

CHINA MARY * 261196

Researcher: Larry L. McFall

Note: It is believed from research on Tombstone city and Cochise County records that the woman referenced to as CHINA MARY was called in Tombstone MARY SING CHOY.

* Mary was suspected to live on Tombstone land identified as Block 2, Lots 7,8, & 9. Research outlines that Mary only owned and/or paid taxes on Block 2, Lot 9. It has been stated that she married a Chinese man by the name of Ah Lum.

1882 - A local census of Cochise County reveals that AH LUM was identified as not being married and 25 years old. No indication of a MARY SING CHOY in any spelled form. The census identifies two Chinese named Ah Choy and Sing Choy in the same household. AH CHOY is 40 years old and SING CHOY is 25 years old.

Note: It is possible that China Mary aquired the name MARY and added it to her name (i.e., SING CHOY) making it Mary Sing Choy. AH LUM and AH CHOY are two different Chinese men identified in the 1882 census.

1887 - Block 2 of Tombstone was all owned by the San Pedro Mining Company.

1888 - Block 2, Lot 9 valued at \$300 was owned by MARY SING CHOY. Other lots in block 2 are owned by Chinese.

Note: 1888-1893 Mary Sing Choy owned and paid taxes on Block 2, Lot 9. Never any other lots.

1890 - Tai Yon Chung and relatives Zuong On Chung, and Ah Chung owned Block 2, Lot 10 registered as:

Tai Yon Chung	* Block 2, Lot 10 East Part
Juong On Chung	* Block 2, Lot 10 Rear Part
Ah Chung	* Block 2, Lot 10 West Part

Note: Tai Yon Chung applied for business licenses in Tombstone November 15, 1886. He appears to be a major Chinese figure in Tombstone.

1894 - Tai Yon Chung shows ownership of Block 2, Lots 8, 9 & 10.

Note: It appears that China Mary (i.e., Mary Sing Choy) bought the property identified as Block 2, lot 9 from the San Pedro Mining Company between 1887 & 1888. She sold this property to Tai Yon Chung between 1895 & 1896. Mary died in Tombstone on December 16th, 1900 at the age of 67 years.

1900 - The U.S. Census shows Mary Sing Choy as working as a Housekeeper in the household of WONG TUN BON in Tombstone. Mary was born in May 1850 and was registered as being 50 years old. The census stated she came to the US from China in 1870 (30 years) and can read, write and speak english.

Note: It has been stated that she was married to a man by the name of Ah Lum. Ah Lum was found in the 1900 Census as being born in 1859 and registered as being 40 years old, cook and married to a Chinese Woman named Agio Lum. It is unlikely that Mary was married to Ah Lum. It is assumed that Mary sold her property to Tai Yon Chung in 1895/1896 and moved into a household as domestic help as shown in the 1900 census.