

# **Guide to the Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi Photograph Albums Related to Japanese American Life**

**WA Photos 1337**



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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA Photos 1337

**CREATOR:** Muranishi, Mary Shizuko Mitsueda, 1921-1993

**TITLE:** Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi photograph albums related to Japanese American life

**DATES:** approximately 1939-1950

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.63 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Captions in English.

**SUMMARY:** Four photograph albums with approximately 650 photographs that document the activities of Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi, approximately 1939-1950. Images are primarily of Muranishi and acquaintances in California, as well as her and William Hitoshi Muranishi in Chicago, Illinois, and a skiing trip at Snoqualmie, Washington. Multiple images in California show her classmates at Washington High School in Los Angeles and United States Army soldiers at Fort Ord. Several photographs relate to Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi's incarceration during World War II. These images are of family members posing in front of American concentration camp barracks.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.marymuranishialbums>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.marymuranishialbums>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Type Punch Matrix on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2022.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi Photograph Albums Related to Japanese American Life is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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### Preferred Citation

Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi, Photograph Albums Related to Japanese American Life. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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### Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

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### Related Materials

Associated material: Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi, Photograph Albums Related to Japanese American Life in California (WA Photos 1332), Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi (1921-1993) was a Japanese American woman in California. She was the daughter of first generation (Japanese: Issei) immigrant parents and truck farmers Mitsuzo Mitsueda (1884-1979) and Sachi Mitsueda (1893-1968). Her other second generation (Japanese: Nisei) siblings included her older brothers Fred Chitoshi Mitsueda (1916-1980), Robert Matao Mitsueda (1917-2011), and Takashi Mitsueda (1919-2005) as well as younger sister Bonnie Haruko Mitsueda Horino (1923-2012). The Mitsueda family lived in San Gabriel in 1920 as well as in Gardena in 1930 and in the Inglewood neighborhood of Los Angeles in 1940. During World War II the United States government incarcerated the family with other Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans at the Rohwer Relocation Center concentration camp in southeastern Arkansas. After World War II, she moved to Chicago, Illinois, and met William Hitoshi Muranishi (1918-1987); they married in March 1945 in Arizona. They lived in Berkeley,

California, from approximately 1954 and had two sons, William Hitoshi Muranishi (born 1954) and Leslie Eldon Muranishi (1957-2012).

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## **Scope and Contents**

Four photograph albums with approximately 650 photographs that document the activities of Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi, approximately 1939-1950. Images are primarily of Muranishi and acquaintances in California, as well as her and William Hitoshi Muranishi in Chicago, Illinois, and a skiing trip at Snoqualmie, Washington. Multiple images in California show her classmates at Washington High School in Los Angeles and United States Army soldiers at Fort Ord.

Several photographs relate to Mary Shizuko Mitsueda Muranishi's incarceration during World War II. These images are of family members posing in front of American concentration camp barracks.

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## **Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically.

## Collection Contents

b. 1	<p>Photograph album <i>Black string-tied album, 20 x 29 cm. 70 photographs, 9 x 7 cm and smaller.</i></p> <p>Album contains calling cards for 20 of Mary Muranishi's classmates at Washington High School: Toshi Kobayashi, Mary Jane Montgomery, Kiseko Kay Shimamoto, Yoshio Yamashita, Jerry Hamilton, Melba Juna Holloway, Eleanor Jean Leonard, Helen Pontius, Charlotte Engstrom, Don Choye Tanabe, Roy Furushima, Kathryn M. Ainsworth, Jean Frances Williams, Adelaid Marie Hemler, Goldie Sparks, Haruno Ike, Frances Morgan, Mary Fujimura, and Jean Summers.</p> <p>Fully identified individuals in the album include Toshi Kobayashi, Art Kajiyama, Taka Mitsueda and Emy Shimamoto, Chiyako Watanabe, Shiz Uda, Shiz Mitsueda, May Uriyu, Ben Yamanaka, Kiyoshi Ho, Shigeto Ando, Harky Mitsueda, Toshiye Nagata, Henry Wadamato, Mits Morita, Mas Yamashita, and Kiyoko Kaku.</p> <p>Several images document the graduating class of 1940 at Washington High School--others show Mary Muranishi and acquaintances at unidentified locations. There are also multiple photographs of Japanese or Japanese American men in uniform.</p> <p>Album has several Fort Ord and United States Army stickers adhered throughout.</p>	approximately 1939-1941
b. 2	<p>Photograph album <i>Blue string-tied album, 26 x 34 cm. 207 photographs, 13 x 18 cm and smaller.</i></p> <p>Album contains calling 22 cards of Mary Muranishi's classmates at Washington High School: Richard Shimada, Rose Atko, Nakauama, May Shizuko Uriyu, Johnny K. Ogata, Mary Y. Furushima, Sunao Hongo, Katsuke Yamashita, Matao Bob Mitsueda, Shizue Uda, Margaret G. Foxlee, Lelah Viola Bemis, Rosie Namie Nishioka, Bob S. Morita, Chiasto Imamura, Kiseko Kay Shimamoto, Michio Taniguchi, Chitoshi F. Mitsueda, Masaji Nakai, Masao K. Mura, George Masato Uda, Suzko Nishikawa, and Mary Masuyo Kuriyama.</p> <p>Several images document the graduating class of 1940 at Washington High School--others show Mary Muranishi and acquaintances at unidentified locations. There are also multiple photographs of Mary Muranishi and William Muranishi in Chicago, Illinois.</p> <p>Individuals depicted in this album are not identified.</p>	approximately 1939-1945
b. 3	<p>Photograph album <i>Red and gilt album, 27 x 34 cm. 254 photographs, 18 x 13 cm and smaller.</i></p> <p>Images are of Mary Muranishi, William Muranishi, and family and friends, as well as multiple photographs of Japanese or Japanese American men in uniform.</p> <p>Inscriptions in the album identify most subjects by their forenames only.</p>	approximately 1945
b. 4	<p>Photograph album <i>Green string-tied album, 18 x 25 cm. 125 photographs, 9 x 7 cm and smaller.</i></p> <p>Images primarily document a skiing trip to Snoqualmie, Washington.</p> <p>Included is a group portrait of the "Men of SYNKOA" (formerly, the Japanese Students Club of the University of Washington).</p> <p>Individuals depicted in this album are not identified.</p>	approximately 1950

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Genres / Formats

Gelatin silver prints  
Photograph albums  
Photographic prints  
Photographs

### Corporate Bodies

United States. Army -- Pictorial works  
Washington High School (Los Angeles, Calif.) --  
Students -- Portraits

### Geographic Names

California -- Pictorial works  
Chicago (Ill.) -- Pictorial works  
Fort Ord (Calif.) -- Pictorial works  
Illinois -- Pictorial works  
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Pictorial works  
Snoqualmie (Wash.) -- Pictorial works  
Washington (State) -- Pictorial works

### Acquired From

Type Punch Matrix

### Subjects

Japanese Americans -- California -- Pictorial  
works  
Japanese Americans -- California -- Portraits  
Japanese Americans -- Forced removal and  
internment, 1942-1945  
Japanese American soldiers -- California --  
Portraits  
Japanese American women -- West (U.S.) --  
Portraits  
Japanese -- California -- Pictorial works  
Japanese -- California -- Portraits  
Soldiers -- California -- Portraits  
Women -- West (U.S.) -- Portraits  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Concentration camps  
-- United States  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Japanese Americans  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Participation, Japanese  
American

### Names

Muranishi, Mary Shizuko Mitsueda, 1921-1993 --  
Portraits  
Muranishi, William Hitoshi, 1918-1987 --  
Portraits