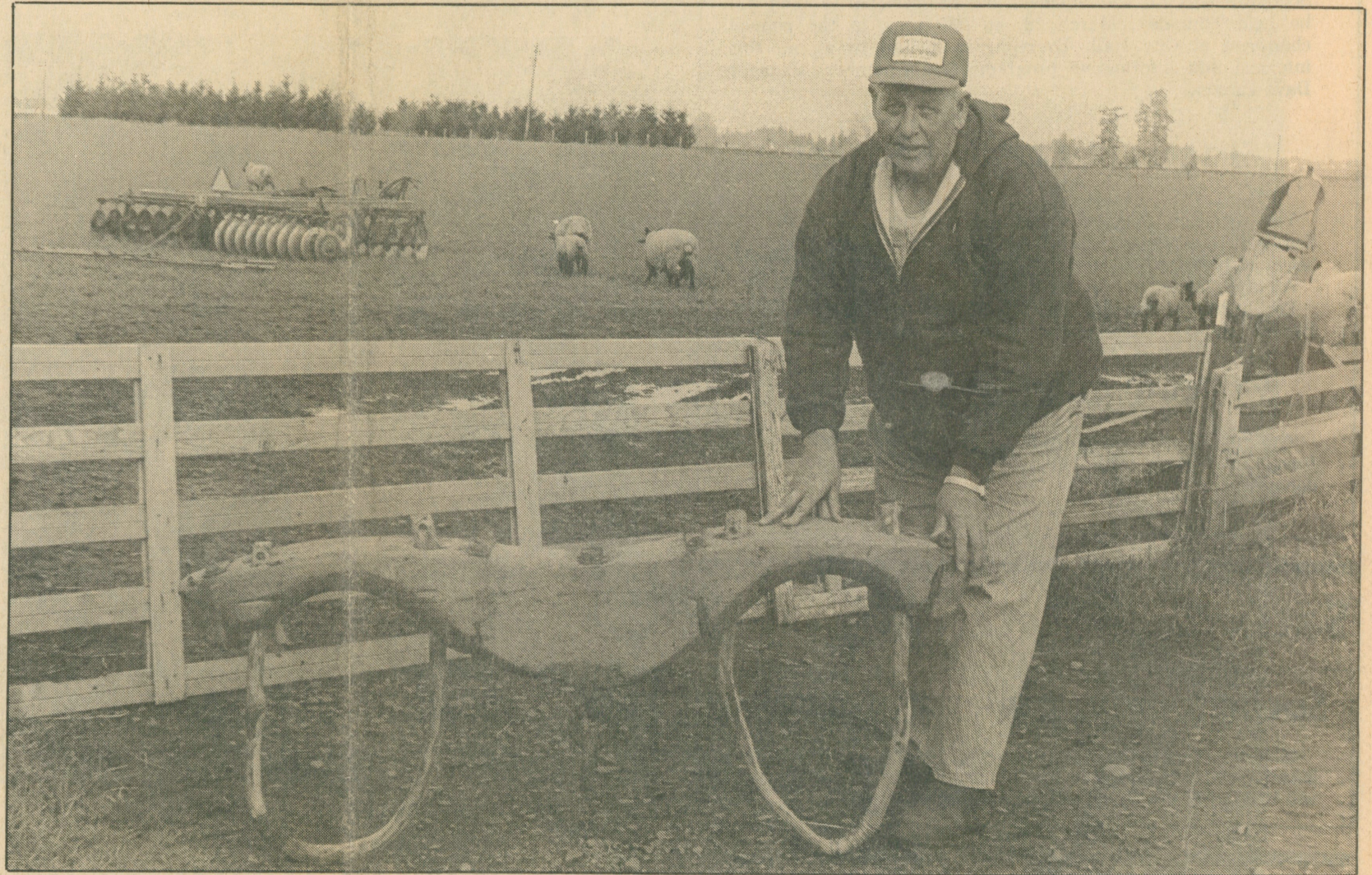


# TOWN AND COUNTRY



**MARJORIE and ROBERT HUMPHREYS** of 14765 Waldo Hills Dr. show the century farm sign they acquired from the Oregon Historical Society in 1976. Humphreys' great grandmother Jane King purchased the original 160 acres in 1860. His grandfather John King constructed the first house and barn here. Humphreys was born in the existing house.



