

Beyond Heart Mountain Civility, Culture, Community

History of the Cheyenne Japanese neighborhood on W. 17th St
Japanese treatment in Cheyenne during World War II
Japanese Baby Boomer in Wyoming after World War II

Tie culture to community

- **Historic Preservation**

- Architecture is a direct and substantial representation of history and place.
- By preserving historic structures, we are able to share the very neighborhoods in which the generations before us lived.
- The visual and tangible conservation of cultural identity.

- **Historic Place Making**

- Inspires communities to reimagine and reinvent public spaces as the heart of once vibrant neighborhoods.
- Strengthening the connection between people and the places they share
- A collaboration shapes historic places that maximize shared stories.
- Urban design can facilitate creative patterns incorporating physical, cultural, and social identities that define a place and support its ongoing evolution.

Future of the Past is the Present



Model Minorities

Love Hate relationship with Cupid



Crowd Sourced information



Alan O'Hashi shared a post to the group: You know you're from Cheyenne if you remember...

March 20 · 11

I posted this on my page about the old Cheyenne Tent and Awning and an upstairs Japanese rooming house that will be demolished. I'm crowdsourcing additional information about the neighborhood which at one time was a Japanese "ghetto." Any recollections about Sidles? Wahl's Bicycles and Keys? City Cafe? Hosokawa's Pool Hall? California Fish Market? Baker's Place Bar?



Alan O'Hashi

March 19

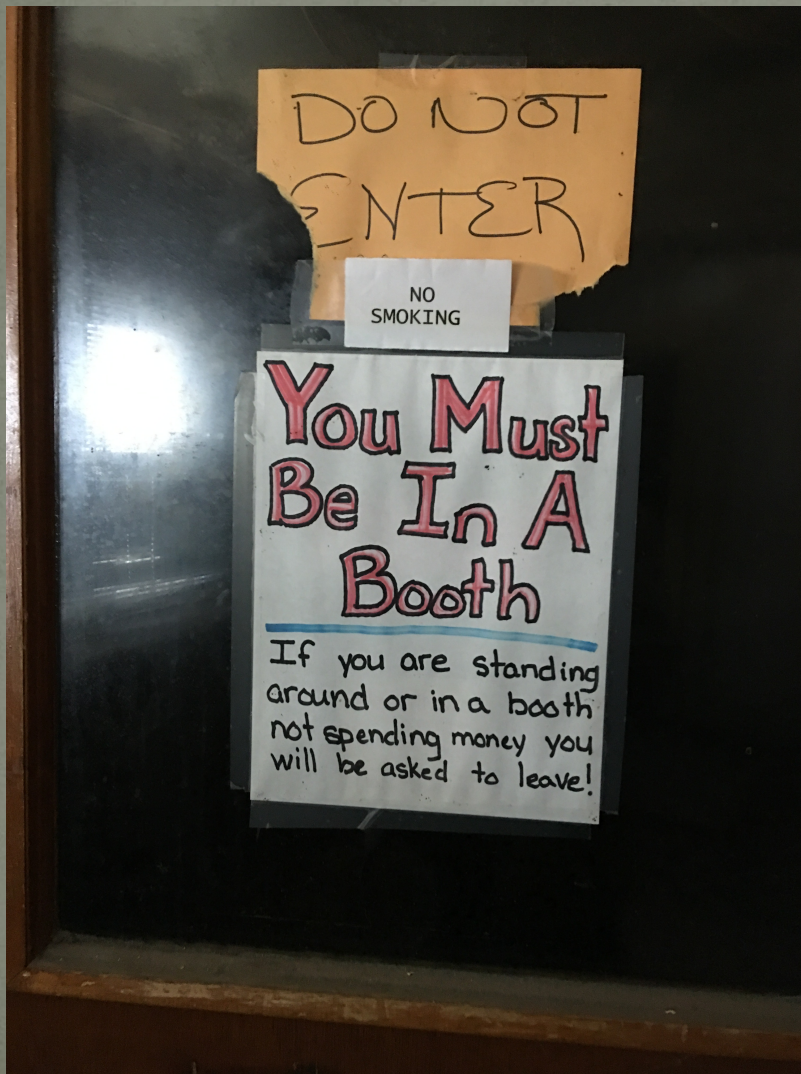
I contacted developer John Dinneen and city planner Stephanie Lowe about the project:

- I'm working with the Dinneens and the Historic Preservation Board come up with some factual information and anecdotal stories about the neighborhood
- Generally, the 400 to 500 blocks of West 17th Street

