

Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



The Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center, designed by Schutz Foss Architects of Billings, Montana.
Photo courtesy: Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation.

Winter 2010

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 Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 awards and on the new FY2010 grant awards for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. Over the past two years, the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program has awarded \$3,895,000 in federal funds to private nonprofit organizations; educational institutions; state, local, and tribal governments; and other public entities working towards the preservation and interpretation of historic confinement sites where more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were detained during World War II.

In 2009, Congress appropriated \$1 million for the first year of the grant program, from which the NPS awarded 19 grants totaling \$970,000.

In 2010, the second year of the grant program, the NPS awarded 23 grants totaling \$2,925,000 to help fund projects in 12 states. The grants were awarded through a competitive process, providing \$2 in federal money for every \$1 in non-federal funds and/or “in-kind”

contributions raised by groups and individuals working to preserve the sites and their histories.

The FY2010 grants range from \$17,295 to the Friends of Minidoka to re-establish the historic Honor Roll, which commemorated Japanese Americans serving in the U.S. Army, to \$832,879 to the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation to complete the construction of the interior and the remaining exterior infrastructure for the 11,000-square-foot Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center in Park County, Wyoming.

The 42 projects awarded over the past two years demonstrate the tremendous commitment of the numerous individuals, organizations, stakeholders, and communities who have dedicated their time and resources towards the goal of preserving and interpreting these sites and stories. Collectively, these projects help us gain a better understanding of the past, engage new audiences, and build new partnerships to work collaboratively towards the long-term preservation of these historic sites and the memories and lessons they hold.



Status of Funding for the Fiscal Year 2011 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 2011. In its place, Congress passed a continuing resolution (signed into Public Law 111-242 on September 30, 2010) that temporarily funds the Federal government through December 3, 2010. Governmental funding after December 3 is dependent on Congress returning from its autumn recess and passing an appropriations bill.

In order to ensure that the NPS has the administrative ability to successfully award Japanese American Confinement Sites grants in 2011, the grant program will operate on a schedule similar to that of 2010. Grant applications will be announced on January 4, 2011; applications will be due on March 1, 2011; and grants will be awarded when funds are appropriated by Congress. As we receive updated information about funds available for the 2011 cycle, we will post it on the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program website: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/JACS/index.html>



Overlooking the Granada Relocation Center (Amache). Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Background

On December 21, 2006, President George W. Bush signed Public Law 109-441 (16USC 461), which authorized the NPS to create a program to encourage and support the preservation and interpretation of historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II. The law authorized up to \$38 million for the life of the grant program to identify, research, evaluate, interpret, protect, restore, repair, and acquire historic confinement sites in order that present and future generations may learn and gain inspiration from these sites and to demonstrate the Nation's commitment to equal justice under the law.

The Act also directed the NPS to consult with a variety of governmental, educational, and private nonprofit organizations in the development of a grant program to achieve the purposes of the Act. On June 11, 2007, the House Committee on Appropriations directed the NPS to provide a report that described how the agency would implement the grant program (H. Rpt. 110-187).

In preparation for a congressional appropriation and in response to the directive from the House Committee on Appropriations, the NPS engaged the public to gain valuable input to assist in the development of this grant program. The NPS consulted with state, local, and tribal governments, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations, including those involved in the preservation of historic confinement sites.

During this process, the NPS engaged more than 1,000 individuals representing more than 40 organizations, governmental entities, and academic institutions. They shared their hopes and expectations and helped shape the evaluation criteria and guidelines for the grant program.

On May 21, 2008, this information was presented by the Department of the Interior, on behalf of the NPS, to the House Committee on Appropriations in the *Report to Congress Pursuant to Public Law 109-441: Preservation of Japanese American World War II Confinement Sites*. This report outlined the legislative requirements, project categories, evaluation criteria, and program administration guidelines for the grant program.



OVERVIEW OF THE 2010 JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT PROGRAM

Announcement of Fiscal Year 2010 Grant Cycle

On October 30, 2009, Congress appropriated \$3 million for Fiscal Year 2010 of the grant program (Public Law 111-88). In early January 2010, the NPS invited organizations and entities working to preserve historic Japanese American confinement sites and their history to submit grant applications.

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 historically significant locations 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.

The grant program guidelines listed seven major categories of eligible activities for the Japanese American Confinement Sites grants to benefit one or more confinement sites: 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).

Postcards announcing the availability of grant applications and guidelines were mailed in January 2010 to a mailing list of more than 10,000 individuals and organizations, including state, local, and tribal governments, public entities, educational institutions, private nonprofit organizations (including organizations involved in the preservation of historic confinement sites), former internees and their families, and individuals within the Japanese American community. The FY2010 grant cycle also was announced through the grant program website, press releases, and other correspondence. The NPS held informational meetings in Chicago, Denver,



Former internees share their experiences with Densho, which received a FY2009 grant award to document and preserve the under-documented stories from ten War Relocation Authority Camps and fifteen assembly centers across the country. Photo courtesy: Densho.



Honolulu, Little Rock, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington DC to meet with interested grant applicants and address questions about the grant program and application process.

