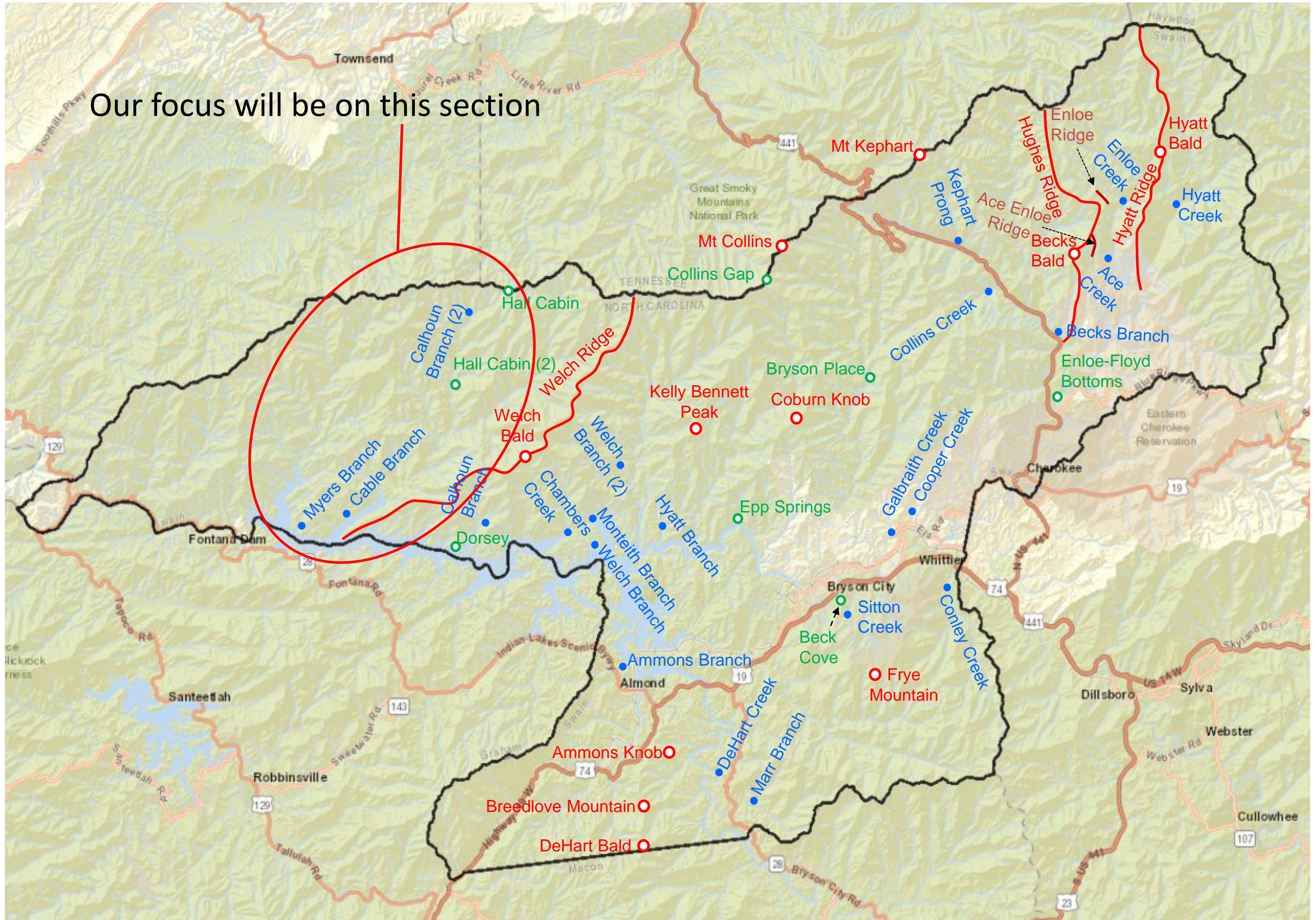


The Myers family of the Eagle and Hazel Creek area

by: Judy Gibson Revis and [Don Casada](#)

Copyright [Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery](#), April 2017

Swain County place names with Bryson City Cemetery connections



Will Myers was born in Tennessee, the son of Daniel Myers and Susan Matilda Cable



Dan Myers, from [Findagrave](#). He is buried in Cades Cove Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery.

Will was in Swain County by 1878, when he and Martha Cable were married. An older son of Dan, Samuel L., came over to North Carolina before Will. At least one other of Dan's children, their oldest child, Jane, also ended up in WNC (buried at Pine Log Cemetery at Brasstown).

Martha Jane Cable was the daughter of John Baker Cable, Sr and Prudence Marcus



John Baker Cable, Sr,
from CaptainCole on Ancestry.com

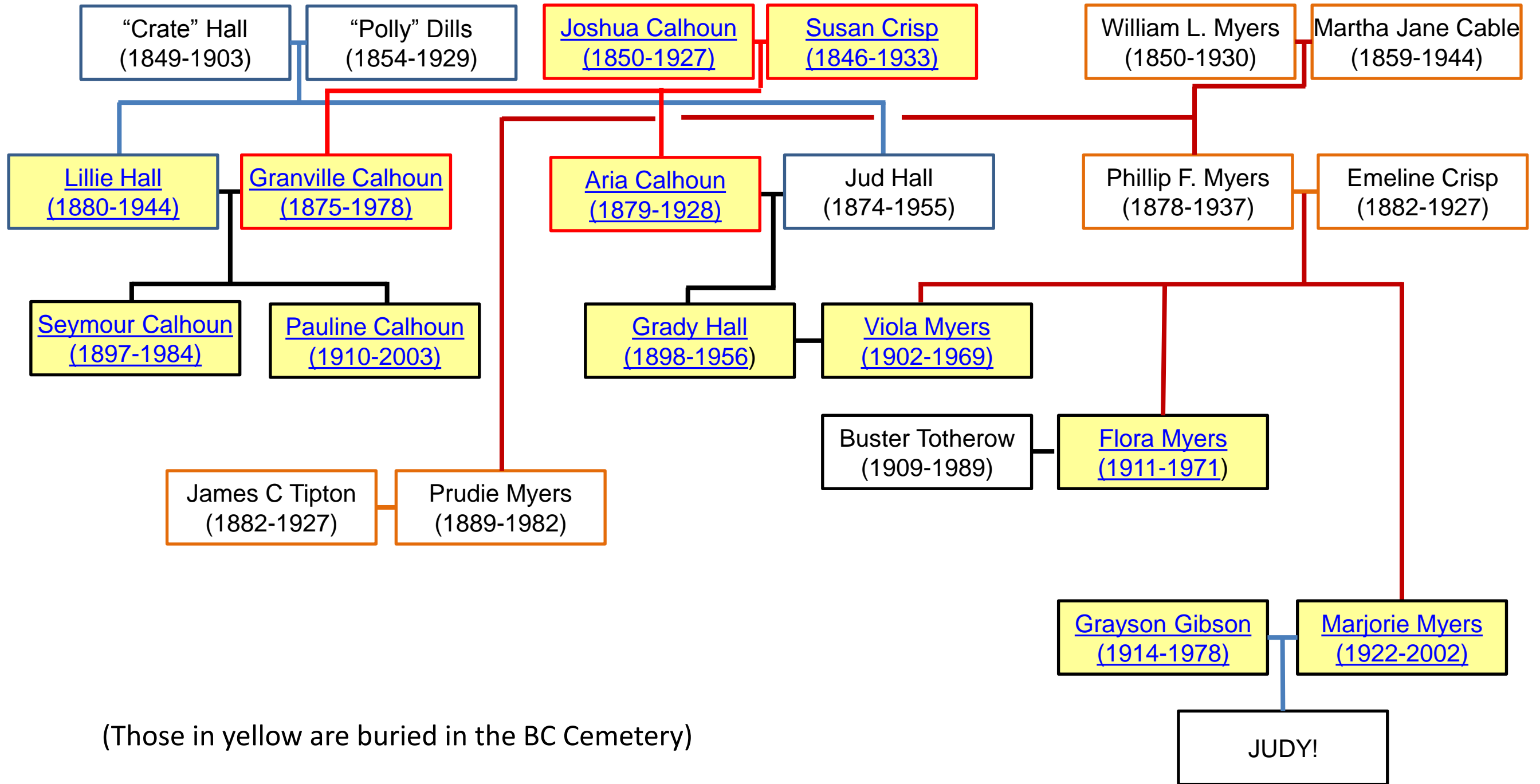
John Baker Cable, Sr, born in TN in 1828, came over to what was then Macon (now Swain) County with his parents, Samuel Cable and Elizabeth Clarissa Jones in the 1830s. They were among the earliest Hazel Creek settlers (coming shortly after the Proctors). John Baker Cable married Prudence Marcus in Caldwell County in 1851. Both are buried in the Cable Cemetery – as is their daughter, Martha Cable Myers, her husband, Will, and their son, Phillip Francis Myers.

