

CFR 0099

Mabel Slayton Graffenberger

U.S. Census Definition of a Farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of \$50 or more a year; or, if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year.

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS--1970
(Rules attached)

Deadline for filing application: July 1, 1970

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) Mabel Slayton Graffenberger (Mrs. A.R.)

Your address: Route 1, Box 510 P.O. Box _____ Town Prineville, Oreg

Location of farm: Rt. 1, Box 510, Prineville, Oreg. Crook
(Address) (County)

Acres in your farm today: 4.31 Acres in original farm: 160

Does your farm comply with U.S. Census definition at top of page? Yes.

Name of founder of farm (please print): Samuel Ransom Slayton

Year founder settled on farm? 1869 Where did he come from? S. Woodstock, Vermont
Via Western Oregon

How many families have farmed this land? Three

Are any of original buildings still in use? No

Who farms land today? You? yes A renter? _____ A manager? _____ Other? _____

If you own the farm but live in town, do you manage the farming operation? _____

What relation are you to the original owner? Granddaughter

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm 100 years ago, please list Livestock;

Cattle, horses, hay, grain, garden, orchard with a
variety of fruit trees,

What do you raise on farm today? Cattle, hay, grain, potatoes

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) One; Mabel Slayton

Graffenberger, and husband, A.R. Graffenberger

Has the farm ever been rented? No How many times has original farm been divided? none

PLEASE list on separate page attached other historical facts you know about this farm.

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

Mabel Slayton Graffenberger
Signature of Owner

Submitted by: Mabel Slayton Graffenberger, Route 1, Box 510, Prineville, Oregon 97754
(Name and Address)

*Slaytons earlier in
Willamette Valley*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Samuel Ransom Slayton, my grandfather, came to Prineville, Oregon, in August of 1869, with team and wagon and 60 head of cattle. He settled on a 160 acre Land Grant or Pre-Emption Claim three miles east of Prineville, in Section 34, Township 14S, Range 16 EWM that same year. He build a hand-hewn log house on this property, where the father, mother and five children lived for several years.

Much of the 160 acres was meadow land, so grandfather began to acquire and cultivate adjoining sagebrush land. At first, there was no irrigation water available so the crops were dry land grain. In the early 170's, they were able to get water from the nearby Ochoco Creek and before long, green alfalfa fields covered the once-barren land.

A traveler from California, who stayed all night with the Slaytons, left some "Lucern grass seed" with them and the family believes that was the first alfalfa seed planted in the Ochoco Valley.

By 1875, two more children had been added to the family, so grandfather built a new house, a little east of the log cabin, but still on the original 160 acres. He was fond of trees and planted fruit trees and many poplars and box elders. A windmill pumped water into two large cisterns for watering the orchard, lawn and flowers. The box elders along the lane and many of the other trees still stand. The lane has long been a landmark in this vicinity.

In 1889, grandfather and grandmother Slayton moved into town and turned the ranch over to their son, my father, Edgar T. Slayton. He lived on and operated the ranch until his death in 1938. In 1895, he had purchased the adjoining section, Section 35, Township 14S, Range 16 EWM, which made a ranch now of 800 acres.

I was born on the original ranch, in the old house and my husband and I have lived here since our marriage in January, 1926. My husband, A. R. Graffenberger, assumed an active part in the operation of the ranch.

For many years, we lived in a small house near my parents. After my father's death, the 800 acres were divided and we retained the western part of the ranch, which includes the original 160 acres.

In 1952, we built a new house directly in front of where the old house stood. We kept much of the same yard and still have many of the original trees that my grandfather planted, including two mulberry trees and one of the original lilac bushes.

My husband and I now own the place jointly and we are actively engaged in the operation, and improvement, of the ranch. Since the Ochoco and later the Prineville dams have been built, 125 acres of the original place are now under water and instead of the dry land crops of former days, are planted mostly to pasture. The meadows, with cultivation and seeding of some other grasses, are now lush green pastures much of the year.

see Park Co. Power Sketches

(Sovereign family)



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

June 26, 1970

Mrs. A. R. Graffenberger
Rt. 1, Box 510
Prineville, Oregon 97754

Dear Mrs. Graffenberger:

This is in reply to your June 23 letter requesting verification that Samuel R. Slayton filed for land in Section 14, Township 14 S., Range 16 E., W. M., Oregon.

