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Compilation of information and
maps concerning the location of
War Relocation Authority centers, 1993

JAPANESE AMERICANS IN VARIOUS INTERNMENT CAMPS
DECEMBER 8, 1941 -- OCTOBER 30, 1946
LOCATIONS AND PHYSICAL LAYOUTS OF THE WRA RELOCATION CENTERS

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THE JAPANESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

INTRODUCTION

They say that a plan is worth 10,000 words. These plans were prepared to record the historical sites and the physical layouts of the actual camps. If these plans are displayed in the classrooms as visual aids, the students will be able to comprehend the overall picture of the relocation period. Along with these plans are short narratives of various events and situations that took place during the tumultuous era.

THE INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

The shock of Sunday, December 7, 1941 came as a complete surprise to the Japanese American community. Suddenly they faced a new and challenging future. The first generation (*issei*) were paralyzed and the second generation (*nisei*) were outraged by the action of the Japanese government.

President Roosevelt immediately authorized Attorney General Francis Biddle to retain enemy aliens. The FBI quickly took into custody those persons who were considered highly suspect of sabotage. The community leaders were seized and there was a vacuum of leadership in the Japanese American community.

The assets of the Japanese American were frozen and the Japanese Americans were fired from their jobs.

Under these conditions, the bigots and race mongers quickly spread their emotional message and were eager for the military to begin the removal of Japanese Americans from the West Coast. It was a time of fear and irrationality expounded by the yellow journalist; the Hearst newspapers; and fanatic race baiter, radio broadcasters such as Westbrook Pegler, Walter Lippman and H. V. Kalternborn and misguided organization and unscrupulous politicians.

Initially the Justice Department under Francis Biddle was against the evacuation; but on the West Coast, all the political leaders including California state Attorney General Earl Warren supported the removal of the Japanese Americans.

Executive Order No. 9066 signed on February 19, 1942 which gave the Army blank check authority to remove civilians out of the West Coast.

On March 11, 1942 the Wartime Civil Control Administrator (WCCA) was established with Colonel Karl Bendetsen as its director to supervise the evacuation.

On March 18, 1942 President Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 9102, creating the War Relocation Authority 'to assist persons evacuated by the military under E.O. 9066'.

The legal authority for removal of the Japanese Americans from military zones was contained in Public Law 503 signed on March 21, 1942.

The following are the chronology, the executive orders, and the public law which authorized the mass expulsion of the Japanese Americans from the West Coast.

CHRONOLOGY

1941

- December 7 Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese. Presidential Proclamation No. 2525 gives blanket authority to Attorney General for a sweep of suspects.
- December 8 Treasury Department seizes all Japanese banks and business
- December 9 Many Japanese language schools closed.
- December 11 FBI warns against possession of camera or guns by aliens.
- December 27 Attorney General orders all enemy aliens in West to surrender short wave radios and cameras
- December 30 California revokes liquor license held by alien Japanese.

1942

- January 1 Attorney General freezes travel by all enemy aliens, order surrender of weapons.
- January 14 President Roosevelt orders re-registration of enemy aliens in West.
- January 27 Los Angeles City and County discharges all Japanese on civil services list.
- January 29 US Attorney General Francis Biddle issued the first of a series of orders establishing limited strategic areas along the Pacific Coast and requiring the removal of all enemy aliens from these areas.
- January 30 Colonel Karl Bendetsen appointed as the War Department Representative.
- January 30 JACL passed a resolution to request the Federal Government to permit its members and their alien parents to evacuate West Coast areas voluntarily.
- January 31 Attorney General establishes 59 additional prohibited zones in California to be cleared by February 15.
- February 4 Attorney General establishes curfew zones in California to become effective February 4.
- February 14 Lt. General J. DeWitt Commanding General of the Western Defense Command sent a memorandum to the Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson recommending the evacuation of "Japanese and other subversive person" from the West Coast area".
- February 19 President Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 9066, authorizing Secretary of War, or any military commander designated by Secretary to establish 'military areas' and exclude therefrom 'any or all persons'.
- February 20 Secretary Stimson designated General DeWitt as military commander empowered to carry out an evacuation within his command under the terms of the Executive Order 9066.
- March 2 General DeWitt issue Proclamation No. 1 designation the Western half of the three Pacific Coast states and the southern third of Arizona as a military areas and stipulating that all persons of Japanese descent would eventually be removed therefrom.
- March 7 Army acquire Owens Valley site for Manzanar Assembly Center.
- March 11 General DeWitt establish the Wartime Civil Control Administration (WCCA), with Colonel Karl R. Bendetsen as Director to carry out the evacuation plan.
- March 16 Wartime Civil Control Administration establishes military area in Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Nevada, designate 934 prohibited zone to be cleared.
- March 18 President Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 9102 creating the War Relocation Authority to assist person evacuated by the military under Executive Order No. 9066. Milton S. Eisenhower was named Director.
- March 20 WCCA acquires Santa Anita as Assembly Center.
- March 21 President Roosevelt signed Public Law 503 (77th Congress) making it a federal offense to violate any order issued by a designated military commander under authority of Executive Order No. 9066.
- March 22 First large contingent of Japanese and Japanese Americans moved from Los Angeles to the Manzanar Assembly Center operated by the Army in the Owens Valley of California.

March 23	General DeWitt issues Civilian Exclusion Order No. 1 ordering the evacuation of all people of Japanese descent from Bainbridge Island in Puget Sound and their removal by March 30, to the Puyallup Army Assembly Center near Seattle.
March 24	Curfew for all aliens and Japanese proclaimed for military area 1 and other strategic areas in west effective March 27. WCCA acquires sites for Assembly Centers at Merced, Tulare, Marysville, and Fresno.
March 27	General DeWitt issued Proclamation No. 4 (effective March 29) forbidding further voluntary migration of Japanese and Japanese Americans from the West Coast military areas.
April 3	First compulsory evacuation of Los Angeles Japanese to Santa Anita Assembly Center.
April 28	Seattle evacuees are sent to temporary assembly center at Puyallup fairgrounds, called "Camp Harmony".
May 8	The first contingent of evacuee arrive at the Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston) near Parker, Arizona.
May 19	Western Defense Command issues Civilian Restriction Order No. 1 establishing all assembly centers in the eight far western states as military areas and forbidding evacuees residents to leave these areas without expressed approval of the Western Defense Command.
May 27	First contingent of evacuees arrives at the Tule Lake Relocation Center in Northern California
June 1	The Manzanar Army Assembly Center was transferred from WCCA to WRA and renamed Manzanar Relocation Center.
June 2	General DeWitt issued Public Proclamation No. 6 forbidding further voluntary migration of people of Japanese descent from the eastern half of California and simultaneously announce that all such people would eventually be removed from this area directly to WRA centers.
June 17	President Roosevelt appointed Dillon S. Myer to succeed Milton S. Eisenhower as Director of WRA.
July 13	<i>Mitsuye Endo</i> petitions for a writ of habeas corpus, alleging that she was loyal and law abiding U. S.. citizen, that no charge had been made against her, that she was being unlawfully detained, and she was confined in a relocation center under armed guard and held there against her will.
August 7	Western Defense Command announced the completion of evacuation of 110,000 from their homes in the military area either to the Army Assembly Center or to the WRA Center.
August 10	Minidoka Relocation Center near Twin Falls, Idaho receives the first contingent of evacuees from the Puyallup Army Assembly Center.
August 12	Heart Mountain Relocation Center near Cody, Wyoming received its first group of evacuees from the Pomona Army Assembly Center.
August 27	The Granada WRA Center near La Mar, Colorado was opened with the arrival of a group from Merced Assembly Center.
September 11	The Central Utah WRA, near Delta, Utah received its first group from Tanforan Assembly Center.
September 18	The Rohwer WRA near McGhee, Arkansas received its first group of evacuees from the Stockton Assembly Center.
October 6	The Jerome WRA near Dermont, Arkansas the last of the 10 center ready for business received a group of evacuees from the Fresno Assembly Center.
November 3	The transfer of evacuees from Assembly Centers was completed with the arrival of last group at Jerome WRA from Fresno Assembly Center.
1943	
January 4	WRA field offices established in Chicago, Salt Lake City, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Des Moines, New York City, Denver, Kansas City, and Boston.
January 23	Secretary of War Henry Stimson announced plans to form Japanese American Combat team to be made up of volunteers from both the mainland and Hawaii.
February 8	Registration (loyalty questionnaire) of all persons over 17 years of age for Army recruitment, segregation and relocation begins at most of the relocation centers.
May 6	The registration questionnaire took place at the Heart Mountain Center.

May 6 Ms Eleanor Roosevelt spent a full day at the Gila River WRA Center.

June 21 *Hirabayashi v US and Yasui v US* Supreme Court rules that a curfew may be imposed against one group of Americans citizens based solely on ancestry and that Congress in enacting Public Law 77-503 authorized the implementation of E. O. 9066 and provided criminal penalties for violation of order of the Military Commander.

June 25 Director Myer wrote to Assistant Secretary of War John L. McCloy regarding plans for a segregation program and the selection of Tule Lake as the segregation center.

August, September and early October, 1943 - More than 15,000 people were moved in and out of the Tule Lake Center.

October 11 The last group of evacuees from the other centers arrive at Tule Lake Center.

1944

February 16 President Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 9423 transferring WRA to the Department of the Interior.

May The all nisei 442 Regimental Combat Team (RCT) embarks for the Italian front.

June 6 D-Day

June 30 Jerome WRA Center closed: the remaining personnel transferred to Amache, Granada, Colorado and Rohwer, Arkansas.

July 1 President Roosevelt signed Public Law 405 (78th Congress) permitting United States citizens to renounce their citizenship on American soil in time of war under procedures approved by the Attorney General.

December 17 The War Department announced the revocation (effective on January 2, 1945) of the West Coast mass exclusion orders which had been in effect against people of Japanese descent since the spring of 1942.

December 18 The WRA announced that all relocation Centers would be closed before the end of 1945 and the entire WRA program would be liquidated on June 30, 1946.

December 18 *Korematsu v US* Supreme Court rules that one group of citizens may be singled out and expelled from their homes and imprisoned for several years without trial, based solely on their ancestry.

December 18 *In ex parte Endo*, Supreme Court rules that WRA has no authority to detain a "concededly loyal" American citizen.

1945

August 15 VJ Day

September Western Defense Command issues Public Proclamation No. 24 revoking all individual exclusion orders and all further military restrictions against persons of Japanese descent.

October 15 - December 15 All WRA Relocation Centers are closed except for Tule Lake Center.

1946

March 20 Tule Lake Segregation Center closed.

June 30 War Relocation Authority program officially terminates.

October 30 Crystal City Detention Center, Texas operated by the Justice Department releases last Japanese (North, Central and South) Americans. The closing of the Japanese American Internment Program.

1948

July 2 Evacuation Claims Act passed, giving evacuees until January 3, 1950 to file claims against the government for damages to or loss of real or personal property. . .that is a reasonable and natural consequence of the evacuation . . . Total of \$38 million paid by the government, or less than 10 cents per dollar lost.

1976

President Gerald Ford formally rescinds Executive Order No. 9066.

1989

November 2 President George Bush signed Public Law 101-162 which guarantees fund for reparation payments to the WW II internment survivors beginning in October of 1990. For the Japanese American community, it marks a victorious end to a long struggle for justice. For the nation, the President signature reaffirms the country's commitment to equal justice under the law.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 9066
FEBRUARY 19, 1942

**Authorizing the Secretary of War to Prescribe
Military Areas**

Whereas, The successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national defense material, national defense premises and national defense utilities as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533. as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1220. and the Act of August 21, 1941. 55 Stat. 655 (U.S.C. , Title 50, Sec. 104):

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorized and direct the Secretary of War , and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, whenever he or any designated Commander deem such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he or the appropriate Military Commander may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restriction the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded therefrom, such transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War or the said Military Commander, and until other arrangements are made, to accomplish the purpose of this order. The designation of military areas in any region or locality shall supersede designation of prohibited and restricted areas by the Attorney General under the Proclamation of December 7 and 8, 1941, and shall supersede the responsibility and authority of the Attorney General under the said Proclamation in respect of such prohibited and restricted areas.

I hereby further authorize and direct the Secretary of War and the said Military Commanders to take such other steps as he or the appropriate Military Commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance with the restrictions applicable to each Military area herein above authorized to be designated, including the use of Federal troops and other Federal Agencies, with authority to accept assistance of state and local agencies.

I hereby further authorize and direct all Executive Department, independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said Military Commanders in carrying out this Executive Order, including the furnishing of medical aid, hospitalization, food, clothing, transportation, use of land, shelter, and other supplies, equipment, utilities, facilities and service.

This order shall not be construed as modifying or limiting in any way the authority granted under Executive Order 8972, dated December 12, 1941, nor shall it be construed as limiting or modifying the duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with response to the investigation of alleged acts of sabotage or duty and responsibility of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice under the Proclamation of December 7 and 8, 1941, prescribing regulations for the conduct and control of alien enemies, except as such duty and responsibility is superseded by the designation of military areas thereunder.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House, February 19, 1942.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 9102
DATED MARCH 8, 1942
7 F. R. 2165

Authorizing the creation of the War Relocation Authority

By the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, as President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, and in order to provide for the removal from designated areas of persons whose removal is necessary in the interest of national security, it is ordered as follows:

1. There is established in the Office for Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President the War Relocation Authority, at the head of which shall be a Director appointed by and responsible to the President.
2. The Director of the War Relocation Authority is authorized and directed to formulate and effectuate a program for the removal, from areas designated from time to time by the Secretary of War or appropriate military commander under the authority of Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942, of the persons or classes of persons designated under such Executive Order, and for their relocation, maintenance, and supervision.
3. In effectuating such program the Director shall have authority to:
 - (a) Accomplish all necessary evacuation not undertaken by the Secretary of War or appropriate military commander, provide for the relocation of such persons in appropriate places, provide for their needs in such manner as may be appropriate, and supervise their activities.
 - (b) Provide, insofar as feasible and desirable, for the employment of such person at useful work in industry, commerce, agriculture, or public project, prescribed the terms and conditions of such public employment, and safeguard the public interest in the private employment of such persons.
 - (c) Secure the cooperation, assistance, or services of any governmental agency.
 - (d) Prescribe regulations necessary or desirable to promote effective execution of such programs, and, as a means of coordinating evacuation and relocation activities, consult with the Secretary of War with respect regulations issued and measures taken by him.
 - (e) Make such delegation of authority as he may deem necessary.
 - (f) Employ necessary personnel, and make such expenditures, including the making of loans, and grants and the purchase of real property, as may be necessary, within the limits of such funds as may be made available to the Authority.
4. The Director shall consult with United States Employment Services, and other agencies on employment and other problems incident to activities under this order.
5. The Director shall cooperate with the Alien Property Custodian appointed pursuant to Executive Order No. 9095 of March 11, 1942, in formulating policies to govern the custody, management, and disposal by the Alien Property Custodian of property belonging to foreign nationals removed under this order or under Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942; and

may assist all other persons removed under either of such Executive Orders in the management and disposal of their property.

6. Departments and agencies of the United States are directed to cooperate with and assist the Director in his activities hereunder. The Department of War and Justice, under the direction of the Secretary of War and the Attorney General, respectively, shall insofar as consistent with the national interest provide protection, police and investigation service as the Director shall find necessary in connection with activities under this order.

7. There is established within the War Relocation Authority the War Relocation Work Corps. The Director shall provide, by general regulations, for the enlistment in such Corps, for the duration of the present war, of persons removed under this order or under Executive Order 9066 of February 19, 1942, and shall prescribe the terms and conditions of the work to be performed by such Corps, and the compensation to be paid.

8. There is established within War Relocation Authority a Liaison Committee on War Relocation which shall consist of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Labor, the Federal Security Administrator, the Director of Civilian Defense, and the Alien Property Custodian, or their deputies, and such other persons or agencies as the Director may designate. The Liaison Committee shall meet at the call of the Director and shall assist him in his duties.

9. The Director shall keep the President informed with regards to the progress made in carry out this order, and perform such related duties as the President may time to time assign to him.

10. In order to avoid duplication of evacuation activities under this order and Executive Order 9066 of February 19, 1942, the Director shall not undertake any evacuation activities within Military areas designated under said Executive Order 9066, without prior approval of the Secretary of War or the appropriate military commanders.

11. This order does not limit the authority granted in Executive Order No. 8972 of December 12, 1941; Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942; Executive Order 9095 of March 11, 1942; Executive Proclamation No. 2526 of December 8, 1941; Executive Proclamation 2527 of December 8, 1941; Executive Proclamation 2533 of December 29, 1941; or Executive Proclamation 2537 of January 14, 1942; nor does it limit the functions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House, March 8, 1942

PUBLIC LAW No. 503 (77th CONGRESS)
DATED MARCH 21, 1942

Authorizing the Military to Order Removal from Military Zones

To provide a penalty for violation of restriction or orders with respect to persons entering, remaining in leaving, or committing any act in military areas, or zones.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever shall enter, remain in, leave, or commit any act in any military area or military zone prescribed, under the Authority of an Executive Order of the President, by the Secretary of War or any such military commander, shall, if it appears that he knew or should have known of the existence and extent of the restrictions or order and that his act was in violation thereof, be guilty of misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not to exceed \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each offense.

LOCATIONS AND PHYSICAL LAYOUTS OF THE INTERNMENT CAMPS

TYPES OF INTERNMENT CENTERS

There were four different types of internment centers. Each type was differentiated by chronology, type of occupants, and administered by different government agencies. The types were:

1. *Isolation and Detention Centers* operated by the Justice Department.
(first type of center to open December 8, 1941 - last to close October 30, 1946)
2. *Assembly Centers* operated by the Western Defense Command, US Army
(second type of center to open March 22, 1942 - closed October 16, 1942)
3. *Relocation Centers* operated by the War Relocation Authority (WRA), a civilian agency, in the Executive Office of the US President
(third type of center to open May 16, 1942 - closed May 30, 1946)
4. *Segregation Center* at Tule Lake operated by WRA and later after the riots by the US Army. (Opened July 1943 and closed on March 20, 1946.)

ISOLATION AND DETENTION CENTERS

During the initial phases of the entrapment period from December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1941, the various governmental agencies had a list of personnel to pick up and detain. The personnel were picked up by the FBI, Naval Intelligence and the Immigration authorities and placed in four centers; Ft. Leupp, Winslow, Arizona, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Crystal City, Texas and Bismark, North Dakota.

The personnel considered for 'high risk' of espionage and sabotage were the following categories:

1. Religious leaders; especially the Shinto priests; Shinto religion has close affinity to the Emperor of Japan. Buddhist leaders were also taken into custody.
2. Prefecture leaders; a social and welfare organization; During the 1930's there were not the 'safety nets' as presently and the prefecture leaders arranged for the seriously needed

medical and unemployment needs by their group. The leader did not seek their positions but the group of elders prevailed on the person to serve, again and again. The principle here was to round up the community leaders to break the backs of the community.

3. Japanese language teachers; each moderate sized ethnic community had a Japanese language school. Many Japanese parents thought that they would return to Japan after making a bundle of money and wanted their children to learn the language.

This situation turned ironic; the teachers (*issei*) were placed in the Federal detention centers, while their students (*nisei*) interned in the concentration camps were heavily recruited to serve in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS - Pacific). There were over 3,200 who served and 1,634 were from the internment camps (the remaining were from Hawaii).