Will Myers and Martha Jane Cable



Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Myers family relations from Hazel and Eagle Creeks



Martha Jane Cable Myers



Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Grady Hall and Viola Myers Hall



Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Flo Myers Totherow



Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Marjorie Myers and Grayson Gibson



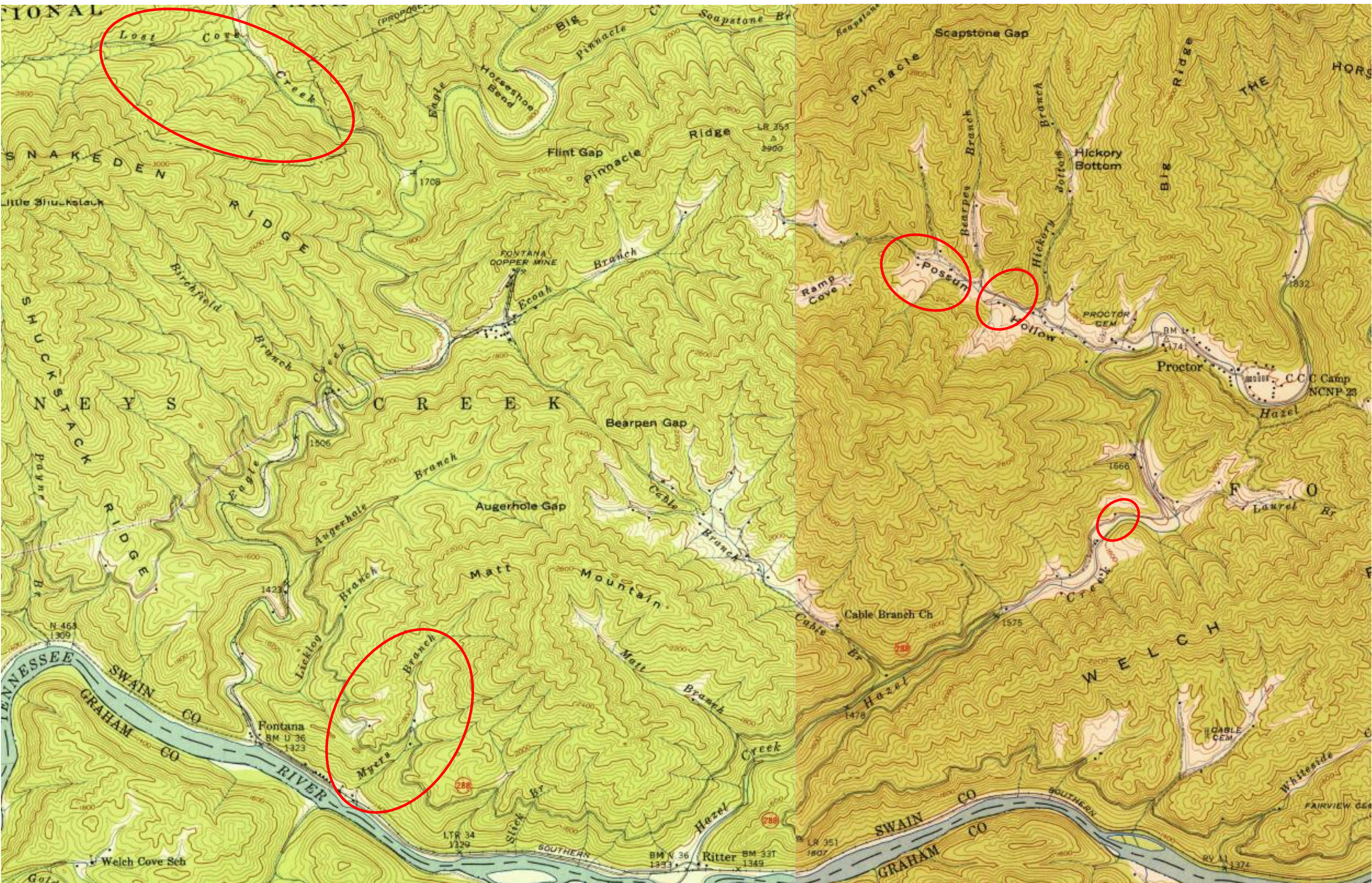
Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Marjorie Myers Gibson



