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# Moab Happenings

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EVENTS

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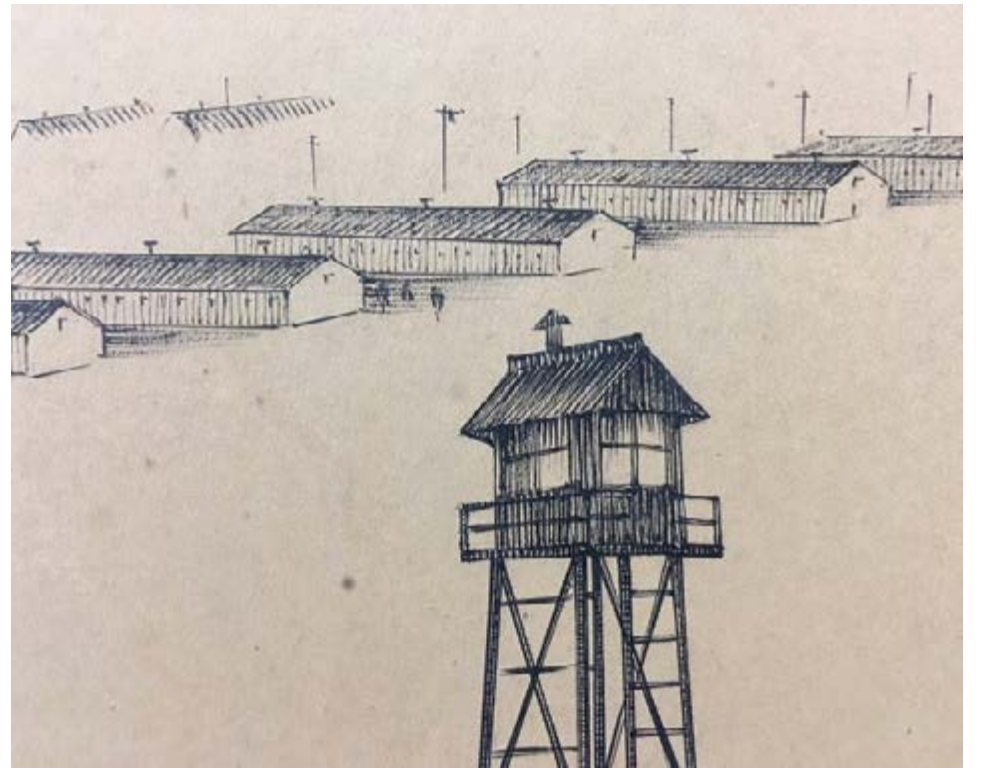
## A Moab Prison Camp: Japanese American Incarceration Temporary Exhibition and Programs at the Museum

Spring is just around the corner here in Moab, and the Museum is already in full swing for the season with a new exhibition and programming.

*A Moab Prison Camp: Japanese American Incarceration* in Grand County, the latest temporary exhibition at the Moab Museum, introduces the local and national story of Japanese American incarceration during WWII. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing the wartime incarceration of over 120,000 Japanese Americans, a majority of whom were US Citizens, in detention facilities across the country. The Moab Isolation Center, located north of Moab at Dalton Wells, played a brief but significant role in the web of Japanese American incarceration facilities: a former Civilian Conservation Corps camp was transformed into a temporary prison camp for so-called “troublemakers” from other camps. The exhibition will be on display through the end of June 2024.

### Interpreting Japanese American Incarceration

In line with the exhibition, the Museum is proud to announce the launch of a virtual book club: Interpreting Japanese American Incarceration. As the Moab Museum shares stories from the Moab Isolation Center at Dalton Wells, we invite our community to deepen our collective understanding of Japanese American incarceration history and help curate a pop-up display by learning stories from Japanese American survivors and descendants. Many firsthand accounts, documentaries, and podcasts share stories from survivors of incarceration and their descendants. Read up - and let us and the Moab community know what you think about these stories by participating in the Interpreting Japanese American Incarceration Book Club. Learn more about how to participate by visiting [moabmuseum.org](http://moabmuseum.org).



Chiura Obata guard tower painting courtesy of Topaz.

### Betrayed: Surviving and American Concentration Camp

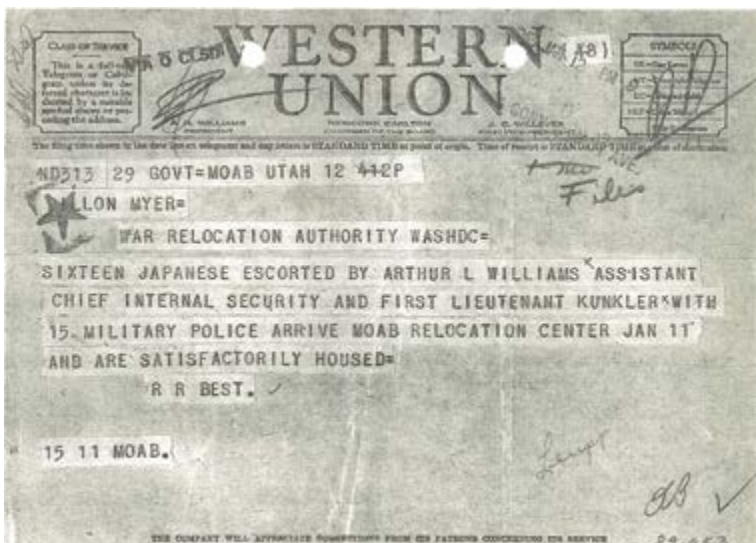
Also in March: join us on March 14th at 2 pm and 6 pm for a FREE film screening of *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*. This PBS film tells the story of a group of Japanese Americans and their incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II. Through the compelling voices of survivors of Minidoka, a concentration camp in the Idaho desert, *Betrayed* tells a universal story about unjust internment and the loss of civil rights.

### Kimi Hill and the Life and Art of Chiura Obata

Kimi Hill, Obata family historian and granddaughter of Chiura Obata, will present on *The Life and Art of Chiura Obata* in the Moab Museum’s South Gallery on March 28th at 7pm. Chiura Obata (1885–1975) ranks among the most significant California-based artists and Japanese American cultural leaders of the last century. His artistic career was interrupted when World War II fears and Executive Order 9066 forced Obata and 120,000 other Japanese Americans into incarceration camps. While imprisoned in Topaz, Utah, Obata created a flourishing art school, serving over 600 students and helping fellow imprisoned Americans cope with their displacement and loss. The program will conclude with a screening of Obata’s *Yosemite* a deeply moving 14-minute film created by filmmaker Adam Prieto and sponsored by the Yosemite Conservancy and National Park Service. A Question and Answer (Q&A) with Kimi Hill and Adam Prieto will follow the presentation. This program is free with Museum membership or regular admission.



**MOAB MUSEUM**  
SMALL MUSEUM. BIG STORIES.



Western Union Telegram discussing the incarceration of Japanese Americans at Dalton Wells.