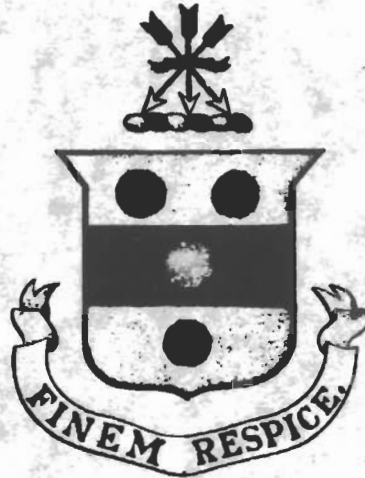
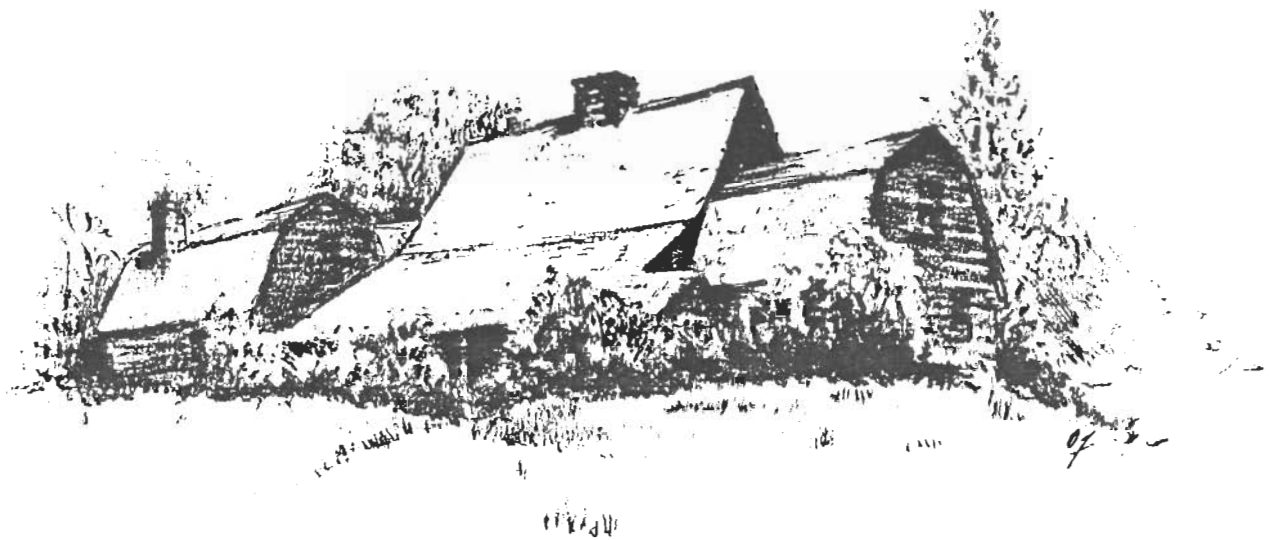


FAIRBANK---FAIRBANKS.



Arms: Silver shield, a fess between three hurts azure, a bezant or crest, three arrows, one in pale, and two in saltire proper. **Motto:** *Finem Respice.*

The Fairbanks name originated in England. Since Pilgrim Days it has been a prominent name in United States history. It was also a well known name among the early pioneers who settled the Western Frontier.



Over 350 years ago, several years after the arrival of the Pilgrims, Jonathan Fairbanks came to this country from England and settled in Watertown, Massachusetts. In 1636 he and his wife, Grace Smith Fairbanks, moved to Dedham, Massachusetts where he built his home from frame lumber he had shipped from England.

The early home consisted of four rooms. From this simple beginning other wings developed until today it is a rambling old structure of ten rooms encased in a sturdy oak frame.

