Ami Inuzuka Correspondence: Finding Aid

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Overview of the Collection
Title: Ami Inuzuka Correspondence
Dates (inclusive): 1942-1988
Collection Number: mssHM 66300-66345
Creator: Inuzuka, Ami.
Extent: 50 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection contains letters written by Japanese-American Ami Inuzuka to her friends Hardin and Raemond Craig, with 13 letters written while the Inuzukas were interned at the Gila River Relocation Center in Rivers, Arizona, beginning in 1942 and discussing life in an internment camp. In the rest of her letters, Ami discusses her life in Los Angeles, her family, and the difficulties of growing older.

Language: English.

Access
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Ami Inuzuka Correspondence, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance
Gift of Raemond Craig, November 27, 1990.

Biographical Note
Ami Inuzuka, her husband, Henry, and their three children, Tsuneo, Kazuo, and Margaret were moved from their home in Pasadena, California, to the Gila River Relocation Center in Rivers, Arizona, in 1942. After the center closed in 1946, the family moved back to Southern California.

Scope and Content
The letters written by Ami Inuzuka were sent to her friends and former employers Hardin Craig, Jr., and his wife Raemond, of Pasadena, California. Ami wrote the first thirteen letters (1942-1945) while she and her family were interned at the Gila River Relocation Center in Rivers, Arizona. These letters give a detailed description of camp. Ami comments upon the living conditions in the barracks, the extreme weather of the Arizona desert, the employment situation, her children’s education, sickness, social activities (including her daughter’s engagement), and her family’s plan for after the war. She also frequently thanks Raemond Craig for care packages she sent to the Inuzuka family, consisting of clothes, books and other items that Ami would request. In the letters after the war, Ami writes to the Craigs, who had moved to Houston, Texas, and discusses her life in Los Angeles and La Puente, including the difficulties of growing older. She gives details regarding her growing family (children finishing college, grandchildren being born, the death of her husband in 1969, etc.). Hardin Craig, Jr., dies in 1971, which makes Raemond Craig the only addressee of the letters after 1971. The collection contains a photograph of the Inuzuka family in the letter dated 1960, May 29, and a photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Inuzuka and Mr. and Mrs. Craig in the letter dated 1967, Aug. 18. There is one letter by Ami’s son Tsuneo, thanking the Craigs for help with finding employment in California. Also included with the collection are two newspaper clippings, from the 1980s, about the internment of the Japanese during World War II.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library’s Online Catalog.

Subjects
Inuzuka, Ami.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Inuzuka, Ami.</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Correspondence and ephemera</th>
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<td>1942, July 10</td>
<td>Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig</td>
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<td>1942, Nov. 7</td>
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<td>1942, Nov. 9</td>
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<td>1944, July 25</td>
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<td>Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers (Ariz.)</td>
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<td>1944, Nov. 21</td>
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<td>1945, Jan. 5</td>
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<td>1945, July 26</td>
<td>Letter to Raemond Craig</td>
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<td>1949, Jan. 22</td>
<td>Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig</td>
<td>Gila River Relocation Center, Rivers (Ariz.)</td>
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<td>1960, May 29</td>
<td>Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig</td>
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<td>Los Angeles (Calif.)</td>
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1967, Aug. 18. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66320
1967, Sep. 23. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66321
1968, Nov. 23. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: La Puente (Calif.) HM 66322
1969, Jan. 12. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: La Puente (Calif.) HM 66323
1969, Oct. 7. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: La Puente (Calif.) HM 66324
1971, Apr. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Hardin Craig and Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66328
1971, Dec. 4. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66329
1974, Nov. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66333
1974, Dec. 4. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66334
1979, Dec. 11. Inuzuka, Ami. Letter to Raemond Craig. Location: Los Angeles (Calif.) HM 66343