Founded in 1875 by Jesse Winn

Winn ranch in Weston added to Oregon's list of 'Century Farms'

Sixty-six Oregon farms owned and operated continuously by the same family for a century or more have been added to the state's "Century Farm" list this year.

Among those added is the George Robert Winn ranch, Route 1, Weston; settled by Jesse Z. Winn in 1875.

The addition to the "Century Farm" list of these new farms brings to 630 the number of Oregon farms certified as "Century Farms" since the program was started in 1958 by the Oregon Historical Society and the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The new "Century Farmers" will be honored at a special program at the Oregon State Fair Tuesday, August 31, at 2 p.m. The event, which is planned as part of Oregon's Bicentennial celebration, is being arranged by the Oregon Historical Society and Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Oregon State Fair.

Presented to owners during the special ceremonies will be a parchment certificate in the name of the ancestor settling the farm. These are provided by the Oregon Historical Society.

Twenty-one counties are represented by "Century Farms" this year. It is the first time for two of the counties, Harney and Wallowa, to be represented. Linn County has the most farms with nine; Clackamas and Marion Counties are next, each with seven; and Baker and Washington Counties each have six.

The Harney County farm, which is also the largest ever registerd under the program, contains 25,000 acres and is that of Carl Mayo and Son of Riley. It was settled in 1871 by William Carrol and Logan Cecil and contained 640 acres. One of the original owners was Mrs. Mayo's grandfather.

Mr. and Mrs. Merton S. Wade of Enterprise are the owners of the Wallowa County farm. It contains 3,473.10 acres and originally was 160 acres in size. Wade's grandfather, Samuel Wde, who came to Oregon from Iowa, settled it in 1874.

Oldest farm in the group registering this year is that of Mr. and Mrs. Orie H. Cox, Route 2, Box 336, Albany, located eight miles northeast of Albany.

It was settled in 1848, by Lewis Cox, grandfather of Cox, who came from Ohio. It originally contained 200 acres. The Coxes own 85 acres of the original farm.

The second oldest farm in the group is located in Polk County in the Rickreall area. It was settled in 1851 by John Ceton Allen from Missouri and is now owned by three of his great-grandchildren, Ralph Allen, Robert Thomson Allen and Maxine Rolfness.

Twenty-two of the owners of the 1976 "Century Farms" stated they had original buildings still in use and 13 of the counties were represented in that list. Three of the farm owners reported the original house still being used.