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Mia Furuichi Fong (model for the bronze statue) at the February 2010 dedication for the Merced Assembly Center Memorial.
Photo courtesy: The Merced Assembly Center Memorial JACL Collection

2012: A YEAR IN REVIEW – PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING WORLD WAR II JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to report on the progress of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. On December 21, 2006, President George W. Bush signed Public Law 109-441 (16 USC 461) – Preservation of Japanese American Confinement Sites – which authorized the NPS to create a grant program to encourage and support the preservation and interpretation of historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained. The law authorized up to \$38 million for the life of the grant program. Congress first appropriated funding for the program in 2009.

Over the past four years, the program has awarded 83 grant awards totaling nearly \$9.7 million to private nonprofit organizations; educational institutions; state, local, and tribal governments; and other public

entities. The projects, which involve 17 states and the District of Columbia, include oral histories, preservation of camp artifacts and buildings, documentaries and educational curriculum, and exhibits and memorials to preserve the confinement sites and share the stories associated with these significant places. Japanese American Confinement Sites grants are awarded through a competitive process in which \$2 of Federal money matches every \$1 in non-Federal funds and “in-kind” contributions. As of 2012, these projects have leveraged at least \$5.5 million in non-Federal funds.

The most recent Fiscal Year 2012 grant awards, featured in this report, include the expansion of an online encyclopedia that focuses on all aspects of the Japanese American experience; the return of a former barrack

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2012: A YEAR IN REVIEW

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building to the Amache confinement site in southeastern Colorado; and a program to engage high school students in Hawai'i in the study of World War II confinement and similar justice and equality issues that resonate today.

The 17 grants awarded in 2012 range from \$24,132 for the University of Idaho to further excavate the Kooskia Internment Camp site in northern Idaho, to \$714,314 to the Topaz Museum to build a museum and education center in Delta, Utah for the Topaz Relocation Center outside of town.

As several new projects begin, many of the past funded projects have been completed, and will continue to serve as resources for education, inspiration, and long-term preservation of these sites and stories. Completed projects highlighted in this annual report include a planning document to help guide preservation efforts of the historic jail and stockade at the Tule Lake Segregation Center, interpretive materials that tell the history of lesser known sites in Hawaii, and oral histories that expand our knowledge of this history.

Collectively, these projects provide a deeper insight into the broader history of the confinement of Japanese Americans in the United States during World War II.

The NPS is fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the various Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program recipients to make sure the experiences of those who persevered are not forgotten and to inspire younger generations to become stewards for site preservation and carry these stories and lessons forward.

“The National Park Service is honored to help preserve through these grants the stories and historic sites of fellow Americans who endured a shameful chapter our nation must never forget,” said NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis, in announcing the FY2013 grant cycle. “With the help of Congress, this important program continues to preserve vital testimony—in words, images, scholarship and places—to the need to guard our constitutional rights against injustice, prejudice, and fear.”



Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, California. Photo courtesy: Manzanar NHS/Katsumi Taniguchi Collection



Eligible Sites and Projects

As defined by Public Law 109-441, eligible confinement sites include the ten War Relocation Authority camps: Gila River (AZ), Granada (CO), Heart Mountain (WY), Jerome (AR), Manzanar (CA), Minidoka (ID), Poston (AZ), Rohwer (AR), Topaz (UT), and Tule Lake (CA), as well as other sites – including assembly, relocation, and isolation centers – identified in the NPS report *Confinement and Ethnicity* and as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II.

Seven major categories of activities are eligible for Japanese American Confinement Sites grants: capital projects (such as construction of new interpretive centers); documentation (such as archeological surveys); oral history interviews; interpretation and education related to historic confinement sites (such as wayside exhibits or educational curricula); preservation of confinement sites and related historic resources (such as restoration of historic buildings or collections conservation); planning projects (such as resource management plans); and non-Federal real property acquisition (allowed only at Heart Mountain (WY), Honouliuli (HI), Jerome (AR), Rohwer (AR), and Topaz (UT), per stipulations of Public Laws 109-441 and 111-88).

Overview of the 2012 Grant Program Process

For the 2012 grant program, the NPS mailed postcards announcing the availability of grant applications and guidelines in early August 2011 to a mailing list of approximately 8,000 individuals and organizations. On September 1, 2011, the NPS also announced the availability of application materials through local, regional and national press releases, the grant program website, and other correspondence.

By the application deadline of November 1, 2011, the NPS received 42 applications, requesting over \$7.2 million in Federal funds. During the week of November 14, 2011, the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program selection panel convened to evaluate the grant proposals. The panel was composed of NPS



Japanese Americans registering for mass removal in San Francisco, April 25, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (denshopd-i151-00061), National Archives Collection, Photo by Dorothea Lange

staff from the Intermountain, Midwest, and Pacific West Regions. Appointed by NPS Regional Directors, the six panel members represented a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, including expertise in architecture, history, curation, anthropology, public affairs, and planning. The panel members met at the NPS Intermountain Regional Office in Lakewood, Colorado, to review all eligible applications. The panel evaluated and ranked each proposal using criteria and guidelines that were established based on public input.

The panel recommended 17 proposals to receive funding. These recommendations were forwarded to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, who announced the awards on March 22, 2012. In announcing the awards, Secretary Salazar reflected, “If we are to tell the full story of America, we must ensure that we include difficult chapters such as the grave injustice of internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. The internment sites serve as poignant reminders for us—and for the generations to come—that we must always be vigilant in upholding civil liberties for all.”



STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT CYCLE

As a Federal agency, the NPS fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 each year. At the time of this publication, Congress has not yet passed the government’s formal operating budget, known as an appropriations bill, for Fiscal Year 2013.

In order to ensure that NPS has the administrative ability to successfully award Japanese American Confinement Sites grants in 2013, the grant program will proceed with the 2013 grant cycle. Japanese American Confinement Sites grants will be awarded dependent on funds appropriated by Congress.

As we receive updated information about funds available for the 2013 cycle, we will post it on the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program website: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/JACS/index.html>



A groundbreaking ceremony for the Topaz Museum and Education Center was held in Delta, Utah on August 4, 2012. Photo courtesy: Manzanar NHS



Architect’s rendering of the Topaz Museum and Education Center.
Photo courtesy: Shah Kawasaki Architects



FISCAL YEAR 2012 GRANT AWARDS

In 2012 – the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program’s fourth year – 17 awards provided nearly \$2.9 million to projects in 11 states. A list of the funded projects follows.

