



# 2015 Heart Mountain PILGRIMAGE

August 21-22, 2015 • Cody & Powell, Wyoming



## AN ALL CAMPS CELEBRATION

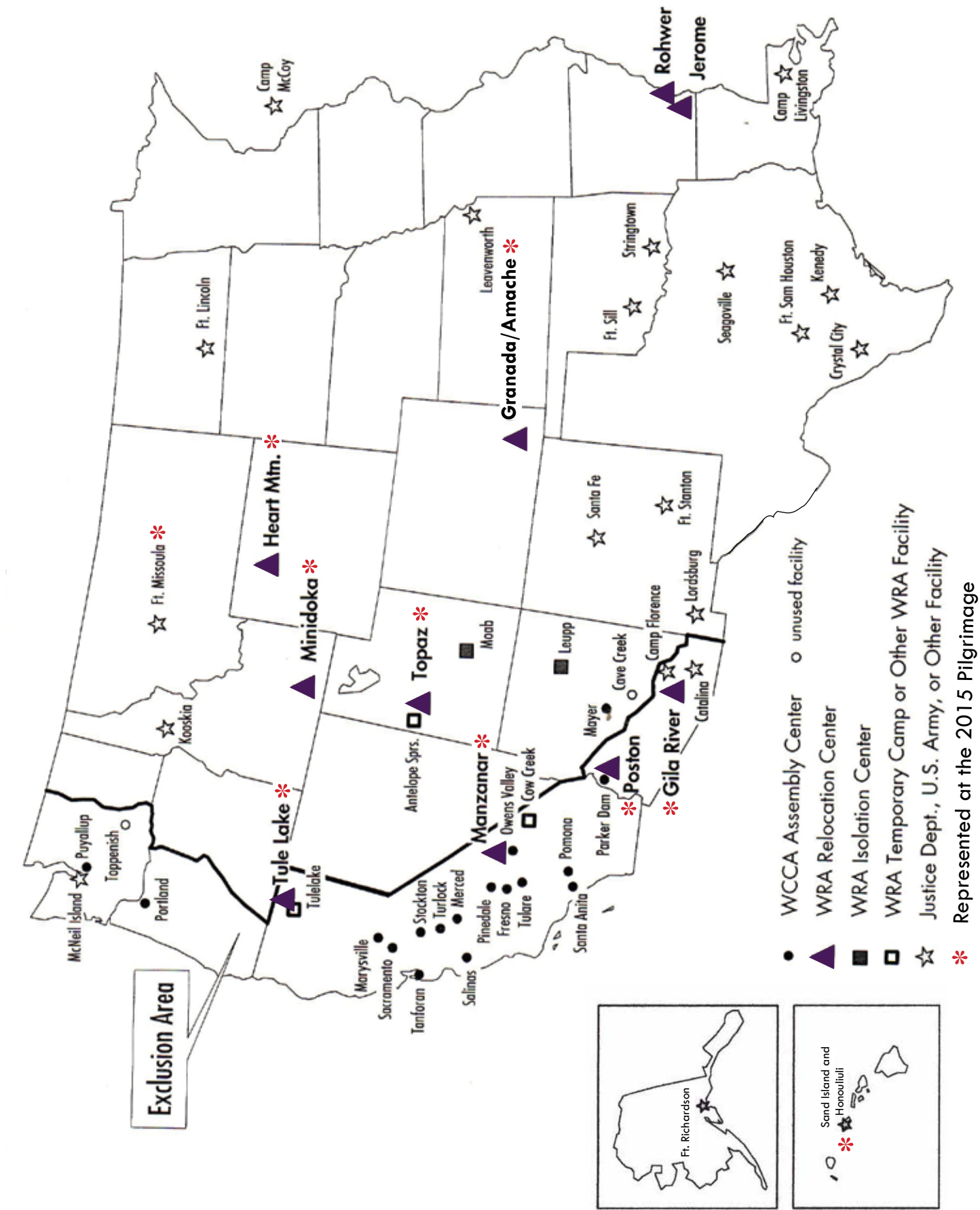




# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Date/Time	Description
Friday, August 21 10:00am–5:00pm	"All Camps" Fair (Holiday Inn Taggart Room, Cody)
5:30–7:30pm	<b>Evening banquet</b> (Holiday Inn Main Ballroom, Cody) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Welcome</li><li>Q&amp;A with Bacon "Mr. Heart Mountain" Sakatani &amp; Judge Raymond Uno</li><li>"Rock Collecting"— a digital story by Hana Maruyama</li><li>Performance by Spoken Word Artist G Yamazawa</li></ul>
7:30–9:00pm	Dessert reception (Holiday Inn Taggart Room, Cody)
Saturday, August 22 7:00 & 8:30am	Archivist available to receive artifact donations (Holiday Inn Breezeway, Cody)
9:00am	Bus leaves Holiday Inn for Heart Mountain Interpretive Center
9:00–10:00am	Registration: Heart Mountain Interpretive Center, 1539 Road 19, Powell
10:00am	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>National Anthem by Synergy (Cody High School Honor Choir)</li><li>Welcome by HMWF Executive Director Brian Liesinger</li><li>Introductions and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi and HMWF Vice Chair Douglas Nelson</li><li>Keynote Addresses: U.S. Senator Alan K. Simpson (Ret.) &amp; Former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta</li><li>Root Cellar Dedication</li><li>Introduction of Heart Mountain Barrack Installation</li><li>Performance by G Yamazawa, 2014 National Poetry Slam Champion</li></ul>
12:00–1:00pm	Lunch Buffet
1:00pm	Bus to Honor Roll Memorial for walking trail tour
2:00pm	"All Camps" Panel Discussion
4:00pm	Bus back to Holiday Inn, Cody
5:00pm	Interpretive Center closes

# Map of Confinement Sites



## From the Chair: Shirley Ann Higuchi, Esq.



Welcome to our August 2015 “All Camps” Pilgrimage! Over two days we will recognize all the confinement sites, key support organizations, and places of significance where the rights of Japanese Americans were suspended during World War II. These sacred grounds embody the Japanese American story. Preserving the history of these sites is our way of honoring those who advocated, resisted and fought for our ancestors—and for all of us—during one of the darkest periods in our nation’s history.

Established in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), *advocated* for equal treatment of Japanese Americans who had no voice during this period. Historical groups like the Heart Mountain Resisters of Conscience *resisted* by refusing to fight unless their rights as American citizens were restored. Conversely, the young Japanese American men of the 442nd Regiment *fought* to prove their loyalty to the country that imprisoned their families and fellow Americans. Along with the JACL, groups like the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), Densho, the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) and several others continue to tell this American story. To that end, I would like to give a special thanks to all those invested in