The MIS-Pacific served in all theaters of operation from the initial battle in the Aleutian, to the battle of Guadalcanal, the Burma campaign, the battle of Okinawa and finally on the General MacArthur's staff at the signing of the surrender on the battleship USS Missouri. This group was not publicized but accomplished more to end the war than the 442 RCT because they gathered intelligence and intercepted enemy messages.

The highlight of the intercept was the travel plans of Admiral Yamamoto to the Solomon Islands which led to the downing of his plane.

The capturing and translation of the battle plans for the defense of Midway Island led to the destruction of the major part of the Japanese navy and the tide of the Pacific War had changed forever in the Allies favor.

The military intelligence personnel were not ordinary recruits but many were university graduates. They were not given officers ranks even though other Caucasians classmates were given officers ranks.

4. Labor leaders; in urban areas these included longshoreman, and union leaders, but in the rural areas the farm labor leaders were migratory harvesters going from valley to valley to contract the harvest.
5. Veterans of the Japanese Imperial navy and the army and former government employees.

There were 2,700 personnel who were placed in these isolation and detention centers and usually remained in the center until the cessation of the war; some were allowed to join their families in the relocation centers. Some were deported to Japan during and after the war.

In hindsight the Americans in 1940 had no real knowledge of the Japanese American society, nor did many understand the Japanese culture or the language.

ASSEMBLY CENTERS

While the permanent centers were being designed and constructed; a period from March 1942 through October 1942, the Japanese were rounded up and held in the detention which were called Assembly Centers (A. C.). The round up began in late February and completed late April 1942 by the Western Defense Command under Lt. General DeWitt.

Even though General De Witt said "you can't trust the Japs even though they were born in this country"; for unknown reasons; large groups of personnel did not go into the Assembly Centers but remained in their residences and were under curfew until sent to the WRA Internment Camps; starting on May 16, 1942. For example, in the Marysville,(CA) area , on one side of the highway the personnel were sent to Merced A.C. while on the eastside of the Highway 99 they were under curfew but allowed freedom during the daylight hours.

There were four different types of Assembly Centers. The most noted type were at the race tracks; Tanforan in the Bay Area and Santa Anita in the Los Angeles area.

The second type was those located at the county fair grounds. These included Fresno and Stockton. See enclosed site plans.

The third type, which very few people know about was located in the migratory farm labor camps. This type was the most primitive, with substandard sanitation facilities.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

The fourth type was located in the Hawaiian Islands. The location was at Sand Island in the harbor of Honolulu .This could be classified more of a detention center as only certain classification of personnel were detained and later transferred to the WRA internment camps.

Nearly all Japanese Hawaiians were not interned even though they were closer to the war zone. The reasons given were that Hawaiian economy would collapse if the Japanese Americans were to be interned as they represented over 35% (160,000) of the Hawaiian population.

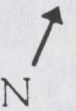
LIST OF ASSEMBLY CENTERS (AC)

1.	Fresno AC	4,917
2.	Marysville AC	2,431
3.	Mayer AC	386
4.	Merced AC	4,554
5.	Pinedale AC	4,746
6.	Pomona AC	5,260
7.	Portland AC	3,630
8.	Puyallup AC	7,399
9.	Sacramento AC	4,655
10.	Salinas AC	3,580
11.	Santa Anita AC	18,491
12.	Stockton AC	4,033
13.	Tanforan AC	7,673
14.	Tulare AC	4,942
15.	Turlock AC	3,573
	subtotal	80,170
16.	Sand Island, HA AC	1,700
	Direct Evacuation	27,695
	TOTAL	109,665

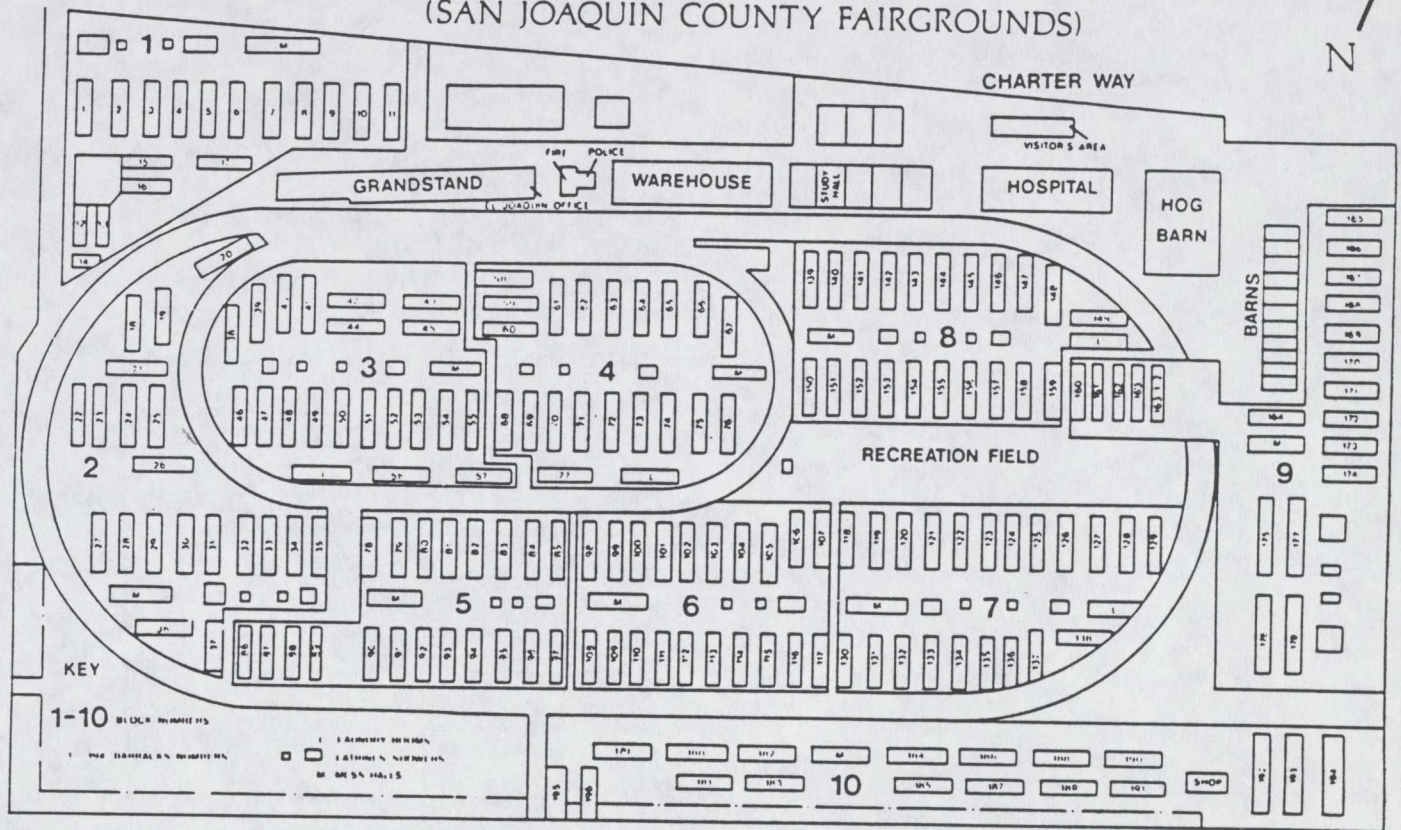
TRANSITION FROM THE ASSEMBLY CENTERS TO THE WRA CENTERS

During this period an advance party of 40 -50 personnel were selected from each Assembly Center to proceed to the permanent relocation centers and to prepare for the arrival of the internees. As each ward or nine to ten blocks was constructed at the permanent centers, Assembly Centers were notified and each Assembly Centers contributed about 500 to the total of 2,000 peoples (in each phase) were moved to the permanent centers. The wards were completed every three weeks (a phase) and the entire camp

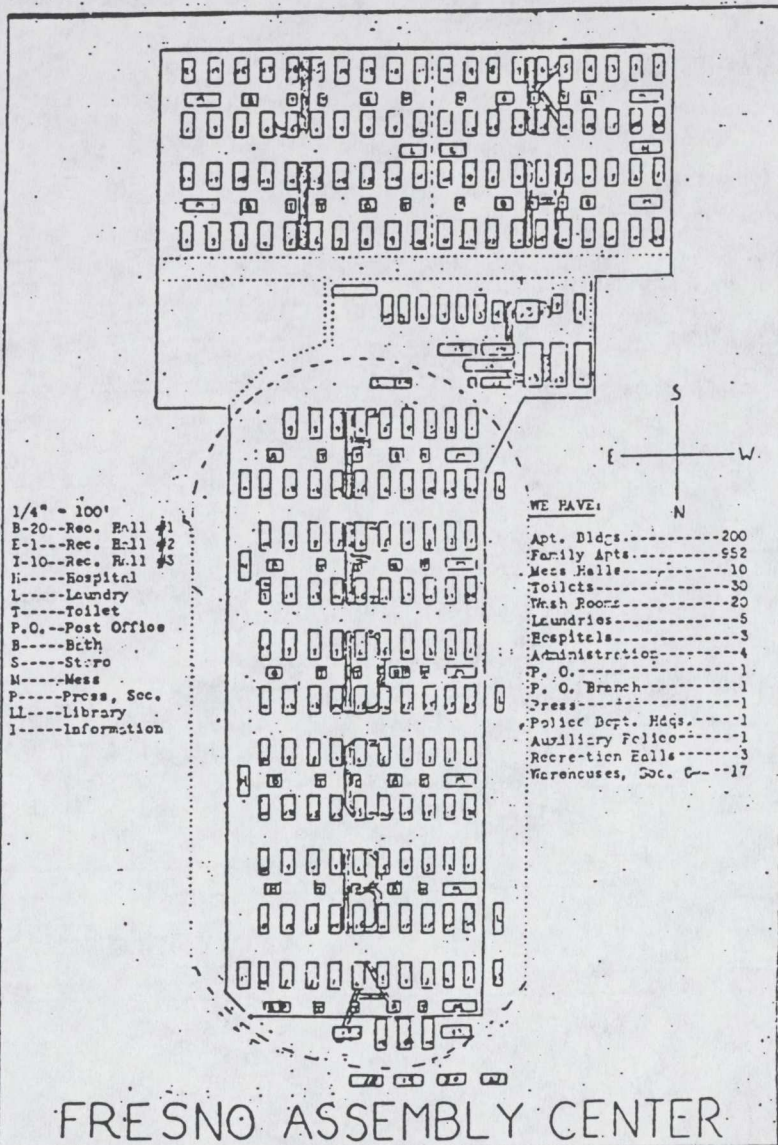
STOCKTON ASSEMBLY CENTER (SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS)



SHARPE'S LANE (NOW AIRPORT WAY)



BIRD'S EYE VIEW



1/4" = 100'
 B-20--Rec. Hall #1
 E-1--Rec. Hall #2
 I-10--Rec. Hall #3
 H--Hospital
 L--Laundry
 T--Toilet
 P.O.--Post Office
 B--Bath
 S--Store
 M--Mess
 P--Press, Sec.
 LI--Library
 I--Information

WE HAVE:
 Apt. Bldgs.-----200
 Family Apts.-----952
 Mess Halls-----10
 Toilets-----30
 Wash Rooms-----20
 Laundries-----5
 Hospitals-----3
 Administration-----4
 P. O.-----1
 P. O. Branch-----1
 Press-----1
 Police Dept. Hdqs.-----1
 Auxiliary Police-----1
 Recreation Halls-----3
 Warehouses, Sec. C-----17

FRESNO ASSEMBLY CENTER

ADMINISTRATION

Bldg. 18--Works Division	Bldg. 20--Finance and Employ-
Mess & Lodging	ment Division
Council Room	Service Division
Bldg. 19--Center Manager	Bldg. 21--Police Headquarters
Fire Department	Reception Hall
Supply Division	

construction took four month to complete. The last group to leave the Fresno Assembly Center was in November 1942.

DIRECT EVACUATION

During the initial period of confusion after Pearl Harbor, the Western Defense Command set up two Military Zones. Military Zone 1 was the area adjacent to the Pacific Ocean and extended inland for one half of the states and Military Zone 2 were the remaining area of the States including Washington, Oregon, California and south west Arizona.

Voluntary evacuation were encouraged from military zone 1 into military zone 2 or further inland and many personnel left areas such as Terminal Island and San Pedro in southern California for the central valley and other states such Utah and Colorado. The governors of the receiving states especially the Governor of Colorado Ralph Carr initially welcomed the Japanese, however the bigot politicians and the Hearst Newspaper put pressure on the governors and led to objections to the voluntary relocation. There were potential for widespread disorder and risk of violence; therefore on March 29, 1942 all voluntary evacuation out of military zone 1 and 2 were prohibited. The Japanese were then trapped and curfew was imposed.

Direct evacuation was first tried at the Manzanar center. The people from Los Angeles area gathered at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena and proceed in their own vehicles led by military police and conveyed to the internment center . The trip took ten hours for the two hundred and thirty miles distance.

Other centers where direct evacuation were tried were at Tule Lake, Poston and Gila River centers. Generally at these centers Greyhound buses were used for transportation.

A total of 27,695 (25%) were directly evacuated.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY (WRA) INTERNMENT CENTERS

The Army did not want to have anything to do with running the internment camps. This led to the creation of a civilian agency in the *Office of Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President*. President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9102 creating War Relocation Authority (WRA) to assist persons evacuated by the military under Executive Order 9066.

The first director on March 21, 1942 was Milton Eisenhower, the younger brother of General Dwight Eisenhower. Milton Eisenhower stayed for three months, than his assistant Dillon S. Myer took over for the remaining duration and until closure of WRA on June 30, 1946

Eisenhower and Myer both came from the Department of Agriculture and named their colleagues as project directors of the internment camps. Each had worked or known the directors for a long time at the Agriculture Department.

Milton Eisenhower felt uncomfortable in the unprecedented problems of imprisonment of American citizens and left the director's position to take a job as deputy to Elmer Davis the Office of War Information. Years later (untainted) he became the President of Columbia University.

Dillon Seymour Myer (1891-) became director on June 17, 1942; BS in agriculture , Ohio State University, Master of Education, Columbia University. was Agriculture Conservator Adjustment Administer prior to his position as WRA director.

Dillon Myer accomplished the difficult tasks with compassion and was very enlightened to the needs of the internees. In general the occupants left the centers with no hard feelings for Mr. Myer.

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) actually honored (with a testimonial dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City on May 22, 1946) Mr. Myer for the humane treatment and honest approach of his administration. JACL throughout this era was the main spokesperson for the Japanese community and they believed that cooperation with the administration was better than resistance and would lead to better acceptance of the nisei by the American people.

After leaving the WRA Myer rejoined the government bureaucracy and later was an adjunct professor at a university. He wrote, in 1971, *Uprooted Americans*, the history of his WRA administration.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIORS

With so much pressure put on the WRA and its Director and no one representing this small organization the thought occurred that WRA should be part of either the Justice Department or the Department of the Interior. Project Director favored the Justice Department but others thought that Department of the Interior had more experience such as running the Bureau of Indians Affairs. Actually the Colorado River and Gila River projects initially were directed by the Interior Department.

On February 16, 1944 President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9423 transferring WRA to the Department of the Interior. Dillon Myer then worked under Harold Ickes the Secretary of the Interiors. Ickes felt that Myer was performing well and left Myer alone to run the WRA project.

Ms ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

One person who took direct interest in the internment camps was Ms Eleanor Roosevelt, the President's wife. She tried her best in keeping the camps as humane as possible. Myer and Eleanor were on good terms and visited several centers together including Poston and Gila River. Several nisei had direct talks with her in resolving the question of serving in the military, especially her interest in having the nisei women serve in the Women Army Corps (WAC). Over 500 nisei women served in the WAC and the Army Nurse Corps. She was also instrumental in many young people leaving the camps for the colleges. Most nisei have fond affection and admiration for Ms Eleanor Roosevelt.

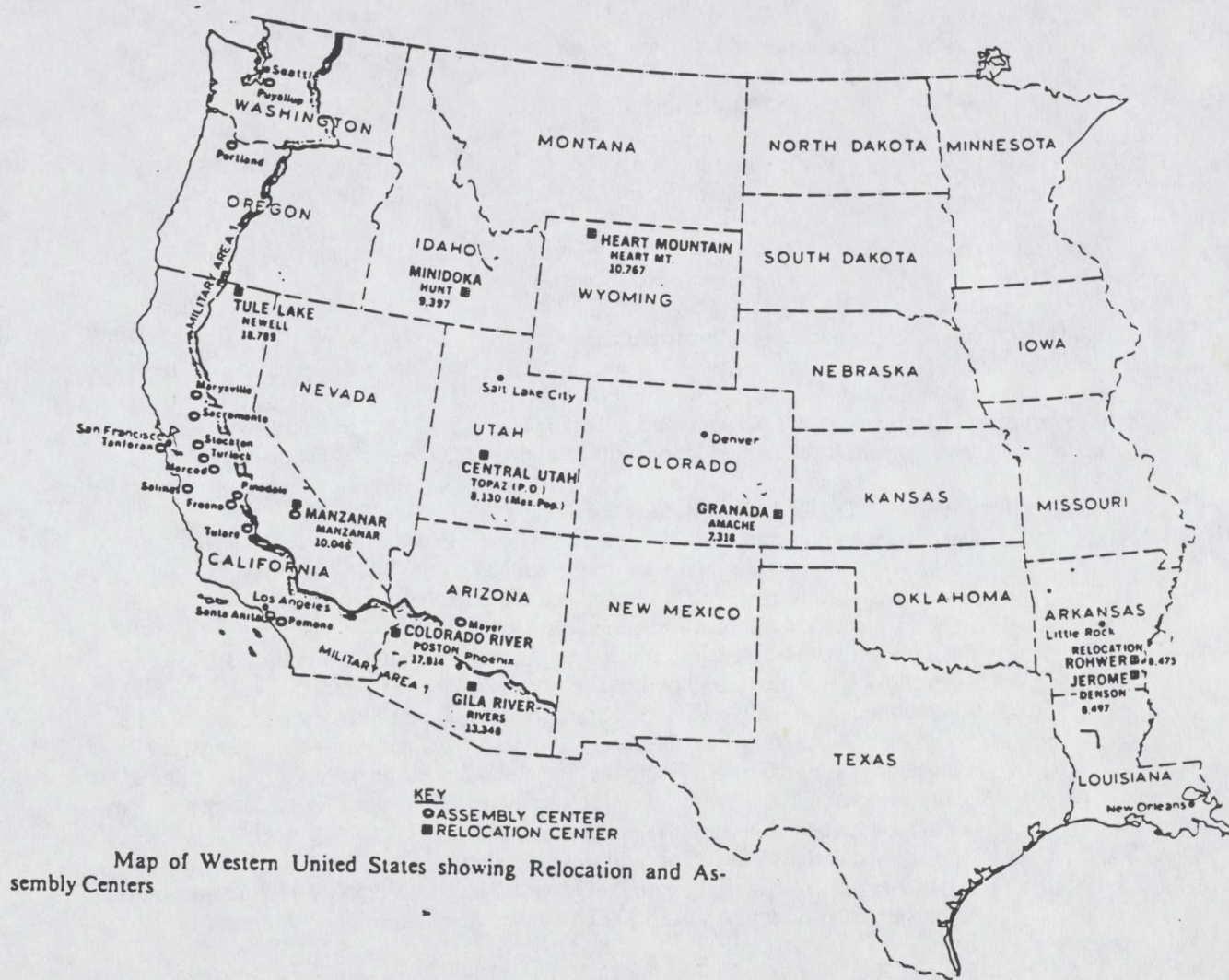
LOCATION MAP

The maps and legends are self explanatory and would raise the student's curiosity. The first question is where were the ten relocation projects located. The map shows the ten project sites; however there were some projects which had more than one camp site.

