

## JAPANESE-AMERICAN HISTORY COLLECTION

### M-R

McCORMICK, David F. (1903— )

O. H. 1604

Interviewer: Billy Stark  
Date: April 8, 1978  
Status: Edited, 16 pp.  
Tape length: 30 min.

Santa Fe Railroad employee who worked in Parker, Arizona during World War II discusses handling of freight for Poston War Relocation Center; layout of camp; camp conditions; rationale for necessity of camps such as Poston; loyalty investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and local resentment toward camp.

MASUKAWA, Betty Oba (ca. 1912— ) (full-text)

O. H. 175

Interviewer: Diane Tappey  
Date: November 2, 1983  
Status: Not transcribed  
Tape length: 60 min.

Nisei daughter of a pioneer Fullerton, California Japanese— American family discusses father's activities in citrus farming; family fruitstand operation, education in both public and Japanese language schools; marriage in 1934; impact of the Depression on the family; World War II evacuation experiences at Poston War Relocation Center, Arizona; and postwar return to Fullerton.

MILLER, Hubert E. (ca. 1905— )

O. H. 1384

Interviewer: David J. Bertagnoli  
Date: October 4, 1973  
Status: Completed 1974, 11 pp., index, photo  
Tape length: 25 min.

Lone Pine, California automobile dealer amplifies conditions at Manzanar War Relocation Center; arrival of caravan at Manzanar from Los Angeles, California; sale of internee automobiles; economic impact of camp on neighboring communities; personal and area reaction to evacuation.

MILLER, Pauline (1906— )

O. H. 1393

Interviewer: Arthur A. Hansen and David J. Bertagnoli

Date: December 20, 1973

Status: Completed 1976, 15 pp.1 index, photo

Tape length: 35 min.

Wife of Lone Pine, California auto dealer assesses economic impact of Manzanar War Relocation Center on her community; internee—townspeople interaction relative to World War II; and reaction to controversial wording on the 1973 Manzanar historical marker.

MINEKI, Misako (ca. 1916— )

O. H. 1766

Interviewer: Carolyn Watanabe

Date: November 3 and 1.2, 1979

Status: Not transcribed

Tape length: 3 hrs.

A resident of Glendale, California and daughter of Japanese parents who had immigrated to Hawaii in the early 1900s. describes various childhood experiences in pre—World War II Hawaii while living on the large Bennung estate where her father was employed as a caretaker until the owner's death; her school days at both public and Japanese schools and high school attendance in Honolulu. the only high school on the island of Oahu; family life and employment during and following the Depression; operation of the family dairy farm followed by the unique family business of growing and marketing watercress; her 1939 noncontract marriage to a policeman who was taken into the home guard following Pearl Harbor; personal experiences of Pearl Harbor and its aftermath; internment of Japanese in Hawaii; discrimination; marriage laws, customs, and social mores of the Japanese.

MORI, John Yukio (1949— ) (full-text)

O. H. 1231

Interviewer: Betty E. Mitson

Date: December 21, 1972

Status: Completed 1977, 51 pp., index, photos

Tape length: 3 hrs.

A Sansei and conscientious objector to the Vietnam war discusses alternate service as partner in Amerasia Bookstore, a nonprofit organization serving Los Angeles's Little Tokyo; activities in Young Ruddist Association; parents' reaction to his current life—style; and long term effect of World War II evacuation.

MUKAEDA, Katsuma (1890— )

O. H. 1341

Interviewer: David Buniasz  
Date: November 28, 1973  
Status: Completed 1976, 10 pp., index, photo  
Tape length: 30 min.

Chairman of Japanese American Cultural Center and former president of Japanese Chamber of Commerce recounts conditions of prewar Los Angeles's Little Tokyo, its wartime conversion into a black community, postwar reestablishment as a Japanese—American cultural and commercial center. Includes comments on discriminatory legislation, prewar Japan—American relations. World War II relocation, camp conditions, wartime repatriation procedures, consequences of internment, and contemporary civil rights movement.

MUKAEDA, Katsuma (1890— )

O. H. 1341b

Interviewer: Paul F. Clark  
Date: May 22, 1975  
Status: Completed 1978, 13 pp., index, photo  
Tape length: 60 min.

An Issei picked up by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on December 7, 1941 describes his experiences as a leader and spokesman for Japanese internees at the Department of Justice internment camps: Missoula, Montana; Fort Silt, Oklahoma; and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

MUMEMITSU, Tad (ca. 1923— )

O. H. 132

Interviewer: Katherine H. Snope  
Date: August 16, 1976  
Status: Edited/restricted, 17 pp.  
Tape length: 60 min.

