FRIENDS OF LORD STIRLING STABLE

MEMORIAL GARDEN GUIDE FOR VISITORS



History of the Lord Stirling Stable Memorial Garden

As you walk down from the parking lot toward the indoor ring, on your left is a row of ornamental crabapple trees next to the fence. The trees were planted by Harry Case, Lord Stirling Stable's first stable manager. Under those trees is the Lord Stirling Stable Memorial Garden, which hosts perennial plants that are mostly native and an assortment of carved stones. Each stone is engraved with the name of a horse, pony, or cat who was part of our LSS community and who has since crossed the rainbow bridge. *Please note: there are no animals buried in the garden!*

Before there was an actual Memorial Garden, there were groupings of memorial stones in a small area in front of the indoor ring viewing room. Before long, that area became crowded. Lawn mowers were causing damage to the stones (and vice-versa), and many of the stones had disappeared from view under the bushes. So the decision was made to create a new garden under the crabapple trees. The stones were moved and, through a Somerset County Park Foundation grant, shade-loving perennials were recommended and purchased by Leonard J. Buck Garden staff and planted by volunteers. Additional perennials were purchased by the Friends of Lord Stirling Stable or donated by individual members.

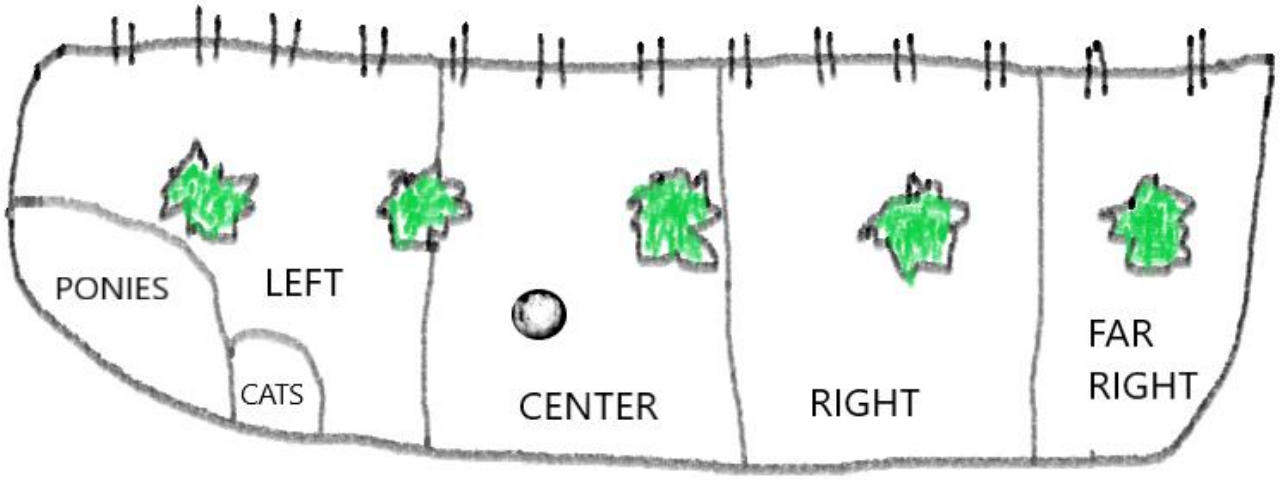
Most of the stones were carved by Gabriele Cohen, whose work also graces the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC. Gabriele is the daughter-in-law of Betty Cohen, who was a founding member of FLSS. Remaining stones, as noted in the text, came from Graphic Rocks (https://www.graphicrocks.com).

The best time of year to visit the garden is early spring, late-March through April, when the plants are starting to appear but before they fully grow out and obscure the stones. (Mid-winter is probably the best time to view the stones.) The plants in the garden include:

- Brunnera, the first to bloom in the spring, with variegated leaves and tiny blue flowers
- Ligularia, big plants that more or less dominate the garden with their "lily pad" leaves. They bloom with large yellow flowers later in the season.
- Cranesbill geraniums, blooming in late spring through summer with pinkish-purple flowers.
- Astilbe, another spring-summer bloomer, has a soft lovely spike blossom
- Coral bells, with reddish leaves and sprays of tiny flowers that bloom late summer into fall
- Ferns
- Wood poppies, which have bright green "stag horn" leaves and bloom repeatedly with bright yellow flowers
- Violets: white violets, common blue violets, and a sea of wild wood violets that you will see in many of the pictures in this guide.
- Solomon's seal, with green and white striped leaves (similar to hostas) and tiny white pendant blooms underneath the leaves
- Echinacea (purple coneflowers) in various colors, planted to attract butterflies
- Mock strawberries and buttercups – treading that line between weeds and wildflowers. The mock strawberries put out berries which are edible, but wholly devoid of taste.

Map

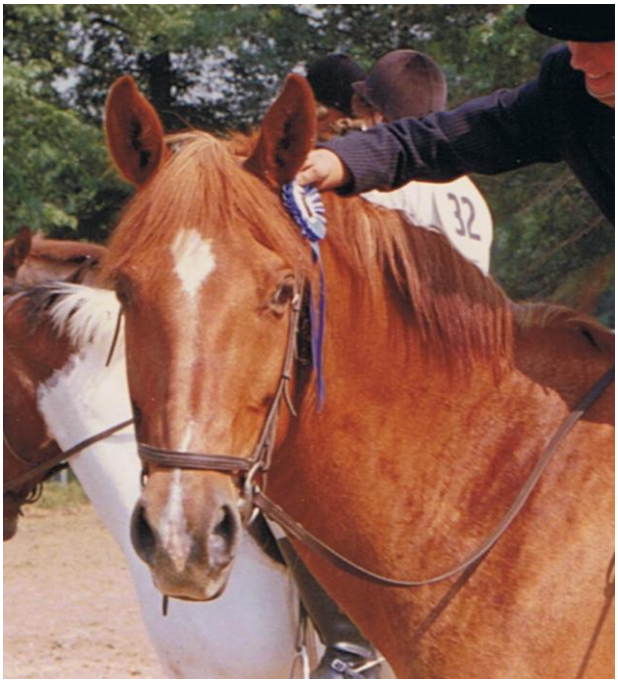
[Please note – some of the locations given for the stones in the pages that follow are approximate, especially for those that lie on the line between sections]



ALVIN

Find Alvin's stone in the Left section of the garden







APPLE

Apple's stone is along the fence line in the Far Right section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks





ASTRO

Astro's stone is in the Right section of the garden





BELLA

Bella's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





BLADE

Blade's stone is along the fence line in the Far Left section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks





BOONE

Find Boone's stone in the Left section of the garden, behind the cats



Stone from Graphic Rocks





BRAZIL

Brazil is remembered in the Right section of the garden







Brazil and Tank – Best Friends

BURRITA

Find Burrita's stone in the Right section of the garden





BUTTERCUP

Buttercup's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden







CALLIE

Callie's stone is at the edge of the Pony section of the garden





CAPTAIN CRUNCH

Captain Crunch's stone is in the Right section of the garden







CHOCOLATE CHIP

Chocolate Chip is remembered in the Center section of the garden





COMANCHE

Find Comanche's stone in the Right section of the garden





CULLEN

Cullen's stone is in the Pony section of the garden

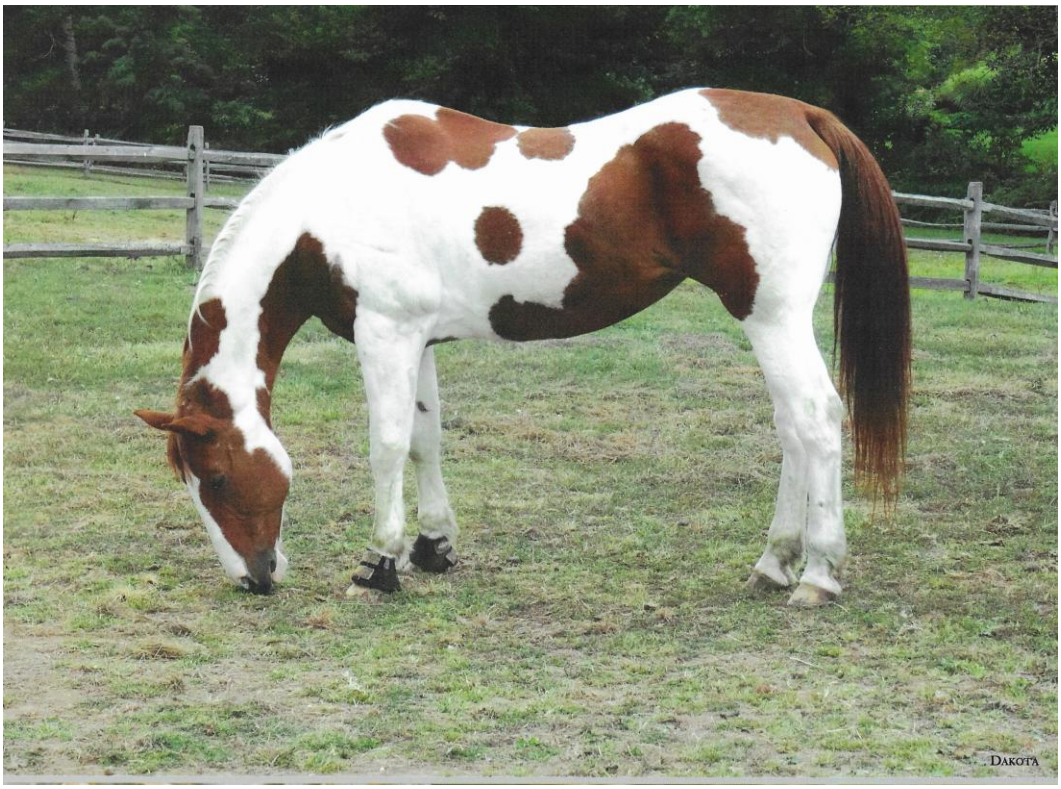




DAKOTA

Dakota's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





DALLAS

Dallas is remembered in the Far Right section of the garden





DOMINO

Domino's stone is in the Center section of the garden





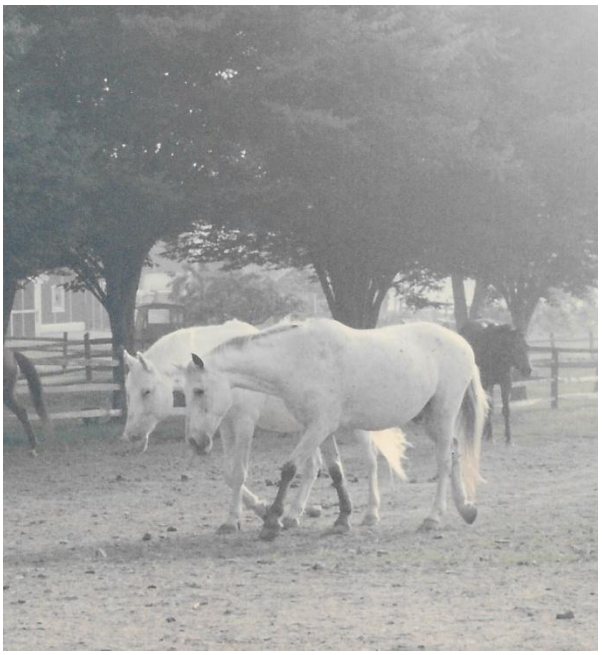
DUSTY

Dusty's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





Dusty (R) and Remus, best friends



DUTCH

Dutch's stone is in the Center section of the garden





"We cantered through the darkness, over ground I could not see.
But that little Dutchman pony, he took good care of me."