Please note: projects are listed by the states of the grant recipients. In some cases—marked with an asterisk (*)—the grant recipient is from one state and the confinement site associated with the project is in another.

FY2012 Project Descriptions by State

ARIZONA

Recipient: Developing Innovations in Navajo Education, Inc.
Project Title: Japanese-American Leupp Citizen Isolation Center Project
Grant Award: \$290,000
Site(s): Leupp Citizen Isolation Center, Coconino County, AZ

Description: Developing Innovations in Navajo Education, Inc. will produce a documentary film on the Leupp Citizen Isolation Center, which was on the Navajo reservation at Leupp, Arizona. The film will center on internee and artist/painter Taneyuki Dan Harada, and also will juxtapose the Japanese American and Navajo cultures in confinement.



The Hirano Family – left to right: George, Hisa and Yasbei, Colorado River Relocation Center, Poston, Arizona
Photo courtesy: National Archives, Record Group 210

CALIFORNIA

Recipient: Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation
Project Title: Telling the Stories of Japanese American Detainees on Angel Island during World War II
Grant Award: \$25,573
Site(s): Angel Island Detention Station, Marin County, CA

Description: The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation will compile and showcase resources, including recently discovered wall writings, about the experiences of Japanese Americans who were detained on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. Most detainees were from Hawaii.

Recipient: Japanese American Citizens League
Project Title: Passing the Legacy Down: Youth Interpretations of Confinement Sites in the Western United States
Grant Award: \$150,130
Site(s): Manzanar National Historic Site, Inyo County, CA
Minidoka National Historic Site, Jerome County, ID
Tule Lake National Monument, Modoc County, CA

Description: Through its “Bridging Communities” program, the Japanese American Citizens League will educate more than 100 young people about the meaning of internment and the importance of preserving confinement sites.



Recipient: Venice Community Housing Corporation
Project Title: Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker
Grant Award: \$50,000
Site(s): Manzanar National Historic Site, Inyo County, CA

Description: The Venice Community Housing Corporation will design and build a memorial at the spot where 1,000 Japanese Americans from Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu, California, reported for transport to the Manzanar Relocation Center. The project will also result in a K-12 curriculum on the internment.

Recipient: East Bay Center for the Performing Arts
Project Title: Hidden Legacy: Japanese Traditional Performing Arts in the World War II Internment Camps
Grant Award: \$138,586
Site(s): Multiple

Description: Using historical footage and interviews with artists who were interned, the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts will produce a one-hour documentary film telling the story of how traditional Japanese cultural arts were maintained in the internment camps.



Japanese dance and music performance at Tule Lake Segregation Center, CA, 1942. Photo courtesy: Gift of Jack and Peggy Iwata, Japanese American National Museum (93.102.57)

COLORADO

Recipient: Colorado Preservation, Inc.
Project Title: Amache Barrack Relocation and Rehabilitation
Grant Award: \$241,124
Site(s): Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, CO

Description: Colorado Preservation, Inc. will relocate an original barrack, currently located off site, back to the former Granada Relocation Center (Amache), and rehabilitate the building for visitor interpretation.

HAWAI'I

Recipient: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i
Project Title: 'Just' Youth: Taking the Lessons of Hawai'i's WWII Confinement Sites to Our High Schools
Grant Award: \$64,795

Site(s): Honouliuli Internment Camp, Honolulu County, HI, and other Hawai'i sites

Description: The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i will work with teachers on the use of lessons and resources that link Japanese American confinement to issues of justice and equality that resonate today. The project will culminate in a public event featuring student projects.



Ink drawing with watercolor by George Hoshida, Kilauea military detention camp, 8-25-42. Photo courtesy: Gift of June Hoshida Honma, Sandra Hoshida and Carole Hoshida Kanada, Japanese American National Museum (97.106.1AC)



IDAHO

Recipient: Friends of Minidoka
Project Title: Minidoka Guard Tower Reconstruction
Grant Award: \$280,378
Site(s): Minidoka National Historic Site, Jerome County, ID

Description: The Friends of Minidoka will reconstruct a historic guard tower at the entrance to Minidoka National Historic Site; the project also includes a reconfiguration of the parking area to make it more accessible.

Recipient: University of Idaho
Project Title: Kooskia Internment Camp Archaeological Project (KICAP)
Grant Award: \$24,132
Site(s): Kooskia Internment Camp, Idaho County, ID

Description: The University of Idaho will support the archaeological explorations of the Kooskia Internment Camp and the analysis of artifacts recovered.

*Under California, see the Japanese American Citizens League project, "Passing the Legacy Down: Youth Interpretations of Confinement Sites in the Western United States."



Entrance to Minidoka incarceration camp, circa 1944.
Photo courtesy: Densho (denshopd-p15-00044),
Mitsuoka Family Collection

ILLINOIS

Recipient: Japanese American Service Committee
Project Title: The Legacy Center Archives
Grant Award: \$75,268
Site(s): Multiple

Description: The Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) will preserve, catalog, and house the Legacy Center's archival collection of artifacts, documents, and other materials related to Japanese American history and the internment period.

OREGON

Recipient: Oregon Nikkei Endowment
Project Title: Minidoka Oral History Project
Grant Award: \$168,460
Site(s): Minidoka National Historic Site, Jerome County, ID, and other camps.

Description: The Oregon Nikkei Endowment will create access to recently converted, original footage oral history tapes of Japanese Americans interned at Minidoka Relocation Center. The tapes will be made available online, and through three educational DVDs.



TEXAS

Recipient: Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc.
Project Title: Japanese American and Enemy Alien Confinement at Crystal City Family Internment Camp, Texas
Grant Award: \$25,580
Site(s): Crystal City Family Internment Camp, Zavala County, TX; four other Texas camps, indirectly.

Description: Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc. will conduct a low-invasive archeological survey of two key tracts at the Crystal City Family Internment camp, and draft a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the confinement site.

UTAH

Recipient: Topaz Museum
Project Title: Topaz Museum and Education Center Construction Project
Grant Award: \$714,314
Site(s): Topaz Relocation Center, Millard County, UT and other sites

Description: The Topaz Museum will construct an 8,254-square-foot museum and education center in Delta, Utah, to foster the understanding and preservation of the Topaz Relocation Center. The museum will be located on the main street of Delta, which is the closest town to the Topaz Relocation Center.

