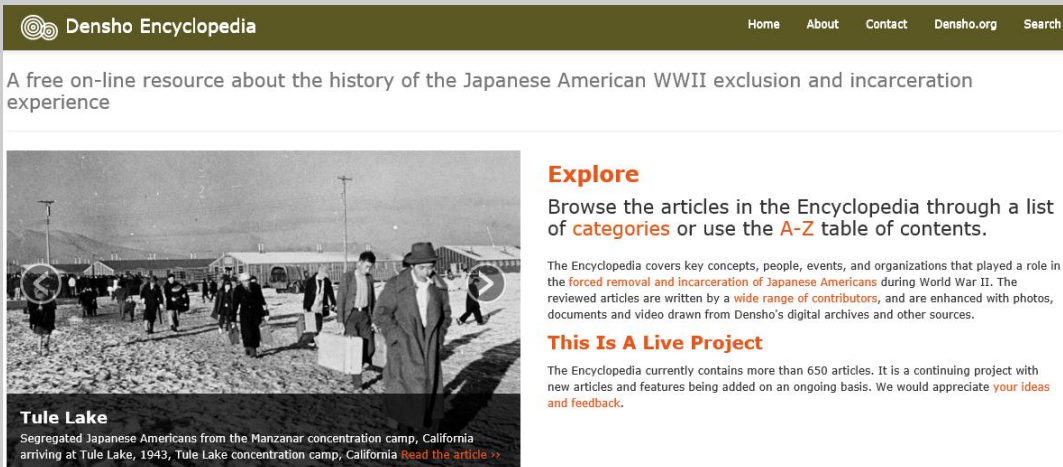


Home Page



Densho Encyclopedia

Home About Contact Densho.org Search

A free on-line resource about the history of the Japanese American WWII exclusion and incarceration experience

Tule Lake
Segregated Japanese Americans from the Manzanar concentration camp, California arriving at Tule Lake, 1943, Tule Lake concentration camp, California [Read the article >](#)

Explore
Browse the articles in the Encyclopedia through a list of [categories](#) or use the [A-Z](#) table of contents.

The Encyclopedia covers key concepts, people, events, and organizations that played a role in the [forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans](#) during World War II. The reviewed articles are written by a [wide range of contributors](#), and are enhanced with photos, documents and video drawn from Densho's digital archives and other sources.

This Is A Live Project
The Encyclopedia currently contains more than 650 articles. It is a continuing project with new articles and features being added on an ongoing basis. We would appreciate [your ideas and feedback](#).

Logo



URL

<http://encyclopedia.densho.org/>

Subject

History-Encyclopedias;
World war II-Encyclopedias

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Densho, a nonprofit organization based in Seattle, Washington.

Brief History

Densho was founded in 1996. This Japanese word “denshō” means “to pass on to future generations”. This organization was founded with a primary goal of collecting personal testimonies from Japanese Americans who were incarcerated in internment camps during World War II. Over the years, its mission expanded to “educate, preserve, collaborate, and inspire action for equity”. To fulfill its mission, the organization has created an encyclopedia “Densho Encyclopedia”. The editor of the encyclopedia is Brian Niiya, Director of Content at Densho. Niiya has previously served as the editor of the *Encyclopedia of Japanese American History: An A-to-Z Reference*, published in 2000. The first phase of the project, containing more than 300 articles and was launched online September 1, 2012. The Encyclopedia was envisioned as a long-term, living resource that would continue to grow over time. Additional articles and features would be added, and the project governance structure was being designed to emphasize

sustainability. Major funding for the first phase of the Encyclopedia was being provided by grants from the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, administered by the National Park Service and by the California State Library through the California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund.

Scope and Coverage

This encyclopedia covers key concepts, people, events, and organizations that played a role in the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The reviewed articles are written by a wide range of contributors, and are enhanced with photos, documents and video drawn from Densho's digital archives and other sources. The Encyclopedia currently contains more than 650 articles.

The encyclopedia includes articles under the main categories named : Arts, Camps, Chroniclers, Communities, Definitions, Events, Legal, Military, Newspapers, Organizations, People, Postwar, Prewar, Redress, Resettlement. The following list represents the some of those articles under each categories:

- Arts: A Grain of Sand (album), Beauty Behind Barbed Wire (book), Caught in Between: What to Call Home in Times of War (film), Children's and young adults' books on incarceration etc.
- Camps: Gila River, Heart Mountain, Honouliuli (detention facility), Jerome, Kalaheo Stockade, Kaua'i (detention facility),
- Chroniclers: A Circle of Freedom: Lost and Restored (exhibition), Yasuo Abiko, Louis Adamic, Against Their Will: The Japanese American Experience in World War II Arkansas (exhibition), Clem Albers etc.
- Communities: Bainbridge Island, Washington, International District, Little Tokyo / Bronzeville, Los Angeles, California, McKinley High School etc.
- Definitions: Americans of Japanese ancestry, Buddhahead, Civilian Conservation Corps, Civilian exclusion orders, German and Italian detainees etc.
- Events: All Center Conference, Battle of Los Angeles, December 7, 1941, Dies Committee, Executive Order 9066 etc.
- Legal: Wayne M. Collins, Coram nobis cases, Dual citizenship, Duncan v. Kahanamoku, Emergency Detention Act, Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950 etc.
- Military: 100th Infantry Battalion, 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion, 1800th Engineer General Service Battalion, 298th/299th Infantry etc.
- Newspapers: Colorado Times (newspaper), Common Ground (magazine), Denson Tribune (newspaper), Fresno Grapevine (newspaper), Gila News-Courier (newspaper) etc.
- Organizations: Amache Preservation Society, American Civil Liberties Union, American Friends Service Committee, Bureau of Sociological Research, Poston, Chandler Committee etc.
- People: Sanji Abe, Kyutaro Abiko, Yasuo Abiko, Ansel Adams, John Aiso, Bumpei Akaji, Clem Albers etc.

