

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

October 2009

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Bureau of Reclamation and the Yangtze River Gorge

Amidst the turbulence and instability of World War II, the Chinese Government approached the Bureau of Reclamation for assistance in the damming of the Yangtze River. From the beginning of the 20th century, the Chinese believed that harnessing the Yangtze River would be a catalyst for development of a modern China. While the majority of the world was gripped by war, the Department of State, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Chinese Government laid the groundwork for construction of the largest public works projects in China since the Great Wall.

The Bureau of Reclamation turned to its great dam builder John Lucian "Jack" Savage to fill the request for a hydroelectric power specialist. Savage was one of the major designers of the Grand Coulee and Hoover Dams, and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). The Chinese had done some preliminary scouting through the National Resource Commission (NRC). The NRC's original mission was to design and implement defense-related industries to make China more self-sufficient. It is probably a safe assumption that they completed the first engineer's survey.



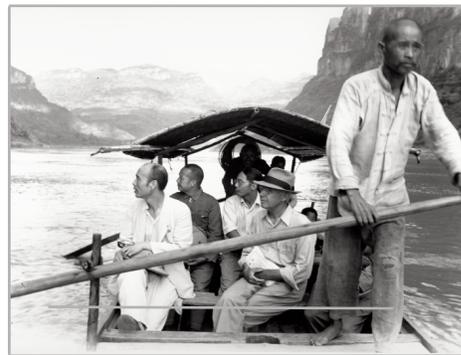
Dr. John L. Savage's Proposal for the Yangtze River Gorge Dam, 1945 (NRG 115-05-088)

Savage spent most of 1944 overseas in a multinational tour of Afghanistan, India, and China, with the majority of time in China. Upon his return in late 1944, Savage published a work proposal titled "Yangtze Gorge and Tributary Project." Savage stated in the preface, "The Yangtze Gorge Project is a 'CLASSIC.' It will be of utmost importance to China. It will bring great industrial developments in Central and Western China. It will bring widespread employment. It will bring high standards of living. It will change China from a weak to a strong nation. The Yangtze Gorge Project should be constructed for the benefit of China and the world at large."

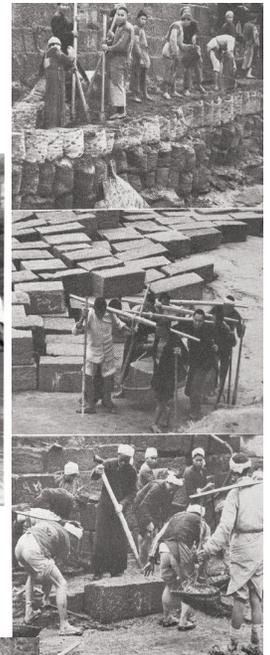
On June 3, 1946, the first project, the Upper Tsing Yuan Tung (U.T.Y.T) Dam, began construction. The dam would sit on one of the smaller tributaries of the Yangtze 25 miles north of the confluence of the Upper Tsing and the Yangtze. The NRC planned a 40-foot-high, 650-foot-long dam that contained 700,000 cubic feet of masonry. Work was painstakingly slow with most of the construction being performed manually by untrained Chinese laborers. The work was conducted in a way very similar to the building of the Great Wall of China. Excavated bedrock was carried up out of the river valley in handwoven baskets, and the masonic stone blocks for the foundation of the dam were hand-cut and moved by laborers into place at the base of the dam. Oftentimes, this was a family job with the children and elderly doing the lightest work while the stronger members of the family carried the heavier burdens. Approximately 1,500 workers were employed on the dam.

Eventually the armed conflict of the Chinese Revolution pushed into the Yangtze River Valley and Szechwan province, disrupting the construction project. With the outbreak of violence many of the Americans hired by the NRC returned

to the United States, including Savage and other top personnel. Additionally the long, drawn-out war bankrupted the government of Chiang Kai-shek. The project officially halted by August 15, 1947.



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Photo 1: **Dr. John L. Savage, and Chinese Delegation, on Yangtze River, 1944** (NRG-115-05-088)

Photos 2 and 3: **Early construction on the Yangtze River Gorge Dam, Upper Tsing Yuan Tung Dam, 1947** (8NN-115-92-222)

NARA WestCoast October 2009



The Broncho boys, largest cattle outfit on reservation, put up a lot hay with a little effort. Fort Hall Bottoms, 1935.