EASTER

Find Easter's stone in the Center of the garden





ECLIPSE

Eclipse's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





EEYORE

Eeyore's stone is in the Right section of the garden





ELI

Find Eli's stone in the Pony section of the garden

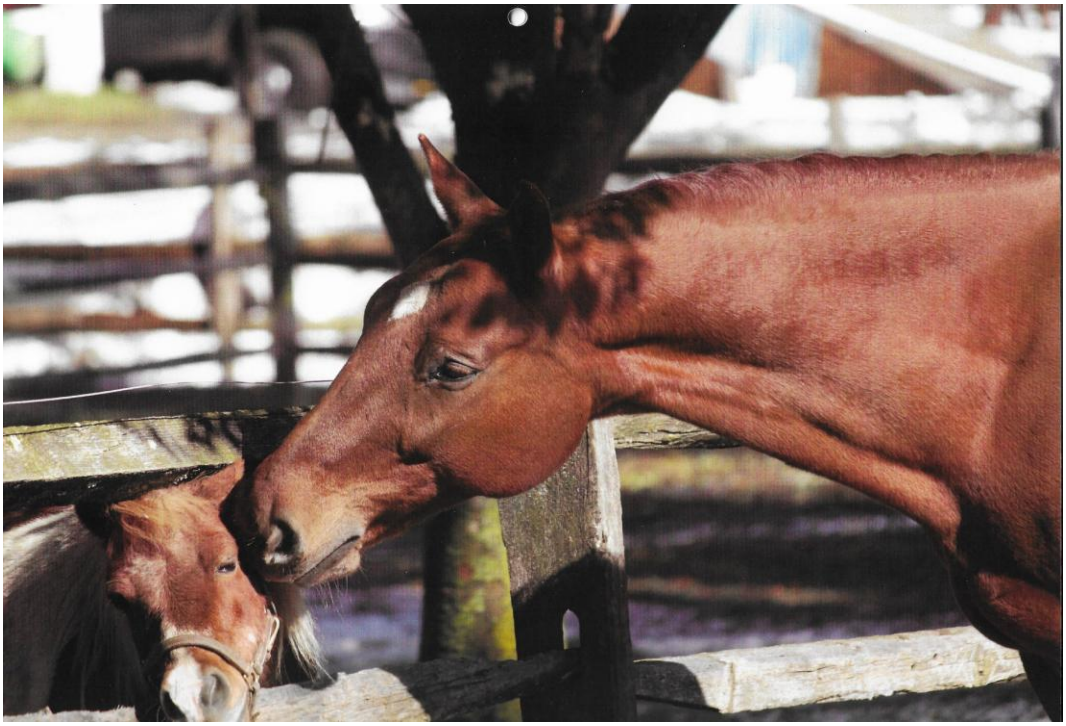




ELVIS

Elvis is remembered in the Left section of the garden



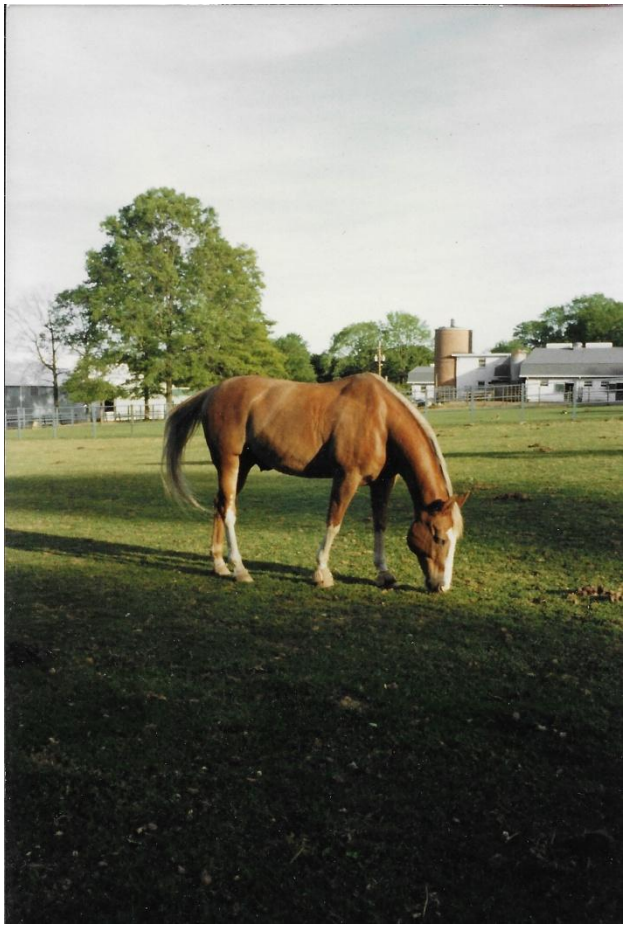


Elvis sharing a secret with Razz

ELWOOD

Elwood's stone is in the Right section of the garden





FAWN

Fawn's stone is in the Right section of the garden





FIREFLY

Find Firefly's stone in the Pony section of the garden





FLOWER

Flower's stone is in the Pony section of the garden







GARFIELD

Garfield is remembered in the Left section of the garden





GERTRUDE

Gertrude's stone is in the Pony section of the garden

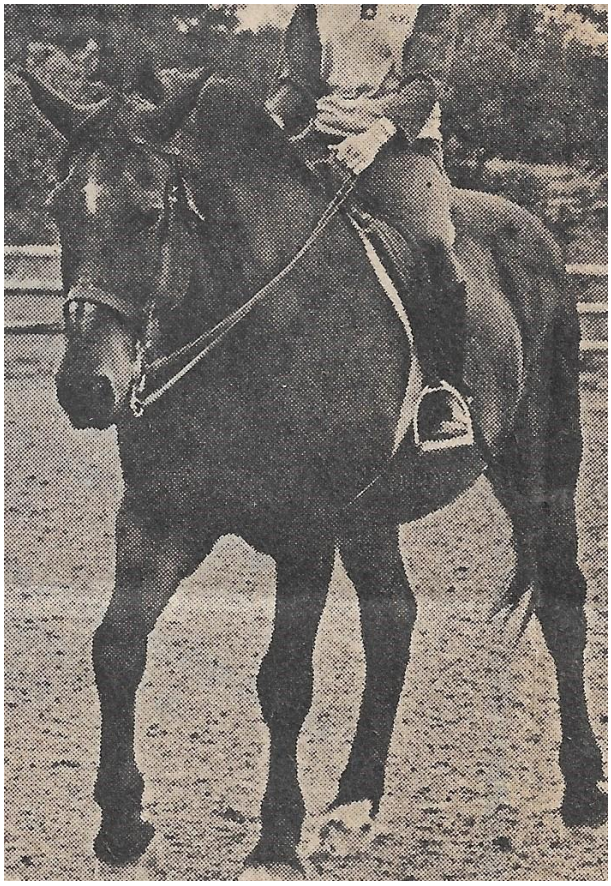




GRANDAD

Find Grandad's stone in the Right section of the garden





HALIFAX

Halifax's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks



HAWKEYE

Hawkeye's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





HERCULES

Hercules is remembered in the Center section of the garden





HOJO

Hojo's stone is along the fence line in the Far Right section of the garden



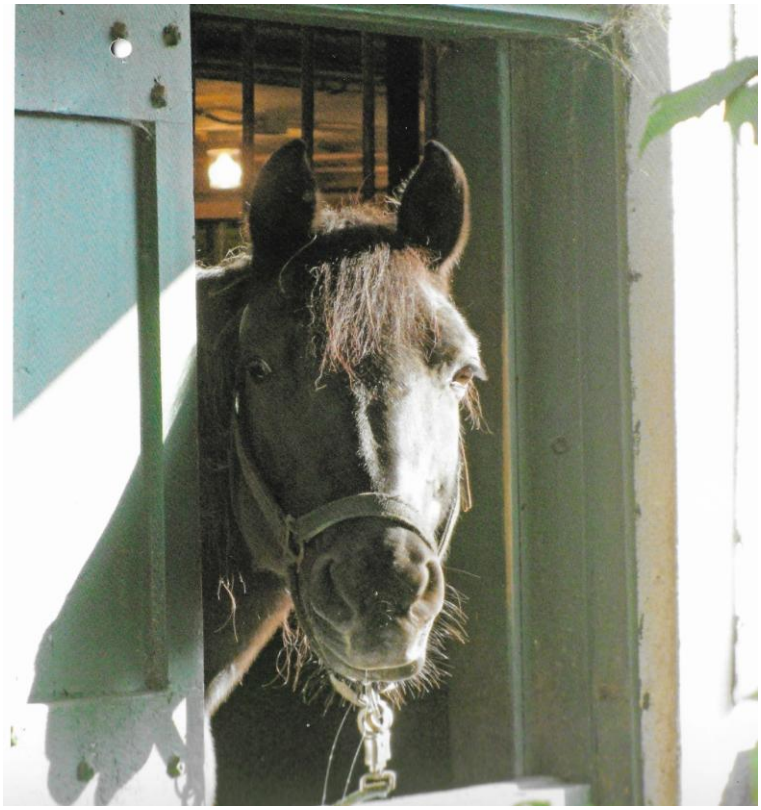
Stone from Graphic Rocks



HOLLY

Find Holly's stone in the Pony section of the garden





HOMBRE

Hombre's stone is in the Right section of the garden





HONEYBEE

Honeybee is remembered in the Pony section of the garden





IKE

Ike's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





INCA

Inca is remembered in the Right section of the garden





INKIE

Find Inkie's stone in the Pony section of the garden



Do you have a picture of Inkie to share?

