

# Proposal to encode one ideograph for Korean place names to UAX #45

Jiseop LEE

Individual contribution

September 6, 2023

This document proposes to add one ideograph for Korean place names to UAX #45: that is, 尪 (𪛗九未)<sup>1</sup>.

This ideograph is regional and used only for several place names in *Myŏnghyo-myŏn* (*Myŏnggu-myŏn* after 1939), *Munchŏn*, *Hamgyŏngnam-do*, Korea<sup>2</sup> (Now Munchon, Kangwon, North Korea). Despite this being used for a few governmental documents and private publications, this little-known character has never been covered by any Korean or Japanese national standards. This character not being recognized causes problems in digitizing (e.g. [Figure 1](#)). I hereby propose to include this character 尪 to UAX #45.

Glyph	R-S	IDS	TS	FS	kKorean
尪	乙 5.6	𪛗九未	7	3	KWUMI MI

The attached single-glyph font file `u2ffa-u4e5d-u672a.ttf` is generated from GlyphWiki (<https://glyphwiki.org/wiki/u2ffa-u4e5d-u672a>).

## Detailed information

The character 尪 is first observed in the village name stabilization announcement in 1916 ([Figure 2](#)) and used for names of eight villages, two of which being abolished due to the merger. The names are: 靑魚尪里, 柳尪里, 方尪里, 魚隱尪里, 地富尪里, 楸尪里, 皮馬尪里, and 北尪里 (the latter two are the abolished ones). Around the same year, the land survey was being executed in Hamgyŏngnam-do. As the result the cadastral maps (e.g. [Figure 3](#)) and topographic maps ([Figure 4](#)) were made and printed, and 尪 is used in those publications. In the documents published before 1916, there is no known occurrences of 尪; instead two characters like 九味 had been used for those place names (see [Figure 5](#)).

After the independence of Korea, the Republic of Korea had been publishing *Administrative Division Brochure* 지방행정구역요람 every few years until 2012. As the South Korean government claims the northern half of Korean peninsula as its territory, the village names in the *unrecovered* area are listed as an appendix for the brochure. Until the 1983 edition ([Figure 6](#)), the place names containing 尪 (rendered as 𪛗九未) were listed as-is. However, in the 1990 edition

<sup>1</sup>There is another representation of this ideograph, 𪛗九未; but this is rarer than 尪, and can be unifiable with.

<sup>2</sup>Korean: 함경남도 문천군 명효면(명구면) / 咸鏡南道 文川郡 明孝面(明龜面)

(Figure 7), 𪎩 is rendered as separate characters 九 and 未. This tendency can also be observed in the latest 2012 edition<sup>3</sup>.

The country occupying the places in discussion, North Korea, reformed their administrative division hierarchy in 1952. During the reform, the remaining six villages from 1916 were all merged with others, and the traditional village names were not reused in the new ones. Thus, there is no use of 𪎩 in practice nowadays, both in the South and in the North.

## Reading

It is uncommon that a Han Ideograph has a multisyllabic Korean reading. The character 𪎩 is one having this property: Its reading is 구미 (RR *gumi*, Yale *kwumi*), originating from a native Korean dialectal word. The word 구미 means a curved place around capes, according to the Korean dictionary *Urimal Saem* 우리말샘<sup>4</sup>.

In the given tophotaphic map (Figure 4), all place names are written in Kanji or Hanja, and the majority of them have Korean-reading katakana annotations. For example, 魚隱𪎩里 has furigana オ・ウン・グミ・リー and 楸𪎩里 has カレ・グミ・リ, which can be reconstructed in hangul as 어은구미리 and 가래구미리<sup>5</sup> respectively. *Encyclopedia of North Korean Geography and Cultures* 조선향토대백과 also reads 𪎩 (written as 九未) as 구미<sup>6</sup>, like 어은구미리 (魚隱九未里) and 추구미리 (楸九未里).

Yet there also exists a single-syllable reading for 𪎩. The example cadastral map is listed as 함경남도 문천군 명효면 어은미리 in the National Archives of Korea (see Figure 8), and from this it can be concluded that 𪎩 simply reads as 미 when there is a need for a single-syllable reading. That is the reason why ‘MI’ as well as ‘KWUMI’ is suggested as the value for kKorean.

## Related Figures

The figures mentioned above are placed below, beginning from the next page.

---

<sup>3</sup>The PDF file is downloadable on the Ministry of the Interior and Safety website ([https://mois.go.kr/cmm/fms/FileDown.do?atchFileId=FILE\\_000000000023650&fileSn=0](https://mois.go.kr/cmm/fms/FileDown.do?atchFileId=FILE_000000000023650&fileSn=0)).

