



# Garden Home History Gazette

April 2021

Website: [GardenHomeHistory.com](http://GardenHomeHistory.com)

Email: [gardenhomehistory@gmail.com](mailto:gardenhomehistory@gmail.com)

Editor: Elaine Shreve (503) 246-5879

**Mission:** Enriching the lives of our community by sharing the history of Garden Home

Visit [GardenHomeHistory.com](http://GardenHomeHistory.com) for over 250 stories and 2500 photos.

**Hello Garden Home Friends:** Welcome to our Spring Gazette! Time for an interesting walk on the Fanno Creek Trail. Enjoy Gerry Frank's photos, spring flowers and a new Discover Garden Home!

**Jan Fredrickson's bulletin board:** The multi-sign post on the Fanno Creek Trail at SW 78th signals an interesting bulletin board you might enjoy. Just take a few steps south off the trail to view the information, enjoy the history banner and pick up freebie brochures or newsletters. Thanks to Jan Fredrickson and Kevin Mistler for this attraction.



**2016 Garden Tour:** We're remembering the 2016 History & Gardens Tour in Garden Home, sponsored by the Garden Home Gardeners and the Garden Home History Project. We planned the event in January and worried *what if it rained?* Little did we expect that it would be over 100° F. We quickly changed to umbrellas and water bottles for our guests. Let's keep the Garden in Garden Home!





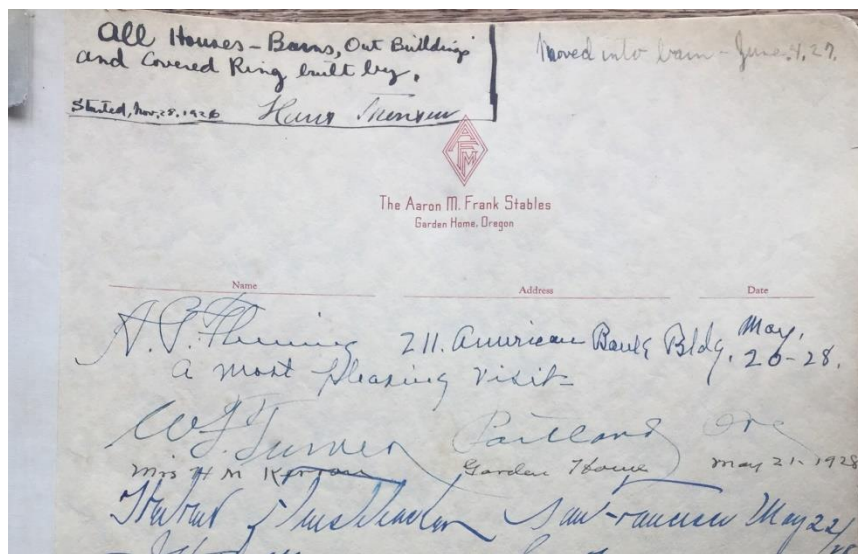
**Gerry Frank:** Our THANKS to Gerry Frank for his recent gift to Garden Home History Project of some 40 large photos of their horses from his father's Garden Home farm of the 1920s-1940s, the current Frank Estate. He also gave us the large leather guest registration book for the Aaron M. Frank Stables. Hundreds of guests have signed into the Guest Book for the stables beginning in May of 1928 through the 1930s, and a few more into the 1960s.

Gerry Frank's book Friday Surprise compiles many articles that he wrote for The Oregonian. He writes that his father's love for fine horses dictated that the 35 farm acres were devoted to the breeding, housing, and training of fine horses. As he said, "Not just pleasure horses, but the cream of the competitive crop, from England and America, in hackney harness ponies and hackney harness horses, thoroughbred hunters and jumpers, roadsters and American saddle bred horse."

The stables featured the showpiece of the estate, the magnificent barn with 14 oversized stalls, each with special bins for food and water. A maroon carpet covered the floor, carrying out the red colors of the stable. Two unfortunate tragedies killed many of his finest horses in the 1930s: a fire in a California show and an accident en route to Madison Square Gardens in New York City. After that, the estate was used for shows and events for various charities and residences.

Gerry Frank's father, Aaron, co-founded the Meier & Frank's department stores which now has become Macy's with stores nationwide.

Photos: Frank stables (exterior), Frank stables (interior, note the carpeting), Aaron driving at stables, Aaron Frank Stables guestbook.





**Historic Garden Home street signs:** Susan Houseman is working with Washington County to fill orders for more of the blue Historic Garden Home street signs. The currently installed street signs have been requested and paid for by many of our neighbors, often to honor their loved ones. If you are interested to post a sign on your street, please contact Susan, sphouseman@yahoo.com, and send your \$90 to our Treasurer, Marie Pacella at 7240 SW 82nd, Portland, OR 97223. This pays for one sign, shipping and installation.



**Discover Garden Home!** Look for the original timbers of the railroad crossing over Fanno Creek on the trail. Also sit for a moment on the 3 benches, honoring Garden Home residents. Our **Discover Garden Home!** installments are a list of unusual or historical places, structures, or surprises in Garden Home. Send us your suggestions.



**Century Homes!** We are honored to have many homes built over 100 years ago here in Garden Home. These homes help to tell our history. Stan Houseman and our Board of Directors are developing a list of almost 40 such homes. Carol Kochenderfer enjoys living in this 1920 home of William and Mary Steele Godwin on SW 87th Ave. After the Godwins moved here in the 1930s, Bill dug the basement with a shovel to put in a sawdust burning furnace and clothes line for drying clothes. More details on recognizing our Century Homes next time.



### Thank you for your comments

- *AND another super Garden Home History update. Y'all do such a fantastic job with the newsletters, photos and information of the area.*
- *Thank you for all you do to keep our Garden Home History alive. It is always fun to read and see the photos.*
- *Thanks for the history. Good to know things about where I grew up.*

**Garden Home History Project**  
**7240 SW 82nd Ave.**  
**Portland, OR 97223**



*Gathering the stories of our Garden Home families*

## **Garden Home History Project**

The Garden Home History Project is a tax-exempt non-profit under IRS 501(c)(3). Our 2021 officers are Co-Chairs: Elaine Shreve and Esta Mapes, Treasurer: Marie Pacella, Secretary: Sharon Vedder. Other Board Members: Stan Houseman, Susan Houseman, John Pacella, Jan Fredrickson, and Kevin Mistler.

We'd love to have you work with us on our Advisory Board or Garden Home History Board. It is a great way to get to know people, businesses, and groups in Garden Home.

**Postal mailings of printed newsletter.....\$10 per year**

**Your donations** support the activities and research of the Garden Home History Project. **Thank You!**

**Name/Business**\_\_\_\_\_

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**Phone**\_\_\_\_\_ **Email**\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **Garden Home History Project**  
and mail to our Treasurer: **Marie Pacella, 7240 SW 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97223**