

曾祖曾是新加坡选民

当新加坡还是海峡殖民地的一份子时，它有自己的市政府，负责公安，公共建设和水供等的公共服务。最早的市委会成立于 1848 年，法令逐年修订，到 1856 年市政法案下市委会依法授权专委，专委一般是政府任命，但也有民选的。专委的权力又在 1887 年的市政条例扩大。陈金声是最早被任命的专委（1856 年），以后华人领袖如余连城、陈若锦（1897 年）和李俊源（1900 年）都当过专委。

1887 年至 1913 年，市委会选区有五个：1，丹戎巴葛；2，中部；3，东陵；4，梧槽；以及 5，加冷。

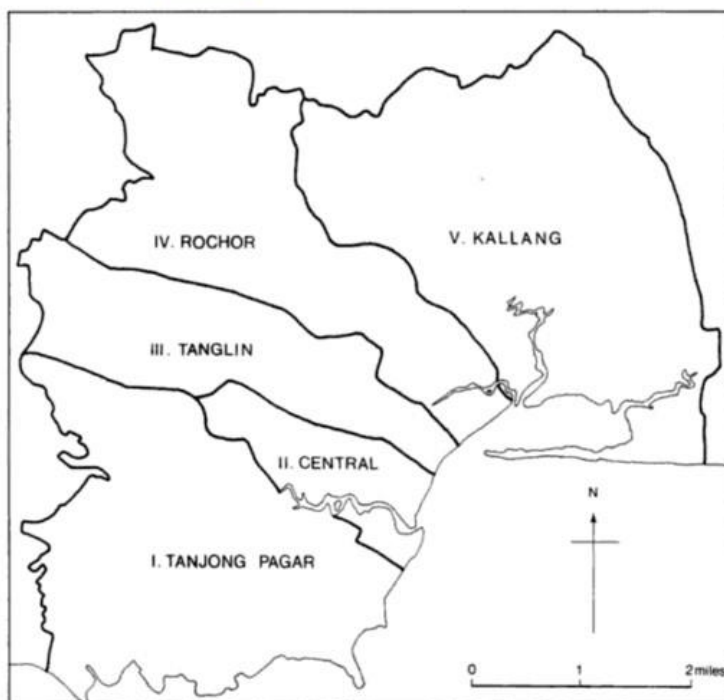
什么样的居民有资格投票呢？他必须是男性，或者拥有在选区内的产业，缴付过 12.5 百分比的产业税，或者居住在选区内至少值 150 元的房子里不少过半年。如果他入籍英国，会说、读英文，居住在选区外 2 英里范围内，缴付过半年 20 元的产业税或以上，或者房值 480 元或以上，他还可以参加选举，成为专委候选人。选举前，政府即会在政府官报上公布合格选民名单。

- 1897 年 11 月 19 日，丹戎巴葛选民名单共有 11 页（一页约有 45 个名字），中有曾祖楊本铭，注册产业为 67/76 号吉宁街；同住址有位 Yeo Cheow Peng。
- 1898 年 9 月 30 日，丹戎巴葛选民名单共有 12 页，中有曾祖楊本铭，详情同上。
- 1898 年 11 月 18 日，丹戎巴葛选民名单共有 12 页，中有曾祖楊本铭，详情同上。

1898 年 3 月九日选出的是一位叫 Hugh Fort 的英籍律师。

曾祖投票了吗？

FIGURE 2.11
Municipal Electoral Wards, 1887–1913



Municipal Notice.

Mid-day Herald, 8 March 1898, Page 3

Municipal Notice.

ALEX GENTLE,

President
Municipal Commissioner
Municipal Office,
Singapore, 1st March, 1898.

NOTICE is hereby given that the following person has been validly nominated as Candidate for the election of Municipal Commissioner for the Tanjong Pagar (No. 1) Ward of the Singapore Municipality to be held on Monday the 9th March 1898.

FOR TANJONG PAGAR WARD.

Name in full,	Abode.
Hugh Fort.	141, Orchard Road.
Description, Barrister-at-law, Advocate and Solicitor, &c., &c.	

Proposed by Thomas Scott Esq., for
Tanjong Pagar Dock Coy. Ltd.
Seconded by Charles Stringer, Esq.,
for the New Harbour Dock Coy, Ltd

MUNICIPAL NOTICE.