<sup>4</sup>구미 (명사, 북한어) 바닷가나 강가의 곳이 길게 뻗고 후미지게 휘어진 곳. [https://opendict.korean.go.kr/dictionary/view?sense\\_no=97370](https://opendict.korean.go.kr/dictionary/view?sense_no=97370)

<sup>5</sup>楸 read as 가래 is a case of now-extinct Korean kun'yomi. A possible meaning of 楸 is 가래나무 *Juglans mandschurica*.

<sup>6</sup>e.g. 명구면 (<http://www.cybernk.net/infoText/InfoAdminstDetail.aspx?mc=AD04&sc=A34005002&tid=AD0400046560&viewflag=1>), via *North Korean Human Geography*.

Figure 1: The character 𪎩 being replaced by 𪎩 in digital text.

National Institute of Korean History. Korean History Database ([https://db.history.go.kr/item/level.do?levelId=gb\\_1930\\_03\\_08\\_a09520\\_0250](https://db.history.go.kr/item/level.do?levelId=gb_1930_03_08_a09520_0250)).

호수	조선총독부 관보 제0952호 원문
발행일	昭和5年 3月 08日
기사제목	漁業權讓渡許可
면수	008
분야분류	彙報 > 漁業(免許許可)
관보분류	彙報 > 調査及報告 > 産業 > 漁業 > 免許漁業處分事項

#### 색인어

城北里採藻業者, 新興里採藻業者, 浪汀里採藻業者, 西峨里採藻業者, 楸洞里採藻業者, 沙湖里採藻業者, 注驗里採藻業者, 靈津里採藻業者, 浦項里採藻業者, 沙湖里採藻業者, 南涯里採藻業者, 長箭里採藻業者, 靈津里採藻業者, 李鍾寅

崔載勳

洪基俊

洪基俊

玉蓮里捕介業者, 栗島捕貝漁業者, 仙才里捕介漁業者, 鶴翼里捕介業者, 青鶴里捕介業者, 延壽里捕介業者, 東春里捕介業者, 龍游面捕介業者, 中項里捕介業者, 葛島採藻業者, 平山里採藻業者, 德月里採藻業者, 飛甕里採藻業者, 赤島採藻業者, 柳洞採藻業者, 道洞採藻業者, 蘆台洞採藻業者, 納島採藻業者, 楊洞採藻業者, 牛島洞採藻業者, 邑洞採藻業者, 舊邑洞採藻業者, 舊靑沙洞採藻業者, 德洞採藻業者, 蓮花洞採藻業者, 玉洞採藻業者, 元靑沙洞採藻業者, 靑沙洞採藻業者, 頭尾島洞採藻業者, 黃津, 松湖, 麻田, 寶村, 仲坪, 絃岩採舊業者, 佳湖採舊業者, 治宮津採舊業者, 龍岩洞採藻業者, 金基秀

崔錫龜

箇里採蠟業者, 礪佐里養蠟業者, 礪佐里捕介業者, 礪佐里採蠟業者, 雲城里養蠟業者, 揮厚里捕介業者, 魚隱里捕介業者, 豐武里採蠟業者, 老力島採藻業者, 柳仁燮