- Postwar: Anti-Discrimination Committee, JACL, Archaeology of the Japanese American incarceration, Camp pilgrimages, Camp reunions, Days of Remembrance etc.
- Prewar: Alien Enemies Act of 1798, Alien land laws, Anti-Japanese exclusion movement, Cable Act, California Joint Immigration Committee etc.
- Redress: California Civil Liberties Public Education Program, Camp pilgrimages, Civil Liberties Act of 1988, Civil Liberties Public Education Fund etc.
- Resettlement: Brooklyn Hostel, Chicago Brethren Hostel, Cleveland Hostel, Evergreen Hostel, Friends Hostel etc.

The encyclopedia is designed and written for a non-specialist audience that includes high school and college students and instructors, multiple generations of Nikkei community members, confinement sites preservation groups, amateur and professional historians, librarians, journalists, documentarians, and the general public.

Kind of Information

The Densho Encyclopedia is a free and publicly accessible website that provides concise, accurate, and balanced information on many aspects of the Japanese American story during World War II. The encyclopedia in its articles includes lots of images to represent the topics. Each article provides following kinds of information:

- At the left side, with an article, the encyclopedia have mentioned
 - ✓ The name of the category from which the article is coming,
 - ✓ The table of contents under that category of the article. Under this heading, there are two hyperlinked options, named “A-Z”, “By Categories”, by which users can browse other articles,
 - ✓ Previous and next article of that article,
 - ✓ Print friendly html page of the article to give provision of print. The print option also have shown at the top of the article,
 - ✓ Under the “Cite” option, there are full bibliographical details of the article, the citation styles for the article like “APA”, “MLA”, “MHRA”, “Chicago”, “CBE/CSC”, “BibTex”. The “Cite” option can also be found in the top of the article.
 - ✓ Under the “Learn more” option there is a web page linked here to give an overview of the encyclopedia with each article.
- At the top of the article, along with “Print” and “Cite” options, there is also an option “Share”, to share the article by Facebook, Twitter, Email, Pinterest, Gmail, Google + and many more options.
- The article of this encyclopedia starts with a content and then give details about the topic of the article. At the end of the article, there is a list of bibliographical references for more information about the article and about the topic under the heading “For More Information”. After that list there is a list of footnotes.
- All the relevant pictures and other medias are placed at the right side of the article.

Example:

Article: “Heart Mountain”

Contents of the article:

Contents

- 1 Geography and Prewar History of the Site
- 2 Establishing the Camp and Moving In
- 3 Life in the Camp
 - 3.1 Arrival and Administration
 - 3.2 Education and Entertainment
 - 3.3 [Employment Opportunities](#)
 - 3.4 Resistance
- 4 After the War
- 5 For More Information
- 6 Footnotes

The article includes 12 references for further information regarding the topic of the article and includes 26 foot notes.

The article includes six images. The images are included with more information about that image. Two of those are:



Departure from Heart Mountain concentration camp, Wyoming, July 1945. Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration (Ctrl.#: NWDNS-210-G-G945; NARA ARC#: 539612; WRA; Photographer Yone Kudo) [More info](#) >



Japanese American working in a field, March 10, 1944, Heart Mountain concentration camp, Wyoming. Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration (Ctrl.#: NWDNS-210-G-I64; NARA ARC#: 539714; WRA; Photographer Hikaru Iwasaki) [More info](#) >

Special Features

- ❖ Densho strongly believes in free and open access to knowledge. The encyclopedia wants to make it as easy for users to share and reuse its materials. To make this possible, the encyclopedia offers the text and most of the primary source photos, documents and videos under a Creative Commons license (Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License).
- ❖ The encyclopedia is free to **use, share** and **remix** its content as long as users attribute the work to Densho, only use it for non-commercial purposes, offer any work that builds on Densho's content under these same conditions.
- ❖ The Encyclopedia is thoroughly cross indexed and articles are linked to relevant primary and secondary materials from the Densho archive and from other websites that include still and moving images, documents, databases, and oral history interview excerpts as well as standard bibliographical sources.
- ❖ It is a continuing project with new articles and features being added on an ongoing basis. It would appreciate user's ideas and feedback. The encyclopedia gives provision to their users to express their suggestions for a new article, all the problems, and bugs occurring in using the encyclopedia. This feature makes the encyclopedia flourish in itself.

Arrangement Pattern

At the right side of the home page of this site, there are links like "Categories", "A-Z" which are connected to the web page containing all the articles listed over there. The articles in this encyclopedia are arranged alphabetically by the name of the articles under 15 categories.

Example: Under the category "Events" there are following alphabetic list of articles:

All Center Conference,

Battle of Los Angeles,

December 7, 1941,

Dies Committee,

Executive Order 9066,

The Fifth Column on the Coast,

Hawai'i statehood, etc.

Remarks

Encyclopedia is such a reference source that makes a store house of knowledge and gives all information of significance. This free and publicly accessible encyclopedia is a concise and accurate source of information on many aspects of the Japanese American story during World War II. This encyclopedia includes key concepts, people, events, and organizations that played a role in the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World

War II. So it must be said that this encyclopedia is a systematic summary of all information regarding the above mentioned field of second World War, which may be considered significant to mankind.

Comparable Tools

- Firstworldwar.com
(<http://www.firstworldwar.com/atoz/>)

- 1914-1918 online : International Encyclopedia of the First World War
(<http://www.1914-1918-online.net/>)

- Canadian Encyclopedia
(<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/>)

- New World Encyclopedia
(http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/World_War_I)

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