

# 馮平山圖書館： 八十年回顧



## 持久的禮物

1929年2月2日，馮平山先生致函香港大學校長韓惠和爵士，透露有友人願意捐贈十萬元以建造中文圖書館，探詢香港大學的意見。作出建館承諾時，馮平山先生表明建館目的有二：一是使香港大學成為南中國蒐藏與保存中國古籍的主要中心；二是藉著這個向公眾開放的圖書館，鼓勵港人研究我國文化。

馮平山先生為成立圖書館，不遺餘力。獲得大學的首肯後，即成立基金作為圖書館的維持經費。他更帶同建築師，在三週內到訪蘇、浙兩省十六所圖書館，參考各館的設施，為建造新館提出意見。可惜，他於1932年8月2日遽然離世，無法親睹圖書館的落成。大學為紀念他的捐獻，將圖書館命名為「馮平山圖書館」。1932年12月14日，港督貝璐爵士為馮平山圖書館主持開幕典禮。而香港中文圖書館的發展，由此踏進一個新的里程。



有關馮平山圖書館開幕禮的報導 (1932)



1930年代的閱覽室



1930年代的讀者服務櫃檯



在馮平山圖書館內舉行的油畫展



徐悲鴻、許地山、陳君葆與友人於徐悲鴻畫展期間於馮平山圖書館外 (1938)

## 戰前歲月 (1933-1941)

1933年1月，校方將大學圖書館自1912年起收藏的三萬一千冊中文圖書，移進馮平山圖書館。往後數年，通過接受贈書和利用大學撥款和基金所得利息購買書籍，館藏略有增加，至1941年12月，藏書約四萬九千冊，其中包括一些珍貴書籍、多種中文期刊及1934年以後出版的香港中文報紙。

當時，圖書館開放予公眾人士使用。1934年至1938年間，每年約有九千位讀者到館閱覽。香港在戰前缺少適合的文娛活動地點，因此，圖書館亦提供場地，舉辦展覽會。最受重視的是1940年2月的「廣東文物展覽會」。展覽會展出超過二千餘件文物。八天的展期，參觀人數多達二十萬，是戰前在港舉行最受歡迎展覽會之一。

七七事變，日本全面侵略中國，香港是當時一個安全的避風港。1938年初，廣州三位藏書家將藏書移至馮平山圖書館，以避戰火。1941年初，南京國立中央圖書館借用馮平山圖書館接收由北平搜購，預備寄存美國國會圖書館的珍本古籍約三萬冊，以保存文獻。淪陷前，除了館藏外，馮平山圖書館還有十萬冊寄存書籍。此外，嶺南大學在廣州淪陷後遷港，借用香港大學復課，馮平山圖書館也開放予該校五百位學生使用。

太平洋戰爭在1941年12月爆發後，馮平山圖書館被用作軍事設施。在《張看》中，張愛玲記述了在港大唸書時的一段回憶：「在港戰中當防空員，駐紮在馮平山圖書館，發現了一部《醒世姻緣》，馬上得其所哉，一連幾天看得抬不起頭來。房頂上裝着高射炮，成為轟炸目標，一顆顆炸彈轟然落下來，越落越近。我只想着：至少等我看完了吧。」



馮平山圖書館書庫 (1938)



一圖書附有戰時使用的書袋



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## 淪陷與復員（1941-1953）

英軍在1941年12月25日下午4時投降，香港隨即陷入無政府狀態。當天晚上，般咸道幾所無人看守的圖書館和教育機構均被搜掠和縱火。幸好，馮平山圖書館有五名館員留守，歹徒到館搜掠時，館員訛稱書籍毫無價值，結果歹徒只劫去衣物糧食，館內藏書得以保存，未受破壞。

日軍在1941年12月30日接管馮平山圖書館，將在市面沒收的書籍，包括學海書樓和高等法院圖書館等藏書，集中存放在此。至1943年，連同原有館藏及大學圖書館藏書約七萬九千冊，超過三十七萬冊書籍儲存館內。在戰事期間，館員一直從事整理和保存這批書籍的工作。