There were 13 separate camp sites. The two projects in Arizona had multiple camps; Poston had three camps and Gila River project had two camps. Each camp was self sufficient but governed under one administrator.

INTERNMMENT CAMP POPULATIONS

	Camps	Bancroft*	Myer*	J/A His*
1.	Amache, CO	7,554	7,656	7,318
2.	Gila River, AZ		13,420	13,348
	A. Butte Camp	9,480		
	B. Canal Camp	5,097		
3.	Heart Mountain, WY	10,954	11,062	10,767
4.	Jerome, AR	7,674	7,932	8,497
5.	Manzanar, CA	9,927	10,121	10,046
6.	Minidoka, ID	9,467	9,861	9,397
7.	Poston, AZ		18,039	17,814
	A. Poston I	9,483		
	B. Poston II	5,952		



	C. Poston III	2,987		
8.	Rohwer, AR	8,232	8,548	8,475
9.	Topaz, UT	8,223	8,232	8,130
10.	Tule Lake, CA	14,984	15,369	18,789
	TOTAL**	110,014	110,310	112,581

PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF THE ORIGINAL GROUP OF EVACUEES

Arizona	259
California	92,785
Oregon	3,714
Washington	12,892
Others(Alaska, Idaho, (?))	792
TOTAL	110,442
1943 From Hawaii A.C.	1,700
GRAND TOTAL**	112,142

*Sources (1) Bancroft Library, (2) Dillon Myer: *Uprooted Americans*; (3) Japanese American Historical Society, *Americans of Japanese Ancestry and US Constitution*

** The population discrepancies were created by the following:

POPULATION

The camp population was always in a continuous flux for several reasons. The census were not taken on a certain date so each camp reported their total on different dates. The variables factors were:

OUTWARD-BOUND OR INTER-CAMP TRANSFERS

- There were constant transfers between camps to accommodate:
 - The family members who were separated.
 - To balance the supply and demand of the technical personnel such as doctors, engineers, and agricultural specialists.
- The seasonal farm laborer were allowed to go outside the camp and return after the harvest. Several thousands (up to 10,000) could be out when the census were taken.
- The recruitment of the Japanese speaking personnel in the Military Intelligence Service (1,634), later the draft and volunteers (11,780) and WAC and Army Nurse Corps (537).
- Immediately after the transfer from the Assembly Center, the project directors allowed application to colleges. There were 3,812 personnel who applied for schooling and most left the camps bound for technical schools and colleges.
- After arrival at the WRA camps, progressive project directors encouraged families to relocate to the midwest or the eastern seaboard. Thousands (25 - 29,000) began to relocate; most were older nisei who were better educated or had industrial skills needed by the employers.

INWARD-BOUND

- Japanese people in extreme western Idaho, (near Ontario, Oregon), such communities as Payette, Nampa, Caldwell and Weiser were sent to the Minidoka, Idaho internment center even though State of Idaho was outside of the Military Zone 2 and did not have to evacuate.
- In late 1942 and early 1943, there were 1,700 Japanese - Hawaiians transferred from Sand Island, A. C., Hawaii to the two WRA Internment Centers; Jerome and Poston.
- There were numbers of migratory farm and railroad workers who followed their family into the internment center in late 1942. The typical pattern of these workers :in spring; March

or April they would leave their home base which was located in the Japantown section usually a boarding houses or (flop)hotels and follow the harvest route or the railroad maintenance route in the High Sierra or the Rocky Mountains. They would return to the home base in the late fall and winter there. The home bases were located in larger Japanese communities such as Los Angeles, Fresno, Stockton, Sacramento, Portland, Seattle and Spokane. When the internment notice came and the boarding houses and hotels closed, these 2,249 migratory workers did not have a home base to return to and most (were bachelors) joined their relatives or friends at the internment centers.

Because the project centers were located in sparse rural states, the internment camps with population of 10,000 became second, third and fourth largest cities in that particular state., including Wyoming, Idaho, Utah and Arkansas. For example Heart Mountain Center was the third largest city in Wyoming.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WRA INTERNMENT CAMPS

All of the WRA internment camps had similar characteristics:

1. Each center was about the same size with a population between 8,000 to 10,000.
2. The project area was large tract of land of over 3,500 acres.
3. The inhabited area was one square mile or 640 acres.
4. The block arrangements were similar.
5. The barracks or apartment units were similar in size 20 feet by 100 feet. (Camp Heart Mountain was the only center with barracks of 20 feet by 120 feet.)
6. The occupants came from same geographic areas of the west coast. The blocks and the wards had people from the same Assembly Centers, but the entire camp often contained people from several states or regions of the state.
7. Each project consisted of a farm area and the residential area.

FARM AREA

The farming operation was one of the easiest tasks to set up at each of the ten internment projects. During 1930's the Japanese in the United States were predominately in the agriculture and related industries; these activities included fruit and vegetable farming, horticultural and ornamental nurseries, and wholesale and retail floral trades. The Japanese dominated the wholesale floral and certain vegetables in the late 1930's.

Many of the American farmers on the west coast resented the resourcefulness and the work ethics of the Japanese farmers and the nurserymen. The Japanese nurserymen were continuously improving the variety of fruits and flowers in order to have earlier and later maturity to obtain maximum marketing prices. The American farmers and organization like the *Native Sons of the Golden West* were happy to see the Japanese farmers put in the concentration camps and later opposed their release from the camps.

Each center started vegetable farms, poultry and hog production for use by the mess halls. The farm was in production within four month and varieties including Japanese types of vegetable were produced; onions, peas, carrots, rutabagas, cabbage, beets, turnips, parsnips, beans, cauliflower, spinach, lettuce, squash, pumpkin, Swiss chard, nappa, cucumber, daikon, gobo, and Chinese peas.

Beef and dairy production were not undertaken by the Japanese because of cultural aversion to this type of work. Some Caucasian were employed to direct this activity. Generally these products were purchased from nearby vendors. In Japan people in beef and slaughtering occupation were considered outcast or 'eta' and even today they avoid people associated as *Burakumin* (modern term for *eta*). This caste system was carried to this country by the emigrants and certain attitudes about marriage to an 'eta' was prolonged during the nisei generation.

The farm activities were a safety valve for people in the concentration camps. Most men (and boys in the summer) left the restrictions of the camp and worked all day in the open fields. In the fall, potato and onion harvest were undertaken by high school students and by some of their teachers. They were creative in their attempt to develop agriculture in the desert and swampy environment. The combination of greenhouse and transplanting techniques familiar to certain types of Japanese farmers and nurserymen extended the growing season in the harsh climate.

Lot of the men (up to 10,000 had seasonal passes) left the camps during the summer to harvest crops on the outside and returned after the harvest. They journeyed to the interior of the rural states including Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and Arizona. What they encountered was appalling, compared to the west coast farms; the farmers of the interior states were poverty stricken. Many of the farms had no running water and still used outdoor toilets. The return to the camps with warm bath and indoor plumbing was a luxury. The main harvest crops were sugar beets, potatoes, onions, cotton and flax.

INHABITANT CORE AREA

The core area of most centers were one mile by one mile or 640 acres. Several sites were larger because of the unusual configuration of the camps (see site maps). Within this space were two functional areas; the project administrative area and the internee residential area.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

These areas include the military police company (MP), the Caucasian staff housing and the administrative office area.

MILITARY POLICE

The guarding of the relocation centers from the inner perimeter of the center outward was the responsibility of the Army. Initially, there was stationed at each center for this purpose one Military Police Escort and Guard Company. These company usually contained a high percentage of limited service men and were officered by over-age officers which, raised the efficiency of the companies by contributing experience and possibly a higher grade of intelligence. In a country at war the nature of the duty was unpopular and the location of the center (station) were considered poor assignments.

The maintenance of order within the centers was entirely the responsibility of the Project Director. The military commander could not exercise no authority within the center except upon the written request of the Project Director in which case the military commander became entirely responsible for the administrator of the center. There were only two such cases; Manzanar and Tule Lake, where internal security failed and the project director requested such actions. In both cases, the center were returned to the WRA control at the earliest moment thought expedient to do so.

At Tule Lake, the guard company was increased by the addition of one Battalion and remained until the guarding of the center was assumed later by the Department of Justice. At all other center the guards were gradually reduced to token strength until finally removed.

In all cases except specific duties or in emergencies such as fire, the enlisted men of the guard companies were off limit within the centers.

The company (140-150 personnel) of military police were responsible for the security of the outside of the camp. The internees area had a perimeter fence of barbed wire and the MP patrolled the fenced area by a

series of guard tower located in strategic points. The guard tower usually had search light for night patrols and machine guns for protection.

The interior of the camp were patrolled by the internal security force which consisted of the Japanese personnel.

Many of the Caucasian staff lived in apartment units within this compound however some found housing in nearby towns. The apartments were rented for \$20 - 25 per month for 1 -3 bedrooms. The meals if eaten at the mess hall were charged at the rate of 40 cents per day.

The administrative area included office function of the project manager and his staff. The staff included the project director , assistant director, and his department heads. The department included :agriculture, education, medical, engineering, maintenance, fire, internal security, transportation, supply and warehousing and recreation.

PROJECT DIRECTORS

The project directors came from the Agriculture Department and his assistant from the engineering side such as the Bureau of Reclamation. Because they were previously involved in some form of large organization; the camp operations were efficient and humane.

Project Directors	Centers	Dates
Roy Nash	Manzanar	June 1942-Sep 42
Ralph Merritt	Manzanar	1942-46
Wade Head	Poston	1942-43
Duncan Mills	Poston	1944-45
Eastburn Smith	Gila River	1942
Roy Bennett	Gila River	1943-45
Douglas Todd	Gila River	1946
Elmer Shirrell	Tule Lake	1942
Harvey Coverly	Tule Lake	1943
Ray Best	Tule Lake	1943-46
Harry Stafford	Minidoka	1942-45
Christford Rachford	Heart Mtn	1942
Guy Robertson	Heart Mtn	1943-45
James C. Lindley	Granada	1942-46
Charles Ernt	Topaz	1942-44
Louis Hoffman	Topaz	1945
Raymond Johnson	Rohwer	1942-45
Paul Taylor	Jerome	1943-44

DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS

Like all organization the head of the department set the policy and overall leadership but the actual running of the camps fell on the Japanese American staff. By 1940 the Japanese American had developed a cadre of university graduates in all fields including engineering and health sciences and many were employed in the civil services; this nisei group essentially directed the day-to-day operation of the camps.

THE INTERNEE RESIDENTIAL AREA

The internees lived in the block. This unit was managed by the block manager and 90% of all activities happened at the block level. The typical block was the same for all centers; it consisted of two rows of six or seven barracks or apartment units on both sides of a utility core. The utility core was grouped in the center for efficiency and economy of building materials and consisted of the men and women toilet facilities, shower, laundry, ironing facility, the boiler room, and sometimes the mess hall. The recreation hall was on the perimeter of the block.

BARRACKS (APARTMENTS)

The barracks consisted of 20 feet by 100 feet, (except for Camp Heart Mountain) which were divided into room of several sizes, depending on the family size, the usual sizes were 16 feet, 20 feet, and 25 feet. The room partition was from the finished floor to the underside of the roof truss or 8 feet in height. The area above the partition was open and therefore noise could be heard from one apartment to the next. The major complaint was the lack of privacy and the smell from cooking or making of liquor from the adjoining units.

The barrack construction consisted of a foundation of concrete piers with a 2 x 6 floor joist and 1 x 10 subfloor and a tongue and groove finish flooring. The walls were 2 x 4 stud wall with no interior finish and on the exterior with 1 x 10 sheathing and building paper. The barracks did not have any insulation at any of the camps. The building materials were hard to obtain during this period.

Each apartment had two sets of windows and a single door. Some ingenious residents build a vestibule to protect the entry door from the severe weather.

The apartment was furnished with a single light bulb, a coal burning pot-belly stove for heating and cots for beds. The furniture was made by the tenants from scraps of lumber left by the construction.

The camp construction took about four month from start to the finish. The construction crew consisted of about 3,000 unskilled workers. The skilled crew consisted of 12 lead carpenters, 3 electricians and 3 plumbers and one engineer from the Corp of Engineers.

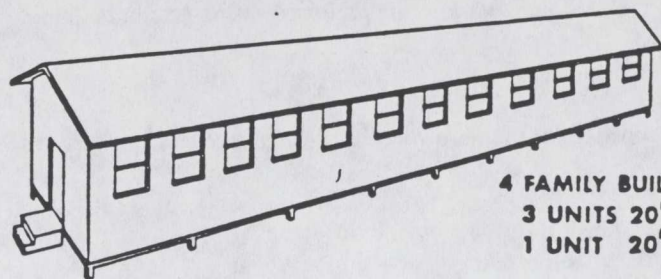
The general construction was crude and use of green lumber were prevalent, and later when the lumber dried the flooring had become a sieve. Some residents added a skirt around the barracks hoping to reduce the air and dust infiltration; however a bad design and poor construction could not be easily remedied.

BACHELORS

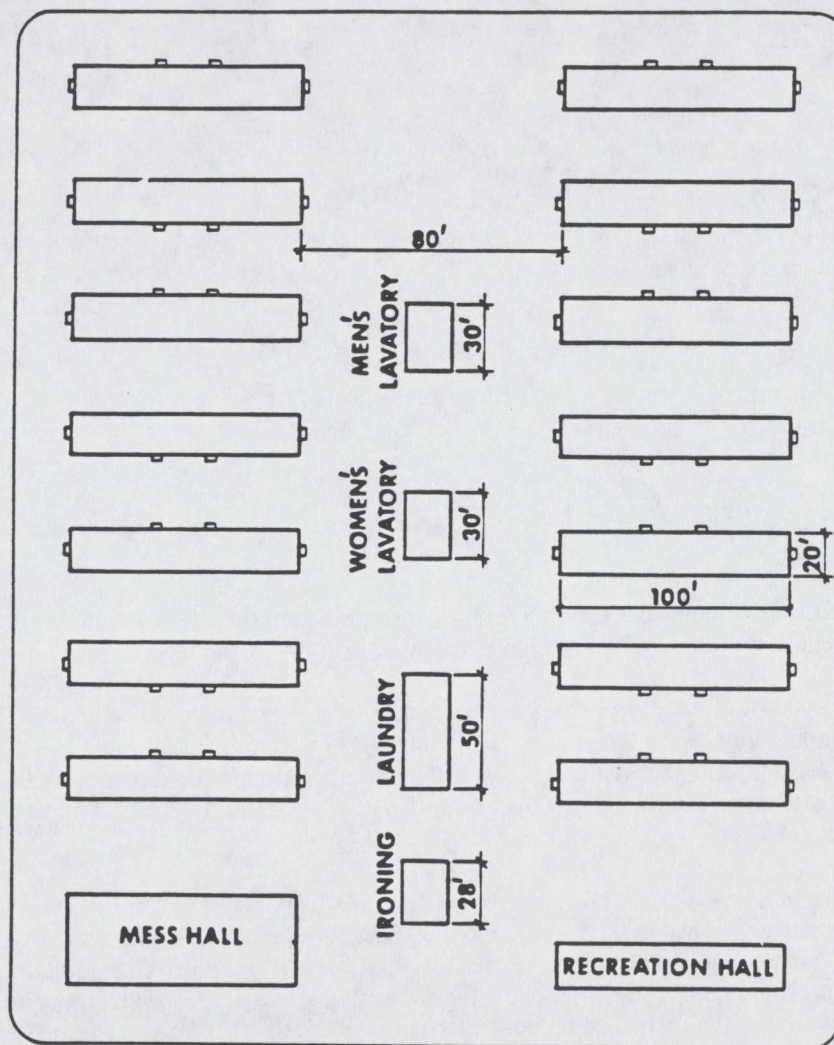
In most of the centers there were one or two barracks at the end of the blocks which were reserved for the bachelors. During this period there were lot of single men who did not have an opportunity to find marriage partners in America and had missed an opportunity to send for a picture bride from Japan. Many bachelors did not like the close quarters and after the MP were withdrawn, these men built a lean-to shelters (a shantytown) outside the perimeter fence and lived a life of a hermit, except for taking their showers and the meals; some even cooked and bathed outdoors and didn't associate with the rest of the inhabitants.

MESS HALL

The mess hall was essentially double the barracks size or 40 feet by 100 feet. On one end was the kitchen and open dining area in the remaining space. The kitchen stoves and oven were fueled by coal. One of the Arizona center had a gas line through their camp.



4 FAMILY BUILDING
3 UNITS 20' x 24'
1 UNIT 20' x 28'



TYPICAL BLOCK PLAN

All personnel took their meals at the dining hall. The kitchen staff were the residents of the block. The meals were bland and no matter how the chef prepared the meals after several month each meal tasted the same. The term SOS was often used. Many preferred eating peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

MENUS

A typical menus consisted of the following three samples during a week in 1943:

Breakfast		
1 bowl of corn meal mush	rice flakes	one orange
1 cup coffee with cream and sugar	coffee -sugar	coffee - sugar
1/2 cup serving of scrambled egg	canned slice peaches	2 doughnuts
1 slice of bread and butter	bread-butter	bread - butter
5 stewed prune		
Lunch		
2 pork sausages	chicken & liver stew	slice of roast beef
1/2 cup of mashed potato	beet & onion salad	napa / sliced daikon
1/4 cup of peas		
1 slice of bread and butter	bread - butter	bread - butter
1/4 cup of chocolate pudding		
1 cup of tea	tea	tea
Supper		
2 cup of fried rice	slice of fried fish	rice
1 bowl of soup	rice	cabbage- carrot stew
1/2 cup pickles	peas	bread - butter
1 cup tea	tea	tea
	apple sauce	canned blackberries

During the initial few weeks the family eat together, but soon the family unit broke down and different group would eat in their section, teenage boys were in one area and the adult men in another.

The mess hall was heated from all the kitchen activity throughout the day and night. The mess hall was useful for gathering when not in use as a dining hall. The ladies used the mess hall for the netting sessions and as a social hall. The mess hall also was the setting for group activities such as dances and during the holiday season they would decorate the hall with Christmas scenery. The Christmas decorations irked lot of the Buddhist.

BOILER ROOM

In the core area attached to the laundry room was the boiler room which heated the water for the toilets, showers, laundry and the mess hall. Because the unit could not produce enough hot water, the occupants were allocated time slots for the laundry and showering activities. The boiler units were undersized primarily because the designers did not understand (culturally) that Japanese people even under adverse conditions took a bath once (or twice) a day. During this period (1930's depression era) most other people economized by taking a bath occasionally.

The boiler room was one of two constantly heated rooms in the block and developed as an activity center for the older men (the *issei*). The room provided areas for the Japanese game of *go(h)* and *shogi* a form of chess and checkers.

In the collective group, there was always a bootleg production of liquor which the inhabitants engaged in. The raw materials were rice, potato and sweet potato. These ingredients produced a *sake* (a wine), a

shochu (form of vodka) and *awamori* (a rum). The men enjoyed their drinks in the boiler room where after a few drinks a round of *karaoke* type songs were sung. The camp life was characterized as *monotonous* and *lackadaisical*.

