

March

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ACCOUNTS OF SALT RIVER BOATING

JE Fuller Report (September 1996), Table 6, pages 3-18 through 3-19

DATE	ACCOUNT
1 May 1873	Two men transported a flat boat loaded with five tons of wheat down the Salt River from Hayden's Ferry to the Swilling Canal, then down the canal to Hellings and Co.'s mill (<i>Weekly Arizona Miner</i> , May 3, 1873).
2 June 1873	Charles Hayden attempted to float logs down the Salt River and to establish a lumber mill in Tempe, but could not get the logs through the canyons upstream (<i>Weekly Arizona Miner</i> , June 14, 21, 28, 1873; Robinson and Bonham n.d., as cited by Lacy et al., give an incorrect date of 1875).
3 February 1881	Two men (Cotton and Bingham) reported to be planning to travel in an 18-foot, flat-bottom skiff from Phoenix to Yuma by way of Salt and Gila rivers (<i>Arizona Gazette</i> , February 17, 1881).
4 November/ December 1881	Bucky O'Neill and two others tried to boat from Phoenix to Yuma on the <i>Yuma or Bust</i> , a boat 20 feet long and five feet wide (<i>Phoenix Gazette</i> , November 30 and December 3, 1881; McCroskey 1988).
5 1883	Jim Meadows and three other men floated the Salt River between Livingstone (near the present-day Roosevelt Dam) and Tempe (<i>Arizona Republican</i> , October 4, 1909).
6 February 1883	North Willcox and Dr. G.E. Andrews, U.S.A., floated a canvas skiff from McDowell to Barnum's pier on the Salt River Valley Canal (<i>Arizona Gazette</i> , February 14, 1883). Report states that the "Salt River is a navigable stream and should be included in the Rivers and Harbors appropriation."
7 June 1885	In another attempt to see if logs could be floated down the Salt, William Bunch and four other men (listed variously as John Meaders, John Meadows, Lew Robinson, and James Logan), successfully boated the Salt River in a 18'x5' boat from 4 miles above Tonto Creek confluence to Phoenix (<i>Arizona Gazette</i> , June 3, 5, 6, 8, 1885).
8 December 1888	Major E.J. Spaulding (commandant of Fort McDowell) and Capt. Charles A.J. Hatfield, intending to canoe from Fort McDowell on the Verde River to Phoenix, hunting along the way, made it as far as the Mesa Dam on the Salt River, where Major Spaulding was killed when his gun discharged while lifting the canoe over the Mesa Dam (<i>Phoenix Herald</i> , December 12, 1888; Reed, 1977:140).

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9	January 1889	A ferry boat owned by Vol Gentry and W. Cox, "which had been used for years on the Salt River at the Maricopa crossing was floated down the river with the purpose of taking her to the Gila Bend crossing." Forty miles below Phoenix, the boat struck a snag and was cut in two (<i>Tombstone Daily Prospector</i> , January 24, 1889).
10	1890	According to Scott Soliday, research historian at the Tempe Historical Museum, an article in the <i>Mesa Free Press</i> of 1890 or 1891 describes how, after Fort McDowell was abandoned, A.J. Chandler had logs or sawn timber from the fort floated down the Verde and then used in the head gates of the Consolidated Canal (Scott Soliday, personal communication to Douglas Mitchell, 8/12/93). (This article has not been located.)
11	February 1895	Amos Adams and G.W. Evans boated from the San Francisco River to Clifton, then down the Gila to Sacaton. They then hauled the boat overland to Phoenix, and then boated down the Salt and Gila Rivers to Yuma (<i>Phoenix Herald</i> , February 18, 25, 1895).
12	December 1905	Engineers from the Reclamation Service of the Department of the Interior, appraising the property of the Arizona Water Company, traveled by boat from below the Arizona Dam to the head of the Consolidated Canal (<i>Arizona Republican</i> , December 9, 1905).
13	March 1905	Jacob Shively built a boat at the Chamberlain Lumber Company in Phoenix, intending to float it to Yuma (<i>Arizona Republic</i> , March 30, 1905).
14	February 1905	Boat used to rescue people from the flooded Salt River (<i>Arizona Republic</i> , February 5, 1905).
15	June 1910	Two men took a rowboat trip from Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River to Granite Reef Dam, and then to Mesa via the South Canal (<i>Arizona Republican</i> , June 28, 1910).
16	January 1915	Boat used to rescue people from the flooded Salt River (<i>Arizona Gazette</i> , January 30, 1915).