1944年9月，日治政府將馮平山圖書館改為「總督部立圖書館」。日本在1945年8月14日投降，日軍隨即退回營舍，香港陷入無政府狀態，圖書館再一次面對被搜掠的危機。可幸有館員留守，他們與武裝劫匪談判，結果貴重物品雖然不保，藏書則分毫無損。幾位盡忠職守的館員，留守長達五天才得到其他同事的支援。

大學在日治期間受到嚴重破壞。然而，與其他部門相比，圖書館在戰事和淪陷期間受到的損害，相對較小。配合大學復課，馮平山圖書館在1946年重開。往後數年，館員忙於核查失書，及將日軍存入書籍歸還原主。由於經費及人手短缺，館務受到影響。破損藏書及待編目書籍積壓數千冊。大學圖書館館長及中文系教授力促大學當局改善。於是在1951年3月6日，大學教務委員會將馮平山圖書館撥歸大學圖書館館長的管轄，成為大學圖書館系統的成員。



漢畫石刻拓本展覽開幕禮（1955）



參觀青山禪院

## 整合（1953-1986）

1953年，馮平山圖書館騰出地方給中國藝術及考古學陳列所，作為陳列文物之用。兼具圖書館和博物館功能之餘，圖書館仍舊舉辦文化活動，例如為演講會和國畫展覽提供場地。這些活動深受廣大市民歡迎，豐富了香港的文化生活。

另一方面，大學圖書館為解決館舍空間不足問題，在50年代中便有蓋建新館的計劃，在規劃內包含馮平山圖書館。1958年10月，終於議決將馮平山圖書館遷入新館。在徵得馮氏家人的同意後，圖書館於1962年1月遷入新館三樓。與大學圖書館的整合，亦告一段落。原址則加以修葺，成立「馮平山博物館」。博物館在1964年1月31日正式開放，由馮平山先生哲嗣馮秉芬爵士主持揭幕。

這個時期，馮平山圖書館在豐富館藏方面，取得長足的進步。1956年至1986年的三十年間，藏書從十萬冊增加到二十七萬冊，增幅達170%。除增購教學書刊外，圖書館銳意蒐藏中國各省地方志、廣東及香港的各姓族譜、當代中國資料、民國期刊、以至民國時期廣東各政府機關和學術組織刊物。

珍本古籍亦是馮平山圖書館蒐藏的重點，分別購入戰時寄存的南海黃氏幼學齋和羅氏敦復書室藏書，及中國重要私人藏書吳興劉氏嘉業堂的珍本。此外，圖書館亦收到不少贈書，如羅香林教授和陳君葆先生的珍藏。館藏善本超過七百種，一萬四千冊，包括四種宋版，十八種元版，明版書籍以及明清手稿。

在這期間，圖書編目採用以賴永祥《中國圖書分類法》為主，杜威分類法為輔，及按藏書需要加以修訂而成的混合分類法，以取代自開館以來沿用的圖書分類法。又參照美國國會圖書館的《主題標目表》，編訂藏書的中文主題標目表。1978年，適值中國改革開放，馮平山圖書館與國內知名圖書館，開展館際交換關係。圖書館由1970年走進開架時代，把需求較大的書籍從閉架移到開架，方便讀者瀏覽，流通量因而大為提高。在80年代中期，圖書館藏書和讀者人數不斷增加，館舍空間不足，成為一個嚴重的問題。



1953年的圖書館日誌



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## 邁向數字化圖書館 (1986- )

在過去26年，馮平山圖書館致力將業務自動化及建立電子館藏。1986年11月，開始使用電腦處理購書工作，為圖書館電腦化揭開序幕。隨後數年又不斷改進系統功能，用以編目和處理期刊。1991年12月，圖書館的公眾聯機檢索目錄面世，並在大學圖書館新翼開幕當日，向當時到訪的香港總督衛奕信爵士，展示這個新系統。

