

ASIAN IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA

THEN

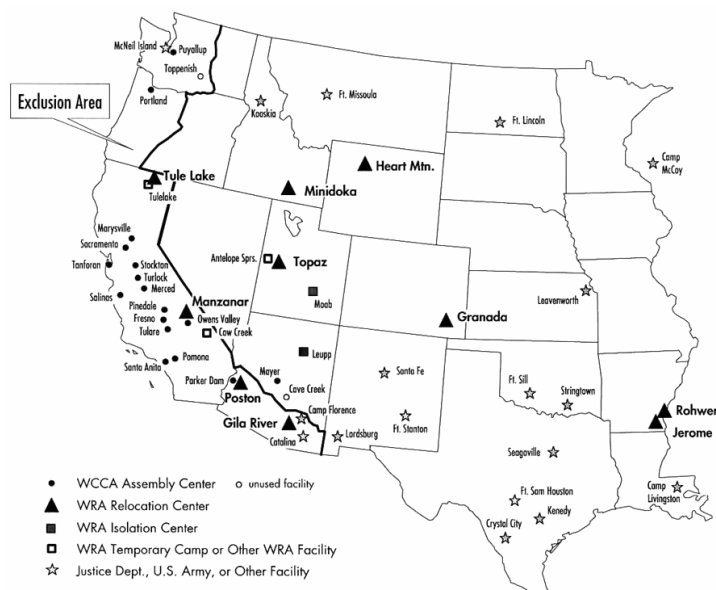
- The first Filipinos arrived in Morro Bay, California in 1587. Filipino seamen escaped from Spanish galleons and eventually settled along the Louisiana coast in the 1700s.
- Indians were transported to America in the late 1700s as indentured servants and slaves.
- Over 200,000 Chinese laborers were recruited to build railroads and work in personal service jobs. Tens of thousands of other Chinese came to California in search of gold.
- American and European sugar plantation owners in Hawaii recruited laborers from China, Japan, Korea, and the Philippines. Over time many emigrated to the West Coast of the U.S.
- Discriminatory immigration laws nearly prohibited all Asian immigration from 1924 until 1965. Asian Americans were only able to become naturalized citizens after 1952.
- Post-1965, immigrants and refugees have come to the U.S. from across the continent of Asia

NOW

- Asians are currently the fastest growing racial group in the U.S.
- Asian immigrants come from dozens of countries across the Asian continent with diverse histories, cultures, languages, religions, etc. and through various immigration pathways
- The six largest Asian American groups today are Chinese (23.2% of Asian Americans), Filipino (19.7%), Indian (18.4%), Vietnamese (10%), Korean (9.9%) and Japanese (7.5%)
- 2050 Census Projection: 40.6 million Asians living in the U.S. (9.2% of total U.S. population)

Data from Pew Research Center (*The Rise of Asians*, 2012) and U.S. Census Bureau

JAPANESE INCARCERATION (INTERNMENT)



- After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Executive Order 9066 called for the mass relocation of Japanese and Japanese Americans along the West Coast. Approximately 150,000 Hawaiians of Japanese descent avoided internment due to their ties to the local economy.
- Over 120,000 Japanese Americans living on the West Coast – suddenly classified as enemy aliens - were forcibly removed from their homes and relocated to one of 16 assembly centers (usually old fairgrounds and racetracks) then then to one of 10 internment camps, mostly in the desert. Those removed included babies, children, the elderly, and the infirm. Camps were surrounded by barbed wire and patrolled by armed military police who shot anyone who attempted escape.

- In 1980, President Carter created the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which determined that Japanese American incarceration was a result of “race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership”; the U.S. government acknowledged its failure to protect the constitutional rights of Japanese American citizens and began issuing apologies and monetary compensation to camp survivors in 1990.
- After 9/11 and in the past year, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) has spoken out against unfair targeting of Muslims and Arab Americans.

RESOURCES ABOUT ASIAN AMERICAN IMMIGRATION

INFORMATION & PRIMARY SOURCES

Angel Island Immigration Station
<http://aiisf.org>

Narrating the Chinese Vietnamese Identity
<http://www.chinesevietnamese.com/>

Asian Nation
<http://www.asian-nation.org>

Vietnam Archive Oral History Project
<http://www.vietnam.ttu.edu/oralhistory/>

Vietnamese American Oral History Project
<http://sites.uci.edu/vaohp/>

Asia Society <http://asiasociety.org>

150th Anniversary Celebration of Chinese Building the US Transcontinental Railroad
<http://railroad150.com/>

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Angel Island: Gateway to Gold Mountain, R. Freedman.
Coolies, Yin.

Dia's Story Cloth, Dia Cha.

Going Home, Coming Home, Truong Tran

Grandfather's Story Cloth, L. Gerdner & S. Langford

Half Spoon of Rice: A Survival Story of Cambodian Genocide, I. Smith

Inside Out and Back Again, T. Lai

Landed, M. Lee

The Lotus Seed, S. Garland

Mali Under the Night Sky: A Lao Story of Home, Y. Landowne

Paper Son: Lee's Journey to America, H. F. James & V. Shin-Mui Loh

Staking a Claim: The Journal of Wong Ming-Chung, A Chinese Miner, California, 1852 by L. Yep

Sugar, J.P. Rhodes

Tangled Threads: A Hmong Girl's Story, P. D. Shea

Tracks by Diane Lee Wilson

The Whispering Cloth: A refugee's story, P. D. Shea

RESOURCES ABOUT JAPANESE INCARCERATION

INFORMATION & PRIMARY SOURCES

The Densho Project
densho.org

National Japanese American Historical Society
online.sfsu.edu/jaintern/lessonplans.html

A More Perfect Union
<http://amhistory.si.edu/perfectunion/>

Japanese American Relocation Digital Archive calisphere.org/collections/jarda/

The Art of Gaman
americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/online/gaman

Japanese American Citizens League
jacl.org

Children of the Camps
<http://www.pbs.org/childofcamp/history/>

Japanese American Internment: Fear Itself
www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/fear/

The Korematsu Institute korematsuinstitute.org

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

A Place Where Sunflowers Grow, F. Hoshino

Barbed Wire Baseball, M. Moss

Baseball Saved Us, K. Mochizuki

Blue Jay in the Desert, M. Shigekawa

The Bracelet, Y. Uchida

The Children of Topaz: The Story of a Japanese American Internment Camp, M. O. Tunnell & G. W. Chilcoat

Dear Miss Breed, J. Oppenheim

Farewell to Manzanar, J.W. Houston & J.D. Houston

Fish for Jimmy, K. Yamasaki

Flowers from Mariko, R. Noguchi

Gaijin: American Prisoner of War, M. Faulkner

Heroes, K. Mochizuki

I am an American: A True Story of Japanese Internment, J. Stanley

Imprisoned, M. W. Sandler

The Invisible Thread by Yoshiko Uchida

The Journal of Ben Uchida, Citizen 13559, B. Denenberg

Journey to Topaz, Y. Uchida

The Moon Bridge, M. Slavin

Music for Alice, A. Say

Paper Wishes, L. Sepahban

Remembering Manzanar: Life in a Japanese Relocation Camp by M. C. Cooper

So Far from the Sea by E. Bunting

Sylvia & Aki by W. Conkling

Welcome Home Swallows by Marlene Shigekawa