Buddies of Sam Hunnicutt: The life of John Everett (1857-1937)

By: Don Casada Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

Photo courtesy of Jim Estes

John Everett

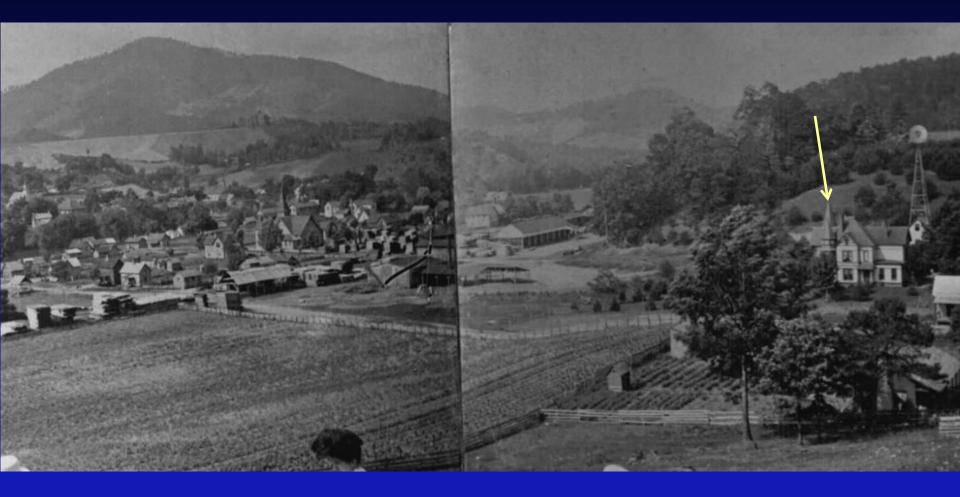
- Born in Blount County, Tennessee in 1857 (his obituary erroneously says he was a native of Bryson City)
- Son of Epp Everett, 1st county sheriff and 1st town mayor; Epp had served the 3rd TN Mounted Infantry and also the Thomas Legion
- Married Anna Lou Simpson, twin sister of Fannie Simpson Leatherwood
- Father of six daughters by Anna Lou, including Fannie Everett Clancy

Victorian mansion built for John by his parents near current day First Baptist



From: Heritage of Swain County

View from eastern end of Leatherwood Hill, early 1900s



He was known to the law as a young man

- 1876 spring term, Swain Superior Court: Assault and Battery – true bill, payment of costs
- 1884, spring term Assault and Battery, pleads guilty, judgment suspended until next term, \$200 security
- Also 1884, spring term Carrying Concealed Weapon, pleads guilty, judgment suspended until next term, \$200 security

But he later served as Deputy Sheriff

- Asheville Citizen : Deputy Sheriff J. H. Everett of Bryson City, was in Asheville last night, on his way home from the Indian Territory, where he had gone to take the Indian, John Muskrat, who had been implicated in two murders. had escaped two years ago, and had taken reluge with the Indians of this State. Mr. Everett went to Tahlequah, the capital of the Cherokees, delivered his prisoner to Chief C. H. Harris and received the reward, \$500.

Wilmington Morning Star, March 9, 1893

Everett had previously taught school

- According to Lillian Thomasson*, John Everett was the first paid public school teacher
- Taught in the original courthouse in the 1870s
- Previously taught subscription schools on Jenkins and Bryson Branches

* Swain County – Early History and Educational Development

John Everett

Had a broad variety of business operations in Bryson City

Ads in Asheville Citizen, June 18, 1904:

FOR S.	per a	Sever	al moun	tain farms and time,
also a lands	from id, by	2,000 \$2 to J. H.	acres o \$5 per	f valuable acre near of Bryson 6-18 1t
con e		1		A C Cro.

FOR SALE.—A second hand C. Cretors Pea Parcher for sale, practically new, at an awful bargain. J. H. Everett, Bryson City, N. C. 6-18 1t

FOR SALE.—One Triumph Edison phonograph with 200 molded records in three handsome carrying cases, at less than cost, all practically new. Address J. H. Everett, Bryson City, N. C. 6-18 1t

He appears to have a foothold in Asheville as early as 1882

Asheville Music House,

Branch of STEEN & MARSHALL, Knoxville, Tenn.



Prices and terms exactly the same, and all instruments guaranteed six years.

PIANOS-embracing Ducker Brothers, Fisher, Vose & Son, Serley, steinway, the Morris. and other makers, ORGANS-Sterling, Smith American Organ Company, Estes, and others. Small goods and sheet music kept on hand.

Store opposite Eagle Hotel.

An examination of my goods and prices solicited.