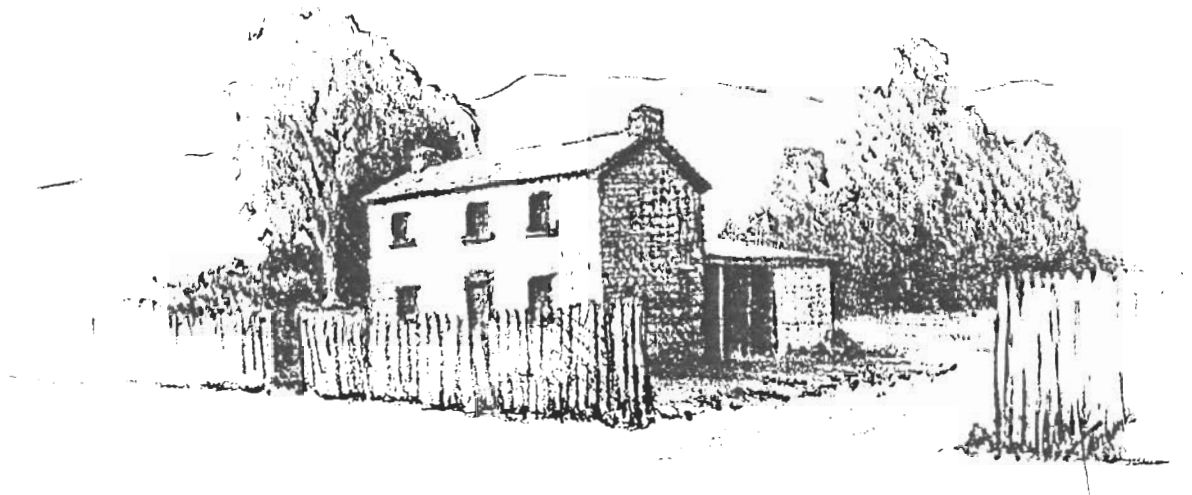
The Fairbanks home, a priceless, framed landmark is still standing and is recognized generally as the oldest frame structure in the United States.

"There's not enough money in the United States Treasury to buy this old homestead," is the manner in which Henry Irving Fairbanks evaluated this pre-revolutionary landmark.

At the time he was president of the corporation of descendants which owns the structure.

It is estimated that each year more than 7,900 visitors pass through the portals of this shrine of the early pilgrims.

On July 18, 1986 the Fairbanks family will celebrate their 350th reunion at the home in Dedham, Massachusetts.



More than 220 years later, at 143 North Main in Payson, Utah, John Boylston Fairbanks, seventh in line of descent from Jonathan Fairbanks, built his permanent home. He had left his parents, Joseph and Mary (Polly) Brooks Fairbanks on August 31, 1844, to marry Sarah Van Wagoner. They were living in Meads Basin, Bergen County, New Jersey at the time of their marriage.

John Boylston's parents, Joseph and Polly, embraced Mormonism along with five of their children. When the call came from their Prophet, Joseph Smith, in the summer of 1844, they journeyed by team to Nauvoo, Illinois. Although John and Polly had 13 children, ages 18 to 41, only the five who had joined the church traveled with them to Nauvoo. They were:

David, 33, and his wife Susan (Mandeville) and their three children, William Henry, Mary Jane and Cornelius Mandeville Fairbanks.

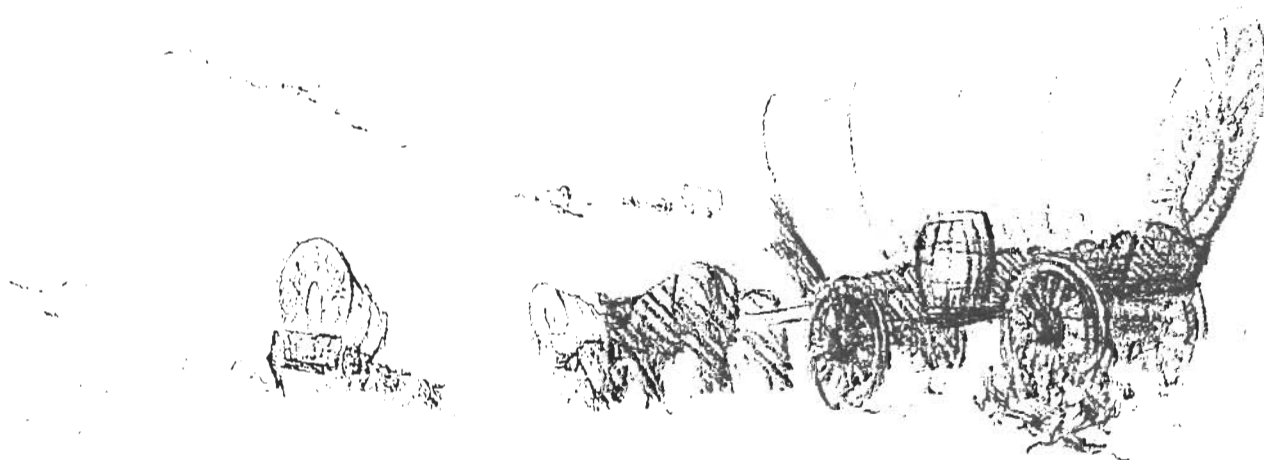
John Boylston, 27, and his new bride Sarah (Van Wagoner).

Nathaniel, 20 (who died in California in March, 1853).

Henry, 18 (who came west in 1847 and returned to Iowa in 1851).

Harriet, 25, and her new husband Dr. Hendrick (Henry) John (I.) Doremus joined the family in Nauvoo in 1845.

John Boylston built a two-story home for his wife Sarah in Nauvoo, Illinois; their first son was born there and died six hours later. Unfortunately, on April 25, 1846, they were forced to leave their Nauvoo home and travel west. Sarah's parents, the Van Wagoners, John's parents, Joseph and Mary (Polly) and the three Fairbanks brothers, David, Nathaniel, and Henry, and one sister, Harriet, and their families were in the company. Before they reached the Salt Lake Valley on October 6, 1847, John's father and both of Sarah's parents had died.



John and Sarah's first home in Salt Lake was a covered wagon where they spent their first Utah winter.

Meanwhile, John's older brother, David Fairbanks, was called to be the first bishop of the Salt Lake First Ward and made a trip back to Fort Laramie with Brigham Young and his party to visit with the saints there.

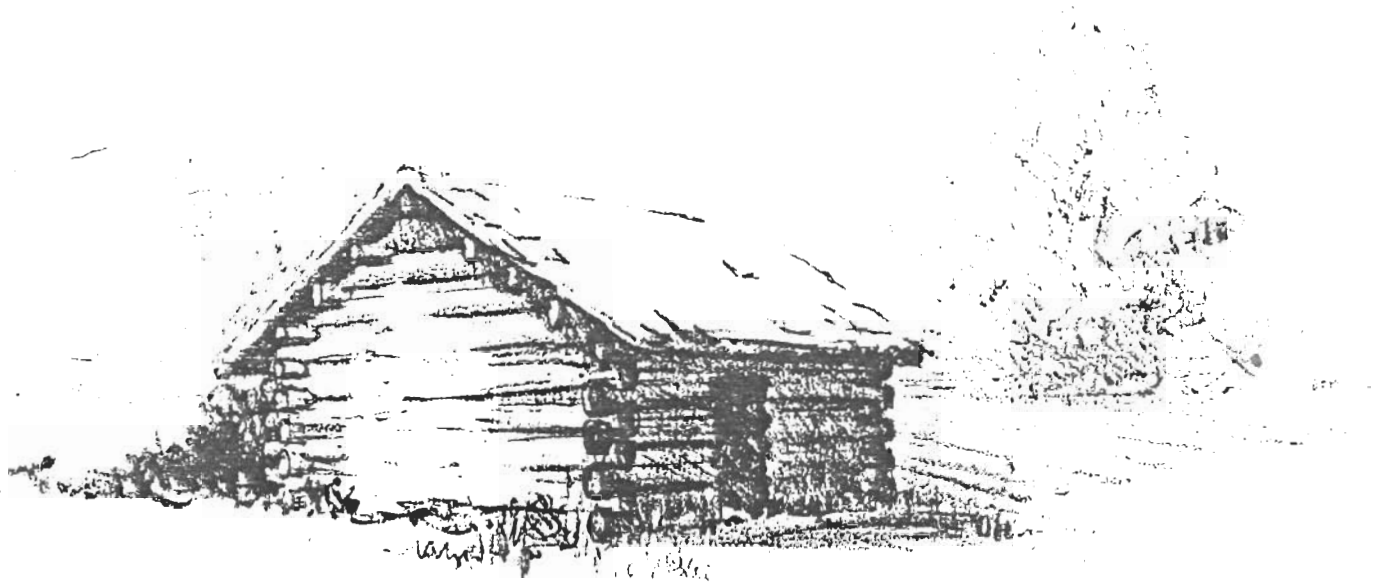
Harriet Fairbanks Doremus and her husband Henry settled in Salt Lake City. Dr. Doremus stopped practicing medicine, set up a school, and eventually constructed a two-story adobe building on Second West and Second North. It was the first academy, according to family sources, in the Intermountain West. Both Henry and Harriet taught at the Academy. They had four children. Harriet died on 10 March 1880. Henry died on 14 August 1889.

In 1851 Brigham Young called John Boylston and his brother David to take their families and settle in Pacen (now Payson), Utah. They first settled east of Payson where they found a fine spring of water with a beautiful stream and damsite. They established a little town and called it Pond Town (in later years the name of Pond Town was changed to Salem). As the Indians became more troublesome it was thought wise for the families to move to Payson.

In Payson, David and Susan became active in church and community affairs. They had 13 children in all. They were very kind to the Indians and always had their respect and good will. (The Indians called David "Weams Peage," meaning William's father, and called his wife "Weams Monch," meaning

William's mother.) William was the Fairbanks oldest son and much loved by the Indians. David operated one of the finest farms in Payson and held a membership in the first Utah Agricultural Society. David died on 14 December 1895 and Susan died on 2 March 1899.