ISAIAH

Isaiah's stone is in the Right section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks



JAEDA

Jaeda’s stone is along the fence line in the Far Right section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks





JAKE

Jake's stone is in the Right section of the garden





JD

Find JD's stone in the Left section of the garden





JETHRO

Jethro's stone is in the Center of the garden, in front of the birdbath







JINGLE BELL[S]

This pony's name is really Jingle Bells.

Her stone is in the Pony section of the garden.





JOHN HENRY

John Henry's stone is in the Right section of the garden



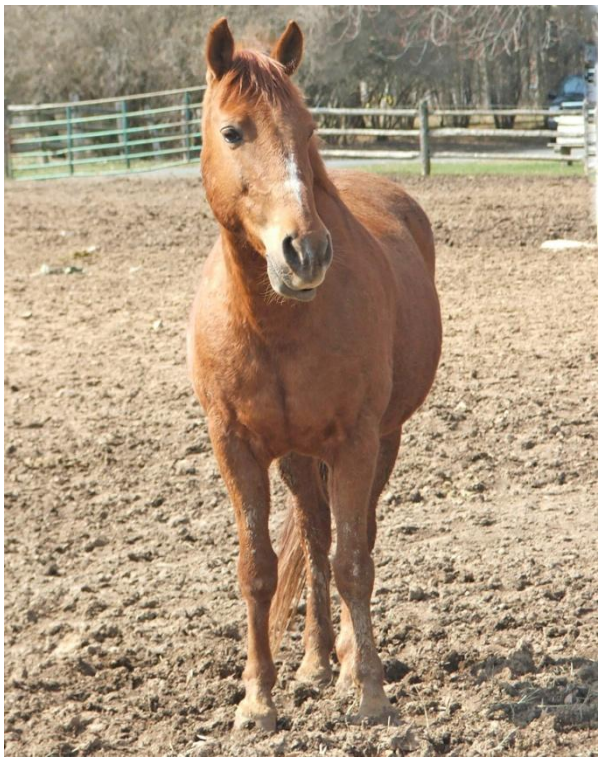


JUNIOR

Find Junior's stone in the Center section of the garden







KASHEW

Kashew's stone is in the Center section of the garden, next to the birdbath



Stone from Graphic Rocks





KILRAUD

Kilraud is remembered in the Far Right section of the garden







KNICKERS

Knicker's stone is with those of his friends Yoo Hoo, Hercules, and Chocolate Chip ***in*** *the Left section of the garden*



Stone from Graphic Rocks







Knickers and Junior

KNIGHTLY

Find Knightly's stone in the Center section of the garden





KOJAK

Kojak's stone is in the Center section of the garden





LANCELOT

Lancelot's stone is in the Pony section of the garden, next to that of his friend Eclipse