J. H. EVERETT, Asheville, N. C. Send for Catalogue and Prices. fe 6-1 y.

Among those highlighted in "Bryson City: **Center of Rich Timber Section**"

"Conducts real estate and insurance business...runs a roller process mill one mile from town..."

Asheville Gazette-News, July 16, 1910

an area of 4245 acres, says: "My opinion is that the property owned by Mr. Moon in Swain county. North Carolina, as it stands today, is worth one million dollars, and with an outlay of from \$100,000 to \$200,000 in development work the value of this property could be doubled many times.

BRYSON CITY DRUG CO.

Kelly E. and Percival R. Bennett compose the Bryson City Drug company, the interior of whose beautiful store is shown berewith. Mr. Kelly E. Bennett manages the business. which is quite a signal success. Great care is taken in correctly filling physicians' prescriptions, Beside this very important factor and feature of a down to date drug store, a splendid stock is carried of pure, fresh drugs, druggists' sundries, toilet articles, soaps, perfumes. An excellent soda water and ice cream service is also conducted by this very popular and successful business firm,

T. I. HUGHES, GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Mr. T. I. Hughes is a self-made man. Several years ago he kept store at Yellow Hill for D. K. Collins, By strict and faithful attention to business, and good habits and economy, Mr. Hughes was finally enabled to go into business for himself. He is now conducting a thriving general merchandise business of his own-one of the best in Bryson City. Mr. Hughes is a director in the bank and also one of the trustees of the Bryson City public school, into all of which he has come by force of character, hard work and honest methods.

J. E. COBURN, REAL ESTATE.

J. E. Coburn is an all 'round good business man. He succeeds at anything he undertakes, because of his excellent business judgment and his everlasting hustle and tireless energy. Mr. Coburn handles city and country real estate, timbered lands, stumpage, and, in fact, all sorts and sizes of property from a town lot to thousands \$12,500, undivided profits over \$2500 of acres of untouched timber territory. "Jack" Coburn, as he is ficers are ,D. K. Collins, president; J familiarly called, is known far and wide as the trading timber land man. He is a rustler "from away back." and deserves and is winning eminent success in his chosen avocation. He merits it.

DR. R. L. DAVIS, DRUGGIST.

Dr. Robert Lee Davis is one of the practicing physicians of Bryson City.

minded, high toned, liberal citizen.

HOTEL ENTELLA.

Hotel Entella, at Bryson City, is tent clers or the court of conducted by Mr. and Mrs. W. W. county. Mr. Williams lived in Gra-Wheeler. It is the standard stopping ham county for several years where place for the traveling public while he was also court clerk, and also repin Bryson City. The cut does not do resentative of the county in the state it justice in that it does not show it legislature. Likewise he was on the

O. P. WILLIAMS, COURT

Oliver P. Williams is the compe-

Swain up to best advantage. Its popular pro- board of the education of Graham



HOTEL ENTELLA, BRYSON CITY.

prietors run it in a strictly first class as he is now of Swain. Mr. Williams manner, keeping the rooms clean and is a very accommodating and most comfortable, while the table fare is capable clerk of the court, as well as the very best. No wonder that it re- a clean, honorable. Christian gentleceives such a large patronage from man, and it is no wonder that he has tourists, traveling men, lumbermen, been highly honored wherever he has and in fact from almost all persons lived, for of such as he and Sheriff who travel the Murphy division of Roane are the salt of the earth. Their the Southern.

BRYSON CITY BANK.

One of Bryson's best assets is its solid little bank. Its March 29 statemeht this year, shows a capital of and deposits of over \$100,000. Its of-Robert Long, cashier. Its directors are D. K. Collins, S. W. Black, J. E. Coburn, G. W. Maslin, J. L. Gibson, A. H. Almore and T. I. Hughes. This institution does a general banking business, and its service is successful and satisfactory. It is making money for its satisfied stockholders.

A. H. ELMORE, MERCHANT

This gentleman conducts a general

calling and election is sure. J. H. EVERETT, REAL ESTATE DEALER. J. H. Everett conducts a real estate and insurance business at Bryson

City. He also runs a voller process mill one mile from town, where is produced a high grade of waterground flour and meal. Mr. Everett does a good business in both of his lines-those of insurance and real estate, dealing as he does not only in Bryson City realty, but also in timber lands as well. He represents some of the best of the old line life and fire insurance companies. He is a good business man and excellent citizen.