然而，這個系統有很多限制，只可以在引進一個能夠處理東西方語文的集成圖書館系統之前，作為權宜之用。後來，大學圖書館引入INNOPAC系統，馮平山圖書館亦在1996年將目錄資料轉到新系統。從此，西文目錄和東方語文目錄合而為一，這不但讓讀者可以同時檢索東西文資料。更重要的是，促進馮平山圖書館在公共服務和採編工作上，與大學圖書館徹底整合。2002年2月開始，馮平山圖書館向世界最大的書目庫OCLC提供目錄記錄，讓圖書館書目資料與海外圖書館分享。與此同時，圖書館又以《美國國會圖書館分類法》，取代沿用40多年的混合分類法，在編目工作上與國際接軌。

中國改革開放後，出版業蓬勃發展，為圖書館建立一個支援大學教學及研究工作的藏書，提供了新的機遇。近年館藏有可觀的增長，至2012年6月，藏書逾一百萬冊，期刊超逾一萬七千種。電子資源的增長更快，館藏電子書已超過二百三十萬本。

馮平山圖書館現位於圖書館舊翼大樓四至六樓。空間短缺是一個老問題，約六份一館藏需存放閉架書庫，以騰出空間容納新書。即使如此，圖書館仍深受師生歡迎，單在2011/2012年度，除了館藏電子資源獲廣泛利用之外，讀者借閱書籍也超過十七萬冊。



期刊室 (1986)



閱讀室 (1986)



慶祝60周年舉行的中文善本書展 (1992)



王廣武教授, 校長黃麗松教授, 馮秉芬爵士及中文系師, 馮平山圖書館館長攝於50周年館慶 (1983)

## 展望將來

作為香港第一間擁有按需要建造的館舍的圖書館，馮平山圖書館現在正銳意發展成為一間沒有圍牆的圖書館。未來的挑戰主要有兩方面：一是增購更多文獻資料；另一是利用現代信息科技將獨特的館藏數碼化，便利讀者使用。圖書館將秉承八十年來所建立的堅穩基礎，在這個數碼時代，繼續作為知識寶庫，為讀者提供優質服務。



2002年的讀者服務櫃檯



馮平山圖書館書庫 (2002)



圖書館員與饒宗頤教授於馮平山樓 (2003)



「馮平山樓」展覽開幕禮 (2003)

## 歷任館長

1932-1934	林棟	(Mr Lam Tung)
1934-1953	陳君葆	(Mr Chan Kwan Po)
1953-1960	伍冬琮	(Ms Ng Tung King)
1960-1961	唐博賢	(Mr Tong Bok Yin)
1961-1965	簡麗冰	(Dr Kan Lai Bing)
1965-1970	胡周妙坤	(Mrs Joyce Wu)
1970-1977	馮陳善奇	(Mrs Sidney Fung)
1978-1989	黎樹添	(Mr Lai Shu Tim)
1989-1997	李直方	(Mr Lee Chik Fong)
1997-2001	馬泰來	(Dr Ma Tai Loi)
2001-	尹耀全	(Dr Wan Yiu Chuen)



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# Fung Ping Shan Library: 80 Years On



## AN ENDURING GIFT

On 2 February 1929, Mr Fung Ping Shan (馮平山) wrote ostensibly on behalf of a friend to Sir William Hornell, then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong, offering a generous donation of \$100,000 for building a Chinese library. He had two objectives in mind when making this offer: firstly to make the University of Hong Kong the chief centre in South China for the collection, storage and preservation of ancient Chinese literature and classics, and to make the staff and students of the University champions and custodians of China's history and culture; and secondly to ensure that the library should be open to the public of Hong Kong to inculcate and encourage among the Chinese community a love for the study of the language and tradition and culture of their motherland.

