



Manzanar Cemetery, Winter 2002.

This booklet was developed by the park rangers at Manzanar National Historic Site in partnership with the individuals profiled and their families.



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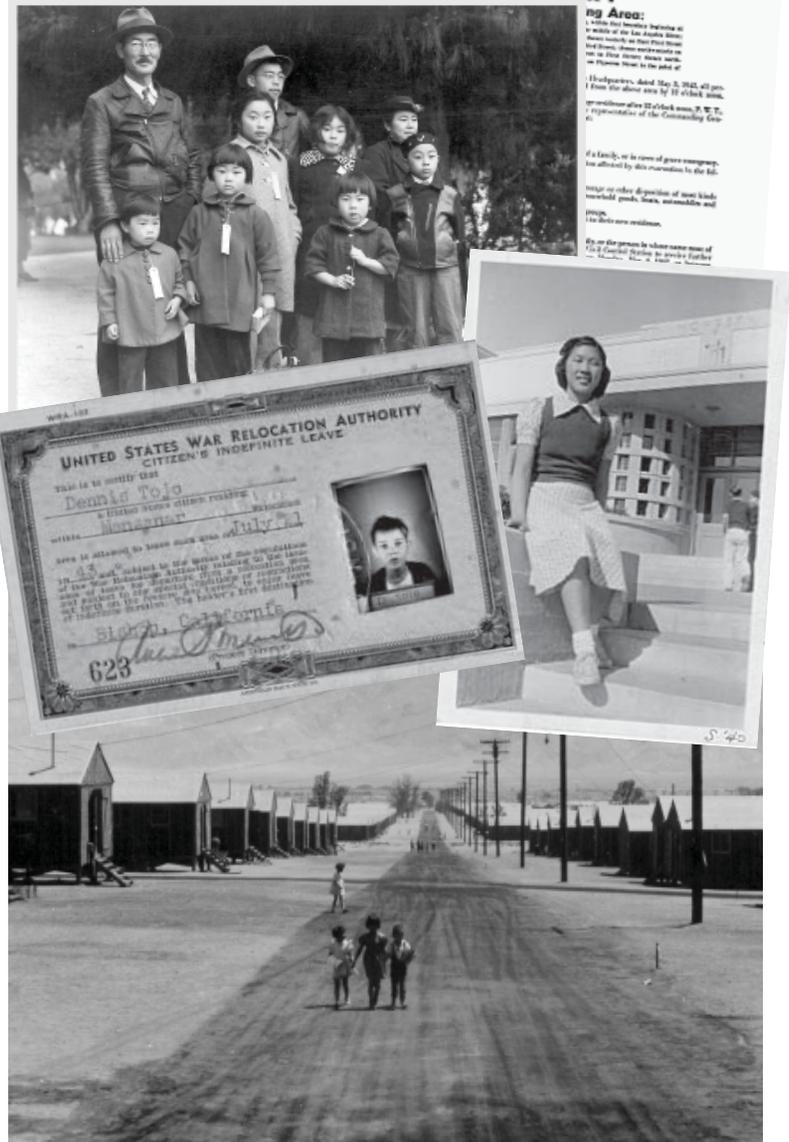
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Manzanar



ID Card

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
 WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
 Presidio of San Francisco, California
 May 3, 1942
**INSTRUCTIONS
 TO ALL PERSONS OF
 JAPANESE
 ANCESTRY**





In 1942 the United States Government ordered over 110,000 men, women, and children to leave their homes and detained them in remote, military-style camps. Two-thirds of them were born in America. Not one was convicted of espionage or sabotage.

In this booklet, you will read the story of a person who lived this history, in his or her own words.



LIFE IN A MANZANAR BLOCK

Wind and Dust

This wind and dust I have to bear
 How hard it blows I do not care.
 But when the wind begins to blow --
 My morale is pretty low.
 I know that I can see it through
 Because others have to bear it too.
 So I will bear it with the rest
 And hope the outcome is the best.

-- George Nishimura, age 16 (1943)

JEROME

Location: Chicot and Drew Counties, Arkansas

Environmental

Conditions: Jerome War Relocation Center is located 12 miles from the Mississippi River at an elevation of 130 feet. The area was once covered with forests, but is now primarily agricultural land. The Big and Crooked Bayous flow from north to south in the central and eastern part of the former relocation center.

Acreeage: 10,000

Opened: October 6, 1942

Closed: June 1944

Max. Population: 8,497 (November 1942)

Demographics: Most people interned at Jerome War Relocation Center came from Los Angeles, Fresno, and Sacramento counties in California. Most came to Jerome via the Santa Anita and Fresno assembly centers. 811 people came from Hawaii.



