TRAVELING EXHIBITS: Japanese American Girl Scouts at Heart Mountain Relocation Camp 1942-1945

After Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941, in the name of national security, people with Japanese ancestry, including many U.S. citizens, were uprooted from their homes and businesses and relocated to camps in other regions of the country. The Heart Mountain Relocation Center between Powell and Cody, Wyoming, was home to more than 10,000 Japanese Americans between August 1942 and November 1945. Scouting programs for both boys and girls were prominent throughout the United States during World War II and Heart Mountain Relocation Camp reflected the rest of the United States. World War II was a time in the United States of heightened patriotism and the Girl Scout program fit the model of patriotism for people who were eager to be seen as patriotic Americans.

Size: 24 framed items (17” x 20” ea., 2 crates).

Girl Scouts in front of their headquarters.
The American Heritage Center (AHC) is the University of Wyoming’s repository of manuscripts collections, rare books, and the university archives. Many universities have primary source repositories. Few have repositories as extensive and significant as the AHC. More importantly, few universities have such repositories as welcoming and accessible to undergraduate and graduate students. Internationally known for its historical collections the AHC first and foremost serves the students and citizens of Wyoming. The AHC sponsors a wide range of scholarly and popular programs including lectures, symposia, and exhibits. Not a dusty attic or an exclusive sanctuary, the AHC is a welcoming, lively, place where both experts and novices engage with the original sources of history. Access is free and open to all.

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