

Centennial Project Description

Manzanar National Historic Site recently completed the Cultural Landscape Report for the site. Within this report treatment recommendations were identified and, for some features, detailed schematic design concepts for the preservation and enhancement of site features were prepared. One of these detailed schematic designs was for the re-establishment of vegetation around the historic Manzanar Auditorium, which now serves as the sites Interpretive Center. This vegetation will be replanted to replicate the vegetation condition during the time that Manzanar War Relocation Center was in operation. The plans in the CLR provide clear guidance for this work.

This project directly relates to the centennial initiative goals of stewardship and education. The stewardship of the site, and preservation of the cultural landscape are of the utmost importance on this site. This project will improve the condition of the cultural landscape, while it helps to convey this compelling story in american history. Additionally this project will enhance our ability to convey the story of internment, the efforts the internees went through to create a liveable place, and the connections with their the outside world in acquiring and planting the vegetation at the site. Docent programs on the site will be able to use this area to dicuss their experiences in the camp - further enhancing our ability to connect mutliple generations to this compelling story. We will work closely with the Friends of Manzanar, many of whom have realives that were interned at Manzanar, in the implementation of this project. Their matching funds,connections to the Japanese American community, and guidance, will facilitate the successful completion of this project.

Replanted vegetation at the entrance to the Manzanar auditorium will match the historic vegetation present during the camp period.

