

CFR 0457

Edward Porter

John R. PORTER

1857

August 22, 1958

Edward Porter
Route 2, Box 126
Forest Grove, Oregon

Dear Mr. Porter:

The Century Farm certificate will list only the name of the first member of your family to settle the land. Would the correct name for your land be Porter, John Butt or Silas Beeks? If the founder is Porter could we have the first name of Mr. Porter.

Today I spoke with Mrs. Sylvester A. Van Loo. She suggested I confirm the information with you. Would the information for her certificate be the same as the information for yours?

Mrs. Van Loo suggested the date of founding as 1848. This would be the date your direct ancestor first farmed the land.

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Century Farm program.

Sincerely,

Judith Scharf
Public Services Representative

Edward Porter: I made a
file from letter. No CFR #
Address is Forest Grove so I put
in Washington County. John R.
Porter in 1857.

CFR 0182 Lane County

App. William Porter ~~Porter~~ ✓

Mother Lawrence. Lives on land.

Could this be a letter from another
relative regarding the same property?

1958

Century Farm Program Entered By Porter, Van Loo Families

Washington



ED PORTER—Farming a claim his grandfather purchased in 1857 is Ed Porter. Farm is located on Rt. 2 and consists of 84 acres. Porter has been a member of the Five-Ton straw-

berry club for the past five years. Below, Mrs. Sylvester Van Loo, Porter's sister, who lives with her husband and four children on a farm adjoining Porter's.

Farm land now worked by the Sylvester Van Loos and the Ed Porters on Rt. 2, Forest Grove, has been in the family more than 100 years, entitling the two families to enter the Century Farm program being conducted throughout the state by the Oregon Historical Society and State Department of Agriculture.

Porter, who farms 84 acres on Porter road, recalls that his grandfather purchased a claim in 1857 originally filed by two families, Beaks and Butts. John Robert Porter, his grandfather, farmed the land until 1888 when he died. His

son, Robert Porter, who was only 15 when his father died, fell heir to the land. His older brother aided him until he became of age. In 1947 Ed Porter became the landowner. Eight-four acres were kept by Porter and 30 went to the Van Loos. Mrs. Van Loo is Porter's sister.

The Van Loos have grain and general farming crops on their land and Van Loo also does other farming in the area. Porter spread has grain and hay and Porter has been a member of the Five-Ton strawberry club for five years.

Porter's family consists of his wife, the former Dorothy Crumican, and nine children, Bruce, Sandra, Hall, Charles, Steven, William, Elizabeth, Joseph and Vincent, who range in age from two to 19. The Van Loo's four children, Mrs. Eleanor Seeborg, and Shirley, 18; Sara, 16; and Robert, 11; still at home.

Porter states that his grandfather started one of the first nurseries if not the first in this area. When the gold strike hit California, he journeyed there and upon returning he brought redwood seedlings which he planted. The redwoods are still growing, now on land owned by the Lloyd Matson family. Redwoods at Verboort, Forest Grove and other surrounding areas were originally planted by his grandfather.

His great-grandfather, William Porter, took a homestead on what is now the Long place in 1827, was 19 when he settled in the area. He was a Baptist minister as were six of his brothers.

The Century Farm program is

being conducted locally by the county agent's office and County Judge Joe Jaross. It is a recognition of continuous farm ownership by one family since 1858 or earlier.



MRS. SYLVESTER VAN LOO