The Larimore Tour of Bryson City, North Carolina
Based on the popular books by Dr. Walt Larimore

Numbers correspond to locations on map, page 4

1 – Old Swain County Courthouse
Corner of Main & Everett Streets
Where the Larimores registered to vote and where Dr. Larimore was a witness in a trial. (Book 1, pgs. 73, 99.)

2 – Swain County Jail
Located next door to the Courthouse; it was razed in 2009 and the Sheriff's Office moved to their new facility. Mentioned in Books 1 & 2.

3 – Sneed's Restaurant
130 Main Street
A popular restaurant where the Rotary Club met. (Book 3, pg. 53.) This building is now Business Commons.

4 – Swain County Rescue Squad
Bryson City Fire Department Building, Main Street
For many years the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad shared the same building. The Rescue Squad is involved in stories in all three books.

5 – Smoky Mountain Mental Health
105 Main Street
The staff of the mental health office figures prominently in Book 3 (pg. 252). This building is now Charleston Station.

6 – Bryson City (Hillside) Cemetery
Hillside Drive, Intersection of School Drive & Arlington Avenue
Next to the practice field for the Swain County football teams. A number of prominent Bryson City leaders are buried here including Dr. Kelly Bennett, Dr. A.M. Bennett, Horace Kephart and the Everett family. (Book 1, pgs. 167-169.)

7 – Football Practice Field
Adjacent to Bryson City Cemetery (see #6)
The old high school stadium (Book 1, pgs. 162 & 167-168). Now a practice field, it is located across from the current Swain County Middle School.

8 – Fryemont Inn
245 Fryemont Street (off Veterans Boulevard)
Historic 1923 inn where the Larimores spent many pleasant evenings. The present owners bought the Inn shortly before the Larimores moved away. (Book 1, pgs. 218-223, 251-255; Book 2, pgs. 72-74; Book 3, pgs. 340, 347-348.)

9 – Frye-Randolph House
223 Fryemont Street
Originally the home of Col. and Mrs. Amos Frye, who built the adjacent Fryemont Inn. It operated for many years as an inn and restaurant. It is currently closed. (Book 1, pg. 56; Book 2, pg. 304.)

10 – WBHN Radio Station
75 Winding Way
The local radio station and its morning deejay Gary Ayers figure in all three books.

11 & 12 – Super Swain Drug Store
158 / 169 Everett Street
This drug store and Dr. John Mattox are mentioned prominently in all three books. When Dr. Larimore was here it was located at 158 Everett Street where Appalachian Mercantile is today. In 1985 it moved to 169 Everett Street, the current location of Rita's Hallmark. (Book 1, pgs. 89, 134-136; Book 2, pgs. 38-52, 64; Book 3, pgs. 68-83.)

13 – The Home of the Larimores
450 Center Street
The little green house with the wonderful bench, which looked down the valley toward Deep Creek, was razed in 2010 to make room for Hospital Hill Pharmacy & MedWest/Swain Clinics.

14 – Swain County Hospital (Now MedWest/Swain)
45 Plateau Street
The center of activity for all three of Dr. Larimore's books. The hospital facility has been remodeled and enlarged several times since 1985 and the departure of Dr. Larimore.

15 – Mountain Medical Center
545 Center Street
The offices of Dr. Walt Larimore and Dr. Rick Pyeritz opened in the Spring of 1982, and they practiced here until mid-1985. It is now the Swain County Health Department. (Book 1, pg. 39; Book 3, pg. 84.)

16 – Swain Surgical Associates
300 Everett Street
The office of Dr. William E. Mitchell and Dr. Ray Cunningham. Dr. Larimore and Dr. Pyeritz were in practice here until they opened their office on Center Street (see #15). (Book 1, pgs. 74-76; Book 3, pgs. 94-95.)
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17 – Bryson City Presbyterian Church
311 Everett Street
Where the Larimore family were members. Rev. Ken Hicks, the pastor and close friend, was mentioned a number of times in all three books. (Book 1, pg. 303.)

18 – Swain County High School
1415 Fontana Road
(an extension of Everett St.)
Home of the Swain County Maroon Devils, it has been altered and expanded several times since 1985.

19 – Swain County Memorial Stadium
Across from the High School (see #18)
As the team doctor, Dr. Larimore mentions the stadium in several of the tales. (Book 1, pgs. 156-167, 171-179.)

20 – Deep Creek Recreation Area
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
End of West Deep Creek Road
The Larimores enjoyed a view toward Deep Creek from their home (see #13). They also enjoyed walking the Park trails and marveling at the waterfalls and natural serenity.

21 – Hemlock Inn
Galbreath Creek Road
(1 mile off US 19 toward Cherokee)
The Inn where the Larimores stayed when they came for his interview at the hospital. They also enjoyed many other delightful visits and meals here. (Book 1, pg. 35; Book 2, pgs. 146-152; Book 3, pg. 201.)

About the Author:

Dr. Walt Larimore practiced medicine in Bryson City, NC from 1981 to 1985 following his residency in family medicine at Duke University, Durham, NC. He is an internationally-recognized, award-winning family physician, medical journalist, best-selling author and educator.

Following his years in Bryson City, Dr. Larimore practiced family medicine in Kissimmee, FL for 16 years. He and his family moved to Colorado in 2001, where he served as Vice President and Family Physician in Residence at Focus On The Family (2001-2004). Dr. Larimore teaches family medicine part-time, holding adjunct clinical academic appointments in family medicine at the In His Image Family Medicine Residency Program in Tulsa, OK and The University of Colorado Residency Program in Denver, CO.

Dr. Larimore has published an immensely popular three-part series of books based on his experience as a physician in Bryson City:

Bryson City Tales

Bryson City Seasons
More tales of a doctor’s practice in Bryson City. (Book 2) Zondervan, 2004

Bryson City Secrets
Even more tales of his experiences in the mountains. (Book 3) Zondervan, 2004

Two more books about life in the Smoky Mountains were published in 2012: Hazel Creek: A Novel; and Sugar Fork: A Novel. Dr. Larimore’s books are available for sale in Bryson City at The Fryemont Inn and O’Neill’s Shop on the Corner (across from the train depot), and online.