WASHINGTON

Recipient: Washington State University
Project Title: Enhancing Access to Heart Mountain Collections at Washington State University
Grant Award: \$77,769
Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, WY

Description: Washington State University will digitize, partially translate, and make more accessible on its website the university's collections related to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center.

Recipient: Wing Luke Memorial Foundation d.b.a. Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience
Project Title: Honoring a Legacy, Forging a Future: Preserving the Stories and Collections of World War II Veterans and Internees
Grant Award: \$170,833



George Hirahara, formerly of Yakima, Washington, standing in the photographic darkroom that he built under his barrack – 15-9-A in Heart Mountain, Wyoming. Photo courtesy: George and Frank C. Hirahara Collection, WSU Libraries, MASC



Site(s): Minidoka National Historic Site, Jerome County, ID
Description: The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience will preserve and interpret historic materials compiled by the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee, and create exhibits and an online database to help raise awareness of Japanese American incarceration and the concurrent military service of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Recipient: Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project
Project Title: Japanese American Confinement Sites Encyclopedia - Phase II

Grant Award: \$362,450

Site(s): All 10 War Relocation Authority camps and other sites

Description: Densho will market and expand its free, online encyclopedia to include more than 1,000 articles about the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans. Articles will be linked to multitudes of primary resources and documents.

WYOMING

Recipient: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
Project Title: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Website Project

Grant Award: \$30,976

Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, WY

Description: The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation will enhance access to the Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center by developing an online virtual tour, as well as web access to its archives and artifacts. It also will create an online, interactive curriculum.

Watercolor painting depicting a Japanese American family sitting at a table inside of their barrack in Heart Mountain Relocation Center, December 1942.

Image courtesy: Estelle Ishigo papers (Collection Number 2010) - Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA

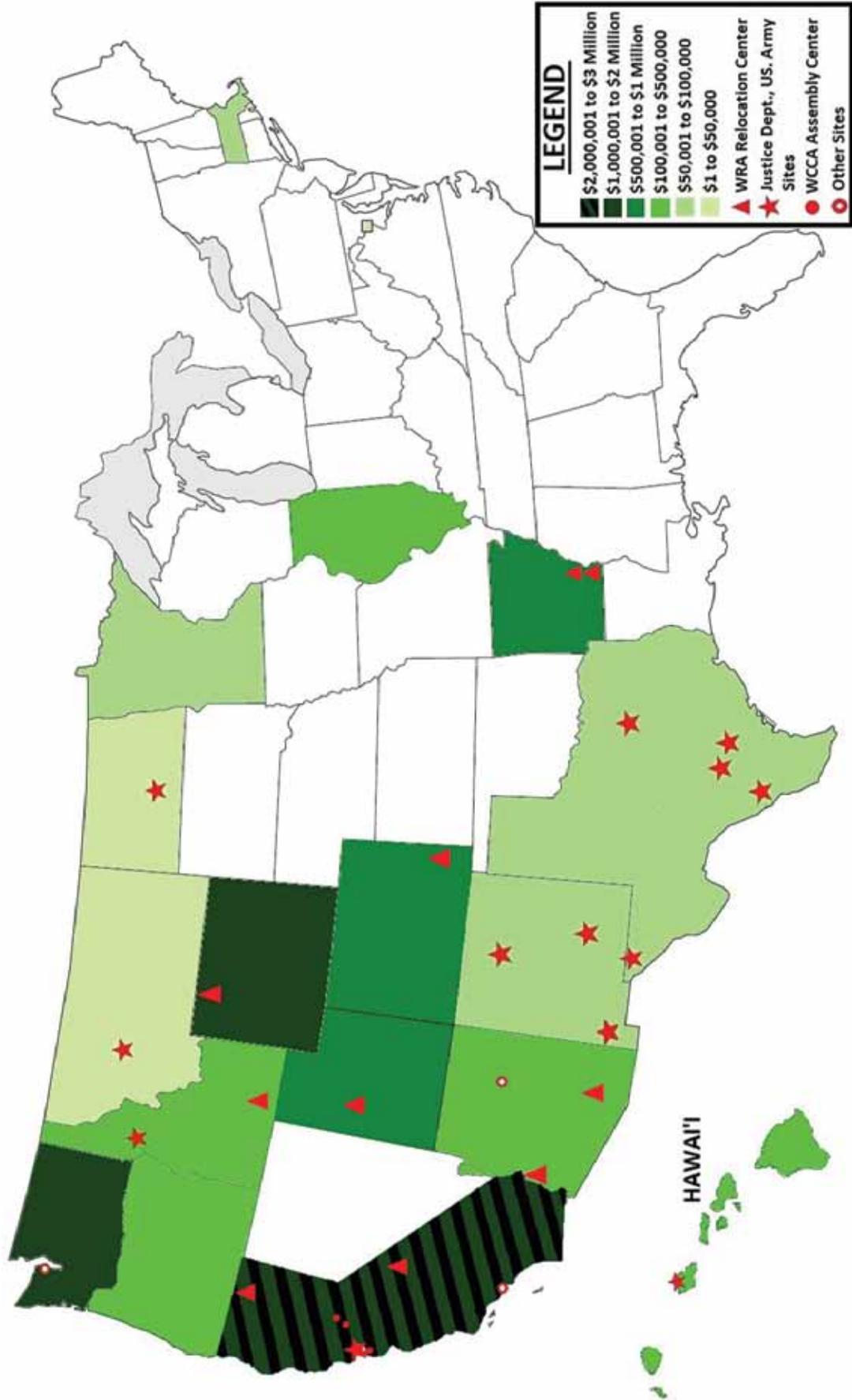


U.S. Army soldier playing ukulele next to woman on barrack steps, Rohwer Arkansas, 2-11-45. Photo courtesy: Gift of the Walter Muramoto Family, Japanese American National Museum (97.292.3P)





