



## Guide to the Burrell C. Lawton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Lawton, Burrell C.
<b>Title:</b>	Burrell C. Lawton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00120
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1931-1934
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.3 Linear Feet (2 hanging folders)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Burrell C. Lawton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam depicts the construction of the Hoover (Boulder) Dam on the Colorado River near Las Vegas, Nevada from 1931 to 1934. The photographs primarily depict workers, construction equipment, and the progression of the dam's concrete structures. The photographs also depict construction of diversion tunnels, bridges, the gravel plant, the intake towers, and the concrete mixing plant.

### Preferred Citation

Burrell C. Lawton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam, 1931-1934. PH-00120. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Historical Background

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The Hoover Dam, also known as the Boulder Dam, was constructed on the Colorado River in Black Canyon near Las Vegas, Nevada from 1931 to 1936 during the Great Depression. The dam impounds Lake Mead, the country's largest reservoir, and it provides hydroelectric power to Nevada, Arizona, and California. The dam was built by workers employed by the joint venture of construction companies called Six Companies, Inc. Six Companies was chosen by the Bureau of Reclamation after winning a bid to construct the dam. The Hoover Dam was dedicated in 1935 and began operations in 1936.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Burrell C. Lawton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam depicts the construction of the Hoover (Boulder) Dam on the Colorado River near Las Vegas, Nevada from 1931 to 1934. The photographs primarily depict workers, construction equipment, and the progression of the dam's concrete structures. The photographs also depict construction of diversion tunnels, bridges, the gravel plant, the intake towers, and the concrete mixing plant.

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## Arrangement

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Materials remain in original order.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research. Some collection material has been digitized and is [available online](#).

### Publication Rights

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### Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1979 by Burrell C. Lawton; accession number 1979-272.

### Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Lindsay Oden wrote the collection description in compliance with current

professional standards. In 2020, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech added additional materials and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Virginia "Teddy" Fenton Photograph Collection on the Hoover Dam and Boulder City, Nevada, 1920-1985. PH-00022. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Boulder City 31ers Photograph Collection, 1930-1987. PH-00364. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Jamey Stillings Photographs of the Hoover Dam, 2009-2011. PH-00380. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Elbert Edwards Photograph Collection, 1852-1991. PH-00214. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Hoover Dam (Ariz. and Nev.)
- Boulder City (Nev.)
- photographs
- Civil engineering
- Construction
- Construction projects

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
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Swing shift workers leaving Dormitory No. 2 in Boulder City, Nevada, 1931 November 07 (0001) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
People at Look-Out Point viewing construction, 1932 April 01 (0002) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Night view looking upstream from below the lower portals of the diversion tunnels, 1932 April 08 (0003) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Looking downstream from a point below the lower portals of the diversion tunnels, with muck disposal road show on both sides of the river, 1932 January 19 (0004) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Government and Six Companies officials inspecting the Nevada spillway: Norman S. Gallison, H. J. Lawler, Walker R. Young, Charles A. Shea, E. O. Wattis, Elwood Mead, Frank T. Crave, R. F. Walter, and W. A. Bechtel, 1932 February 09 (0005) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Sunset on the Colorado River looking downstream from the railroad bridge, 1932 February 10 (0006) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Marion electric drag line with five cubic yard capacity bucket loading gravel, 1932 February 10 (0007) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Main batching and mixer control station low-level concrete mixing plant, 1932 February 17 (0008) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Night view of the gravel plant taken near the first scalping screen, 1932 February 26 (0009) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Gravel plant live storage of screened aggregate and sand, 1932 March 02 (0010) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Looking upstream at the low-level mixing plant with four cubic yard agitators mounted on white trucks, 1932 March 08 (0011) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Machine shop and warehouse group of buildings surrounded by material storage yards, 1932 March 11 (0012) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Interior of Six Companies machine shop showing equipment to handle heavy machine work, 1932 March 11 (0013) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Looking upstream at Black Canyon and foot bridges, 1932 March 12 (0014) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Marion shovel and trucks opening an adit, 1932 March 18 (0015) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
First 40-foot slab of concrete poured in lining of the diversion tunnels, 1932 March 18 (0016) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Day shift workers entering transports at the upper portals for their return to Boulder City, 1932 March 18 (0017) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
30 cubic yard side dump car from the gravel pits dumping into depressed track hopper at the gravel plant, 1932 March 19 (0018) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Sand classifier in the gravel plant, 1932 March 19 (0019) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Water clarifier tank at the gravel plant, 1932 March 19 (0120_0020)	

	folder 01
Rake type sand classifier producing finished sand for storage, 1932 March 19 (0021) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Concrete lining in the diversion tunnels, two cubic yard buckets suspended from the Gantry crane, 1932 March 23 (0022) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Four cubic yard agitators dumping into two cubic yard buckets, 1932 March 23 (0023) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Gantry crane transporting four cubic yard Rex motor mixers in pouring tunnel lining, 1932 March 23 (0024) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Blast in scaling down the canyon walls for the construction of the intake towers, taken from the river-level looking downstream, 1932 March 28 (0025) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Nevada spillway open cut excavation as seen from the Arizona side of the river, 1932 March 28 (0026) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Low-level concrete mixing plant, 1932 March 28 (0027) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Caterpillar tractors, equipped with bulldozers, perform a multitude of tasks in connection with road building and the removal of blasted rock, 1932 March 28 (0028) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Temporary cable-way spanning the Colorado river, near Look-Out Point, providing access to the Arizona spillway operations, 1932 April 01 (0029) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Boulder City Company Store at night, 1932 April 06 (0030) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Finishing slabs in invert lining, 1932 April 11 (0031) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Interior of Six Companies guest house, 1932 April 10 (0032) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Trucks hauling concrete from the mixing plant for invert lining, 1932 April 11 (0033) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Trimming jumbo used in scaling walls of diversion tunnels and remaining project rock, 1932 April 12 (0034) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Temporary truck bridge has been abandoned with the approach of the spring rise in the river, 1932 April 12 (0035) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Boulder City, Nevada, 1931 December 11 (0036) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 August 15 (0037) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Truck equipment, 1931 December 08 (0038) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction site, looking upstream, 1933 June 03 (0039) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	

	folder 02
Construction site, looking downstream, 1933 June 06 (0040) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
First concrete at the Hoover Dam, 1933 June 06 (0041) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction site, looking upstream, 1933 June 27 (0042) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction site, looking downstream, 1933 June 21 (0043) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 July 22 (0044) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 August 07 (0045) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 August 22 (0046) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 August 31 (0047) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 September 07 (0048) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 September 15 (0049) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 September 22 (0050)	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 September 22 (0051)	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1933 September 22 (0052) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction of the Hoover Dam, looking upstream, 1934 July 31 (0053) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Power house on Nevada side and penstock tunnels, 1934 July 20 (0054) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Arizona intake towers, 1934 July 24 (0055) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Spillway on the Arizona side showing steel gates in position, 1934 July 24 (0056) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Looking upstream toward Black Canyon, approximately 1932 to 1933	folder 02