Inventory of the Takano Family Papers SPC.2017.004

Yoko Okunishi
California State University Dominguez Hills, Gerth Archives and Special Collections
2019
University Library South -5039 (Fifth Floor)
1000 E. Victoria St.
Carson, CA 90747
archives@csudh.edu
URL: https://www.csudh.edu/libarchives/
Contributing Institution: California State University Domínguez Hills, Gerth Archives and Special Collections
Title: Takano Family Papers
Creator: Takano, Fumio F. (Fumio Fred), 1914-1989
Creator: Takano, Yoneko, 1918-2007
Creator: Meguro, Kumaji, 1878-1957
Creator: Meguro, Tsuruno, 1894-1985
source: Takano, Jeanne
Identifier/Call Number: SPC.2017.004
Physical Description: 2 boxes(1 document box, 1 flat box, and 1 oversize folder)
Physical Description: 1.66 Linear Feet(2 boxes)
Date (inclusive): 1906-1991; undated
Abstract: This collection contains materials from members of the Takano family in Los Angeles, California, including Issei immigrants, Itsuhei and Tomoye Takano and Kumaji and Tsuruno Meguro, and their Nisei children, Fumio Fred and Yoneko (Meguro) Takano. The papers covers from prewar through post-war, including the period of the forced evacuation and incarceration during the war and the redress movement in the 1980s. Most of the items in this collection have been digitized and are available online.
Material Specific Details: English translation, summaries, and synopsis are available at the CSU Japanese American Digitization Project site: Takano Family Papers Digital Collection.
Language of Material: English and Japanese texts with one item in Spanish.

Conditions Governing Access
There are no access restrictions on this collection.
Immediate Source of Acquisition
Jeanne Takano donated the collection to the Gerth Archives and Special Collections in 2017 and brought additional materials in 2018.
Availability of Digital Reproductions
Most of the items in this collection have been digitized and digital reproduction access files (access derivatives) are available at the CSU Japanese American Digitization Project site: Takano Family Papers Digital Collection.

Arrangement
Arranged in five series:
1. Series I: Biographical information, 1906 August 13-1989 August 9
2. Series II: Family and friend correspondence, 1942-1945
5. Series V: Photographs, 1928-1959, undated

Biographical / Historical
Itsuhei Takano (1887 October 18-1967 January 3) immigrated from Yamanashi, Japan, in 1906 and married Tomoye Kodama (1889 March 3-1979 October 17) in 1913. Their Nisei child, Fumio Fred Takano (1914 February 2-1989 July 22), was born as an oldest child among their six children and married Yoneko Meguro (1918 May 30-2007 January 10) in March 1942. He worked for the tuna fishing industry, and the family resided in Los Angeles, California, purchasing a real property prior to the exclusion. Kumaji Meguro (1878 February 28-1957 December 1) and Tsuruno Meguro (1894 February 1-1985 January 12) were also Issei immigrants and resided in Colorado in the 1920s and 1930s. They were farm laborers and raised their Nisei child, Yoneko Meguro, in Colorado, but moved into Los Angeles in 1936. The Takano and Meguro family was incarcerated in different assembly centers, Pomona Assembly Center and Santa Anita Assembly Center during the war. They were hoping to be transferred to the same incarceration camp together but were imprisoned separately in different camps, the Gila River camp in Arizona and the Heart Mountain camp in Wyoming.

Fumio Fred Takano answered questions on a form, known as the "loyalty questionnaire" in February 1943 during his incarceration. His initial answers to questions 27 and 28 were "no" to question 27 and "yes" to question 28. However, his answers were not accepted at the Registration Office. The registration officer claimed that questions 27 and 28 should be answered both in the affirmative or negative, and his answer to 27 was altered in the negative by the officer. Because of
his answers to the questionnaire, he struggled to be granted the permit he needed to leave. Later, he left the camp for Chicago but joined his family in Los Angeles when his family members were released from the camps. In June 1945, the Takano and Meguro family was able to return to Los Angeles, California.

Preferred Citation
For information about citing archival material, see the Citations for Archival Material guide, or consult the appropriate style manual.

Processing Information
The collection was processed by Yoko Okunishi in 2019.
English translation, summaries, and synopsis, and Japanese transcription for Japanese language materials are provided by a contractor and the finding aid author.

