

History of a Place Called Rescue

Bass

William Stephen Bass was born on October 18, 1875, to Stephen and Lydia (Dow) Bass, in a mining camp in Lincoln County, Nevada. By 1898, William and a cousin were mining near Jayhawk. He married Anna Louise Brandon (daughter of Edgar and Mary J. (Reimer) Brandon) on November 25, 1899. They had three daughters: Clara, Genevieve, and Wilma.

In 1904, William Bass, owner of the Boulder Mine, had just struck a ledge of quartz and gold “pay dirt” when he died of typhoid fever. His daughter, Clara, remembers *“the last trip of her father into the mine where the light of the candle on his cap reflected upon the walls of the tunnel making the gold and quartz crystals shine like diamonds.”* (For more information on the family, see the Brandon Family Tree, page 157.)



El Dorado County Museum Collection

This is a picture of William S. Bass, taken in front of one of the tunnels associated with the Boulder Mine. He owned the Boulder Mine when he died in 1904.



L. R. Swick Family Collection



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Anna (Brandon) Bass and her husband, William, probably taken on November 25, 1899; their wedding day.

L. R. Swick Family Collection



This is a picture of two of the three Bass daughters taken in about 1904. From left to right: Clara and Genevieve.

Patty McHugh Family Collection



Wilma Bass was born in 1905, several months after her father's death. She was raised by Mary Brandon, her grandmother.