West 17th Street Pioneer to Carey



Rooming House 509 W. 17th Street



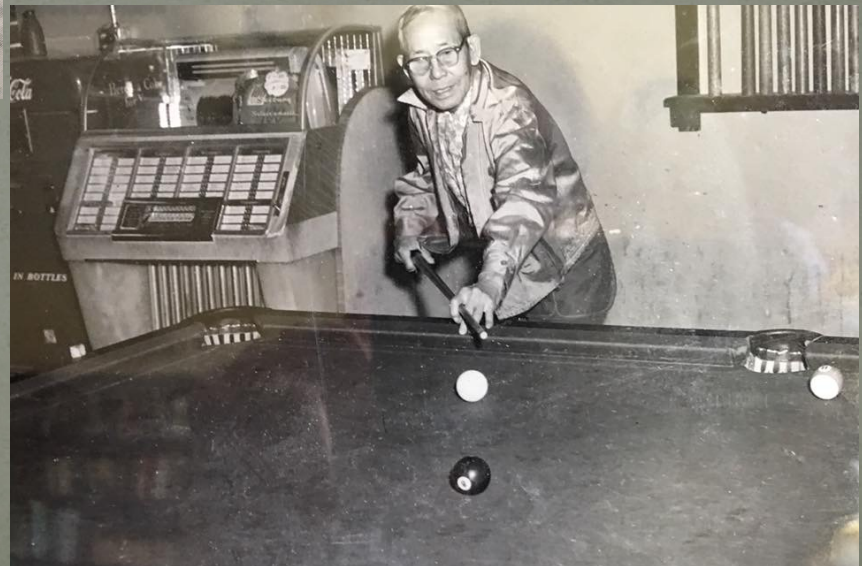
Mrs. Yoshio Shuto
1926

Hosokawa's Pool Hall 516 W. 17th St



Gontaro and Kiyo
Kubota and family
outside 411 W. 17th Street.

My Grandfather Toichi
(George) Ohashi purchased
the pool hall in 1952.



City Cafe 514 W. 17th St



In the early 1970s a “new” City Cafe was built at O’Neil and W. 19th St. and operated by Tommy’s wife Yoshiko and children.

Tommy Shuto ran the City Cafe after his aunt returned to Japan in 1964. Asian fusion before it was trendy – Chow Mein, Egg Foo Yong, Noodles Japanese Style

Reverse civil rights – whites in the back, Japanese in the front



City Cafe gathering place

- Japanese Community meeting place
 - Skyline Nisei Club
- Friday night activities
 - samurai movies in the front
 - Card games in the back



Japanese Judges November 1950



Attorney George Guy – defended Japanese General Yamashita at his war crime trial – collaborated with the Skyline Nisei Club bringing Japanese Judges to Cheyenne. This is a dinner and discussion at the Plains Hotel.

California Fish Market 422 W. 17th St

- Bill Matsuyama 1930s to 1950
- Sold to Carl and Lucy Kishiyama 1952 – 1956



Baker's Place 418 W. 17th St



Tom and Bill Miyamoto, Johnny Baker, sold to their sons in 1952. The license was moved to the 2-Bar-Bowl

Only integrated bar in town



Sammy Davis Jr. stationed at Fort Warren

Live – Work before it was trendy



Steve Miyamoto
from the
apartment above
Baker's Place

Barber Shop / Market 414 W. 17th St.



Conflicting history – The Market owned by Kazuma and Ume Mikawa was reportedly in the 500 block, the image below shows it at 414 W. 17th Street.

A barber shop was opened by Takematsu Matsushima at 414 W. 17th Street



Cheyenne, World War II, Civility

The Wyoming Eagle — Cheyenne, December 11, 1941

CHEYENNE JAPANESE ARE LOYAL

WHEREAS, a condition of armed conflict now exists between the United States and the Japanese Empire which calls for the fullest cooperation on the part of every true and loyal American, irrespective of race or creed, who cherishes the principles of Liberty and Freedom upon which this great nation is founded, and

WHEREAS, by every instinct of Humanity, love of Freedom, Justice and Equality, the residents and citizens of Japanese ancestry in the City of Cheyenne are whole-heartedly and without any mental reservations whatsoever, in support of the action of the President of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the residents in Cheyenne of Japanese ancestry are fully cognizant and deeply appreciative of the manifold blessings and privileges which have been accorded them in this great nation, and particularly in the City of Cheyenne, and

