

Patterson

Mr. Patterson acquired District Lot 3753 as a Crown Grant in 1924, and in 1933 bought a further 160 acres as District Lot 4052 from Ian Sutherland, who had acquired it from Charles Sutherland, his father who took it as a Crown Grant in 1911. The Patterson cabin was located on the north side of Mission Creek on the downstream side of the present Three Forks Park. In 1931, the Heptons were living there with their children, Betty, Jack, Ernest and Vera. The older three were in the Joe Rich School. During a high school bush party cabin was burned down several years ago. Patterson was a contractor in Kelowna, and built the present Anglican Cathedral.⁴ He was a deacon of the First Baptist Church.

Pearce

Claude and Betty Pearce lived in a cabin close to where Tanya Grafton's house now stands on the southeast side of Mission Creek not far from the north side of the highway. Claude had served in World War II, and then driven a taxi in Kelowna. He was a severe diabetic in bad health by the time he and his wife moved to Joe Rich, but he loved to be with the people of the valley. He showed up at every fire practice though he couldn't really participate. He was made a member of the Fire Department anyway and looked after some of the 'Joe Jobs'.

On his birthday, the Joe Rich people put on a party for him. He was overwhelmed and said that if he lived a hundred years that would have been the best day of his life. Claude kept diary goats that he loved. He and Betty had two children. Their son committed suicide here in Joe Rich which gave the parents unimaginable grief. The daughter became Mrs. Laboucaine. Claude died in 1988 at the age of 69.

Pearson

Bob Pearson arrived in Joe Rich about 1908. Pearson Creek, which enters Mission Creek where Three Forks Road crosses it, is named after him.

Prather

Daniel (Bruce) Prather was the first to homestead on the land later known as the Pyman Ranch on the southwest shoulder of Black Mountain. He came to this area by covered wagon with a group of eight wagons from Lewiston and Clarkston in the Snake River country on the border of Idaho and

Washington. They travelled overland, crossed the Columbia River, arrived at the boarder on June 27, 1893, continued on up to Penticton and from there took the S. S. Aberdeen to Kelowna. The Okanagan Valley bottom land was already taken so the group settled in the Black Mountain Area.

Prather was the first to use irrigation in this area. He took water from the little creek on the west side of the Goudie Road area which now bears his name. Prather Creek now flows across Goudie Road to join Daves Creek and with it to form Eight Mile Creek. Prather Road branches off Jack Pine Road west of Goudie Road. Others of these American settlers also located in the Black Mountain area. Jim McClure and his family took land where Gallagher Road and Highway 33 now meet.