



Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration

Armed soldiers awaiting the scheduled 11:00 a.m. arrival of the Black Ball ferry, *Kehloken*, seen behind the soldiers in center of photo.

# NPS and Study Team Complete Study for Eagledale Ferry Dock Site

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Eagledale Ferry Dock study team has completed a draft of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial Study of Alternatives, and it is available for public review. The study was prepared in response to Public Law 107-383. The study team began its work in June 2003, and it includes representatives from the National Park Service and its consultants, the City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island Park District, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC) and their Memorial Committee, and members of the community.

During the course of preliminary planning, the study team examined 10 variations of management concepts, their pros and cons, the impacts of variations, costs involved in the development and operation of a memorial, and how any recommendations would fit into the memorial being developed by BIJAC. The options ranged in scope from no federal involvement called the “no action” concept because the federal government would not be involved in the project, to state involvement, to a National Heritage Area or National Reserve, and to becoming a unit of the National Park System.

During the development of the alternatives, “viability” became the standard of measure. Measures of viability for the study team were: types and levels

of visitor experiences at the site; protection of the resources (both natural and cultural); operational considerations, including maintaining local involvement in the management of the site; and issues of national significance, feasibility and suitability.

Eight study team meetings were held to outline and discuss what could be reasonable approaches for the site’s long-term management. The approaches were reduced to three thoroughly examined alternatives. The three alternatives are presented in this newsletter.

An Environmental Assessment for the alternatives was prepared by NPS consultant Jones & Stokes to examine the impacts of these alternatives on the natural resources, cultural resources, and socioeconomic conditions. The assessment indicated the cultural resources would be positively affected; construction of the memorial would affect natural resources, and the socioeconomic conditions would improve slightly from alternative to alternative. The assessment summarized the analysis by saying, “. . . it appears that the development of the Memorial at Eagledale Ferry Dock would result in positive cultural and socioeconomic impacts and would be an asset to the community.”

The study team’s work will continue until the final study is completed during Summer 2005.

## Three Management Alternatives Outlined by Study

The study team was charged with compiling a range of viable management alternatives, developed through the public planning process, and evaluated and presented to the Secretary of the Interior with a recommendation. The memorial proposed by BIJAC’s Bainbridge Island World War II Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee, when completed, would form the basis for each alternative. Under current planning, the memorial would be constructed in two phases. The first would involve clearing the site to provide an appropriate setting with an interpretive kiosk area and interpretive panels and access to the beach. The second phase would focus

on the construction of memorial elements: a story wall honoring the Nikkei families from Bainbridge Island, a visitor contact facility, interpretive trails through a Japanese garden, a partially reconstructed dock, and a contemplative area.

The study team agreed with the BIJAC’s recommendation to name their memorial *Nidoto Nai Yoni*, which translated from Japanese means “Let It Not Happen Again.” The NPS study recommends that the entire memorial be named Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial if the NPS is involved.

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April 2005

Dear Interested Public:

The 227 Nikkei loaded onto the *Kehloken* at the Eagledale Ferry Dock on March 30, 1942, faced an uncertain future. Lives disrupted, they were forced to leave homes and property behind as they were taken to a unknown destination for an undefined period. America was gearing up for a national war effort, and Bainbridge Island was in a state of disbelief and shock as residents tried to understand what was happening.

Now, more than 60 years later, the ferry dock is gone, but for many people the site retains a strong sense of the emotions experienced by the Nikkei and their Bainbridge Island neighbors on that fateful day. For most of the individuals involved, the need for others to understand the historical lessons of the Nikkei experience is the primary reason to establish the site as a memorial—a place to seek understanding and tell the stories.

With the release of the draft *Study of Alternatives/ Environmental Assessment* for Eagledale Ferry Dock, Bainbridge Island, Washington, the reality of the *Nidoto Nai Yoni* Memorial is closer. Over the past year, the effort to develop practical strategies for the long-term management of the site has relied on interaction with the public and on-going discussions among a coalition of partners. Each of the three draft management strategies relies on local land ownership and a collaborative effort between local and federal governments, in cooperation with community-based, non-profit organizations. Each alternative accommodates the approximately eight-acre memorial site envisioned by the community. The differences between the three alternatives relate primarily to the National Park Service’s involvement in the site’s long-term management.

Now is the time to review the proposed management options and evaluate the merits of each. Please identify the alternative you believe will best protect the site and tell the stories to future generations. Send your comments in writing or attend one of the public meetings scheduled for Bainbridge and Seattle.

Neil King, Superintendent  
Minidoka Internment National Monument





Prior to the ferry's arrival, the U.S. Army carefully checked to see if all the Nikkei residents of the Island were accounted for, segregated by family, and issued ID tags.

Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration

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The first alternative, **Alternative A**, recommends that no action be undertaken by the federal government in this project. However, the memorial would have the potential for future technical assistance from the National Park Service.

**Alternative B** recommends that the memorial be designated as an affiliated area of the National Park System. Under this designation, the memorial would receive increased consideration for technical assistance from the NPS, including the potential for support for developing exhibits and other interpretive materials.

The third alternative, **Alternative C**, proposes designating the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial site as a satellite unit of Minidoka Internment National Monument with cooperative management ties to Manzanar National Historic Site. Under this alternative, the NPS would be authorized to participate and contribute to the Phase II development costs and augment the memorial's operational expenses. The NPS would participate as a full partner with the local government and organizations to protect the site and interpret the story of the interned Nikkei from Bainbridge Island.

Developing forecasts for financing is always a primary consideration during the planning

phase of a project. Under the conditions of Alternative A, there would be no federal funding for the memorial. Alternative B, the affiliated area concept, would allow the NPS to support the development of interpretive exhibits on a one-time basis. Alternative C offers greater participation by the NPS by assisting in local protection, development, and interpretation of the site. This alternative allows the NPS to contribute to the costs of developing the memorial. It also allows the NPS to contribute to annual operational costs, including funding for NPS staff.

The NPS has indicated that formal actions on any of the proposed alternatives are at the discretion of Congress. Congress could authorize any of the alternatives, a combination of alternatives, or an entirely different version of the alternatives to commemorate and interpret the story of the Nikkei on Bainbridge Island.

“The key to success in protecting and interpreting this site lies in the successful establishment and maintenance of sustainable partnerships,” Superintendent Neil King stated. The study envisions BIJAC, the City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island Parks & Recreation District, the Bainbridge Island Historical Society, the NPS and others developing an agreement that addressed the roles and responsibilities for the long-term management of the memorial.

## Study Team Is a Cross Section of the Community

The interdisciplinary study team is comprised of a cross section of the community, and many of these individuals donated their time and effort to the development of realistic alternatives for the Eaglesdale Ferry Dock. Residents of Bainbridge Island and Poulsbo include Harold Champeness, Earl Hanson, Wayne Jacobi, James Matsudaira, Tatsukichi Moritani, Kazuko Kay Nakao, Gerald Nakata, and Mary Woodward Pratt. Clarence Moriwaki, Chairman of the BIJAC's Bainbridge Island World War II Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee, and Dr. Frank Kitamoto, President of BIJAC, represented the interests of the Bainbridge Island Nikkei community.

The University of Washington is represented by the participation of Dr. Tetsuden Kashima, who contributed his academic background to the team, and Dr. Gail Dubrow, who authored a book on the Japanese American sites in Washington State. Erica Varga, Director of the Bainbridge Island Historical Society; Libby Hudson, City of Bainbridge Island; and Perry Barrett, Bainbridge Island Parks & Recreation District, contributed an island-wide perspective to the team.

Superintendent Neil King, Minidoka Internment National Monument, and Dr. Stephanie Toothman, Chief of Cultural Resources for the Pacific West Region, with help from Superintendent Frank Hays of Manzanar National Historic Site are the official NPS leads on this project. Other NPS members include Keith Dunbar, Chief of Planning for the Pacific West Region; Dr. Fred York, Anthropologist for the Pacific West Region; and Anna Tamura, Landscape Architect in the Park Planning Division. Jones & Jones, a consultant for the NPS, is represented by Johnpaul Jones, Colleen Thorpe, and Reed Jarvis. Bob Murase, Murase Associates, and Mark Matthies, Jones & Stokes, complete the study team roster.



Ritsuko and Yoshiko Terayama bid farewell to Betty Erickson at the ferry landing.

Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



# Study Analyzes Criteria and other Factors

The purpose of an alternatives study is to examine and evaluate the significance, suitability, and feasibility of a site becoming part of the National Park System. To be eligible for favorable consideration as a unit of the National Park System, a proposal must meet certain basic criteria. The criteria for affiliated area status are slightly less than those required for inclusion as a unit in the system. In each case, however, the proposal must have national significance related to national heritage, offer opportunities for public use, and have a high degree of integrity.

The significance of what this study proposes is that adjacent to a major metropolitan area, and in its original location, the complete story of the internment and incarceration of Japanese American citizens of the United States can be told. There are two other units of the National Park System that interpret the forced relocation of the Nikkei during World War II—Manzanar National Historic Site in California and Minidoka Internment National Monument in southcentral Idaho. This study contends that adding the Bainbridge Island site to the National Park System would significantly enhance the interpretive and educational mission of both Manzanar and Minidoka, completing the story of this important chapter of American history and World War II.

