

Afternoon Breeze



Boulder City, Nevada Gateway to Historic Hoover Dam

The Depression drew more than the expected male labor force to the Hoover Dam construction project. Along with the men, came hundreds of wives and children. Because Boulder City designers hadn't planned for family life, the women improvised, shaping the temporary camp into an enduring community. They planted vines and fashioned rugs out of scraps, transforming slapdash houses into pleasant cottages—some of which served as original facilities for the schools, churches, and civic groups they established. Dust and snakes crept through the cracks in their walls, and the heat was often unbearable, but they pressed on, sustained by hard work, ingenuity, and an occasional afternoon breeze.

Harsh living conditions could not dampen the spirit of those hardy women. As Boulder City began to flourish from its humble construction camp beginnings, a new culture began to emerge with its own unique character and personality. Like their sisters in more established cities, they wanted to appear their best when meeting with friends or attending social functions.

The pioneering woman depicted in the life-size bronze sculpture has been created in hi-realism detail with an Art Deco flair. She is dressed in authentic circa 1930-35 clothing and accessories that would have been available to Boulder City residents and reflects a desire to fulfill their destiny that laid the foundation for the Boulder City of today.

Why not take a moment to reflect upon her heritage as she takes a walk at the historic intersection of Nevada Way and Arizona Street, to meet with new friends and encounters an *Afternoon Breeze*.

Roy W. Butler | *redefining the Art of Life*

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