ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

would like to start by thanking Gail Hershatter and Emily Honig for their encouragement and advice over the years. The UCSC East Asian History Program provided me a nurturing environment, and I am thankful to all the professors and graduate students in that program. In the past few years, I have developed a close friendship with Cathryn Clayton, our *da shijie*. During the Covid years, we spent many hours on Zoom discussing each other's drafts, and she convinced me that my concept of the Southern Periphery is not ridiculous.

I was flattered when James (Woody) Watson, one of the pioneer scholars on Hong Kong, wrote to me and said that he enjoyed my article and wanted to read more. He has made me believe that my research is important and worth continuing. I am also very indebted to Antonia Chao for showing me why a book about migration is worth writing and, more important, for introducing me to a few of the main subjects of this book. Shelly Chan has inspired to think about Hong Kong in a diasporic framework and given me helpful comments on some of the chapters.

This project would not have been possible without the following interlocutors: Chair Sai Ying, Albert Cheung, Cheung Tak Foo, Jennifer Chiang, Freda Cho, Ip Cheung, Fish Ip, Nicholas Kwok, Agnes Lam, Wai Ha Lam, Lao Zhengwu, Mong Kok Gou Wu Tun, Benedictus Ng, Shuk Ying, Tam Man-Kei, Abby Wan, Lennon Wong, Leo Yiu, Xiao Yujing, and a few who would want to stay anonymous. I was saddened to learn about the

passing of Wan Yue Ming, Wang Qing-quan, and Zhou Qingjun before I finished the project.

This project was supported by the Chiang Ching-kuo foundation and the Pomona College Faculty Research Grants.

Besides funding, my home institution, Pomona College, has been very generous in many ways. My colleagues in the History Department—Gina Brown-Pettay, Pey-Yi Chu, Gary Kates, Arash Khazeni, Sid Lemelle, Preston McBride, April Mayes, Char Miller, Tomás Summers Sandoval, Miguel Tinker Salas, Victor Silverman, Ousmane Traoré, Ken Wolf, and Sam Yamashita—have been very supportive and understanding throughout these years. Helena Wall has read drafts of this project and given me useful feedback. The Ena Thompson Lectureship funds have helped me invite guest speakers to give stimulating talks on China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. I also benefited from the fellowship and the writing workshops organized by Kevin Dettmar and Gretchen Rognlien of Pomona College Humanities Studio. The 2021–2022 fellows—Colin Beck, Heidi Haddad, Esther Hernández-Medina, Joti Rockwell, Tony Jin, Luke Meares, Laila Ruffin, Alice Shinn, Ruby Simon, Nick Yi, M. Bilal Nasir, and Nikia Robert—have helped me refine my arguments.

The following students at Pomona and other Claremont Colleges were instrumental in the research process: Don Chen, Eugine Choo, Laurel Hilliker, Kelly Ho, Justin Hsu, John Kim, Jonathan Lee, Justin Lee, Ruiqi Li, Marcus Liu, Mingda Liu, Kathy Lu, Raymond Lu, Agnes Mok, Patrick Oh, Wei Jun Mun, Zelin (Jacob) Wang, Jacob Waldor, Jessica Ning Tan, Elaine Yu, and Lily Zhang. Many of them spent many hours translating and organizing my archival materials. The work was so tedious that it has persuaded most of them not to become historians! Many of these research assistantships would not have been possible without the financial support of the Pomona's Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP). I would also like to thank Chris Rand for sponsoring many of these projects.

Claremont and the 5C community have been my home base even before this project started. I want to thank Pey-Yi Chu, Ted Laird, Claire Li, and Seo Young Park for the friendship, meals, outings, and laughter, as well as Allan Barr, Emily Chao, Eileen Cheng, Vin de Silva, Anne Dwyer, David Elliot, Peter Flueckiger, Zayn Kassam, Terril Jones, Kyoko Kurita, Tom Le, Karin Mak, Lisa Maldonado, Georgia Mickey, Lynne Miyake,

Aya Nakagoshi, Zhiru Ng, Albert Park, Chang Tan, and Chelsea Wang for being there when I needed help.

The Claremont Colleges Library has a very special place in this project. I am especially grateful for the assistance provided by Ayat Agah, Grace Chen, Lisa Crane, Ashley Larson, Carrie Marsh, Myles Mykulic, Adam Rosenkranz, Sean Stanley, and Xiuying Zou in the library and the Special Collections. Through the librarians, I was introduced to Claremont's former mayor, Peter Yao, who took me out to delicious meals and spent hours telling me how his parents, Norman Gan-chao Yao and Anne Lee Yao, took the whole family from China to Hong Kong and then to Claremont in the 1950s. Some of the photos included in this book were taken by Norman Yao, who worked as a photographer for the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong and then for the Claremont Colleges. Peter's mother, Anne Lee Yao, was the first Asian American woman librarian in the Claremont Colleges Library.

Thanks also are due to staff members who have assisted me over the years in various archives and libraries, including the University Service Center and Special Collections at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Central Library, the Public Records Office of Hong Kong, Guangzhou Municipal Archives, Guangdong Provincial Archives, the Institute of Modern History Archives, the Academia Historica, the KMT Archives, the National Central Library (Taiwan) and the National Taiwan Library, and the National Archives in the UK.

