

Columbia Pike was one of the routes of march of Federal forces enroute to first battle of Bull Run, Manassas. Pres. Theodore Roosevelt traversed it on one of his long distance horseback rides.

The Scanlan Family may be worth mentioning: There were five children who never married. The girls were Miss Jennie, Miss Belle, and another girl--name not remembered--who was a cripple, and two boys, Henry and Edgar. They lived on a farm bordering the west side of Four Mile Run, and the southern of Columbia Pike. There was a great chestnut tree near Columbia Pike on Four Mile Run that the children and people used to gather chestnuts from. The lowlands along Four Mile Run were planted in crops and watermelons that local boys would occasionally raid. (Names not mentioned!)

The lot termed Park on the sub-division plat on the corner of Buchanan St. and Columbia Pike was a playground for the children and the grove of trees on the Handy property the site of lawn fetes of the community held during the summer.

The Martins were an old family who lived just to the rear of the Fairfax family. At the Community House, when they would hold dances, music was usually provided by those who could play the piano, and interestingly enough, the married men were always

interested in dancing with the younger girls and taught them what they knew about dance steps, and the wives taught the young boys. The young babies slept on the seats.

The Pattersons were a family who lived across from the Ryders. And Mrs. Watts, widow, and her children lived in the old Lee house, whose children's names were Andrew and Laura.

A family by the name Beech built and operated a little store across from O'Hara's. They had a son, Elmer, who clerked in the store for his father and ran it after his father's death.

Walter O'Hara, who developed north Barcroft, was anxious to get transportation to the area in order to expedite the sale of lots and houses he was building. He suggested the idea to Mr. and Mrs. May, and offered to buy them their buses and get them started if they would operate them for the community. Mr. May, formerly a motorcycle policeman attached to the White House, was then doing hauling, and his wife, who had been a trained nurse, agreed, and this was the beginning of the busline that later merged with others and became the A.B. & W. busline (Alexandria, Barcroft and Washington.)

The Miller family were an old family in Barcroft, who lived across from where the Mansfield and Trenary families lived.

The Blake family was an old family who lived across from the Armstrongs and Froyds.

The Pritchards lived at the top of Palmer's Hill. She had

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been one of the Palmer girls and had been given the land by her father. They built the house, subsequently this property was acquired by her brother, Estler, where he lived for some years.

The Brasse family lived in Barcroft; also the Kirchners were also an old family. Had two girls, little boy was Bernie, another boy was Alexander who became an electrical contractor in Arlington.

The Prince family operated a store in the building just west of the railroad tracks west of Columbia Pike which had formerly been the warehouse for Perrow when he was building. Prince was also Postmaster. Afterwards, Richard Cleveland took over the store and operated it; then later he moved into the old Haring's store. Produce was sold by farmers raising it who would come around in their wagons, and meat was often supplied by George Ferguson, in a screened meat wagon that was followed by most of the dogs in the community. Milk was sold by people who had extra to sell. No pasteurization was required, of course.

At times when a fire would be set along the railroad near the school, the school would be let out so that the older children could help fight it. I remember doing that.

When the Post Office was discontinued, Vernon Lynch became the mail carrier for a number of years. ('til '32)

The only black family in the neighborhood was a family by the name of Low who had a small cabin near where the milled dam

was located, back in the woods.

When there was no high school in the county, children would walk from Barcroft to Columbia Pike and Fillmore Street where they would catch a trolley to Rosslyn, VA, then walk across Key Bridge, then up 35th Street to Western High School, and repeat the route in the evening. As a boy, I could catch rides on the milk trucks or other wagons which helped me get home earlier in the afternoons. My sisters, of course, did not have this option! They were not allowed to ride with these drivers.