Barr family web site

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/6524/baer2.html>

<http://www.jenforum.org/baer/>

I am the great-great-granddaugther of William Boyer and Henrietta (nee Ritter) Boyer. My sources indicate they had a daughter by the name of "Annie", but there is no indication that her first name was "Rose" or "Rosa". My sources also indicate that their daughter, Sarah Boyer (1846-1877), was married to James L. Ellis and was the birth mother of Sarah Henrietta Ellis. After Sarah died, James married Rose Ann (last name unknown), who died in 1884.

?  I live in Knoxville, TN, but my mom now lives in Columbia, MD, with my sister and her family.  My dad was a Methodist Minister for more than 70 years when he died in 2003.  He served churches in Florida and New Jersey, and again in Florida after he retired in 1977.  When we lived in NJ (1953-1977), we would visit our aunts (Etta, Clara, & Jo) in Reading frequently.  It was about a 3-hour trip (one-way) and a nice get-away for short holidays not involving weekends.  My dad always loved Reading because it was so quiet ... we didn't have cell phones or email in those days.
My mom was born in Reading in 1922, but spent her early teens in York before moving to Pulaski, VA, to finish high school in 1940.  She graduated from Marion Junior College (Marion, VA) in 1942 and finished up her BA in English and Journalism at the University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL) Magna Cum Laude in 1953 (just before we moved to NJ).  Her dad had been a foreman in hosier mills in various places, including York and Pulaski.  Back in the 90's, I drove Mom to York to visit her home, school and church.  It was a very nostalgic time for her ... and I learned a lot about her life during that trip.

In the 1880 census, an "Annie Boyer" was living in the Ellis household as a servant (and may have been Sarah's sister) to help James Ellis take care of his children.

If "Annie" Boyer's full name was, in fact, "Rose Anna" (and she was called "Annie") then it would make sense that they should marry. Unfortunately, Rose Ann Ellis died in 1884; the Reading, PA, Death Records indicate an "Annie" Ellis died in 1884.

Additionally, Rose Ann Ellis and Sarah (nee Boyer) Ellis are buried next to James L. Ellis in graves in front of the Boyer Monument in Charles Evans Cemetery.

The estate papers you attached are for the father, James Ellis (1814-1865).  James L. Ellis  was the son (and husband of Sarah Boyer and Rose A Boyer, who may or may not be related) who petitioned the court for settlement of his dad's intestate estate.  Intestate means that James Ellis died without leaving a will.  (I'm a paralegal by profession and specialize in matters such as civil litigation, wills and estates).  In the case of James Ellis (the father), it is not unexpected that he should die without leaving a will because he died unexpectedly in a fire, and he was only 51 yrs of age at the time of his death.  Most people (until the latter part of the 20th century) did not write a "Last Will and Testament" until their death was imminent.

Thank you so much for the additional papers.  Do you know the maiden name of James' 3rd wife, Amanda (the mother of the still born daughter on 28 Jan 1894)?  Also, do you know when they were married?  I'm still researching her vitals (birth date & death date).

From the documents provided, it appears Rose Ann ("Annie"), James' 2nd wife, died as a consequence of the still-birth of a daughter on 11 Aug 1884.  I note that the undertaker was C. Henninger & Son, so I have lots of questions for them, as well, when I'm in Reading.  I wonder if the baby was buried with Rose Ann in the same casket.

I would like to keep you in my contact list ... are you the same person as Bob Graham and Robert Calvin Graham ... or are those different people.  Mom will be so excited to hear that there is someone else researching her family (Billig/Boyer/Ellis/Long/Kistler)

I do have some old photos ... will have to go through them again (I inherited a lot of things from my great aunts in Reading, i.e., the children of Henrietta Josephine Boyer Billig).  I believe there's a photo of Great Aunt Jane, and perhaps one of Great Aunt Mary (both sisters of Sarah and Annie).

When I am in Reading, I will be getting copies of the documents, if they're available (e.g., the death certificate for Sarah Boyer Ellis, and perhaps the Marriage Certificate for Sarah and James as well.)  I'll have to see what is available.

BTW:  The Boyer brothers and sisters who did not survive childhood are all buried in the Ritter Family Cemetery in Exeter Twp.  They are:  Catharina Elisabeth (1841-1854), Jeremiah B (1842-1844), Susanna (1843-1845), Infant Son (1845-1845), and Isaac (1854-1855).  Hannah (1858-1877) was the first sibling to be buried in the Boyer Family plot in Charles Evans Cemetery.  Sarah died the same year, and was buried in front of her in the plot reserved for the James Ellis family (Sarah, Rose Ann, and James L.  His parents are probably buried there as well, but I'll have to verify that when I'm there next month).  The remaining Boyer family members buried in that plot are listed on the Boyer Family Monument behind the Ellis grave sites.  They are (in the order of burial): Mother: Henrietta D (1822-1888), Father: William Boyer (1819-1893), Daughter, Jane Edith (a/k/a Jennie E, 1865-1930), and Daughter, Mary Martha (a/k/a Mary M, 1960-1933).  (Another sister, Clara May Boyer (1863-1901), was married to Wilson P. Long, MD.  She is buried in the Billig/Long family plot in Sec A-1, Lot 46, Grave 1)

There were 14 Boyer children altogether (that we know of).  They must have moved to Reading sometime after 1854, b/c that is when my Great-Grandmother (Henrietta Josephine) was born, and her place of birth is listed in the Billig Family Bible as "Oley Line").  I do note, however, that the Marriage Certificate for James L and Rosa A states Rosa was born in Reading ... perhaps they just assumed she was born in Reading City, as opposed to being born on the family homestead in Oley Line.  Regardless, I'll check all that out when I'm in Reading.