Record Group 75

Courtesy of National Archives at Seattle

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 2	3	
	Exhibit: Seattle, WA Faces of the Pacific Northwest 9/1/09-9/1/10	Exhibit: Anchorage, AK Pribilof Islands Historical Photographs 8/12/09-5/1/10		Boise, Idaho Idaho Council of History Education Annual Conference "Empires Gained, Empires Lost" Exhibit 206-336-5115 10/1-10/2/09	Fort Collins, CO Colorado State University Using Primary Archival Resources 1 P.M. Workshop College Students 303-407-5749	Richmond, CA NPS World War II Home Front Festival by the Bay Information Booth and Exhibit General Public 650-238-3478
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Denver, CO Western History Association Annual Meeting Information Booth and Exhibit Academics 303-407-5749 10/7-10/10/09	Seattle, WA Brick Wall Genealogical Discussion Group 206-336-5115 Yakima, WA Washington Library Media Association Annual Conference Other 206-336-5115		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Lamont, CA National Archives at the CA Dust Bowl Festival General Public 650-238-3478 Anchorage, AK Family History Resources at the National Archives Anchorage Genealogical Society Ancestry Day - Loussac Library Lecture 907-261-7800
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
					Salt Lake City, UT University of Utah Using Primary Resource Materials Lecture Graduate Students 303-407-5749 Elk Grove, CA TAH Civil Rights Workshops-Elk Grove CA Schools Workshop K-12 Teachers 650-238-3478	Denver, CO Black Genealogy Heritage Festival Conference Genealogists 303-407-5749
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
			Seattle, WA Family History Resources Lecture Genealogists 206-336-5115			Hayward, CA California Indian Conference-Research Resources Lecture/General Public 650-238-3484 Hayward, CA California Indian Conference-NARA Exhibit Information Booth and Exhibit/General Public 650-238-3484

The National Archives at

Laguna Niguel
949-360-2641
laguna.archives@nara.gov

San Bruno
650-238-3501
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Denver
303-407-5740
denver.archives@nara.gov

Seattle
206-336-5115
seattle.archives@nara.gov

Anchorage
907-261-7800
alaska.archives@nara.gov

NARA EastCoast October 2009

**Exhibit:
Chester, PA
Pennsylvania History
Association Conference
10/22-10/24/09**



Corn Packing Plant, 1938
Record Group 142
Courtesy of National Archives at Atlanta

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Exhibit: Morrow, GA Documented Rights 6/13/09-2/23/10	Lecture: Pittsfield, MA Genealogy on the Internet 10/31/09	Lecture: Pittsfield, MA Beginning Your Research at NARA 10/31/09		Waltham, MA U.S. Constitution Onsite Education Program Presenter: Annie Davis Educators 781-663-0121	Philadelphia, PA First Friday Genealogy Open House General Public 215-606-0112	Morrow, GA Georgia Genealogical Society Workshop Genealogists 770-531-9277
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Waltham, MA Intro to Genealogy Lecture and Tour Genealogists 866-406-2379 Boston, MA Archives I, 7:30 A.M.- 12:30 P.M. Presenter: Nathaniel Wiltzen At Simmons College 781-663-0121		Pittsfield, MA Beginning Your Ge- nealogy at NARA Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600	Federal Hall National Memorial, NY New York's National Treasures Other/General Public 866-840-1752	Bowling Green, NYC Exploring the U.S. Custom House Records Other/General Public 866-840-1752
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Open House: Morrow, GA Quench Your Thirst for History 10/15/09	Waltham, MA Introduction to Genealogy Presenter: Walter Hickey General Public 781-663-0121	New York, NY National Archives Open House Open House and Tour General Public 866-840-1752	Philadelphia, PA Genealogical Series: Census Records Philadelphia, PA Workshop Genealogists 215-606-0112	Pittsfield, MA Using Federal Census Records at NARA Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600		Morrow, GA National History Day Teacher Workshop K-12 Teachers 770-968-2530 Cherry Hill, PA Family History Conference Conference Genealogists 856-795-8841
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Workshop: Fayette County, GA Sons of Confederate Veterans - Genealogist 10/24/09		Morrow, GA Home School History Workshop K-12 Students 770-968-2530	Philadelphia, PA Genealogical Series: African American Resources Workshop Genealogists 215-606-0112	Ellis Island, NY Family History Game Show Other/General Public 866-840-1752 Waltham, MA Teaching with Film: Innovation in History in the Shadow of the Moon (2007) 781-663-0121	Philadelphia, PA Book Salon with author Thulani Davis General Public www.gophila.com/ questforfreedom quest@gptmc.com	Philadelphia, PA Black Family History Work- shop at AAMP General Public Genealogists www.gophila.com/ questforfreedom quest@gptmc.com 215-574-0838 x224
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Philadelphia, PA Birth of the Cool Exhibit at PAFA General Public www.gophila.com/ questforfreedom quest@gptmc.com	Troy, NY Beginning Your Genealogy at NARA Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3604 Troy, NY Beginning and Managing a Genealogy Project Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3604	New York, NY Finding Family: Using Google Workshop and Tour General Public 866-840-1752	Philadelphia, PA Genealogical Series: Internet Resources Workshop Genealogists 215-606-0112	Pittsfield, MA Using Military Records at NARA Workshop Genealogists 413-236-3600	Waltham, MA Lincoln Lecture, Civil War Roundtable Arlington Historical Society, 7:30 P.M. Presenter: Joe Keefe Offsite General Public 781-663-0121	Hudson, MA Introduction to NARA TAH Grant (Hudson) Windows Into America's Past, JFK Library 781-663-0121 Pittsfield, MA Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor at NARA Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600 Pittsfield, MA Using Federal Census Records at NARA Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600