WHEREAS, the older residents have shown their true Americanism and loyalty to the country of their adoption by fully concurring with the action of their children in their respective decisions to volunteer under the Selective Service Act of the National Defense program, and

WHEREAS, the individual selections from the Cheyenne Japanese group in every instance, have offered their lives and their services in support of the Common Defense by voluntary enlistment, and

WHEREAS, the undersigned residents and citizens of Cheyenne are willing and eager to offer their full-hearted cooperation and support in any measure which may be undertaken by the authorities to advance the Common Defense,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that these matters be brought to public attention through the medium of this resolution and an affirmation of the loyalty of this group and its faith in the future of this country be made a matter of public record and that an original copy of this resolution be presented to the following for their information and government:

The Honorable Nels H. Smith, Governor

The Honorable Ed Warren, Mayor

Captain Wm. R. Bradley, State Highway Patrol

Sheriff George J. Carroll, Laramie County Sheriff's Office

Chief Harvey Jackson, Cheyenne City Police

Mr. John Charles Thompson, Editor, Wyoming State Tribune

Mr. Tracy S. McCracken, Editor, Wyoming Eagle

Radio Station KFBC

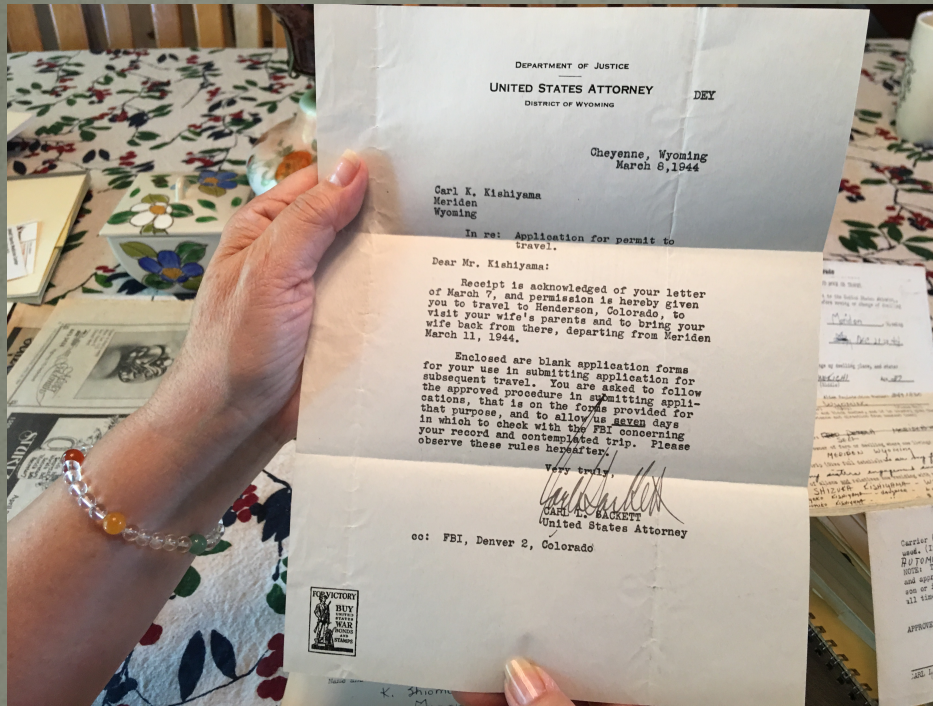
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned residents of Cheyenne have hereto set their hands this 8th day of December, 1941, in the City of Cheyenne, Laramie County, State of Wyoming.

Henry H. Furusako	Genoa Hashimoto	K. Matsuda
Yoshiaki Tamura	R. H. Matsumura	H. Shinjima
M. Matsumura	J. J. Nakagawa	S. Ichijima
S. Kashiwagi	Shuntoku Shima	Minor Hashimoto
S. S. S. S. S.	B. T. Miyamoto	Ben Hashimoto
Kunzo Takayama	S. S. Osada	Yasumi Miyamoto
Hi Kishi	A. Kubota	Mary Miyamoto
M. Matsumura	Gen Hashimoto	Latent Hashimoto
Ray M. Hashimoto	Joan I. Shima	Radomir Hashimoto
Osaka Hashimoto	Hathi Arita	Mrs. M. Arita
Sumi Arita	Nancy Arita	M. Arita
A. Hashimoto	Tad Hashimoto	Thomas Arita
Mrs. P. Hashimoto	Mrs. M. Hashimoto	S. Nakano
Yoko Shito	Mrs. M. Hashimoto	Tom Arita
K. Saito	X. Nakata	Sumi Matsumura
J. Y. Saito	Ray Shinto	Yoko Shinto
Shingo Saito	George Saito	Shirako Saito
Shirako Saito	George Saito	
Mrs. P. Hashimoto	George Saito	



