

# Beverly Collins Boren

(9/3/2016)

Beverly Collins Boren was born 30 October 1819 in Jonesboro, Union, Illinois. He was the fifth of six children of Hosea Boren and Sarah Standard. His father died when he was six years old.<sup>1</sup>

Beverly patented 40 acres of land in Pulaski, Illinois, in 1838.<sup>2</sup> The next year, he married Mary Frances Mathis in 1839 in Madison, Illinois.<sup>3</sup> They had twelve children. On the 1840 census, they were living in Union, Illinois.<sup>4</sup> In 1845, they were living in Hancock, Illinois, then Davis, Iowa, then Pottawattamie, Iowa in the spring of 1847.<sup>5</sup> By 1849, they were living in Pottawattamie, Iowa, next door to his brother and family.<sup>6</sup> In 1852, they were living back in Hancock, Illinois.<sup>7</sup>

Beverly, his wife Mary, and three of their children crossed the plains to the Great Salt Lake Valley with the Benjamin Gardner Company in 1852. Beverly was the clerk of the company.<sup>8</sup> Their family "outfit" consisted of two ox teams and a horse team. As they reached Bluff Ruins, cholera appeared in the company. His brother and sister died and were buried near Willow Creek. They reached the valley in September 1852. They proceeded south to Provo where they spent the winter. Indians troubled them for two years and then the emigrants left the territory.<sup>9</sup>

The family purchased fresh oxen and took the road for California under the leadership of a man named Haskell. They ran into Walker's band of Utes, who told them that "white men were welcome to leave the territory". With a guard of about 60 Indians and an interpreter, they were escorted as far as Las Vegas and into California. They struggled onward across the desert suffering from lack of water, until they reached San Bernardino, California.<sup>10</sup>

On the 1860 census, Beverly was a farmer, living with his wife and seven children in San Salvador Township, San Bernardino, California.<sup>11</sup> In 1863, he was a retail dealer for his company, called Beverly C Boren & Company, in District 2 of California.<sup>12</sup> He was in retail dry goods. He and Mary must have split up, for he remarried, and she is listed as a "widow" on the 1880 census, living with her son. She died in 1905 in San Bernardino and was buried in the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery.<sup>13</sup>

Beverly's second wife was Hannah Pugmire, they married in 1873 in San Francisco, San Francisco, California. He was 54 years old; she was 31; they had five daughters. In 1874, he was a merchant in San Bernardino. He had an accident with another carriage and was severely injured with a dislocated shoulder.<sup>14</sup> Beverly and Hannah moved back to Utah by 1876 where a child was born St George,

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<sup>1</sup> Tennessee Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008.

<sup>2</sup> US General Land Office Records, 1796-1907.

<sup>3</sup> Illinois County Marriages, 1810-1934.

<sup>4</sup> United States Census, 1840.

<sup>5</sup> Incidents in the Life of William B Boren, at *Familysearch.org*

<sup>6</sup> Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925; Iowa 1852 Census; *Familysearch.org*

<sup>7</sup> *Familysearch.org*

<sup>8</sup> Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel Database, 1847-1868.

<sup>9</sup> Incidents in the Life of William B Boren, at *Familysearch.org*

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> United States Census, 1860.

<sup>12</sup> US IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918.

<sup>13</sup> *Findagrave.com*

<sup>14</sup> *Los Angeles Herald*, 11 January 1874, p. 3.

Washington, Utah Territory, followed by another child born in Leeds, Washington, Utah Territory, in 1878.

In 1880, Beverly was a farmer, living with his wife and six children (three Hope, three Boren) in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.<sup>15</sup> The next year they returned to California where they had a child born in Santa Ana, Orange, California, and one in San Bernardino in 1884.<sup>16</sup> Beverly was listed as a laborer, a trader, and a farmer for the next few years in San Bernardino.<sup>17</sup>

Beverly died at his home on the Richard Stewart place, two miles east of San Bernardino, on 27 April 1888. He was one of the oldest settlers of the valley.<sup>18</sup> He was buried in the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery. Hannah remarried in 1896 and died in 1931 in Santa Monica, California, and was buried in Inglewood.

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<sup>15</sup> United States Census, 1880.

<sup>16</sup> California Great Registers, 1866-1910; California Voter Registers, 1866-1898; *Familysearch.org*

<sup>17</sup> California Voter Registers, 1866-1898; US City Directories, 1822-1995.

<sup>18</sup> *Daily Courier* [San Bernardino], 27 April 1888, p. 8.