He was so committed to the library that he established an endowment for the library's maintenance. He also made a three-week trip with his architect to study the design of sixteen modern libraries in Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces in order to advise on the architectural design of the library building. Unfortunately, he passed away on 2 August 1931, and so he was unable to witness the completion of the library. Named in his memory, the Fung Ping Shan Library (馮平山圖書館) was opened by William Peel, then Governor of Hong Kong, on 14 December 1932.



Newspaper article on the opening ceremony of Fung Ping Shan Library, 1932



Reading room in 1930's



Reader Services counter in 1930's



Exhibitions of oil painting in the Library



Xu Beihong, Xu Dishan, Chan Kwan-po and others at the entrance of Fung Ping Shan Library during the painting exhibition of Xu Beihong, 1938

## PRE-WAR YEARS (1933–1941)

In January 1933, an initial stock of some 31,000 volumes, which had been built up as the Chinese collection of the University of Hong Kong Libraries since 1912, was transferred to the Fung Ping Shan Library. The library collection grew in subsequent years through book donations and new purchases from the interest generated from endowment funds and allocations from the University. By December 1941, there were nearly 49,000 volumes in the collection, including some rare titles. It also kept complete runs of Hong Kong Chinese newspapers published after 1934, and a variety of Chinese periodicals.

The Library was open to the public - on average some 9,000 users read in the Library annually from 1934 to 1938. It was also used as a venue for holding exhibitions owing to the lack of exhibition space elsewhere in Hong Kong. The Cultural Heritage of Guangdong exhibition was perhaps the most notable. Held in February 1940, with more than 2,000 artefacts on display, it attracted more than 200,000 visitors over eight days and was, undoubtedly, one of the most popular exhibitions ever held in pre-war Hong Kong.

Hong Kong became a safe haven when Japan invaded China in July 1937. In early 1938, three private collections from Guangzhou were deposited in the Library for safekeeping. In early 1941, approximately 30,000 rare books, purchased in Beijing for the National Central Library at Nanjing, were also held in the Library waiting to be shipped out. As a result, some 100,000 Chinese books, in addition to its own collection of 49,000 volumes, were deposited in the Library before the Second World War broke out. In addition, the Library was also open to the 500 students of Lingnan University who were continuing their studies on the University of Hong Kong campus.

The Library was turned into a military facility when the Pacific War broke out in December 1941. It became a bombardment target after anti-aircraft guns were installed on the rooftop of the building. Zhang Ailing (張愛玲), a HKU undergraduate in those days, served as an air defence attendant in the Library. Later she wrote in Zhang Kan (張看) "I found a set of Xing shi yin yuan (醒世姻緣) in the Library and indulged myself in it. The vicinity was heavily bombed and bombs were getting closer and closer. I only hoped that I could finish reading the book".



Library book stacks 1938



A book with book pocket of the wartime library



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## JAPANESE OCCUPATION AND POSTWAR RECOVERY (1941–1953)

Hong Kong fell into anarchy immediately after the British surrendered at 4 pm on 25 December 1941, and several unattended libraries and educational institutions along Bonham Road were looted and burned to the ground that night. Yet, five staff members remained on duty in the Fung Ping Shan Library to look after the books. Looters broke into the Library over night and took away clothing and food but left the books untouched, having been convinced by the staff that they were of no value.

The Japanese took control of the Fung Ping Shan Library on 30 December 1941, and soon afterwards they made use of the Library to store the books they had confiscated, including those from the Hok Hoi Library (學海書樓) and the Supreme Court Library. In 1943, more than 370,000 books, including 79,000 volumes belonging to the Fung Ping Shan Library and the University of Hong Kong Libraries, were housed in the Library. Staff members were engaged in the preservation, cataloguing, and accessioning of these books until the end of the war.

The Fung Ping Shan Library became the Library of the Government of the Occupied Territory in September 1944. When the Japanese surrendered on 14 August 1945, the Library was once again under threat of looting, which continued unabated when the Japanese soldiers retreated to their barracks. In this chaotic period, a few library staff managed to take charge of the Library before a group of armed looters could break in. Following negotiations, the intruders finally agreed to take away the valuables but to leave the books untouched. This faithful staff remained in charge of the Library for five days before other colleagues could offer assistance.