THE following list containing the names of persons duly qualified to vote for the election of a Municipal Commissioner for No. 1 (Tanjong Pagar) Ward of the Municipality of the Town of Singapore, is published in accordance with sections 13 and 38 of the Municipal Ordinance No. XV of 1896.

W. EGERTON,
Deputy President.

MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE,
Singapore 15th September 1897

Name of Voter	Place of Abode.	Nature of Qualification.	Description of Qualifying Property
Adams, A. P.	54 Grange Road	Payment of Rates	54 Grange Road
Aboobakarsah	23 Mosque Street	Occupation	23 Mosque Street
Yeo Cheow Peng	.....	Joint Payment of Rates	67/76 Cross Street
.. Chin Teng	7 Upr. Nankin St.	Payment of Rates	32/33 Duxton Road
.. Choo Lam	10 Neil Road	Occupation	10 Neil Road
.. Hong Ghee	45 Smith Street	Payment of Rates	45 Smith Street
.. Keng Chuan	13 Upr. Nankin St.	..	12/13 Pagoda Street
.. Kong Team	93 Cross Street	Occupation	93 Cross Street
.. Poon Miah	.....	Joint Payment of Rates	67/76 Cross Street
.. Poon Seng	2 Stanley Street	Payment of Rates	2 Stanley Street
.. Soo Tian	.....	..	57 Havelock Road
.. Hock Choon	13-2 Craig Road	Occupation	13-2 Craig Road
.. Hye	24 Havelock Road	..	24 Havelock Road
.. Leang Seng	58 Telok Ayer St.	..	58 Telok Ayer St.
.. See	62 Havelock Road	..	62 Havelock Road
.. Swee Tye	15 Ann Siang Hill	..	15 Ann Siang Hill
.. Tong	12 Kerr Street	Joint Payment of Rates	14/15 Havelock Rd.
Yeow Hong Tek	28 Market Street	Payment of Rates	67 Smith Street
Yip Seng Tong	.....	..	27/28 Mosque St.

When Singapore was still a part of the Straits Settlements, it had its own municipal government, which was responsible for maintaining the public order and for taking care of public roads, buildings and water-supply. The Singapore Municipal Committee was established in 1848 by law, and was augmented over the years by legislative amendment. Under the Municipal Act of 1856, the Municipal Commission was formed. While most Commissioners were still appointed by the Straits Government, a number of Commissioners were elected. The powers of the Commissioners were enlarged by the Municipal Ordinance of 1887.

Prominent Chinese community leaders were appointed as Commissioners. Tan Kim Seng, in 1856, was the first appointed member. Seah Liang Seah and Tan Jiak Kim were Commissioners in 1897 and then Lee Choon Guan, in 1900.

The municipal Electoral Wards from 1887 to 1913, consisted of 5 electoral wards: 1. Tanjong Pagar, 2. Central, 3. Tanglin, 4. Rochor, 5. Kallang.

“To qualify as a voter, one needed to be a male adult, and had paid a minimum of 12.5% rate for property situated in the ward, or occupied for six months a house within the ward of a minimum annual rateable value of \$150. He could stand for election as a commissioner if he was a British subject, spoke and read English, resided within the municipality or within 2 miles of its limits, and either have paid rates for the half year amounting to \$20 or above, or occupied a house of annual rateable value of not less than \$480.” [Reference]

The Government Gazette, published the list of qualified voters in Municipal Notices.

The following were found:

- November 19, 1897, Tanjong Pagar list runs 11 pages, with one page containing about 45 names.- Our Great-Grandfather Yeo Poon Miah appeared with qualification as a joint rate payer (with Yeo Cheow Peng) for the property on 67/76 Cross street.
- September 30, 1898, Tanjong Pagar list runs 12 pages - Yeo Poon Miah appeared with the same details;
- November 18, 1998, Tanjong Pagar list runs 12 pages - Yeo Poon Miah appeared with the same details.

An English lawyer Hugh Fort was elected in the Municipal Election on March 9th, 1898.

Did Great-Grandfather go to the poll?

Reference:

Contesting Space in Colonial Singapore: Power Relations and the Urban Built Environment by Brenda Yeoh, Chapter on The Municipal Authority of Singapore 1819 - 1930.

2016.03.17