



Coming Soon with your help!

Our Current History Project

MAGNOLIA: MORE Memories & Milestones...in living color

Book IV

Our new online, ongoing book will be a dedicated, continually growing repository of Magnolia history written by Magnolians, the fourth in a series of our award-winning books.



Historic Landmark Fire Station 41 - Magnolia. Photo: Hoshide Wanzer Architects, Circa 2009

JOIN US! BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

This project is part of our ongoing **MHS Mission**:

- **Initiate** interest in Magnolia history protecting it for future generations.
- **Inspire** the Magnolia community to help us gather acquisitions for our photo and document archives at UW Special Collections.
- **Invest** in community historical research and writing of Magnolia history that facilitates historic projects and events.
- **Encourage** a more accurate "sense of place" through our work preserving the stories and images of Magnolia

For information contact: Dee St. George, stgeorge-d@comcast.net (206) 284-5480
Visit our website: www.magnoliahistoricalsociety.org



Who Is Working for MHS 2024-2025 Board Members

Brian Hogan, Co-President, relocated to Magnolia in 1961 from Vancouver, WA. and, since he was eight years old and without other prospects, decided to stay. He has resided within its confines (with a short break in faraway Ballard) ever since. He attended Magnolia Elementary, Catherine Blaine Junior High, Queen Anne High, and UW. He joined MHS during the start-up of Book III and after publication decided to stay to help with what might come next.

Dee St. George, Co-President & Treasurer, a Magnolia resident for 45 years, joined MHS in 2006 as Grant Bookkeeper for Book II. Her joy to share Magnolia history has kept her involved with MHS as President, Treasurer, and Newsletter editor. She was named Historic Person of the Year in 2020.

Kathy Cunningham, Secretary, has lived in Magnolia for most of her life moving with her parents from Queen Anne when she was a teenager. She and her husband have three boys. They are all very interested in Magnolia history and feel lucky to live here. Her love of history was the factor in getting her to join the MHS where she has been a board member since 2014.

Guy Besner, born in Montreal, Canada, is a residential architect in private practice. He has collaborated with many architectural institutions in researching and promoting the legacy of Modern architecture. Moving between cities of Seattle and Victoria in the last 25 years, he settled in Magnolia in 2014. He collaborated on Magnolia Book III (50s & 60s), an era in which he has great interest.

Carol Burton, originally from England, came to Magnolia by way of Alaska in 2000. Her historical interest began in her childhood living on a former Roman road and playing in the remains of Roman Villa. She was a researcher for Book III.

Kate Criss grew up on the North Fork of Long Island and lived in Massachusetts, Colorado, New York City and Indiana. She and her husband moved to Seattle in 2011. She is a full-time parent of two native Magnolians. She is a former librarian who loves to learn about the complicated history of places. She also serves on the board of Magnolia Chorale.

Jeffrey Cunningham, a Magnolia native, attended WWU, attaining his Masters in History and Teaching, now teaches World History and Language Arts at Madison Middle School. His passion for history and love of Magnolia encouraged him to join MHS. He will continue to keep our Facebook page current and interesting.

Melissa Islam, a Magnolia resident since 2019, became curious about its history. She devoured all three Magnolia Books, then joined MHS to ensure that more stories come to light in Book IV (including its natural history). She is a botanist, educator, and editor.

Claudia (Kettles) Lovgren moved to Magnolia with her family from Lansing, MI in 1957. Her written story of her first neighborhood is in the Magnolia Book III. She is a graduate of Cornish College of The Arts in Interior Design. As a member of the Queen Anne High School Alumni Association, she is the editor of the KUAY newsletter.

Tab Melton has lived and worked in Magnolia since the early 2000s. He has 4-plus decades of writing and editing experience, spanning from community and daily journalism to public relations, corporate communications, and advertising. He has owned and operated Tabco Corporate Communications since 1994. You might also find him selling produce at the Interbay QFC or peddling custom clocks through Fun Times Too.

Lisa Meoli, a Magnolia resident since 2004, brings over 20 years of experience as an Environmental Historian and a Master's Degree in History. She is passionate about local and regional historical research and will assist MHS with community projects and future archive work, leveraging her extensive expertise. She wrote a chapter on the Magnolia Library in Book III.

Sherrie Quinton is a Magnolia native, a graduate of Queen Anne High School and UW. She has a varied portfolio of skills and interests, including ballet, baking, urban farming, costume construction, genealogy and writing. She edited the churches chapter in Book III.

Greg Shaw, a Magnolia native, he attended Magnolia Elementary, Catherine Blaine and Queen Anne High schools. Some might know him for the Atlantic Giant Pumpkins he grows in his yard. He wrote two chapters in the Magnolia Book III. His passions are photography, gardening, and writing.

Monica Wooton, Consultant, a lifelong Magnolian, pioneered the writing process and served as project manager, editor, peer editor, writer and photographer for the award-winning/nominated Magnolia books. A founding member of MHS and named Historic Person of the Year in 2018, she is excited to be writing for Book IV!

Magnolia: MORE Memories & Milestones

Book IV

An online, ongoing collection of history...in living color!



Wunda, Wunda, Magnolia Ruth Prins, MOHAI, 1962 World's Fair Postcard. Courtesy of MOHAI, 2002.69.2

**Do you have stories/photos of Magnolia's history?
Do you have old records/photos of the Magnolia neighborhood?
Would you like to join the Board of the Magnolia Historical Society?**

NEEDED:

WRITERS, RESEARCHERS, EDITORS, PHOTOS, BOARD MEMBERS

CONTACT:

info@magnoliahistoricalsociety.org



www.magnoliahistoricalsociety.org

SNEAK PREVIEW!

