

ORAL HISTORY

Introduction: George F. Ralston (Wed. Feb. 10, 1993)

It is Wednesday, February 10, 1993... I am Betty Bell Condon, Director of C. R. ^{at Wilkes...} and meeting with George Ralston, Dean of Student Affairs, Emeritus and also Special Assistant for Alumni.

~~We are interested~~ George has been at Wilkes since June 1, 1946 ¹ when it was Bucknell U. College and his recollections ^{are} ~~will be~~ of great ^{archival} value and interest to the university.

George: Tell us -

1. When came here - Why - How
2. Personal background
3. Campus then + changes in it
4. Students over years + changes - Particular ones
5. Community involvement = Heavy. How does Uyo Valley see Wilkes?

you've been an academic ^{reputable} ^{thinker}
~~not only~~ a leader for Wilkes a role model for our students and ^{a tremendous} influence in Uyo Valley enrichment ^{influx} for across countless levels of Uyo Valley community

- Sal. Army
- mental health
- church
- YMCA

Bd. when Geo came -
size of Geo's family - U. of N.C.
~~aware of B.U.C. when at FF?~~

~~No vacations~~ (athletic experience? at N.C.?)

~~Start of Wilkes College.~~
~~Porter Center (what there?)~~
~~Board~~

discipline

Mrs. Farley
(Helen)
Dean of Students -
(Committee vs. Boarders)
Alumni Bd. up.

- Kirby
- Chase Hall - Everything there - all ad.'s -
- "Devision" - Dorm. (all Arch there) -
- Warner Hall - men's
- Ashley Hall - men's -
- Butler ^{we} took it over in '46
- Barre
- a bldg. we didn't need it - later: The Horner Dorm. ^{for} women.
- ~~Swan~~ next to Connetta Swans House) (Mose Griffith) -
- Coningham
- Coningham ^{old} main Science Facility - labs.
- Payne's House - later Butler

They all had carriage Houses - needed classrooms so they became "Annexes" - Denison Annex, etc. -

- Franklin St. - → Vacant lot was →
- Geise Hall (double block) - old Baptist Church - corner
 - Back of ↑ The Commons (Ted Suggs) (Chaffee Kings)
 - Kirby's Carriage House was Commons -
 - Garage w. Turntable
 - see p. 3

after death only... could we get the garage. -

June '47 became independent of Beechell
Charter Day

Dr. Maister, Dr. Spencer, Sec of Ed. (Bleichner), etc. - Farley
 in "clutch"

Bd. of Trustees listed them

- "Pickering Hall" - Mangel House
- Fenner's was Dr. Kaufmann
- Capin Hall (later after mine workers)
- Slattery - (not ours)
- Ann Pell Tiger
- Harbly
- Kocyan -
- Stewardant (residence Hall 1st)
- Dr. Rutt
- Dr. Humes' Place - (hunky blue)
- Dr. Haworth

- Chesap. - > Damm's
- Delaware - > Damm's
- Dr. Farshaw > Eng. Dep't offices 1st floor of bldg. -
- Dr. Williams >
- Wechsner House = Seegerhouse Hall
- Payne Residence -> Ed. Dep't. -

- Wells + annex (maintenance)
 - Catlin - Reynolds property
 - Rifkin -
 - Sterling - was dining hall after Barre (Fred Wall came to us then)
 - Sholmehar' - belonged to W. H. -
 - JCC
 - Baptist ch.
 - McClintock
 - Residence m. case
 - Parrish -
- > later Dining Hall
to Commons &
then Pickering.

George Ralston

Feb. 11, '93

Hi George —

Thank you again for your wonderful memories of BUIC's early years and its growth into Wilkes C. and U.... The campus, faculty, programs plus, above all, the students. Our archives will be much enriched by your account!

You asked about the Miner family... Now my wits are working, here's the relationships F. Y. I....

OLD Dr. Charles Miner ("our" Charley's father) had a brother Asher... ("General" Asher, of same note).

Dr. Charles and wife Grace had Charley and Stella (most).

Asher had 5 children; (Bob was the only son) —

Robert Miner ← + "Diddy" had 2 daughters → Lea Coala
Helen " Bixby (Dr. Med) and Betsy who
Beth " Chrisman lives in MA
with husband #2.
Lonsdale Miner or "Lennie" → (went off to Baldwin School w. my mother.
Another I can't remember of Charley.

So — Bob Miner + Charley are cousins + Lea Coala is cousin-once-removed.
I think The Asher Miners lived in ^{back} corner ^{next block} house (Ross + S. Franklin) which
the Bixbys then lived in. Chrisman lived ^{around corner} on Ross. Bob and
Diddy Miner lived across from Rache Gutman's in double block
now owned by Wilkes. *Butman too*