Digital Reproductions
The Gerth Archives and Special Collections created digitized materials (born-analog objects) from original items for long-term preservation and electronic access, adhering to best practice and standards to ensure the authenticity, integrity, and security of material. Most of the collection has been digitized and are available online. Some of the access files (access derivatives) have been redacted to protect personal identifiable information and others have been compressed for greater efficiency online. For more information on digitization production, please see CSU Japanese American Digitization Project technical reference guide.

The set of digital reproduction preservation files is stored on the Gerth Archives and Special Collections’ department drive for preservation purpose and duplicate image requests in TIFF.

The set of access files (access derivatives) was created for the digital management system and is stored on the Gerth Archives and Special Collections’ department external drive for staff use.

CSU Japanese American Digitization Project
This collection is part of the California State University Japanese American Digitization Project. Other collections about the history of Japanese Americans are found in the digital repository: CSU Japanese American Digitization Project technical reference guide.

Related Materials
Itsuhei Takano Camp Journal: Itsuhei Takano, one of the Issei immigrants of the Takano family, wrote a journal recording his experiences during his incarceration in the Gila River camp in Arizona. The collection is owned by one of his grandsons and the digital reproductions were donated to the Archives.

Scope and Contents
The Takano Family Papers (1906-1991; undated) contains materials from members of the Takano family who reside in Los Angeles, California, including Issei immigrants Itsuhei and Tomoye Takano, Kumaji and Tsuruno Meguro, and their Nisei children, Fumio Fred and Yoneko (Meguro) Takano. The papers cover from prewar through post-war, including the period of forced evacuation and incarceration during the war and the redress movement in the 1980s. The papers consists of correspondence, photographs, camp newspapers, yearbooks, and other documents. Noted are photographs depicting the Japanese American community in Colorado in the 1930s, including photos of Japanese Young People’s Christian members; and schoolchildren and staff of a Japanese school and public schools. There are also documents regarding a real estate property in Los Angeles, California, which Fumio Fred Takano purchased in 1938, and his legal documents and letters present his efforts to protect the property during the war with the support of his non-Japanese American friend. Also included are letters depicting his struggles to be granted the indefinite leave permit from the Gila River incarceration camp in Arizona, as a consequence of his answers to “loyalty questionnaire” questions 27 and 28. In addition, the Issei parents’ letters details their experiences during the war from an Issei point of view, describing the trip from the Pomona Assembly Center to the Heart Mountain camp in Wyoming, incarceration life, and their return from the camp to California.

Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Archives and Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical materials and not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Japanese Americans -- Evacuation and relocation, 1944-1945 -- Archives
Japanese Americans -- History -- 20th century
Takano, Jeanne
Gila River Incarceration Camp
Heart Mountain Incarceration Camp
Meguro, Tsuruno, 1894-1985 -- Correspondence
Takano, Yoneko, 1918-2007 -- Correspondence

Biographical information 1906 July 7-1989 August
Physical Description: 23 folders

Scope and Contents
This series contains materials regarding the Takano family's background information. Included are an Imperial Japanese Government passport; a marriage license and certificate; a vocational training program diploma and certificate; a medical certificate; documents regarding the Takano family's property; social security documents; a will; and funeral and obituary information.

box 1, folder 1
Imperial Japanese Government passport issued to Itsuhei Takano 1906 July 9
Physical Description: 1 items

box 1, folder 2-3
Itsuhei Takano and Tomoye Kodama marriage license and certificate 1913 August 23; 1913
Physical Description: 2 folders
Language of Material: English.

box 1, folder 5-6
Diploma and certificate from Fumio Fred Takano's vocational training programs 1933 June 23; 1974 May 16
Physical Description: 2 folders
Language of Material: English.

box 1, folder 7
Permit of local board for Fumio Fred Takano to depart from the United States 1941 August 1
Physical Description: 1 folder
Language of Material: English.

box 1, folder 8
Medical certificate for Fumio Fred Takano 1941 September 5
Physical Description: 1 folder
Language of Material: Spanish; Castilian.

box 1, folder 9-19
Documents regarding a property owned by Fumio Fred Takano 1936-1976 1936-1942
Physical Description: 11 folders
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Included are insurance policies; deeds; full reconveyance; tax invoice and receipts; mortgage forms; power of attorney forms; declaration of homestead forms; correspondence; a trust agreement; and other documents regarding the real estate property in Los Angeles, California, which Fumio Fred Takano purchased in 1938. There is a power of attorney form created prior to his incarceration, appointing his non-Japanese American friend as his attorney and allowing her to manage his property in Los Angeles, California during the war.