this history and extend a warm welcome back to those who have been with us before.

The success of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center has a long legacy of supporters from the Japanese American community, the state of Wyoming, and around the country. Like many others, Vice-Chair Doug Nelson has been instrumental in making the Center what it is today. In his 2010 speech made during a convening of camp representatives at JANM, Doug noted that “By working together and thinking collectively, we will make a lasting difference in how firmly future Americans defend the rights of vulnerable minorities.” This is why we are here today and I thank all our supporters, including the HMWF Board and Advisory Council.

This weekend we are also celebrating the rescue of an original Heart Mountain barrack from demolition in Shell, Wyoming. Its return to Heart Mountain adds an important and moving asset to our site. Many thanks to local and national supporters and in particular, HMWF Executive Director Brian Liesinger and the entire staff for making this a reality.

On Saturday, we will also celebrate the dedication of the Heart Mountain root cellar, which was built by incarcerated and sits adjacent to our Center. Many thanks to the Jolovich family, who generously donated the root cellar, as well as thanks to the National Park Service and other supporters who’ve helped make this possible.

The barrack and root cellar are part of what serves to tell the story of what happened here at Heart Mountain between 1942 and 1945. Artifacts like these help to use the power of place to bring to life the history and meaning of each confinement site. Yet the story of Heart Mountain and all of the camps live in the memories and personal stories of former incarcerated too. Our “All Camps” Fair gives you a chance to talk with representatives from other confinement sites and learn about the unique aspects and character of each of the camps. Former Heart Mountain incarcerated and Advisory Council members Bacon Sakatani and Judge Raymond Uno will share some of their memories and reflections of experiences here during our banquet dinner. You will delight in the performances of 2014 National Poetry Slam Champion G Yamazawa, where his intensely personal eloquence will enrich the way we think and feel about the meaning of all of the confinement sites. Rounding out this year’s Pilgrimage will be a panel discussion with representatives from various confinement sites, speeches by our dear friends, Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and Senator Alan K. Simpson, an exhibit of “Colors of Confinement” featuring Kodachrome photos by Bill Manbo, a special barrack exhibit, and new “Kids Corner” activities.