He went through bankruptcy at age 30

OTICE is here'y given to all the creditors of J. H. Everett, of Charleston, N. C., that an assignment of all the goods, merchandise and accounts has been made to the undersigned Trustee by the said J. H. Everett for the benefit of creditors "pro rata." Creditors are therefore notified to present their claims' and debtors to make payments of amounts due. R. L. LEATHER NO(D. Oct. 31, 1887-w4w Trustee.

Asheville Citizen, Nov 2, 1887

John Everett, undercover G-man

- Went to New Jersey and New York in 1892 as an undercover agent for the Federal Government to catch "green good swindlers" (counterfeiters)
- He helped in the arrest of a gang in Gloucester City, NJ
- In New York, an attempt to arrest the gang resulted in the NY police restraining him, allowing the gang to escape
- His integrity was vouched for by a U.S. Commissioner in Camden, NJ and a U.S. Postmaster

The Everett family was devastated around the turn of the 20th century

Daughter Anna Lou (1)MaDaughter Nellie (11)JaWife Anna Lou Simpson (36)SeFather Epp (73)ApDaughter Fanny Clancy (20)MaDaughter Nora Wheeler (22)JaMother Mary (74)De

May 7, 1895 Jan 23, 1890 Sep 22, 1864 Apr 6, 1830 May 28, 1884 Jan 7, 1883 Dec 24, 1837 Jan 8, 1897 Aug 10, 1901 Sep 10, 1901 Aug 3, 1903 Jun 4, 1904 Jun 4, 1905 May 19, 1912

His other daughters by Anna Lou were Mayme and Lillie; Mayme married a Denning fellow, and died without children. Lillie never married.

After the death of two daughters, wife and father, he left for far parts

Asheville Citizen, Nov 25, 1903

"Mr. J.H. Everett departed last week for New Mexico, where he expects to spend several weeks."

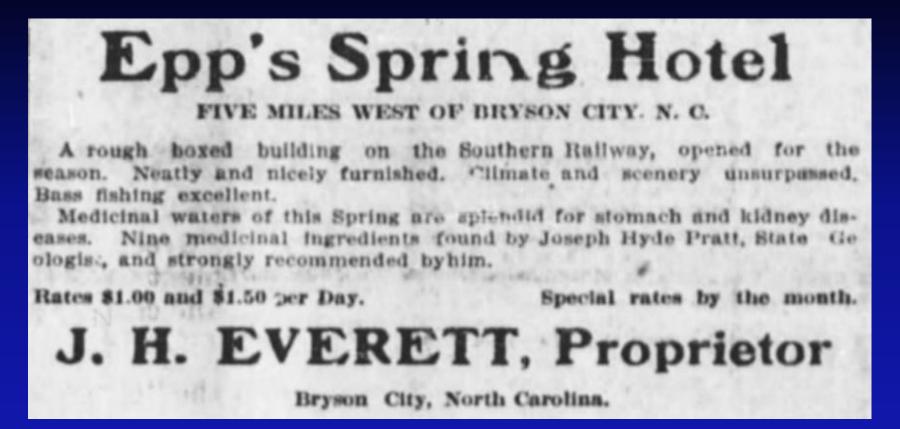
I'm not sure he made it all the way there.....

John married Mary Jane Rodgers in February, 1904 – in Erath County, Texas



They had one child – Hilda Jane

They returned to Bryson City



July 31, 1907 Asheville Citzen

Epp's Spring Hotel today



Nov 26, 1910 Asheville Citizen

GO TO SWAIN COUNTY For a week's hunting

R. O. Patterson and J. H. Everett Will Chase Deer, Bear, etc., With Famous Pack of Hounds.

Lieutenant R. O. Patterson leaves this afternoon with J. H. Everett for Bryson City for a week's hunting near that place. They will take with them the famous pack of hounds which they own jointly. There are eight of the dogs and they are generally supposed to be the best trained fox, deer and bear dogs in this part of the state. They have received some flattering offers for some of them.

The country over which they will hunt is well known for the abundance of large game to be found. The fox races will be run near Bryson City during the first part of the week. They will then go to the head of Deep creek for a deer hunt, and from there they will go through the mountains to the head of Ocona Lufty river, near the Tennessee line, where they expect to find plenty of deer and bear. Every fall and winter there are many killed in those mountains. bears sportsmen coming from all parts of the country for the purpose.

Both Mr. Everett and Lieutenant Patterson are experienced hunters and are well acquainted with the country in which they will hunt, and they express confidence in a successful week's sport. They will arrive in Bryson City tonight and will be joined by other hunters at that place.

December 18, 1913 Wilmington Dispatch

Bryson City Times.