RECREATION HALL

Because of living in the close quarters and also monotony of living in the camps, the recreation section of the administration made an effort to provide organized activities.

Each block had a barrack which was used for recreation or social activities. The hall was used for various clubs activities and for meetings. There were almost any types of youth organization from scouting to flower arrangement.

The sports were the largest activities including baseball and sumo wrestling. These sports were good for drawing lot of crowds and with nothing to do in the camps; the spectator sports were enjoyed by everyone. Sometimes the recreation director would arrange to have the camp all star team play nearby American Legions teams. The results were that the all stars would swamp the opposition teams.

For young adult, some ad hoc organization would throw a dance for the ward in some mess hall. Lot of romances started in the camps and one good results of the relocation movement were that *nisei* from different parts of the west coast got to know each other. After leaving the camps the relationships continued and many couples eventually married.

BLOCK MANAGER

The key to running an orderly operation was the block manager. He controlled all the administrative functions and was the direct link with the administration. Some of his duties included ; mail operation, issuing passes, sick calls, issuance of supplies, and most of all mediating disputes.

The population of each block ranged from 250 to 300 depending on the family composition.

The block managers were chosen from the advance party and had experience in running a farm labor camps or boarding houses in the Japanese section of their city.

There were two types of managers; the *nisei* and the *kibei*. The *nisei* were born in the USA and never had gone to Japan, while the *kibei* were born here but had gone to Japan for their education and returned to USA prior to the W.W.II.

The *nisei* seem to be more open and friendly toward the internees, while the *kibei* were more authoritative. The backgrounds of each type were decisively different and later created considerable difficulty for the internees.

Most activities happened at the block level and the residents hardly socialized with other parts of the center. It was hard to find any one who had traveled from one end of the center to the other.

The difficulty occurred during the loyalty questionnaire period and the beginning of the draft movement.

LOYALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

To determine who was eligible to service in the military for the *nisei* and for the *issei* to determine who were loyal and who requested repatriation and segregation, a questionnaire was to be answered by everyone over 17 years of age. The following is the summary of question 27 and 28 which created the most controversy.

One section of the questionnaire asked: Are you willing to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?

A second question posed was: Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor or any other foreign government, power, or organization?

Most of the 21,000 nisei men in the Army registration willingly answered "yes - yes" to the two questions. But there were others who refused to reply. Some were afraid that "yes - yes" would mean immediate induction and perhaps their alien parents would not be granted the allowance and allotment which other soldiers' families received. If the citizen sons were killed, their issei parents could not inherit their real property under West Coast alien land laws. If the nisei answered "no - no" then he had no choice but to request expatriation to Japan. With "defend" in the second question, they could not answer 'no' to the first.

In the WRA (for issei) questionnaire the second question was similar to the Army; and issei were in a turmoil. To 'forswear allegiance' would leave them men without countries. To say 'no' some felt that they must then ask for repatriation. For their sons to answer 'yes' might leave the alien parents alone and in many cases penniless.

When the question was altered four days later, much confusion cleared up. Now issei were asked only to abide by the laws of the United States and to take no actions which would interfere with the country's war effort. The final tally showed more than 90 per cent 'yes - yes' answers to the two questions.

THE WARD

The next level of organization was the ward. This unit consisted of nine or ten blocks separated by the fire breaks. At some centers the ward was called sections. There were three functions at the ward level:

1. Fire Control
2. Internal Security
3. Food and Fuel Supply

The ward unit was in charge of fire control for each of the blocks within the ward. There were usually three or four fire stations scattered throughout the camp. Each fire station provided protection to two or three wards. There were no major fires reported in any of the centers, except at Poston II which reported several warehouse buildings had a major fire. The major reason was that there were people in the barracks and around the blocks at all times.

The internal security was performed at the ward level. The individual was older men in ill-fitting uniform with an arm band and usually walked around the blocks acting like someone with authority. This group did not want to be known as policeman so they used the designation as wardens. Later this group received a nick name as 'inu' or spies for the administration. Even the block managers avoided calling on the wardens but relied on their own staff for any emergencies.

After about one and one half years the MPs were removed and the guard towers were vacant except for the Tule Lake Center. The internal security personnel became more noticeable.

The third function of the ward was to provide daily supplies to the mess hall. A truck from the motor pool assigned to the ward would go to the warehouse area, pick up and deliver the daily rations to each of the mess halls. The meals at each center were the same except for the local variation in vegetables. The menus were prepared one month ahead of schedule.

The ward also had a dump truck which picked up the coal supply and delivered it to the blocks on a rotating basis so each block received the coal once a week. The coals were delivered to the mess hall,

boiler room, and at the end of each block. Each family was responsible to pick up the coals for their pot-belly stove.

US ARMY QUARTERMASTER CORPS

Because the WRA was a new organization and had no experience in purchasing, the Army Quartermaster Corps was retained to do all of the WRA food and supply purchasing. This system worked quite well for all concern.

CAMP WIDE FUNCTIONS

HOSPITAL

The hospital served the entire camp and was directed by the administration but operated by an internnee staff of doctors and nurses. After the initial settlement, the Japanese American doctors were transferred between camps in order to equally balance the supply of medical personnel.

The supplies and equipment were insufficient and outdated but the staff did their best for the patients.

The major complaint by the Project Directors were that Caucasian medical staff reported to the Washington headquarters and were more interested promoting their careers at the expense of the internees. The medical staff did not cooperate with the project directors or the other members of the staff.

There were roughly 300 births and 150 deaths at each of the centers. Each center had a room used for a mortuary.

There exists a small cemetery at each camp site which reminds us of the difficult years of internment.

SCHOOLS

There was one combined junior and senior high school at each center staffed by Caucasian and Japanese personnel. There were usually two or three elementary schools at each center.

The salaries of the Caucasian teachers were :

1.	Elementary	\$1,640 per year
2.	High School	2,000
3.	Japanese American (nisci)	\$ 16 per month -- \$192 per year

The educational curriculum was based on the California standards as 90% the internees came from California.

There were four types of Caucasian teachers:

1. First types were teachers who knew about the internment and knew about the Japanese Americans during the difficult years. This type always took up the cause of the internees and the principal thought them as not effective teachers.
2. Second type were missionary teachers who had returned from the Far East prior to the war. They were considered as ill prepared and outdated and did not know their subjects.
3. Third type were retired teachers who returned to help with the desperate situation. The administration thought this group were lacking in current teaching method and not energetic.
4. The fourth group were recruited from teachers colleges, although young and inexperienced, were considered by the principal as the most effective teachers because of their knowledge of teaching methods, current subjects and the enthusiasm about extra curricular activities.

The students and parents could not differentiate between the groups and were appreciative. The education and attendance were excellent as the Japanese had high respect for the teachers.. Even today fifty years later, many students remember their teachers as encouraging them on to colleges.

After the camp years many nisei continued their college education and many became prominent especially in the arts, architecture and landscape design. They were prominent in the professions as well as becoming deans or professors at leading universities; the nisei names; Minoru Yamasaki, Gyo Obata, Rai Okamoto, Sara Ishikawa, Donald Hisaka, George Matsumoto, Hideo Sasaki, Aza Hanamoto, Ruth Azawa, Isamu Noguchi, and George Nakashima were household names in the design fields.

CHURCHES

There were rooms made for use as churches for the different denominations. The practicing religions were Buddhists, Shinto, and Christians. The churches provided an important functions as many internee had a hard time adjusting to the camp life and dependent on their religion to carry them through this difficult period.

The irony of the camp experience was that nearly all the Shinto and many Buddhist priests were detained (considered as *high risks*) in the separate detention centers. This vacuum of leadership led to the Christian religion as the pseudo sanctioned religion in the internment centers. With the backs of the Administration turned, the Christians zealots rallied to convert the Buddhist to the their religion. Many Buddhist parents converted to Christianity to please the nisei generation. However years after the camp and during their death bed watch many issei asked for a Buddhist burial. This was a dilemma for the nisei and many chose the neutral setting of the funeral parlor for the services rather than choosing between the religions.

POST OFFICE

Each relocation center had a postal address. There was a main post office and each block manager's office distributed the mail. The distribution of the mail was a big event as the residents of the camps had nothing to do but wait for some news from the outside of the camps. When some one received a package or a letter from the outside of the camp each neighbor immediately heard the news and the gossip grapevine went to work. The issei women were good at standing around and would *pecha -pecha* (gossip) all day but then there were nothing else to do in the internment centers.

100/442 REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

When terrible news such as 'Killed in Action' (KIA) was reported, the block manager, the church leaders and the neighbors immediately consoled their fellow internees. This news announcement was the most painful for the block manager, as he invariably was instrumental in the drafting of the young man and saw him leave for the overseas assignment. The 100th Battalion / 442 Regimental Combat Team (RCT) was recognized as the most decorated unit of its size during the WW II. Much of the honor consisted of *purple heart* (casualty) decorations. The all nisei unit 100/442 Regimental Combat Team had the highest casualty rate of any unit during WW II. For example to rescue the entrapped Lost Texas Battalion, the 442 RCT suffered 857 casualties to save 223 Texans. For many families where the only son was killed in action, it was devastating.

While the parents were detained in America's concentration camps, the 442 RCT were freeing prisoners at Dachau Concentration Camps on April 29, 1945. These soldiers were fighting for a country where they had been excluded from the democratic process, mistrusted and treated as second class citizens.

CANTEENS (STORES)

There were stores similar to '7-11' stores located in several areas of the center. They were operated under the Co-oP system. The problem was that no one had any money to spend in the camps as the banking accounts of the internees were frozen by the government immediately after Pearl Harbor. During the evacuation each family was limited to bringing \$300. The lifting of the banking restrictions did not take place until January 2, 1945.

Many wealthier people would order items from Sears or Wards catalogs. How they obtained the money was a bewilderment.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCES

Each person was allowed between \$1.25, \$2.75 or \$3.75 monthly depending on their age for the clothing allowances. Ninety percent of the evacuees were from the warm climate of California and the internment camps were located in cold and harsh climate. It was necessary to obtain warm clothing immediately to ward off the chill in the barracks and the outdoor.

During the first fall season (1942) as many residents were without any funds to buy warm clothing, the block managers arranged to purchase woolen yarns by the gross and started netting sessions for each family to provide woolen socks, mittens and sweaters for their family. At first the clothing design was simple pattern but as time went by more elaborate design became prevalent.

When their men, drafted into the US Army, went off to the war, these same women began to net khaki colored garments for the boys going to overseas theater. Even today, all the women from the camp era could net clothing for their younger relatives.

UTILITIES

The electricity was obtained from the local utility and distributed to each blocks and barracks.

Each apartment unit was heated by a potbelly stove fueled by coals.

The domestic water was obtained from a series of deep well, (except at Heart Mountain center which obtain the water from Shoshone River), filtered through a plant, chlorinated and stored in elevated storage tanks. There was a domestic water and fire water main to each block. About one and one-half million gallons per day were used at each camp.

Each project center had its own sewage treatment system and a disposal field.

Major street were paved but most areas around the blocks were graveled and during the winter there was a field of mud. Most internees traversed the mud by wearing a home made elevated *geta* (wooden clogs). The occupants later built a board walk from their living unit to the core area to avoid this situation.

EMPLOYMENT AND SALARY

The project management budgeted money to employ as many people as possible in order to keep every one busy. The wages were set at minimum level in order to create as many positions as possible.

The wage levels were:

1.	Professional, block managers	\$19/month
2.	Skilled, foreman, teachers	16/month
3.	Unskilled labor, farm, kitchen	12/month

The comparable salary of the Caucasian staff ranged from \$100 to 200 per month. The inequalities created friction between the Caucasian and the Japanese American professional staffs and sometimes led to a minor disruption of services.

The Director Dillon S. Myer tried to increase the salaries, but the politicians and newspapers were against any raises. The rationale used was that the Army privates were paid \$21 per month and were risking their lives while the Japs were sitting in the centers without risks and therefore should not be paid more than the Army personnel.

NEWSPAPERS

There was a high quality newspaper started at each center. Each newspaper was professionally produced as the core editorial staff came from the former Japanese vernacular. The newspapers were: Heart Mountain Sentinel, Denson (Jerome) Tribune, Manzanar Free Press, Minidoka Irrigator, Rohwer Outpost, Tulean Dispatch, Topaz Times, Poston Chronicle, Gila News-Courier, and Granada Pioneer.

The newspaper was published twice a week and was read by everyone, since this was the only source of information from the outside of the camps. Often articles about people who relocated to the midwest and east coast were written to encourage the residents to think about their turn to relocate. The Japanese had a propensity to read the news and even during the Assembly Center days, there was a newspaper published at each assembly centers. The assembly center papers were generally mimeographed on 8 1/2 by 11 inches paper.

In the 1930's, each major Japanese centers such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, Seattle and Portland had several Japanese language newspaper. Several editors and writers after leaving the camp newspaper were employed at major news organization. Some became editors or writers and were quite famous; nisei like William Hosokawa, Yoshiko Uchida, James Omura and George Togasaki.

UNIQUENESS OF SEVERAL CENTERS

The uniqueness of the Arizona centers were that both center; *Poston I, II, & III* and *Gila River (Canal & Butte)* were on the Indian Reservation lands and were administrated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the first year of operation; this administration was very relaxed and the internees could travel throughout the reservation lands without restrictions, this laxity became a cause for complaints and then created a cause for the bigots. Because of the complaints; the administration was then switched over to the War Relocation Authority (WRA). Many nisei enjoyed the close relations with the Native Americans and later in their retirement volunteered their professional services to the Indian communities especially in the medical and design professions.

Heart Mountain center located in Wyoming had the only layout with a super block arrangement (see site layout). Ms Estella Ishigo, a Caucasian married to a Japanese actor, was an exceptional artist and a writer. She wrote and included art works in her book *Lone Heart Mountain*.

This center was known for the protest against the draft. Heart Mountain draft resister some 120 nisei who were interned and refused to report for induction into the US Army until their constitutional rights were restored. "To this day, I maintain I did what I learned in high school about the constitution" What he did was to refuse to be drafted until his, as well as his parents, civil rights were restored.

Minidoka center had the most creative site layout and probably the camp was designed by a landscape architect. This center prided itself as having the most volunteers (364) in the US. Army and 976 total enlistment. Even today the Minidokans pride themselves as the most All American of the internment camps. This camp later produced Lt. Comd. Takeshi Yoshihara the first nisei to attend the US Naval Academy (1949-53).

Manzanar center was almost entirely populated by direct evacuation. Included was a sixteen year old Ralph Lazo, a Mexican American, who joined his nisei friend into the internment camp voluntarily.

The centers in Arkansas, *Jerome* and *Rohwer* were only 30 miles apart. It was unusual to have centers so close together. The records indicate that construction of two camps was a mistake. In the site selection process, Jerome site had more merits than Rohwer, but each site was under different Engineering District jurisdiction and each district wanted to build the center and proceeded to construct the center. Bureaucracy and architecture at its best.

IRONIC SITUATIONS

While the internment centers were located in the interior of America and held Americans of Japanese ancestry from the west coast states, many Japanese Americans were living only few miles from the internment centers as free people because they resided outside the restricted zone. For example the Japanese people of Idaho (1,200), Wyoming (650), Montana (508), Utah (2,200), Colorado (2,750), Kansas (17) and Texas (458) lived within miles of the internment camps and could come and go as a free citizens while others were under guard and restricted in their movements. *The U. S. Constitution explicitly guarantees equal protection of the laws to every American regardless of the race (?)*.

Unknown to the camp residents but known to a select few administrator, a group of Japanese American social scientists, many were graduate students from the west coast universities, tracked and recorded the events happening in the centers in order to experiment and quantify the endurance level of personnel living under the stressful conditions. This group later published a series of reports of their research. Who needed enemies when you had relatives like these.

Oddly, each main player during the relocation years was well educated, each with several degrees from well known universities, including John J. McCloy (1895-) Harvard Law (the chief architect, among the civilian brass there is an Assistant Secretary of War, already a power in the Pentagon, who in his 'moral blindness' pressed for "relocation camps" for the west coast Japanese Americans), General DeWitt (1880-) Princeton, their military assistance; Colonel Karl Bendetsen (1907-) Stanford Law, the WRA directors Eisenhower and Myer, and the camp project managers. *Each had taken an oath to support the constitution and defend the rights of the individual.* One wonders what is the purpose of an oath!

PROGRESSIVE PROJECT DIRECTORS

The project managers of Amache, Colorado, Rohwer, and Jerome, Arkansas were not sympathetic for keeping the internees locked up in the concentration camps. They quickly and aggressively found ways to relocate the families outside the camps. Usually they found sponsors with large agri-business to take the internees to areas where labor was in short supply. The residents relocated to Colorado, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois and the eastern seaboard, especially to Seabrook, New Jersey.

The project manager of Jerome was so successful that the population declined from 8500 to less than 3,000 within a year and one half. This created a less efficient camp and led to the camp closure on June 30, 1944 about one and one half year prior to other camp closures.

When the Jerome center closed the remaining personnel who could not be relocated were distributed to camps Rohwer (2,482) and Amache (530). Because of the early closure the camp records are not as complete as the remaining centers.

The total personnel to relocate to the midwest and eastern seaboard is estimated at 29,000 including students, WRA field workers (each major cities had a WRA relocation field office to assist the evacuees) and the evacuees. At this late date, it is hard to obtain a precise figure as many students, and field workers could have returned to the WRA centers and the evacuees of draft age went into the service from their new homes and after their Army enlistment nearly all returned directly to the west coast.

RELOCATION TO MIDWEST - EAST COAST

STATES	1940 CENSUS	1946 WRA REPORT
ILLINOIS	46	11,200
COLORADO	2,734	5,300
UTAH	2,210	5,000
OHIO	167	3,900
IDAHO	1,191	3,500
MICHIGAN	139	2,800
NEW YORK	2,538	2,300

NEW JERSEY	298	2,200
MINNESOTA	57	1,700
	9,380	37,900

WRA FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

One goal of the WRA administration was to keep the internment centers at minimum health and safety standards and not so comfortable that the internees would prolong their stay in these centers. They were well aware of the Native Americans in the Indian Reservations who became the ward of the United States government. The WRA administration did not want this situation to happen and set a goal of relocation to the midwest and eastern seaboard as soon as possible; therefore the expenditures for items such as recreation, books, other than food and heating were kept to a minimum.

The total expenditures for the internment was kept at a reasonable level. It came out to be \$1,439.97 per person for the three and one half years of stay. The following is the appropriation and the actual expenditures. The construction costs for the thirteen centers are not included.

YEAR	APPROPRIATION	NET EXPENDITURES
1942	8,000,000	6,300,000
1943	70,000,000	54,727,853
1944	48,170,000	42,592,858
1945	39,000,000	34,711,704
1946	25,000,000	20,079,615
	190,170,000	\$158,412,030*

* DOES NOT COVER THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

CAMP CLOSING

The camp closing were systematic and project directors were to file a final report of his administration. The directors in turn asked his staff to write up the departments final reports before they were paid their final salary and left for other jobs. These reports are filed in the Bancroft Library , University of California, Berkeley, Ca. Most reports are short because of the time limitation but there are final reports for all the WRA centers.

All WRA camps closed within one and one half months time, between October 15, 1945 and December 1, 1945 , except for Tule Lake which closed in March 20, 1946.