I have been lucky to be able to visit many places to conduct my research and participate in scholarly activities. In Taipei, I would like to express my gratitude to Max Ko-wu Huang, Lien Ling-ling, Lin Siuchuan, and Yu Chien-ming at the Institute of Modern History at Academic Sinica, who facilitated my research trips there. During those trips to Taiwan, Ding Naifei, Shirley Lai, Amie Elizabeth Parry, Teri Silvio, Yen-ling Tsai, Andy Wang, and Shawn Wu made me feel so at ease that I am seriously considering moving to Taiwan after I retire. The Berkeley Summer Research Institute held by You-tien Hsing, Wen-hsin Yeh and Robert Weller in 2012 inspired me to think about some of the fundamental ideas of this project. At the workshop, I particularly benefited from friendship with Mike Liu, Chih-Chieh Tang, and Shao-hua Liu. I also learned a great deal from a conference that one of the participants, Jenn-Hwan Wang, organized at National Chengchi University a few months

later. Ip Hung-yok kindly invited me to another conference on midtwentieth-century China at the Academia Sinica in Taiwan in 2015. I am also grateful to have participated in the Hong Kong History Project Conference and the Society for Hong Kong Studies Conference in 2019.

I have been thinking about this project for about a decade, and throughout the years I have also benefited from conversations with many scholars and friends, including John Carroll, Carolyn Cartier, YC Chen, Hsiao-wen Cheng, Howard Chiang, Ching Cheong, Maybo Ching, Ian Chong, Grace Chou, Katherine Chu, Robert Chung, Alexander Day, Evan Dawley, Harriet Evans, Xiaofei Gao, Andrea Goldman, Linda Grove, Peter Hamilton, Hatta Tomoko, Hasegawa Kazumi, Hasegawa Kenji, He Bixiao, Todd Henry, Hirano Keiko, Denise Ho, Madeline Hsu, Calvin Hui, Ito Ruri, Maria Jaschok, Joan Judge, Kawamoto Kanae, Belinda Kong, Paul Krietman, Tong Lam, Fabio Lanza, Yvonne Leung, Lo Sze-Ping, David Luesink, Suzanne Miers, Jeremy Murray, Ohashi Fumie, Osamu Nagase, Glen Peterson, Lisa Rofel, Leo Shin, Sing Ming, Elizabeth Sinn, Helen Siu, Alan Smart, Wayne Soon, Michael Szonyi, Jia Tan, Priscilla Tse, Jeffrey Wasserstrom, Yiching Wu, Ka-ming Wu, Dominic Yang, Yau Ching, Yi Sumei, Ray Yep, Hon-ming Yip, Kenneth Yung, and many others whom I have forgotten to include here.

In California, several Hong Kong friends make sure that I don't forget how to speak Cantonese. Ching Kwan Lee has always been a wonderful mentor and friend. Her leadership in promoting Hong Kong studies is vital in bringing more awareness to the city in this critical time. I am always happy when I am in the company of Wai Kit Choi, Charles Lam, Gabriel Law, Hakwan Lau, Bellette Lee, Ka-yuet Liu, Winnie Man, Kwai Ng, and Eddy U. Thank you for the friendship.

I am grateful to Caelyn Cobb at Columbia University Press. Caelyn has been a huge supporter of this project since she read my proposal. She has always been accommodating and patient with me throughout the process. My appreciation also goes to Monique Briones, Marisa Lastres, Gregory McNamee, and the rest of the production team at Columbia. I also want to express my gratitude to the two anonymous reviewers who gave me generous feedback and suggestions. Gregory Epp and Robert Fullilove helped me with some of the early editing, and Guoping Huang created the maps.

I always exploit my friends for my needs. This book is no exception. I am indebted to Yan Yan (Seven) Chan, who helped me with research and

illustrations. Thanks also goes to Harriet Cheng, who took me to Sha Ling and the border area between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. Other important friends, including Brian Chan, Dorothy Cheung, Choi Wan Cheung, Conal Ho, Jude Hui, Ho Lai Yin, Ho Lai Heung, Lucetta Kam, Mary Ann King, Anson Mak, David Moses, Joanne Poon, Xiaoping Sun, Wendy Tam, and Gar Yin Tsang, have given me tremendous support throughout the years. I am forever indebted to Gemma Gonzales and Ho Lai Hing, who spent many years helping my family but left the world too soon to have much time at home with their loved ones. I am also very grateful to my family—my late father, James; my mother, Julia; my brothers, Victor and Sammy; my sister-in-law, Angie; Auntie Gladys Fong; and my late uncle Jack Yang and my auntie Joanna Yang. Revelinda Perez and Ana Retana relieved me from my duties in the households. My pets, Pee Wee, Momo, Boopie, Twinkee, and Jiji, have taught me that every little thing counts.

Finally, I want to thank my beloved Heung Kong Yan for showing much wisdom, compassion, and courage during the time of crisis. Even though we may be far apart, our hearts are always connected.