

# Paradise Found

The lack of reliable transportation to outside markets hindered the development of more large-scale, intense agriculture. The inability to ship agricultural goods to markets outside of the Owens Valley and the immediate vicinity resulted in the development of a small-farm model, with a combination of livestock and mixed crops, such as hay, oats, and other feed crops for livestock.

A fair number of orchards were also established, with Manzanar being the most successful example. A robust exchange of products from the area's ranches and farms to local residents sustained both.

In 1883, the Carson & Colorado Railway arrived but its limited service area did not enable much of an increase for the agriculture market. In 1910, the Southern Pacific Railroad arrived and linked the area directly to Southern California to enable distribution of more Inyo County agriculture. Successful mining, abundant water, profitable farms and

Ranches ... at the turn of the century, Inyo County residents were enjoy a peaceful and pastoral way of life. It appeared that paradise had been found.

