



# 2025 Amache Pilgrimage

## Weekend Schedule



# Amache Volunteer Day on May 16<sup>th</sup> Friday Morning

Supporting APS & NPS for the Annual Amache Pilgrimage

## Set up and preparation tasks

- Granada High School gym for the Saturday potluck lunch
- Granada HS auditorium for the Friday evening program
- Historic old Newman's Drug Store building for the Sat. evening dinner
- Site Cleanup: Cemetery set up for ceremony and NPS tasks

## Schedule: 9:00am - 2:00pm

- Meet at the **Community Center**
- Lunch at Shorty's Café (cash only)
- After lunch, Amache site tasks
- See the new Museum displays
- Friday afternoon Amache tours
- Friday eve. Program at the Granada High School



Granada High School Gym set up



2024 Volunteers



Cemetery area clean up

## Volunteer Organizations



See the *Ireicho - Sacred Book of Names Monument* at the Amache Museum

**Appointments for stamping by reservation:** <https://ireizo.org/tour/>

**Amache Museum Ireicho stamping availability times:** May 16th 9:30am-5pm

May 17th 2pm-5pm





# *2025 Amache Pilgrimage Weekend*

**Friday May 16, 2025**

**Friday Morning & Afternoon Museum Tours (10:00am & 1:30pm)**

For appointments to stamp names in the Ireicho: visit [appointment website](https://ireizo.org/tour/): <https://ireizo.org/tour/>

## **Friday Special Program Schedule:**

**2:00pm: Amache Tour of Garden areas** (Meet at Amache Site Entrance)

Led by Dr. Bonnie Clark, Denver Univ. Amache Research Project

**4:15pm: Amache Site Tour – Self-Guided Tour**, NPS staff will be present to answer questions (Meet at Reconstructed Barrack 12H)

**6:30pm: Presentations at the Granada High School Auditorium**

- **Greetings** by Julianna Ellis, Amache National Park Staff
- **Amache Overview & Activities**  
by Dr. April Kamp Whittaker, CSU Chico & Amache Alliance
- **Amache Gardens & Landscape**  
by Dr. Bonnie Clark, DU Amache Research Project
- **The First Pilgrimage**  
by Dr. Russell Endo, retired professor, University of Colorado
- **Reflections from Amache Preservation Society**  
by Antonio Huerta, Regional Dir. for U.S. Senator Hickenlooper & former APS
- **Amache Projects & Site Updates**  
by Chris Mather, Amache National Historic Site
- **Ireicho: The Book of Names**  
by Rev. Duncan Ryuken Williams, Director, USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture
- **Japanese Cultural Arts Demonstration**  
by Mariko Rooks & Julia Shizuyo Popham with Julianna Ellis, NPS Park Ranger
- **Announcements**
  - Mitch Homma, Amache Alliance

**8:00pm: Social with Celebration cake in the Granada H.S. Gym**





# 2025 Amache Pilgrimage

**Saturday May 17, 2025**



**Pilgrimage Registration at Amache.org** <https://amache.org/pilgrimage/>

**Block of rooms available at the Holiday Inn in Lamar: Make reservations by May 1: (719) 931-4010**

## Pilgrimage Denver Bus Schedule – May 17<sup>th</sup>

- 6:00 Pickup** Simpson United Methodist Church
- 6:30 Pickup** Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple
- 8:00am** Break - Limon Refreshment Stop
- 11:00am** Arrival at Amache for Memorial Ceremony
- Welcome by Nikkeijin Kai
  - Hoji & Oshoko
  - Benediction Floral Offerings: JA Community Organizations
- 12:30pm** Potluck lunch at Granada High School
- Lunch Presentations
- 2:00pm** Amache Museum Tour
- 2:30pm** Return to Denver
- 6:30pm** Denver Arrival

Hosted by:



## Self-Visit Schedule – May 17<sup>th</sup>

Ireicho available for stamping by appointment from 2:00pm – 5:00pm. For Ireicho appointments to stamp names, see <https://ireizo.org/tour/>