During July , August, and September 1945 the internees who had residences , business, or farms quickly left as transportation were arranged. Upon return to their homes, many met initial resistance and discrimination from the public. To counter these incidents, several organization publicized the heroics of the 442 Regimental Combat Team and the concept of fair play.

The remaining personnel in camp could not move as they did not have a home to return to. A lot of the personnel were migratory railroad or farm workers and the fall season is a bad time to be left without a housing or employment.

What took place in October, 1945 was not the happiest moment of the camp experience. The camp officials were told to close by the end of October and these personnel were paid a bonus to remain until the closure. They decided to dump the remaining occupants on a train with 25 dollars and a ticket to the last place of former residence.

The closure staff called the destination and told the Japanese in the area to take care of their own people. In order to house this new influx of people, the local Japanese people opened up the churches and hostels for temporary residences. The winter of 1945-46 was a period of hardship for lot of these families; however by spring as the weather turned delightful the families found both jobs and housing and slowly began the recovery from the long relocation experience. *Because of these shared hardship experiences the nisei generation has retained a certain bonding to each other apart from the other generations.*

TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CAMP CLOSURE

The WRA set Tule Lake center for the segregation of those sympathies lay with Japan or against the United States. Camp Tule Lake was a segregation camp from July 1943 to the end, March 20, 1946. The camp housed people who were considered as disloyal and wanting to be repatriated to Japan. Many of the citizen had renounced their citizenship for variety of reasons and by intimidation.

There had been a 'incident' at Tule Lake. By agreement, the Army took over complete control of the center on November 4, 1943 and did not withdraw until January 14, 1944. They built a stockade to incarcerate the agitator who had taken part in the disturbance and erected a 'manproof' fence between the evacuee colony and the administration area.

Around January 1944 the pro-Japanese societies at Tule Lake began advocating mass renunciation of American Citizenship. There were more than 18,000 people at Tule Lake and a good many of them were American. Some of the young people, with traditional loyalty to parents, had simply come here rather than split the family. A small number of Tulcans were fanatical kibe, embittered Terminal Islanders were well represented; some of the young men admitted that they were dodging the draft - selective service had been reopened to the nisei. Others were frankly opportunist who, believing Japan would win, wanted to be on the right side. There were old issei who had always intended to return to their homeland to die, and who could not now face relocation in a strange place.

V-J Day came. Arrangement were made for repatriates and expatriates to go to Japan.

When the time to close Tule Lake came there were a lot of confusion as the residence realized that going to defeated and starving Japan was not in their interest.

The Department of Justice also made it difficult to leave the camp, even though the camp administration had written to the Justice Department of letting all remaining internees go home since the war was over for six month. The only way to leave the camp was by individual petition and this cumbersome process took up a long period. When March of 1946 rolled around many internees still had not heard from the Justice Department and in the last few weeks before closure, the families were in panic.

On the last day, March 19, 1946, the remaining personnel (550) were put on a train going to Crystal City, Texas and later to be shipped to Japan. There were over 5,600 who were sent to Japan and of these over 3,500 were Japanese American. These people suffered great hardship in the war torn country and from their lack of speaking the Japanese language.

CRYSTAL CITY DETENTION CENTER, TEXAS

This center was the last stop for the internees from Tule Lake Center before departing for Japan and also for several different classification of personnel. See notes on the site plan. This camp was operated by the Justice Department and held several different classification of Japanese American personnel. The records are not clear as to the site layouts, the distribution of population, and disposition of these personnel. Several groups have laid claim to being at the camp and then returning to the west coast and others have been sent to Japan. This center was the last to close relating to the Japanese American internment. The last occupants were the Japanese Peruvians who were not deported to Japan but stayed until closure which was on October 30, 1946.

After closure the center was disposed to Crystal City for use as a low income housing and to shelter the migratory farm workers. There was a riot over the poor housing conditions by the Mexican Americans and Crystal City, the owner, demolished the housing project.

Since the center was operated under the Justice Department, both the UCLA and Bancroft libraries have scant records of the Japanese Americans in their files. The original records could be in the National Archives in Washington D. C.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE NISEI IN THE IMMEDIATE POST WAR YEARS

CONTINENTAL USA

Those that relocated to the midwest, or eastern seaboard states and inter-mountain states were accepted by the public without the discrimination of the West Coast and prospered in their jobs and housing. As the years went by it was around 1955 to 1963 when the parents suddenly realized that their children had come of age and was approaching the period in which their children should be meeting eligible mates. But in isolated areas of the midwest there were few to be met. Suddenly they almost in mass uprooted again and returned to the west coast, especially to southern California.

The return to the west coast had cost the nisei or issei another ten or fifteen years of their productive lives. If the progressive directors had left them in the centers until the end and let them return to the west coast they would have lost only four years. The Japanese were similar to other people, always seeking a hospitable environment for their children.

Even today, fifty years later, the long exodus is continuing as the nisei retire from their jobs in the midwest and the east coast. Many professionals are coming back to the west coast to retire and be buried in their old haunting grounds similar to a salmon swimming to their place of birth to gasp the last breath of air.

JAPANESE HAWAIIANS

There were two groups of Japanese people from the Hawaiian Island. Those who migrated to the west coast prior to December 1941 but were always referred as Hawaiians; these people evacuated with the other Japanese Americans to the relocation camps and then returned to their homes on the west coast. Many mainland nisei mistakenly thought that this group had evacuated from Hawaii.

Another group considered as 'high risk' from Hawaii were first detained on Sand Island (an Assembly Center), located in the Honolulu harbor and then sent to the mainland in early 1943. The personnel were generally people who lived and worked along the shores such as fisherman, longshoreman and waterfront labor leaders. There were 1,700 personnel who were sent to two WRA internment camps; Jerome, Arkansas and Poston, Arizona. After the war these personnel were sent to Los Angeles and awaited for transportation to their homes in Hawaii.

A significant number of Japanese Hawaiians after a taste of the west coast remained in California. These personnel settled in two areas; in northern California in San Jose - Sunnyvale area and in the southern California many settled in the Long Beach - Torrance - Gardena area.

JAPAN

After the cessation of the Pacific War; several distinctly different groups of Japanese Americans and nationals were delivered to Japan. Some were repatriates but for others it was their first encounter with Japan:

1.	Tule Lake Segregation Camp	3,608
2.	Japanese Peruvians from Crystal City, Texas	1,700
3	Other detention centers	300
	Total sent to Japan	5,608

PARTIAL SAILING LIST TO JAPAN

DATES	NUMBERS
June 4, 1942	4
September 2, 1943	314
November 25, 1945	423
December 29, 1945	3,551
February 23, 1946	423

The Japanese from North , Central and South America including issei, nisei and kibe were transported through the port of New Orleans starting in September 1945 and at regular monthly intervals into 1946. They left New Orleans and took over a month traveling through the Panama Canal and arriving in Yokohama and Kobe , Japan. They departed by trains arranged by the occupation army to their destinations which were located near their family prefectures.

During the winter of 1945 - 46, the living and supply of food were near starvation level. It was especially hard for the younger nisei who needed to attend the Japanese schools as many did not know the rudimentary of the language. Many were treated by their relatives as outcasts and were branded by the classmates as neither a fish nor a fowl.

As the Korean War started in 1950 and American forces still occupied Japan, many expatriate Japanese Americans because of their skill in English language worked for the US Armed Forces facilities throughout Japan. Ironically, these personnel were treated as indigenous (native) and some worked under the nisei of the occupation forces.

During 1948-1953, the Justice Department began to authorize these citizen-less personnel to individually petition to regain their lost American citizenship. This was a tedious and costly process and without help from the mainland lawyers and relatives most gave up the effort and remained in Japan. Those that returned to the USA faced the dilemma of reeducation in the English language. As years had gone by and the difficult task of catching up were too formidable, they settled to be forgotten citizens..

Those that remained in Japan are clustered in several areas:

Tokyo - Yokohama, Hiroshima, Wakayama, Shimonseki,
Fukuoka, Kumamoto, Kagoshima and Okinawa

Their children and their successors are well educated. The exodus to Japan did not seem to hurt the future generations and the rapid economic gains made in the 1970s to 1990s made the Japanese descendants prosperous.

POSTSCRIPT

Question constantly asked: *Can internment happen again?* There is always a possibility; but hardly probable for several reasons:

1. The changes in population composition which has taken place since 1940. Today there are coalition of minority in California which comprises the majority of 55%. In central urban areas the minorities are 65%. For a politician to win any race he needs the support of the minority voters.

2. The rapid urbanization of the west coast; in 1940 the west coast was rural and by 1990 these states are highly urbanized. It is much easier for a racist to operate in rural environment than in multi-cultural urban settings. In urban areas there are many civil rights organizations with strong leaders.
3. The education of the people have improved since 1940s. Today most people in urban area has some college education and in metropolitan area some 60-70% are attending colleges. Back in 1940, even a high school education was considered adequate. It is much easier for politicians and certain types of news media to propagandize the uneducated than the college graduates.
4. Most importantly, the Japanese Americans now have produced their own lawyers. In 1940s and 50s, they were dependent on the Caucasian lawyers to look after their interest, but records indicate that the lawyers did not adequately nor intelligently pursue our interest. In each of the four famous test cases involving the nisei, the Caucasian lawyers put up a weak defense because they were either inept or coddling with the government or both. If the Japanese Americans only had their own lawyers then, they could have deterred the unconstitutional activities of the US Government.

In the last ten years, the newest generation have graduated from top law schools, such as Harvard, Stanford, Boalt, Yale, UCLA and Tulane and many have graduated in the top ten percent. These graduates are articulate, aggressive and brilliant when compared to the nisei of 50 years ago. Without any doubt they could hold their own against any oppositions.

Epilogue

During the camp era a Caucasian staff member from Heart Mountain Center took a vacation at Denver, Colorado and reported the following about how the four nisei reported their situations:

The first nisei was a permanent resident of Colorado who had been here long before the outbreak of the war and did not have to relocate; but he was extremely curious about the centers conditions. Having not gone through the whole evacuation process, he simply can not grasp the complexity of a center life but apparently he considered that his present lot is lots better then that of the evacuees in the center. He was concerned about the fellow nisei who were interned, how they were treated and worried about their future.

The second nisei was considered lucky as he voluntarily evacuated out of military zone one to Denver before the trap was closed. When he settled in Denver the housing market was extremely tight and he did not obtain adequate housing nor did he obtain a well paying job. When he heard about those that were interned and the free meals and housing; he was extremely envious since his position in life was no better than those that were interned. Fifty years later he went berserk when he found out that those interned were to receive a reparation check for \$20,000, while he received a goose egg.

The third nisei had relocated to Denver from the Heart Mountain Center and found the opportunities which Denver provided even better than he imagined even though he had to start from the bottom of the ladder. He patronized the movie houses and small eating places and sent letters back to the camps telling his friends to relocate as soon as possible. He later climbed to the top of his profession and was noted as a famous nisei.

The fourth nisei still resided in the Concentration Camp and received the letters from the other nisei and pondered about the outside world. Being an artist with lot of free time to hone his skill he procrastinated

about leaving the Center but was afraid of the future. Eventually the time to leave the camp was forced upon him because of the closing deadline. He was put on a train with twenty five dollars and a ticket to the west coast; years later, being poverty stricken he rejoiced when he received the reparation check and immediately spent the money for the two daughters law school tuitions and quietly muttered to himself 'never again'.

.....Average people of Denver and elsewhere.....either the people did not know of the evacuation or if they did; they have forgotten it long time ago. Out of courtesy the adult would listen to the story but that's about all. The moral is that we are too conscious of the *injustice of the evacuation*. To us evacuation loomed and still loom to many of us, the biggest thing that ever happened, whereas in cold reality it is nothing but a small incident in a rapidly changing world. Sooner we overcome this evacuation consciousness, it is better all of us must outlive this terrible nightmare.

So onto each nisei's life some rain fellHopefully it shall not happen again.

In ten to fifteen years only these maps will survive; --- the *issei* are nearly gone and the *nisei* era is rapidly coming to a close, and the entire dual generation movement can be summed up by the Japanese nautical term '*maru*' meaning what goes around, comes around seems to have happened in the intervening years.

REFERENCE NOTE

The entire text and maps are derived from notes obtained from the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, California. For personal assessment of the relocation movement, review the original source documents. The library is open to the public; hours M-F 9-5, Sat 1-5. Please check the schedule during holidays and summer sessions. The main document catalog is obtained at the check-out desk; ask for the Japanese American Internment Files. This is a black manila folder which lists all the documents. The main files are under 67/14C -(X-0.00). If you are planning extensive research bring a laptop computer as all the materials must be read in the library and photostat and xerox copies are expensive to order. In order to review all the main files, allow one week, two weeks if you can allow the time. The original data and dairies are fascinating to read, especially the trials of Min Yasui, the closing of the camps, the reasoning of General DeWitt and John McCloy and the letters supporting the internment.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

A monetary sum and words alone cannot restore lost years or erase painful memories; neither can they fully convey our Nation's resolve to rectify injustice and to uphold the rights of individuals. We can never fully right the wrongs of the past. But we can take a clear stand for justice and recognize that serious injustices were done to Japanese Americans during World War II.

In enacting a law calling for restitution and offering a sincere apology, your fellow Americans have, in a very real sense, renewed their traditional commitment to the ideals of freedom, equality, and justice. You and your family have our best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Bush".

GEORGE BUSH
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 1990

ABOUT THE AUTHOR : TAKASUMI KOJIMA

The author of the relocation camp maps and diagrams is an architect and a city and regional planner, a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. He conducted majority of his research through the Bancroft Library. The library is the depository of the duplicate records of the WRA and is open to the public. When he was reviewing the records, the exact locations and specific sites were hard to define from the existing records. Because of his professional training, he was able to transfer the written property description and located the exact locations on to the United States Geographical Survey (USGS) maps. The site diagrams are replications from the WRA engineers final reports.

When relocation movement began in March of 1942, the author spent the initial period at the Arboga center, known currently as Marysville Assembly Center. This was one of the migratory farm labor camp where Japanese from rural northern California were to spend from one to six month waiting for Camp Tule Lake to open. From September 1942 to October 1943 he resided at Tule Lake, until subjected to the loyalty questionnaire. The block where he resided was led by a nisei block manager who decided that they all should move on to other camps. The personnel of this block went to camps Minidoka, Topaz, and Amache.

The author left Tule Lake in October 1943 for Camp Minidoka, Idaho and spent the remaining two years uneventfully. On October 16, 1945 he was one of the last resident to leave the camp as the family did not have a home to return to. He stayed in a hostel until the spring of 1946 and then spent the remaining youth on a farm in northern California.

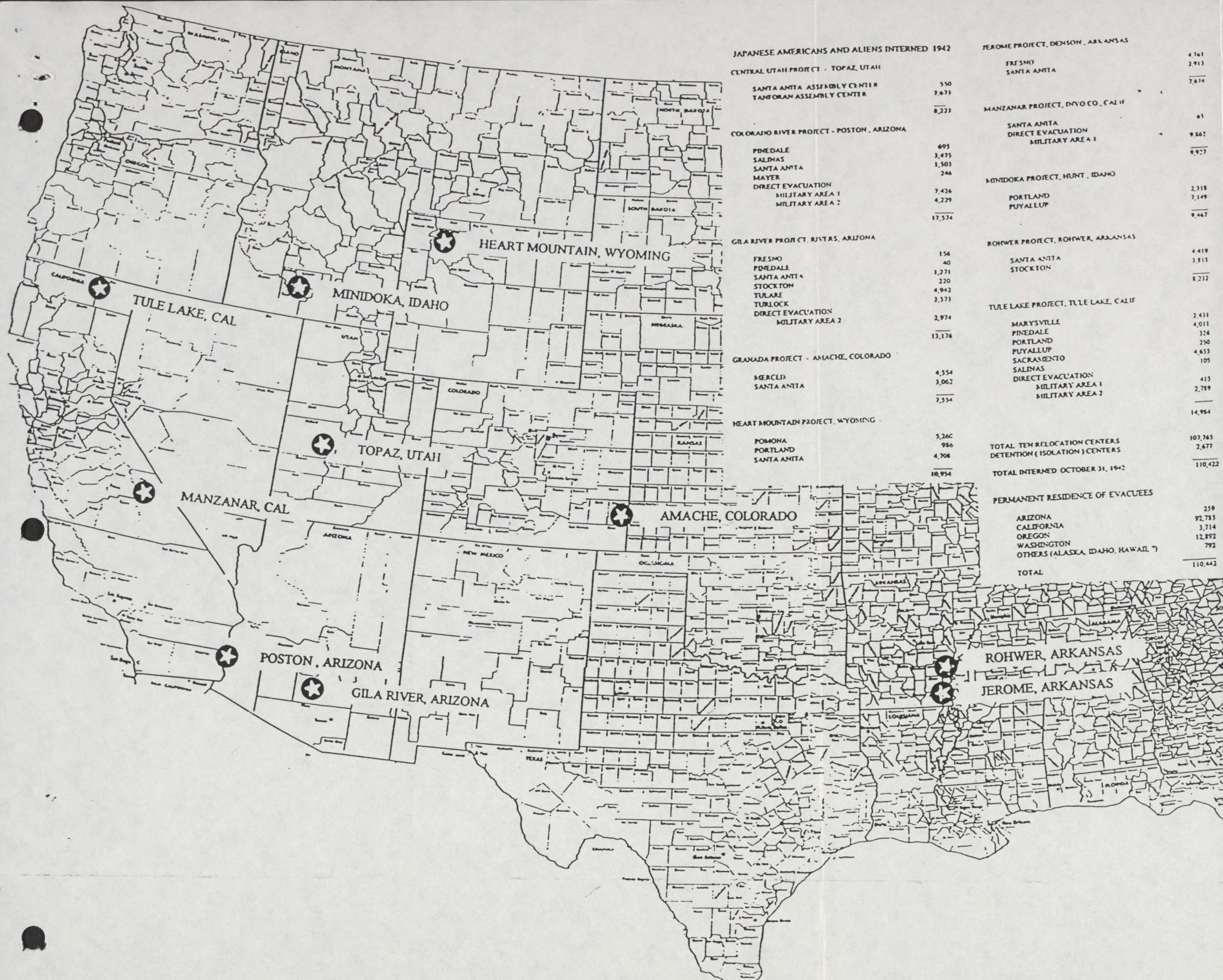
After college and a tour in the army, the author worked in Japan on two different occasions. In 1963-1964 he worked as an architect in Yokohama. During this period Japan was still beginning the slow recovery. Because of the relocation years and time spent at Tule Lake, the author was interested in what had happened to the expatriate Japanese American and contacted the nisei who were working in Japan many were civilians at the American consulates or still with the Armed Forces Japan. It was during this period that he became acquainted with the terrible life that the expatriates bore during the post war years.

In 1968 - 1970 he returned to Japan and spent some time traveling throughout the country and was amazed with the economic progress of the country. Japan had made the transition to a modern economy..

In the period 1991 - 1993, both daughters of the author spend time working in Japan, one in Tokyo as an English teacher and the other in Osaka as a legal intern for a Japanese law office. By 1992 Japan was observed as a economic super power and the entire society had benefited by the rise of the living standard compared to the 1963 era. It is suffice to say that Japanese descendants of the camp years are doing as well or better than the yonsei of America as observed by my (poorer) daughters and the author.

On October 11, 1992 the author received a reparation and an apology letter from the US Government for the time spent in the camps.

The Kojima Maru had docked.