KAZUKO TSUBOUCHI FUJISHIMA

Family Number: 24796E

Camp: Jerome, AR

Address: 35-5-A

My father, Chukuro Tsubouchi, was 16-years-old when he left Japan and arrived in Portland, in 1916. He worked in the paper mills. Later my father managed a 50-acre orchard in Hardwick, California, 30 miles

south of Fresno, which had a general store, post office, garage, blacksmith shop, meat market, packing house and elementary school.

I am the third of four girls. My oldest sister was Sumiko; then came Akiko, myself and my youngest sister Takayo.

...when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. We didn't know what to expect or who to trust. Our dog was poisoned.



Kazuko Tsubouchi

I was a sophomore at Laton High School, where I played third violin in the school orchestra and was in the tennis club, when Japan

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INSTRUCTIONS
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Living in the Following Area:

All of that portion of the City of Los Angeles, State of California, within the boundaries beginning at the point at which North Figueroa Street meets a line following the middle of the Los Angeles River; thence westerly and following the said line to East First Street; thence westerly on East First Street thence southerly and following the said line to East Third Street; thence southerly on East Third Street; thence southerly on Alameda Street to East Third Street; thence southerly on East Third Street to Main Street; thence southerly on Main Street to Figueroa Street to the point of beginning.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 33, this Headquarters, dated May 3, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 9, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Sunday, May 3, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Southern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Japanese Union Church,
128 North San Pedro Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
2. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
3. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Monday, May 4, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Tuesday, May 5, 1942.
2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
 - (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family.
 - (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family.
 - (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family.
 - (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family.
 - (e) Essential personal effects for each member, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.
3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.
5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as telephones, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
6. Each family and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 4, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 5, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DEWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

SEE CIVILIAN EXCLUSION ORDER NO. 33



bombed Pearl Harbor. We didn't know what to expect or who to trust. Our dog was poisoned.

The evacuation came at a time when our economic conditions were improving. My father had to sell a new car, the console radio/phonograph player, a refrigerator and washing machine in

Once my mother left camp and we relocated to Chicago, her attitude changed and she was glad she had not gone back to Japan. My parents both

My parents both became American citizens...in the 1950s...They were proud of their citizenship.

became American citizens when the laws changed in the 1950s to allow them to. They were proud of their citizenship, voted in all elections and took an interest in world events and issues.

Not satisfied with being a maid, my third job was with an export firm, where I worked for 56 years, retiring at the age of 74.

We were not politically involved in the redress movement that surfaced in the 1980s, but supported it financially and by attending meetings.

Looking back on my camp experience, I believe, as a Buddhist, that changes are occurring constantly. Accept it and go with the flow. Let the past be a lesson, but don't dwell on it. Go forward with pride and conviction. Be honest, do the best you can and believe in yourself.

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a mere two-week period. A kindly old lady was gracious enough to store our personal belongings, and ship them to us after our release, when we relocated to Chicago.

My father loved to listen to Japanese records, which he buried with his *shakubachi* (bamboo flute) and our family Buddhist altar so the police would not find Japanese articles in our house. We took our *omyogo* (Buddhist altar symbol), our violins, clothing, photos, and books.

My father loved to listen to Japanese records, which he buried with . . .our family Buddhist altar so the police would not find Japanese articles in our house.

In mid-May, 1942, our family went to the Fresno Assembly Center (the Fresno Fairgrounds). My oldest sister was just graduating from high school, and her dreams of attending college were shattered. In October, 1942, we were assigned to Jerome, Arkansas. The train ride was arduous. It took so long and I had motion sickness all the way.

In Jerome, our family was given two rooms. Each block had a mess hall with a kitchen, laundry facilities and shower stalls, one side for men and one side for women. The women's toilet facilities could be occupied by three people at any one time,

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and there was constant flushing. There was absolutely no privacy anywhere, and we were crammed into such small quarters!

The girls in our block formed a club, The Victorettes, and we had a baseball team. My older sister knew the violin too, so we played duets at talent shows. In my senior year, I had only two classes, so I was able to work in the co-op store and earned \$19 a month.

Shortly after my graduation from Denson High School (the camp high school) in June 1944, Jerome closed, and we were transferred to Rohwer Relocation Center, where I met my future husband. We married four years later, after his service in the navy.

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In September 1944, I left Rohwer Relocation Center to work as a maid in a home in Highland Park, Illinois. I was given a one-way ticket to Chicago and \$50.



Jerome War Relocation Center

When the question of “loyalty” came up in camp, my mother decided she wanted to go back to Japan, and so we were to be transferred to the camp at Tule Lake. Her desire to return to her homeland was a response to her camp experience. At the last minute, my oldest sister said she was going to get married to avoid going to Japan. My father said he would not split the family, and would remain in the United States.

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