- 9:00am** Meet at Amache entrance kiosks for NPS self-guided tour information or family block visits to: 6E, 6H, 7G, 8E, 8K, 9K, 11E, 11H, 12F
- 10:00am** Shuttle Service begins from high school to Amache Cemetery
- 11:00am** Participate in Pilgrimage Ceremony at Amache Cemetery (after bus arrives)
- Shuttle Service runs begin back to Granada High School for drop off upon conclusion of ceremony
- 12:30pm** Potluck Lunch at Granada High School
- Please allow Denver bus participants to get their food first

- 2:00pm** Meet at Amache entrance kiosks for NPS self-guided tour information or family block visits: 6F, 7E, 7H, 8F, 9E, 9L, 10H, 11F, 11K, 12G
- 2:00pm** Ireicho stamping at Museum by appointment
- 3:00pm** Meet at Amache entrance kiosks for NPS self-guided tour information or family block visits: 6G, 7F, 7K, 8G, 9H, 10E, 11G, 12E, 12H, 12K
- 3:30pm** Small group activities at the Granada High Auditorium

- 5:00pm** Dinner hosted by Shorty's – 1<sup>st</sup> seating
- 6:30pm** Dinner hosted by Shorty's – 2<sup>nd</sup> seating
- Shorty's is cash only; Cost \$15.00**

**24 N Main St, Granada, CO 81041**

**About a block west from the museum**

- 8:00pm** Social at the Community Center

Dinner is at the historic Newmans Drug Store where Amache families went to shop, have ice cream or a soda. Next door was the Granada Fish Market started by Frank Tsuchiya. Using his Los Angeles connections, he brought in sashimi grade fish to Granada and sold Japanese food hard to obtain.

**Don't forget to visit the Amache Museum in Granada**

The Ireicho: Book of Names is on display and stamping available by appt.

# Town of Granada



**Remember! We are guests so please watch your vehicle speed in town**

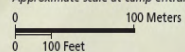




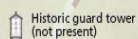
This map is oriented south up.  
Upon entering the site, you are  
facing south, as the map reflects.



Scale varies in this perspective view.  
Approximate scale at camp entrance.



- Existing road
- Historic road (not present)
- Historic building footprint



# 2025 Amache Pilgrimage Weekend

**Sunday May 18, 2025**

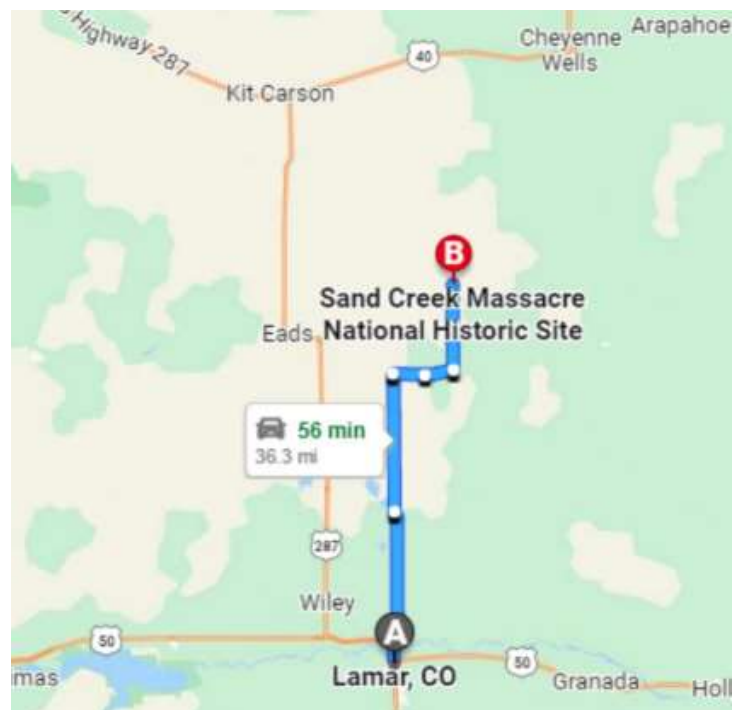
- **9:00am** Meet at Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Contact Station at the actual site **55411 County Rd W, Eads, CO 81036**  
**(Not the Sand Creek Massacre Research Center in downtown Eads)**
- 9:15 am NPS Introductions
- 9:30 am Remembrance at Contact station area
- 10:00-ish Interpretive ranger short (1/2 mile) and long walking tours
- **There are no food/beverage concessions available at the Sand Creek Massacre NHS**
- **NOTE: The Denver Airport is a little over 3 hours away.**

The Sand Creek Massacre is one of the most emotionally charged and controversial events in American history, a tragedy reflective of its time and place. It stands as a testament to a brutality that should be learned from and never repeated, a lesson of what the rejection of conscience in the face of fear and hysteria can lead to, and the suffering that this betrayal has imparted on generations of Arapaho and Cheyenne people.