The war years were disastrous to the University. However, the Library was more fortunate than many other departments in that it suffered comparatively little damage during the actual hostilities and occupation. It was re-opened in 1946, in conjunction with the University's first post-war academic session. Considerable efforts were made immediately after the war to identify book losses as well as separate library books from those collected from outside, and to return them to their rightful owners. Yet, the Library suffered from a manpower shortage and insufficient book budget after the war. The collection was in poor physical condition and a backlog of thousands of books simply piled up waiting for processing. Both the University Librarian and the Professor of the School of Chinese urged the University to take action to make improvements, and on 6 March 1951, the Senate decided to place the Library under the management of the University Librarian. Since then, the Fung Ping Shan Library has been a member of the University of Hong Kong Libraries system.



Opening ceremony of the rubbings exhibition in 1955.



A visit to Tsing Shan Monastery



Journal of library activities during 1953

## CONSOLIDATION (1953–1986)

The Library took on an additional role in 1953, when space was allocated to the Museum of Chinese Art and Archaeology. Besides assuming the role of a library and a museum, it continued to serve as a venue for holding cultural activities, including public lectures and exhibitions of Chinese paintings in the 1950s. These activities were well received by the general public and helped enrich the cultural life of Hong Kong.

Since the mid-1950s, there had been numerous discussions on moving the Library into the new Main Library building, which was planned to alleviate space problems in the western collections. A final decision to move the Library was set forth in October 1958, and with the approval of the Fung family, the move to the third floor of the new Main Library took place between 29 January and 8 February 1962. This completed the integration of the Fung Ping Shan Library into the university library system. The historical building that the Library occupied for three decades was then renovated for use as the Fung Ping Shan Museum, which was officially opened on 31 January 1964, by the son of Fung Ping Shan, Sir Kenneth Fung Ping Fan (馮秉芬).

Great progress was made in building up the collection, with its holdings increased by 170% in just three decades—from 100,000 volumes in 1956 to 270,000 volumes in 1986. Apart from books for supporting teaching and learning, the Library also expended great efforts in collecting valuable items including local gazetteers, genealogies from clans in Guangdong and Hong Kong, contemporary materials on China, periodicals on literature, history, fine arts and archaeology published between the 1900s and the Sino-Japanese War, as well as publications of government departments and academic institutions in Guangdong province in the Republican period.

Equally noteworthy was the development of its collection of rare materials. Two of the private collections deposited in the Library during wartime, Nanhai Huang shi Qu xue zhai (南海黃氏劬學齋) and Luo shi Dun fu shu shi (羅氏敦復書室) were added to the library collection. Rare manuscripts belonging to Wuxing Liu shi Jia ye tang (吳興劉氏嘉業堂), one of the most important private book collections in China, were also acquired by the Library. On top of this, the Library also received a number of rare books, particularly those from Chan Kwan Po (陳君葆) and Professor Lo Hsiang Lin (羅香林). The rare book collection of the Fung Ping Shan Library is now one of the largest in Hong Kong, with over 700 titles in 14,000 volumes, including 4 Song Dynasty editions, 18 Yuan Dynasty editions, block prints from the Ming Dynasty, as well as numerous manuscripts from the Ming and Qing Dynasty.

This period also witnessed the adoption of a hybrid classification scheme to replace the system which the Library had used since 1932, with the compilation of Chinese subject headings based on the Library of Congress' List of Subject Headings. In 1978, a gift and exchange network was established with major libraries in mainland China. To enable users to browse the more popular books, the Library gave up its closed stack shelving arrangement in 1970. This promoted usage of its collection and made the Library more user-friendly. Shortage of space became an acute problem in the mid-1980s with the growth of the library collection and the user population.