Grant Selection Process

By the application deadline of March 4, 2010, the NPS received 42 applications, requesting nearly \$7.8 million in federal funds. During the week of March 15, 2010, the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grants selection panel convened to evaluate the grant proposals for the FY2010 grant cycle. The panel was composed of NPS 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 ethnography, architecture, construction, planning, interpretation, and partnerships. As was the case for the 2009 panel, the 2010 selection panel also included one panelist whose family members had been interned in one of the War Relocation Authority camps. 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 the evaluation criteria and guidelines that were established based on public input. Applicants were asked to address questions related to the need, impact, feasibility, sustainability and support for their project. For more information on these criteria and guidelines, please visit the grant program website at: <http://www.nps.gov/history/HPS/hpg/JACS/application.html>



Little girls playing house at the Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston). Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Of the 42 applications received, the panel recommended that 23 proposals receive funding. These recommendations were then forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior, who approved \$2,910,000 in funding on April 29, 2010. In August, an additional \$15,000 was reappropriated, resulting in a total of \$2,925,000 for grant awards. Although \$90,000 had been allotted for NPS administration of the program, the NPS only needed \$75,000 (amounting to 2.5% overhead). As a result, the Secretary of the Interior approved the \$15,000 reappropriation on August 12, 2010, which came from the unused administrative funds.



Left: Japanese Americans from the Rohwer Relocation Center return by train to their homes in California in 1945. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.



Barracks at the Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.



FY2010 PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS LISTED BY STATE

ARKANSAS

Recipient: Arkansas State University
Project Title: Rohwer Relocation Camp Interpretive Project
Grant Award: \$100,502
Site(s): Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, AR
Description: Under the direction of Arkansas State University's Heritage Studies Ph.D. Program and the Arkansas Heritage SITES (System Initiatives for Teaching & Economic Support) program, a grant of \$100,502 will help these groups conduct research to identify major themes and events associated with the history of the Rohwer Relocation Center. Once major interpretive themes are identified, the grantees will conduct public stakeholder sessions to review and evaluate scholarly research. Arkansas State University will use the selected historical themes to develop and install interpretive materials such as informational panels, kiosks, and brochures at the Rohwer Relocation Center.



Headstones at the Rohwer Relocation Center cemetery. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Recipient: McGehee Industrial Foundation
Project Title: Jerome-Rohwer Visitor & Interpretation Facility
Grant Award: \$434,967
Site(s): Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, AR
Jerome Relocation Center,
Chicot and Drew Counties, AR
Description: The McGehee Industrial Foundation plans to create a permanent exhibit space for the "Against Our Will: The Japanese American Experience in World War II Arkansas" exhibit by restoring the south building of the historic Missouri Pacific railroad depot in McGehee, Arkansas. The exhibit, created by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock with major funding from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, focuses on the internment history of the Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Centers. The goal of this project is to provide a central interpretive hub for people to visit as they explore the nearby camp sites. This project addresses the growing need to enhance local site interpretation, educational awareness, and visitation to these confinement sites.



CALIFORNIA

Recipient: Friends of Manzanar

Project Title: Oral History and Research for Enhanced Interpretation and Education at Manzanar Demonstration Block 14

Grant Award: \$58,833

Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA

Description: Manzanar National Historic Site's Block 14 – which is composed of two barracks, a restored mess hall, foundations, rock gardens, paths, and a wading pool – serves as a demonstration block to interpret camp life of the 11,070 Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at the camp. Through this project, the Friends of Manzanar will survey state and federal repositories and collections to locate, gather, and synthesize resources available on Manzanar, which will be used to expand Manzanar's reference files and aid in the development of interpretive exhibits, media, and programs for Block 14. As a second aspect of this project, the Friends of Manzanar also will collaborate with Densho to conduct and preserve fifteen new oral histories on the living conditions experienced by internees at Manzanar from 1942-1945. The interviews will be hosted on Densho's website (www.densho.org). The combination of research and oral histories produced through this project will support a multimedia approach to interpreting Block 14, including the potential production of video clips, podcasts, virtual tours, and interactive exhibits.



Mess hall at the Manzanar Relocation Center in California. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Recipient: Japanese American Citizens League

Project Title: Passing the Legacy Down: Youth Interpretation of Confinement Sites in the Western United States

Grant Award: \$151,790

Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA

Tule Lake Relocation Center (Tule Lake Segregation Center), Modoc County, CA

Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston), La Paz County, AZ

Minidoka Relocation Center, Jerome County, ID

Description: Passing on the legacy of internment is a vital initiative of the Japanese American Citizens League. To make sure that the legacy of internment in the United States is never forgotten, the Japanese American Citizens League will educate Japanese American youth and non-traditional audiences on the history of World War II internment. This project will engage youth audiences with the past so they may gain a sense of passion through civic participation to preserve and interpret confinement sites. Taking a multi-pronged approach, the Japanese American Citizens League will lead four localized programs in the western United States to educate and inspire dialogue and individual interpretation among youth about internment. Highlights of these programs include seven months of educational workshops and forums, and in-service learning activities at confinement sites, which would include environmental conservation and historic preservation projects. The final aspect of this program will be a leadership project through which participants will create presentations about confinement sites to share with the general public at pilgrimages and other confinement site events.