box 1, folder 20
Social security documents for Itsuhei and Tomoye Takano 1954 March 24
Physical Description: 1 folder
Language of Material: English.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder Details</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 21-22</td>
<td>Will and funeral procedure written by Itsuhei and Tomoye Takano 1951 December 1; 1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 2 folders</td>
<td>Language of Material: In Japanese. English translation is viewable at CSU Japanese American Digitization Project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 23</td>
<td>Tomoye Takano’s death certificate and funeral service invoice issued by Fukui Mortuary, INC. 1979 October 22-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td>Language of Material: English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 24</td>
<td>Fumio Fred Takano’s obituary 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td>Language of Material: English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and friend correspondence during the war 1942-1945</td>
<td>Physical Description: 16 folders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of Material: Japanese, English.</td>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials include letters and postcards from Fumio Fred Takano’s family members and friend as well as copies of his letters to his non-Japanese American friend. The contents of his letters include discussions regarding his efforts to seek assistance from his Caucasian friend; management of his property in Los Angeles, California during the war; and discussions regarding shipping his belongings from Los Angeles to the Gila River incarceration camp in Arizona. There are also letters written in Japanese by the Meguros, who are his parents-in-law. These letters detail their experiences in the Pomona Assembly Center in California and the Heart Mountain incarceration camp in Wyoming; describing the trip and life during their incarceration and their return from the camp to California.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 25, 36</td>
<td>Copies of letters from Fumio Fred Takano to Florence Packer 1942 March 30; 1943 August 18; 1943 August 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 2 folders</td>
<td>Language of Material: English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
<td>Included are copies of letters written by Fumio Fred Takano. In these letters he seeks assistance from his non-Japanese American friend, Florence Packer, during the war. She was appointed as his attorney prior to his incarceration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 26-35, 38-40</td>
<td>Letters and postcards from the Meguros 1942 May 20-1945 June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 13 folders</td>
<td>Language of Material: All items are written in Japanese. English translation is viewable at CSU Japanese American Digitization Project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
<td>Contained are Japanese letters and postcards written by Kumaji and Tsuruno Meguro, who are Issei immigrants and Fumio Fred Takano’s parents-in-law. They detail their experiences during the war from an Issei point of view, describing the trip and life in an assembly center and incarceration camp, and their return from the camp to California.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 37</td>
<td>Postcard from Aki to Fumio Fred Takano 1943 September 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td>Language of Material: English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
<td>Material is a postcard sent to Fumio Fred Takano while he was incarcerated in the Gila River camp in Arizona. The postcard captures the street scene in Wickenburg, Arizona.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Incarceration camp materials 1942-1991; 1942-1946

Physical Description: 39 folders
Language of Material: English.

Scope and Contents

This series contains materials pertaining to the Takano family's incarceration during World War II. The materials include documents issued by War Relocation Authority (WRA), Western Defense Command, and the Office of Price Administration during the war as well as those for redress and reparations issued by the Justice Department and National Archives and Records Administration after the war. Included are letters, notices, ID cards, forms, and war ration books. There are also receipts for shipment issued by agencies arranged by the U.S. government. Noted are letters regarding an application for leave from an incarceration camp. A letter from WRA provides instructions on changing answers to questions 27 and 28 of the "loyalty questionnaire," which resulted in denial of a leave permit if the answers were negative. Fumio Fred Takano whose responses are negative writes a letter to the Interview Committee explaining that his answer to question 27 was altered to the negative response by a registration officer.

box 1, folder 4, 41, 43
Identification cards and application forms 1942

Physical Description: 3 folders
Language of Material: English.

Scope and Contents

Included are "Alien registration receipt card, Form AR-3" for Tomoye Takano; "Application for certificate of identification (aliens of enemy nationalities), Form AR-AE-22" for Itsuhei Takano; and a blank form of "Application for identification card."

box 1, folder 44, 46-48
Letters and notices regarding application for leave 1943 February 6-June 24

Physical Description: 4 folders
Language of Material: English.