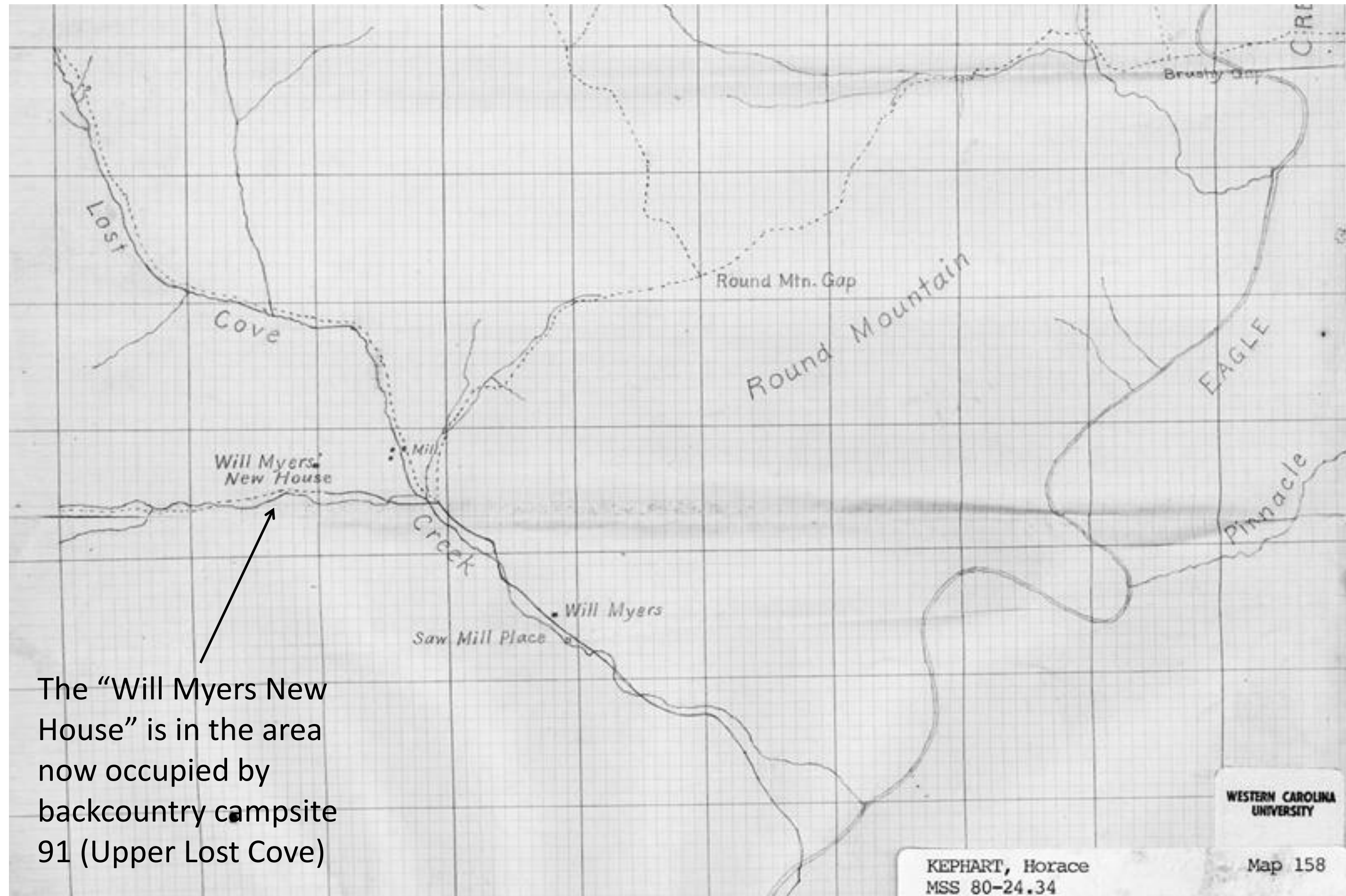
Photos courtesy of Judy Revis

Lower Eagle, Hazel Creek area, 1941, with Myers places marked



1941 USGS Fontana and Proctor Quadrangles

1905 era map in Kephart Collection at WCU



The "Will Myers New House" is in the area now occupied by backcountry campsite 91 (Upper Lost Cove)

KEPHART, Horace
MSS 80-24.34

Map 158

WESTERN CAROLINA
UNIVERSITY

Will and Martha Myers land transactions

1898: Acquired two tracts of land by NC Land Grant – 100 acres on Tennessee River (Little T) and 283 acres on Lost Cove Creek of Eagle Creek; both went for 15 cents/acre for a total of \$57.45

1902: Paid heirs of Rufus McAden (of Mecklenburg County) \$478.75 for the same property; this was a consequence of the same lands having been granted in 1881 to a George W. Swepson and which were later conveyed to McAden.

1920: Conveyed right to take all timber greater than 14-inches in diameter to Montvale Lumber (Lost Cove property)

1925: Purchased an acre of land, with house, on Hickory Bottom Branch (of Shehan Branch of Hazel Creek) from W.F. Cable; included the right to use the spring on the west side of Hickory Bottom Branch.

1929: Sold Lost Cove Creek property to NC Park Commission for \$3,500.

1930: After death of Will Myers, his heirs, including Martha, deeded the Hickory Bottom Branch property to Prudie Myers Tipton, daughter of Will and Martha.

1930: Also after death of Will Myers, all his children deeded the Myers Branch (Tennessee River) property to his widow, Martha.

Will and Martha Myers land transactions (continued)

1942: Martha sold 25 acres “Being part of the Martha J Myers Home Tract in Forney Creek Township on the waters of the Little Tennessee River” to daughter Prudie and husband James for “\$55.00 and love and affection and other considerations”

1943: Martha, James and Charlie Myers sold 84 acres on Myers Branch to the USA (TVA) for \$3,145.20. The deed noted that about 2.5 acres was subject to rights in the county/state associated with NC 288. This is Tract FR-443 (will be shown later)

1943: Prudy Myers Tipton and husband James sold 7.6 acres to USA (TVA) for \$602.45. This is Tract FR-1265.

1944: Myers heirs deeded their interest (43/45) in 6.7 acres to TVA for \$601. This is tract FR-1266.

NC Park Commission Report on Will & Martha Myers property

NORTH CAROLINA PARK COMMISSION
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

REPORT ON TRACT NO. 185 - W. L. MYERS.

LOCATION OF TRACT:

This tract is located on Lost Cove Creek, a tributary of Eagle Creek, about seven miles from Fontana. The approach to this place is by an old railroad grade.

DESCRIPTION OF TRACT:

This place contains ^{318.61}~~295.01~~ acres. About 25 acres cleared, the balance cutover woodland.

IMPROVEMENTS:

Five room frame house, one twenty stall barn, frame, and about ten other different buildings, small grist mill. Buildings fair.

VALUATION:

Twenty-five acres cleared land	\$625.00
Orchard	120.00
Buildings	975.00
Grist Mill	25.00
295 acres cutover woodland @ \$6.00	1755.00
^{293.6}	<u>1761.60</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$3506.60</u>

Option has been taken on this place for \$3500.00.

Structure owned by Will Myers on Lost Cove Creek of Eagle Creek
(contrary to Park Archives, this is NOT the Will Myers 5-room home)



Source: Great Smoky Mountains National Park archives

Tub grist mill on Will Myers Lost Cove Creek property

Building No. 4a in Swope-Fay Report of 5/13-15/1935

Located on Will Myers tract. Constructed of culled lumber.
Date of building not obtainable...In use by J. L. Brackett
at prestne time.

