

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

Residential Area:

1. Write the address hereafter at a station on the San Antonio River. House number on East First Street and house number on West First Street. House number on East First Street, house number on West First Street on the west side of the river.

2. Signatures, dated May 3, 1942, all persons in the above area by 12 o'clock noon or earlier after 12 o'clock noon, P. M. T., representative of the Commanding General.

3. If a family, or in case of grave emergency, as allowed by this instruction to the Adjutant General, or other disposition of same kinds, including goods, boats, automobiles and property.

4. Do not have any mailboxes.

5. Do not have any mailboxes in the area of the Manzanar War Relocation Authority.





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.

WILLIAM HOHRI

Family # 1477

Camp: Manzanar, CA

Address: 10-4-2

In 1922 the Hohri family of six arrived in San Francisco as Protestant Christian missionaries. They added three more children. I was the youngest. We were living in North Hollywood when the Japanese Imperial Navy attacked our Pacific Fleet in Pear Harbor. I was 14 and in the tenth grade at North Hollywood High School. My father was arrested by the FBI in the late afternoon of the attack. I suffered no hostility from my classmates. But the media exploded with "Japs." It was a sad time.

We had about one week to dispose of what we owned, except what we could pack and carry for our departure by bus on April 4, 1942 for Manzanar. I do not recall having any prized possessions. My

brother had a gardening business. He was able to have a friend sell his pickup truck after we left. Except for my father, who was then interned at Fort Missoula, Montana, our entire family went to

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We had no future. Morale was dissolving. When we graduated in June 1944, most of my friends left camp the day after graduation. I left a week later.

My worst experience occurred after I left camp. In March 1945, I made a trip from Madison, Wisconsin to Manzanar in order to visit my parents. After 3 days, I arrived and tried to get into camp. I was asked why I wished to visit. I wanted to persuade my father against relocating to Madison, Wisconsin because as an Issei he would not be able to find a

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job. They refused to let me enter. Moreover, they had an individual exclusion order issued for me which required that I leave the State of California by midnight the same day.

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MANZANAR *Free Press*

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Location: Inyo County, California, at the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada.

Environmental

Conditions: Temperatures can be over 100 degrees in summer and below freezing in winter. Strong winds & dust storms are frequent.

Acreage: 6,000

Opened: March 21, 1942 as a Reception Center and June 1, 1942 as a War Relocation Center.

Closed: November 21, 1945

Max. Population: 10,046 (September 1942)

Demographics: Most internees were from the Los Angeles area, Terminal Island, and the San Fernando Valley. Others came from the San Joaquin Valley and Bainbridge Island.





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)



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.



The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. To learn more about your national parks, visit the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov. To learn more about Manzanar National Historic Site, please visit our website at www.nps.gov/manz.

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