

## Ephraim Darius Boren

Ephraim Darius Boren was born 9 January 1849 in Pottawattamie, Iowa. He was the son of Beverly Collins Boren and Mary Frances Mathis. The family moved to Hancock, Illinois, in 1852.<sup>1</sup> His family crossed the plains in 1852 but it is unknown when or how he travelled west. In 1860, the family was living in San Salvador, San Bernardino, California.<sup>2</sup>

In 1870, Ephraim was a farm worker, living with family in San Bernardino, San Bernardino, California.<sup>3</sup> By 1880, he was a teamster, living with his brother in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.<sup>4</sup> He married Mary Ann Mathews about 1885 in California<sup>5</sup>; they had no children. Ephraim proofed his land claim as under continuous residence and cultivation in 1887 in San Bernardino.<sup>6</sup> In 1891, he ran a wanted ad for a milkman for his farm with requested application to his real estate office on E Street.<sup>7</sup>

In 1892, he was a farmer, living in Mohave, San Bernardino, California. His voter registration described him as five foot nine inches, with blue eyes and brown hair. He had a scar under his left eye. Ephraim served as a ballot clerk for Oro Grande voting precinct,<sup>8</sup> where he farmed until at least 1898.<sup>9</sup> He and others appeared before a judge to ask that he “restrain a large number of persons who reside above them on the banks of the raging Mohave” to keep them from interfering with their water rights of 600 inches. The injunction was abandoned because of the copious amounts of recent rain.<sup>10</sup>

On the 1900 census, Ephraim was a farmer, living with his wife in Victor Township, San Bernardino, California.<sup>11</sup> Mary Ann died in 1906 in San Bernardino and was buried in the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery.<sup>12</sup> In 1910, Ephraim was a farmer, living with his brother in San Bernardino, San Bernardino, California.<sup>13</sup> He served as an election judge, with the polling place at his residence on Waterman Avenue.<sup>14</sup> By 1913, he was in poor health, which was reported in the *Pioneers* column of the local newspaper.<sup>15</sup> He died 18 April 1914 in San Bernardino and was buried in the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery.<sup>16</sup>

Research by Elaine Young, 2016

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<sup>1</sup> Iowa 1852 Census.

<sup>2</sup> United States Census, 1860.

<sup>3</sup> United States Census, 1870; California Voter Registers, 1866-1898.

<sup>4</sup> United States Census, 1880.

<sup>5</sup> California Voter Registers, 1866-1898; United States Census, 1900.

<sup>6</sup> *Daily Courier*, 25 February 1887, p. 3.

<sup>7</sup> *Daily Courier*, 17 December 1891, p. 4.

<sup>8</sup> *San Bernardino County Sun*, 17 October 1894, p. 3; 20 October 1896, p. 4.

<sup>9</sup> California Great Registers, 1866-1910.

<sup>10</sup> *San Bernardino County Sun*, 1 September 1894, p. 3.

<sup>11</sup> United States Census, 1900.

<sup>12</sup> *Findagrave.com*

<sup>13</sup> United States Census, 1910.

<sup>14</sup> *San Bernardino County Sun*, 7 May 1912, p. 10.

<sup>15</sup> *San Bernardino County Sun*, 30 November 1913, p. 13; 21 December 1913, p. 8.

<sup>16</sup> California Death Index, 1905-1939; *San Bernardino County Sun*, 22 April 1914, p. 4.