LAZARUS

Lazarus is remembered in the Left section of the garden





LEON

Leon's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





LONDON FOG

Find London Fog's stone in the Pony section of the garden

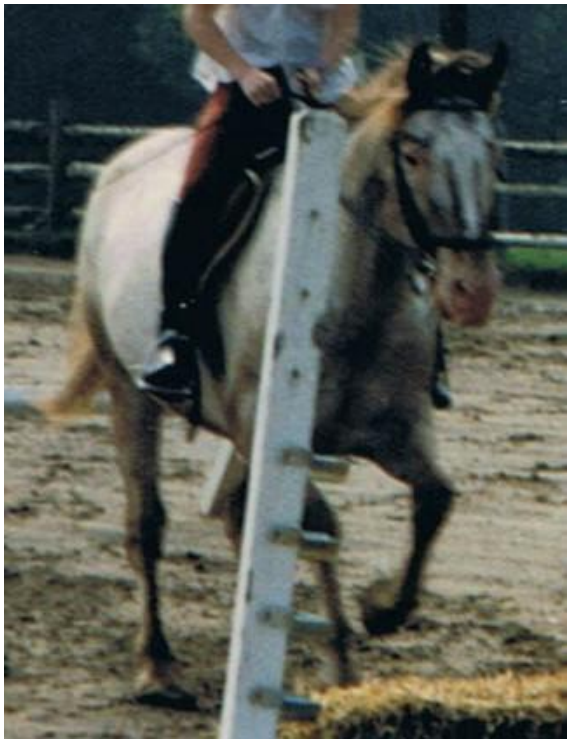


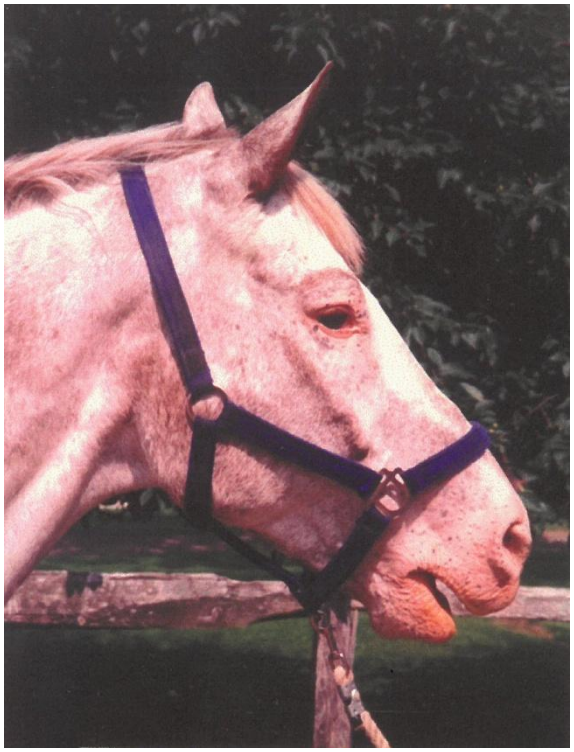


LONESOME

Lonesome's stone is in the Left section of the garden







LUKE

Luke's stone is in the Left section of the garden





MAGIC

Find Magic's stone in the Left section of the garden





MAKOTA

Makota is remembered in the Left section of the garden

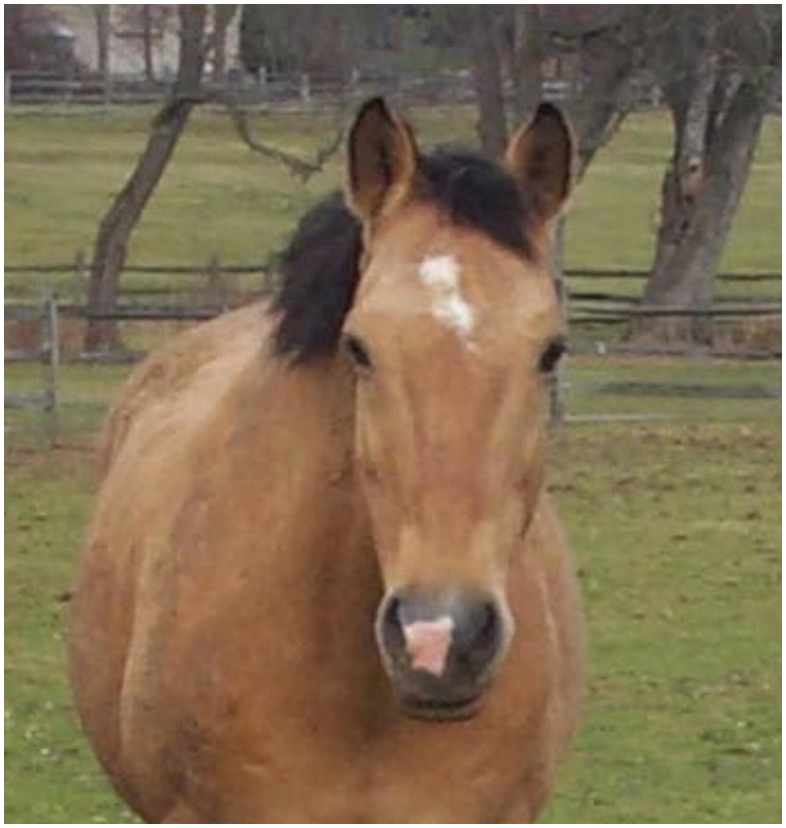




MEISTERBRAU

Find Meisterbrau's stone in the Far Right section of the garden





Mustang

Our "Class Clown" is gone,
But we know what he'd say:
"You'd better warn Heaven,
The Meister's on his way!"

MICKEY

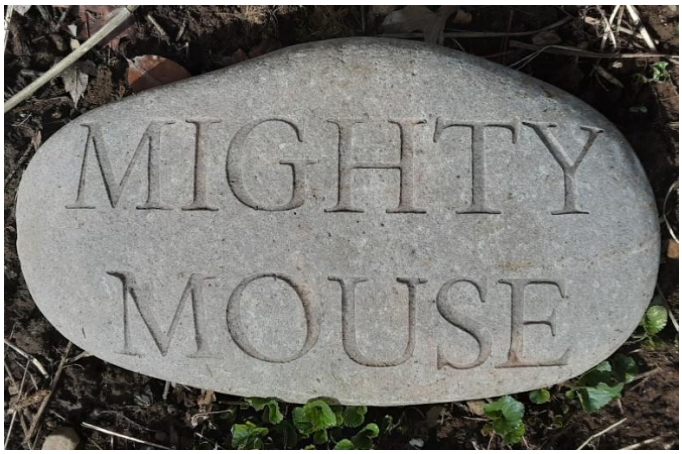
Officially named Young Mickey, his stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





MIGHTY MOUSE

Mighty Mouse's stone is in the Center section of the garden, next to his best friend Oscar (see Oscar's page for a picture of the two buddies)



Stone from Graphic Rocks





OBERON

Oberon's stone is in the Center section of the garden





HE WAS "KING OF THE FAIRIES",
AND "FLASHES STRIDER BAR",
BUT OF ALL THE THINGS WE CALLED HIM,
"FRIEND" SAYS IT BEST BY FAR.

ONASSIS

Onassis is remembered in the Far Right section of the garden







OSCAR

Oscar's stone is in the Center section of the garden





Mighty Mouse and Oscar – Best Friends



OTIS

Otis is remembered in the Right section of the garden





PECAS

Pecas is remembered in the Left section of the garden





PETIE

Petie's stone is at the right edge of the Pony section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks

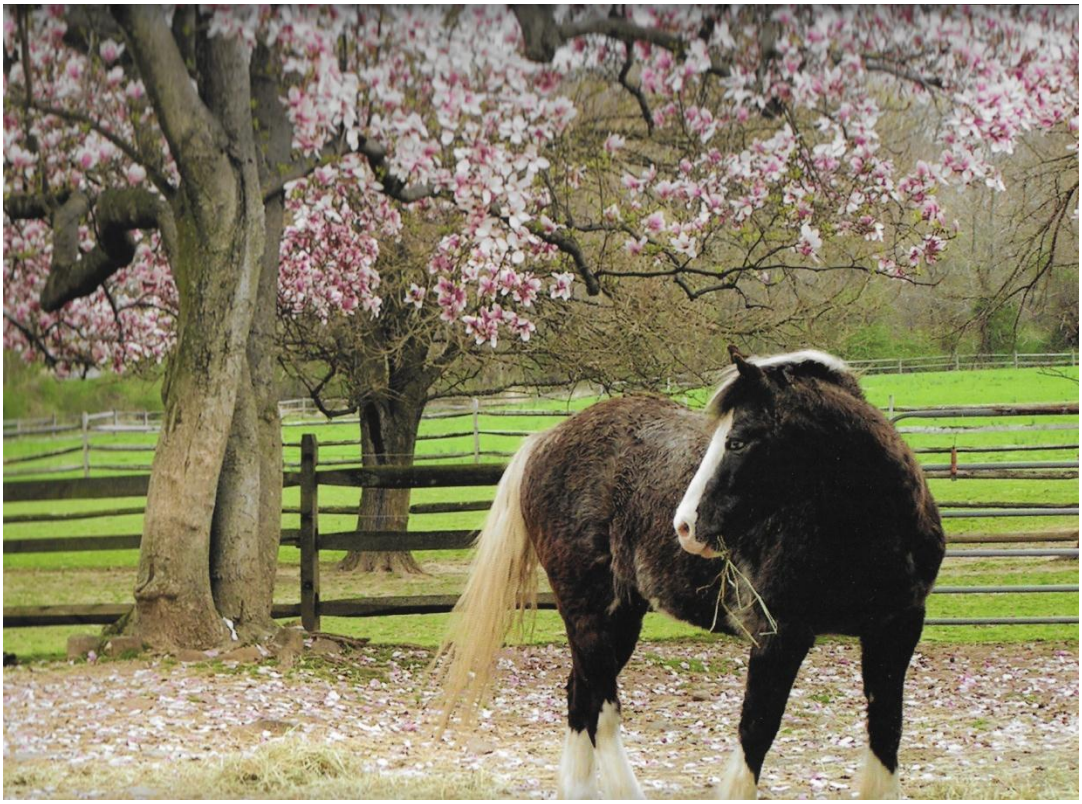




PHANTOM JET

Find Phantom Jet's stone in the Pony section of the garden

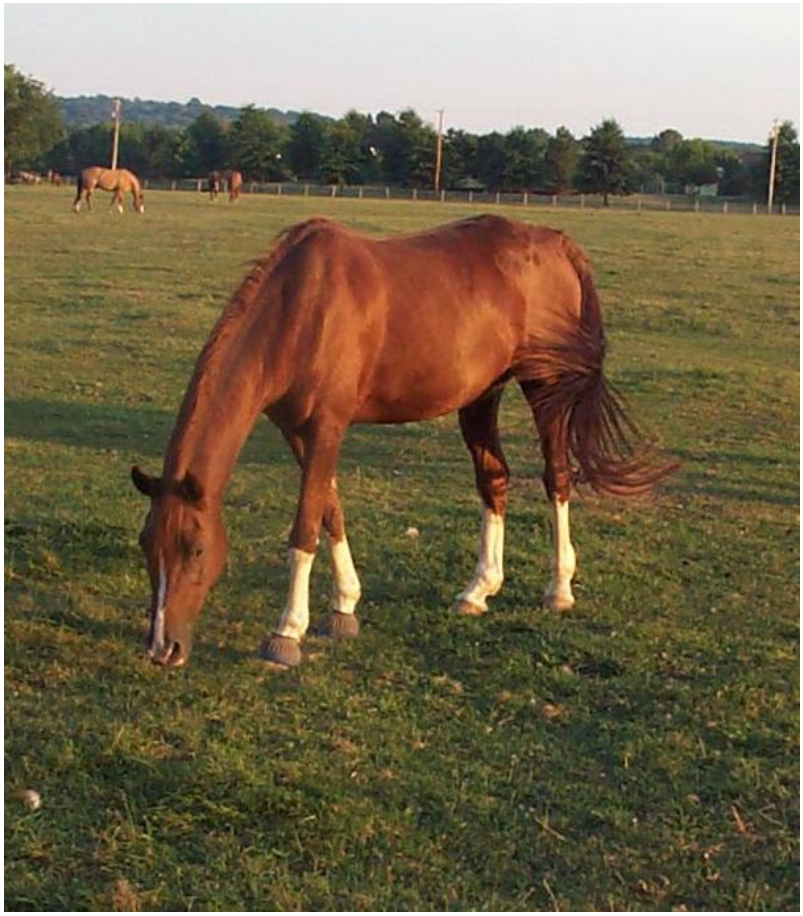




PHOENIX

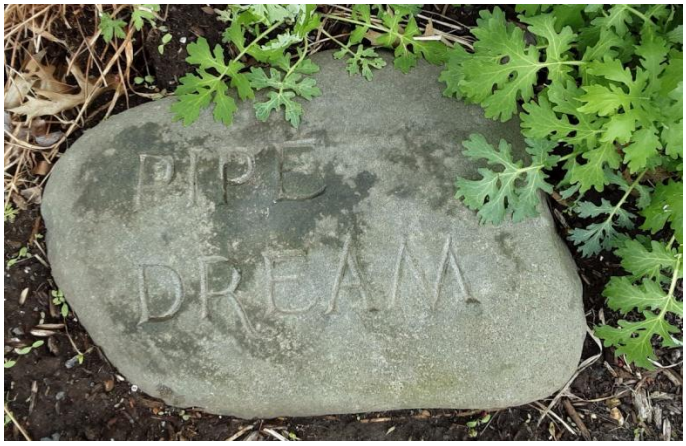
Find Phoenix's stone in the Left section of the garden





PIPE DREAM

Pipe Dream's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





PIPER

Piper's stone is in the Right section of the garden



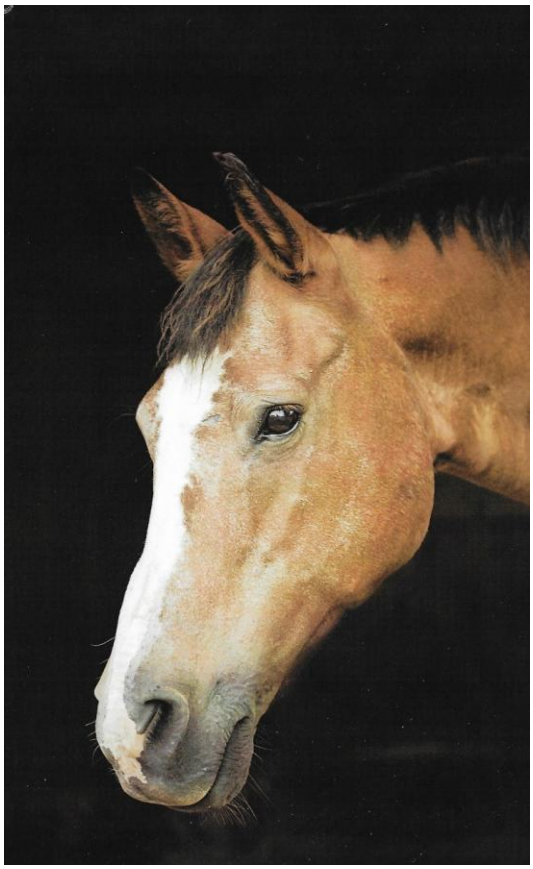


POCO

Poco's stone is in the Pony section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks



PRINCE

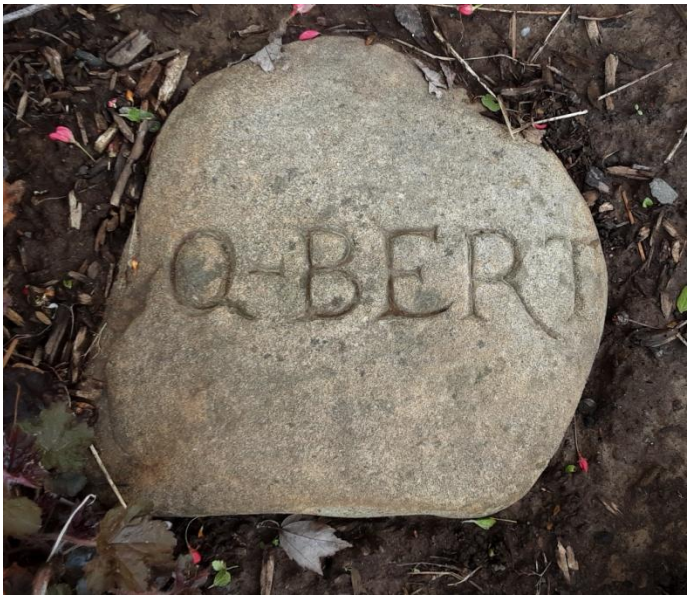
Find Prince's stone in the Center section of the garden





