



Information in this history is from an interview of Roy Garland on September 11, 2009. Roy was born on Garland Mountain February 22, 1935.

The Garland Mountain Horse and Hike Trails parking lot is where Roy's Grandfather Harrison Briggs Garland's sister lived. She was married to John Ray.



HARRISON BRIGGS GARLAND

Briggs, pictured in the middle, lived in Gilmer County. He would bring his family to the Rays to visit and liked it so much he decided to move here.

Grandpa Briggs was a big hunter, farrier and maker of guns.

In 1898 Briggs found out that Earl Sparks, who lived nearby on the Mountain, had his place up for sale because he was moving his family to Florida. Briggs and Sparks made a deal and the Garlands made their way to the Sparks Garland Mountain home.

Unfortunately the Garlands arrived to move into what they thought was a vacated house and found almost the entire Ray family down with the flu. The Garlands moved in and they all lived together with the Sparks for 2 months and everyone came down with the flu except for Briggs.

Doc Moore from Waleska came up to the mountain every day to treat all of them. After 2 months the Sparks were able to go to their new home in Florida.



GARLAND MOUNTAIN SCHOOL GROUP

About 20 families lived in the Garland Mountain community and kids filled the two 38 x 30 foot rooms.



The Garland Mountain church was here in the parking lot area and was well attended.



GARLAND MOUNTAIN PREACHER

MULES WERE A BIG PART OF THEIR LIVES





HARRISON BRIGGS GARLAND

There were 3 horse/mule stables in the Canton area and back then a good pair of trained mules was worth a lot of money...\$600...a lot more than crops. Roy's father would buy a pair that needed training, have the boys work with them in the field and about the time they'd get them trained to where they could work with them his Dad would sell them and get another pair for them to break.

“PROGRESS” COMES TO GARLAND MOUNTAIN

In 1950 a pulp wood company came in to buy up land. Before the pulp wood company came in you could buy for a \$1 an acre. The company came in and offered \$10 an acre. Everyone thought they were getting rich and sold their land. The company would buy the land and tear down the house and barn.

They made roads including what is now called Garland Greenway and built a bridge over the creek. This bridge had long collapsed and has been recently replaced for the Trails. Berry Saunders was the last man to live up on the mountain. He harvested his crops in the Fall of 1953 and left, took the money he made from the sale of his land and his crops and bought himself a brand new Chevy pick up truck.

Many Garlands still live in the Waleska area.