Enclosed are copies of pertinent documents that are on file in the National Archives in Cash 416, The Dalles.

Enclosures are as follows:

1. Pre-Emption Proof - Testimony of Claimant
Dated 3 July, 1882 - Question No. 5 and
answer establishes settlement on 15 September 1868
2. Register Certificate dated July 3, 1882, certifies
that requirements of law have been satisfied and
claimant is entitled to receive a patent. (Patent
issued June 5, 1894)

Sincerely yours,

Fred W. Heine, III
Chief, Branch of Records & Reports
Management

1970 Century Farm Application

Submitted by: Mabel Slayton Graffenberger, Route 1, Box 510, Prineville, Oregon 97754

Additional Information, Continued

The information concerning the early history of the ranches was told to me by my father and Uncle George Slayton. Also, some of it is from the Slayton History and articles written by Uncle George.

Mabel Slayton Graffenberger

State Department of Agriculture
Oregon Historical Society

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Mabel Clayton Kraffenderger
Owner's name and address

Rt 1 Box 510 is applying for Century Farm honors,
Prineville Oregon

has been in his family continuously for 100 or more years.

Hayden Powell
*County Commissioner Recorder

Date: June 29, 1970

*Please strike office not applicable



OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WITH WHICH ARE NOW INCORPORATED THE
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OLD OREGON TRAILS ASSOCIATION AND OREGON LANDMARKS COMMITTEE

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June 25, 1970

THOMAS VAUGHAN
Director - Editor
Oregon Historical Quarterly

To whom it may concern:

Samuel Ransom Slayton, an Oregon pioneer of 1852 of Linn, Douglas and Polk counties, was married in 1858 to Eliza J. Savery, an Oregon pioneer of 1852 of Douglas and Polk Counties. (See Polk Co. pioneer sketches of Savery family)

In ¹⁸⁶⁸ ~~1869~~ or 1870 they filled on land three miles east of what is Prineville, on 160 acres, in section 34, township 14, range 16 EWM. *

The sources for the ¹⁸⁶⁸ ~~1869-70~~ location in Crook County, are pages 700 and 754, ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF CENTRAL OREGON, 1905; and page 380, Volume 39, OREGON HISTORICAL QUARTERLY: This area was then in Wasco County.

One can refer to household number 96 of "East of the Deschutes River, c/o The Dalles P.O.", in the 1870 WASCO COUNTY CENSUS for the Samuel R. Slayton household. He and his wife are listed, along with four children.

It is interesting to note that the Slaytons were household 96. The Prine Family, for whom Prineville is named, were household 105, and the Hodges family, also on the section of the city, were 104. The Claypool family were 86, the Baynes family were 95, the Zell family were 100, the, the Templeton family were 101, and the Vanderpool family were 111.

Sincerely,

Arthur C. Spencer

Arthur C. Spencer
Reference Librarian
Oregon Historical Society

P.S. Our OHSScrapbook 38, p. 45: Eliza Jane (Savery) Slayton (sister of Mrs. Levi Knott of Portland) died in Portland 1901 after the operation in Albany following the accident with the horse drawn carriage. Buried in Lone Fir Cemetery, Portland. *

"Resided for 33 years on S. R. Slayton ranch in Crook County, three miles east of Prineville."

(1901
- 33

c. 1869

Proof, therefore in her obituary, of 1869 residence.

acn

PRE-EMPTION PROOF.—TESTIMONY OF CLAIMANT.

Samuel R. Slayton being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of his pre-emption claim to the SE 1/4 Sec. 34 T14S R16 East testifies as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name (written in full and correctly spelled) and age?

Ans. Samuel R. Slayton age 57

Ques. 2.—Are you the head of a family, (if so, of whom does it consist,) or a single person?