Gardena born Nisei and Orange County businessman describes his childhood in Westminster, California; prewar family farming; racial discrimination; dispersion of land and equipment as result of family's relocation to Arizona's Poston War Relocation Center; camp life, and return to Westminster area. Some postwar thoughts and impressions noted.

NAKAMURA, Harry (1930— ) (full-text)

O. H. 649

Interviewer: John McFarlane  
Date: May 2, 1971

Status: Completed 1976, 17 pp., index  
Tape length: 30 min.

Recollections of a farm boy evacuated from San Luis Obispo, California area to Poston War Relocation Center, Arizona. Comments on military service of brothers and the 442nd Regiment during World War II and his own duty during the Korean war.

NAKASHIMA, Men Hanako (1919— )

O.H. 1368

Interviewer: Janus Gennawey  
Date: July 17, 1973  
Status: Final typed, 23 pp.  
Tape length: 60 min.

Nisei memories of athletic girlhood; evacuation to Santa Anita Assembly Center, Los Angeles, California where she witnessed a riot; eventual move to Rohwer War Relocation Center, Arkansas; and marriage in an out—of—camp ceremony.

NISHIZU, Clarence I. (1912— )

O. H. 5a\*

Interviewer: Richard D. Curtiss  
Date: January 1, 1966  
Status: Completed 1977, 30 pp., index, photo  
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

Former block manager at Heart Mountain War Relocation Center, Wyoming details evacuation from Buena Park, California; life within Heart Mountain, and successive resettlement to North Dakota, Idaho, and Colorado; postwar escheatment court case over family property.

NISHIZU, Clarence (1910— )

O. H. 5b

Interviewer: Arthur A. Hansen  
Date: June 14, 1982  
Status: Not transcribed  
Tape length: 3 hrs.

Longtime Nisei leader of the Japanese—American community in Orange County, California discusses at length family and community experiences in prewar days of the county with specific references to educational and farming development in the settlements of Buena Park, Garden Grove, Anaheim, and Stanton; institutions such as language schools and churches serving the community; Nisei athletic activities; prewar Japanese customs, cultural arts, and the Japanese American Citizens League and his role in it.

NITTA, Hitoshi (1917— ) (full-text)

O. H. 3

Interviewer: Richard D. Curtiss

Date: February 7, 1966

Status: Completed 1977, 33 pp., index, photos

Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

Nisei rancher from pioneering Orange County, California family discusses management of truck farming business from Poston War Relocation Center, Arizona through a bank trust with a Mexican— American foreman. Camp experiences and post—World War II return to Orange County.

NITTA, Mary (1916— )

O. H. 1127a

Interviewer: Ruth Wilkerson

Date: March 27, 1972

Status: Transcribed, 28 pp.

Tape length: 60 min.

Among the last evacuated from California, this Nisei interviewee served as a nurse at Arizona s Poston War Relocation Center Hospital. Discusses marriage to Hitoshi Nitta (O. H. 3).

NITTA, Mary (1916— )

O. H. 1127b

Interviewer: Karen Reisdorf

Date: July 19, 1973

Status: Transcribed, 47 pp.

Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Describes family background; World War II evacuation to Poston War Relocation Center, Arizona; camp life; medical facilities; marriage in camp, and return to Orange County, California with husband and infant son.

NITTA, Munoru (1918— )

O. H. 114

Interviewer: John McFarlane

Date: March 21, 1972

Status: Edited/closed, 29 pp.  
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

Orange County, California Nisei poultry rancher from pioneering county family discusses evacuation and camp life at Poston War Relocation Center, Arizona; resettlement to Cleveland, Ohio; return to southern California; post—World War II litigation pertinent to family landholdings.

NITTA, Mitsuo (ca. 1920— )

O. H. 1327

Interviewer: Rolf Janssen  
Date: August 12, 1976  
Status: Final typed, 22 pp.  
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

Nisei farmer/businessman from pioneering Orange County, California family gives prewar biographical information with emphasis on Japanese Americans in Orange County. Discusses World War II evacuation, experiences in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the role of the Japanese American Citizens League before and after the war.

ODANAKA, Woodrow (1925— ) (full-text)

O. H. 1382

Interviewer: Patrick H. West  
Date: July 16, 1973  
Status: Completed 1976, 24 pp., index  
Tape length: 60 min.