Date: 5/15/1935

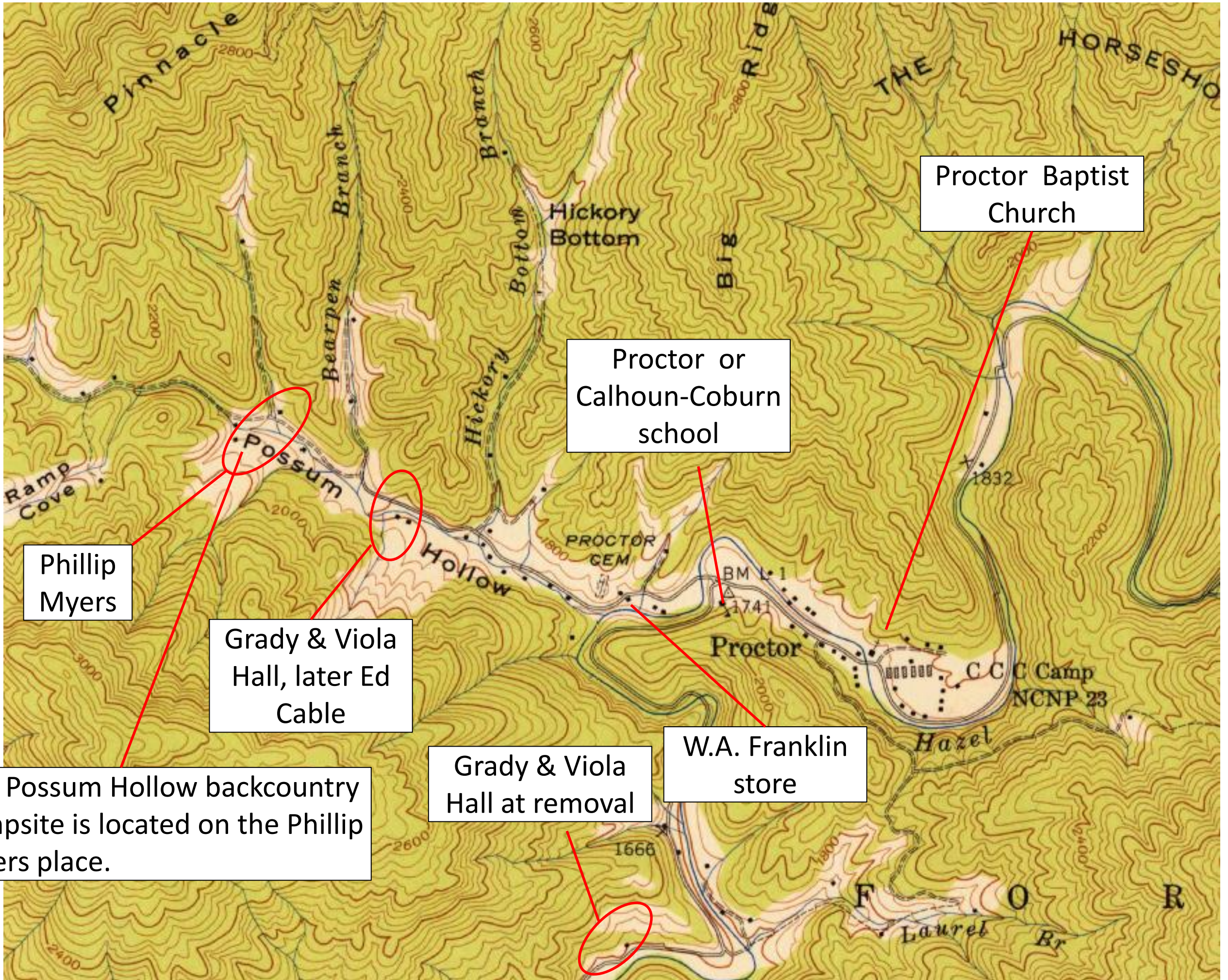
PHOTOGRAPHER: F. A. FAY

Size: 3 x 4



Source: Great Smoky Mountains National Park archives

Possum Hollow/Shehan Branch area, 1941



Proctor Baptist Church

Proctor or Calhoun-Coburn school

Phillip Myers

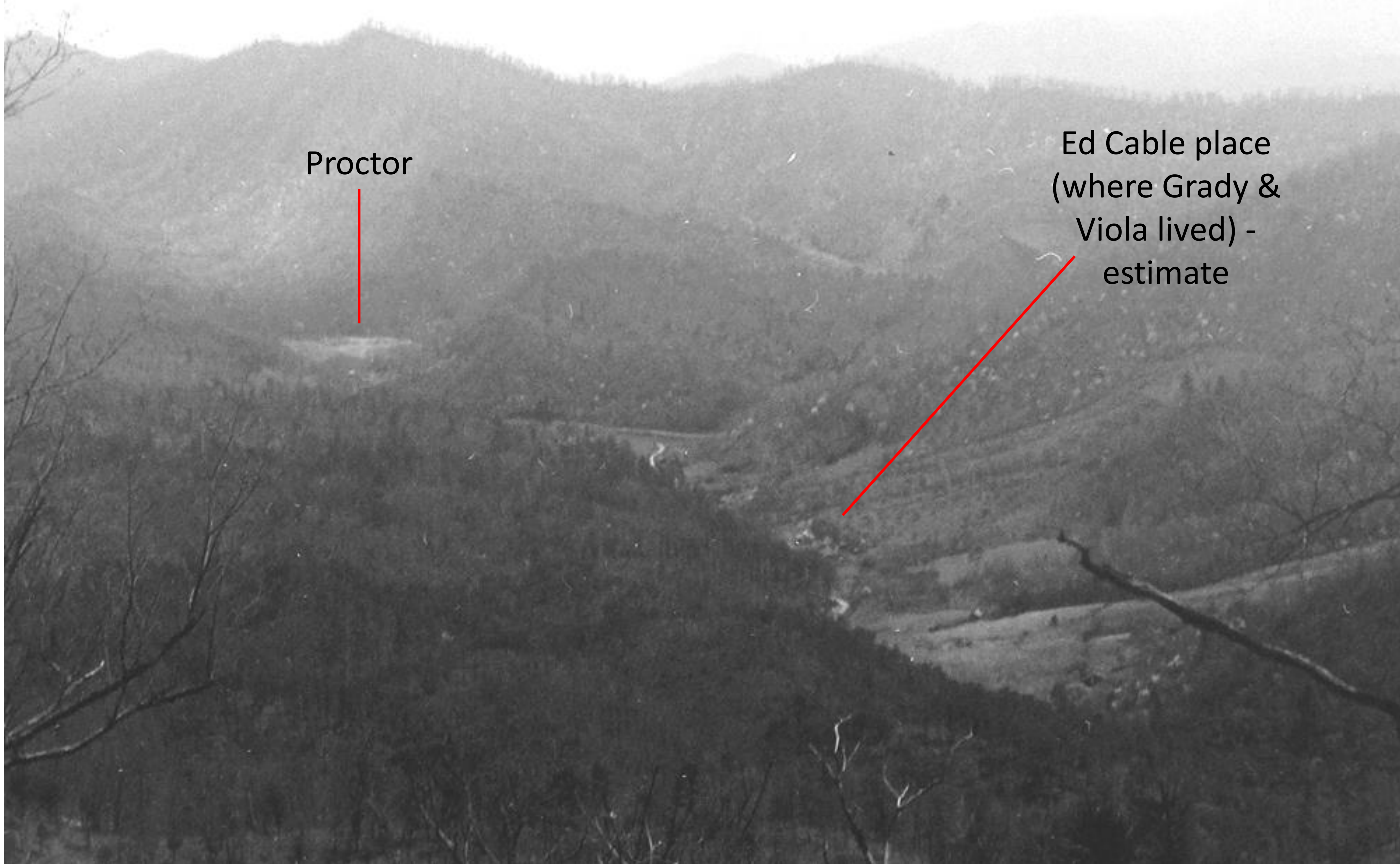
Grady & Viola Hall, later Ed Cable

W.A. Franklin store

Grady & Viola Hall at removal

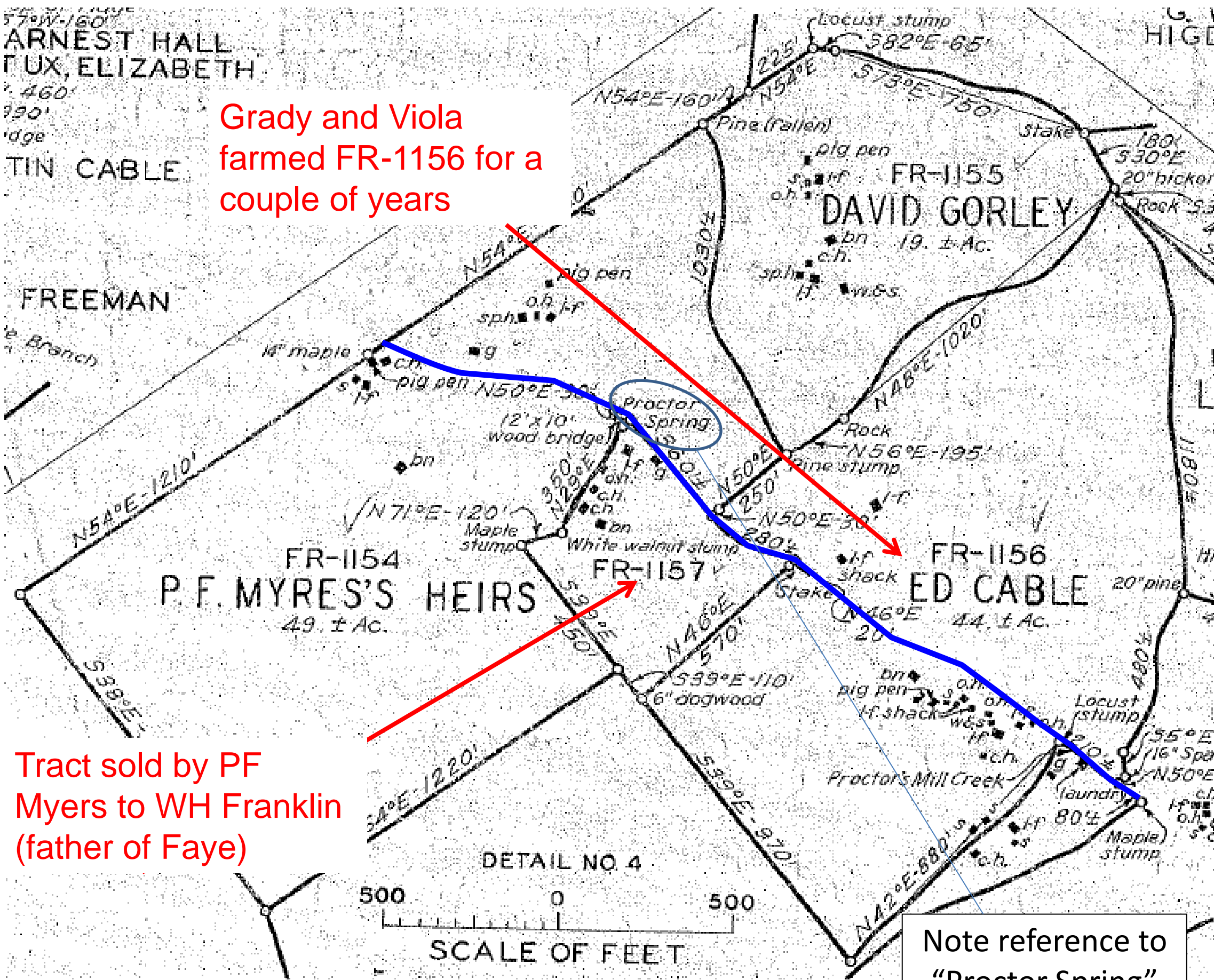
The Possum Hollow backcountry campsite is located on the Phillip Myers place.

Proctor and Possum Hollow (Shehan Branch) from Pinnacle Ridge



Source: TVA collection, National Archives in Atlanta

Phillip and Emeline Crisp Myers home place on Shehan Branch (Possum Hollow); TVA plat



Grady and Viola farmed FR-1156 for a couple of years

Tract sold by PF Myers to WH Franklin (father of Faye)

- 1-f = 1 story frame
- s = shed
- o.h. = outhouse
- sp = spring
- sp.h = springhouse
- c.h. = chicken house
- cb = crib;
- bn = barn
- g = garage

Note reference to "Proctor Spring"

Myers home – unknown location (perhaps Shehan Branch)



Photo courtesy of Judy Revis

Chimney and detritus at one of the Phillip Myers heirs homes on Shehan Branch; this is the upper single story frame home location on the north side of Shehan Branch and the Possum Hollow Road.



Photo by Don Casada, 2013

Chimney on property once owned by Grady and Viola Myers Hall
(Ed Cable was owner when TVA acquired the property)



Photo by Don Casada
2013

Phillip & Emeline Myers land transactions

1900: Purchased 32 acres on Ecoah Branch from W.R. and M.C. Bradshaw for \$20. In 1904, paid \$6.66 2/3 to McAdens for same property (presumably another Land Grant conflict).

1925: Sold Ecoah Branch property to Montvale Lumber Company for \$6,000.

1925: Purchased two tracts (80 acres combined) on Shehan Branch from J.R. and M.M. Cogdill for \$3,500. [James Robert Cogdill](#) and [Margaret Bradshaw Cogdill](#) are buried in Section VI of the BC Cemetery.

1934: Sold 2 acres of the Shehan Branch property to W.H. Franklin for \$105; it included half interest in the “old Proctor Spring”; Franklin sold the property to A.J. Watkins in 1936 for \$400. TVA paid Watkins \$1,937.75 in 1943. Clearly improvements were made by both Franklin and Watkins.