GRANT FUNDING BY STATE

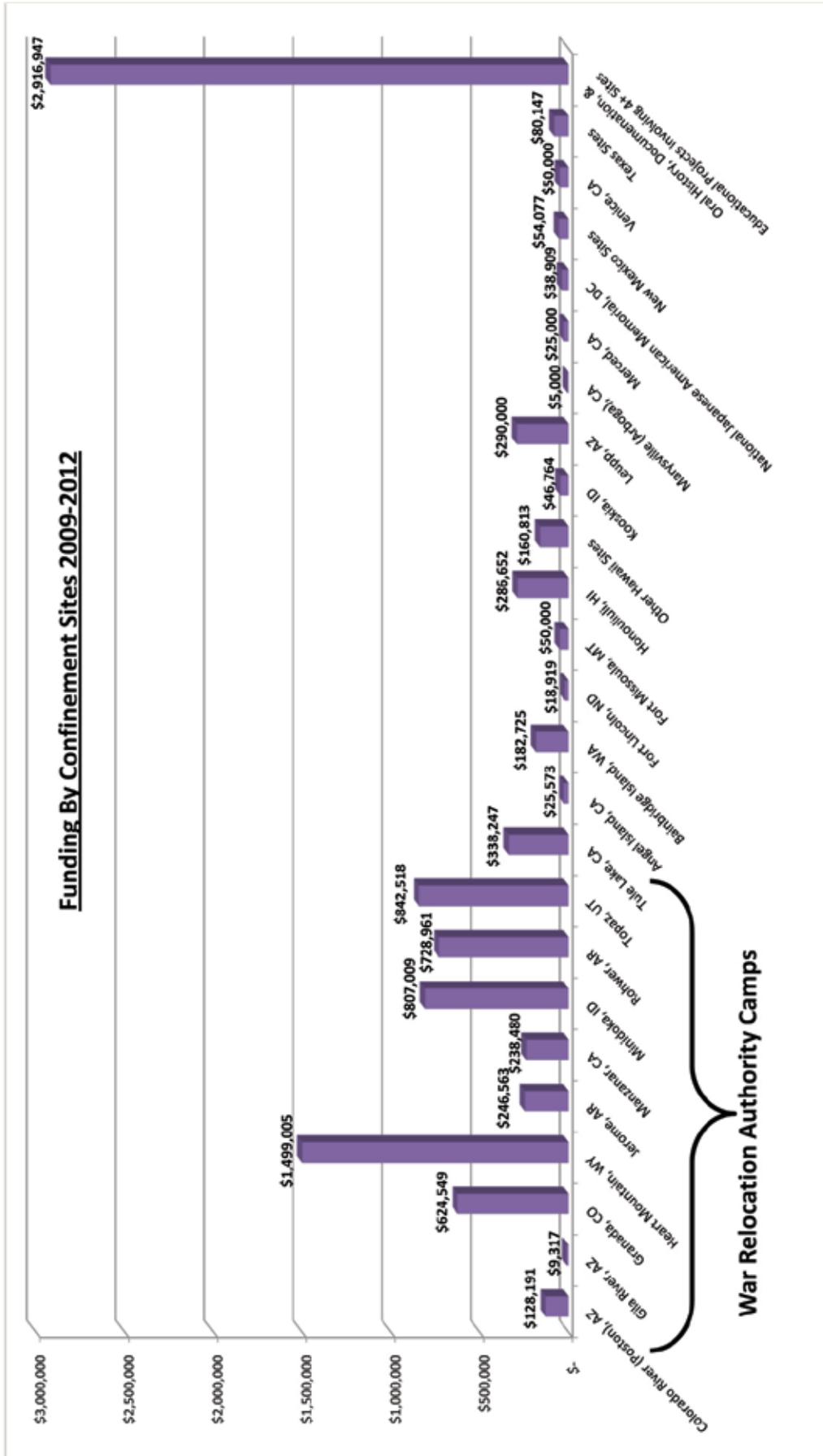


This map shows total (2009-2012) Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program funding by the states where the grantees are located. Also shown (with red symbols) are the Japanese American confinement sites that are the specific focus of those grant funds. In some cases, the grantee is in a different state than that of the confinement sites. For example, the Wing Luke Memorial Foundation,

which is in Washington, received funding to preserve a historic collection related to the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho. In addition, some projects generally benefit all confinement sites and/or interpret the overall Japanese American internment experience. While this map shows the location of those grantees, it does not show every confinement site that benefits from those general projects.



GRANT FUNDING BY SITE



This graph shows total (2009-2012) Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program funding by confinement site. Listed is each site that is the focus of a grant project. The last bar in the graph shows funding for general projects that benefit multiple sites – four or more – and/or interpret the overall Japanese American internment experience.



PROJECTS COMPLETED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

During the last year, 11 projects that received Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program funding were completed. Following is an overview of these project success stories, all of which reflect the dedicated

commitment and hard work of numerous groups to preserve, interpret and memorialize the history of the Japanese American internment during World War II.

JACL Twin Cities Chapter Records Oral Histories of Japanese American Internees Living in Minnesota

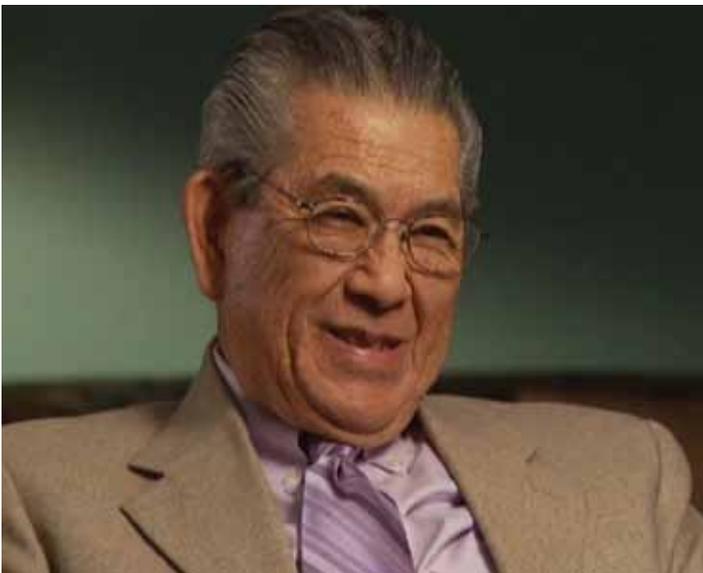
On December 7, 1941, the day that Pearl Harbor was attacked, fifteen-year-old John Oshima was at the movies and didn't get home until after dark. As he recalls, "...my parents were out of their gourd, wondering what happened to me." Oshima's recollections of that fateful day in Oakland, California, are included in the "Minnesota Japanese American Oral History Project," funded by a \$16,000 FY2009 grant awarded to the Japanese American Citizens League, Twin Cities Chapter. Oshima's oral history also includes memories of his family's experiences at the Tanforan Assembly Center, where they lived in two converted horse stables, before being transferred to the Topaz Relocation Center in Utah. Developed under the guidance of filmmaker Bill Kubota and working in collaboration with the Minnesota Historical Society, JACL recorded interviews with eight