Auntie Hisako Sakata - activist
Japanese loyalty advertisement in
WTE after Pearl Harbor

Prisoners of War in place



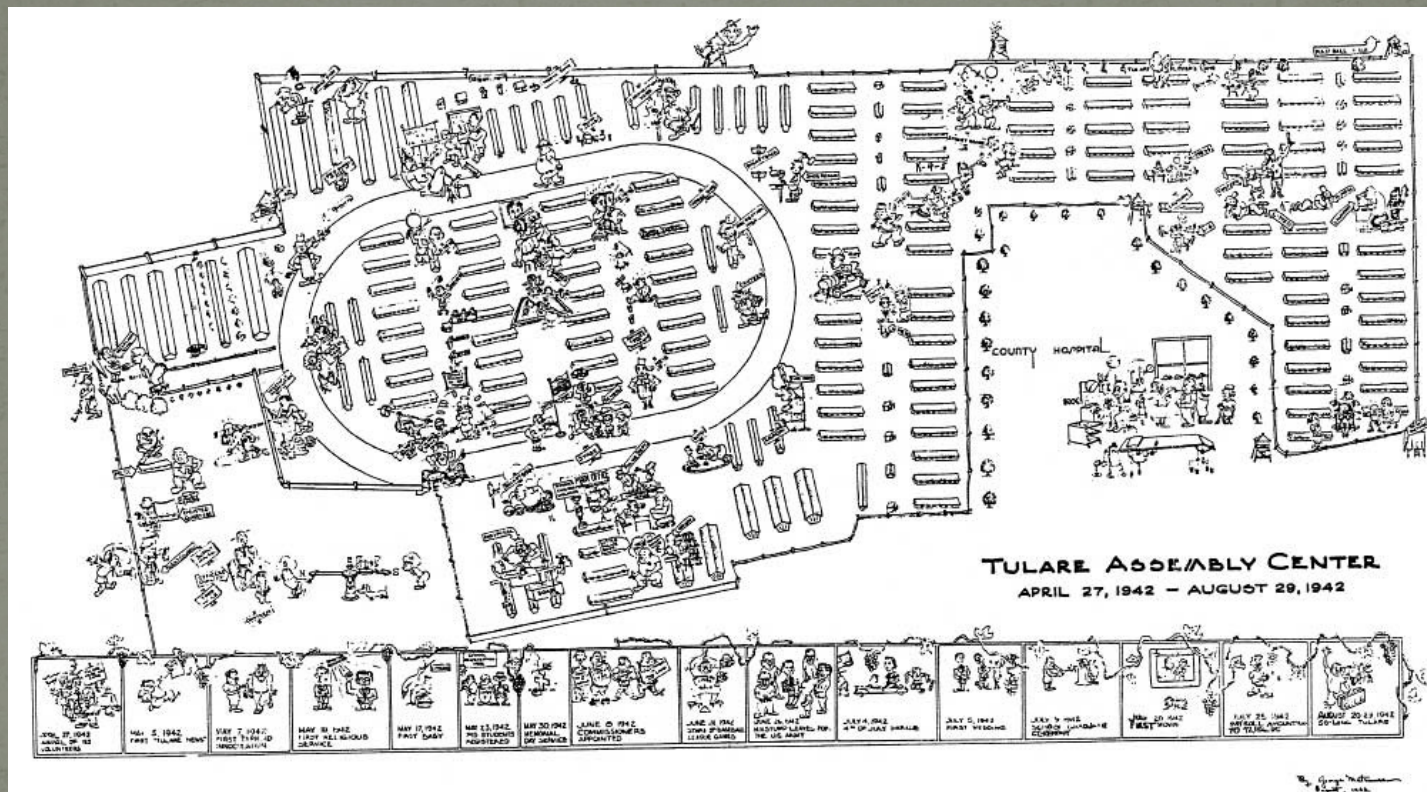
“Casablanca” Letters of Transit



My parents were kicked out of the American Bowling Congress

Wrong place, wrong time

- Grandfather Ohashi and Uncle George detained at Tulare Detention Center



Civil Disobedience



World War II was divisive in the Japanese American community. The men who joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team were reveled as heroes fighting for the “American Way”. This is my Uncle George who served in Italy.