JAPANESE AMERICANS AND ALIENS INTERNED 1942

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT - TOPAZ, UTAH

SANTA ANITA ASSEMBLY CENTER	350
TAMMORAH ASSEMBLY CENTER	2,673
	3,023

COLORADO RIVER PROJECT - POSTON, ARIZONA

PINEDALE	695
SALINAS	3,475
SANTA ANITA	1,503
MAYER	246
DIRECT EVACUATION	7,426
MILITARY AREA 1	4,229
MILITARY AREA 2	17,574

GILA RIVER PROJECT, RIVERS, ARIZONA

FRESNO	156
PINEDALE	40
SANTA ANITA	1,271
STOCKTON	220
TULARE	4,942
TURLOCK	3,573
DIRECT EVACUATION	2,974
MILITARY AREA 2	13,176

GRANADA PROJECT - AMACHE, COLORADO

MERCED	4,554
SANTA ANITA	3,062
	7,554

HEART MOUNTAIN PROJECT, WYOMING

POMONA	5,260
PORTLAND	956
SANTA ANITA	4,708
	10,954

PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF EVACUEES

ARIZONA	259
CALIFORNIA	92,735
OREGON	3,714
WASHINGTON	12,872
OTHERS (ALASKA, IDAHO, HAWAII, ?)	792
TOTAL	110,442

MANZANAR PROJECT, INYO CO., CALIF

SANTA ANITA	65
DIRECT EVACUATION	9,662
MILITARY AREA 1	9,927

MINIDOKA PROJECT, HUNT, IDAHO

PORTLAND	2,318
PUYALLUP	7,149
	9,467

ROHWER PROJECT, ROHWER, ARKANSAS

SANTA ANITA	4,419
STOCKTON	3,813
	8,232

TULE LAKE PROJECT, TULE LAKE, CALIF

MARYSVILLE	2,431
PINEDALE	4,011
PORTLAND	324
PUYALLUP	250
SACRAMENTO	4,655
SALINAS	105
DIRECT EVACUATION	415
MILITARY AREA 1	2,789
MILITARY AREA 2	14,984

TOTAL TEN RELOCATION CENTERS

DETENTION (ISOLATION) CENTERS	107,745
	2,677
TOTAL	110,422

TOTAL INTERNED OCTOBER 31, 1942

PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF EVACUEES	259
ARIZONA	92,735
CALIFORNIA	3,714
OREGON	12,872
WASHINGTON	792
OTHERS (ALASKA, IDAHO, HAWAII, ?)	110,442

TOTAL

ARIZONA	259
CALIFORNIA	92,735
OREGON	3,714
WASHINGTON	12,872
OTHERS (ALASKA, IDAHO, HAWAII, ?)	792
TOTAL	110,442

ROHWER, ARKANSAS

JEROME, ARKANSAS	110,442
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JEROME, ARKANSAS

ROHWER, ARKANSAS	110,442
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NOTE

1. COLORADO RIVER (POSTON), GILA RIVER, MANZANAR AND TULE LAKE RELOCATION CENTERS SERVED AS ASSEMBLY CENTERS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE EVACUATION AND LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE EVACUEES WERE SENT DIRECTLY TO THESE FOUR PROJECTS

2. COLORADO RIVER PROJECT HAD THREE CAMPS, LOCATED 3 MILES APART

POSTON 1	9,483
POSTON 2	5,952
POSTON 3	2,987

3. GILA RIVER PROJECT HAD TWO CAMPS, LOCATED 4 MILES APART

CANAL CAMP	9,010
BUTTE CAMP	4,166

4. THE DETENTION CENTERS HELD PERSONNEL PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL AGENCIES (FBI, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, AND IMMIGRATION). THESE PERSONNEL WERE PICKED UP DECEMBER 8, 1941 - DECEMBER 31, 1941 AND HELD FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR. THE DETENTION CENTERS WERE LOCATED AT FORT LEWIS, ARIZONA, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, CRYSTAL CITY, TEXAS, AND BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

5. RESEARCHER'S COMMENTS --- THESE ARE THE MOST ACCURATE NUMBERS ON THE RECORD. HOWEVER THE PEAK POPULATION AT EACH CAMP VARIES AND THE TOTAL IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER (113,163). THE VARIATION OCCURS BECAUSE SOME PERSONNEL MOVED FROM MILITARY AREA 1 TO MILITARY AREA 2 AND LATER WERE REQUIRED TO MOVE TO THE RELOCATION CAMPS AFTER OCTOBER 1942. ALSO MANY MIGRATORY FARM AND RAILROAD LABORERS WERE WORKING OUTSIDE OF THE EXCLUSION AREA AND LATER CHOSE TO JOIN THEIR FAMILY AT THE RELOCATION CAMPS. JAPANESE HAWAIIANS (443) WERE SENT TO CAMP JEROME IN JANUARY, 1943. THE PEAK POPULATION OCCURRED BETWEEN OCTOBER 31, 1942 - NOVEMBER 30, 1942. THEREAFTER THE RELOCATION POPULATION SLOWLY DECLINED AT EACH CAMP FROM NOVEMBER 1942 TO JUNE 1943 THEN DROPPED SHARPLY. THE REASON FOR THE DECLINE INCLUDED PERSONNEL WERE ALLOWED TO LEAVE FOR THE MIDWEST AND THE EASTERN SEABOARD. THE STUDENTS DEPARTED FOR THE COLLEGES, AND, THE JAPANESE SPEAKING PERSONNEL THAT VOLUNTEERED FOR THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (MOS - PACIFIC) AND THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHICH SERVED IN THE ARMED SERVICES.

JAPANESE AMERICAN FROM HAWAII	109
OFFICERS	10,598
ENLISTED	142

FROM ALL INTERNMENT CAMPS AND OTHER FROM THE MAINLAND

OFFICERS	11,643
ENLISTED	22,532
TOTAL SERVED	34,175

POPULATION OF JAPANESE IN UNITED STATES IN 1940

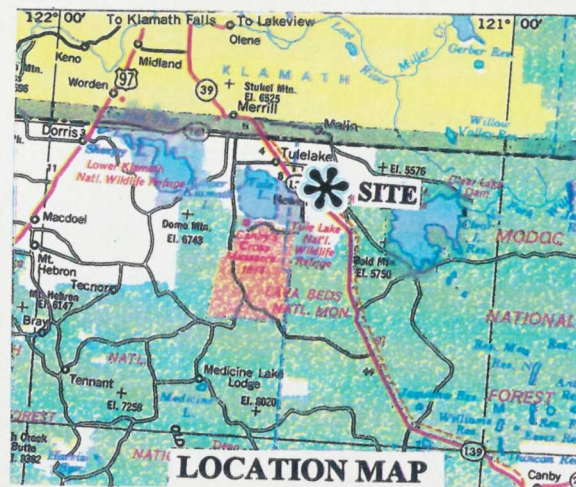
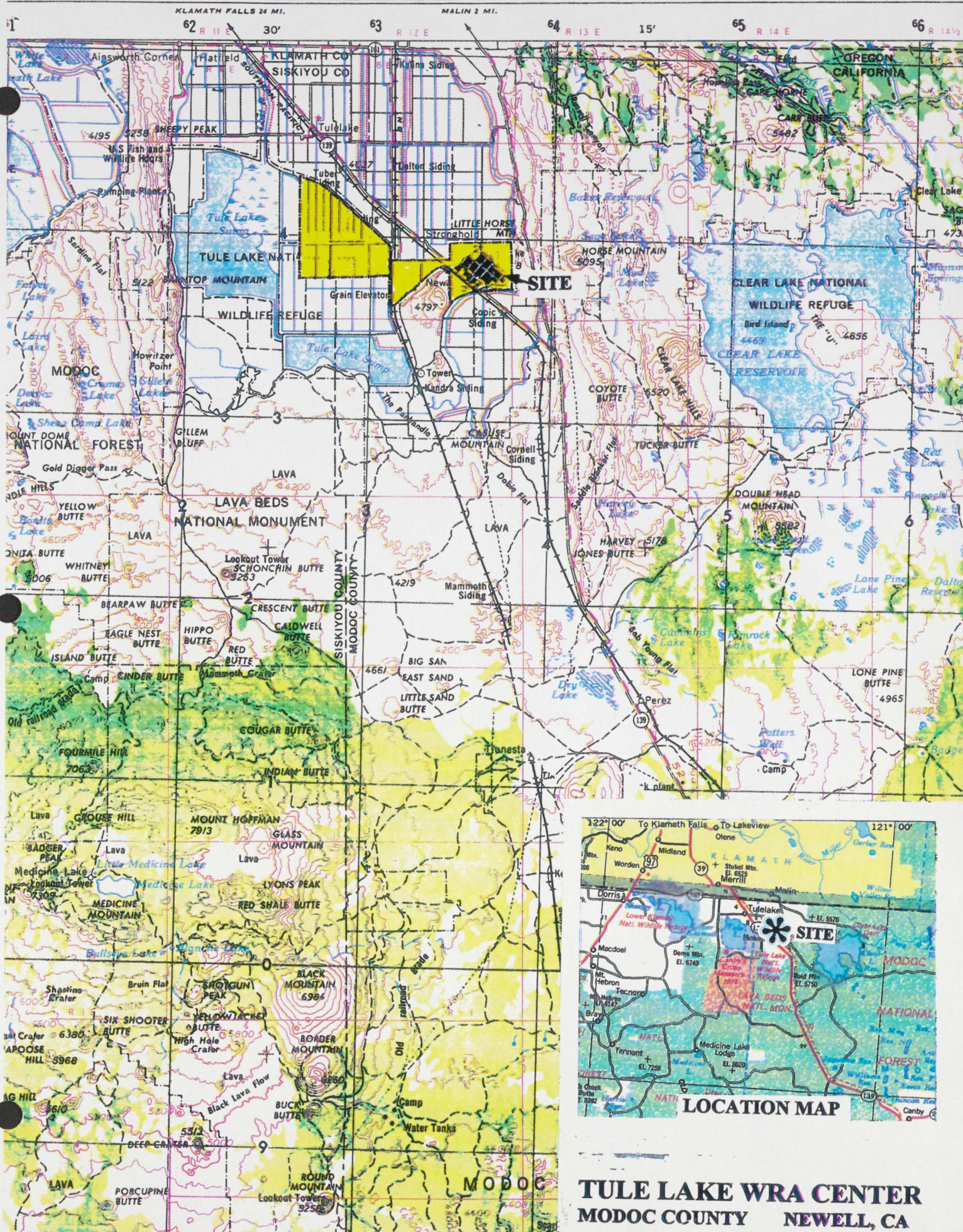
WASHINGTON	14,565	MARYLAND	36
OREGON	4,071	DELAWARE	22
CALIFORNIA	93,717	PENNSYLVANIA	224
IDAHO	1,191	NEW JERSEY	298
NEVADA	470	NEW YORK	2,538
UTAH	2,210	CONNECTICUT	164
ARIZONA	632	RHODE ISLAND	6
NEW MEXICO	186	MASSACHUSETTS	158
COLORADO	2,734	VERMONT	3
WYOMING	643	NEW HAMPSHIRE	4
MONTANA	508	MAINE	5
TENNESSEE	12	TEXAS	458
KENTUCKY	9	OKLAHOMA	51
ILLINOIS	46	KANSAS	17
WISCONSIN	27	NEBRASKA	480
MICHIGAN	139	SOUTH DAKOTA	19
INDIANA	29	NORTH DAKOTA	83
OHIO	167	MINNESOTA	51
WEST VIRGINIA	3	IOWA	29
NORTH CAROLINA	21	MISSOURI	74
SOUTH CAROLINA	33	ARKANSAS	3
GEORGIA	31	LOUISIANA	46
FLORIDA	154	MISSISSIPPI	1
D. C.	68	ALABAMA	21
		TOTAL	126,527

FOR PERSONAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW THE ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

1. BANCROFT LIBRARY AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY (ALL MATERIALS)

★ LOCATIONS OF WRA CENTERS
BANCROFT LIBRARY FILE 67/14C

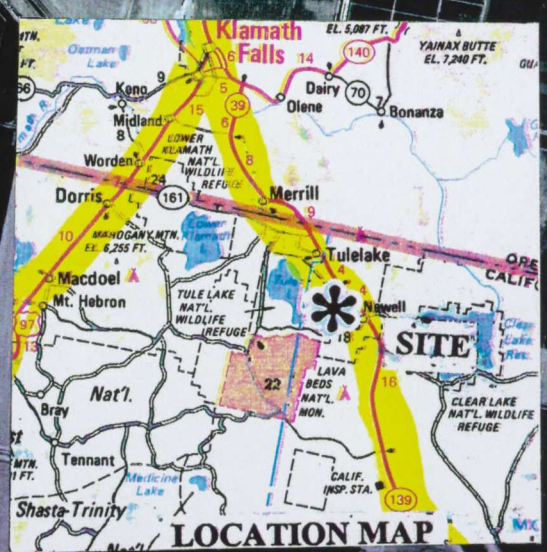




TULE LAKE WRA CENTER
MODOC COUNTY NEWELL, CA

PROJECT BOUNDARY

CAMP SITE

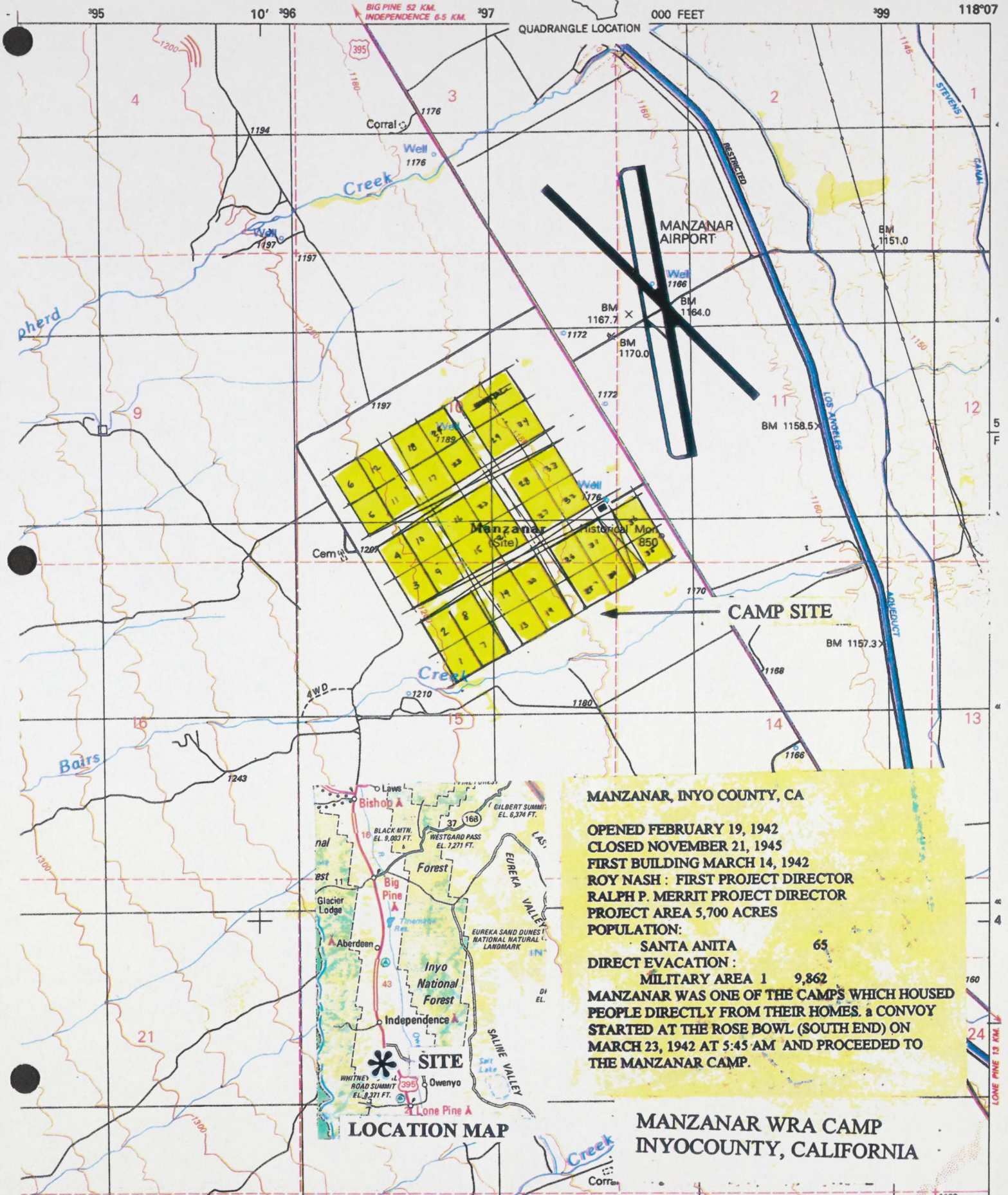


TULE LAKE WRA PROJECT
MODOC CO. NEWELL, CALIF.