By celebrating our collective efforts and accomplishments we commemorate our ancestors and encourage the spirit of collaboration that has always been required to advocate, resist, and fight for what we believe in. The withdrawal of the Japanese American artifacts from public auction this spring has shown that we each have a stake in passing this history down to future Americans, and that we can achieve far greater success when we are willing to share resources, learn from one another, and work together to ensure our community and country’s history continues to be well told. Thank you again for attending our Pilgrimage and visiting our award-winning Interpretive Center at the original site where 14,000 loyal and law-abiding Americans were unjustly incarcerated during World War II.

*Shirley Ann Higuchi*

## Sites Represented in the Consortium

The following list is not exhaustive of all incarceration sites, simply those that are represented at this “All Camps” Pilgrimage.

### Gila River, Arizona

Unlike all of the other confinement camps, the sites in Arizona were located on Indian Reservations. The “Gila River Relocation Center” (comprised of the Butte and Canal camp sites) was located on the Gila River Indian Reservation. The areas are now treated as sacred sites, therefore public access is restricted. When the sites were first built in 1942, the Gila River Indian tribe strongly objected to the building of these sites on their land. Currently, the only indicators of the site are memorial plaques which mark the former sites. These were dedicated during ceremonies for the 50th Anniversary Gila River Relocation Center Reunion in 1995.

[www.javadc.org/gila\\_river\\_relocation\\_center.htm](http://www.javadc.org/gila_river_relocation_center.htm)

[encyclopedia.densho.org/Gila\\_River](http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Gila_River)

### Granada/Amache, Colorado

Overseen by the Amache Preservation Society, this site was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The annual Amache Pilgrimage takes place on the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend (next year’s will be on Saturday, May 21). The University of Denver is currently featuring an exhibit called *Connecting the Pieces: Dialogues on the Amache Archaeology Collection* which will be up through September 18, 2015. This summer, thousands of bricks were laid as part of a barrack reconstruction project. Complementing the guard tower and water tower which were installed in 2014, this reconstruction project, will help visitors get a sense of what the site was like. Currently, three interpretive kiosk panels are located at the main entry gate to Amache and the Amache Museum is located in downtown Granada, which is open during the summer months.

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

[encyclopedia.densho.org/Amache\\_\(Granada\)](http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Amache_(Granada))

### Jerome & Rowher, Arkansas

Like most of the sites, there is little that remains of either of the confinement camps in Arkansas. Due to the efforts of Arkansas State University however, new interpretive exhibits were completed in 2013 in conjunction with the opening of the Japanese American Internment Museum in McGehee, Arkansas. In 2012, the “Rowher Relocation Center” Cemetery underwent historic preservation through a survey and historical documentation by the University of Arkansas Landscape Architecture Department. More information about both sites is available through *Life Interrupted*, a digital museum dedicated to telling the story of the Japanese American experience in Arkansas (see website below). It was created through a partnership between the UALR Public History Program and the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

[www.rowher.astate.edu](http://www.rowher.astate.edu)

[www.ualr.edu/lifeinterrupted/index.html](http://www.ualr.edu/lifeinterrupted/index.html)



## — Manzanar, California —

Run by the Manzanar Committee, the pilgrimage is held every year on the last Saturday of April; the next one will be April 30, 2016. This confinement site had its first Pilgrimage in 1969 and later became a National Historic Landmark in 1984 after intense campaigning, led by former incarcerated. Recognizing the need for the story of this site to be commemorated, the Visitor Center was opened in 2004 in the historically restored Manzanar High School Auditorium. New permanent exhibits were installed in two reconstructed barracks this year. The exhibits feature extensive photos, documents, and quotes illustrating the challenges and changes people faced at Manzanar. Exhibits in Barracks 1 focus on the early days of Manzanar, when thousands of people arrived to an unfinished camp. Barracks 1 also includes a Block Manager's office, featuring the papers of Block Manager Chokichi Nakano. Barracks 8 features an "improved" apartment with linoleum and wall board. A second room explores the Loyalty Questionnaire and its profound long-lasting impacts.

