

# Start Making Sense: Contextualizing Digital Archival Content

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**SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA ARCHIVISTS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SESSION 3  
RACHEL MANDELL  
APRIL 28, 2017**

# California State University Japanese American Digitization Project

[www.csujad.com](http://www.csujad.com)

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- Large-scale collaborative digitization project and platform
  - 15+ CSU campuses, partners outside the CSU
  - 15,000 records by 2018



<http://www4.csudh.edu/brand/brand-assets/downloads/index>

- Grant-funded project  NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**Humanities**  
Neh.gov

- Helped early career archivists achieve success... thank you!



<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/hand-emoji/>



# The need for contextualization

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<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/simplicity-survival-handbookantidote-overwhelming-monica>

# Exhibits: Online

- Online
- Scalar
- Created by Steve Kutay, CSUN

<http://scalar.usc.edu/works/csujad-exhibit/index>

The screenshot shows the digital exhibit interface for the California State University Japanese American Digitization Project. The main header reads "CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY JAPANESE AMERICAN DIGITIZATION PROJECT: AN EXHIBIT". A navigation menu on the left lists the following sections: Home, Introduction, Before the War, Executive Order 9066, Incarceration, Service, Resettlement, Redress, Reflections, Timeline, Related Resources, Print-ready Posters, About CSUJAD, and Index. The main content area features a large historical photograph of an American flag flying in front of a mountain range, with a small wooden building in the foreground. Overlaid on the bottom of the image is the text "CSU Japanese American Digitization Project" and a blue button that says "Begin with 'Introduction'".

# Exhibits: In-Person

**Herald Tribune**  
Japan Declares War on U.S. and Bombs Hawaii Without Warning. 350,000 U.S. Servicemen Will Ask Congress to Act To

**Post-Pearl Harbor Suspicion**  
The shock and fear brought on by the Japanese Government's attack of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 led the U.S. into World War II accompanied by years of fear and outrage among the U.S. population. This fear merged with anti-Asian xenophobia resulted in President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066.

The order designated coastal areas as military zones, from which anyone could be excluded, and led to the forced removal of Japanese-Americans from the West Coast.

**California State University DOMINGUEZ HILLS** **CSU** The California State University **humanities** **National Park Service**

[www.csluhd.edu](http://www.csluhd.edu)

## JAPANESE AMERICANS SOLDIERS IN WWII

Japanese American soldiers distinguished themselves in several theaters of war during World War II. While Americans of Japanese descent were being declared enemy aliens, the 442nd Central Postal Directory (CPOD) was organized on March 23, 1943. The Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) was first established in San Francisco and later at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minnesota. It was created to supply the military with Japanese American translators. The MISLS was critical in producing skilled linguists who were essential to the World War II effort and later the occupation of Japan. Source: Demitro Encyclopedia

**"You fought the enemy abroad and prejudice at home and you won,"**  
President Harry Truman addressing Japanese American troops, July 15, 1946.

**WCCA Assembly Center**  
**WCCA Reception Center**  
**WCCA Detention Camp**  
**WCCA Assembly Camp**  
**WCCA Detention Camp**

**WCCA Temporary Assembly Centers, WCCA Incarceration Camps, WCCA Civilian Detention Centers, Department of Justice Detention Camps, U.S. Army Internment Camps, or other facilities.**

**Placed in deserts and isolated locations, the camps consisted of barracks, mess halls, communal latrines, hospitals, post offices, schools, factories and farms. If not barred away in fences with guard towers.**

**In addition to the WCCA camp facilities, there were several other locations where Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II, including:**

**WCCA Temporary Assembly Centers, WCCA Incarceration Camps, WCCA Civilian Detention Centers, Department of Justice Detention Camps, U.S. Army Internment Camps, or other facilities.**

**Included among these camps were the Crystal City, Texas operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Through the WCCA, attempts to neutralize the effects of the camps on its inhabitants through various PR campaigns, the stark environment of the camps were being apparent.**

**Those incarcerated attempted to keep a routine of work and occasional recreation. The camps began to close in early 1946 through Tule Lake near camp until 1948.**

**As part of the WCCA, National Historic Site of the War Relocation Authority, 1942-1946.**

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## American Incarceration Camps

The War Relocation Authority (WRA) was established in 1942 to administer the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese-Americans in internment camps located in the West Coast exclusion zones.

Ten WRA camps were built in Glendale, Phoenix, Arizona; Jerome and Topaz, Colorado; Minidoka, Idaho; Tule Lake, California; and Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

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# Exhibits: Repurposing and Enhancing




Cal Poly San Louis Obispo

# Symposia: Focusing and Connecting

CSU Dominguez Hills,  
February 2017

- Film series
- Panels / discussions
- Garden dedication



**Japanese-Americans in WWII**

**75<sup>TH</sup> EO 9066**

**And Then They Came for Us...**

A symposium marking the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 authorizing the mass incarceration of Japanese-American citizens during WWII

February 9, 2017

To register or for more information visit [www.csudh.edu/9066](http://www.csudh.edu/9066).

**Opening Ceremony**  
Shirwa-En Japanese Garden, 1st Floor SBS building  
1:00-2:00pm

**And Then They Came For Us...Symposium**  
Loker Student Union, Ballroom C  
2:30-3:45pm — Kim Yasuda, artist and professor, University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Art  
4:00-5:15pm — Tom Ikeda, Executive Director, Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project

**And Then They Came for Us...Archives Exhibition Opening Reception**  
Library Cultural Arts Gallery, LIB-1940 | 5:30pm

**Keynote Address**  
Loker Student Union, Ballroom C  
7:00-8:00pm — Satsuki Iwa, Ph.D., Filmmaker and psychotherapist

*Dr. Iwa was born in the Tule Lake Segregation Center during World War II. She has produced two documentary films about the Japanese-American camp experience.*

California State University **DOMINGUEZ HILLS** **CSU** The California State University **humanities** National Park Service

Special thanks to President Wile J. Hagan for his support. A project in conjunction with the CSU Japanese American Digitization Project.

Speaking of which....  
**GO SEE THE EXHIBIT**  
Open Through: August 2017

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**CSU Dominguez Hills Library**  
1000 E Victoria St, Carson, CA 90747

**10am-4pm, Mon-Fri | Library Cultural Arts Center LIB-1940**

**Archives Exhibition: And Then They Came for Us...**

# Teaching Guides: Coming Soon...

The screenshot shows the EDSITEment website interface. At the top left is the logo for the National Endowment for the Humanities. To the right is a navigation menu with links: NEH Connections, Calendar, Reference Shelf, Websites, After School, and About EDSITEment. Below the navigation are three main menu items: FEATURES, LESSON PLANS, and STUDENT RESOURCES. A search bar is located on the right side, with a 'GO' button and the text 'Search By Standards'. The main content area features a large image of American troops in a trench during World War I. Below the image is a red banner with the text 'CURRICULUM UNIT: CENTENNIAL OF THE GREAT WAR' and '« 2 of 6 »'. The main title of the unit is 'US Entry into WWI: A Documentary Chronology'. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with the heading 'Explore our library of lesson plans by subject:' and four categories: ART & CULTURE, FOREIGN LANGUAGE, HISTORY & SOCIAL STUDIES, and LITERATURE & LANGUAGE ARTS.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**humanities**

NEH Connections » Calendar » Reference Shelf » Websites » After School » About EDSITEment »

**FEATURES » LESSON PLANS » STUDENT RESOURCES »**

**EDSITEment!**  
THE BEST OF THE HUMANITIES ON THE WEB

f t BLOG HUMANITIES

SEARCH Search By Standards  
GO

American troops in the field during World War I.  
U.S. Official Picture of the World War. Wikimedia Commons

Explore our library  
of lesson plans by  
subject:

ART & CULTURE »

FOREIGN LANGUAGE »

HISTORY & SOCIAL  
STUDIES »

LITERATURE &  
LANGUAGE ARTS »

CURRICULUM UNIT: CENTENNIAL OF THE GREAT WAR « 2 of 6 »

US Entry into WWI: A Documentary Chronology »



# Outreach: Including More People in the Discussion



<http://www.calarchivists.org/AGM2017>



[http://libraryblogs.fullerton.edu/2010/10/14/explore-local-california-history-using-calisphere/logo\\_singles\\_1400/](http://libraryblogs.fullerton.edu/2010/10/14/explore-local-california-history-using-calisphere/logo_singles_1400/)



<https://dp.la/info/get-involved/rep/rep/outreach-materials/>



**D E N S H Ō**

[www.Densho.org](http://www.Densho.org)

# Thank You!

## Contact Info:

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# Seeing is believing

Transforming Representations of Marginalized Groups  
through Collaborative Digital Projects

Evan Tucker-CSU Japanese American Digitization Project

# CSUS-Japanese American Archival Collection



This Japanese Peruvian prisoner was a secretary at the hospital at the Crystal City incarceration camp. She was allegedly repatriated to Peru after World War II ended.

# CSUS-Japanese American Archival Collection



A child crying at the Crystal City incarceration camp.