**ARTHUR SCHWAB** of 12224 Mt. Angel-Gervais Rd. displays the oxen yoke his grandfather John Schwab utilized for farming, logging, and excavation in the Mt. Angel area late last century. His grandfather established a 300-acre farm here in 1883. Arthur and his wife, Mary, said they plan to apply for century farm status. Schwab's great grandfather Louis Schwab arrived in Mt. Angel on Oct. 29, 1881.

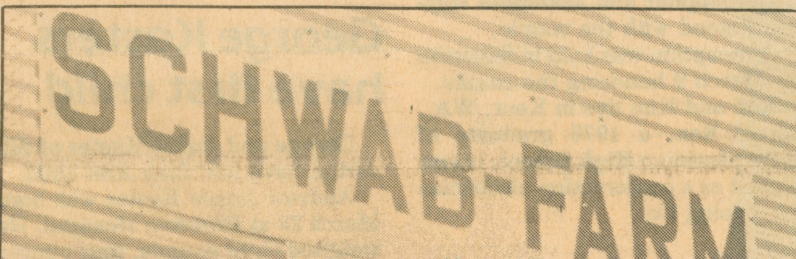
## 16 Century Farms precious to area

Family farm owners must apply for Century Farm Awards before May 1 — or wait five years for the next chance.

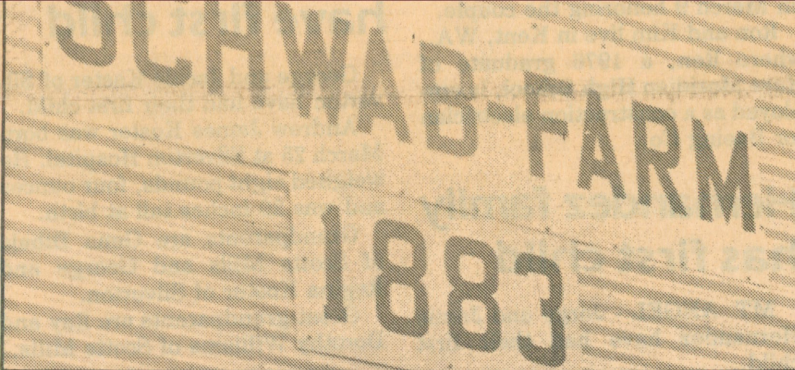
According to Elizabeth Buehler, Oregon Historical Society field historian, 25 Silverton and Mt. Angel area family farms have been so honored in the past. 16 of the farms still qualify for the designation.

Buehler wrote that Century Farms must have not less than 10 acres with a gross income from farm uses not less than \$500 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application. Any farm in the process of being sold to a non-relative of the owner will be ineligible.

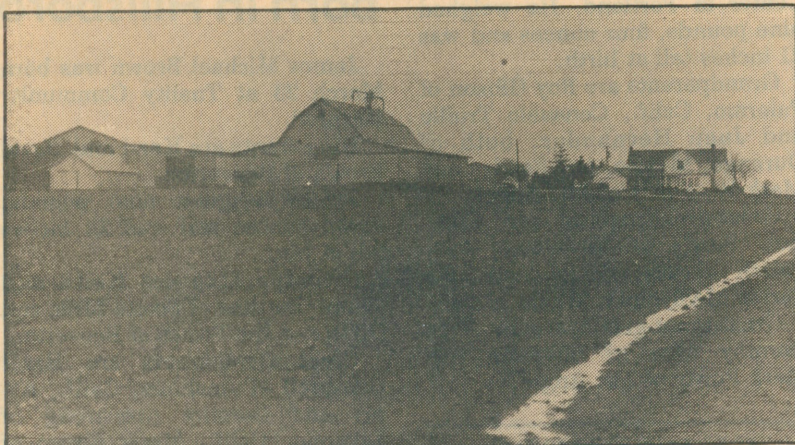
The society will work with county historical societies and other