[www.nps.gov/manz/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/manz/index.htm)

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

## — Minidoka, Idaho —

Current projects at the original site in Jerome County, Idaho, include the return of an original structure to the site (either a barrack or a residential mess hall) and the construction of the Issei Memorial which will pay homage to the Issei legacy. Recently completed projects include the restoration of a guard tower along with archaeological exploration of the area around the site. Along with their annual summer Pilgrimage, the Friends of Minidoka oversees an Annual Minidoka Civil Liberties Symposium, which is an event for university students, local teachers, and the community. This year's theme was "Citizenship: Rights and Responsibilities," which examined the roles and responsibilities of citizens and presented case studies of how individuals and organizations have responded to constitutional crises, civil liberties and personal rights issues.

[www.nps.gov/miin/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/miin/index.htm)

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

## — Poston, Arizona —

"Poston Relocation Center" was located on the Colorado Indian River Tribes Reservation. Like the Gila River Indian Community, the Colorado River Reservation Tribal Council also lodged strong objections to the building of these sites on their land, but were overruled by the Army and Bureau of Indian Affairs. Currently, public access is restricted, however there is a large monument and kiosk on the edge of the town of Poston, which commemorates the site and can be visited by the public at large. The Poston Community Alliance is active in preserving the Poston confinement site's remaining historic structures for the purpose of creating a living museum and an interpretive center to tell the stories and confinement site experiences of Poston incarcerated. Current efforts include developing a "Master Plan" for an Interpretive Center; stabilizing and preserving the eroding adobe classrooms built by incarcerated; having a preservation architect assess Poston's historic structures; and a documentary film titled *For the Sake of the Children*.

[postonupdates.blogspot.com](http://postonupdates.blogspot.com)

[encyclopedia.densho.org/Poston\\_\(Colorado\\_River\)](http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Poston_(Colorado_River))

## — Topaz, Utah —

The latest development for the former confinement site is the newly opened Topaz Museum. Managed by the Topaz Museum Board, it is located in Delta, Utah, approximately 16 miles from where the original Topaz Relocation Center was located. The museum building is comprised of half of a restored Topaz recreation hall from the site. The museum currently features an inaugural art exhibition, *When Words Weren't Enough: Works on paper from Topaz, 1942*, which will be open through 2016. Drawing from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibition focuses on artists who contributed to the art and culture of the "Topaz Internment Camp," where there was an art school comprised of nearly 600 students founded by Chiura Obata who had been an instructor at UC Berkeley prior to the war.

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

[encyclopedia.densho.org/Topaz](http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Topaz)

## — Tule Lake, California —

Overseen by the Tule Lake Committee, this site in northern California became a National Monument in 2006. The jail, seen as the most significant and symbolically evocative historic structure remaining at Tule Lake, is currently being restored. Work began with Phase I in 2011, a mandatory Historic Structures Report on the jail, thanks to grants from the National Park Service and the California Civil Liberties Public Education program. Phase II began in 2013, which consisted of pre-construction planning and the environmental portion of the project. Phase III, the construction portion of the project, is currently in progress. The Tule Lake Committee generally holds their Pilgrimage every two years. The next Pilgrimage event is planned for 2016, over the Fourth of July weekend.

[www.nps.gov/tule/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/tule/index.htm)

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

## — Fort Missoula, MT & Honouliuli, HI —

During World War II, Fort Missoula was turned over to the Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, for use as an Alien Detention Center (ADC). Between 1941 and 1944, the ADC held 1,000 Japanese resident aliens, along with 23 German resident aliens, 1,200 non-military Italian men, and 123 Japanese Latin and South Americans. The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula was recently awarded a National Parks Service grant to re-do the exhibit in their WWII Alien Detention Center barracks building. On August 1 the museum held the grand opening of this new exhibit, now a permanent part of the museum.

Rediscovered by volunteers from the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i in 2002, "Honouliuli Internment Camp" was one of the 17 confinement sites in Hawai'i. Leaders of the Japanese community, along with German and Italian incarcerated and POWs, were incarcerated at this site which was located in an oppressively hot and cramped gulch. In February of this year, the site in western Oahu was designated a National Monument, and the ultimate goal is to preserve the two crumbling remaining buildings and to create an interpretive site to commemorate the "Camp."

