



# Oregon Historical SOCIETY

1200 S.W. PARK AVENUE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97205-2483

503/222-1741 TELEPHONE

FACSIMILE 503/221-2035

TO: ALL OREGON AFFILIATED HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

FROM: RON BRENTANO, Coordinator, Century Farm Program

## CALL FOR CENTURY FARM NOMINATIONS

The century farm program was inaugurated in 1958, on the eve of the Centennial of Oregon's Statehood. Since that time, the program has honored nearly 800 farms in the State of Oregon.

To qualify a farm for Century Farm status, it must have been operated continuously in the same family for one hundred years or more, have no fewer than 10 acres, have a minimum gross income, and meet certain other minor requirements.

Successful applicants receive an attractive certificate signed by the Governor, and the President and Executive Director of the Oregon Historical Society. The certificates are presented at specially arranged awards ceremonies, preferably at your historical society.

Attached is a copy of the 1993 Century Farm Program application and the rules and regulations. Please feel free to either photocopy more as required, or contact me anytime for more copies or further information (222-1741).

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for Filing Application - May 1, 1993

(Please type or print) Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street, Route or Box # City Zip Code

Location of Farm \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify as a Century Farm, a farm must have no fewer than 10 acres with a gross income from farm use of not less than \$500 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for Century Farm honors.

Does your farm meet this qualification? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm: \_\_\_\_\_

Founder gained ownership of farm in (Year) \_\_\_\_\_  
(ATTACH VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION, See Rule 9).

Founder came to Oregon from \_\_\_\_\_

Who farms the land today? \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to original owner \_\_\_\_\_

Are any of the original buildings still in use? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you raise on the farm today? \_\_\_\_\_

How many generations live on the farm today? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Owner

Please return forms to: Century Farm Program  
Oregon Historical Society  
1200 S. W. Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97205-2483

STATEMENT FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Print Full Name)

hereby affirm and declare that the farm which I own at  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Address)

in \_\_\_\_\_ County,  
shall have been owned by my family as specified in Rule 2 of the  
RULES FOR 1993 CENTURY FARM PROGRAM for at least one hundred  
years by no later than December 31, 1993.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

- - - - - Acknowledgement (for use of Notary Public) - - - - -

STATE OF OREGON

County of \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
19\_\_\_\_, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for  
said County and State, personally appeared the within named

\_\_\_\_\_  
known to me to be the identical individual described in and who  
executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that \_\_\_\_\_  
executed the same freely and voluntarily.

In Testimony Whereof, I have  
set my hand and affixed my  
official seal the day and  
year last above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public for Oregon  
Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_

1993 CENTURY FARM  
PROGRAM

Sponsored by the

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

General Information  
and  
Rules



*Oregon Historical* SOCIETY

1200 S.W. PARK AVENUE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97205-2483

Thank you for requesting information concerning the 1993 CENTURY FARM PROGRAM.

Since 1958, the Century Farm Program has honored nearly 1,000 historic farms in Oregon. The program recognizes families who have operated the same farm from generation to generation. As recently as 1990, a farm on Sauvie Island in Multnomah County that was founded in 1848 was honored! Qualifying criteria is noted on the enclosed RULES FOR 1993 CENTURY FARM PROGRAM.

Applicants who meet all criteria receive a specially caligraphed certificate signed by the Governor of Oregon, and by officials of the Oregon Historical Society.

The Century Farm Program is an honorary award and does not confer legal or tax advantages. However, qualifying farms receive the right to post a metal Century Farm sign on their property, and receive public recognition at an awards ceremony, usually coordinated with the county historical society.

The information provided by Century Farm applicants becomes an important part of the Oregon Historical Society's archives and has been used by researchers to produce significant reports and papers. For example, the State Historic Preservation Office has used the Century Farm data to produce a report for the National Park Service entitled "OREGON'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT HISTORIC CONTEXT, 1811-1940". At the end of the report, SHPO notes that "The Century Farm Program thus has important information concerning historic resources and should be used when conducting research on agricultural themes in Oregon". And we were delighted when we heard from several professors at Oregon State University who announced their proposed study based entirely on Century Farm data - "We will look for correlations among agronomic, economic, and social factors and sustainability. From these relationships, we will hypothesize how these factors may influence or be influenced by the sustainability of modern farms in Oregon".

## RULES FOR 1993 CENTURY FARM PROGRAM

Sponsored by the  
OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. Application may be made by the owner(s) of the farm.
2. Your farm must have been operated continuously in the same family for one hundred years or more. A farm settled any time in the year 1883 or earlier will be eligible if it meets the other requirements. If the farm has ever been rented out, it will not qualify.
3. The farm must have no fewer than 10 acres with a gross income from farm use of not less than \$500.00 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for Century Farm honors.
4. You must live on the farm or, if you live off the historic farm, you must actively manage and direct the farming of the land.

RULES FOR 1993  
CENTURY FARM PROGRAMS  
(Continued)

5. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, brothers, sisters, nephews, and/or nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with blood children.

6. Only one person—the 1993 owner of record—may apply for the Century Farm award. If husband and wife or brother and sister are co-owners, the award will be made to them jointly.

7. Deadline for filing applications is May 1, 1993. All applications bearing postmark by midnight of that date will be considered.

8. Applications must be on blanks provided by the Oregon Historical Society with all questions answered. Applicants are encouraged to submit as much additional information as desired. All information will be deposited in the Oregon Historical Society archives.

9. Applicants must submit with their completed applications a verification of their claim to continuous ownership. The preferred form of proof is a document (either original or photocopy) showing or stating the date of earliest ownership. The document may be a donation land claim, deed of sale, homestead application, family bible, diary entry, or the like. An acceptable alternative verification is the attached statement form, which should be filled out and signed only in the presence of a notary public and signed and sealed by the notary public.

10. The award certificate will show only the name of the original settler and the date of earliest verifiable ownership.