Nisei Japanese Americans who live in Minnesota but once were incarcerated at Gila River, Minidoka, Tule Lake, and Topaz. The interviews and transcripts are available on the Densho website (www.densho.org) and in the archives of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Project committee member Sally Sudo said preserving these stories not only educates younger generations about the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, but helps ensure that such injustices are not allowed to happen again. Sudo, who spent her first- second- and third-grade years at Minidoka, is among the eight interviewees. She was only 6 years old when her family was forced to leave Seattle for the Puyallup Assembly Center. One weekend while there, she recalled, "the principal of our elementary school came to the gate, outside the barbed wire, and she had all these boxes of candy bars and she had tears running down her cheeks, and she was handing out these bars to the kids that she recognized from her school."



Sally Sudo and her family left their home in Seattle for the Puyallup Assembly Center when she was 6 years old. Photo courtesy: Japanese American Citizens League, Twin Cities Chapter, Sally Sudo Collection



John Oshima shares his memories of his family's experiences at Tanforan and Topaz. Photo courtesy: Japanese American Citizens League, Twin Cities Chapter



Passing the Legacy Down: Youth Interpretations of Confinement Sites in the Western United States

“The Bridging Communities program has really opened my eyes to what is happening in the world and made me think about my position in society,” said high school student Emily Isakari. Student Veronica Eldridge had a similar experience, saying “It has made me confident in standing up for the rights of those communities being wrongly targeted, and I will always remember what I have learned through the program.” What is the program that had such an impact on these young people? It is the Bridging Communities, Passing Down the Legacy Program, which seeks to empower youth by recognizing similarities between the Japanese American experience during World War II and incidents of hate and intolerance directed at American Muslims in the aftermath of 9/11. The program was funded by a FY2010 \$151,790 grant awarded to the Japanese American Citizens League.



San Francisco Bridging Communities participants in front of the barracks at Tule Lake. Photo courtesy: Japanese American Citizens League

Ninety-eight high school students from the Japanese American and American Muslim communities in San Francisco, Seattle, and Los Angeles participated in the Bridging Communities Program. The students engaged in educational workshops and discussions, then visited Manzanar, Tule Lake, or Minidoka, where classroom ideas and theories about civil rights, tolerance, and identity were transformed into reality. The student experiences were captured in a video, also titled *Bridging Communities, Passing Down the Legacy*, by Marissa Kitazawa and Alex Margolin.



Participants learn to fold origami paper cranes, which are a symbol of peace. Photo courtesy: Japanese American Citizens League

The experience had a profound impact on Shehzaib Rahim, who was only 8 years old when 9/11 happened, yet he still remembers the fear experienced by families of Middle Eastern descent. The Bridging Communities program so increased his interest in civil rights that Rahim told the *Pacific Citizen* he now wants to go to law school.



JACL Livingston-Merced Chapter Builds Commemorative Memorial at Site of Merced Assembly Center

Of the 4,669 Japanese Americans who were rounded up in the Merced Assembly Center in the San Joaquin Valley of California before being shipped to the Amache internment camp in southeastern Colorado, approximately 1,000 of them were children. That fact is poignantly reflected in a life-size bronze sculpture that shows a young Japanese American girl, holding a doll on her lap and sitting upon a stack of suitcases, in which are all the belongings that her family was allowed to pack before their forced relocation during World War II. The statue is part of the Merced Assembly Center Commemorative Memorial, which received Japanese American Confinement Sites grant funding and was dedicated at a February 2010 ceremony attended by approximately 800 people, including 150 former internees.

“That could have been me,” June Abe Kawamura told a *Merced County Fair* reporter as she looked at the statue during the ceremony. In the summer of 1942, Kawamura, her parents, and seven siblings were held at the assembly



The memorial includes five storyboards and five benches engraved with the names of the ten camps. Photo courtesy: The Merced Assembly Center Memorial JACL Collection

center. Behind the statue is a wall with the names of those detained, along with the inscription, “Bring Only What You Can Carry.”



Bronze statue at Merced Assembly Center Memorial. Photo courtesy: The Merced Assembly Center Memorial JACL Collection

With the help of a FY2009 grant of \$25,000, the Japanese American Citizens League, Livingston-Merced Chapter created a five-panel storyboard for the memorial. The storyboard follows the journey of Japanese Americans from their arrival in the San Joaquin Valley in the early 1900s through their incarceration in the tar-papered barracks at the Merced Assembly Center and Amache, to the military service of many and the return home of the incarcerated, where for decades after World War II they focused on reclaiming their lives. As the storyboard states: “NEVER AGAIN... May America never forget the injustice.” Also funded by the grant was a documentary titled *The Merced Assembly Center: The Injustice Immortalized*, produced by the Merced Office of Education Television (METV). The film includes historic footage, interviews with those who were incarcerated, and video of the Memorial sculpture being forged.



What Camps? Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i Answers Question With Traveling Exhibit on Internment Camps in Hawai'i

More than 2,000 people of Japanese ancestry were detained in Hawai'i during World War II, yet few people today realize that internment camps even existed in Hawai'i. A new traveling exhibit by the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i addresses the need to increase public understanding of that history. The "Right From Wrong: Learning the Lessons of Hawai'i WWII Internment Camps" exhibit shares lessons learned from the detainment and its lasting impact on the Japanese American community in Hawai'i. Funded with a FY2009 grant of \$43,187, the exhibit also raises broader issues of civil rights and our responsibility as individuals in a democratic society, as well as efforts to preserve the Honouliuli internment camp.