John Boylston and Sarah's home in Payson was a log cabin where they lived while John began work on a new, two story adobe home at 143 North Main.



What a special joy it must have been for Sarah to finally move into a permanent new home with her husband and four children in 1853. The home was constructed in several stages, probably between 1853 and 1859. First, a two story structure was built with two rooms downstairs, two rooms upstairs and a fireplace in each room. Next, John built a large kitchen with a stove and a fireplace and then added a

small pantry and porch on the north with a small storeroom on the south end of the kitchen. Another bedroom was added later on the south side of the kitchen but does not exist today.

The Fairbanks home is an excellent example of the Utah style adapted from the New England Federal or Greek Revival homes. It was built of adobe bricks and was among the first in Utah to have wooden (cedar) shingles. Like most adobe homes, it was later stuccoed to make it more durable and protect it from the elements.

The home served as the Fairbanks family residence and a hospitable center for friends and church members. Brigham Young and other church leaders, including Elder George A. Smith of the Quorum of the Twelve, made it their headquarters when in Payson (John was bishop of the Payson Ward from 1862 to 1869). A "School of Prophets" was organized, by Brigham Young, in the upstairs rooms in September of 1868. This home became a trading post where meetings were held to negotiate peaceful relations with the Indians. Friendly Indians frequently camped on the Fairbanks property. The home served as a relay station for Pony Express riders.



John Boylston and
Sarah Van Wagoner Fairbanks

John and Sarah lived in the home until after their deaths. John died in 1875, at age 58. Sarah died in 1898, at age 76. Nine of the 11 Fairbanks children at one time or another lived in the home.

A daughter, Mary Fairbanks Brown, was the last to live there. She was the polygamist wife of Austin Brown, who had elected to live with his first wife after plural marriage was declared a federal offense, so "Aunt May" spent much of her life alone in the Payson home. She had no descendants.

With a loving heart and welcome smile, she greeted the numerous visitors and travelers in Utah who frequented her

home as they went back and forth, north and south, from Salt Lake to southern Utah towns. Her home became a stopping place for the scores of family members who made this trip. The fragrance of warm bread, milk, cookies (and ample love) became fond memories of "Aunt May's" Fairbanks home. Only the last few years of her life were spent with her husband, Austin, in Salt Lake City, where they worked actively in the Salt Lake Temple. Mary (May) died in 1938, at age 80.

It was in the spirit of family devotion that "Aunt May" willed her home to John Boylston and Sarah's remaining heirs. With great sacrifice she had maintained the home and requested the heirs perpetuate the family name in honor. Thus, George A. Fairbanks, Frank Fairbanks, John B. Fairbanks and Alicia Fairbanks Simmons, received the home and immediately, in a family reunion in the summer of 1938, bequeathed it to The Fairbanks Family In The West to preserve it as a family "heritage and a lasting remnant of real value." Lynn R. Fairbanks was elected organization president with articles of incorporation drawn up and approved by family vote, to perpetuate this family home in the spirit in which it was given.

After the death of Mary Fairbanks Brown (Aunt May), this homestead which had seen so much busy activity, family life, and community service, stood vacant, or was occupied only by a caretaker, for some forty-two years.

In 1980, after negotiations with the Utah Historical Society and the Fairbanks Family In The West Organization, the house was purchased and moved to Salt Lake City and restored

in the Pioneer Trails State Park, near This Is The Place Monument. The rejuvenated home was dedicated on July 25, 1981.

The John Boylston Fairbanks home was unanimously accepted by the family members at their reunion in July, 1984 as the official emblem (logo) of the "Fairbanks Family In The West."

According to officials at the park, 60,000 people visited Pioneer Trails State Park in 1985 where they viewed a collection of Pioneer businesses and homes.

It is the hope of the Fairbanks family that tourists and others who enter this sacred home will partake of the Pioneer spirit of this precious landmark. There is need for a greater understanding of the men and women who underwent great trials and hardships in this area of this great land who settled here to provide the "abundant life" which was so important to our pre-revolutionary and western pioneer ancestors, that they might enjoy the blessings of home, family, religious freedom, and the pursuit of happiness in this land of liberty.

We wish to express appreciation to the following people for their kind help and assistance in preparing this historical sketch:

Illustrations: Ortho R. Fairbanks

Stories: Merwin G. Fairbanks

Resource: The Fairbanks Family In The West book written by Kathryn Fairbanks Kirk

Compiled by: Colleen K. Jones (Great Granddaughter of David and Susan Fairbanks)

Printed by The Fairbanks Family In The West Organization,
July 1986.