Impressions of a Nisei concerning pre—World War II family produce business in Los Angeles, California; evacuation experience at Santa Anita Assembly Center in California, and Granada War Relocation Center in Colorado; wartime college experience in Minnesota; and Army military intelligence duties in the Philippines and occupied Japan.

OKIMOTO, Elaine S. (1928— ) (full-text)

O. H. 1080

Interviewer: Betty E. Mitson  
Date: April 4, 1972  
Status: Completed 1977, 27 pp., index  
Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Nisei farm girl evacuated from Dunuba, California to Poston War Relocation Center in Arizona, recounts experiences of camp life, resettlement to college in Ohio, eventual attendance at University of California, Berkeley, translation work with United States occupation forces in Japan. Comments on effect of illegal entry and cultural factors on behavior.

OPLER, Morris Edward (1907— )

O. H. 1600

Interviewer: Arthur A. Hansen and David A. Hacker

Date: June 4 through 6, 1978

Status: Not transcribed

Tape length: 16 hrs.

University of Chicago trained anthropologist and community analyst at Manzanar War Relocation Center, California details personal background, educational training, and prewar professional experiences. In—depth discussion of War Relocation Authority and Community Analysis Section, later work in Office of War Information, and postwar personal history.

PARKER, Clifford R. (ca. 1900— )

O. H. 1354

Interviewer: Sherry Turner

Date: August 26, 1973

Status: Completed 1977, 8 pp., index

Tape length: 15 min.

Retired fire chief for Tule Lake War Relocation/Segregation Center briefly recounts impressions of camp life.

PEDERSEN, Mrs. O. E. (ca. 1910— )

O. H. 1364

Interviewer: Sherry Turner

Date: August 25, 1973

Status: Completed 1977, 12 pp., index, photo

Tape length: 15 min.

Wife of former Tulelake, California police chief relates her experiences at Tule Lake War Relocation/Segregation Center during husband's employment with internal security force, War Relocation Authority personnel, reaction of surrounding communities to camp, and attitudes of internees.

PEDNEAU, Bessie K. (1919— )

O. H. 1388

Interviewer: David J. Bertagnoli

Date: October 4, 1973

Status: Completed 1974, 9 pp., index, photo

Tape length: 15 min.

Third—generation American of Chinese ancestry living in Owens Valley, California remembers nearby Manzanar War Relocation Center and comments on state historical marker placed at campsite in 1973.

PEDNEAU, Frank L. (ca. 1915— )

O.H. 1399

Interviewer: David J. Bertagnoli

Date: October 4, 1973

Status: Completed 1974, 8 pp., index, photo

Tape length: 10 min.

An Owens Valley, California resident reflects on Japanese— American evacuation and historical marker placed at Manzanar War Relocation Center in 1973.

PENDLETON, Judith Matthias (1935— )

O. H. 1514

Interviewer: Paul F. Clark

Date: December 2, 1974

Status: Edited, 25 pp.

Tape length: 1 hr. 30 min.

Native of Bridgeton, New Jersey describes 1943 relocation of four hundred Japanese—American families from Heart Mountain War Relocation Center, Wyoming to Seabrook Farms food processing plant in New Jersey; initial concerns of local community and eventual acceptance of Japanese Americans; C. F. Seabrook, founder of the business; friction among Japanese Americans; displaced persons brought in from northern Europe after the war; and physical and recreational features of the area.

RAUB, Harry (ca. 1915— )

O.H. 1398

Interviewer: David J. Bertagnoli

Date: October 12, 1973



Status: Completed 1976, 12 pp., index, photos  
Tape length: 15 min.

Director of Eastern California Museum in Independence, California traces historical origins and political circumstances behind placement of 1973 Manzanar historical plaque. Impressions of wartime internment shown by recent Japanese—American visitors to the museum.

RUNCORN, Ed. H. (ca. 1910— )  
O. H. 1332

Interviewer: Janus Gennawey  
Date: July 8, 1973  
Status: Completed 1977, 29 pp., index, photos  
Tape length: 1 hr. 15 min.

Former associate superintendent of the War Relocation Authority Cooperative Enterprises discusses formation and operation of co—ops relative to Granada War Relocation Center in Colorado and Tule Lake War Relocation/Segregation Center in California.

RYCHMAN, Fannie (ca. 1900— )  
O. H. 1355

Interviewer: Sherry Turner  
Date: August 27, 1973  
Status: Completed 1977, 10 pp., index, photo  
Tape length: 20 min.

Wife of retired Tule Lake, California farmer expresses attitude toward nearby Tule Lake War Relocation/Segregation Center.