Designed by MBFT Media of Honolulu the "Right From Wrong" exhibit builds upon an earlier Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i traveling exhibit, "Dark Clouds Over Paradise: The Hawai'i Internees' Story." The new traveling exhibit is made up of eight panels divided into four themes that answer the basic questions about the internment in Hawai'i:



University of Hawai'i at Manoa Ethnic Studies students review the exhibit in the JCCH Courtyard before going on a tour to the Honouliuli Internment Camp site. Photo courtesy: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, Photo by Betsy Young



The exhibit made its first public library appearance at the Kapolei Library, Hawai'i from February - April 2012. Over 60 people attended a public presentation led by JCCH Resource Center volunteers. Photo courtesy: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, Photo by John Okutani

What Camps? (Confinement sites in Hawai'i were: Honouliuli, Sand Island, Kilauea Military Camp, Kalaheo Stockade, Haiku Camp, Lana'i Jail, Montgomery Hotel/Kaua'i Jail, and Moloka'i.)

What's Left? (Concrete slabs, wooden buildings, aqueducts, underground sewer system, stone walls, and artifacts remain at Honouliuli.)

Why Bother? (The roundup and internment contradict everything that the United States stands for.)

What's Next? (A vision for the future includes a historical park at Honouliuli.)

The wayside exhibit made its debut at the Okinawan Festival in Oahu on Labor Day weekend 2011, and continues to travel to events, pilgrimages, and libraries.

As the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i continues to research the Hawai'i confinement sites, they will update their exhibits and expand their interpretation.



Two JANM Projects Result in the Recordation of Stories of Nisei Docents, and Plans for New Exhibit on Japanese American World War II Experience

With so many personal stories to share, docents at the Japanese American National Museum offer visitors a direct link to the past. Volunteer Ben Tonooka, for instance, remembers living in a barrack at Heart Mountain, and Kent Hori can tell you about his uncle who received a Bronze Star as a soldier with the 442nd infantry. To preserve these stories, the Los Angeles museum used a FY2010 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant of \$42,573 for their “Nisei Oral History Project” to record video clips of 25 of its Nisei volunteers and docents. Each was recorded in front of a museum display, not only sharing stories, but explaining why a particular artifact is especially meaningful to them personally. Bob Uragami points to a drum once used by the drum and bugle corps of Japanese American Boy Scout Troop 64.

The drumhead sports two, crossed American flags, although, Uragami explains, it originally had one American flag crossed with a Japanese flag. Then the war came and his father decided it would be best to have the Japanese flag painted over with an American flag. “So,” Uragami says, “if you really look close, you can see a round outline of where the Japan flag used to be.”



Bob Uragami points to a drum once used by the drum and bugle corps of Japanese American Boy Scout Troop 64.

Photo courtesy: Japanese American National Museum

The project staff is currently at work on using the most recent Smartphone and audio tour technology to integrate these video recordings with the museum’s “Common Ground: The Heart of Community” exhibit, which contains artifacts, photographs, letters and ephemera that trace 130 years of Japanese American history, and are available to view on the museum’s website: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/commonground/>

With a second, \$75,713 grant in FY2010, the Japanese American National Museum curatorial staff, through meetings and a questionnaire, sought input from scholars and the general community as it planned for a new exhibit, “Toward Justice for All: Learning from the Japanese American World War II Experience.” Also as part of that project, museum staff cataloged and stored essential artifacts and conducted a review of its current exhibit technology. The exhibit will feature stories from a diverse range of individuals affected by internment—from internees and soldiers to renunciants.



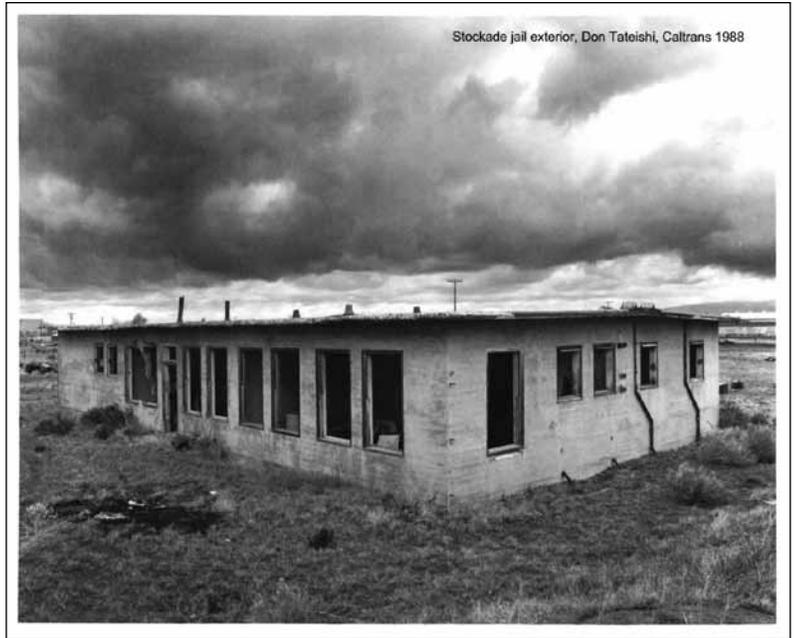
Nisei Docent Ben Tonooka shares his memories of living in a barrack at Heart Mountain, Wyoming. Photo courtesy: Japanese American National Museum



Tule Lake Committee Prepares for Restoration of “Jail Within a Jail,” with Historic Structure Report

Within the barbed-wire-enclosed stockade of the Tule Lake Segregation Center stands the jail. The flat-roofed, concrete jail, which was built in 1944 by Tule Lake inmates, stands as an evocative symbol of the unjust forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. “The jail is an iconic symbol of the wartime incarceration. It’s a very powerful structure that reveals a dark story,” says Barbara Takei of the Tule Lake Committee and co-author of *Tule Lake Revisited: A Brief History and Guide to the Tule Lake Concentration Camp Site*.

In 1943 Tule Lake was converted to the only War Relocation Authority maximum-security segregation center. Its purpose was to imprison Japanese Americans removed from other camps because they refused to give unqualified “yes” answers or refused to answer two misguided, confusing loyalty questions. Their non-violent dissent earned these protesters the epithet of “disloyal” for most of their lifetimes. Tule Lake became a prison camp of 18,000 men, women and children; the center wracked with conflict and anger, and filled with people who felt that they had no future in a country that had stripped them of their homes and possessions and, most of all, their freedom and dignity. After passage of a denationalization law in 1944, nearly 5,500 Japanese Americans in Tule Lake renounced their U.S. citizenship.