Recipient: Japanese American National Museum
Project Title: Nisei Oral History Project
Grant Award: \$42,573
Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states
Description: The Japanese American National Museum employs several Nisei docents to share their internment stories during the guided tours of their School Visits Program. These interactive tours serve more than 25,000 students annually from southern California. To ensure these memories are permanently recorded and shared with future generations, this project will create video and audio recordings of 25 of the museum's Nisei docents. All recordings will be digitally processed by the museum's Media Arts & Web staff and posted on the museum's website (www.janm.org and www.discovernikkei.org). The recordings also will be showcased in the museum's Japanese American core exhibits, opening in 2011, and will serve the museum's School Visits Program for years to come. The museum also will include the oral history interviews within their public program series, which reaches out to the Los Angeles public and the surrounding areas to provide educational activities related to Japanese American history.

Recipient: Japanese American National Museum
Project Title: Toward Justice For All (Exhibit Planning)
Grant Award: \$75,713
Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states
Description: This award will support the Japanese American National Museum's first planning phase for a new exhibit titled "Toward Justice for All: Learning from the Japanese American World War II Experience," which is scheduled to open in January 2013. To prepare for the exhibit, the museum will convene with a national scholarly advisory group and facilitate community collaboration meetings to develop a framework and walk-through for the exhibit. The long-term exhibit will feature artifacts, oral histories, and media installations. The museum also will assess collections and media resources to identify featured individuals for the exhibit. The project proposes to integrate video documentation of former Japanese American internees and 500 artifacts from the museum's collection into the exhibit. The museum will focus on a diverse group of individuals affected by internment, ranging from former internees to soldiers and renunciants. The project will organize website access, public programs, and curriculum development to extend the exhibition's educational efforts with public engagement.



A soldier, stationed at Camp Leonard Wood, Missouri, is furloughed to help his mother prepare for evacuation from the West Coast. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Recipient: Poston Community Alliance
Project Title: Poston Preservation Project—Barrack Relocation and Rehabilitation
Grant Award: \$31,000
Site(s): Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston), La Paz County, AZ
Description: Poston, which was built on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, was one of the ten War Relocation Authority camps during World War II. Today, the majority of the camp's structures have either been moved, razed, or dismantled. Through this project, the Poston Community Alliance will relocate and restore a Poston barrack that is currently located at a plant nursery in the nearby community of Parker, Arizona. This project is part of the Poston Community Alliance's long-term initiative to develop a "living museum" and interpretive center at Poston. The "living museum" and interpretive center will provide insight into the stories of Japanese American and Native American experiences during World War II.



COLORADO

Recipient: Colorado Preservation, Inc.
Project Title: Building Stock Research and Inventory Related to the Granada Relocation Center (Amache)
Grant Award: \$20,093
Site(s): Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, CO
Description: The Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program funded a total of three projects for the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) this year, with Colorado Preservation, Inc., receiving two grant awards. With a grant of \$20,093, this project will survey, identify and inventory the remaining historic buildings from Amache that are located in a 110-mile radius outside of the camp. In an effort to assess the integrity of the remaining building stock, Colorado Preservation, Inc., will document the locations and conditions of the identified structures as well as provide preservation recommendations in a final project report. An assessment of this kind will assist preservation specialists in gathering the survey data needed to create a prioritization list for the possible relocation of historic buildings back to Amache.

Recipient: Colorado Preservation, Inc.
Project Title: Water Tower Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan at Granada Relocation Center (Amache)
Grant Award: \$37,327
Site(s): Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, CO
Description: Using a grant of \$37,327, Colorado Preservation, Inc., working in cooperation with the Friends of Amache, will relocate a historic water tower tank to Amache, and develop plans to rehabilitate and reconstruct the water tower structure at its original location. Presently the water tank is located off-site on a local farm, as a result of the sale of camp structures in 1945. The water tower tank will be stored at a temporary location at Amache until Colorado Preservation, Inc., is able to complete an archaeological survey of the water tower's original site at the camp. Also as part of the project, Colorado Preservation, Inc., will produce detailed specifications for the rehabilitation of the extant parts of the tank, as well as for the reconstruction of the water tower legs. The project also includes the design and fabrication of an interpretive wayside panel to provide additional information to visitors.



Ireito Memorial at the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) in Colorado. NPS photo.

Recipient: National Trust for Historic Preservation
Project Title: Granada Relocation Center (Amache) Guard Tower Reconstruction Plan
Grant Award: \$34,980
Site(s): Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, CO
Description: Through a \$34,980 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant, the National Trust for Historic Preservation will formulate plans to reconstruct a guard tower at Amache. The project includes researching original guard tower design and construction plans, with a focus on the unique features of the Amache guard towers, which were octagonal in design. The reconstruction plan will include architectural drawings, specifications for construction, and costs estimates. The project also includes the design of an interpretive wayside panel.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Recipient: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation
Project Title: Recruitment and Training of Volunteer Docents for the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation
Grant Award: \$38,909
Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states
Description: The four docents who are responsible for leading the guided tours at the National Japanese American Memorial are overwhelmed with approximately 200 requests for tours each year. The docents, who are either former internees or members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, are only able to accommodate approximately eight to ten such requests. To accommodate more visitors, the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation will recruit and train ten new volunteer docents, who will then participate in five, two-hour training workshops. The workshops will include training on the interpretive and abstract elements of the memorial, as well as the historical contexts for all of the internment camps, assembly centers, and Department of Justice camps. Once the new volunteers have completed their training, they will join the core group of veteran docents.