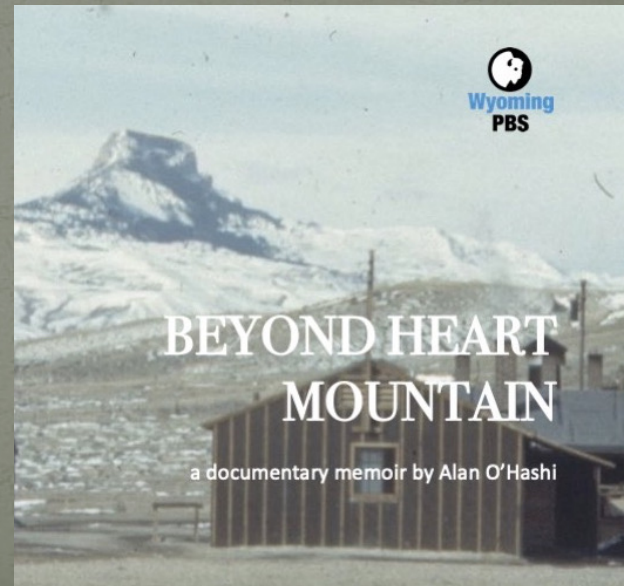
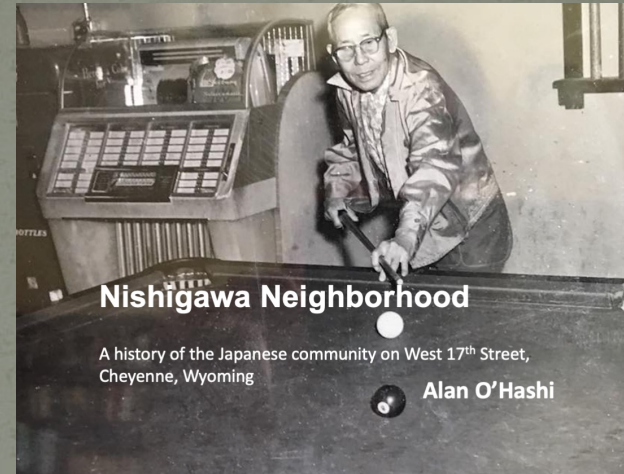
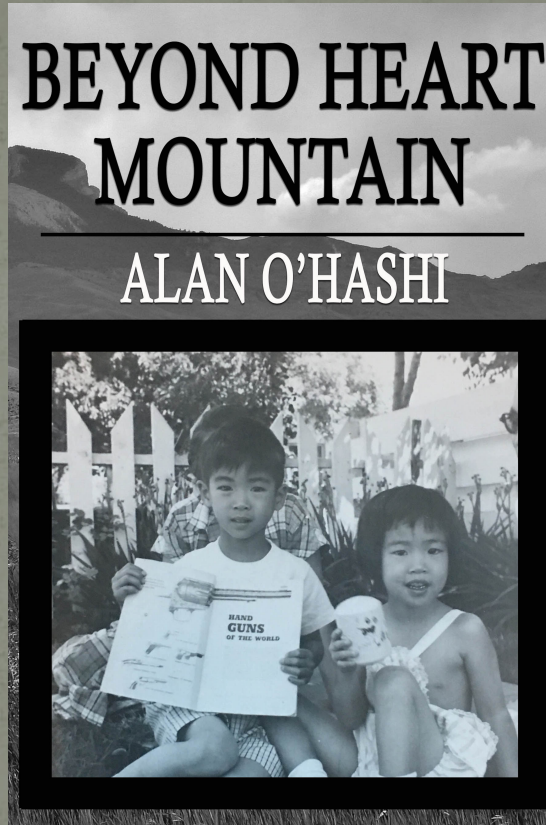
Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee consisted of draft age men who failed to report. In Cheyenne’s Federal court, 85 men were convicted of draft dodging but pardoned in 1947 by President Truman.



Civility means making personal change with sensibility

- Civility begins with being polite and nice with sensibility.
 - How we act in between means unwinding the tapes about the experiences we've had that made us each what we are
 - Example, nobody is born a racist, but some social environments reinforce any variety of "isms."
 - Get out of your comfort zones
 - Who do you sit next to in church? Sit next to someone who is out of your zone.
 - Who do you invite out for coffee? Ask someone you've wanted to know better.
- Civility ends with being polite and nice with sensibility
 - Our communities would be better places if we put in the hard work it takes to understand ourselves.
 - Pretending to be polite and nice is harder work than actually being polite and nice.

Beyond Heart Mountain



www.beyondheartmountain.com

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