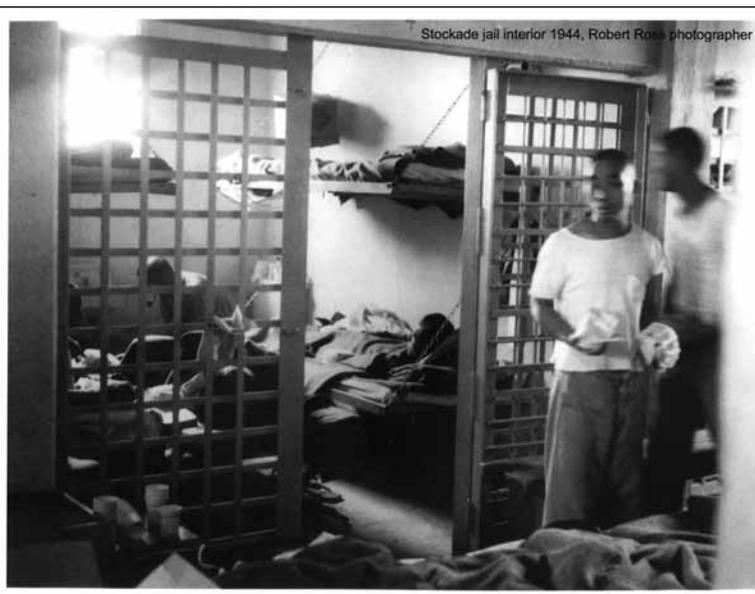


Stockade jail exterior, Don Tateishi, Caltrans 1988

Stockade jail exterior, 1988.
Photo courtesy: Caltrans, Photo by Don Tateishi

The stockade was Tule Lake’s largest detention center, but was shut down after the American Civil Liberties Union threatened legal action. The replacement jail had six 9x12-foot cells designed for 20 people, but held as many as 100 men. In use from 1944 through 1945, the jail held hundreds of men who had been stripped of their U.S. citizenship. After being rendered stateless, the men were interned as “enemy aliens” in Department of Justice prisoner of war internment camps in Bismarck, North Dakota and Santa Fe, New Mexico while plans were made to deport them to Japan.

With a \$40,000 FY2009 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant, the Tule Lake Committee, with a matching grant from the State of California, completed a Historic Structure Report that documents needed repairs and costs to restore the “jail within a jail”. With the report in hand, the Tule Lake Committee will apply for funding to restore the jail. This was a tragic chapter in the Japanese American incarceration experience, says Takei, and one that will be preserved as part of the restored jail’s interpretation.



Stockade jail interior 1944, Robert Ross, photographer

Interior of the stockade jail, circa 1944. Photo courtesy: National Archives, Photo by Robert Ross



Three Grants Help Preservationists and Local Community Preserve Amache’s Past

Three FY2010 projects for the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) have set the stage for returning the original water tower and a reconstructed guard tower to the internment camp site in southeastern Colorado. Denver-based Colorado Preservation, Inc. (CPI) completed two of the projects with Japanese American Confinement Sites grants of \$57,420; the National Trust for Historic Preservation completed the third project with a grant of \$34,980.

To begin, CPI set out to find and inventory any of the 556 buildings that once comprised Amache. Although most were demolished by 1948 and others moved off site and eventually dismantled, CPI located and documented 21 buildings, six of which retained a high degree of historic integrity. The former hospital laundry building, for instance, was located fewer than three miles from Amache – on the grounds of Granada High School, where it was being used as a bus repair barn. Also found at the high school was a former staff quarters building, which was used over the years as a preschool and for teacher housing. Now vacant, these buildings are among the top candidates for relocation back to Amache.



Don Emick with Timberline Landscaping releases chains from the skid to allow the lowering of the final section of the Amache water tank.

Photo courtesy: Barbara Darden, Scheuber + Darden Architects, December 2012

In its second grant project, CPI selected Scheuber + Darden Architects LLC to develop plans for stabilizing, rehabilitating, and reconstructing Amache’s wooden water tower, which was sold in 1947 to the Fletcher family, who, until recently, used the tank to water cattle on their property near Granada. Today, the 25,000-gallon tank and parts of the tower have been collected and placed in storage awaiting restoration.

Meanwhile, the Denver field office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation used its grant to formulate plans for the reconstruction of one of the eight guard towers that once surrounded the internment camp. The guard towers stood 16 feet tall, topped by an octagonal watch room with windows on all sides and a search light on the roof. With architectural plans in hand for the water tower and guard tower – two defining features of Amache – the many groups working to preserve the site – including the Town of Granada, Friends of Amache, the Amache Historical Society, and the Amache Preservation Society – can move forward toward actual construction and interpretation.



Guard tower at the Amache incarceration camp, 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (denshoptd-p159-00012), George Ochikubo Collection

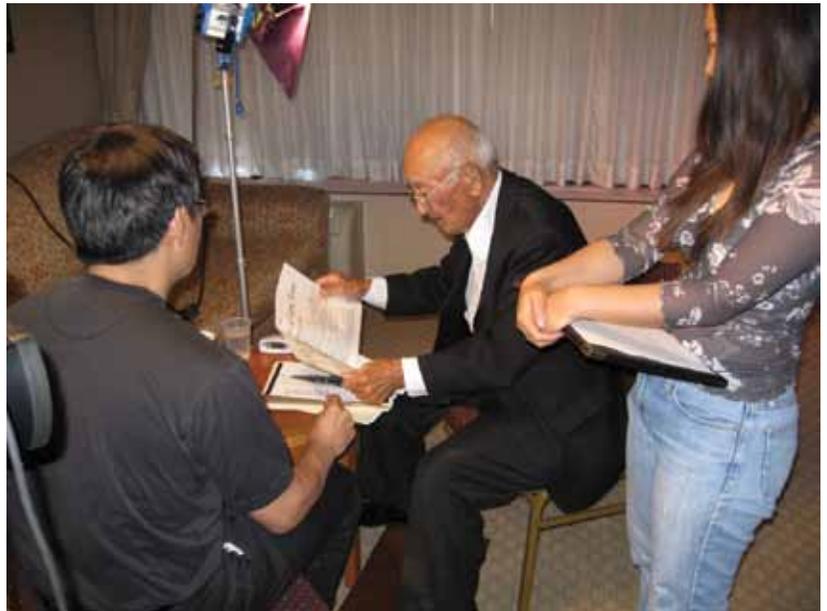


Densho Captures the Lesser Known Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration

With a \$112,500 FY2009 grant, Densho continued to add to its important repository of oral histories documenting Japanese American internment. In travels to eight California cities and two Hawaiian islands, Densho conducted 40 interviews, which have been transcribed, processed and placed in the Densho Digital Archive, online at www.densho.org.

