

ZIMMERMAN HERITAGE FARM TIMELINE

First Generation: Jacob and Lena

1816	Jacob Zimmerman born in Hofenheim/Baden, Germany
1827	Lebolina (Lena) Schoepfel born in Bavaria Germany.
1843	Jacob sails to the U.S. and settles in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
1844	Jacob applies for U.S. Citizenship in Philadelphia.
1845	Jacob and Lena are married in Philadelphia. It is unknown exactly when Lena immigrated to the U.S.
1851	Jacob, Lena, and two surviving children join a train of emigrants bound for the Oregon Territory. Jacob and Lena's second child, a daughter, dies in Cincinnati. They arrive in Oregon October 10 th and settle on Hayden Island.
1852	After planting their crops in the spring, flood waters engulfed the island and washed the family out. Jacob relocates his family to a section of land in East Multnomah County, near Fairview Lake. The Zimmerman's are credited as being one of the founding families of Fairview, Oregon.
1857 - 1869	Details are sketchy. It appears that Jacob sold his original farm and bought another farm which he later sold to William G. Wilkes. He lived there about 9 years. The family moved into Portland sometime between 1868 and 1869. Having been trained as a machinist in Germany, Jacob worked at the Oregon Iron Steel Works in Portland.
1869	Jacob Zimmerman purchased 331 acres, the Donation Land Claim of Robert P. Wilmot, which is the site of the present house.
1870	The Zimmerman's build their first home on the farm, a log cabin. Soon after the cabin was built, the pear trees on the west side of the house were planted. These trees still produce pears each year.
1874	Jacob builds the house known today as the Zimmerman Heritage Farm House.
1881	Jacob Zimmerman turns over operation of the farm to his son George. George pays his father \$5.00 for half interest in the farm, including the house.
1887	Lena Zimmerman dies at the age of 59, 20 days short of her 60 th birthday.
1899	Jacob Zimmerman dies at the age of 82.

Second Generation: George and Jessie

1852	George H. Zimmerman is born to Jacob and Lena at their farm near Fairview Lake.
1862	Jessie M. McCall is born in Kilmarnock, Ayleshire, Scotland to John and Susanna McLellan McCall. Her family immigrates to Canada in 1868, then to Oregon by 1875.
1883	George H. Zimmerman and Jessie McCall are married under the grape arbor to the West of the Zimmerman farm house.
1885	The horse barn is built. It paralleled the existing driveway on the East side of the drive where the row of trees is located today.
1888 - 1893	The cow/dairy barn, known as the Big Barn, is built. The brick and tile building is still standing, although it is no longer on the Zimmerman property. It was later attached to the East end of the big Barn.
1890's	The brick dairy building is built on the East side of the house. George's dairy products are sold from there. (This building has now collapsed.)

1899	George launches a major remodel and expansion of the original house. 4 of the 5 bedrooms on the West side of the house are enlarged. A new kitchen on the East side of the house, the wrap-around porch, and the bay window in the parlor are added. George had established the farm as a prominent dairy in the area, known as The Columbia Butter and Cheese Factory.
1890 – 1906	George purchased the neighboring property to the West, the Jessie Fleming Donation Land Claim owned by C. L. Hogan in 1889.
1909 - 1910	George and Jessie took Olive, Mabel and Isobel on a 6 month train trip across the United States.
1911	George, his wife Jessie, and their daughter Isobel took a cruise from San Francisco to Hawaii on board the SS Sierra. This trip was a little over a year prior to the sailing of the Titanic in April 1912.
1915	George Zimmerman dies at the age of 63 from a stroke at the family's home on Ankeny Street in Portland.
1943	Jessie (McCall) Zimmerman dies at the age of 81.

Third Generation: Jessie, Mabel, Olive and Isobel

1884	George and Jessie's 1 st child, Jessie May Zimmerman, is born.
1889	George and Jessie's 2 nd child, Olive Hope Zimmerman, is born.
1891	George and Jessie's third child, Mabel June Zimmerman, is born.
1899	George and Jessie's 4 th and last child, Isobel Faith Zimmerman, is born.
1906	George and Jessie's oldest daughter, Jessie May, marries Thomas Conrad Millar under the grape arbor at the Zimmerman House. They spelled their name Millar, although they pronounced it Miller (according to people who lived in the area and knew them.) The Millar's had no children.
1913	Olive and Mabel graduate from the University of Oregon.
1914	Mabel June Zimmerman (daughter #3) dies at the age of 23 from complications after she chokes on a chicken bone.
1917	Isobel Zimmerman graduates from the Portland Academy (later known as Washington High School).
1919	Olive Hope marries the Rev. Paul D. Holfman under the grape arbor at the Zimmerman farm house. They have two sons, Leonard and Kenneth, and neither son married or had children.
1921	Isobel Zimmerman graduates from the University of Oregon.
1926	The horse barn on the East side of the driveway burns down.
1930 - 1961	Isobel Zimmerman teaches math and science at Franklin High School in Portland.
1960's	Isobel leaves instructions in her will indicating her wish that "a historic society be established for the area and that this society take over the house and barn...to keep my home as a place of historical value." These instructions were not made official immediately after she died and were found written on pieces of paper in the house.
1968	Thomas C. Millar dies in Gresham, Oregon.
1968	The Rev. Paul D. Holfman dies in Burbank, California.
1968	Jessie May (daughter #1) dies at the age of 84 in Gresham, Oregon.
1976	The "Big Barn" burns down in an arson barn fire.
1980	Olive Hope Holfman (daughter #2) dies at the age of 91 in Burbank, California.

1985	The Zimmerman Heritage Farm House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At the time this was done it was believed by Isobel that the original house was built in 1878, but a ledger book showing it was actually built in 1874 was found in the house.
1992	Isobel Faith Zimmerman dies at the age of 93. Isobel never married and had lived in the Zimmerman family home where she was born virtually her entire life, except when she went to college and had short term teaching jobs in Crow, Brownsville, and Molalla, Oregon.

Zimmerman Heritage Farm

1995	The house and contents, and 2.5 acres are bequeathed to the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society.
1995	The curation efforts began – sorting, cleaning, and organizing the collection.
1995	Work began to recover the gardens from blackberries and brush.
1996	A partnership was formed with the City of Gresham and the City Parks Department. Subsequent property acquisitions brings the Park to nearly six acres
1996	Endowment Fund established for the Zimmerman project.
1997	Restored 21 windows.
1997	Restored the 1899 foundation.
1998	Upgraded the security system.
1999	Restored the south porch roof, which stopped the leak in the Parlor.
1999	Museum opens in July to the public for guided tours in the parlor only.
1999	Guided tours of the main floor only are offered in November, visitors see mostly boxes.
1999	Master Plan completed for the Zimmerman Heritage Farm Historical Park in December.
2000	Second story was added to the public tour.
2000	Replaced / restored gingerbread.
2000	The grape arbor was rebuilt, with photographs used to inform the design.
2002	Partial restoration of the north porch was completed.
2003	Structural reinforcement of the 1874 basement was addressed.
2003	Replaced the roof, restored the chimneys, and replaced the gutters.
2006	Completed an exterior paint project.
2007	Flower Room Restoration was completed.
2008	Kitchen Floor Stabilization was addressed.
2008	Exterior handrail fabricated and installed.
2009	Windowsills and shutters repaired.
2012	Design work began to re-build the Bunkhouse
2012	Porch stairs replaced.
2012	Garden room interior painted.
2013	South porch roof repaired.
2014	Electrical outlets added and water heater replaced with point-of-service unit.
2015	South porch floor was repaired and repainted.
2019	Garage demolished after a tree fell and did significant damage.