Ans. I am the head of a family consisting of a wife & 6 children

Ques. 3.—Are you a native-born or naturalized citizen of the United States?*

Ans. I am a native born American

Ques. 4.—Is your pre-emption claim, above described, within the limits of an incorporated town, or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade and business? 2d. Did you leave other land of your own to settle on your present claim? 3d. Have you ever made a pre-emption filing or entry for land other than that you now seek to enter? If so, describe the same. (Answer to the point and in detail.)

Ans. 1st, No; 2d, No

3d, No

Ques. 5.—When did you first make settlement on the above-described land? 2d. What was your first act of settlement? 3d. Were there any improvements on the land when you settled? If so, state who then owned them and whether you purchased the same. 4th. What improvements have you made on the land since settlement, and what is the value of same?

Ans. 1st, 15th Sept. 1868; 2d, Building a House

3d, None

4th, Built a House, Barn & fenced 40 acres & 15 acres Cultivated Value \$1000

Ques. 6.—When did you first establish an actual residence on the land you now seek to enter? 2d. Has your residence thereon since been continuous? 3d. What use have you made of the land? 4th. How much of the land, if any, have you broken and cultivated since settlement, and what kind and quantity of crops have you raised?

Ans. 1st, 15th Sept. 1868; 2d, Yes it has

3d, Farming & Pasturing

4th, 40 acres Hay & some grain

Ques. 7.—Are either of the parties who have testified as your witnesses in this case related to you by blood or marriage? If so, state how related.

Ans. No relation

Samuel R. Slayton

I HEREBY CERTIFY that each question and answer in the foregoing testimony was read to claimant before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 3rd day of July, 1882

S. Coffin Register

Certified to be a true copy of the original. Fred W. Henning Certifying Officer

* In case the party is of foreign birth, a copy of his declaration of intention to become a citizen, or full naturalization certificate, officially certified, must be filed with the case.

1882

~~Page 6~~

Land Office at Waco, Ore.
July 3, 1882.

It is hereby certified that, in pursuance of law,

Samuel R. Clayton

Waco County, State of Oregon, on this day purchased of the

Register of this Office the lot or the South East Quarter

of Section No. 34 in Township No.

14 South of Range No. 16 East, Will. Mer., containing

One hundred & sixty 160 acres, at the rate of

One dollar and 25 cents per acre, amounting to Two hundred

400 dollars and _____ cents, for which the said Samuel R. Clayton

has made payment in full as required by law.

Now, therefore, be it known that, on presentation of this certificate to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said Samuel R. Clayton

shall be entitled to receive a Patent for the lot above described.

L. Coffin, Register.

Certified to be a true copy of the original

Fred W. Lewis III

Certifying Officer

(2)

Redmond, Oregon
Spokesman
(Cir. W. 3,104)

AUG 12 1968

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

805
**Graffenberger Crook County farm
added to Oregon's century list**

One farm in Central Oregon is included among 43 still tilled by descendants of their founders after a century or longer that have been added this year to Oregon's Century Farm list.

It is owned by Mabel Slayton Graffenberger, Route 1, Box 510, Prineville, and was founded in 1869.

The new additions bring to 501 the number carrying the "Century Farm" designation since the program was started in 1958 by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Historical Society.

The new "Century Farmers" will be presented certificates at the 1970 Oregon State Fair.

Yamhill County has the oldest farm on the 1970 list. It dates back to 1845 and was founded by N. K. Sitton, great-grandfather of the present owners. The farm has been divided three times, but still contains 247 acres of the 680 settled by its founder.

Second oldest is that of a brother and sisters, Tom and Jane Thilesen, Route 1, Box 8, Scio, the great-great-grandchildren of the founder, Preston

Munkers. Though the land was settled several years earlier, the final deed to the donation land claim of 640 acres was signed by Abraham Lincoln. The deed is still in the possession of the family. This farm presently contains 455 acres.

Two Clackamas County farms and one in Linn County date back to 1847.