

The Women & Children of Boulder City

From 1931 Through 1935

By Judy C. Andrews

When the men came to build Hoover Dam in 1931 no thought was given to the fact that most of them were young men with families. Back in those days where ever your man went you and the family followed. It was also during the great depression so our economy was at it's very worst. It was not an option for the family to stay behind and fend for themselves.

When word got out that this great Dam was going to be built and thousands of men would be hired it started a migration to Boulder City and the Las Vegas area. I'm sure it could be said that the building of Hoover Dam had a great impact on the growth of Las Vegas in the early 1930's.

When the men and their families arrived the city and the homes had not been completed yet. It would not be until later in 1932 that homes would be ready for the Six Companies Employee's to move into. Even before homes for families were built the dormitories for the single men were a priority and built first. Also the employees and their families could not move into the homes until they were actually hired.

Small tent communities appeared in Boulder City. There were three communities. One was dubbed Rag town, also know as Hell's Hole and Williamsville. It was located down by the river north of the dam site and is now located at the bottom of Lake Mead. The other one was called McKeever'sville. McKeever'sville was formerly Government Survey