Scope and Contents

Materials consist of notices and letters from WRA and a letter written by Fumio Fred Takano. Included are a notice from WRA providing instructions on changing answers to questions 27 and 28 of the "loyalty questionnaire" and a letter written by Fumio Fred Takano who answered those questions in the negative. His letter explains how his answer to 27 was altered to a negative response, enclosing reference letters written by his supervisors and employers in the Gila River camp.

box 1, folder 49, 51-54
Letters and ID card regarding Fumio Fred Takano's work leave 1944 July 17-August 8

Physical Description: 5 folders
Language of Material: English.

Scope and Contents

Contain letters and ID card issued from WRA regarding Fumio Fred Takano's work leave. Included are recommendation letters, an indefinite leave card WRA-137a rev., and a letter to his employer in Chicago, notifying of the requirements in hiring him.

box 1, folder 52, 55-57, 59
Materials regarding Fumio Fred Takano's work in the camp 1944 July 5-1945 April 23

Physical Description: 5 folders
Language of Material: English.

Scope and Contents

Contains materials regarding Fumio Fred Takao's work in the Gila River camp, including his daily work pass (WRA-139 rev.), a notice of assignment (Form WRA-21) and letter from WRA, and shipment bills for mechanical hand tools.
box 1, folder 42  
Letter from Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco to Fumio Fred Takano regarding his home mortgage and automobile loan 1942 April 15  
Physical Description: 1 folder  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Contains a letter from Fred C. Bold, Assistant Manager, Los Angeles Branch, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, to Fumio Fred Takano in Los Angeles, California. The letter follows up the inquiry from him regarding his home mortgage and automobile loan.

box 1, folder 45  
Receipt issued by Railway Express Agency for the shipment from Florence Parker 1943 March 19  
Physical Description: 1 folder  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Material is a receipt issued by Railway Express Agency. One trunk, one box, and four containers were shipped from Florence Parker of Los Angeles, California to Istuhei and Tomoye Takano incarcerated at the Gila River camp in Arizona.

box 1, folder 67  
War ration books issued by the Office of Price Administration 1944-1945  
Physical Description: 1 folder  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Contains war ration books for Itsuhei, Tomoye, Fumio Fred, and Yoneko Takano used in the Gila River incarceration camp.

box 1, folder 50, 58, 60-66, 68  
Materials regarding the Takano family's return from the camp 1945 April 19-December 14  
Physical Description: 10 folders  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Contains materials regarding the Takano family's return from the Gila River camp to Los Angeles, California, in 1945. Included are letters and notices from the WRA, ID card issued by Western Defense Command, and shipment bill and receipts pertaining to the family's moving.

box 1, folder 69-71  
Letters and notices regarding Fumio Fred Takano's temporary appointment work from the WRA 1946 February 13-April 19  
Physical Description: 3 folders  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Contains notices and letters from the WRA regarding temporary appointment work assigned to Fumio Fred Takano. Included are "Advice of personnel action Form OEM-1" appointing and terminating a position of a freight handler to him, a letter mailing his final check, and a response letter to his wage claim.

box 1, folder 72-75  
Incarceration claim forms and statements 1949-1951  
Physical Description: 4 folders  
Language of Material: English.  
Scope and Contents  
Included are the form, "No. Cl. 1, Claim for damage to or loss of real or personal property by a person of Japanese ancestry"; claim statements; and an evacuation claim compromise settlement award sheet.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 76-77</th>
<th>Forms and letters regarding Civil Liberties Act of 1988 1988-1991</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Description: 2 folders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Language of Material: English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Contents: Materials include Civil Liberties Act of 1988 voluntary information forms filled by Yoneko and Fumio Fred Takano; letters from National Archives and Records Administration; instructions for redress payment; letters from the Office of Redress Administration; and a letter from the White House.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 78</th>
<th>Bulletin, no. 2 1942 March 18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of Material: English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents: Contains one issue published on March 18, 1942. This issue is titled as: Instructions governing voluntary movement of Japanese from Los Angeles to Owens Valley.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 80-84</th>
<th>Gila news-courier 1943 April 15-September 25; 1944 April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 5 folders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of Material: English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 85</th>
<th>Gila Co-op news, vol. 1, no. 14 = 組合週報, 第14號 1943 September 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of Material: English, Japanese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents: Contains an issue of &quot;Gila Co-op news,&quot; a coop newspaper published in the Gila River camp in Arizona.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box 1, folder 86</th>
<th>Youth, no. 3 = 若人, 第3号 1943 August</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 folder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language of Material: Japanese, English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents: Material is a literary publication, &quot;Wakodo = Youth&quot; no. 3, published by Gila Young People's Association in the Gila River incarceration camp in Arizona.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A year at Gila: anniversary booklet 1943 July 20

Physical Description: 1 volume(approximately 47 pages, illustrations, maps)
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Material is a booklet to commemorate the first anniversary of the Gila River incarceration camp after the first incarceree's arrival from the Turlock Assembly Center on July 20, 1942.