Another successful party of bear hunters arrived home Friday night of last week with a 400 pound bruin. The party was composed of J. H. Everett, Sam Honeycutt, George Flowers, Columbus Honeycutt, Mark Cathey, Waitsell Honeycutt, Hill Cathey and Joe Parish. They were out four days with ten dogs and killed the bear after a two days' chase on the right hand prong of Deep Creek. John Parrish was the fortunate one to do the shooting. They all report a glorious good time.

20 Years does not include a story about this outing, but All the men but George Flowers are mentioned in the book.

Boarders and saleslady wanted July 8,1912 Asheville Citizen

BOARDERS WANTED — A few guests in a refined family. Large airy rooms nicely fugnished. Electric lights and bath rooms. Fine scenery. Large yard well shaded. Table well supplied from the country. No children or sick people taken. For rates, etc., apply to Mrs. J. H. Everett, Bryson City, N. C. 2171-5-8

June 5,1913 Charlotte Observer

WANTED-A young lady, quick in figures, of a very congenial disposition, as saleslady. One who has had practical experience in dressing show windows, etc. Must come well recommended. State salary expected. J. H. Everett, Bryson City, N. C.

Jackson County Journal, Dec 4, 1914

To The Farmers Of Jackson

And Other Counties: The Custom Roller Mills of Bryson City is now grinding for the 8th and giving you the balance from your own Wheat and Corn.

Parties coming with wheat or corn and having to remain over night will find stalls for their teams free of charge.

Parties shipping wheat by frt. the same will be hauled to the mill from depot and products back to the depot free of charge when there is as much as 16 bushels.

Our flour and meal can't be duplicated anywhere on the Murphy branch.

We are making from good wheat 42 lbs to the bushel of the very best flour. Give us a trial.

CUSTOM ROLLER MILLS J. H. EVERETT

The marriage didn't last

- By 1920, Hilda Jane and Mary Jane were back in Texas with Mary Jane's parents
- She was apparently still with him in 1915
- They must have divorced; by 1930, she'd married twice again – first to J.R. Hone, then to J.H. Raney (on April Fool's Day, 1930)

He was in Asheville by 1916 (at least part time)

March 9, 1916

FOR SALE-Store fixtures, second hand, Apply J. H. Everett, 100 Patton Ave. Phone 1439. P9914-5-7

Aug 4, 1919

July 8, 1920

Piano Harmonizer Graduate of the Panquoid Player Action school of New York city, makes a specialty of t ning and repairing player and other planos. All work guaranteed. Leave orders with the C. Faulk Music House: J. P. 7-30-7 H. Everett.

LOST-Between Asheville and Clyde, gold medal with my name. Liberal reward for return to J. H. Everett, Box 362, Asheville, N. C. P7-7-3 But he was still active further west – in Sylva and Bryson City (September 13, 1918 Jackson County Journal)

Don't Read This, unless you are fond of music

It is not intended for any one who is so grasping for the "Almighty dollar", that music does not appeal to them, and the woods are full of just such characers everywhere you go.

Those who appreciate the very best music, can avail themselves of this opportunity, by buying either one of the player pianos now in THE SYLVA PHARMACY and THE HOOPER DRUG STORE in Sylva, N. C. at actual cost. This holds good only to the 15th of October after which these pianos will be shipped to the WAR EN PIANO CO. at Wilson, N. C.

No organe or pianos taken in exchange as you get the benefit of the wholesale price, so if interested act at once.

These are strictly high grade pianos and are warranted for EVER and will be sold. \$455 on easy terms with a payment of \$50 cash down balance at \$10, per month with 6 per cent interest.

If sold for cash 10 per cent discount allowed.

I have been selling and tuning pianos for the last 36 years, and can conscientiously say, I never saw a better piano than these two player pianos, and you will be more than pleased with them.

Remember the above and don't sleep on your lights, for you will be saving at least \$150 if you purchase one of these magnificent instruments. A bench and 12 pieces of music goes with each piano.

The Warren Piano Company By J. H. EVERETT, Mgr. Bryson City N. C.

More piano-related business

Asheville Citizen June 23, 1920

SPECIAL
DUST WILL Ruin your piano. Have it cleaned thoroughly with vacuum cleaner, tuned, voiced and repol- ished by an expert from factory of New York. References: Prof. Gas-
per Papalordo, Vity, J. H. Everett, Box 362, Phone 3172. P6-23-1
HAVE YOUR Piano tuned, repaired and made to sound like new by an expert direct from New York, with 3 diplomas. References. Prof. Gas- per, Prof. Papalordo, teacher vio- lin, City. J. H. Everett, Phone 2172, P. O. Box 362. P6-22-3

He played 1st Violin with Carolina Conservatory

Members of Carolina Conservatory of Music To Appear in Concert, Oct. 27th.

