Remembrance Through A Digital Archive
The Japanese-American Confinement Sites Project
at The Bancroft Library at the University of California Berkeley

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The Project
The Bancroft Library holds a wealth of archival collections documenting the experience of Japanese-Americans during World War II. The Bancroft is the largest repository of War Relocation Authority (WRA) records outside of the National Archives. These holdings about Japanese-Americans during World War II are among its most heavily used materials.

The digital archive is the result of three digitization grants funded by the National Park Service as part of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project aims to ease discovery and access by

Three Grants
In the first grant, *The Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement: A Digital Archive*, the Library selected holdings from the Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement Study (JERS). The study began in 1942 at the University of California, Berkeley, and recruited Nisei social science students, placing them into selected War Relocation Authority administered sites to document and examine the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans.

In the second grant, *Voices in Confinement: A Digital Archive of Japanese American Internees*, the library will digitize 150,000 personal items donated to the library by various camp detainees. The collections contain a mix of manuscript and pictorial collections like those from Yoshiko Uchida, Hisako Hibi, Rosalie Wax, the Ikeda family papers, and the War Relocation Authority Photograph collection.

In the third grant, *Japanese American Internment Sites: A Digital Archive*, the focus is on a selection of materials from the ten individual internment camps within the library’s collection of War Relocation Authority (WRA) records. The records represent the official documentation of the United States agency created to assume jurisdiction over the Japanese and Japanese-Americans. During its existence from March 1942 to 1946, the WRA controlled the administration of the relocation centers, administered an extensive resettlement program, and oversaw the details of the registration and segregation programs.

Processing/Materials (the collections contain)
- Correspondence
- Writings
- Speeches
- Interviews
- Research files
- Litigation documents
- Case files
- School records
- Committee records
- Newspaper clippings
- Periodicals
- Songs
- Poems
- Programs
- Scrapbooks
- Photographs
- Maps
- Field notes
- Diaries
- Watercolors
- Relief prints
- Paintings
- Drawings
- Ephemera

Processing/Workflow
- Preparation: Assess Collections, Prepare Physical Material, Create/Edit Metadata, Generate Workorder and Deliver Material
- Image Capture: TIFF/PDF Creation by Vendor, Administrative Metadata Generated, Vendor Quality Assurance, Deliver Files to Library
- Post-Capture: Archivist Quality Checks Files, Batch Upload Links File to Object Records, Access Files are Served Locally, Storage/Preservation of Digital Assets (Merritt)
- Publication: XML Export and Preview, Review Export and Request Publication, Final Export Published on OAC/Calisphere, Archival Material Linked to FA/Catalog

Access/Curated Search
In addition to placing the materials on the Online Archive of California and Calisphere, the library will build a website to contextualize the materials from the three grants.

The website will use curated searches to highlight the materials.