HAWAII

Recipient: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii
Project Title: Hawaii Confinement Sites Educational Documentary
Grant Award: \$117,626
Site(s): Honouliuli Internment Camp, Honolulu County, HI
Sand Island Detention Camp, Honolulu County, HI
Kilauea Military Camp, Hawaii County, HI
Kalaheo Stockade, Kauai County, HI
Haiku Camp, Maui County, HI
Description: The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii will produce a one-hour documentary film on the stories of Hawaii internees, including the effects of the selective arrest and incarceration of civilians, and the personal accounts of former Japanese American internees and their children. The film will include personal interviews and reenactment scenes that describe Japanese American and European American internment in Hawaii. Once completed, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii will broadcast the film on Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) Hawaii, at Day of Remembrance events, and distribute the documentary to communities and institutions. As a second facet of this project, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii will release a 45-minute classroom version of the documentary to supplement lesson plans on Hawaii's history. The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii will send the classroom version to every public and private high school in the state of Hawaii.



First evacuee arrivals at Granada Relocation Center (Amache), transferred from the Merced Assembly Center in California. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.



HAWAII (continued)

Recipient: University of Hawaii, Center for Oral History

Project Title: Unspoken Memories: Oral Histories of Hawaii Internees at Jerome, Arkansas

Grant Award: \$29,080

Site(s): Jerome Relocation Center, Chicot and Drew Counties, AR

Description: The University of Hawaii's Center for Oral History will conduct interviews with fifteen individuals who left their homes in Hawaii to be with their detained fathers in the Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas. Each interview will cover topics such as pre-internment life, the forced removal of fathers from their families, the stresses and effects of separation on Japanese American families, and the decisions made by families to move to Jerome. The oral histories will be recorded in digital audio format, transcribed, edited, and transferred onto CDs. To make sure that the public has access to these important memories, the Center will deposit the oral history CDs in the University of Hawaii, Hawaii State, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, NPS, and University of Arkansas libraries. Additional information about the project's efforts to share wartime experiences of families at Jerome will also be accessible via the Center's website (www.oralhistory.hawaii.edu).



Evacuee flower garden at the Tule Lake Segregation Center in California. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Recipient: University of Hawaii, West O'ahu

Project Title: Multidisciplinary Research and Education at Honouliuli Internment Camp, Phase 2

Grant Award: \$98,544

Site(s): Honouliuli Internment Camp, Honolulu County, HI

Description: Following up on its 2009 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant award, the University of Hawaii-West O'ahu will continue its multidisciplinary research and education project on the internment experience in Hawaii, including archaeological field schools at Honouliuli during the summers of 2011 and 2012. The University will expand its current research staff to create a multidisciplinary group with backgrounds in anthropology, Asian-American studies, early childhood education, economics, English, history, psychology, and sociology. University faculty will complete research with local collections and interviewees, travel to other collections in Hawaii and the U.S. mainland, and record oral histories of former internees, their families, and individuals who interacted with the Honouliuli Internment Camp. The University will share its research findings through public outreach and a project website. University faculty also will develop and deliver university courses that feature comparative analyses of internment in Hawaii and the U.S. mainland, while utilizing local fieldtrips, writings from former internees, films, and guest speakers to enhance class sessions.



IDAHO

Recipient: Friends of Minidoka

Project Title: Minidoka Honor Roll

Grant Award: \$17,295

Site(s): Minidoka Relocation Center, Jerome County, ID

Description: Honoring the over 1,000 Minidoka internees who served in the United States military, the Friends of Minidoka will reestablish the historic Minidoka Honor Roll through this project. Originally installed at the camp's entrance, the Honor Roll honored the bravery of Japanese Americans from Minidoka who were serving in the US Army, and reflected the ingenuity of the Minidoka internees who created it. To reconstruct the Honor Roll on the site, the Friends of Minidoka will design, fabricate, and install the structure at the camp's historic entrance. The Honor Roll will be a three-sided structure with the hand-painted names of each soldier, crowned with a carved bald eagle. The Honor Roll will be part of a network of visitor trails, complete with a wayside panel. The final installation of the Honor Roll will be highlighted at the annual Civil Liberties Symposium and Pilgrimage hosted by the Friends of Minidoka, Minidoka National Historic Site, and the College of Southern Idaho.



Fumi Onodera points to the names of her family members serving in the U.S. Army from the Minidoka Relocation Center.

Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

MASSACHUSETTS

Recipient: University of Massachusetts, Boston

Project Title: From Confinement to College: Video Oral Histories of Japanese American Students in World War II

Grant Award: \$68,852

Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states

Description: The stories of young Japanese Americans who left confinement sites for educational opportunities at mainland colleges due to the initiatives of the National Student Relocation Council are rarely heard. To uncover this history, a team from the Institute for Asian American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Boston will document the experiences of former student internees. The team will identify and recruit interviewees, conduct oral history interviews, process and edit videos of the sessions, and compile text transcriptions. Overall, the project will produce fifteen video oral histories of Japanese Americans who traveled from internment sites to college campuses. The videos will explore their lives before internment, camp experiences, dealings with the National Student Relocation Council, adjustment to new campus locales, and the feelings of acceptance or disapproval they encountered in campus communities. The Institute will make the video oral histories accessible to the public via its website and through partner websites.