Second year at Gila 1944 July 20

Physical Description: 1 volume(46 pages, illustrations)
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Material is a booklet to commemorate the second anniversary of the Gila River incarceration camp after the first incarceree's arrival from the Turlock Assembly Center on July 20, 1942.

Butte community circa 1942-1945

Physical Description: 2 Sheets(1 document folder and 1 oversize folder)
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Contained are two copies of illustrated maps of the Gila River incarceration camp in Arizona.

Gila River Relocation Center 1942-1945 monument dedication 50th reunion 1995

Physical Description: 1 volume(92 pages, illustrations)
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Material is a booklet to commemorate the 50th reunion of the former incarcerees and families of the Gila River incarceration camp, which was held in March 1995.

Photographs circa 1928-1959: undated

Physical Description: 1 box
Scope and Contents
This series contains photographs of the Japanese American community in Colorado in the 1920s and 1930s; Gila River incarcration camp; travels; the 1938 Rose Parade; the Japanese American community in California after the war; the Takano family's relatives in Japan; and post-war Japan.

The Meguro family resided in Colorado in the 1920s and 1930s prior to moving to California. There are photographs of Japanese schools and public schools which Yoneko Meguro attended as well as Japanese Young Peoples’ Christian (J.Y.P.C.) conferences held in Colorado.

Japanese Young People's Christian (J.Y.P.C.) conferences 1931 December 1; 1933 December 1

Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints
Scope and Contents
Contains two photographs of annual conferences of Japanese Young People's Christian (J.Y.P.C.) held in Denver, Colorado in 1931 and 1933.
Photographs circa 1928-1959; undated

box 2, folder 2  Las Animas Japanese Elementary School circa 1928-1939
Physical Description: 1 folder
Language of Material: Japanese.
Scope and Contents
Contains photographs of schoolchildren at Las Animas Japanese Elementary School and a Japanese school in Colorado. There is a photograph of female school play performers at Las Animas Japanese Elementary School. It was taken when they performed the play, "Masuhime," to celebrate the 1st commencement of the school. Yoneko Meguro is included among the performers.

box 2, folder 3  Public school classroom in Colorado circa 1930-1939
Physical Description: 1 Photographic Prints
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Contains one group photograph of schoolchildren taken in a classroom at an elementary school in Colorado. Japanese American children are included.

box 2, folder 4  Bent County High School in Colorado 1936
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Contains two photographs of graduating class of Bent County High School, Colorado, in 1936, in which Yoneko Meguro is included.

box 2, folder 5  Travels and the 1938 Rose Parade circa 1930-1939
Physical Description: 1 folder
Language of Material: English.
Scope and Contents
Contains photographs of family trips to Hawaii, Huntington Library, Santa Catalina Island, and the 1938 Rose Parade.

box 2, folder 6-7  Gila River and Heart Mountain incarceration camps 1943-1945
Physical Description: 2 folders
Scope and Contents
Contains photographs mainly taken in the Gila River incarceration camp during the war, including barracks buildings, an outdoor stage, a meeting of Gila River Japanese Parents' Association, All Center Enterprises Conference, and Gila River Co-op workers' picnics. There are also three photographs taken in Wyoming; two of them were taken in the Heart Mountain incarceration camp.

box 2, folder 8,  Postwar photographs circa 1950-1959
11
Physical Description: 2 folders
Language of Material: Japanese.
Scope and Contents
Contain postwar photographs mostly taken in California, including Futaba Nisei Beauty Salon, Yamanashi Kenjinkai’s event, a baseball team, and a group of female school graduates; and a landscape photograph.
Photographs taken in Japan 1942-1959

Physical Description: 2 folders
Language of Material: Japanese.

Scope and Contents
Contains photographs taken in Japan, including Emperor Hirohito, the Takano family’s relatives, and a trip to Japan. There are photographs presumably taken during the Allied occupation of Japan, capturing the scenes in the aftermath of bombing attacks.