While the historic ferry dock is gone, the emotional character of the Eagledale dock area has not significantly changed since 1942, and the addition of the memorial planned by the community will emphasize the contemplative feeling present there.

The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial site has the capacity to tell individual stories of a community and its citizens directly affected by world events in a very personal way. It was a community that struggled to maintain relationships with it citizens who were incarcerated. And the internees’ dramatic story of return and struggle to make new lives and resume their old lives can be told. It is clear that the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial site meets the test of suitability.

The test for the feasibility of creating a new unit of the National Park System is tied to the site’s size and configuration to assure protection and preservation, as well as having access and the potential for efficient administration at a reasonable cost. The study goes on to state: “The site would not be feasible as a new, full-blown, stand-alone unit of the National Park System because of the support costs.”

If the site becomes a detached unit of Minidoka Internment National Monument, it is feasible to manage it under a cooperative agreement with local government and others. It is proposed that administrative assistance be furnished by Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park in Seattle. There would be no land acquisition costs and no active involvement in site management. Under these conditions, the NPS becomes a full partner under the terms of the agreement. By designating the site as a unit of Minidoka Internment National Monument, Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial stands the feasibility test.



March 30, 2002. This marker was unveiled to honor the 227 Japanese Americans who were forcibly removed from their homes and incarcerated in War Relocation Authority centers.

Photo courtesy Jones & Stokes

## Why Do We Have Criteria?

An often-asked question is, “Why do we have criteria?” The answer is to assure that the area under consideration is worthy and meets all the requirements and laws concerning additions to the National Park System. If a unit under consideration and evaluation meets the criteria, the site can be added to the National Park System by an act of Congress or by presidential proclamation, as is the case with many national monuments. The criteria for designating a unit of the National Park System are more stringent than those for an affiliated area of the system.

Congress has used more than 20 various designations for units added to the National Park System. The titles of new areas selected by Congress usually describe the area—battlefield, lakeshore, seashore, historic site—but the mission is always the same: “. . . to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

If you are interested in the details of the criteria, copies of the National Park Service publication *Criteria for Parklands* will be available at the public meetings or by writing and requesting a copy from the National Park Service, Park Planning & Environmental Compliance Division, 909 First Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104 or by calling 206 220-4109.



The area of the former Eagledale Ferry Dock and reconstructed sand beach, as seen looking south from the Washington State ferry landing.

Photo courtesy Jones & Stokes



# Ground Breaking for the Memorial

A commemorative ground breaking ceremony was held at the former Eagledale Ferry Dock at Taylor Avenue on March 30, 2004. With shovels poised, nine members of the Island community, six of whom had been internees, join fellow residents on another long journey—raising money to acquire the land and begin development of a long-awaited Bainbridge Island Japanese American memorial. Their first goal is to add to the growing funds for acquisition and first-phase development. Memorial land acquisition costs were secured through a \$1.5 million grant from the State of Washington, which also covered costs of the first phase of memorial development. In partnership with the Bainbridge Island Land Trust and with the assistance of the Trust for Public Land, private fund raising secured approximately \$400,000 for future memorial development. In partnership with the City, public and private fund raising has successfully attained the goal of \$4.9 million needed to acquire the memorial site and the west half of the Joel Pritchard Park. The property purchase was completed in December 2004. The Friends of Pritchard Park are raising \$3.1 million for the remaining 275 acres.



A ceremonial ground breaking held by the Bainbridge Island World War II Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee for the *Nidoto Nai Yoni*—"Let it Not Happen Again"—Memorial was held on March 30 2004. Photo courtesy the Bainbridge Review

## Community’s Memorial Plan Updated

The Bainbridge Island World War II Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee has developed a two-phased approach to the creation of the memorial. The first phase addresses preparation of the site and includes: relocating the well and pump house, clearing and grading the site, relocating the existing road, constructing a

of the ferry dock, a memorial path along the original roadway, a story wall and a visitor contact facility. Other features, such as free-standing sculptures, paving, and installation of utilities, are included as part of the second phase.

The artist’s illustration below shows the ferry



Illustration courtesy Jones & Jones



# City’s Plans Progressing

Libby Hudson, Senior Planner for the City of Bainbridge Island, has been working with the Memorial Committee to assist in permit coordination and public acquisition planning for the memorial and Joel Pritchard Park. The City of Bainbridge Island, the Bainbridge Island Parks & Recreation District and the Bainbridge Island Historical Society are assisting in the planning of the memorial park, which will enhance the community and honor the 227 Bainbridge Island Japanese American internees. The Historical Society is in the process of developing a major exhibit on the internment that will complement what is being planned for the Eagledale Ferry Dock site.