CONTOURS AND ELEVATIONS
IN METERS

MANZANAR QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—INYO CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 LONE PINE 15' QUADRANGLE

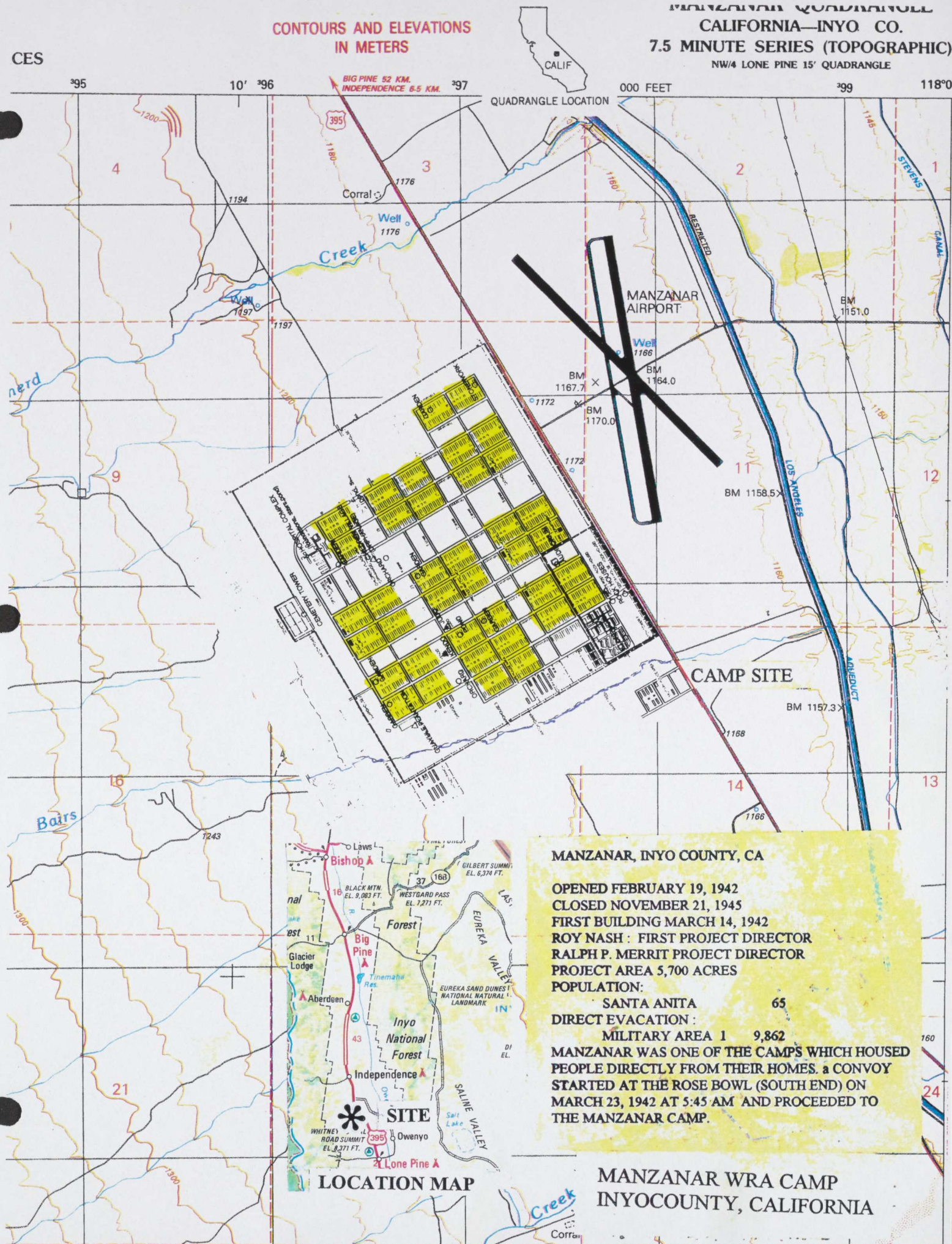
RCS



CONTOURS AND ELEVATIONS
IN METERS

MANZANAR QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—INYO CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 LONE PINE 15' QUADRANGLE

CES



MANZANAR, INYO COUNTY, CA

OPENED FEBRUARY 19, 1942
CLOSED NOVEMBER 21, 1945
FIRST BUILDING MARCH 14, 1942
ROY NASH: FIRST PROJECT DIRECTOR
RALPH P. MERRIT PROJECT DIRECTOR
PROJECT AREA 5,700 ACRES
POPULATION:

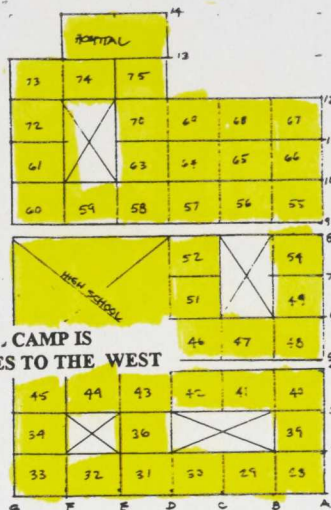
SANTA ANITA 65

DIRECT EVACUATION:

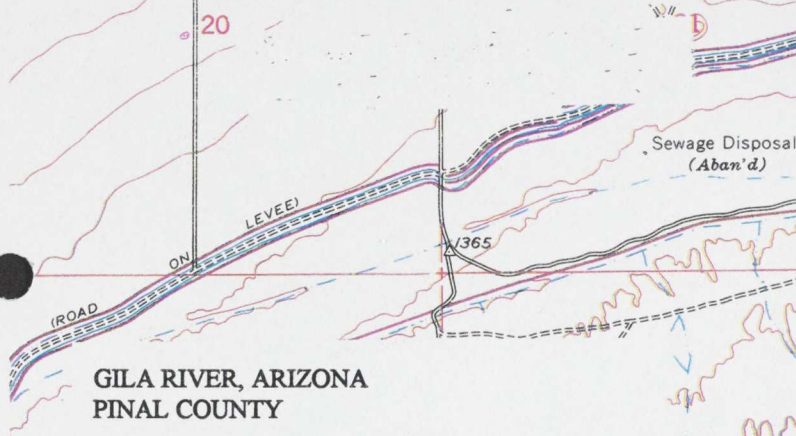
MILITARY AREA 1 9,862

MANZANAR WAS ONE OF THE CAMPS WHICH HOUSED PEOPLE DIRECTLY FROM THEIR HOMES. A CONVOY STARTED AT THE ROSE BOWL (SOUTH END) ON MARCH 23, 1942 AT 5:45 AM AND PROCEEDED TO THE MANZANAR CAMP.

MANZANAR WRA CAMP
INYO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



BUTTE CAMP LAYOUT



GILA RIVER, ARIZONA
PINAL COUNTY

OPENED JULY 20, 1942
CLOSED NOVEMBER 20, 1945
POPULATION 5,000

THERE ARE TWO CAMPS:

CANAL CAMP AND BUTTE CAMP
LOCATED 4 MILES APART IN
EAST - WEST DIRECTION
TOTAL 17,000 ACRES AND 1,000 ACRES
COMPRISES 2 CAMPS.

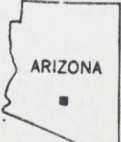
GILA RIVER PROJECT POPULATION		13,176
FRESNO		156
PINEDALE		40
SANTA ANITA		1,271
STOCKTON		220
TULARE		4,942
TURLOCK		3,573
DIRECT EVACUATION :		
MILITARY AREA	2	2,974



CANAL CAMP LAYOUT



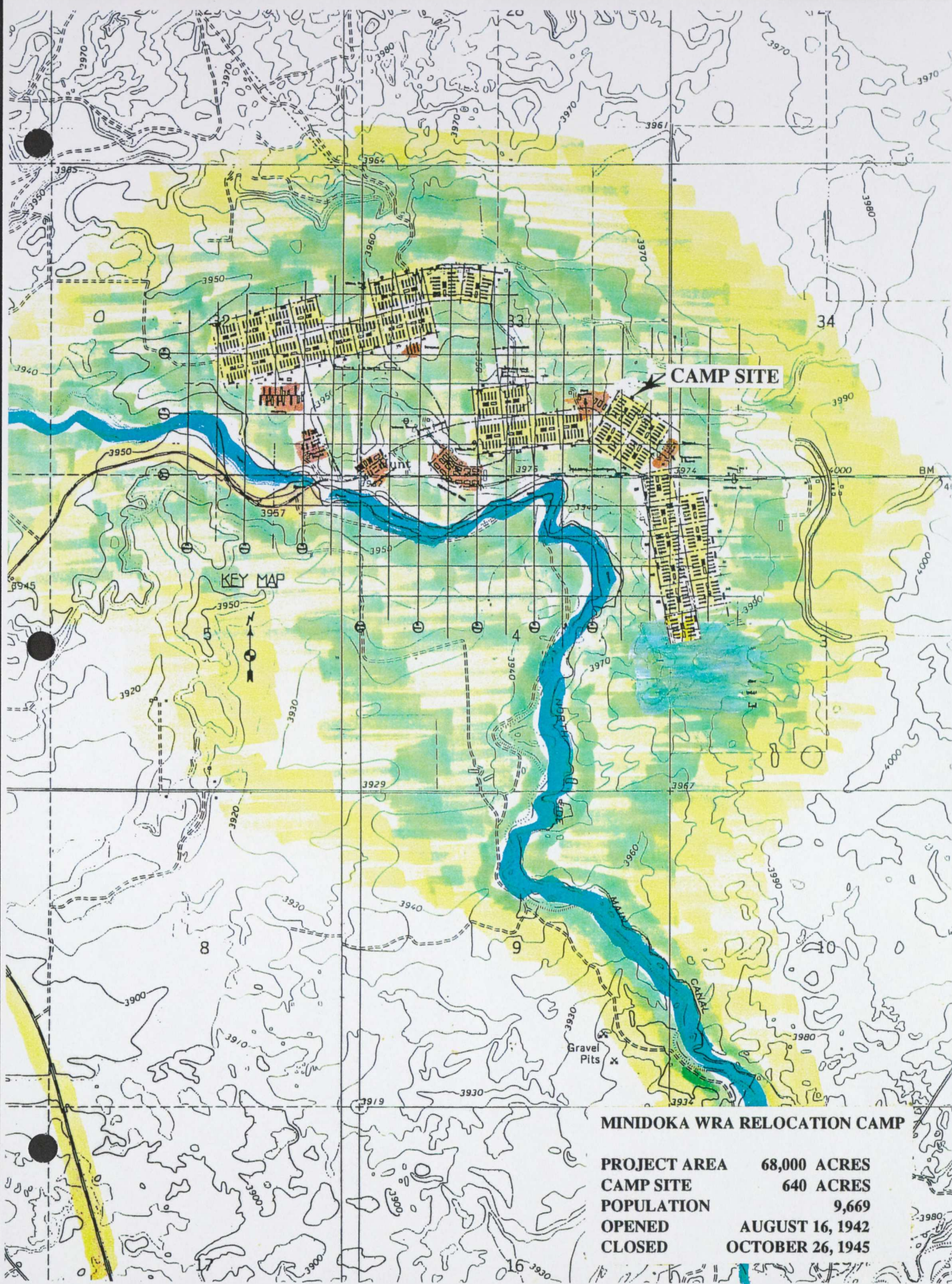
LOCATION MAP



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

GILA RIVER WRA CAMP
PINAL COUNTY ARIZONA

GILA BUTTE SE, ARIZ.
SE/4 GILA BUTTE 15' QUADRANGLE

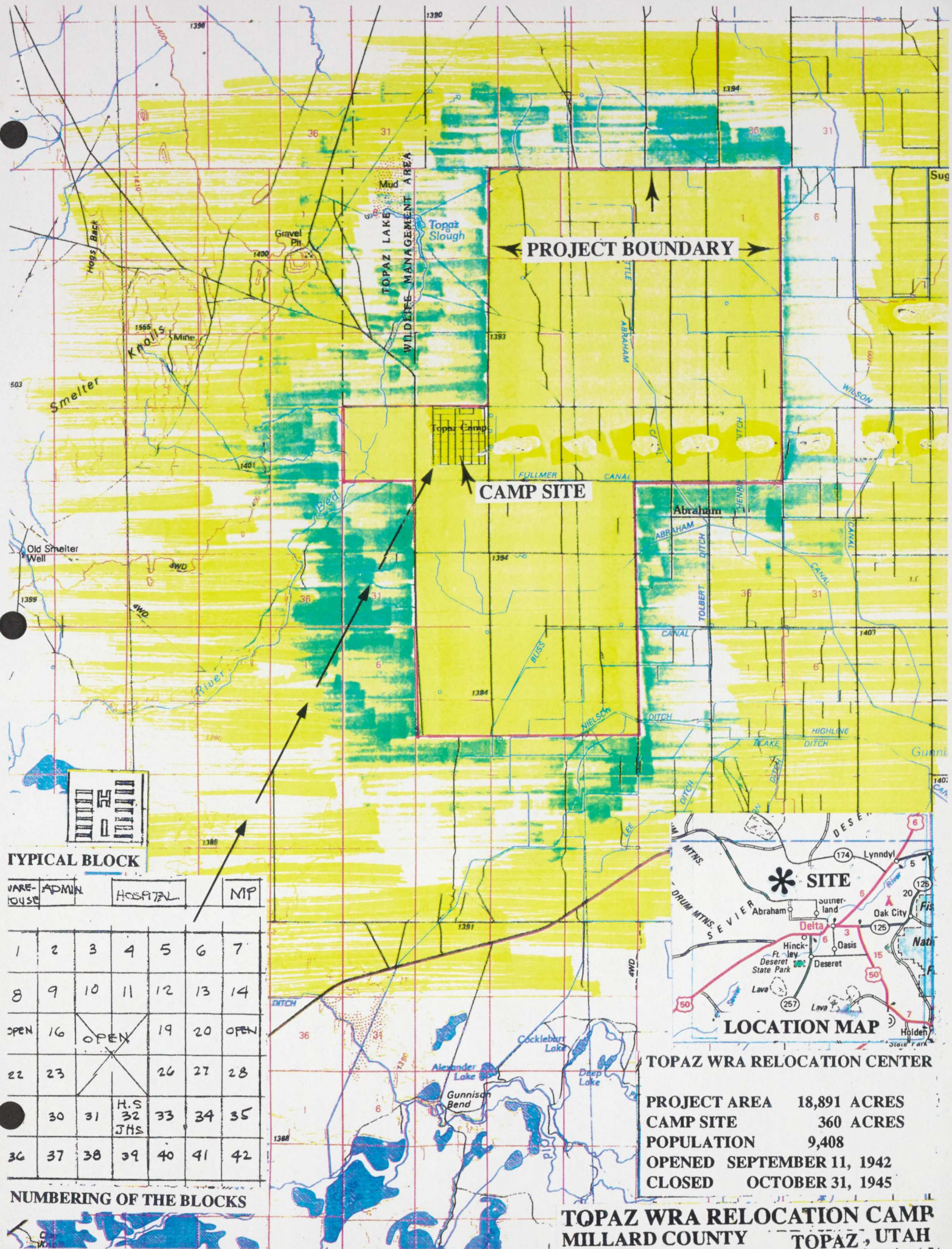


CAMP SITE

KEY MAP

MINIDOKA WRA RELOCATION CAMP

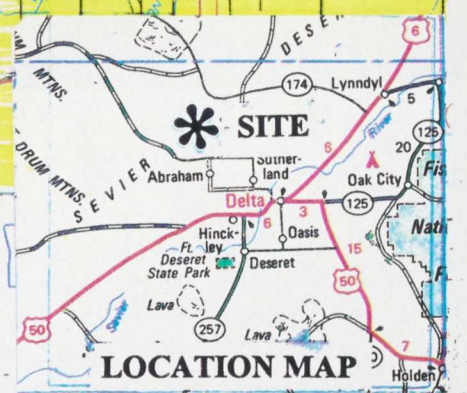
PROJECT AREA	68,000 ACRES
CAMP SITE	640 ACRES
POPULATION	9,669
OPENED	AUGUST 16, 1942
CLOSED	OCTOBER 26, 1945



TYPICAL BLOCK

WAREHOUSE	ADMIN	HOSPITAL	MP
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44