Book IV - Magnolia: MORE Memories & Milestones

Included in our new online collection so far:

- Wunda, Wunda, Magnolia's Ruth Prins
- History of the historic landmark Fire Station 41
- The 30 year history of the Magnolia Chorale
- How Magnolia got its street names
- Unbuilt Magnolia
- Bernie Whitebear
- DayBreak Star
- New memoirs of growing up on Magnolia
- New revelations of or additions relating to some of the earlier history covered in the previous three books will be included

Peer editors and "how to write" history educational materials are still part of our unique process which has helped make the experience rewarding for writers and award winning.

We are looking for additional topics as well as willing writers and researchers (we have a list you can choose from) to help us make this collection our best ever.

How Magnolia Got Its Street Names: Perkins Lane by Ben Lukoff

Perkins Lane boasts one of the best views in all of Seattle - a completely unobstructed vista of Elliott Bay, Puget Sound, the Kitsap Peninsula, and the Olympic Mountains. The view from the street itself is mostly of houses to the west and forested slope to the east, most of them on or by steep banks. Notable Seattleites such as developer Martin Selig, broadcaster Kathi Goertzen, musician Ryan Lewis, and co-founder of Starbucks and Redhook Ale Brewery Gordon Bowker have called the winding lane home. And it truly is a winding lane, hugging the bluff with barely enough room for two cars to pass each other.



The lane was named as part of Carleton Beach Tracts, an addition to the City of Seattle, on New Year's Eve, 1920. The owners were Arthur Alexander Phinney (1885–1941), son of Guy Carleton Phinney (1851–1893), after whom Phinney Ridge and Phinney Avenue North are named; his wife, Daisy Euphemia Phinney (1884–1950); the Phinney Realty and Investment Company; and Oscar E. Jensen & Co., Inc. It begins at West Emerson Street in the north, just south of Discovery Park, and goes approximately 1.25 miles southeast to a roadblock a few feet beyond the bottom of the Montavista Stairs — one of two staircases descending from Magnolia Boulevard to Perkins Lane, the other being the Glenmont Steps. "Stairs" and "Steps" were the terms used by residents to differentiate the two steep walkway shortcuts to Magnolia Boulevard, according to Skip Kotkins, in *MAGNOLIA: Midcentury Memories*, "HOW DIFFERENT OUR LIVES...PERKINS LANE". The Perkins Lane roadway continues about 250 feet past the roadblock and the right-of-way continues a little over 800 feet beyond that...

The lane's namesake had been a mystery to me for a long time, until I came across the Phinneys' wedding announcement in the May 11, 1913, issue of the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*...

**Please contact us to volunteer, give us ideas/memorabilia
or ask any questions**
info@magnoliahistoricalsociety.org

KID'S AND PARENT'S HISTORY ACTIVITY

Know Indigenous People's History

VISIT DAYBREAK STAR INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

(West of the Three Ponds by North Meadow in Discovery Park)



Daybreak Star - United Indians of All Tribes

Mission: Founded by Bernie Whitebear, "our mission is to provide educational, cultural and social services that reconnect Indigenous people in the Puget Sound region to their heritage by strengthening their sense of belonging and significance as Native people."

Vision: To be a social service provider, community center, and cultural home for urban Indians."

ACTIVITIES TO DO AT DAYBREAK STAR INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER:

- 1) INSIDE THE BUILDING: READ THE HISTORICAL TIMELINE OR VISIT THE SACRED ART GALLERY
- 2) LOOK FOR THREE SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE BUILDING'S ARCHITECTURE
- 3) OUTSIDE, STUDY THE LARGE MURAL AND CHOOSE THE PART YOU LIKE BEST

Write about something you saw or learned here:

DID YOU KNOW? How Daybreak Star got its name? *"Then as I stood there, two men were coming from the east, head first like arrows flying, and between the rose the daybreak star. They came and gave an herb to me and said: 'With this on earth you shall undertake anything and do it.' It was the daybreak star herb, the herb of understanding, and they told me to drop it on the earth. I saw it falling far, and when it struck the earth, it rooted and grew and flowered, four blossoms on one stem, a blue, a white, a scarlet, and a yellow; and the rays from these streamed upward to the heavens so that all creatures saw it and in no place was there darkness."* - Nicholas Black Elm

Visit Our Website

www.magnoliahistoricalsociety.org



COMING SOON!

Kindle editions of our books!

NOTE: Like most small non-profits, MHS is just recovering from the effects of the pandemic. As we gather again in person, build our Board, resume our usual tasks, and launch our newest writing project, Book IV, we are excited to be back in the community fulfilling our mission!

MHS HISTORICAL WORK AND KING COUNTY GRANT RECEIVED - 2022

As is the practice of MHS, often providing historical information, research and guidance to others, the Magnolia Historical Society participated as consultants, fundraisers and board members of the Discovery Park's 50th Anniversary celebration. We helped with messaging themes, wrote a history column for the 50th website, developed publicity materials with Seattle Parks and Recreation, helped create the Discover Ranger pilot program, did writing and historical fact checking for the 12-minute video, "Discovery Park, A People's Park", coordinated with other organizations on invitations and speakers for the event. We provided and helped design a commemorative reprint of the Original Master Plan and reprinted the chapter (with an update from Friends of Discovery Park), "Discovery Park: A People's Park in Magnolia", written by Bob Kildall, which appeared in *MAGNOLIA: Memories & Milestones* (2000).

Former King County Council Member, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, awarded a grant of \$1,500 to us after MHS worked on the event. We thank her!

See us at:
**Magnolia Farmers Market, Queen Anne Alumni Picnic
& Summerfest**