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## TOWARDS A DIGITAL LIBRARY (1986– )

Central to the development of the Fung Ping Shan Library over the past twenty-six years has been the automation of library operations and the development of its electronic contents. The Library began computerisation in November 1986, with the use of an in-house microcomputer system for processing book acquisitions. Enhancements were made to the in-house PC-based system over subsequent years, extending its capabilities to perform cataloguing and serials control. The Chinese online public access catalogue was introduced in December 1991, demonstrated to Sir David Wilson, then Hong Kong Governor, at the official opening of the Main Library New Wing.

Despite the technical limitations of this in-house system, it enabled a successful transition to online bibliographic access before the availability of an integrated automated library system capable of handling western and East Asian languages. In 1996, the Library migrated to the INNOPAC system and for the first time Chinese-Japanese-Korean catalogue records of the Fung Ping Shan Library could be searched along with the western language collection. This also served as an important catalyst in fostering the integration of the Library's technical and public services with those of the University of Hong Kong Libraries system. In February 2002, the Library began to contribute catalogue records to OCLC (Online Computer Library Center, Inc), one of the world's leading bibliographic utilities. This major international collaborative effort has enabled the Library to share catalogue records with its counterparts in other parts of the world. At almost the same time, a decision was made to adopt the Library of Congress Classification system for East Asian language materials, replacing the hybrid system that had been in use since the 1960s.

During this period, the Chinese publishing industry flourished in unprecedented ways following the opening of China. This has provided an excellent opportunity for the Library to further develop its collections in order to meet the expanding teaching, learning and research needs of the university. The Library's print collection has grown significantly, and as of June 2012 it holds more than one million volumes and 17,000 periodical titles. Equally impressive has been the increase in electronic resources, as evidenced by its E-book collection of over 2.3 million titles.

A shortage of space remains a significant problem for the Library. The Library now occupies the entire sixth floor of the Main Library Old Wing and part of the fourth and fifth floors. Some one-sixth of the Library's print collection has been sent to an off-campus storage facility in order to alleviate space problems and to accommodate the addition of new titles. The Library remains a popular resource among teachers, students and researchers. More than 170,000 library books have been read in the year 2011/2012, in addition to the very heavy use of its myriad electronic resources.



Periodicals room, 1986



Study area, 1986



Chinese Rare Book Exhibition for the 60th anniversary of Fung Ping Shan Library, 1992



Prof Wang Gungwu, VC Rayson Huang and Sir Fung Ping Fan with members from Chinese Department and Fung Ping Shan Librarian at Convocation Room after presenting a talk for the 50th anniversary of Fung Ping Shan Library, 1983

## INTO THE FUTURE

As the first library in Hong Kong provided with purpose-built premises, the Fung Ping Shan Library is now striving to become a library without walls. The challenges ahead are mainly two-fold: firstly, making more content available by acquiring them in the market and digitising unique titles in its collection; and secondly, utilising modern information and communication technologies to allow the contents to be easily accessible in a user-friendly manner. With a solid foundation built over the past eighty years, the Library will continue to fulfill its role as a repository of knowledge and deliver quality services to users in this digital age.



Reader Services counters of the Library (2002)



Library book stacks, 2002

## LIST OF LIBRARIANS

1932–1934	Mr Lam Tung	(林棟)
1934–1953	Mr Chan Kwan Po	(陳君葆)
1953–1960	Ms Ng Tung King	(伍冬琼)
1960–1961	Mr Tong Bok Yin	(唐博賢)
1961–1965	Dr Kan Lai Bing	(簡麗冰)
1965–1970	Mrs Joyce Wu	(胡周妙坤)
1970–1977	Mrs Sidney Fung	(馮陳善奇)
1978–1989	Mr Lai Shu Tim	(黎樹添)
1989–1997	Mr Lee Chik Fong	(李直方)
1997–2001	Dr Ma Tai Loi	(馬泰來)
2001–	Dr Wan Yiu Chuen	(尹耀全)



Library staff with Prof. Jao Tsung-I at Fung Ping Shan Building, 2003



Opening ceremony of the "Fung Ping Shan Building" exhibition, 2003



THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
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