**NEW CENTURY FARM APPLICANTS MARY and ARTHUR SCHWAB** of Mt. Angel applied this sign on their barn.



**THE SUSIE and BOB RICHES FARM** at 13166 Riches Rd. is an operation that has been in the family since 1847-48.

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According to Elizabeth Buehler, Oregon Historical Society field historian, 25 Silverton and Mt. Angel area family farms have been so honored in the past. 16 of the farms still qualify for the designation.

In addition, some farm families may have never applied for the designation, or have become eligible since the society last named century farms in 1980.

The program to designate farms that have been worked by the same family for 100 years or more was begun by the society in 1958 on the eve of Oregon's centennial celebration in 1959. To date, more than 800 farms in the state have been honored.

"Seldom in American history has the so-called family farm been as threatened by economic and social pressures as it is today," Thomas Vaughan, society executive director, said in a news release. "The dwindling number of small farms makes those that survive even more precious to the farm family and the community."

"We want to encourage those who may be eligible for this coveted Century Farm Award to come forward proudly and be recognized. The preservation of historic properties is one of the responsibilities of our society, and the first requirement is to know where those treasures lie."

To be eligible for the award, a farm must have been operated continuously in the same family for a century or more, Buehler said. If the farm ever has been rented out, it will not qualify.

The award applicant must own the farm. He must live on and farm the land, or actively manage the farming if living away from the ancestral place. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, brothers, sisters, nephews, and/or nieces, Buehler said. Adopted children will be recognized equally with blood children.

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The society will work with county historical societies and other interested groups to arrange the presentations of the awards, usually at county fairs, Buehler said. Owners of century farms will have an opportunity to purchase a \$45 metal roadside sign from the society.

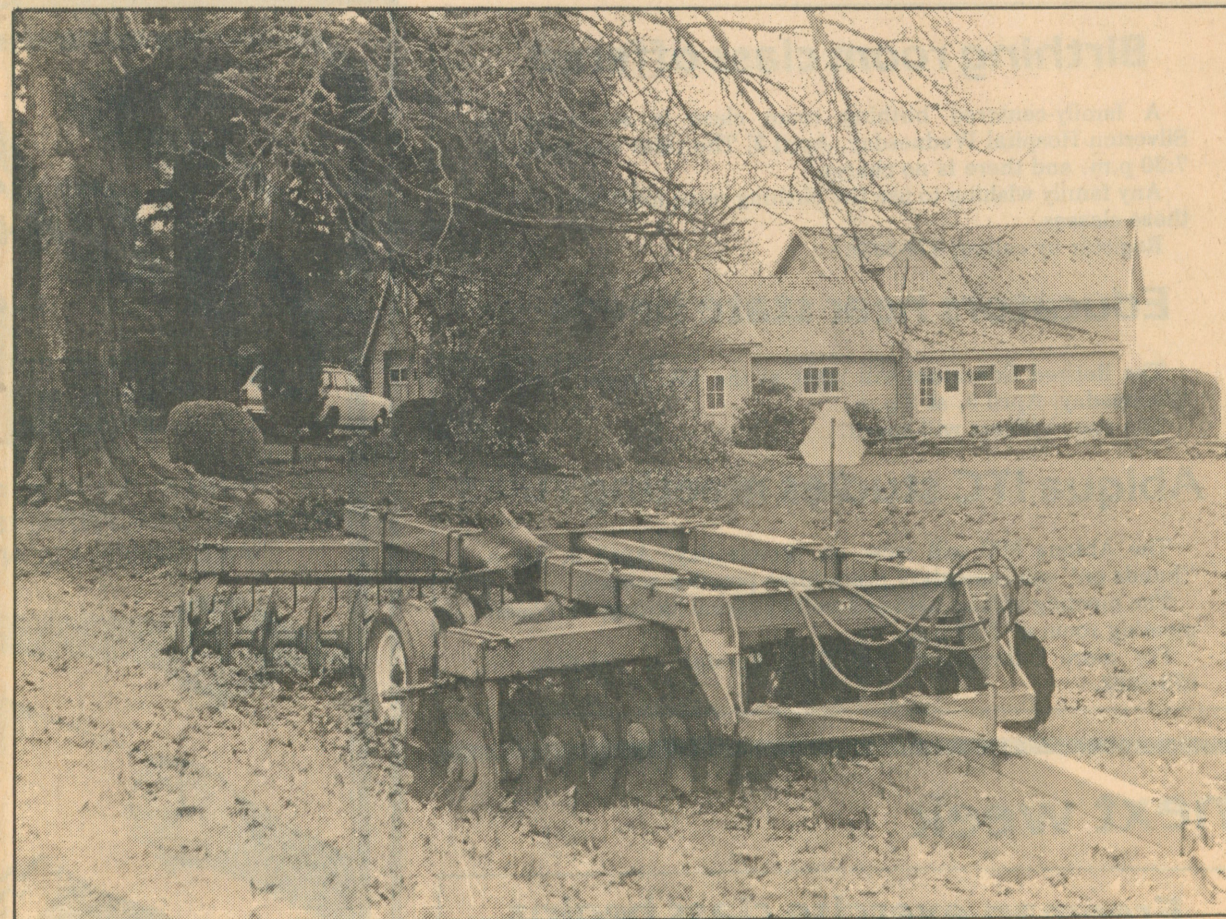
Application must be made on blanks available from the Oregon Historical Society, 1230 SW Park Ave., Portland, 97205, Buehler said. She may be reached at 1-222-1741.