[www.fortmissoulamuseum.org/aliendetention.php](http://www.fortmissoulamuseum.org/aliendetention.php)

[www.hawaiiinternment.org](http://www.hawaiiinternment.org)  
[www.nps.gov/hono/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hono/index.htm)



# Welcome to our Distinguished Guests

## **NORMAN Y. MINETA'S** distinguished



career includes more than 20 years of service in the U.S. Congress and cabinet appointment from two presidents. As a youth, he was incarcerated with his family at the Heart Mountain Concentration Camp during World War II. He graduated from the University of

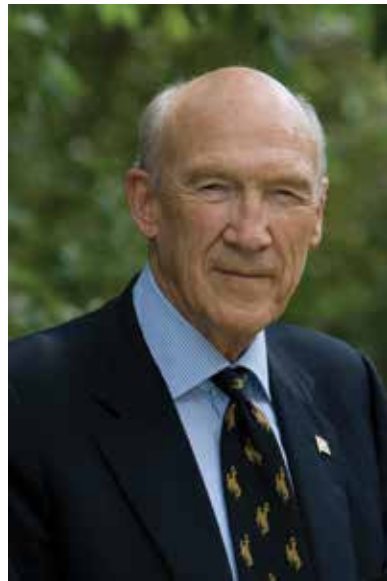
California, Berkeley, and quickly emerged as a local political leader in Northern California. He served on the San Jose City Council and was elected Mayor in 1971, becoming the nation's first Asian American mayor of a major city. He was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1974, where he served from 1975 to 1995. Along with Rep. Robert Matsui he personally advocated for the passage of the redress bill before the House of Representatives on September 17, 1987, the 200th anniversary of the Constitution.

Secretary Mineta became the first Asian American to serve in a cabinet post when President Bill Clinton nominated him as Secretary of Commerce in 2000. He was then asked to serve as Secretary of Transportation by President George W. Bush in 2001, where he remained until 2006—making him the longest-serving Transportation Secretary in the department's history. Following the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001, Secretary Mineta guided the creation of the Transportation Security Administration, the largest mobilization of a new federal agency since World War II.

Among his numerous accomplishments, Secretary Mineta is the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, and the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy, awarded for significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States. While in Congress, he was co-founder of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

## **ALAN K. SIMPSON** was born September 2,

1931 and is a native of Cody, Wyoming. He attended the University of Wyoming and received a Bachelor of Science in Law in 1954. Upon graduating, he joined the Army and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. He served overseas in the 5th Infantry Division and in the 2nd Armored Division (Hell on Wheels) in the final months of the Army's Occupation in Germany.



In 1956, Al returned to the University of Wyoming and earned his J.D. in 1958. After a short time as Wyoming Assistant Attorney General, he joined his father, Milward L. Simpson, and later Charles G. Kepler, in the law firm of Simpson, Kepler and Simpson for the next 18 years. He also served 11 years as City Attorney. Al was elected to the Wyoming State Legislature as a Park County representative in 1964. During his 13 years in the Wyoming House of Representatives, he held the offices of Majority Whip, Majority Floor Leader and Speaker Pro-Tem. In 1978, Al was elected to the U.S. Senate. He was re-elected in 1984 and 1990, and served as Assistant Majority Leader from 1984 to 1994.

Al has taught at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and at the University of Wyoming. He is a partner in the firm of Simpson, Kepler and Edwards—the Cody division of Burg, Simpson, Eldredge, Hersh & Jardine. His book, *Right in the Old Gazoo: A Lifetime of Scrapping with the Press*, chronicles his personal experiences with the media. A biography, *Shooting from the Lip: The Life of Senator Al Simpson*, was published in 2011. He was a member of the Iraq Study Group, and co-chaired the Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform with Erskine Bowles.



Born in Durham, N.C., and raised by Japanese immigrants, George Masao Yamazawa, Jr. is widely considered one of the top young spoken word artists in the country. At 24 years old, "G" is the youngest poet to become a National Poetry Slam Champion, Individual World Poetry Slam Finalist, and Southern Fried Champion, and has toured in over 40 American cities and 5 European countries.

An advocate for youth empowerment, G also has extensive experience as a teaching artist facilitating writing/performance workshops for inner city youth in the Washington, D.C., public school system through Split This Rock, a nationally recognized non-profit organization with a focus on political poetry.

G's talents were discovered by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation when collaborating with the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History for their Day of Remembrance celebrations this February. Yamazawa performed powerful spoken word pieces that moved the diverse audience. Yamazawa's rhythmic lines often grapple with his identity in a way that provokes listeners to ponder how their own identities intertwine with a larger American narrative.