# Copies of the Study Available

Copies of the draft *Study of Alternatives/ Environmental Assessment* are available at local libraries on Bainbridge Island and in Seattle. The Bainbridge Island City Hall and the Bainbridge Island Historical Society also have copies for the public. Individuals may obtain their own copy by writing to the NPS Park Planning Division, National Park Service, 909 First Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, or by sending an email to Anna\_Tamura@nps.gov. This newsletter and the draft alternatives study are also available at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/pwro>.

The study contains a background on Japanese American history on Bainbridge Island and the required elements of an alternatives study: purpose and need, significance, suitability and feasibility, management alternatives, and environmental consequences. Throughout the study are maps and photographs illustrating the history of the island and its Japanese American residents.



Islanders gathered in the ferry parking lot (center) to say farewell to their Japanese American friends and neighbors while Taylor Avenue (foreground) was secured by soldiers, prior to the ferry's arrival.

Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration

# Public Comments Are Needed

The NPS’s management policies stress that “public participation in planning and decision-making will ensure that the National Park Service fully understands and considers the public’s interest in the parks, which are part of their national heritage, cultural traditions, and community surroundings.” Superintendent Neil King outlined the NPS view of community-based planning when he specified that the public would be involved from beginning to end in developing the long-term management alternatives for the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial.

Release of the draft *Study of Alternatives/ Environmental Assessment* and scheduling of the public meetings in May 2005 are aimed at encouraging public comments regarding the conclusions of the study and the applicability

of the proposal to the creation of a memorial. Enclosed in this newsletter is a self-addressed and stamped public comment sheet for those unable to attend the public meetings.

You are encouraged to attend the public meetings and participate in the “open house” portion of the public meetings. The open house gives the public a chance to meet, face-to-face, members of the study team, ask questions, state concerns, and make suggestions. Commenting on public participation in the public meetings, King stated, “In general terms, I believe that we now know WHAT the public will support, at least as conveyed through our partners that are community-based. What I think we now need to understand is WHY they feel that way. What are the values that are driving their positions?”

# Where Does the Plan Go From Here?

There is a protocol the NPS follows regarding studies of new areas to the park system. A summary of public comments will be made after the public comment period closes on June 1, 2005. The study team will review the comments, make recommendations for the final report, and assist in the last required element of the report—the completion of the section on the “Most Effective and Efficient Management Alternative.”

In late June the study team will review the draft of the final report followed by briefings to various NPS officials. If there are no changes, the study will be sent to the Government Printing Office in May. About the first week in September, the study will be sent to Washington, DC, with hopes that by October 2005 the study will be sent to Congress. The final study will be placed on the NPS Planning website, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/pwro>, after the study is sent to Congress.

It should be noted that Congress can authorize any of the proposed alternatives, a combination of alternatives, or an entirely new version to address their interest in the commemoration. However, if the choice of Congress involves the NPS, funding to implement the selection is handled through a separate appropriation process.





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Mr. and Mrs. Yosuke Moji are escorted from their home by U.S. Army soldiers to a truck that will transport them to an assembly point at Eagledale Ferry Dock. March 30, 1942.

Photo courtesy the National Archives and Records Administration

## Public Meetings to Review Draft Alternatives

May 17, 2005, Tuesday  
2:00–4:00 p.m. and  
7:00–9:00 p.m.  
Bainbridge Island, Washington  
City Hall Council Chamber  
280 Madison Avenue N

May 18, 2005, Wednesday  
7:00–9:00 p.m.  
Seattle, Washington  
Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) Hall  
1212 South King Street

The small parking lot at the NVC fills quickly, and parking can be difficult to find. We recommend looking for parking on the adjoining streets.

## How Public Meetings Will Be Organized?

Three alternatives study public meetings have been scheduled. Two of them will be at City Hall on Bainbridge Island, and the third at the Nisei Veterans Committee headquarters in Seattle. The purpose of the public meetings is for the study team to present the alternatives and obtain the public’s feedback on the alternatives.

The meetings will begin with a short synopsis of the alternatives study. Because the purpose of the meeting is obtain feedback, participants will spend the majority of meeting time at a series of stations set up and staffed by a member of the study team where concerns and observations can be presented. The small groups at each station will be able to ask questions that concern them and benefit from the questions and comments of others in the group. The meetings are scheduled to last from one and a half hours to two hours.



*Nidoto Nai Yoni* in Japanese—let it not happen again—will be the local name and primary theme for the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial.

Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration