

CFR 0420

John E. Lee

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--1973  
(Rules attached)  
Deadline for filing application: July 27, 1973.

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., ~~Miss~~) John E. Lee

Your address: Route 2 P.O. Box 166A Town Milton-Freewater

Location of farm: 3 Miles Southwest of Milton 97862  
(Address) Umatilla  
(County)

Acres in your farm today: 354 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): Hiram B. Lee

Year founder settled on farm? 1871 Where did he come from? Jackson County, IL

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? N/A

What relation are you to the original owner? Grandson

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm 100 years ago, please list \_\_\_\_\_  
Wheat and Cattle (Circle L Brand)

What do you raise on farm today? Wheat

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) None

Has the farm ever been rented? Father to Son 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? Yes

John E. Lee  
Signature of Owner

Submitted by: Howard B. Lee, Box 367, Umatilla, Oregon 97882  
(Name and Address)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Hiram B. Lee was born 20 December 1844 in Jackson County, Illinois, the fifth of eight children of Elizabeth Ann Burns and Richard Lee. His father died 20 August 1853 and his mother married Benningsen Boon(e) 27 June 1857.

Hiram served in the 80th Illinois Infantry, Co. A, from 25 July 1862 to 10 June 1865.

In May 1867, the family started the trek westward by ox team, arriving in the Walla Walla Valley on 24 November 1867. The family took up residence in Walla Walla for the winter. Hiram left for the gold fields of Idaho the following spring and remained in search of the elusive metal until the fall of 1871 when he returned to Umatilla County and laid claim to 160 acres three miles southwest of Milton and adjacent to the farm of his sister Rachael (Mrs. Wm. G. Bade), and where his mother was living, as Mr. Boone had returned to Illinois that year.

For a few years Hiram, as did other early settlers, raised a few cattle which were allowed to range over the bunchgrass-laden hills. This practice was curtailed in the late 1870's when the settlers commenced raising wheat on their farms.

On 12 November 1877 Hiram was married to Sarah Emily Moore. At this time he traded 80 acres of his homestead to his brother-in-law, Mr. Bade, for 40 acres upon which he built a frame house, completed in 1878. He extended the house in brick in 1883 and replaced the wood section with brick in 1893, all of which is still standing, and being lived in.

In 1886 Hiram bought the 80 acres of his original homestead from Mr. Bade, and in the next few years acquired other adjacent land and made his farm self-sufficient while raising his family of three sons and three daughters. He served on local school boards and was a County Commissioner from June 1906 to January 1911.

In 1914 he turned the farm over to his youngest son, Robert H. Lee, and built a home in Milton in which he lived until his death on 2 August 1925.

Robert Lee was married on 26 May 1913 to Ada Ann Bannister, of a pioneer family, and to them was born three sons and three daughters. One son died in 1926, at the age of two years.

In the course of time Robert bought the shares of the farm from his two brothers, and two of his sisters. The third sister sold her share to Robert's youngest son, John E. Lee. Robert farmed the place until after his 75th birthday

Submitted by: Howard B. Lee, Box 367, Umatilla, Oregon 97882

(Name and Address)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Continued:

when he turned its operation over to John. He continued to live there until a year before his death on 17 December 1969, at the age of 83 years.

The following children now have an undivided share of the farm:

- 1/6 Roberta Burles, Box 95, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420
- 1/6 Bernita Piper, 421 Willow, Milton-Freewater, Oregon 97862
- 1/6 Frances Paynter, 6234 N. Detroit, Portland, Oregon 97217
- 1/6 Howard B. Lee, Box 367, Umatilla, Oregon 97882
- 1/3 John E. Lee, Route 2, Box 166A, Milton-Freewater, Oregon 97862

The original Homestead Certificate and Purchase Certificates issued by the Land Office in LaGrande, Oregon, and deeds to the property, as well as tax receipts for years 1873 to 1902 and 1910 to 1924 (1884, 1900, 1903 to 1909, and 1911 missing), are in possession of Howard B. Lee.

July 25, 1973

Howard B. Lee  
Box 367  
Umatilla, Oregon 97882

State Dept. of Agriculture  
Agriculture Building  
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Sir:

This application is being submitted in the hopes that it will be considered for Century Farm Honors even though I was unable to obtain certification from the Umatilla County Recorder.

I was told at the Recorder's office that they absolutely would not certify any of these applications because there was no way that they could know for sure that the land had been farmed by the same family for the past 100 years. They said that all they would do was send certified copies of the deeds, which would have cost in the vicinity of \$15. X

As noted in the last paragraph of page 3 of the application, all supportive evidence necessary for the submittance of this application is in my possession. However, the County Recorder's office was very adamant about refusing to certify this application.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Howard B. Lee*

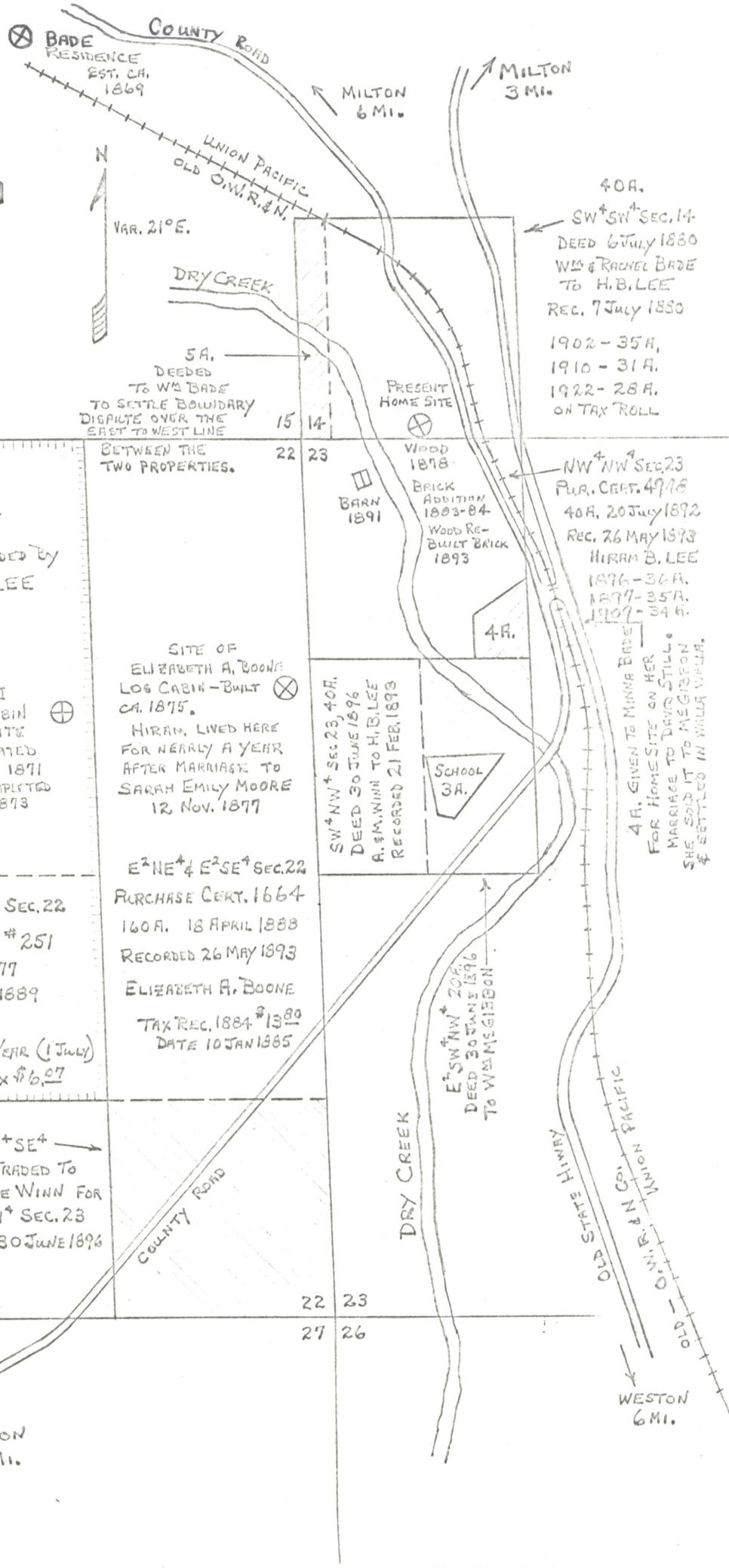
X Parsons of Shick  
Hist of Umatilla Co  
p. 411-12  
Re H.B. Lee

# LEE HOMESTEAD

UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON

T5N R35E

SCALE 6 IN = 1 MILE



W<sup>2</sup>NE<sup>4</sup> →  
80 A.  
TRADED TO  
WM G. BADE  
FOR 40 A. IN  
SECT. 14 - DEEDS  
DATED 6 July 1880  
RECORDED 7 July 1880  
  
RE-PURCHASED  
FOR \$2,000  
DEED 30 MARCH 1886  
RECORDED 20 MARCH 1889

ORIGINAL  
160 A.  
HOMESTEADED BY  
HIRAM B. LEE

1<sup>ST</sup>  
LOG CABIN  
SITE ⊕  
LOCATED  
FALL 1871  
COMPLETED  
1873

5A.  
DEEDED  
TO WM BADE  
TO SETTLE BOUNDARY  
DISPUTE OVER THE  
EAST TO WEST LINE  
BETWEEN THE  
TWO PROPERTIES.

SITE OF  
ELIZABETH A. BOONE  
LOG CABIN - BUILT  
CA. 1875.  
HIRAM LIVED HERE  
FOR NEARLY A YEAR  
AFTER MARRIAGE TO  
SARAH EMILY MOORE  
12 NOV. 1877

W<sup>2</sup>NE<sup>4</sup>, NW<sup>4</sup>SE<sup>4</sup>, & NE<sup>4</sup>SW<sup>4</sup> SEC. 22  
HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATE # 251  
160 A. 20 MARCH 1877  
RECORDED 20 MARCH 1889  
HIRAM B. LEE  
  
TAX RECEIPT 1873 FISCAL YEAR (1 JULY)  
DATED 24 DEC. 1872 - TAX \$6.97

E<sup>2</sup>NE<sup>4</sup> & E<sup>2</sup>SE<sup>4</sup> SEC. 22  
PURCHASE CERT. 1664  
160 A. 18 APRIL 1888  
RECORDED 26 MAY 1893  
ELIZABETH A. BOONE  
TAX REC. 1884 \$13.80  
DATE 10 JAN 1885

SE<sup>4</sup>SE<sup>4</sup> →  
40 A. TRADED TO  
AMBROSE WINN FOR  
SW<sup>4</sup>NW<sup>4</sup> SEC. 23  
DEED 30 JUNE 1896

40A.  
SW<sup>4</sup>SW<sup>4</sup> SEC. 14  
DEED 6 JULY 1880  
WM & RACHEL BADE  
TO H.B. LEE  
REC. 7 JULY 1880  
  
1902 - 35 A.  
1910 - 31 A.  
1922 - 28 A.  
ON TAX ROLL

NW<sup>4</sup>NW<sup>4</sup> SEC. 23  
PLA. CERT. 4978  
40 A. 20 JULY 1892  
REC. 26 MAY 1893  
HIRAM B. LEE  
1876 - 36 A.  
1897 - 35 A.  
1907 - 34 A.

4 A. GIVEN TO MINNA BADE  
FOR HOME SITE ON HER  
MARRIAGE TO DAVID STILL.  
SHE SOLD IT TO MCGIBSON  
& SETTLED IN WILLA WALLA.

SW<sup>4</sup>NW<sup>4</sup> SEC. 23, 40A.  
DEED 30 JUNE 1896  
A. & M. WINN TO H.B. LEE  
RECORDED 21 FEB. 1893

E<sup>2</sup>SW<sup>4</sup>NW<sup>4</sup> 20A.  
DEED 30 JUNE 1896  
TO WM MCGIBSON

WESTON  
5 1/2 MI.

WESTON  
6 MI.

State Department of Agriculture  
Oregon Historical Society

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which JOHN E. LEE  
Owner's name and address

RT 2 BOX 166A MILTON - FREEWATER is applying for Century Farm honors,

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*County Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please strike office not applicable