# Special Exhibits

## Barrack Restoration

A barrack originally built at the “Heart Mountain Relocation Center” has returned to this National Historic Landmark site this summer. The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation has saved it from demolition just outside of Shell, Wyoming where it has been in service as a geology field studies station for Iowa State University for the last 50 years. For more information about the history of the barracks and this recent historic move, see the opposite page. An outdoor, temporary exhibit has been installed to coincide with the arrival of this barrack.



## Colors of Confinement

The exhibit in our Ford Foundation Special Exhibit area features color photographs of life behind barbed wire at the “Heart Mountain Relocation Center.” The photographer, Bill Manbo, was an incarcerated originally from Hollywood, California. Unlike most inmates who took photos in the camps, Manbo shot using Kodachrome slides. Kodachrome was a technology in its infancy at that time, but its colors, if properly preserved, have proven enduring, making these images stunningly vibrant and beautiful.

This exhibit explores how viewers’ perceptions of this tragic episode of racial injustice shift when seeing images of it in color rather than black and white. These photographs depict Japanese Americans engaged in both culturally Japanese and culturally American activities while behind barbed wire, providing new insight on the nature of life during wartime incarceration. The exhibit relates closely to the book from which the photographs are drawn: *Colors of Confinement: Rare Kodachrome Photographs of Japanese American Incarceration in World War II*, which is available in our gift shop.



# A Barrack Returned

A complete, full-length barrack built at the “Heart Mountain Relocation Center” during World War II has come “home” to the National Historic Landmark site this summer. With a tremendous response from individual donors and organizations, the barrack has been rescued from demolition near Shell, WY—about 80 miles from Heart Mountain.

The barrack was donated by Iowa State University (ISU), which had been using it for housing at their geology field studies station just outside of Shell for more than 50 years. Though the building outlived its useful life there, ISU recognized its historical significance and offered it to the HMWF. ISU, which originally had three barracks, was aiming to demolish the building last year to make way for new housing but delayed their project to allow the HMWF to remove the building.

While many former barracks dot the Wyoming landscape, it is rare to find a complete one, measuring the full 120 feet long by 20 feet wide. Most barracks that have survived have been dismantled, split or modified to create houses or outbuildings. More than 450 barracks were originally constructed on the Heart Mountain site. After the camp closed in 1945, the government sold many of the barracks to area residents and municipalities for \$1 each, provided they could remove them from the site.

After being moved from Heart Mountain, it was one of several barracks used by the city of Greybull for veteran’s housing. It endured another move to the ISU geology field station in the late 1940s. Because it has been cut into three sections during a previous move, the building had to be moved back to Heart Mountain in three pieces to ensure its structural integrity. To maintain historical accuracy at the Heart Mountain site, the barrack has returned to where there once stood five barracks as part of the Military Police complex.

An archeological survey, led by Greg Smith, anthropology professor at Northwest College in Powell, was conducted to sweep the ground on which the barrack is placed for artifacts and to seek remnants of the original barrack. Northwest College students, area volunteers, and HMWF staff collected broken glass, pipe fragments, square nails, and other remnants that confirmed the existence of the former barracks. During excavation at the Heart Mountain site, what is believed to be portions of the original foundation of the building that once stood there were found, confirming the correct location for the placement of the Shell barrack.

A fundraising campaign for the Heart Mountain barrack was earlier this year, with contributions coming in nationally for the project. Two major grants from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund and the Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming have also funded the moving phase of this project. All of the donors have contributed to a truly historic effort to save history. The HMWF continues to raise funds for phase two of the project, which will provide for further restoration and for the addition of interpretation. Find out more at our website: [barrack.shopheartmountain.org](http://barrack.shopheartmountain.org).

With its return, the barrack brings important historical significance as a powerful artifact of camp life and beyond. It will remain a fixture of the landscape that can speak not only to the Japanese American confinement during World War II but to the extended history of homesteading and the Big Horn Basin. The structure represents many things: injustice and pain, but also perseverance and resourcefulness. Returning it to this historic site will allow us to extend our preservation mission and educational goals. It will also serve as a powerful reminder of a mistake we must not repeat.