Thanks for your interest ... it's fun to have a cousin (distant though we may be) as interested in genealogy as I am.  I'll be sure to share your interest in the family with my mom.
Other than census records, the only other information I have is in "Find-A-Grave" for Charles Evans Cemetery where the headstones for both Sarah Ellis and Rose Ann Ellis are pictured and provides memorial information.  Each is listed as "Wife of James L. Ellis."  If you have access to Ancestry.com, you are welcome to visit my family tree "Jewett/Billig Family Tree".  The information I have for the James L. Ellis family will be shown under Sarah Boyer, daughter of William Boyer (1819-1893).

My great-grandmother was Henrietta Josephine (nee Boyer) Billig, and one of the sisters of Sarah Boyer Ellis and "Annie" Boyer.  One of her sons, Paul Boyer Billig, was my grandfather.  (He was the only one of Henrietta Josephine Boyer's children to have children born to him).   My mother is Elizabeth Jane Billig Jewett, who is still living.  Both her brother (William James Billig) and sister (Catherine Mae Billig) are deceased.  Mom and I will be going to Reading next month.  (She currently lives in Maryland and I live in Tennessee).  I will contact you again upon my return home after I have verified Billig & Boyer family information.
I checked some of the stack that I got, or sent for, from Reading- Archives, Library, and Charles Evans Cemetery, and found that this old brain still has a little left in it.

James L (Luxon?) ELLIS first married Sarah ????, who died 9 JUN 1877, at age

30 of a blood clot. He next married Rosa Anna "Annie" BOYER on 19 JAN 1882.

 He was 39 and she 30. Annie died during the still birth of a child on 11

AUG 1884, at age 33.

The infant deaths of James and Sarah/Annie babies that I am reasonably sure of are Albert, died 3 AUG 1874, age 3 mos, of Meningitis; William B, died 25 MAR 1878, age 0/21/12, of Acute Bronchitis; and the unnamed still born on 11 AUG

1884. In the ELLIS/BOYER plot at Charles Evans is also the remains of

Philip A ELLIS, who lived form 13 JUN 1862 until 26 JUN 1862, but was not interred

in this plot until 1871. I don't think this is the end of it. Rather, I

think there are many more questions to be answered.

I'll keep working on this stack, and hopefully I will have more answers than

questions soon.

Hope we can all get together between 10 and 18 OCT near Reading.

Take care,

**Register of Wills/Clerk of Orphans’ Court**

**Berks County, Pennsylvania**

**Berks County Services Center LARRY MEDAGLIA**

**633 Court St.** *Register of Wills and*

**2nd Floor** *Clerk of Orphan’s Court*

**Reading, PA 19601-4321 Philip J. Edwards, Esq. Solicitor**

610-478-6600

**www.berksregofwills.com and** [**www.co.berks.pa.us**](http://www.co.berks.pa.us)

I have a little more info for you, and hope we can all get together in OCT to

assimilate all we have. I've never thought our ELLIS line could have been

part of the Ellis & Lessig Iron Works, but you never know. Wow, maybe we do

have some money.

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questions soon.

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Take care,

BobR

copied another cousin, June HERB on both your note and this reply.   Not
only is she working hard on the ELLIS family, but has found another searcher,
Nancy, who has done a great deal of research in the US Census.   June and I have
worked the archives, newspaper, and cemetery, etc., route.   Hopefully, June,
Nancy, and I will get together on my next visit to PA in OCT, and fill out
all the details that remain.   If you live near the area, you are certainly
invited.

Our ELLISes were from Cornwall, and there was a LUXON surname.

James ELLIS, 1814-1865 and Mary Ann LUXON, 1816-1881, were June's and my ggg
grandparents, your gggg grandparents, and were from Cornwall, UK, and were
married c. 1837.   They had the following 7 children, the first 5 being born in
St Austell, Cornwall, UK:

Elizabeth, 1838-1913, married William TOMS.   They are June's gg grandparents.

Jane, 1840-1912, married William QUICK, they had no children.

James L, 1842-1899, married Sarah ???, and had the following children:

     James, 1865

     Henry, 1868

     Isaac, 1870

     Sallie, 1873, your gg grandmother.

Note:   Somewhere in my "stack of stuff," I think I have info on James
marrying twice, both of his wives dying very young.   Also, I think he fathered
several children that died in infancy.   I'll get all I know together by OCT, I
hope.

William Henry, 1845-???, married Elizabeth.

Annie Luxon, 1847-1911, married Jonas REIFSNEIDER,  my gg grandparents.

The two youngest, George, 1849, and Mary, c. 1853, who married ??? AUBACH,
were born in Bridgeport, Montgomery County, PA.

We have lots more to share as soon as we find out what you need.   This was
just a short outline.

By the way, how did you come across my name and e-mail address?

Write when you can, take care,

Bob Reifsneider
Orange Park, FL