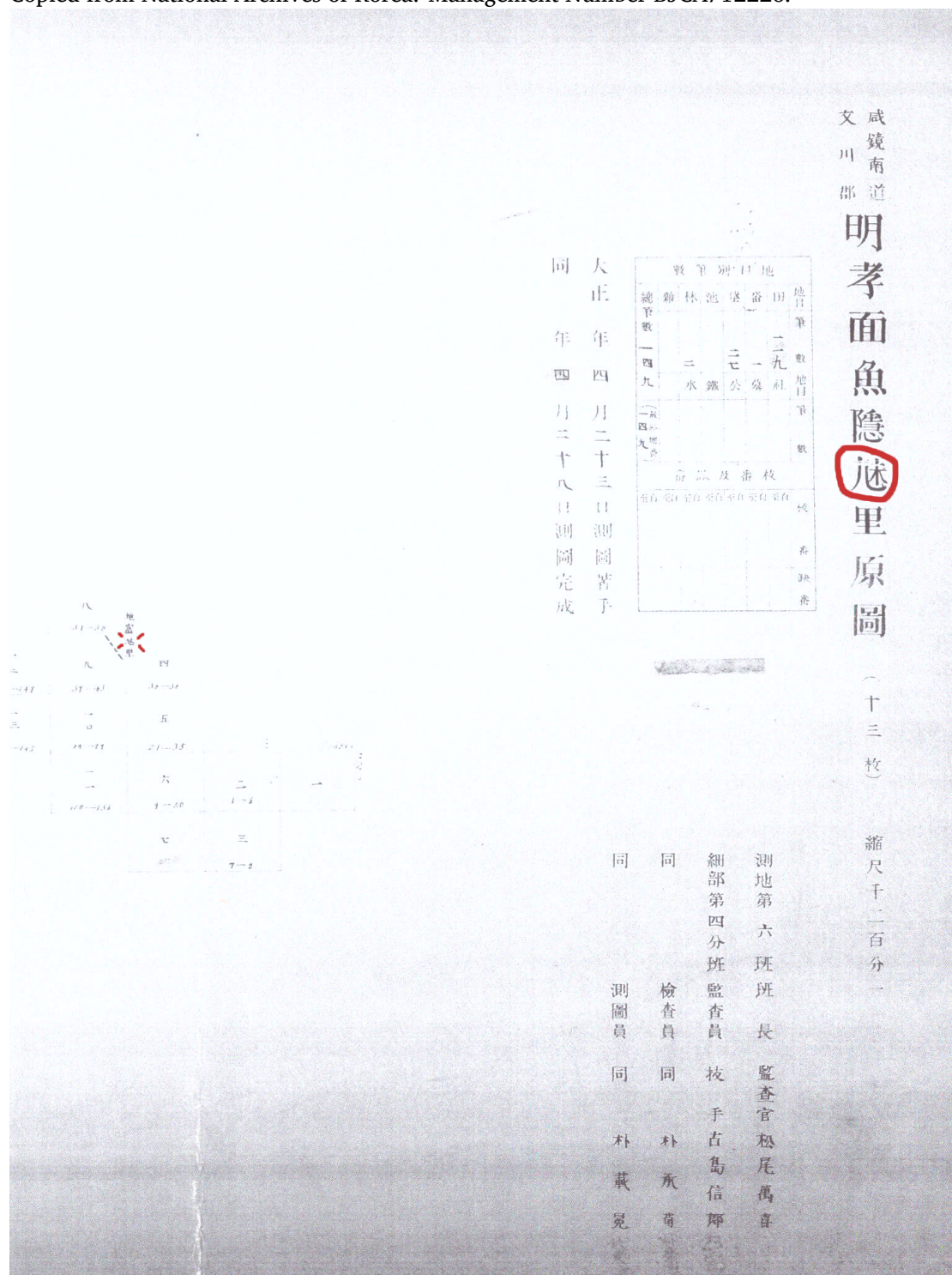
金泰泳

陸麻蛤捕介業者, 陸麻藻業者, 南川洞採藻業者, 南川里採藻業者, 民樂里採藻業者, 雲村里採藻業者, 中里採藻業者





Figure 3: Front page of the cadastral map of 魚隱岫里, c. 1916.  
Copied from National Archives of Korea. Management Number BJCA712226.





朝鮮總督府., 陸地測量部. 《五万分之一地形圖》, 〈咸興十二號・鎮興里〉 (top half) and 〈元山九號・元山北部〉. 1920-1921.



Figure 5: Administrative Division Name List of Korea.

朝鮮總督府. 《地方行政區域名稱一覽》. 1912.

Side note: In addition to that 九味 is used instead of 尅, 魚隱尅里 is written as 於隱九味里 here.

草閑面	明孝面
直洞 目方洞 晚浦洞 智仙洞 長坪里 (二五)	文峯里 龍井里 新坪里 大洞里 石峴里 勝陽里 舟橋里 回岩里 三成洞 元坪里 堂毛老里 松峙里 成坪里 陵前里 洙陽里 新興里 補木亭里 上洞里 文昌里 鶴林里 書齋洞 德寧里 新豐里 長興里 上豐里 鳳梧里 (二六)
明友里 德興里 大洞里 大興里 梓洞里 豐陽里 海浪里 元塘里 於柳里 新豐里 無憂實里 地富九味里 長自串里 畚村里 峙里 長興里 栗洞 新興里 白山里 北九味里 方古介里 圖龍里 內洞 石田里 嚴峴里 磻佐里 向陽里 青魚九味里 舟項里 方九味里 於隱九味里 皮馬九味里 豐武洞 棲鶴洞 松田里	
咸鏡南道文川郡	一〇二七



Figure 6: Administrative Division Brochure (墟 (九未) highlighted).

Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Korea. 《지방행정구역요람》, 1983.

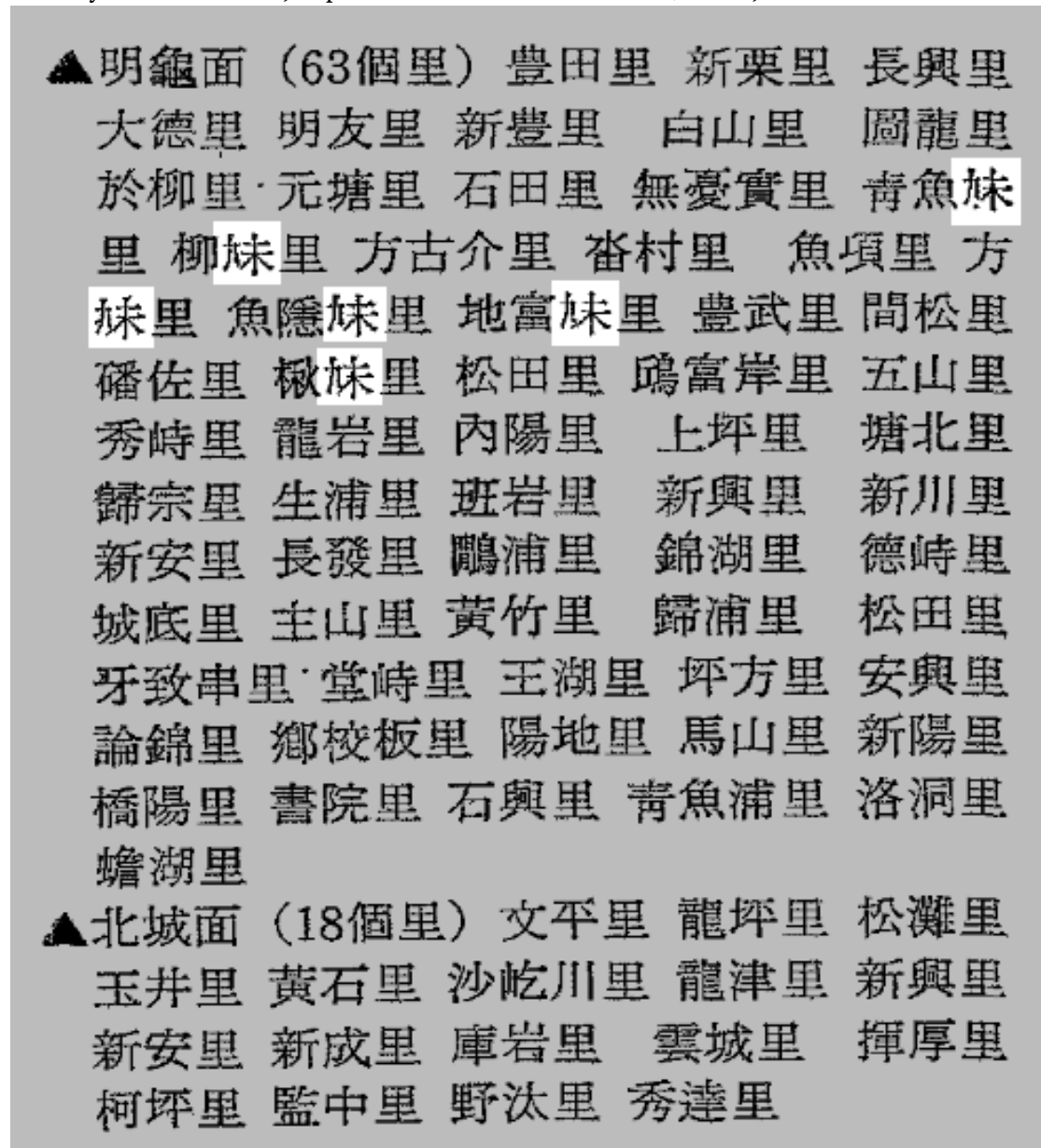


Figure 7: Administrative Division Brochure (九未 highlighted).

Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Korea. 《지방행정구역요람》, 1990.

Side note: In addition to the substitutions, typographical errors like 鷗 being replaced by 鷗 and 鷗(≡鷗) by 鷗 can also be observed, in comparison to the 1983 version.

