

Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission

HPC Resolution No. 2025-01

Adopting a Standard Naming Convention for the Deadwood Pioneer Wong Fee Lee (黃輝利)

WHEREAS, the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission is committed to accurately preserving and interpreting the history of the City of Deadwood and all of its diverse communities and pioneers; and

WHEREAS, Wong Fee Lee (黃輝利), a prominent Chinese American pioneer, entrepreneur, and community leader, made significant contributions to the civic, cultural, and economic life of Deadwood from 1876 to 1919, and is recognized as an integral figure in the city's multicultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the historical record includes varying renditions of his name, including "Fee Lee Wong," "Wong Fay Lee," "Wing Tsue," and others, due to inconsistent transliterations and Anglicization practices of the time; and

WHEREAS, to promote clarity, respect cultural naming conventions, and ensure consistency in scholarly and public discourse, it is appropriate to adopt a standard format in alignment with traditional Chinese naming order, in which the **surname precedes the given name**, and the original Chinese characters are included upon first reference;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the **Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission**, as follows:

1. The standard and official rendition for the historic figure shall be:
 - **Wong Fee Lee (黃輝利)** at first mention in all future Commission-sanctioned **publications, exhibits, educational materials, interpretive signage, and research papers**;
 - **Wong Fee Lee** in subsequent references within the same text.
2. The Anglicized form "**Fee Lee Wong**" shall be reserved exclusively for the **citation of original historical records, publications, or archival materials** where that version appears in the source.
3. All future documentation and interpretation efforts involving the life, legacy, and contributions of Wong Fee Lee shall follow this naming convention to promote historical accuracy and cultural respect.

4. This resolution shall be communicated to all relevant departments, partners, researchers, and contributors working on projects under the auspices of the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission.

Adopted this 9th day of April, 2025.

Leo Diede, Chairperson

Deadwood Historic Preservation
Commission

Attest:

Kevin Kuchenbecker
Historic Preservation Officer