In the 96 hours of oral histories conducted for this grant, titled “Stories Less Told: Video Oral Histories of the Japanese American Incarceration,” Densho set out to focus on War Relocation Camps less well-represented in its collections, such as those in Hawaii and Rohwer in rural southeastern Arkansas.

The effort resulted in moving testimonials such as that by Rose Matsui Ochi, whose parents named her Takayo, meaning “a child of high ideals.” At Rohwer, however, all the children were lined up and given new, American names. For little Takayo, the name was Rose, a change she has often pondered in her adult life. “I felt initially that you’re made to feel that you’re not a real American, and what you are is not good enough. But over time, I’ve kind of come to understand that it was very empowering, because I



Densho interviews Cedrick Shimo about his experiences serving in the MIS in Camp Savage, Minnesota. Photo courtesy: Densho

don’t have to belong. To the extent that I have been very successful as an advocate in the community and in my work, I tend to be fearless. And it didn’t matter whether you blessed my positions,” she stated, and added with a laugh: “Hey, I consider myself lucky. What if I got ‘Petunia?’”

Such compelling stories are the kind Densho sought with its FY2009 grant, said Executive Director Tom Ikeda. “We really tried to fill some holes with this project,” he said, including documenting “hard to get” stories from the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

With the latest entries, the Densho archive has grown to more than 700 video interviews and more than 11,000 photographs and other documents.



Marian Sata shares her memories of Stockton and Rowher with Densho. Photo courtesy: Densho



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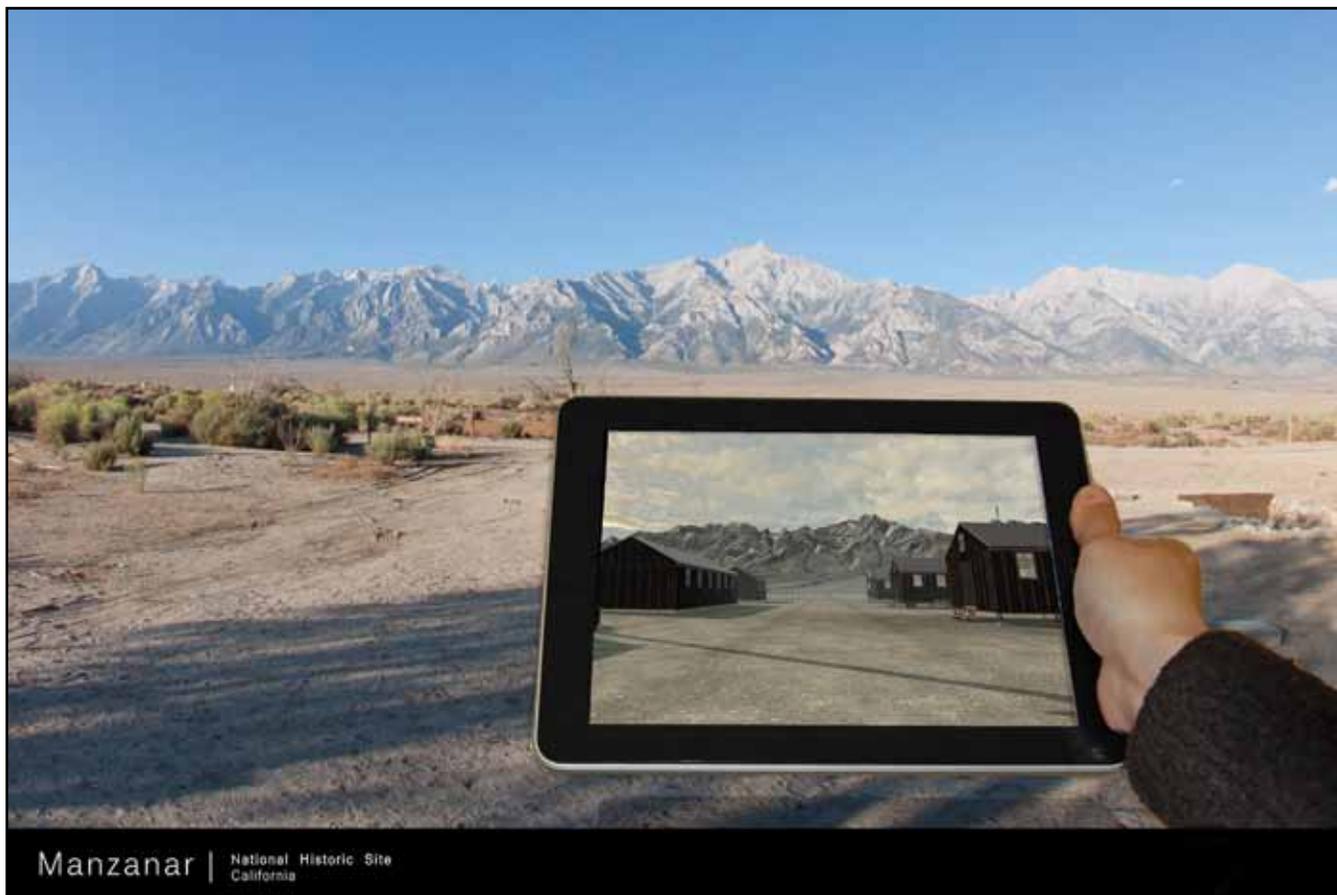
Thank you for your interest in the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

For more information, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/JACS/index.html>. Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/jacsgrant

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Layout/design by the Office of Communications & Legislation - Intermountain Region
Fall / Winter 2012





As part of a FY2011 JACS grant, CyArk is creating a new iPad App to show digitally reconstructed barracks at the Manzanar National Historic Site in California. Photo courtesy: CyArk