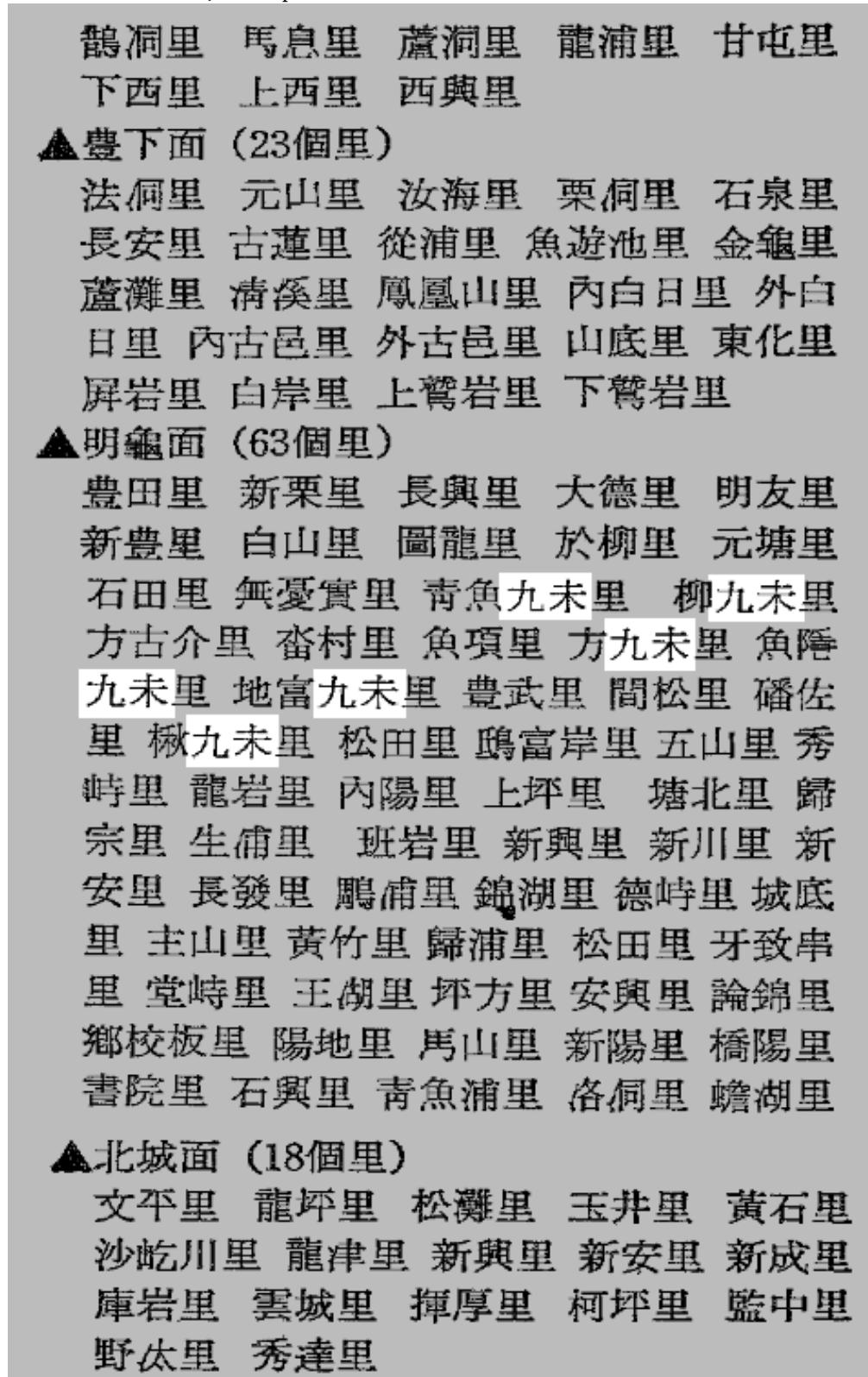


Figure 8: Search result of the cadastral maps from the website of the National Archives of Korea. Each name corresponds to 魚隱里 (Figure 3), 靑魚里, 方里, 地富里, 柳里, and 楸里, from above.

인쇄할 기록물 정보표입니다. 구분, 제목, 관리번호, 생산년도, 생산기관, 온라인 제공, 공개 구분, 기록물 형태로 구성되어 있습니다.

기록물 구분	기록물 제목	관리번호	생산 년 도	생산기관	온라인 제공	공개 구 분	기록물 형태
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 어은미리-0	BJCA712226	미상	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 청어미리-0	BJCA712240	1916	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 방미리-0	BJCA712321	1916	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 지부미리-0	BJCA712251	1916	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 유미리-0	BJCA712313	1916	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류
총독부기록물	함경남도 문천군 명효면 추미리-0	BJCA712329	1916	미상	온라인 미제공	공개	도면류