1944: PF Myers heirs sold the Shehan Branch property to the USA (TVA) for \$3,412.55. Other than Iva Joe and Harley’s widow Dora Laney (now remarried to Jack Cable), all the children were living in Wayne County, Michigan when the deed was signed.

Source: Swain County Register of Deeds

Sale of part of the Shehan Branch property acquired by Phillip Myers

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA—Swain County.

THIS DEED, Made this 23rd day of March, 1934, by P. F. Myers

of Swain County and State of North Carolina, of the first part, to

W. H. Franklin

of Swain County and State of North Carolina, of the second part:

WITNESSETH, That said P. F. Myers

in consideration of One Hundred Five - - DOLLARS,

to W. H. Franklin

the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, has been bargained and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey, to the said

W. H. Franklin heirs and assigns,

a certain tract or parcel of land in Swain County, State of North Carolina, adjoining the

lands of Jeff Hughes, P. F. Myers and others, and bounded as follows, viz.:

Beginning on a stake on the South bank of public road on the North bank of Shehan branch at the mouth of Stable Branch crossing Shehan Branch and runs up Stable Branch in a southwesterly direction with branch, 548 feet to a white walnut; thence in a N. direction 390 feet crossing shahan branch to a stake on S. ~~bank~~ of Public Road, thence with said road as it meanders to the Beginning, containing two acres more or less.

This deed also covers a half interest in a spring located on the South side of Public road and on the North bank of Shehan Branch about 30 feet above the west of W. H. Franklins line known as the old Proctor Spring.

Wilburn H. Franklin sold this property to A.J. Watkins two years later (July, 1936). But the Franklins lived alongside the Myers long enough that Luther Myers (son of Phillip) and Faye Franklin (daughter of Wilburn) struck up a romance. They were married in January, 1937. Wilburn's brother, William Andrew, had a store just below the Proctor Cemetery and another next to the railroad at the mouth of Myers Branch. The brothers were nephews of [Andrew Jackson Franklin](#) – and 1st cousins of [Lillian Franklin Thomasson](#), both buried in the BC Cemetery.

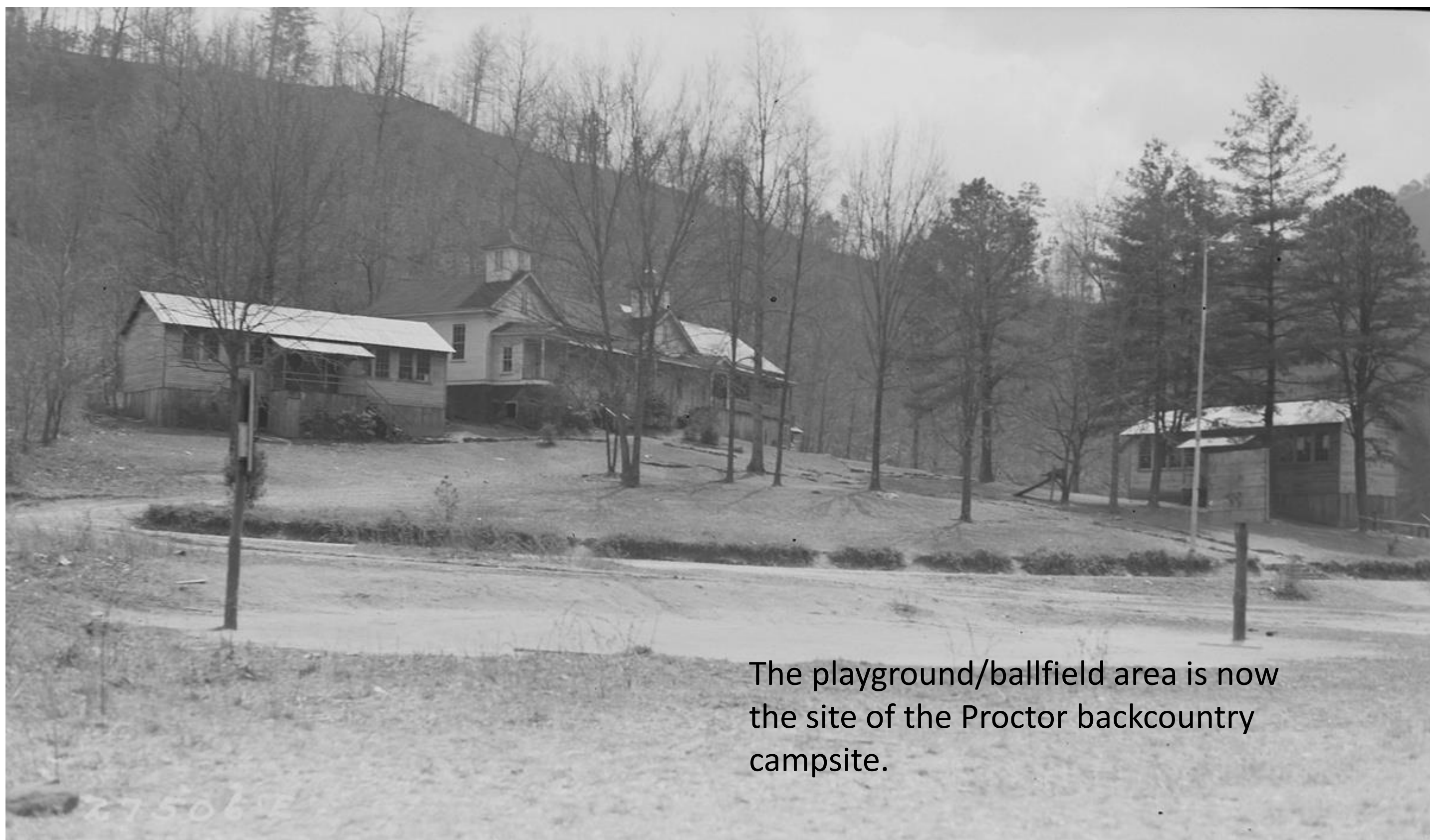
The old Proctor Spring - today



This rocked-in spring is located between Possum Hollow road (now Lakeshore Trail) and Shehan Branch. It may well have been rocked in before 1850.

Photo by Don Casada, 2013

It was about 1.2 miles from the Myers place to the Proctor School



The playground/ballfield area is now the site of the Proctor backcountry campsite.