OREGON

Recipient: Klamath County Friends of the Library
Project Title: Breaking the Silence: The Power of Remembering
Grant Award: \$55,000
Site(s): Tule Lake Relocation Center (Tule Lake Segregation Center), Modoc County, CA

Description: This project will focus on the history of the implementation of the loyalty questionnaire by the War Department and the War Relocation Authority. Individuals who answered “No-No” or refused to answer this questionnaire were labeled as “disloyal” and were sent to the Tule Lake Segregation Center. As part of this project, the Klamath County Friends of the Library will conduct a series of twenty oral history interviews that document protests over loyalty questions, inmate attempts at self-governance, labor organizing, and repatriation and renunciation stories from the Tule Lake Segregation Center. The oral histories will be recorded both in audio and video footage, photographed, and transferred into digital format, transcribed, archived, and made accessible to the public. In addition to the interviews, the project will collect and preserve photographs and documents to supplement the personal testimonies. As a vital oral history source, the videos will provide evidence of protest to counter myths of Japanese American passivity during wartime internment.



Japanese Americans arrive at the Santa Anita Assembly Center. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

TEXAS

Recipient: Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc.
Project Title: Japanese Confinement Sites in Texas: An Untold Cultural Legacy of World War II
Grant Award: \$20,167
Site(s): Kenedy Internment Camp, Karnes County, TX
 Seagoville Internment Camp, Dallas County, TX
 Fort Sam Houston Internment Camp, Bexar County, TX
 Fort Bliss Internment Camp, El Paso County, TX

Description: Following up on an interpretive pilot project at the former Crystal City Department of Justice camp, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc., will use this grant to interpret World War II confinement camps throughout Texas. The Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc., will focus attention on the confinement sites at Kenedy, Seagoville, Fort Sam Houston and Fort Bliss, due to their lack of recorded documentation and deteriorating physical remains. The group will organize public outreach meetings; conduct research, documentation, and oral histories; and develop online virtual tours to promote public awareness and heritage tourism of the camps. In addition, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc., will create 20,000 travel guides for the confinement sites in Texas, and distribute them to local, state and regional visitor information centers. Also through the project, the Friends group will install official Texas Historical Markers at the four sites.



WASHINGTON

Recipient: Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial
Project Title: Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial
Grant Award: \$182,725
Site(s): Bainbridge Island/Eagledale Ferry Dock, Kitsap County, WA
Description: Constructed at the site of the Eagledale Ferry Dock, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial project marks the historic site where the first community of Japanese Americans were removed from their homes during World War II and put on a ferry to Seattle, beginning their forced removal to confinement sites. This grant award supports the completion of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Wall, which is an integral component of the memorial site. The 276-foot-long memorial wall is made of granite, basalt and cedar, and is built upon Taylor Road, where Bainbridge Islanders were escorted by Army soldiers to the ferry landing. The wall's length also is symbolic, as each foot marks the number of Japanese Americans who were removed from their homes. With the 2010 Japanese American Confinement Sites grant, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial will fabricate and install the interpretive displays on the wall, which will include images, art, and historical information.



The Japanese American owner of this store placed the "I am an American" sign in the store front on December 8, 1941, the day after Pearl Harbor. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Recipient: Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project
Project Title: Japanese American Confinement: Reference and Resource Website
Grant Award: \$166,145
Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states
Description: Through this project, Densho will collaborate with ten scholars of Japanese American history to develop a reference and resource website. Linked to the Densho database, the new encyclopedic website will provide access to scholarly articles, primary sources, and links that recommend resources and curricula on Japanese American history. The website will hold 250 short articles and 40 larger articles on World War II Japanese American removal and detention, and will cater to the basic research needs of young students, as well as to the in-depth needs of scholars. The materials will be organized in a user-friendly manner, and will include biographies and testimonies of internees, contextual interpretations, key terminology, interactive maps, a timeline of World War II events, and resources on topics related to the early discrimination and wartime experiences of Japanese Americans and the redress era. To help disseminate the information on the website, the articles also will include links to social networking sites such as Facebook.



WASHINGTON (continued)

Recipient: Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project
Project Title: Stories Less Told Part II: Video Oral Histories of the Japanese American Incarceration
Grant Award: \$210,000
Site(s): Multiple sites, counties and states
Description: This oral history project conducted by Densho will produce and digitize 140 little-known stories of internment from World War II. Building on a previous 2009 project (Stories Less Told Part I) funded by a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant, Densho will collect stories from WRA camps, assembly centers, Department of Justice camps, and camps in Hawaii. The stories range from experiences of women internees, Japanese Americans educated in Japan (known as Kibei), and non-Japanese Americans who had roles in the administration of confinement camps or who witnessed Japanese American removal. Of the 140 oral histories, 80 newly recorded and 60 donated interviews will be digitally processed, archived, indexed and produced onto DVDs. The digital form of the oral histories will be made accessible on Densho’s website (www.densho.org). The digital database currently holds a collection of 400 interviews, 10,500 photographs and documents, and a social studies curriculum.

Recipient: Wing Luke Memorial Foundation dba Wing Luke Asian Museum
Project Title: First Person Stories Revealed: Historic Materials from Minidoka Preserved through the Higo Ten Cent Store

Grant Award: \$100,000
Site(s): Minidoka Relocation Center, Jerome County, ID
Description: Stored within the Higo Ten Cent Store in Seattle’s Japantown are photographs, camp documents, souvenirs, memorabilia, and artifacts saved by the Murakami family who were incarcerated at the Minidoka Relocation Center. This project will preserve these historic materials and share them with the public through a traveling display and book publication. Under the guidance of the Wing Luke Memorial Foundation, this project will present the traveling display at two Seattle festivals, distribute 1,500 copies of the publication, and conduct 10-12 oral history interviews with Murakami family members and close associates. The documents and letters saved by the Murakami family and presented by this project will educate the public on the effects of forced internment and Japanese American resettlement. Additional information on the project’s publication and display will be updated and found on the “Teachers Resource” page of the Wing Luke Memorial Foundation’s website (www.wingluke.org).



