Digitizing Chinese Humanities at Pitt: Progress and Challenges

Haihui Zhang
Xiuying Zou

SCSL Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2015
Two Major Projects Finished

• Chinese Land Records

• Szeming Sze Papers
  http://digital.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/f/findaid/findaid-idx?c=ascead;cc=ascead;q1=sze;rgn=main;view=text;didno=US-PPiU-ua90f141
Chinese Land Records 中国土地文书文献

• Acquired in 2011
• Digitized in 2014
• 220 pieces in total
• Earliest one: 萬曆12年 [1584]
• Latest one: 1954
• A diverse collection including land deeds, property trade documents, property inheritance documents, tax bills, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reign</th>
<th>Gregory Calendar</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Personal</th>
<th>Total Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>明万历12年</td>
<td>1584</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>清顺治16年</td>
<td>1659</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>清康熙17年</td>
<td>1678</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>清乾隆25-47年</td>
<td>1760-1782</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>清嘉庆3--22年</td>
<td>1798-1817</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>清道光2-30年</td>
<td>1822-1850</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>清咸丰8年</td>
<td>1858</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>清同治元年-11年</td>
<td>1862-1872</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>清光绪元年-33年</td>
<td>1875-1907</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>清宣统2年</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>洪宪元年</td>
<td>1916</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>中华民国2-38年</td>
<td>1913-1949</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>98</td>
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<td>中华人民共和国</td>
<td>1951-1954</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>57</td>
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Unique Items

• The earliest one: 明万历12年 [1584]
• Complete history of property deed and taxation, 1869, 1913, 1928
• Complete history of property deed and taxation, 1871, 1913, 1935
• Very rare one: 洪宪元年 （1916年1月）
福建省政府财政厅询证函

因兹查明案据，随函呈报，即照案呈报，特此函复

中华民国××年××月××日

[印章]
福建省财政厅颁发之契税契据

兹为整修税契，依省人民，准许征收起见，特定税契编号，凡属田园产业，均照此不征，已完未缴地税，均照一律征税，填贴契税票，已税之契票，不退契票，未税之契票，无论
契税及应税多寡，每税折抵契税税票壹元，兹此按契，预付
税契税者，方为有效，非预交契税者，不补税税。

业主姓名

土地住址

地亩及坐落

四至东至

西至

北至

亩数

等级

税价

签订日期

税票编号

稽核

中华民国

税票编号

税票编号
A short bio sketch of Szu Szuming, or Shi Shiming

- Born in China on April 5, 1908
- Son of diplomat Sao-ke Alfred Sze, 施肇基
- Raised up in London, a graduate of Oxford University in internal medicine
- Secretary to T.V. Soong, 1941-1945
- Chief officer of UNRAA
- One of the founders of World Health Organization (WHO)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Folder1</td>
<td>Diaries, May 1945 - December 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder2</td>
<td>United Nations Conference Documents, 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder3</td>
<td>International Health Conference Documents, 1945-1946</td>
</tr>
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<td>Folder4</td>
<td>League of Nations, January 1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder5</td>
<td>UNRRA Council Meeting Documents, March 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder6</td>
<td>UN Conference on Narcotics, December 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder7</td>
<td>Press, 1945-1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder8</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder9</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1946</td>
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<td>Folder10</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder11-14</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder15</td>
<td>Conference Publications, 1945-1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 16</td>
<td>Szeming Sze Memoirs, December 1983 - December 1986</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Sze Szeming’s Autobiography

1. Reminiscences of the early years, 1908-1934
2. Medical Work in China - 1934-1941
3. World War II Memories - 1941-1945
4. The Origins of the World Health Organization: A Personal Memoir
May 4 (Friday).

Within the Chinese Delegation I spoke to the following in order to inform them and keep them informed: Wellington Koo, Victor Koo, Lin Chiao; Wu Yi-fang, Hu Lin; Leckam; Li Shun-fan.

Li Shun-fan had approached by Owen Mulliken, who thought he was handling health matters for the Chinese Delegation. Li Shun-fan invited them to lunch, and asked if I would join them.

I told him that meeting Owen & Mulliken today was a little ahead of my timetable, as I had an understanding with Evans & Souza to wait until the latter had got the approval of their respective delegations to the draft resolution. Then, we would approach the US, UK as a united front of China, Norway & Brazil.

Li Shun-fan suggested we & I to joint hosts, & Evans, Evans & Souza along, so in the end we had a combined luncheon.
NLT

P Z KING
WEISHENGSU
CHUNGKING

4. UNDERSTAND BRITISH REPLY SENT WAICHAOPU SUGGESTING CHINA PROPOSE
   IHO RESOLUTION AT UNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PLEASE CHECK WITH WAICHAOPU

SZEMING

\$ 2.49

Dec. 17, 1945
Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

**NIGHT LETTER**

Dr. P. Z. King  
Weishengshu,  
Chungking

Regarding Waichoupu note on international health organization favorable reply  
reply from U.S.A. dispatched Chungking. Will you please inform me when French  
British Soviet replies received also inform gist of contents.

Szeming Sze

[Signatures and amounts]
Chungking July 17, 1945

Dr. Szeming Sze
United Nations Relief & Rehabilitation Ad.
1344 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 25, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Sze:

This acknowledges the receipt of your two letters dated May 29 and June 20 respectively. I noted with pleasure that you had the opportunity of assisting Dr. Soong at the United Nations Conference for International Organization.

I was particularly glad to learn of your efforts in helping to plan for the early convening of a general conference for the establishment of an international health organization. At this stage of development of public health in China, there is no question that we should support such an international undertaking.
INCOMING TELEGRAM

CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE U.N.R.R.A.

From: Liu Chieh


C.N.R.R.A., WASHINGTON OFFICE

Rec’d Dec. 18th, 1945 14:45

Sent # 13th, # 21:00

Please transmit Dr. Szeming Sze following message:

Challenges and Opportunities

• Staff time
• Collaboration across departments, and among institutions
• Discovery of hidden collections
• Contribution to digital humanities
• Contribution to open access