				
13				
14				
15				
16			FOOD	30.50
			FOOD TAX	-
			LIQUOR	-
			TOTAL	30.50

THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*


 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	AMOUNT
DATE	AMOUNT
	44301

Thank You, Come Again.



 THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*

 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	SERVER NO.	PI	TABLE	PERSONS
May 16	7	44302	20	3
1				
2	ren C main	7.95	24.95	WINE
3	boneless pineapple	7.75	13.50	LIQR
4	B/T Chopsuey	7.75	38.45	B
5				
6				
7	3 corn	1.50		
8				
9				
10				
11	black trer		13.50	
12	Kokanne			
13				
14				
15				
16			FOOD	24.95
			FOOD TAX	-
			LIQUOR	13.50
			TOTAL	38.45

THE DINERS' *Rendezvous*

 489 WALLACE STREET

 NANAIMO, B.C. V9R 5B7

 Telephone: 753-4331

DATE	AMOUNT
DATE	AMOUNT
May 16	38.45
DATE	AMOUNT
	44302

Thank You, Come Again.

Year of the Rat

Noted for charm and attraction for the opposite sex. They work hard to achieve their goals and are likely to be driving perfectionists. They are thrifty, but can be generous with someone they love. They anger easily, but can maintain an outward show of control. Very ambitious and successful.

Year of the Ox

Ox people are patient, speak little and inspire confidence in others. They tend to be eccentric and bigoted and they anger easily. They speak little, but when they do, they can be eloquent. Ox people are mentally and physically alert. Although easygoing, they can be remarkably stubborn and they hate to fail.

Year of the Tiger

Tiger people are sensitive, given to deep thinking and capable of great sympathy. However, they are extremely short-tempered. Tiger people always get credit where credit is due. They tend to be suspicious of others and a bit selfish, but they are courageous and powerful.

Year of the Rabbit

Rabbit people are talented and ambitious, reserved, virtuous and have excellent taste. They are admired and trusted and are often financially lucky. They are tactful and generally kind, and are affectionate with those they love. They seldom lose their temper. They are clever at business and conscientious and never back out of a contract. They make good gamblers for they have an uncanny gift for choosing the right thing. They seldom gamble, however, being conservative and wise.

Year of the Dragon

People born in this year are healthy, energetic and excitable, short-tempered, stubborn. They are honest, sensitive, brave and they inspire trust and confidence. Dragon people are the most eccentric of any in the Oriental zodiac. They neither borrow money nor make flowery speeches. They are sincere in what they say. They are very capable.

Year of the Snake

They are deep thinkers, They speak little, possess great wisdom. They never have to worry about money, they are financially fortunate. They are often quite vain, selfish, and a bit stingy. They have great sympathy for those less fortunate. They are usually good-looking and often have marital troubles because they are fickle.

Year of the Horse

People born in this year are popular, cheerful, skilful with money and perceptive, even though they sometimes talk too much. They are wise, talented, good with their hands. Confident and clever-looking, they have

Year of the Sheep

People born year of the sheep are elegant and artistic. They are often shy, pessimistic and uncertain of their direction. They are deeply religious and seldom world leaders. They never need to worry about having the best in life, for their abilities make money for them. They have good taste, and are wise, gentle and compassionate.

Year of the Monkey

People born this year are erratic geniuses. Clever, skilful and flexible, they are remarkably inventive and original. They are good at making decisions, although they tend to look down on others. They have a deep desire for knowledge, have excellent memories. Passionate and strong-willed, but their anger cools quickly. They often become famous if allowed to pursue their own course.