The Amache community has the opportunity to share and learn from the Sand Creek Massacre community. We humbly and very respectfully honor their history and life on their lands in Southeastern Colorado.

## **Start: Lamar, Colorado 81052**

1. Head east on W Elm St toward S 5th St
  - 34 sec (443 ft)
2. Take Co Rd 8 and Co Rd 49 to County Rd N in Kiowa County
  - 26 min (24.1 mi)
3. Turn right onto County Rd N
  - 3 min (2.6 mi)
4. Slight right onto CO-96 E
  - 2 min (2.4 mi)
5. Continue on Co Rd 54 to your destination in Chivington



Amache National Historic Site was designated by Congress on March 18, 2022 (Public Law [PL] 117-106) to preserve, protect, and interpret resources associated with the incarceration and military service of civilians of Japanese ancestry during World War II at the Granada Relocation Center—more commonly known as Amache. The act also directs the National Park Service (NPS) to interpret the public reaction to the incarceration of Japanese Americans in Colorado and the transition and resettlement of incarcerated and their descendants after the closure of the camp. Amache is also included in the Japanese American World War II History Network established on December 29, 2022 (PL 117-328, Division DD—Public Land Management, Section 645).

Before World War II, Granada, Colorado, was a small farming community on the high plains of Colorado with a population of 342 in 1940. Incorporated in 1887 in territory historically associated with the Ute, Cheyenne, Apache, and Arapaho peoples, Granada served as a stop on the Atchinson, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway and, for a short time, was one of the largest towns of the Colorado High Plains. Railroad reroutes and two major fires in the early 1890s decimated the population and business community, but by the 1930s, Granada was one of many rural, agricultural towns along the Colorado section of US Highway 50's transcontinental transportation corridor.

After Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, political leaders and the media urged government action against Japanese Americans, stoking long-standing racism and prejudicial policies against Asian Americans on the West Coast. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing the military to forcibly exclude "any or all persons" deemed a threat to national defense from "military areas" within the United States.

Although Amache was the smallest of the 10 incarceration sites, with a capacity of 8,000 residents, the camp became the largest community in southeastern Colorado and the 10th largest "city" in the state based on 1940 population counts. Given its size, a separate postal designation was required to reduce confusion between the incarceration site and the Town of Granada. The name "Amache" was suggested by Mayor R. L. Christy of Lamar, Colorado, in honor of Amache Ochinee Prowers, a Southern Cheyenne woman who married the county's namesake John Prowers. Her name in Cheyenne is Ameohtse'e, which means Walking Woman. The land on which the camp was situated is part of ceded treaty lands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, and Comanche. These lands were also used for trade and traditional gatherings by other Tribes and are still significant to Indigenous traditions.

Since 1993, John Hopper and the Granada High School's Amache Preservation Society (APS) have led the grassroots effort to preserve and interpret the remains of Amache. The Amache Preservation Society was established by social studies teacher John Hopper and consists of student volunteers. With the support of other organizations, the students started to renovate Amache, particularly its cemetery, and to establish an Amache museum in town. When APS started, the site was being used for cattle grazing, which made restoration and interpretation of the site virtually impossible.

The APS students participate on archaeological excavations, undertake historic research, give tours of the site, run the museum, and share their knowledge with the NPS. They travel throughout Colorado and into nearby states to give presentations on Amache and the World War II internment camps. The Amache.org web site includes an audio driving tour of the site. APS has a partnership agreement with the National Park Service and will continue their programs.

**The Amache Community is forever grateful for the Amache Preservation Society and will continue to provide support and resources for them.**