This will not be the first Heart Mountain barrack moved for preservation purposes, though it will be the first complete one moved to a historic site. A segment of a Heart Mountain barrack is featured in Los Angeles at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) and represents a centerpiece of their permanent collection. The JANM barrack move was a decade-long effort completed in 1994 by 32 volunteers coming from Los Angeles, San Jose, Seattle and Denver. Early JANM leadership envisioned the importance of a barrack to help tell the stories of Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

When “Mr. Heart Mountain” Bacon Sakatani, a former Heart Mountain incarcerated, found out about this vision, he was determined to help JANM find a barrack. He has made regular visits back to Wyoming for decades and through his connections there, the crew identified two barrack segments located very close to the original Heart Mountain site. One was a 20 foot by 40 foot section from the farm of Tak Ogawa and the other a 20 foot by 60 foot section from the farm of Rod Morrison. Now, one of these tattered segments stands in the middle of JANM and serves as both a gripping and haunting piece of incarceration history.

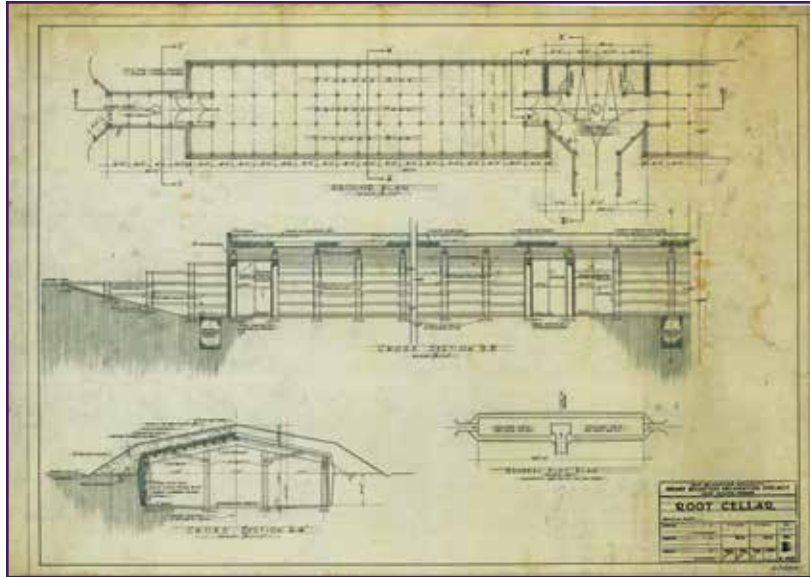


# Root Cellar Preservation

The Heart Mountain root cellar is one of the few remaining original structures of the “Heart Mountain Relocation Center.” The root cellar played an important role in the lives of the incarcerated and holds significant historical value for the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF), as well as for the agricultural development in the region. While largely still intact, the root cellar has fallen into disrepair, with some sections beginning to collapse. Efforts are underway to stabilize and preserve the structure.

Root cellars are used to keep food supplies at a low temperature and a steady humidity. They keep food from freezing during the winter and keep it cool during the summer to prevent spoilage. Incarcerated worked with the War Relocation Authority to draw up and build three root cellars at Heart Mountain for storing potatoes, daikon, carrots, turnips, tomatoes, pumpkins, dried beans, cabbage and beets. They lined the cellar floors with sand to limit mildew and insulated its roof with two feet of straw topped with dirt.

When finished with their work, the incarcerated had three root cellars—two that measured about 300 feet long by 34 feet wide and the third approximately 135 by 34 feet. One of the 300 by 34 foot root cellars survives. Largely untouched for decades, the cellar is still a noticeable feature in the topography of what was once the “Heart Mountain Relocation Center.” With its iconic wooden venting system, still visible from the U.S. Highway 14A and from the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center, the root cellar continues to be a topic of inquiry for many Heart Mountain visitors.



It stands as a testament to the success of the agriculture program at Heart Mountain—one driven by Assistant Farm Superintendents James Ito and Eiichi Sakauye. Ito served from shortly after the opening of Heart Mountain to November 1943 and Sakauye served from December 1943 to January 1945. Both were experienced large-scale farmers in California who brought considerable knowledge with growing and preserving crops. They recruited other incarcerated with knowledge of soil engineering, irrigation, fertilizer, seeds, and other specialties to determine what kind of farming made sense in the barren surroundings. After many brainstorming sessions, they settled on the best approach and established a flourishing farm system that cultivated a wide variety of produce. An example of their labors was daikon (Japanese radish), which was foreign to Wyoming at the time. They led an effort that produced 1,065 tons of vegetables during the first harvest and 2,500 tons during the second. Crops raised in quantity were wheat, barley, celery, corn, peas, radish, daikon, nappa cabbage, potatoes, gobo and melon.

