

## Overview

### Japanese American Imprisonment during World War II



By Executive Order 9066, over 7,000 Japanese, most being American citizens, were forcibly imprisoned at the Granada Relocation Center in Granada, Colorado from 1942–45. The Granada site, with the smallest population of the ten relocation centers, became the tenth largest concentration of people in the state of Colorado; it is one the best preserved with intact foundations and little alteration by subsequent development. It is located one mile west of downtown Granada and one mile south on County Road No. 23.5 in southeast Colorado. The population of Granada peaked at 7,318 detainees.

Granada Relocation Center's unofficial name became "Amache," named after a Cheyenne Indian chief's daughter who married John Prowers (1839–1884), a prominent cattle rancher for whom the county is named. The name Amache was used after a mail mix-up between the town of Granada and the similarly named Granada Relocation Center. It was often referred to as "Camp Amache," since these relocation centers functioned as incarceration camps for Japanese Americans (often called "internment camps" as a euphemism). However, this has led many to believe it was a "hotel," "resort," or "summer camp," so today it is preferred to just call it "Amache." Read more about the language of incarceration in the [Power of Words Handbook](#) produced by the [Japanese American Citizens League](#).

Today, Amache is maintained by the [Amache Preservation Society](#) (APS). The society was established by Mr. John Hopper, a social studies teacher and now Principal at Granada High School, and consists of volunteer students from that school. With the help of many other [organizations](#) including Amache Historical Society, the Friends of Amache (formerly the Denver Central Optimists Club), The Japan America Society of Southern Colorado, Denver University and many more, the APS has begun to renovate Amache, particularly the cemetery, and established an Amache Museum.

Amache was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 18, 1994 and designated a National Historic Landmark on February 10, 2006 through the direct efforts of the many organizations listed above. You can [visit the site](#) and an associated [museum in Granada](#).

## Driving Tour

[Click here](#) for driving tour and audio file downloads.

## Historical Fact

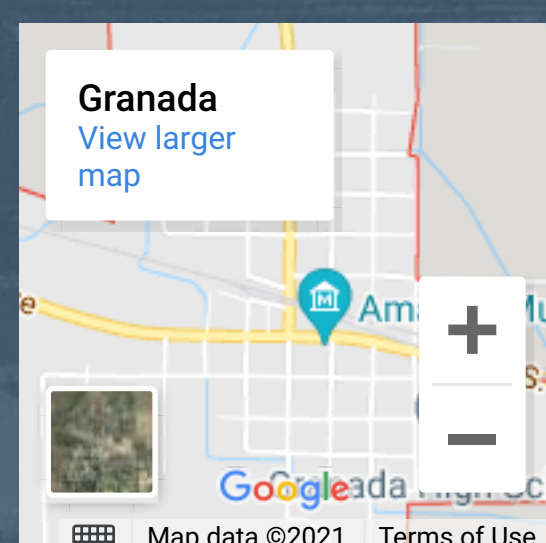
The Granada Relocation Center is named after Amache, daughter of Ochi-nee, chief of the Cheyenne Indian tribe. Amache was married to John C. Prowers, for whom the Prowers County was named and where Amache is located and Lamar is its County seat.

## Education

The Amache Preservation Society has an hour-long presentation on Amache and operates a museum and research center in Granada.

[Learn More](#)

## Directions



For more details, see the [Visitor Information](#) page.

## Photo Archives



## More Information

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