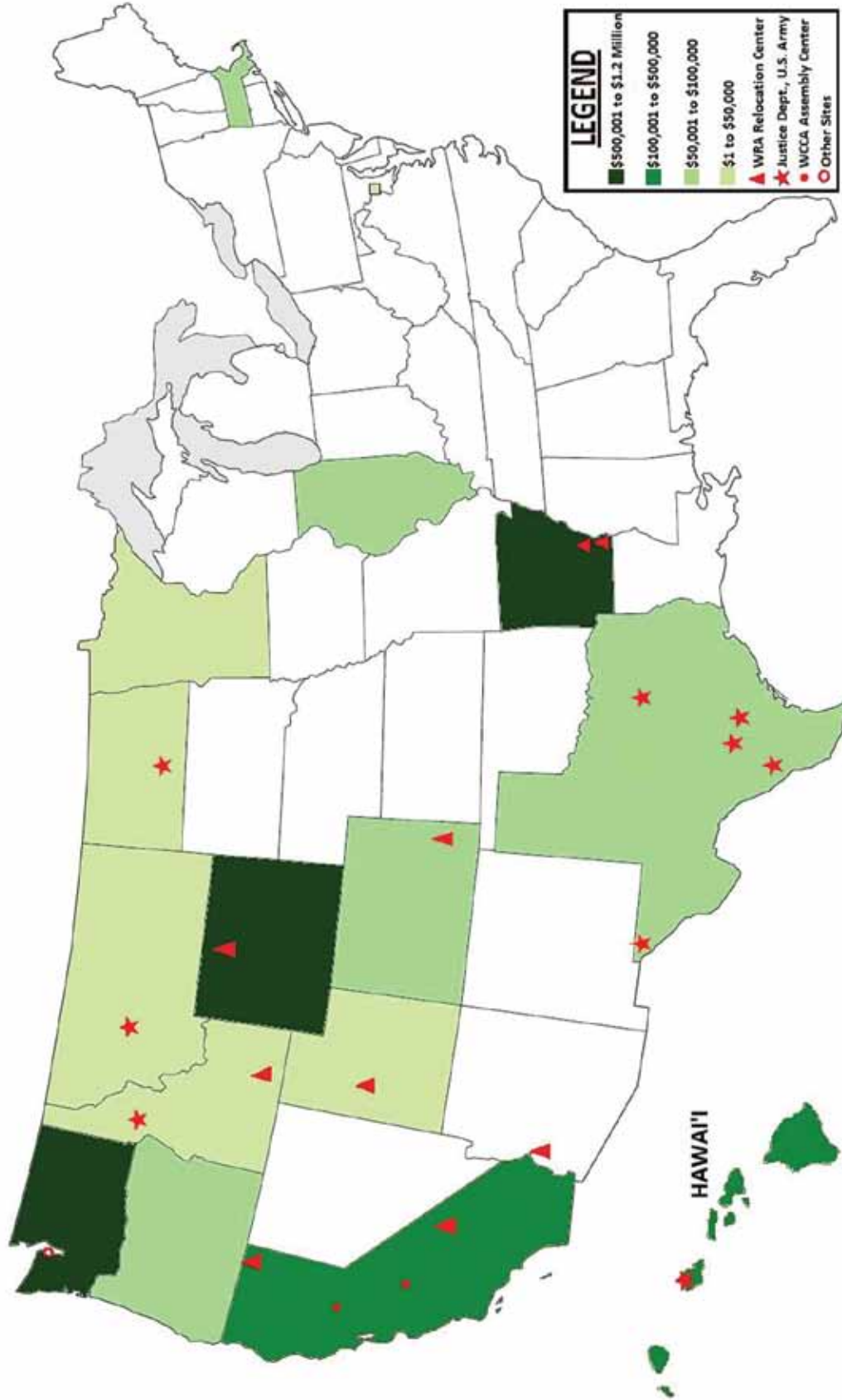
Looking west on F Street at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming. Photo courtesy: The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

WYOMING

Recipient: Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation
Project Title: Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center (Phase 3: Interior Build-Out)
Grant Award: \$832,879
Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, WY
Description: In 2009, the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation received a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant award of \$292,253 to help construct the Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center. With the 2010 grant of \$832,879, the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation will complete the remaining construction of the facility. The entire project includes the completion of the interior construction, and the remaining exterior infrastructure (parking lot, lighting, landscaping, concrete, and the water treatment system).



JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT FUNDING BY STATE



This map shows total (2009-2010) Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program funding by the states where the grantees are located. Also shown are the Japanese American confinement sites that were the specific focus of those grant funds. In some cases, the grantee is in a different state than that of the confinement site. For example, Poston Community Alliance, which is in California,

received funding for the preservation and interpretation of the Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston) in Arizona. 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 benefitted from those general projects.



COMPLETED JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT PROJECTS

This year ushered in an exciting milestone for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program as the first four grantees from 2009 completed their projects. These grantees included the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation; Japanese American Service Committee; Japanese American Citizens League, Marysville Chapter; and the Topaz Museum Board. As the first generation of Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program success stories, the completed projects 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.