After the camp closed in 1945 and much of the remaining land was reopened to homesteaders, the root cellar became part of the surrounding farmland. Luckily for the HMWF, the root cellar plot ended up in the hands of Rudolph Jolovich and his wife Doris. Jolovich, who had served as a U.S. Army truck driver in the European Theater during World War II, drew a homestead lot in 1947 in the Heart Mountain Irrigation Project nearby. They lived for a while on the site of the former “Heart Mountain Relocation Center” while they prepared the homestead.

The Joloviches grew potatoes, peas, beans, sugar beets and wheat, as well as raising pigs, chickens and sheep. In 1953, they had the opportunity to buy a better plot of land, which was adjacent to where the Heart Mountain root cellars stood. In 1959, the Joloviches expanded, buying the plot on which the root cellar stood. Jolovich found the root cellar to still be very effective for keeping potatoes, so he put it to use.

In the early days, the Joloviches lived in a Heart Mountain barrack on the homestead, and Rudolph Jr., or Rudy, who was born in 1953, remembers growing up there. There was a gas floor furnace his father installed (that nearly branded him once), no running water and an outdoor privy. Rudy inherited the root cellar plot



Photo by Brian Liesinger

when his parents died (Rudolph Sr. in 1997 and Doris in 2006) and gifted it to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. Rudy, who was unsure what to do with the property, knew it had historic value while also having tremendous sentimental value to his family. He decided to give it to the HMWF as a memorial to his parents. “It’s worth more to you,” he said, “And I know people would like to see it and can appreciate what it is even after all these years.”

The first planning for preservation of the root cellar began in 2012, with a proposal to the National Park Service’s Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program to assist with acquisition and assessment of the structure. The proposal was accepted and work began in 2013.

Though the root cellar stands today, much of its internal infrastructure is beginning to fail. Sections of the roof have collapsed or have eroded away. Many of the cross beams supporting the roof covered in straw and mud are beginning to fail. Thankfully, the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program has come through again for the HMWF, awarding another grant to do immediate stabilization work. That work will begin this fall and continue into 2016.

## — Dedication to Eiichi Edward Sakauye —



Eiichi Edward Sakauye surveys a mountain of potatoes.

Eiichi Edward Sakauye, following up on the initial plans of James Ito, went on to execute the agriculture program to great success at Heart Mountain. He ensured the root cellars were well kept and filled at harvest time. Sakauye was from San Jose, and it was there that he returned to farm after Heart Mountain closed. His passion for history, love of education and his sense of civic responsibility led to involvement in many organizations, including the Santa Clara Historical Commission, San Jose Museum of Art, Preservation Action Council, Milpitas Historical Museum, Jefferson School Board, Santa Clara Unified School District Board, Agricultural Commission and Valley Water District.

He was a founding member of the Loyalty League of San Jose (which became the San Jose Japanese American Citizens League chapter), as well as a strong supporter of both the Yu-Ai Kai Senior Center and the Japanese American National Museum. Using his private collection of photos and relying on his vivid memories, Sakauye wrote the book *Heart Mountain: A Photo Essay*.

Sakauye was also instrumental in the creation of what became the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj). Prior to being known as JAMsj, it was the Japanese American Resource Center (JARC), which he helped found. Sakauye negotiated the purchase and donation of the historic property that now houses JAMsj.

For his service, not only while confined at Heart Mountain, but also in the San Jose community for the rest of his life, we dedicate the Heart Mountain Root Cellar to Eiichi Edward Sakauye.





**Congratulations to  
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation  
for the 2015 Pilgrimage!**

***[www.apaics.org](http://www.apaics.org)***



**Best wishes to the Heart  
Mountain Wyoming  
Foundation for a successful  
Pilgrimage!**

***[www.JACL.org](http://www.JACL.org)***

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**We Engage Students**

We provide content learning experiences based on primary records that turn the hearts of children to their progenitors—to transfer love of country, love of humanity, love of learning, integrity, hard work and passion for one's beliefs, whatever they may be, to the next generation.

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