



Invitation: Poy Gum Lee Walk Tour  
June, 2009

My dearest and most beloved Disappearing Corners folks,

It's been almost one whole month since I last chatted with all of you! I just can't believe how time flies! A great thanks for your kind replies about our last Pootung Heritage Walk and today I'm going to invite you to join DC again for some fun.

The weather is getting hot and I know summer is never the best time to go out. But on a boring summer day, what else is better than to meet a few friends for some good chats and cold beer? In this case, a walk tour is perhaps another good excuse to meet and talk and have fun with all of you again!

Here is the story; there was an Chinese American architect called Poy Gum Lee (1900-1968) who arrived to Shanghai in the late 1920s to oversee and design the buildings for the YMCA/YWCA. He started his design firm and with his team, they had participated in many projects, and one of the more notable ones was Nanjing's Sun Yat Sen Mausoleum. Mr Kent Jue, the grandchild of Poy G Lee is coming to meet me next week and let's show him to some of the places Lee had designed.

The itinerary will be:

Cosmopolitan Apartments --> YMCA on Xizhang Zhong Lu --> YWCA in the Rock Bund Area --> New Asia Hotel (a bit beyond the Rock Bund Area, across the Embankment Building)--> The Mary Farnham Girls School on Lujiabang Road which is a stone's throw from the fabric market (Can only see it through the gate, no permission to enter) --> The Cantonese Baptist Church hidden nearby Dolun Road

And we'll end the tour having some beer at the 1933 Slaughterhouse\* and dinner somewhere (TBD)

Poy had in fact built many other buildings around Shanghai, but I have yet to find all of them. I'll try to my best, if I have the time, to do more searches from the directory this coming week. But if any of you know where they are, please give me the addresses and I'll add them to the itinerary. However, the other buildings around Poy's work are worthwhile to look at too so I bet this itinerary will consume our whole afternoon! I'll grab my camera with me as usual, and try to take a picture of the Bridge House across the New Asia Hotel for my elderly friend in the UK; I've never studied the structure properly before.

The tour will be on:

5th July, 2009 @ 1pm

Meeting spot: Main entrance of Portman Ritz Carlton Hotel

To prevent confusions and disarrangements, here is my cell phone number: 0086 1381 883 1937. Don't hesitate to give me a ring in case you have any questions.

Finally, not the least, I'd appreciate if you can do the few things below:

- Send me a confirmation email and inform me if you're coming or not;
- Prepare a few coins or put enough money in your transportation cards; we'll be hopping on and off the metro lines or possibly taxis...
- (Very Important!) Follow DC's tradition and pray for a sunny day, at least praying it's not going to rain!

I look forward to meeting you guys again next week... Let's go!

Cheers,  
Cintia

\* I'll check with Sean of Factory Shanghai to see if they got a projector and computers to show project slideshows; if so, I'll show you Kent's collection of Poy Gum Lee photographs and sketches while we enjoy the beer. So Kent, please kindly send me the pictures via email. Thanks.

\* Food and Transport are at participants' expense