

Basic Detail Report

[Home Movies of Rohwer / circa 1944 –

1945]

Date

ca. 1944-1945

Primary Maker

Mr. Frank Kamiyama

Medium

acetate (?)

Description

Black and white home movie footage of the Rohwer concentration camp, filmed by Frank Kamiyama, circa 1944-1945. The footage shows domestic life around Rohwer, views of barracks and scenery, an event honoring Japanese American soldiers, and those soldiers leaving camp. Timecode list: 0:31 – “Ansco” label 0:34 – Woman ironing an apron indoors. 0:44 – Man sanding and showing off wooden root sculptures outdoors. 0:56 – Women and a baby standing outside barracks. 1:01 – Men standing outside between barracks. Koi (carp) flags are visible in the background; a JA man in uniform is walking between rows of people. 1:04 – A covered truck drives down a road with barracks in the background. 1:09 – A group is clustered around the truck, handing luggage into it. Young men climb into the truck, some in military uniform. The young men and crowd wave at each other as the truck departs. 1:36 – The crowd disperses. 1:50 – Close up shots of two women with young children. 1:57 – Views of small groups with bundles of luggage in the distance. Close ups of camp guards at a guard shack. 2:16 – Large group gathered outside near a recreation hall or mess hall. 2:23 – Scouts holding American flags and saluting in the direction of a raised platform covered with more flags. Camera pans in the direction of a group of JA men in uniform standing in front of the Honor Roll monument (wall of veterans’ names). 2:31 – Camera operator moves to a new vantage point, now behind and to one side of the soldiers. The crowd is visible behind the scouts and flags. 2:52 – An ambulance truck drives across the frame. Views of barracks and trees. A block 39 sign and a man gardening is visible (at 3:24). 3:26 – A young man and two boys run towards the camera. Panning views of barracks. A man walks away from the camera, down a road. 3:47 – Panning across distant camp landscape, camp buildings and a smokestack are visible. 4:03 – Woman washes laundry or dishes in a large sink. 4:09 – Static view of trees in the distance. 4:16 – Views of decorations and gardens between rows of barracks. 4:21 – People walking between barracks. 4:30 – Close up of little girl; children playing in dirt and around porches. 4:45 – Woman plays with wind-powered yard art. 4:53 – Woman works on knitting; women walk towards the camera and make faces. 5:05 – Film ends. Home movie by Frank Kamiyama of Rohwer, Arkansas. One of two reels (2001.71.1 and 2001.71.2). In small metal canister. One side has a paper label reading "Rohwer". The other side has a paper label reading "Rohwer Relocation Center," and below that there is a fabric label with Japanese characters.

Dimensions

Film Format: 8.00 mm