Source: TVA collection, National Archives in Atlanta

Teachers at the Proctor/Calhoun-Coburn School who are buried in the Bryson City Cemetery



Rev. Joseph H. Wilson



Lytle N. Hickerson



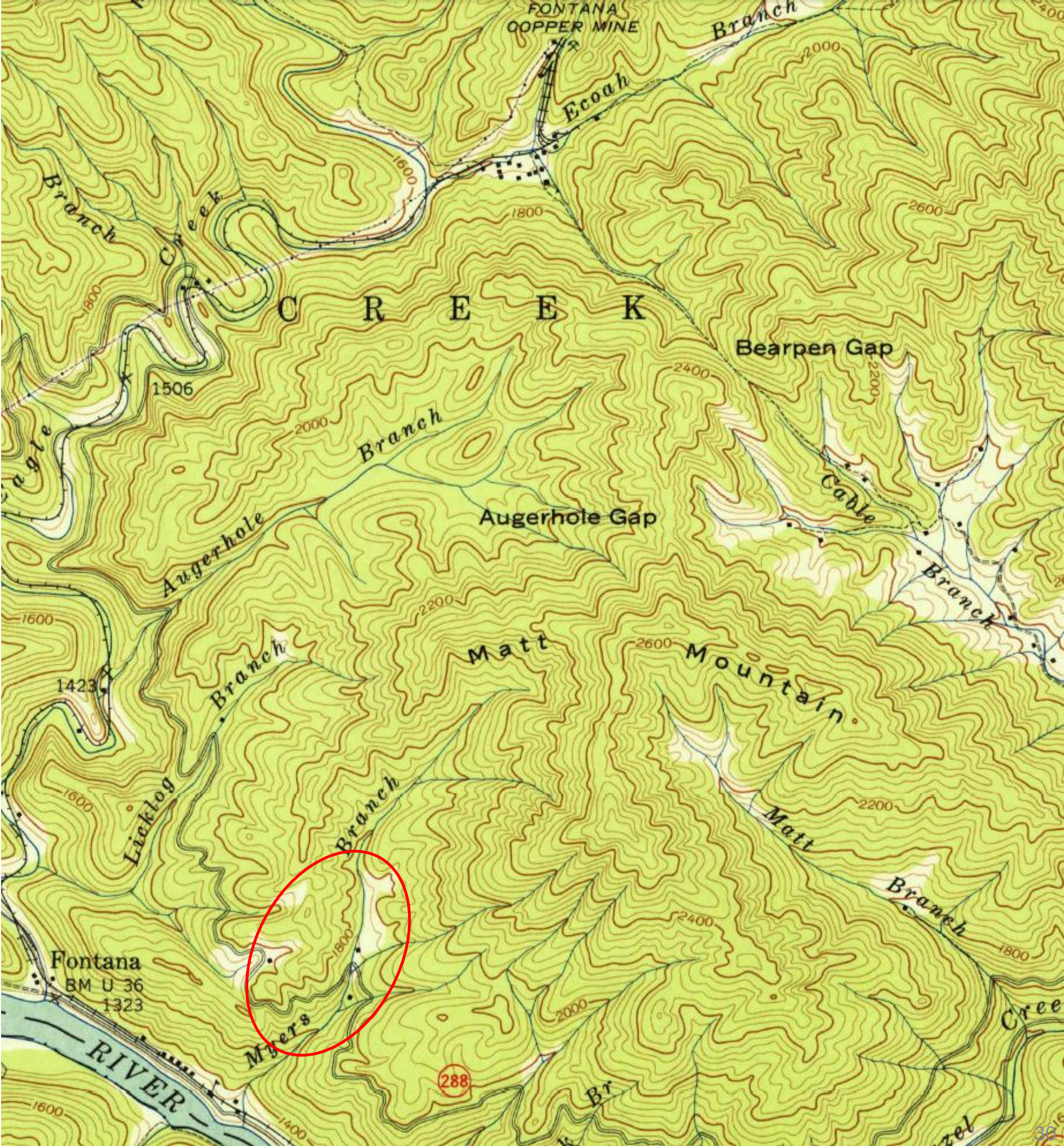
Inez Martin DeBord



Hester Sitton Gibson

Photo sources: FBCC member Pat Queen (Joe Wilson), Helen Cable Vance (Lytle Hickerson), Bryson City Elementary School annual (Inez DeBord), L42191 on Findagrave.com (Hester Sitton)

The Myers Branch and lower Eagle Creek area, 1941



From 1941 USGS Fontana Quadrangle

Myers Branch property; TVA plat

Ownership

FR-443: Martha Myers

FR-1265: Prudie Myers Tipton

FR-1266: WL Myers Heirs

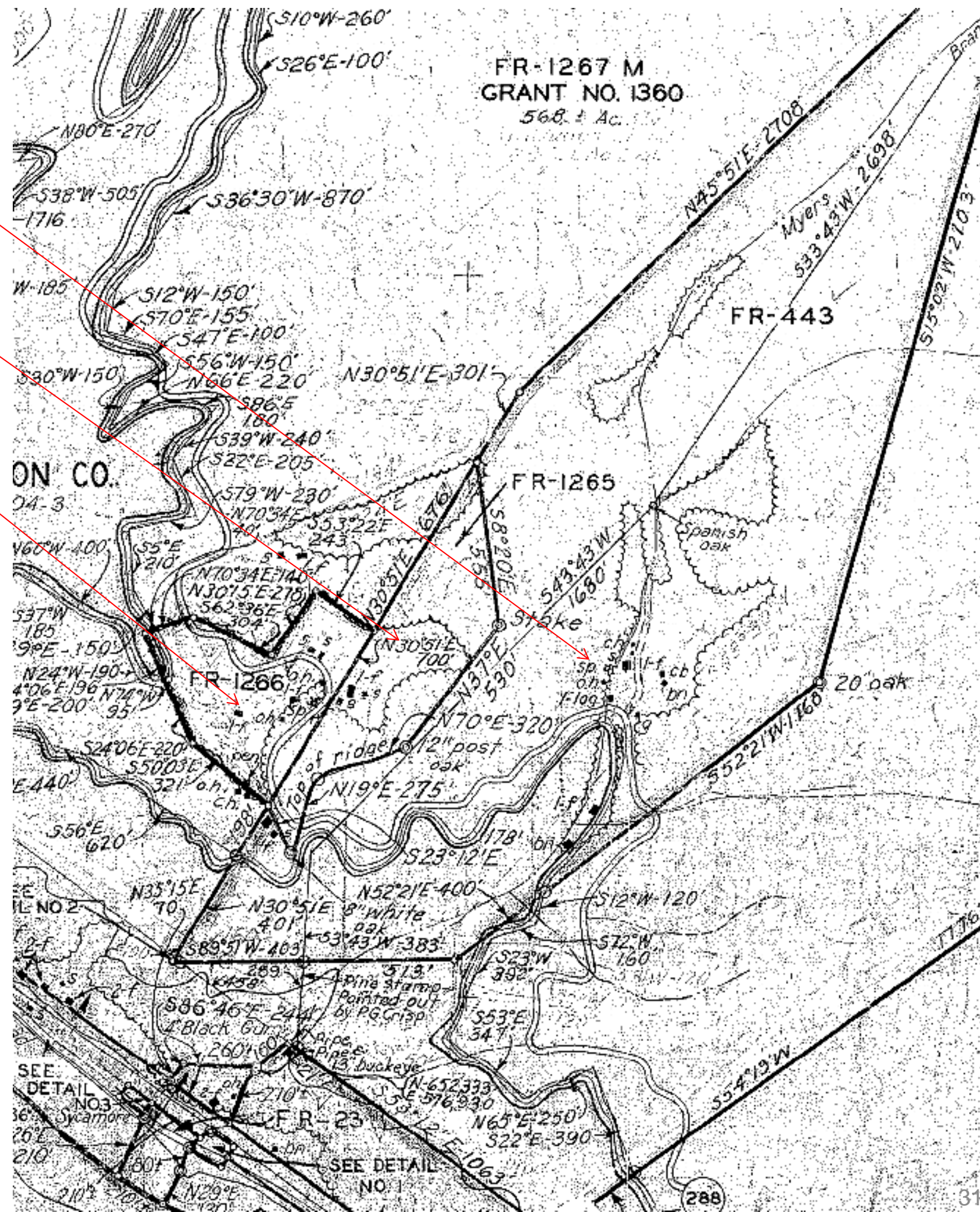
TVA relocation records

Hubert Tipton (son of Prudie & James, married to Beckie Cable) and James Myers* were living on FR-443

