

George Newman: How Bryson Got Its Name

AS: Do you remember anything about the old grocery store that sat there across the road from?

GN: That was an old two story grocery building, in fact there were two grocery stores across the road. One on the corner that operated for years and years, and then a smaller one on up, on up just a little piece that Mr. Coble ran.

AS: Did they have names?

GN: The Wrights were the last people to run the one on the corner and about prior to that for a number of years Mr. and Mrs., Mr. Tennery and his, he ran it he owned it, he operated it, but now he leased it out usually to somebody else to do the actual work. And it was at one time the post office of Bryson. Bryson got it's name, it originally was called Bethany, and when it got established a post office, the Post Office Department said it could not be called Bethany because it was too similar to Bethpage, which was in the northern part of the state. And the mail carrier was a Mr. Bryson from Fayetteville, and he said well just name the community for me. And that name carried on, has stuck to the community today. The church was still, is still Bethany but the community is Bryson. And there were several people around the community at one time who were called, who were named Bryson. But there were two stores there for a number of years [background noise] and the big store was fixed up with an apartment upstairs later on, when the Wrights had it. And I can remember horse collars and various items hanging from the beams of the building. Sickling beams.