NUMBERING OF THE BLOCKS

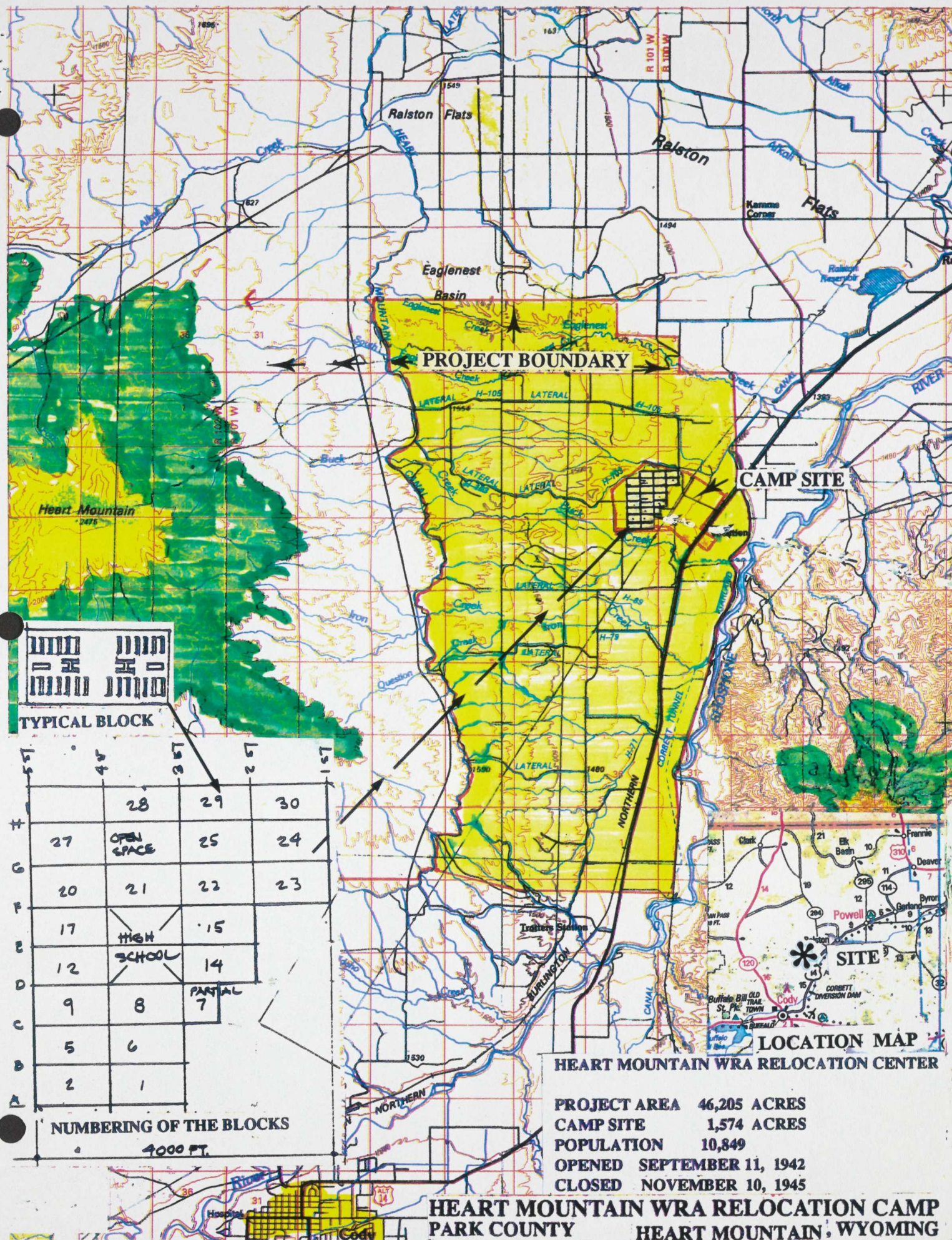


LOCATION MAP

TOPAZ WRA RELOCATION CENTER

PROJECT AREA	18,891 ACRES
CAMP SITE	360 ACRES
POPULATION	9,408
OPENED	SEPTEMBER 11, 1942
CLOSED	OCTOBER 31, 1945

TOPAZ WRA RELOCATION CAMP
MILLARD COUNTY TOPAZ, UTAH

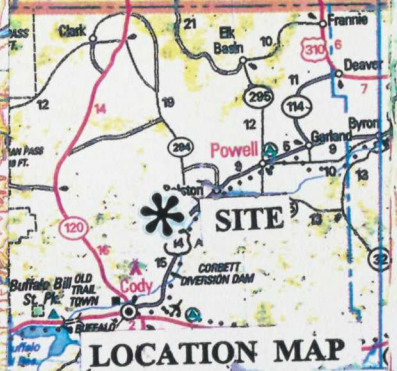


TYPICAL BLOCK

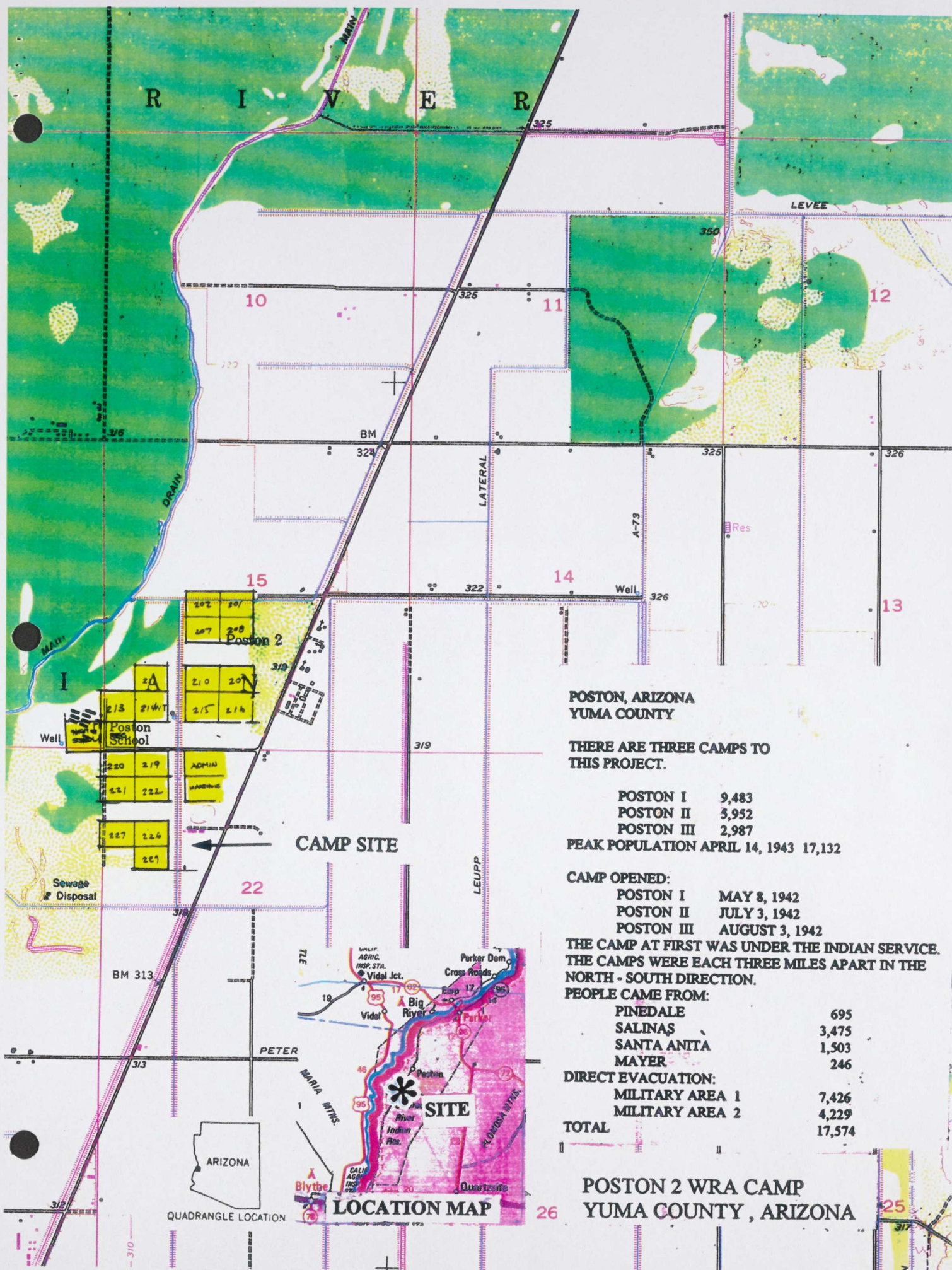
	5	4	3	2	1
H		28	29	30	
G	27	OPEN SPACE	25	24	
F	20	21	22	23	
E	17	HIGH SCHOOL	15		
D	12		14		
C	9	8	PARTIAL 7		
B	5	6			
A	2	1			

NUMBERING OF THE BLOCKS

4000 FT.



HEART MOUNTAIN WRA RELOCATION CENTER



POSTON, ARIZONA YUMA COUNTY

THERE ARE THREE CAMPS TO
THIS PROJECT.

POSTON I	9,483
POSTON II	5,952
POSTON III	2,987
PEAK POPULATION APRIL 14, 1943	17,132

CAMP OPENED:

POSTON I	MAY 8, 1942
POSTON II	JULY 3, 1942
POSTON III	AUGUST 3, 1942

THE CAMP AT FIRST WAS UNDER THE INDIAN SERVICE.
THE CAMPS WERE EACH THREE MILES APART IN THE
NORTH - SOUTH DIRECTION.

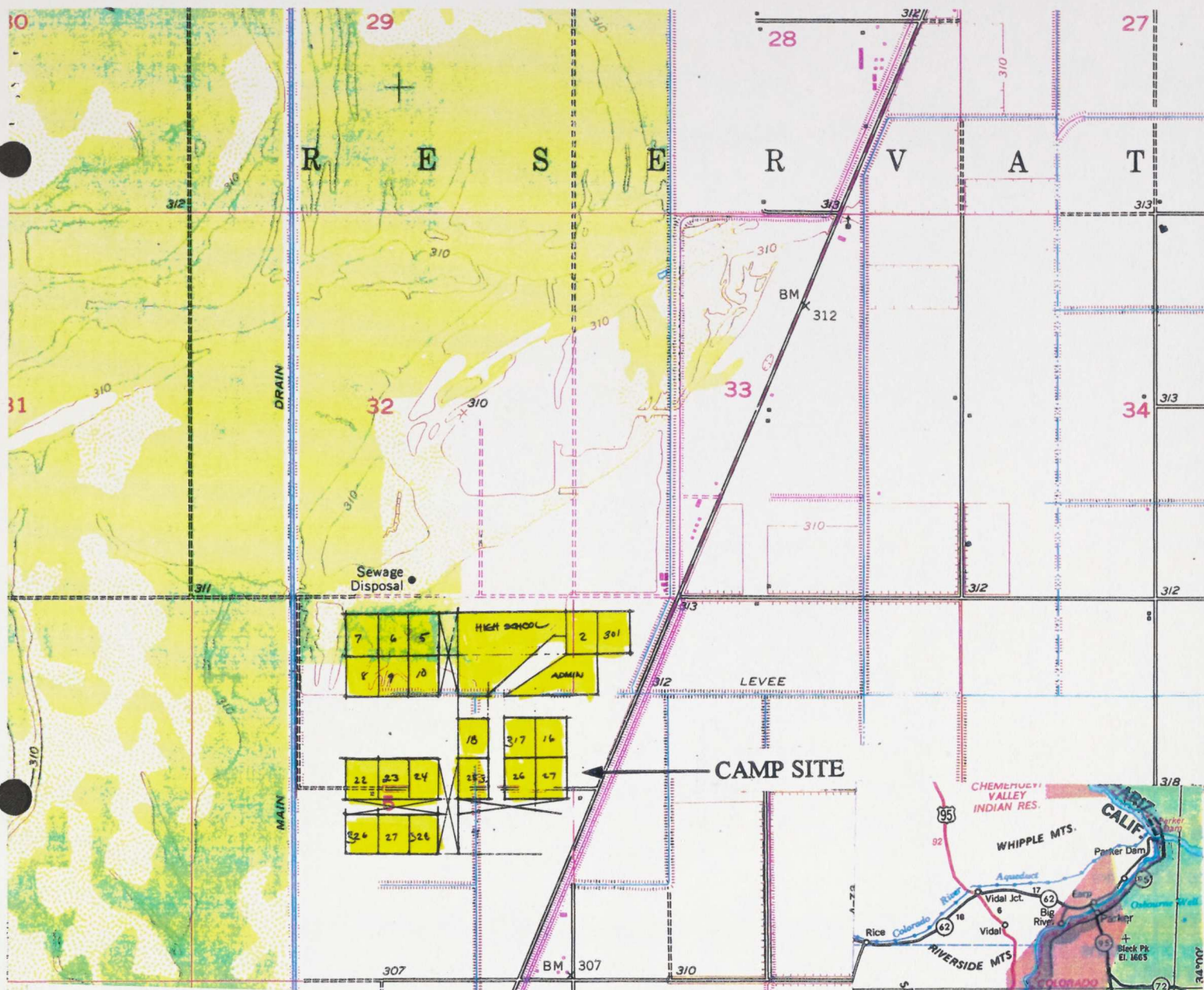
PEOPLE CAME FROM:

PINEDALE	695
SALINAS	3,475
SANTA ANITA	1,503
MAYER	246

DIRECT EVACUATION:

MILITARY AREA 1	7,426
MILITARY AREA 2	4,229
TOTAL	17,574

POSTON 2 WRA CAMP YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA



POSTON, ARIZONA YUMA COUNTY

THERE ARE THREE CAMPS TO
THIS PROJECT.

POSTON I	9,483
POSTON II	5,952
POSTON III	2,987

PEAK POPULATION APRIL 14, 1943 17,132

CAMP OPENED:

POSTON I	MAY 8, 1942
POSTON II	JULY 3, 1942
POSTON III	AUGUST 3, 1942

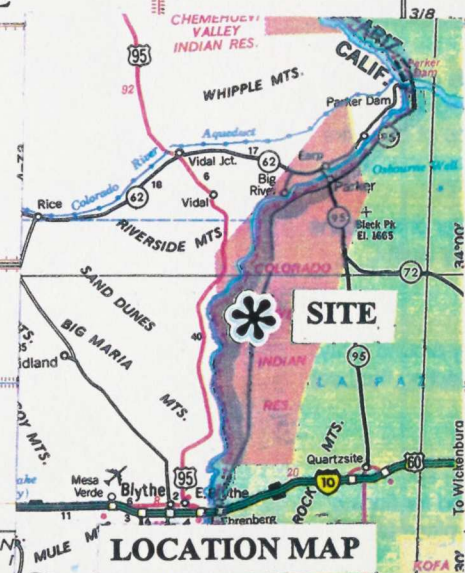
THE CAMP AT FIRST WAS UNDER THE INDIAN SERVICE.
THE CAMPS WERE EACH THREE MILES APART IN THE
NORTH - SOUTH DIRECTION.

PEOPLE CAME FROM:

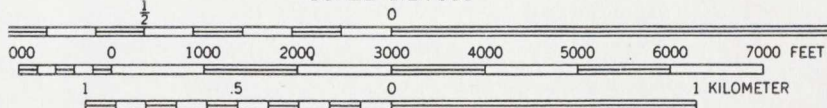
PINEDALE	695
SALINAS	3,475
SANTA ANITA	1,503
MAYER	246

DIRECT EVACUATION:

MILITARY AREA 1	7,426
MILITARY AREA 2	4,229
TOTAL	17,574



SCALE 1:24 000

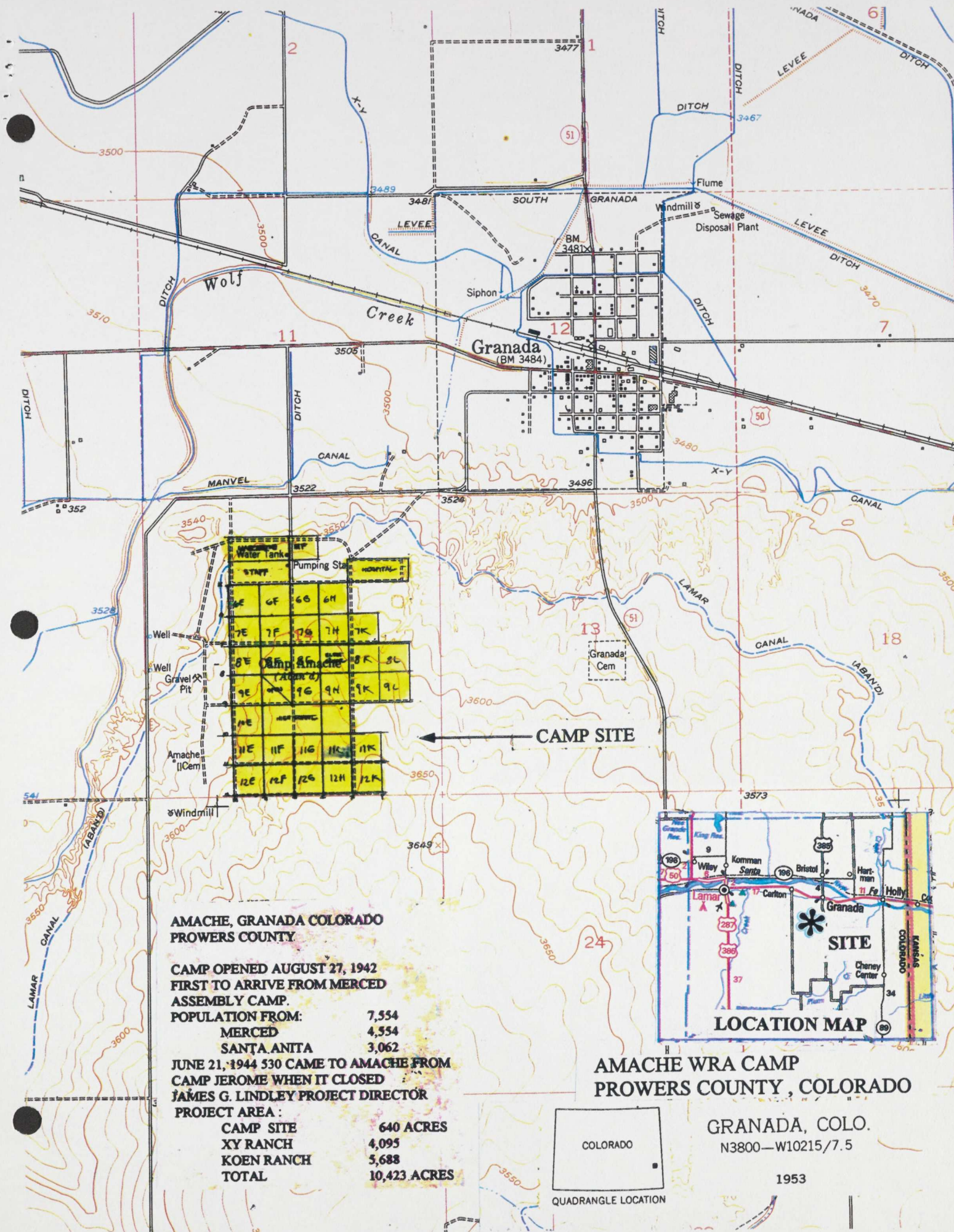


CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

POSTON 3 WRA CAMP
YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA



AMACHE, GRANADA COLORADO PROWERS COUNTY

CAMP OPENED AUGUST 27, 1942
FIRST TO ARRIVE FROM MERCED
ASSEMBLY CAMP.

POPULATION FROM: 7,554
MERCED 4,554
SANTA ANITA 3,062

JUNE 21, 1944 530 CAME TO AMACHE FROM
CAMP JEROME WHEN IT CLOSED
JAMES G. LINDLEY PROJECT DIRECTOR

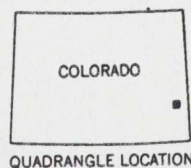
PROJECT AREA:
CAMP SITE 640 ACRES
XY RANCH 4,095
KOEN RANCH 5,688
TOTAL 10,423 ACRES



AMACHE WRA CAMP PROWERS COUNTY, COLORADO

GRANADA, COLO.
N3800—W10215/7.5

1953



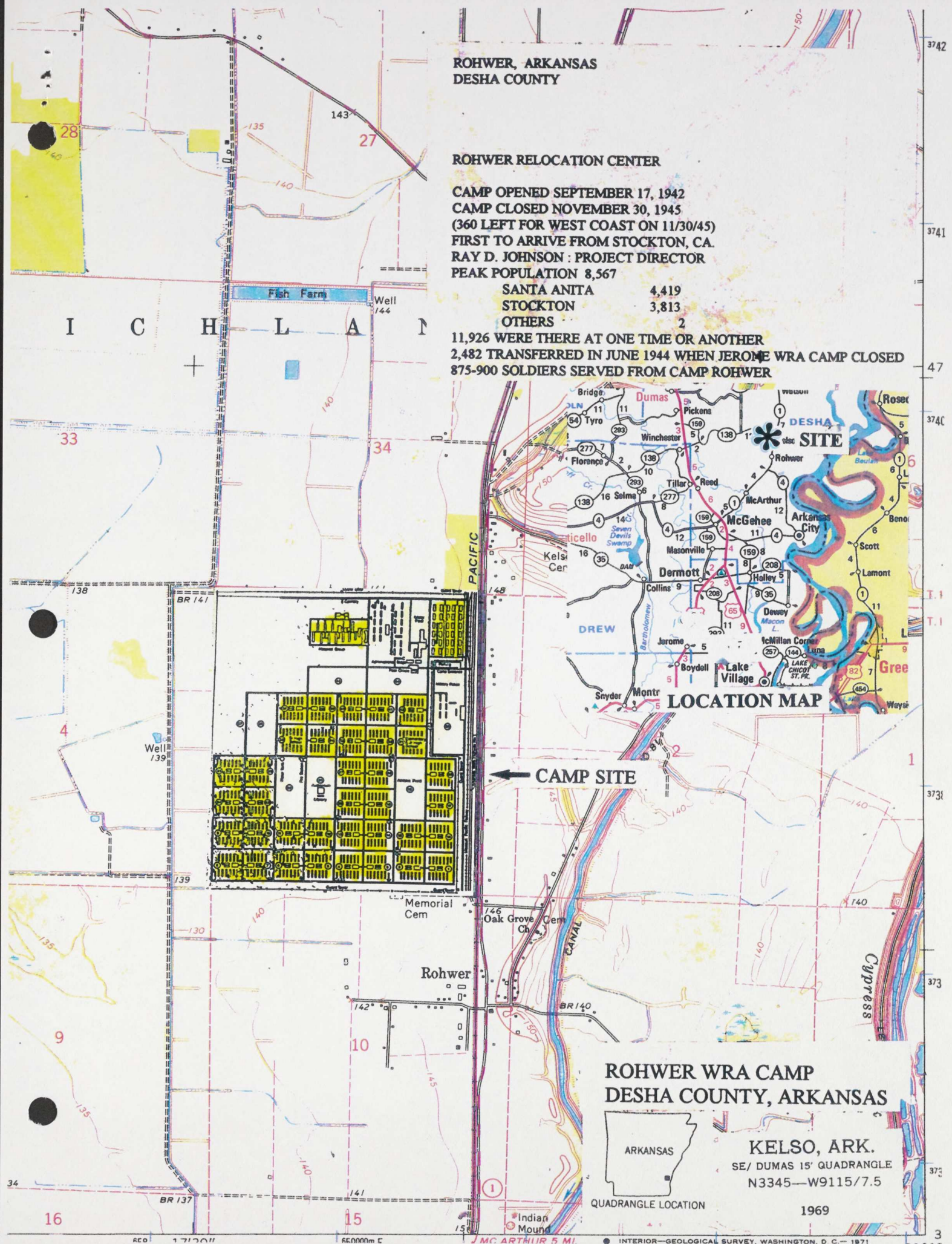
ROHWER, ARKANSAS DESHA COUNTY

ROHWER RELOCATION CENTER

CAMP OPENED SEPTEMBER 17, 1942
CAMP CLOSED NOVEMBER 30, 1945
(360 LEFT FOR WEST COAST ON 11/30/45)
FIRST TO ARRIVE FROM STOCKTON, CA.
RAY D. JOHNSON : PROJECT DIRECTOR
PEAK POPULATION 8,567

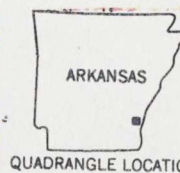
SANTA ANITA	4,419
STOCKTON	3,813
OTHERS	2

11,926 WERE THERE AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER
2,482 TRANSFERRED IN JUNE 1944 WHEN JEROME WRA CAMP CLOSED
875-900 SOLDIERS SERVED FROM CAMP ROHWER



CAMP SITE

ROHWER WRA CAMP DESHA COUNTY, ARKANSAS



KELSO, ARK.

SE/ DUMAS 15' QUADRANGLE
N3345—W9115/7.5

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1969