Japanese American Service Committee Completes its “Winning the Peace” Traveling Exhibit

With a FY2009 grant of \$74,620, the Japanese American Service Committee created an exhibit on Japanese American soldiers who enlisted in a secret operation in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service. Using a multi-media approach that integrates the use of photographs, artifacts, maps, films, and oral histories of former Military Intelligence Service soldiers, the Japanese American Service Committee was able to fabricate a 42-panel traveling exhibit called “Winning the Peace.” In addition to this extensive exhibit display, the Japanese American Service Committee produced two computerized video documentaries, an ancillary website, and held a panel discussion for Military Intelligence Service members and veterans. From May 7-June 30, 2010, the public had the opportunity to view the exhibit and documentaries at the Japanese American Service Committee Legacy Center in Chicago, Illinois. Immediately following the conclusion of the exhibit at the Legacy Center, the traveling exhibit had a four-day viewing at the Japanese American Citizens League’s national convention in Chicago. The exhibit provides an in-depth perspective

of Military Intelligence Service soldiers who worked as translators, spies, and fighters during World War II while their families endured internment at War Relocation Authority camps.



Exhibit panel from *Winning the Peace* tells the history of Nisei Chicagoans who were members of the Military Intelligence Service during World War II. Image courtesy: Japanese American Service Committee.



Marysville Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League Commemorates the Arboga Assembly Center with a Memorial Plaque

The Arboga Assembly Center in Marysville, California has been commemorated through a \$5,000 grant project completed by the Marysville Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. On February 27, 2010, the Marysville JACL unveiled a bronze plaque, placed atop a redwood presentation stand, that recognizes the Arboga Assembly Center and the 2,465 Japanese Americans who endured forced incarceration there in 1942. The ceremony also included an educational session and luncheon, at which community members and former internees reunited and shared their memories to “keep future generations informed on the Japanese American story.” Eventually, the Marysville JACL plans to move the monument to another location nearer the former site of the Arboga Assembly Center, once that site development is completed. Until then, the current monument serves the immediate need to commemorate the significance of the Arboga Assembly Center, and to share that history with the general public.



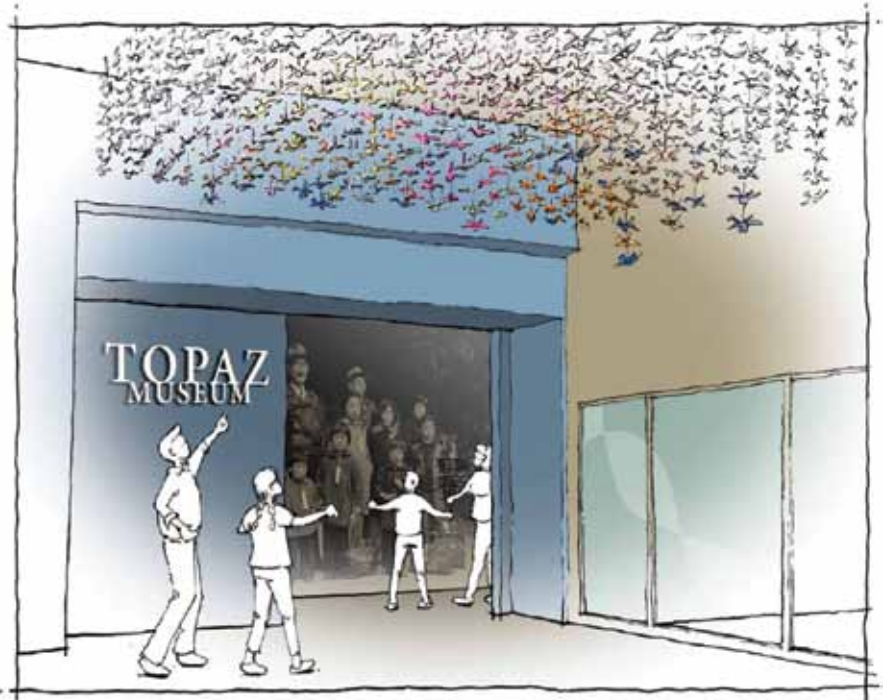
A ceremonial unveiling of the bronze plaque, presented by the Marysville JACL, allowed former internees and their families the opportunity to commemorate their experiences at the former Arboga Assembly Center site. Image courtesy: Marysville JACL.



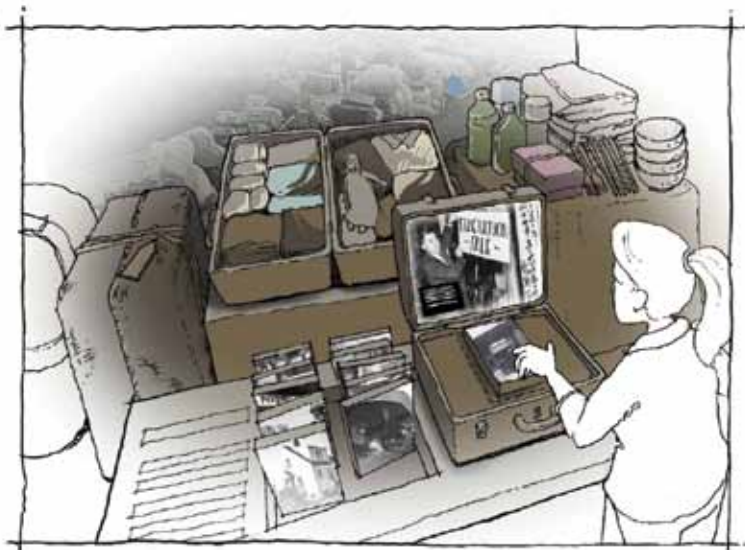
Topaz Museum Board Completes an Interpretive Design Plan for the Proposed Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah

With \$48,000 in grant funding, the Topaz Museum Board has produced an interpretive design plan for an exhibit at the proposed Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah. The plan, which was produced with the professional expertise of the West Office Exhibition Design firm, a multi-disciplinary design studio specializing in museum and cultural centers, generated a creative framework for content development, space planning, and exhibit concepts. Rich with significant historical themes and interactive exhibit stations, the proposed exhibit will present the many stages of internment, and incorporate the experiences and resiliency of former internees by making use of artifacts, internee artwork and stories.

As explained in the interpretive design plan’s introduction, the exhibit will challenge visitors, “to consider what happened at Topaz and why it matters to all of us. . .to understand the importance and value of their constitutional rights and civil liberties.” To achieve this, the exhibit will take visitors through an exploration of American history that highlights the social, emotional, and historical effects of Japanese American confinement.



One page of a concept design plan, proposed by West Office Exhibition Design for the Topaz Museum Board, depicts an origami crane installation suspended from the ceiling of the future museum’s gallery entrance.



Another concept design plan depicts a display of personal belongings, representing all that a single family could bring with them upon evacuation—only what they could carry in their arms.



The Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation Constructs the Exterior Shell of its Interpretive Learning Center

In FY2009, the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation was the recipient of that year's largest grant award: \$292,253. The Foundation has now successfully completed that project, through the construction of the exterior shell (Phase II) of their highly anticipated Interpretive Learning Center (ILC) at the site of the former Heart Mountain Relocation Center. Building on an earlier phase of construction, the completion of Phase II expanded the facility to a total of 11,000 square feet.

The Interpretive Learning Center will house administrative and curatorial storage space, as well as exhibits that will educate visitors on Japanese American internment history by emphasizing themes of constitutional issues, civil liberties, diversity, and ethnic understanding. In celebration of their recent construction achievements, the Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation opened the Interpretive Learning Center grounds to visitors with a progress celebration and site tour on August 19-20, 2010. Scheduled to open on August 20, 2011, the



Photo courtesy: Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation.

Interpretive Learning Center will be part of a complex that houses a Memorial Garden, a restored Military Honor Roll and flagpole, an eight-station interpretive walking trail, a plaque dedicated to those killed in service, and four original camp buildings.



Side view of one of the Interpretive Learning Center buildings, the design of which is based on the Heart Mountain barracks. Photo courtesy: Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation.



THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT PROGRAM JOINS FACEBOOK!

The Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program has achieved Facebook status! With our new Facebook page, we hope to keep grant recipients, applicants, and those interested in the program up to date on the latest news and the grantees' recent achievements.

Join us on Facebook by checking out the program's fan page. Visit www.facebook.com/jacsgrant and "like our page" to see updates, upcoming events, and more information on the grant program. The Facebook page will have weekly status updates, bi-weekly chats for grantees and interested applicants, photos, videos, and news articles showcasing grant recipients and their projects. Additional resource links, important application dates, and contact information also will be available with a click of a button via our Facebook page. So stay connected and join us today.

Please note that our Facebook page is a supplement to the NPS Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program website. Important information on the application process, grant manual and reporting documents, grant eligibility and federal regulations can only be found on our grant program website, at: <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/JACS/index.html>. Therefore, please visit our website to download official Japanese American Confinement Sites documents and press releases in Microsoft Word and .pdf formats. We also will continue to update the website with the latest information on grant eligibility, application announcements, and news articles on funded grant projects.





CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact one of the NPS regional representatives if you have any questions about the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

*Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico,
Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Wyoming*

Contact: **Kara Miyagishima**, Program Manager
Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program
Phone: 303-969-2885
Email: Kara_Miyagishima@nps.gov

Contact: **Alexandra Hernandez**, Historian
Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program
Phone: 303-969-2846
Email: Alexandra_Hernandez@nps.gov



MIDWEST REGION

*Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas,
Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota,
Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan,
Illinois, Indiana, Ohio*

Contact: **Rachel Franklin-Weekley**, Historian
Midwest Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resources
Phone: 402-661-1928
Email: Rachel_Franklin-Weekley@nps.gov



Artwork by George Yano, 1943, courtesy of Manzanar NHS

PACIFIC WEST REGION

*Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada,
Oregon, Washington, and other
states not listed above*

Contact: **Tom Leatherman**, Deputy Superintendent
Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park
Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial
Phone: 925-943-1531, ext. 122
Email: Tom_Leatherman@nps.gov

Hawaii

Contact: **Frank Hays**, Pacific Area Director
Phone: 808-541-2693 x723
Email: Frank_Hays@nps.gov

Please visit <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/JACS/index.html> for information about the grant program.

All correspondence and comments may be sent to the address listed below:

**National Park Service
Intermountain Region
Japanese American Confinement
Sites Grant Program
ATTN: Kara Miyagishima
12795 W. Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80228**

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



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
December 2010