Year of the Cock

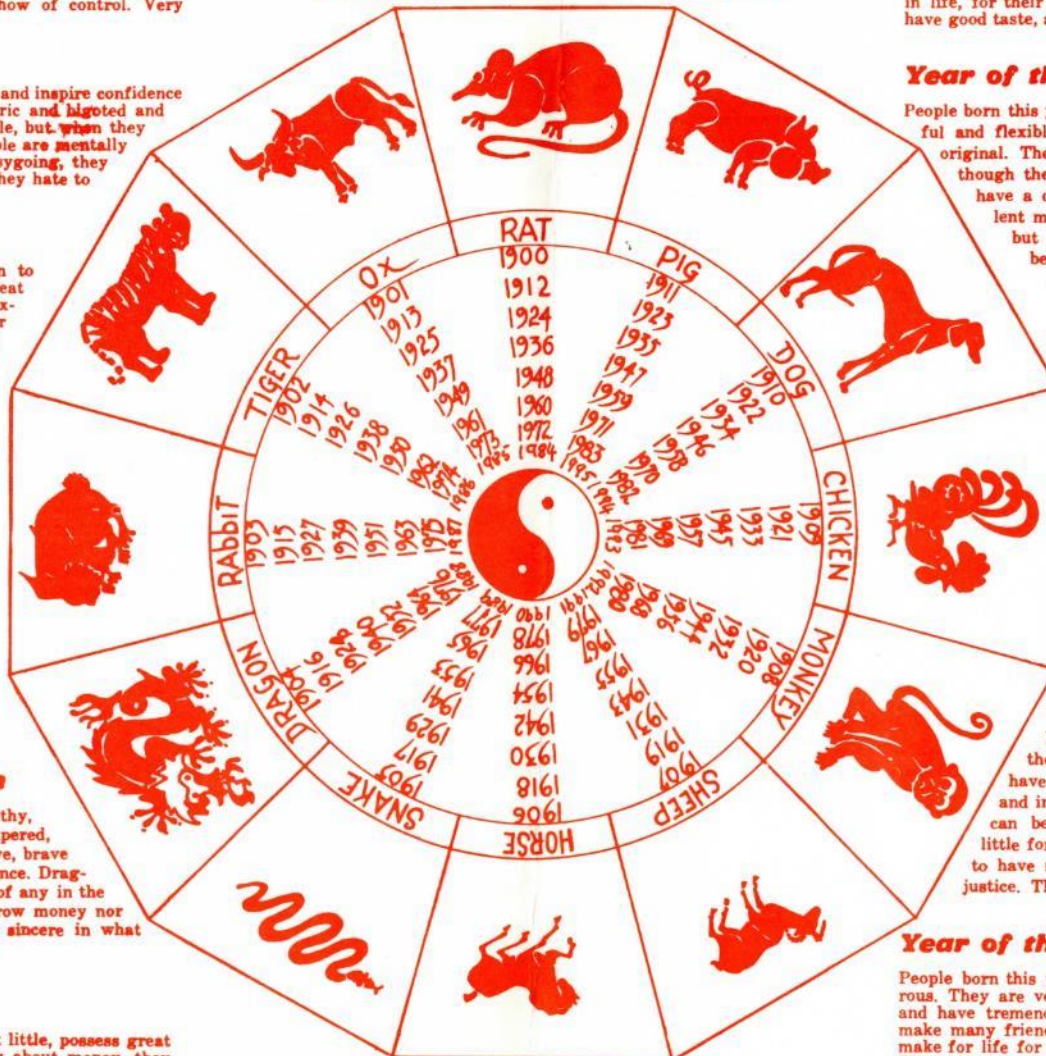
They are deep thinkers, capable and talented. They like to be busy and are devoted to their work. They try to fulfill any obligation, even those beyond their capabilities and are deeply disappointed if they fail. They are frequently loners, even though they give outward impressions of being adventurous. Their emotions swing very high to very low. But they are always interesting and can be extremely brave.

Year of the Dog

People born year of the dog possess the best traits of human nature. They have a deep sense of loyalty, are honest and inspire other people's confidence. They can be stubborn and eccentric. They care little for wealth, yet somehow manage always to have money. Dog people are champions of justice. They make good leaders.

Year of the Boar

People born this year are gallant, trusting and chivalrous. They are very honest, have plenty of will-power and have tremendous fortitude. However, they do not make many friends, but what friends they make, they make for life for they are extremely loyal and sincere. They are conscientious, study hard and are well-informed. They are quick-tempered, although they hate arguments and quarrels. Their feelings towards loved ones are usually very affectionate and kind.



a weakness for members of the opposite sex. They are impatient and hot-blooded about everything except their daily work. They like entertainment and crowds. Very independent, rarely listen to advice.

THE DINERS'

Rendezvous

We Have Minted A Coin



TO CELEBRATE OUR
LUCKY
13th ANNIVERSARY
and 3rd ANNUAL WORLD FAMOUS
Bathtub Race

VISIT US THURSDAY, JULY 3rd

FEATURING

International Day

- * Birthday Cake to all our customers
- * Special International Menu

FREE * Specially minted Anniversary and
Bathtub Race Souvenir Coin
(One day only, avoid disappointment)

- * Gifts for the children **BRING THE FAMILY!**
Our Staff will be in their native and fun costumes.
Wear yours too!

There will be a parade at 9:30 on Thursday evening and prizes
will be offered for the best costume.

JOIN US IN OUR SING-A-LONG
8:30 to 10:30

THE DINERS'
Rendezvous

489 WALLACE ST. Phone 5K3-4331 NANAIMO, B.C.

The Diners' Rendezvous Lucky 13th Anniversary 1969

24TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER SPECIALS

CHOW MEIN & SWEET N' SOUR
COMBINATION
1st persons' dinner.....5.50
2nd persons' dinner95

FRIED RICE & CHICKEN WING
COMBINATION
1st persons' dinner ... 5.50
2nd persons dinner 1.10

Thank-you for celebrating
with us.

24TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER SPECIALS

BREADED VEAL CUTLETS
1st persons' dinner6.95
2nd persons' dinner85

ROAST PRIME RIB
1st persons' dinner.....7.95
2nd persons' dinner..... 1.25

Thank-you for celebrating
with us

Diners' Rendezvous: Dining under the stars



Chinese New Year 1977



Courtesy of Nanaimo Community Archives

ENGLAND

Professionalism Service

INTRODUCTION TO DUTY ROSTER

The Finers' Rendezvous is owned and operated by the Wong family and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wong Bros. Enterprises Ltd. The restaurant has been in operation at its present location since May 5, 1956.

FOOD HOSTESSES DUTY ROSTER

1. Clean shoes and clean, well pressed uniforms are a prerequisite to good appearance. Physical cleanliness, especially of nails and hair, is of course, of equal importance.
2. Study the day's Menu carefully and check on the variety of soups and desserts available.



**Wong family with Diner's Rendezvous staff
1970**

**Gung Haggis Fat Choy
Iron Wok
23 January 2011**



ASIAN CANADIANS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND

Race, Indigeneity and the Transpacific

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Project Overview



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