The National
Archives at

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pittsfield.archives@nara.gov

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newyork.archives@nara.gov

Philadelphia
215-606-0100
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

Morrow
770-968-2100
atlanta.archives@nara.gov

NARA Midwest October 2009

Woman with large pumpkin at Cass Lake, ca. 1915
Record Group 75
Courtesy of National Archives at Kansas City



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Exhibit: Chicago, IL Celebrity Draft Registration Cards 4/1/09–12/31/10		Exhibit: Kansas City, MO Kansas-Nebraska Act 5/21/09–1/23/10 It's Big 5/21/09–1/23/10			1	2 Kansas City, MO Girl Scout Day Open House and Tour/General Public 816-268-8000 Kansas City, MO Film Series: Gary Cooper Goes to War Film Screening General Public 816-268-8000
4	5	Kansas City, MO IDL: Know Your Records Lecture: Documenting Death Workshop General Public 816-268-8000	6	Kansas City, MO Giving the Flu the Cold Shoulder Other/General Public 816-268-8000	8	9 Kansas City, MO Indian Study Group: Indian Education Workshop/General Public 816-268-8000 Kansas City, MO Giving the Flu the Cold Shoulder Other/General Public 816-268-8000
11	12		13	Kansas City, MO Computers 101: Using Federal Census Records Through Ancestry.com Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	15	16 Kansas City, MO Genealogy Workshop Series: What Genealogists Need Workshop/Genealogists 816-268-8000 Kansas City, MO Film Series: Gary Cooper Goes to War Film Screening General Public 816-268-8000
18	19	Kansas City, MO Author Lecture: Vir- gil Dean Lecture General Public 816-268-8000	20	Kansas City, MO Genealogy Work- shop Series: Basic Preservation and the Genealogist Workshop General Public 816-268-8000	22	23 Kansas City, MO Indian Study Group: Beginning Indian Research Workshop General Public 816-268-8000
25	26	Kansas City, MO IDL: Know Your Records Lecture: Civil War Medicine Workshop General Public 816-268-8000	27	Kansas City, MO Author Lecture: Marilyn Holt General Public 816-268-8000	29	30 Kansas City, MO Educator Work- shop: Famous and Infamous People in Kansas Workshop/K–12 Teachers 816-268-8000 10/30–10/31/09 Kansas City, MO Brown Bag Lecture Series: Census Records Workshop/Genealogists 816-268-8000
						24 Kansas City, MO From the Curator Exhibit Tour of the Kansas-Nebraska Act Lecture and Tour General Public 816-268-8000 Kansas City, MO Giving the Flu the Cold Shoulder Other/General Public 816-268-8000
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chicago.archives@nara.gov

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kansascity.archives@nara.gov

St. Louis
314-801-0850
Archival Programs Division

Fort Worth
817-831-5620
ftworth.archives@nara.gov