Q-BERT

Q-Bert is remembered in the Right section of the garden





RAGS

Rags is remembered in the Right section of the garden





REBEL

Find Rebel's stone in the Pony section of the garden





RED

Red's stone is in the Left section of the garden



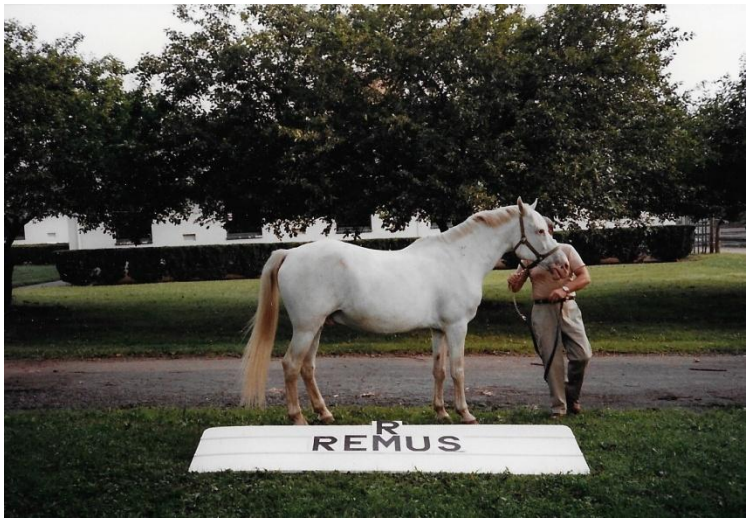




REMUS

Remus is remembered in the Right section of the garden







See another picture of Remus with his best friend Dusty

ROSIE

Find Rosie's stone in the Pony section of the garden





SATIN

Satin's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





SCOOTER

Scooter's stone is near the fence in the Far Right section of the garden



Stone from Graphic Rocks

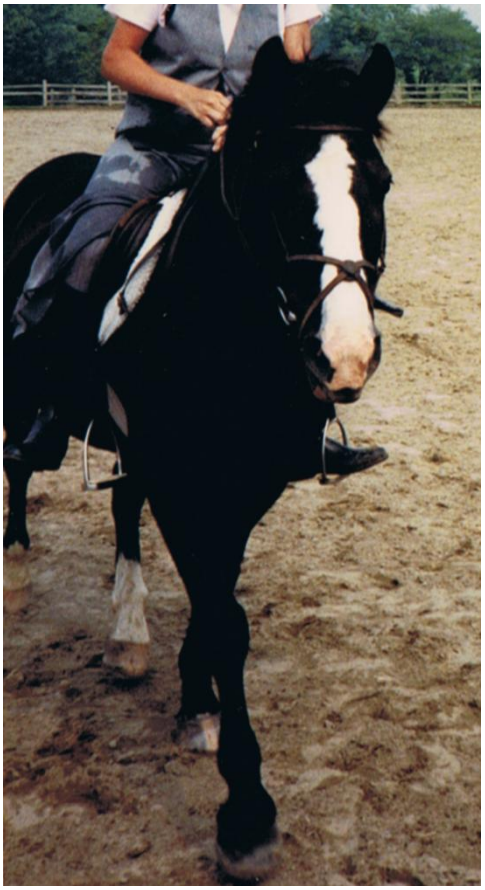


SHADOW

Shadow's stone is decorated with an etched heart.

Find it in the Right section of the garden





SHANE

Shane's stone is in the Center section of the garden





SHANNON

Shannon's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





SHORTY

Shorty's stone is also in the Pony section of the garden

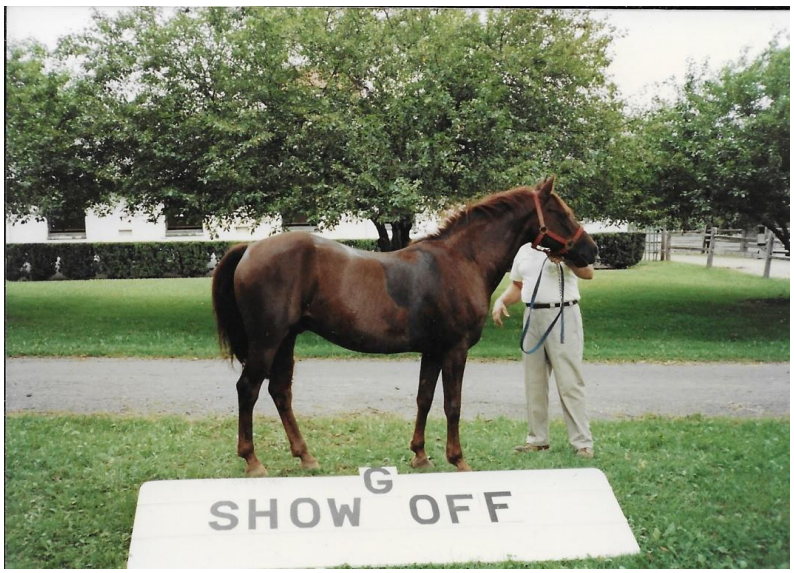




SHOWOFF

Find Showoff's stone in the Left section of the garden





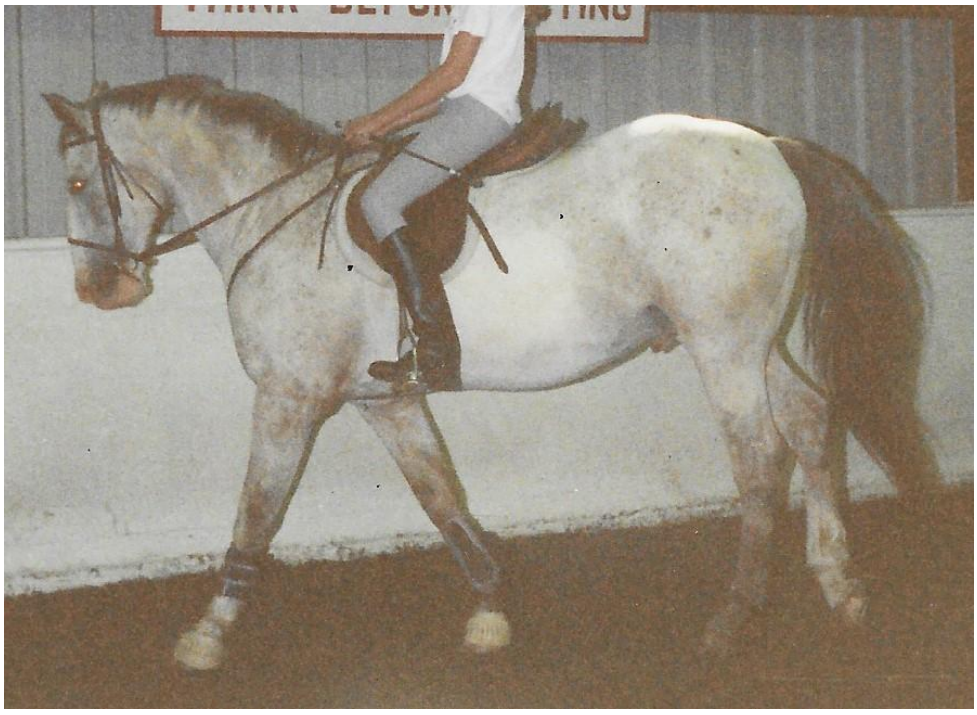


SNOWY

Snowy's stone bears an etched snowflake above his name.