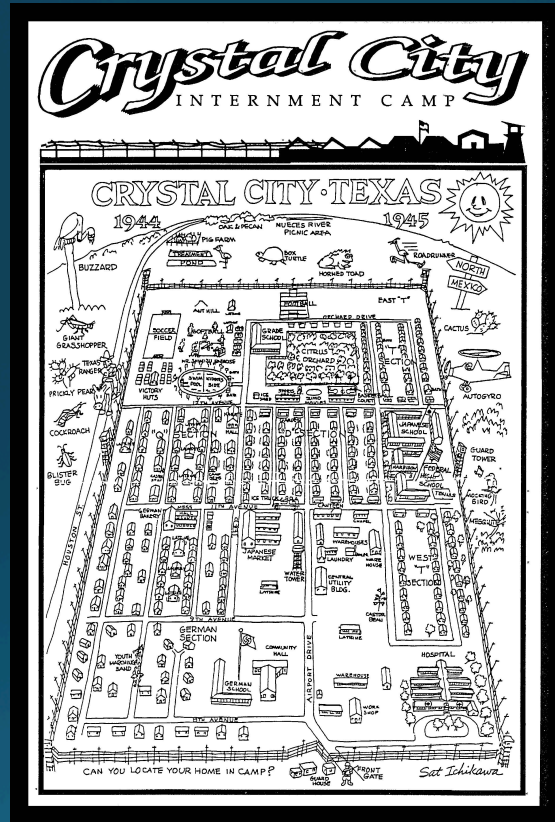


# CSUS-Japanese American Archival Collection



After World War II ended the members of the Hirayama family were released from the Crystal City incarceration camp and deported to Japan. The United States government deported nearly 2,000 Japanese Latin American prisoners to Japan, rather than to the Latin American countries where they previously resided.

# CSUDH-Mochizuki Collection



This illustrated map depicts the Justice Department camp in Crystal City, Texas where the majority of Japanese Latin American civilians were held.

# CSUDH-Mochizuki Collection

The fact that the Japanese are an Oriental people with language and customs almost unknown in the West, makes them an especially dangerous element. It is particularly diffi-

My short study of the Japanese problem in Peru leads me to the conclusion that it is a very serious one. The Japanese are a people whose strength and ability have, in the past, been vastly underestimated and whose fanatic spirit has neither been understood nor taken seriously. I believe that the Japanese in Peru have in no sense lost the characteristics which make them Japanese. There has apparently been no assimilation and in striking contrast to the situation in the United States where many first, or second generation Japanese, are loyal, patriotic citizens, I believe the Japanese here have no feelings of love, loyalty or obligation to Peru.

The fact that the Japanese are an Oriental people with language and customs almost unknown in the West, makes them an especially dangerous element. It is particularly difficult--and, as of course you know, this is true in Japan as well--to find out what they think and plan. This fact and the fact that they form by far the largest foreign element in Peru, make investigation of the situation and efforts to control it of the greatest importance.

This memorandum was written by American diplomat John K. Emmerson, the only person at the US embassy in Peru who spoke Japanese. Emmerson would later write in his 1978 memoir, "During my period of service in the embassy, we found no reliable evidence of planned or contemplated acts of sabotage, subversion, or espionage."

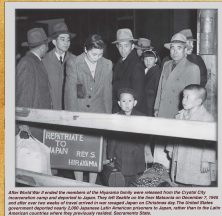


# Exhibition- And They Came for Us...

## JAPANESE LATIN AMERICAN INCARCERATION

During World War II, the United States government developed three separate incarceration programs that deprived thousands of people of Japanese descent of their liberty. The most well-known program was operated by the US War Relocation Authority, which incarcerated 110,000 US citizens and residents of Japanese descent living in California, Oregon and Washington. Another program was operated by the US Justice Department and led to the incarceration of 17,000 Japanese nationals living throughout the United States. The third and least-known program involved the incarceration of Latin American citizens and residents of Japanese ancestry.

From 1942 to 1945, the US Department of War took 2,260 Japanese Latin Americans from their home countries and incarcerated them in the United States. The vast majority of these Japanese Latin American prisoners were held in the US Department of Justice incarceration camp at Crystal City, Texas. The combination of xenophobia in countries like Peru and wartime hysteria in the United States led the US government to incarcerate ethnic Japanese from Latin America. This program resulted in a significant deprivation of rights and considerable hardships for the incarcerated Japanese Latin American civilians.



Also shown are photos of the members of the Japanese family who arrived from the Crystal City incarceration camp and departed to Japan. They are standing in front of the "Departments to Man" sign, which was used to identify the family members who were to be sent to Japan.



This Japanese American woman arrived with a secretary of the War Relocation Authority at the Crystal City incarceration camp.