James C & Prudie Tipton and their son Clell were living in separate homes on FR-1265 (suspect one home was actually on FR-1266)

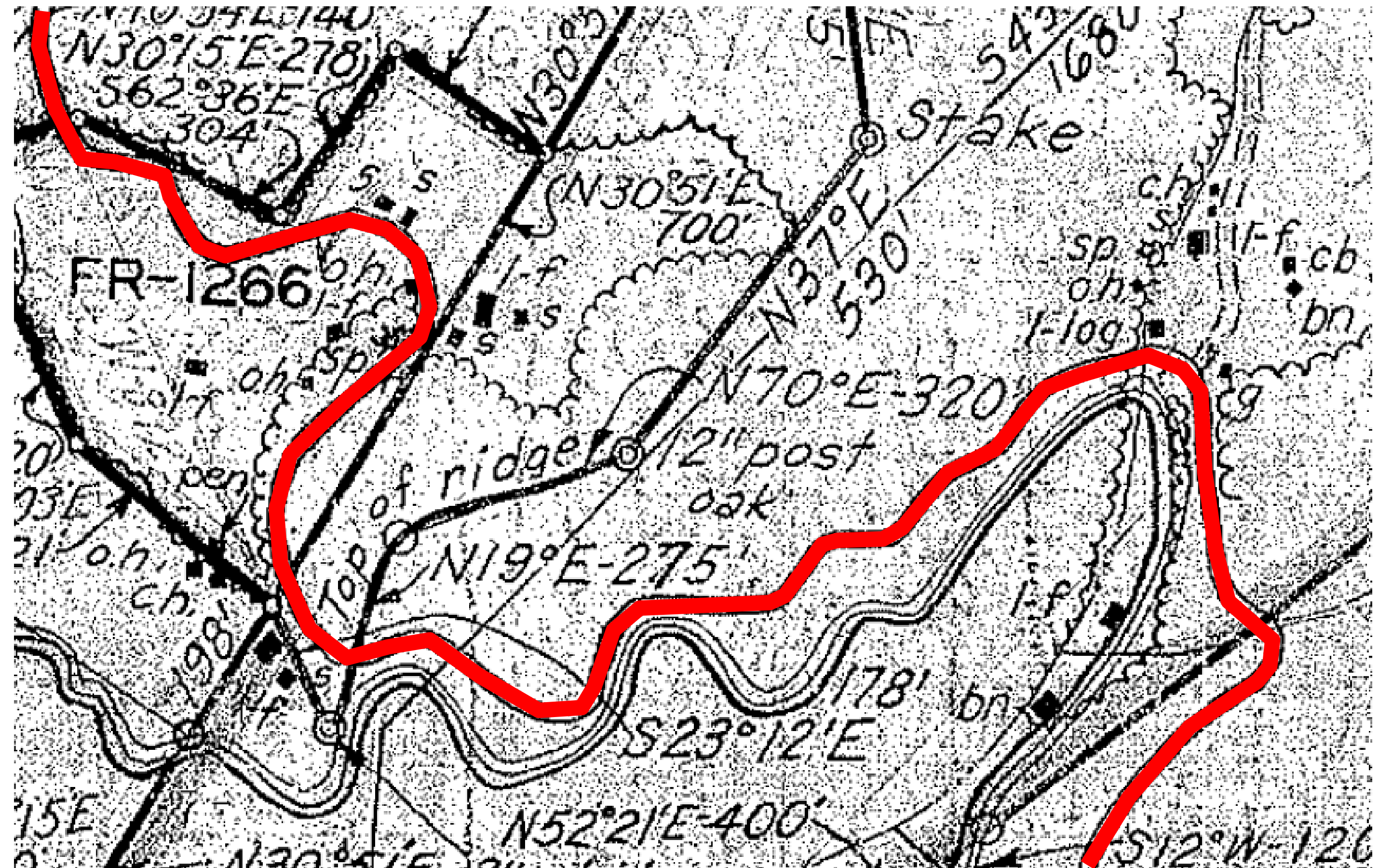
Charlie Myers* was living on NC Exploration Company (Fontana Mine) property, just above and to the left of the map

* James and Charlie Myers were younger brothers of Phillip



Zoomed-in view showing area structures; TVA plat

1-f = 1 story frame; s = shed; o.h. = outhouse; sp = spring; c.h. = chicken house; cb = crib; bn = barn; g = garage. NC288 is highlighted in red.



Myers Branch log home location



Photo by Don Casada, 2013

NC 288 is less than 20 yards away

Drawn down Fontana Lake

Upper home on Myers Branch (stream is in the right background)



Photo by Don Casada, 2013

A final Myers connection at Eagle Creek: Fontana Mining Corporation

11th. The total authorized capital stock of this corporation is Twenty Five Thousand Dollars, (\$25,000.00) divided into Two Hundred and Fifty shares of the Par value of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars each; but the corporation may organize and begin business when Fifteen Hundred (\$1500.00) Dollars of the capital stock, composed of fifteen shares, shall have been subscribed for.

12th. The names and postoffice addresses of the subscribers for stock, and the number of shares subscribed for by each, the aggregate of which being the amount of capital stock with which the company will commence business, are as follows,

Name.	Postoffice address.	No. of shares.
C.F. Myers.	Fontana, N.C.	5.
J.F. Riter,	Fontana, N.C.	5.
Oscar Hammerstrom.	Fontana, N.C.	5.

13th. The period of existence is limited to the period of Ninety Nine Years.

Cannie F Myers, father of Norton & Jim, worked as a bookkeeper for Montvale Lumber at Fontana, served in WW1, came back, ran a dry goods store and was postmaster at Fontana. Cannie, wife Essie Norton, sons Taylor Norton and James Paxton, their wives and granddaughter Carol Myers Saunooke are all buried in the BC Cemetery. These Myers are likely distant relations to the Will Myers clan, all having roots in northeast Tennessee. J.F. Riter was an M.D. who signed Phillip Myers' death certificate.