

TEACHER'S GUIDE
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MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

Seattle Hooverville

The Depression left millions of Americans unemployed. Some Americans and their families, unable to afford rents or mortgages on their homes, were forced to live on the streets. Massive shantytowns called "Hoovervilles"—named for President Hoover, whom many Americans blamed for the Depression—sprang up as temporary housing for the newly homeless. Seattle's largest Hooverville (seen in this photograph from 1933) stretched for over 9 acres and consisted of hundreds of shacks without electricity or running water.



Source: "Homeless shantytown known as Hooverville," ca. 1933, Seattle Photograph Collection, University of Washington Libraries, Special Collection Division.
<http://digitalcollections.lib.washington.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/seattle/id/1167/rec/14>