

Everett Porter Interview (son of Alex Porter, son of Andrew J. Porter) 1979 Track 4 tape 31 side 1

JC: No, it (Grayson County, Virginia) is clear down at the bottom. It is on the North Carolina border.

Everett: Huh?

JC: Southwestern Virginia. We (JC Porter & Scott Porter, s/o Ed, s/o Everett, s/o Jasper, s/o Alex, s/o AJP) found the old house the Porters lived in there.

Everett: Ah.

JC: It was the first frame house built in that area. (1820) They had log houses before that, but it was the first frame house.

Everett's wife: Have you been working on that ever since you was here?

JC: Ya, well some. Not too much.

Everett's wife: Did you go through Wise county Virginia while you was down there?

JC: Ya, we went through that area.

Everett's wife: That's where my people all come from, Wise county.

JC: Is that right?

Everett's wife: The old generation come from over seas and settled in Wise county.

Everett: They formed a wagon train. I think of that wagon train that they show on TV. I think about what my daddy (Alex Porter, s/o Andrew J. Porter) told me about them a com'in down. I don't know about how many wagons there was. Then you could just go to sleep beside the road and wake up alive (laughing). Now I don't believe you'd wake up alive. They wouldn't get nowhere now, camping beside the road.

Everett's wife: My granddad was just a boy about that high, when they moved to Elliott County (KY). They were inquiring about Elliott county, and they said you are in (Bare town?) now. Grandpa said, I thought to myself, what a town Bare town is, just one store and one house. (laughing) He didn't think there was much of a town to it.

JC: Did you ever hear anything about the Porters going through Ohio when they came here? (to KY)

Everett: No.

JC: I heard they came up through Ohio, then back down here.

Everett: Huh. I know they settled way down on the other side of Flemingsburg.

JC: Oh they did? Do you mean Robertson County? (KY)

Everett: Ya.

JC: I talked to one of your cousins in Robertson county yesterday. Let me see if I can find her name. Let me see what her name is.

Everett's wife: A cousin to him (Everett)?

JC: Ya. A first cousin.

Everett's wife: I didn't know he had any cousins a livin.

JC: Ya. Laura Fulton. (Everett's mom) Her sister Sarah, she is her daughter. She is 88.

Everett: My mother (Laura Fulton), you know my father married her down there. (Robertson county, KY)

JC: Ya.

Everett: I don't think she come out of Virginia. I don't know where she come from.

JC: No. I traced them some. Your grandfather Fulton was named Henry Fulton.

Everett: Well I never seen none of them. I don't even recollect my mother.

JC: I don't remember what her name was. (leafing through papers) I know where I wrote it. I'm getting close. (Everett laughing)

Everett: A dog will bark once in a while, when you are getting on a hot trail.

JC: Here it is; Gertrude Linville. She said she used to write to Arabelle (Everett's sister). They used to write back and forth.

Everett's wife: I remember Arabelle talking about that.

JC: Gertrude Linville. She is your first cousin. Your mom Laura had a sister named Sarah...

Everett: They just cut is short and called in Linvil? (laughing) I reckon you'd call that cutting it short. She had been over there at Arabelle's.

JC: Is that right?

Everett: She got to writing to them, and they come up after some of them.

JC: Ya, she is your first cousin. She is 88 years old.

Everett: I'm 86.

JC: You are? You know Mary Porter (daughter of Andrew J. Porter) that married the (George) Dwelly?

Everett: Who?

JC: Mary. Your Dad's sister that married a Dwelly.

Everett: Married who?

JC: George Dwelly.

Everett: I've heard em talk about Wallace.

Everett's wife: Not Wallace. George Dwelly he said.

Everett: Oh Dwelly. Ya. I've seen him. He was 6' or more. Six and a half?

JC: I saw a picture of him. You are right.

Everett: (Describing George Dwelly) (4:51) (Hard to understand)

JC: Now they (George Dwelly & Mary Porter Dwelly, d/o Andrew J. Porter) have a daughter in law living there in Mt. Olivet, Robertson County. She had an old picture of the Porters. There was Levi, and all 5 of the brothers.

Everett: And his wife was named...

JC: Who's wife? George Dwelly's wife?

Everett: No, that old big guy. George Dwelly.

JC: Mary.

Everett: Ya, his wife was named Mary. That was my daddy's sister. And then one (one of Andrew J. Porter's daughters) had married a Day. (Martha Porter married Daniel Day) And he died and they took the children to the orphans home in Louisville, I believe.

JC: Was it Martha that married the Day?

Everett: Ya. And they hired her to help wait on them. (her children)

JC: They did?

Everett: And she stayed right there until they got up to take care of themselves. Her (Martha Day) and her boy Floyd, they come up in here. (to visit) Another one or two of them were married. They went out to Uncle Jim Porter's at Stark. He was mowing with a team and a mowing machine. Them women, they wanted to ride that mowing machine. (laughing) That was years ago. There was a boy named Roy Martine.

JC: And who was he?

Everett: He was some of their people. I don't know just which one.

JC: Do you ever remember this Jane Porter (daughter of Andrew J. Porter), your dad's sister Jane?

Everett: I've heard of her.

JC: Have you? Did she ever get married?

Everett: Well, I just...There was one married a Hunt.

JC: A Hunt?

Everett: Ya, there was a Hunt. Then there was an old Feller down, out from Grayson (KY) I lost my thought.

JC: And he married one of your Dad's sisters?

Everett: Ya.

JC: Well let's see. What about Elizabeth? She is the one that married the Hunt.

Everett: I never heard of her.

JC: You never heard of her? She was married in Virginia, so maybe they stayed there?

Everett: She might not of...I reckon a coal company went in there and just bought up a big circle.

JC: Do you mean in Virginia? Or do you mean Robertson county?

Everett: No. They sold out up there, and I thought it was in Virginia. Just a whole (raft?) (7:54). Of people. The Vanderpools.

JC: The Vanderpools. Was that the name of another family that came here?

Everett: No that wasn't our people, but they sold out and formed a wagon train, just a whole community.

JC: Several families?

Everett: Ya. Some were driving the hogs and the cows and some the wagons. And when night would come, they would just pull up beside the old dirt road.

JC: Did the whole Bumgardner.... (end of tape)