

A LITTLE INFORMATION ON EARLY SCHOOLS IN THE AREA.
AS I REMEMBER THEM.

When I was six years old in the fall of 1909, I entered the first grade in the Blythewood school.

The school was in the same location as the present Blythewood Elementary School. It consisted of two rather large rooms, parallel to present hwy. 21. A set of folding doors across the middle, dividing the two rooms. They were opened on special occasions. Each room had a wood burning stove for heating. The room on the north side had a rostrum or stage. Above it a rope hung from the school bell that was on top of building. The bell was rung at different times, such as beginning of school, recess or when school was over for the day etc.

In back of the building was a wood shed that kept the wood dry. The stoves for heating was supplied with wood by students.

Some distance back of the school was two toilets, one for girls and one for boys. They were located near a small stream of water, and not too close together.

Not long after I started to school, three additional class rooms were added to the rear of building.

Most students walked to school, a few came in horse and buggy. There was only one automobile in the community. owned by Dr. Mike Langford. I believe it was an open top "BRUSH" make. At times he brought his children to school in it.

Most pupils brought their lunch to school. Some in what was called ~~in~~ that time as gallon molasses pails.

We were fortunate in having capable dedicated teachers that taught the usual "Reading--Writing-and Arithmetic". Such subjects as algebra, geometry and latin. etc.

You finished high school in the tenth grade. Some boys and girls continued their education by attending institutions of higher learning. They had no trouble in being accepted leaving a small school. Some had successful careers in business, universities, state and federal government.

Some other schools in the area at that time--Holly Grove, Bellview, Level, Shady Grove, Duke, Bear Creek and Browns.

There have been many improvements over the years.

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