1st Violin

Miss Tomsie Reeves. Miss Beth Peeke. Miss Sara Yost. Miss Louvenia Dent. Miss Louvenia Dent. Miss Nell Melton. Miss Lucile Enwright. Miss Mildred Blackstock. Miss Elma Carter. Mrs. A. F. Pechering. Mr. Carlisle Smith. Mr. Gaetano Garcia. Mr. Fletcher Reynolds. Mr. J. H. Everett. Mr. John Hunter.

Guitars

Mrs. W. S.Proctor . Miss R. H. Williams. Miss Alinda Moore. Mr. Howard Frady. Mr. Herbert Tracy. Miss Lulu Garrison.

2d Violins Miss Mollie Desurney. Miss Vivian Smith. Miss Catherine Brown. Miss Mary Brown. Miss Marguerite Casco. Miss Jane Harkins. Miss Helen Moore. Miss Alma Evans. Mr. Herbert Murphy. Mr. Reed Jones. Mr. Hugh Murphy. Mr. Dandridge Wall. Mr. T. Gunning. Mr. Carl Stevens. Mr. George Franklin.

Mandolins

Miss Ray Wilson. Mr. G. L. Morgan.

Cello Mr. Salvador Casco.

Asheville Citizen, Oct 24, 1920

June 16, 1921 Asheville Citizen: JH Everett claims to be state fiddle champ

Claims Champ Fiddler Honors In North State

Fiddlers, stand forth. You are hereby challenger to look well to your laurels. Scrapers of the resined bow, one claiming a right to the Old North State championship crown, makes himself known.

J. H. Everett, of Asheville, stirred by a press announcement in which another is coted as "the champion of the state," has issued his challenge to all fiddlers in North Carolina to contest with him to determine who can play more old time tunes alternating with a mixture of classic selections.

Mr. Everett, producing a statement prepared by an official of the Indian reservation at Cherokee, points to the fact that this certifies his position as champion, since he took first place in the September, 1921, fiddlers' contest at the reservation, during the time of the Indian fair, and that time he then bested E. H. Helton, of Asheville, who took second place, and J. D. Harris.

Both of the last mentioned took part in the contest held last Saturday night at Hazlewood, Mr. Helton taking first place in the meet. Mr. Everett was not present that night.

With regard to Helton's victory the press received a report stating that "J. D. Harris has been a number of years, champion fiddler of North Carolina, and his defeat for first honors Saturday night makes E. H. Helton 'the champion of the state,' is is claimed."

Mr. Everett wants an opportunity to contest with any claiming the honors which he, himself, asserts.

1922: He remarried, came in second fiddle

Holt, Mary C

Illinois

5-23- Everett, John H 1922 Buncombe Co 64

July 18, 1922 Asheville Citizen:

O. H. Helton Claims State Championship Honors,

31 W B L Lyda JP

When O. H. Helton, of Asheville, defeated J. H. Everett, also of the City, in a fiddlers contest at Hazelwood Saturday night, the winner was awarded \$20 in gold as a prize. Helton now claims to be champion wielder of the resin bow in North Carolina. He played the following selections: "Turn Me Loose," "Cackling Hen," "Turnpike," "Sweet Bunch of Daisies," "Green River." "Nancy Rolin." "Asheville," "The Preacher and the Bear," "Cumberland Gap." "Beggar Man," "Virginia Reel," "Over the .Waves," "Whistling Rufus," and "Georgia Camp Meeting."

By 1930, he was in Tennessee

- 1930 census records him living on Banks
 Avenue in Knoxville, living in a home valued at \$3150
- Married to a woman named Martha Jane McCullough who was 14 years younger than him
- Profession, per census, was Piano Tuner

He returned to Bryson City in 1934 for a special Oconee Lodge celebration

CELEBRATION IS HELD BY OCONEE LODGE IN BRYSON

BRYSON CITY, March 22. (Special)—Wednesday marked the 45th anniversary of the founding of Oconee Lodge No. 427. A. F. and A. M., in Bryson City, A special commemorative program was held Monday evening. John Everett, of Bull's Gap, Tenn., the only living charter member of Oconee Lodge, attended.

The main address was delivered by the Rev. O. J. Jones, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. His talk was on "Facts Applicable to Masonry." George H. Tator, of Almond, historian of the lodge, spoke on the lodge's history. Alec Marr spoke of, "Observations of the Lodge."

Asheville Citizen, March 23, 1934



Source: dwilkins3016, ancestry.com

Died in Bulls Gap, TN in 1937