The following farms have been designated as century farms since 1958 and are still so honored:

- Eloise Davenport Farm ... 3873 Victor Point Rd. NE
- Andrew Eder Farm ... 7776 North Howell Rd. NE
- Carmin Cooper Wilcox Farm (Geer) ... 12390 Sunnyview Rd. NE
- Maurice Heater Farm ... 4681 Drift Creek Rd. SE
- Marjorie and Robert Humphreys Farm ... 14765 Waldo Hills Dr. SE
- Roxie and Dale Hunt Farm ... 14194 Silver Falls Highway SE
- Anna Lawrence Farm ... Victor Point Rd. NE
- Ruth DeSart and Dale Lively Farm ... 3516 DeSart Rd. NE
- Donald Mader Farm ... 10895 Edmunson Dr. SE, Salem
- Thelma and Ralph Mulkey Farm ... 567 Drift Creek Rd. NE
- Albert Prantl Farm ... 9344 Mt. Angel-Gervais Rd. NE
- Cathlene Riches Farm ... 11474 Sunnyview Rd. NE
- Susie and Bob Riches Farm ... 13166 Riches Rd. NE
- Charles A. Schiedler Farm ... 7392 Heinz Rd. NE
- Mrs. Verne D. Scott Farm ... 17233 Silver Falls Hwy. SE
- George G. White Jr. Farm ... 10712 Wagon Rd. NE, Mt. Angel



**A LAMB NURSES PEACEFULLY** near the Oregon Donation Land Claim Ralph Cary Geer staked at what is now 12390 Sunnyview Rd. N.E. Geer's great-great granddaughter Carmin Wilcox Cooper resides at the house here, built in 1851.



**THE ROXIE and DALE HUNT FARM** at 14194 Silver Falls Hwy. S.E. is the birth place of four generations of Hunts. George Washington Hunt staked the Oregon Donation Land Claim in 1850. Dale's mother Dora Hunt resides in the original house. The house was constructed with lumber hand hewn on the property during the 1860's.

**Story and photos compiled by Jeff Brekas**