His stone is in the Left section of the garden





SPANKY

Find Spanky's stone in the Right section of the garden







SPIKE

Spike's stone is in the Far Right section of the garden





SUMMER

Summer's stone is in the Pony section of the garden





TANK

Tank's stone is in the Left section of the garden



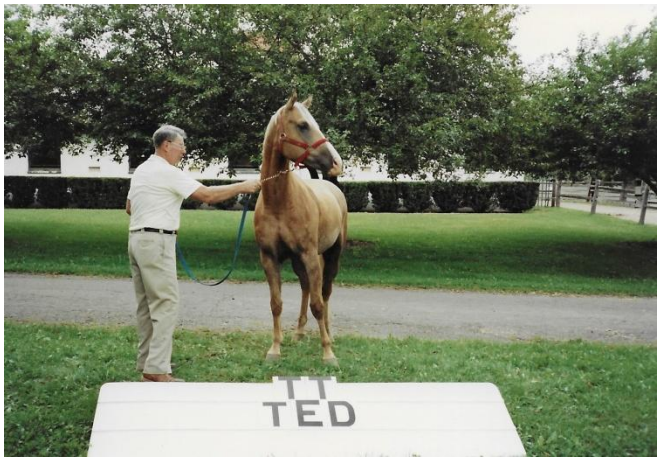


See another picture of Tank with his best friend Brazil

TED

Ted's stone is in the Right section of the garden







TIGGER

Find Tigger's stone in the Right section of the garden





TINKERBELL

Tinkerbell's stone is in the Right section of the garden





TJ

TJ is remembered in the Pony section of the garden







UNCLE

Find Uncle's stone in the Center section of the garden





UTAH

Utah is remembered in the Right section of the garden

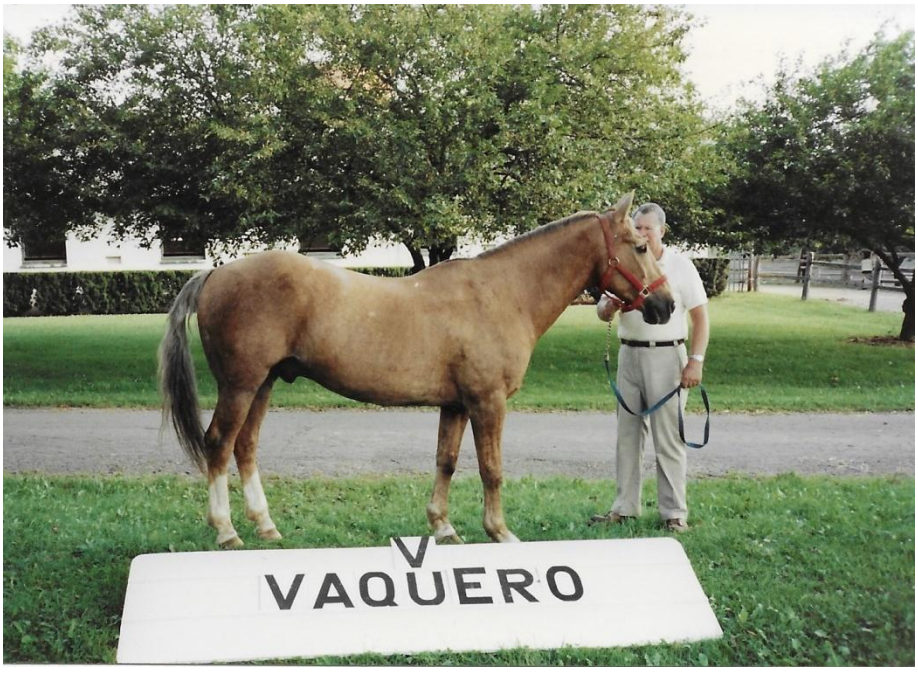




VACQUERO

Vacquero's stone is in the Left section of the garden





WHISKEY

Find Whiskey's stone in the Pony section of the garden





WHISTLER

Whistler's stone is in the Right section of the garden







WILLOW

Willow is remembered in the Right section of the garden







XANADU

Find Xanadu's stone in the Far Right section of the garden





X-RAY

X-Ray was X-tra special, so he has two stones! Find one in the Left section and the other in the Far Right section







YOOHOO

YooHoo's stone is in the Center section of the garden





ZEB

Zeb is remembered in the Left section of the garden





CATS

Cats have been hanging around barns for as long as there have been barns, and grain, and rodents. Lord Stirling Stable employed several cats over the years. They have their own section in the Memorial Garden.

ANTONY (TONY)





CLEO



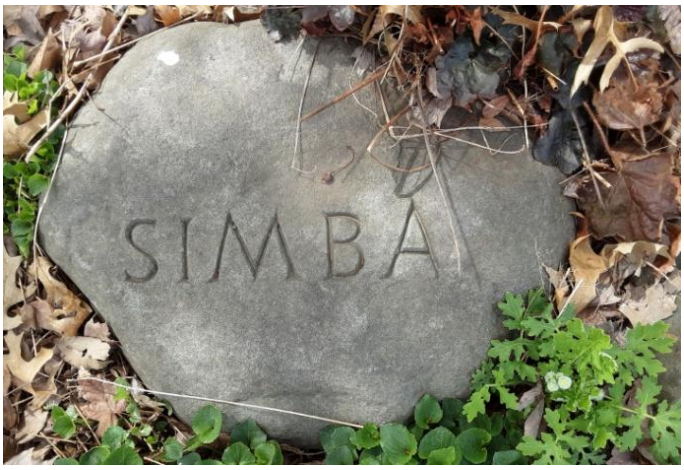
Do you have a picture of Cleo the cat to share?

FERN





SIMBA





PROJECT TEAM

Martha Wells *provided the idea that inspired this project*

Patricia Cristofich *photographed the memorial stones*

Paige Gilberti, Marjorie Grill, Christina Chin-Slingerland, Beth Titus, Lauren Wang, Martha Wells, Patricia Wells, and Nancy Williams *contributed photographs from their personal collections*

Carol Weingaertner *performed editorial services*

History section adapted from a Hoofbeats [FLSS] Newsletter article by Deborah Fonteix

Additional photographs are the works of Sharon Apgar, Jessica Aulisio, Julia Gehringer, Tory Gilberti, Haruko, Brynne Murphy, Ellyn Shain, Kendyl Shantz, Beth and Brianna Titus, and Helena Plater-Zyberk