

CFR 0511

Elsie S. Warmington and Erma S. Shelburne

CFR0511

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Location and size of farm Henry Hewitt D.L.C. 56^{rd.} notification 1629 about 31 acres.
Township 5 S., Range 3 W. Tillamette Meridian, Yamhill Co. Oregon
 Present owner Erma S. Shelburne and Elsie S. Harrington
 Address Rt 2 McMinnville, Oregon

Do you live on this farm and farm the land? He lives on different farms but manage this farm.

Do you make \$150.00 a year or more from this farm? Yes

If you live off this land, do you manage the farm operation? Yes

Name and date of first generation owner Henry and Elizabeth Mathew Hewitt
Pioneers of 1843

Brief description of farm

History Our great grandparents, Henry and Elizabeth Mathew Hewitt, divided their D.L.C. among their children - one daughter and nine sons. Our grandfather, James Andrew Hewitt, made his home on this Tract with grandmother until his death. After Grandmother's death, our parents held it until they deeded it to us.

Erma S. Shelburne
 Signature of present owner S
Elsie S. Harrington

App'd
July 18, 1958
Co. Judge

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AFFIDAVIT

I, ERMA SHELBURNE AND ELSIE S. WARMINGTON being first duly sworn and on oath, depose and state that statements made on the attached application are true and that the real property described therein has been owned or managed in the same family, passing through brothers or sisters, or sons or daughters, to their children's children or adopted children and that all other requirements for a Century Farm Certificate, as set forth in the regulations, have been met to the best of my knowledge and I make this affidavit in support of my eligibility for this Honor.

Erma S. Shelburne
Signature of owner

Elsie S. Warmington
Signature of owner

STATE OF OREGON)
) ss.
County of Yamhill)

On this 1 day of July, 1958, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the within named Erma Shelburne & Elsie S. Warmington is known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the same freely and voluntarily.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.

Bernice E. Pearson
Notary Public
My Commission Expires Jan. 26, 1959

REGISTRATION CENTURY FARM CELEBRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR, September 6, 1960

1. Check which year you received Century Farm Award:

1958 _____
1959 _____
1960 _____

2. Name: Elsie S. Tharrington

3. Postoffice Address: Rt 2 Box 145 McMinnville Ore

4. What county is your Century Farm in? Yamhill

5. How old is your farm? 1843-1845. How old are you? 55

6. Who founded your Century Farm? Henry Hewitt Mark Sawyer

7. How many miles did you travel to come today? 25

8. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your County Historical Society? 4 yrs.

9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? _____

10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1960 Oregon State Fair? _____

What are they? _____

See Shelbourne, Emma S.
Yamhill County

619 Henry Bldg. Portland 4, Oregon

McMINNVILLE NEWS-REGISTER
McMinnville, Oregon
Circulation 3965

NOV 3 - 1958



NINE HEWITT BROTHERS posed in 1899 for this picture, property of Mrs. W. D. Warmington. They are, seated from left, Daniel, farmer; Judge H. Henry, lawyer; Adam W., farmer; James Andrew, teacher. Standing from left are Dr. Loren L., MD; Harry W., jeweler; Dr. Jasper L., DD; Mathew C., carpenter, and Isaiah, farmer. James was Mrs. Warmington's father.

Hewitt Family Settled At Wheatland In 1843; Descendents Hold Farm

Editor's Note: This is the sixth in a series of century farms in Yamhill county.

The whole Oregon Country lay before them when the first great wagon train arrived in the fall of 1843. Some settlers passed the falls in the Willamette river and the French Canadian settlement at Champoeg but stopped just before reaching the first Methodist Mission.

On the west side of the river near Wheatland, Henry and Elizabeth Matheny Hewitt found the beginning of a farm — a log cabin, 100 apple trees, and a fenced corral — owned by a half breed, In-

dian and Negro. The Hewitts traded a yoke of oxen for these improvements and settled there.

Henry Hewitt drove the first wagon of the train down the slopes of the Blue Mountains into Oregon. Elizabeth rode her horse most of the way and carried her small daughter, Ann Eliza, in her arms. Henry's brother had been at the Provisional Government meeting at Champoeg earlier, and her father, Daniel Matheny, also influential in that first train, founded the first ferry on the Willamette river at Wheatland.

The French Huguenot Hewitt family had fled to Germany because of religious persecution in France and later took refuge in Pennsylvania in 1737. Henry was 21 and Elizabeth 20 when they came to Oregon. Between 1844 and 1869, they had nine sons.

Slavery was not uncommon in early Oregon and Indians as well as white men had slaves. Captain Daniel Matheny had many Indian customers at his ferry. A couple of times he let his sympathies get the better of him and he bought two Indian children. When he came to live with his daughter Elizabeth after his wife died he brought with him these two boys for her to raise along with her own ten and some nieces and nephews and five orphaned grandsons. Altogether then they reared 26 children.

The Hewitts had a daughter before they arrived and nine sons were born in Oregon. Daniel was a pioneer Jersey breeder near

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Henry & Elizabeth
Hewitt
Yamhill Co.

Hewitt Family Settled Near Wheatland

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field college, then called McMinnville college, and was a long time member of the board of Oregon Mutual Insurance company and Circuit Judge of Linn county.

Some were skilled carpenters and building contractors. The three younger sons left the farm to be a dentist, a jeweler, and a doctor. All of the children in the home were given the best educations available at home and at boarding schools. Several attended Willamette university at Salem.

Some of the surviving grandchildren of these Hewitt boys are a grandson, Kenneth Pomeroy in the insurance business in Dayton, Mrs. Clark Noble, Mrs. Ari Launer, Mrs. Elois Demaray, all of Unionvale, two daughters, Mrs. Leeta Coats of Dayton and Mrs. Sylvia Kerr of McMinnville.

For many years religious services were held in the schoolhouse built on the land claim. The family was Methodist but when circuit riders of another Wesleyan group, the Evangelicals, arrived they made them welcome. Congregations meeting in the schoolhouse and later in the church were served on alternate Sundays by preachers of separate connections. Hence the community was and is still called Unionvale.

The square mile in Unionvale which was the Hewitt donation land claim was the home of Henry and Elizabeth until their deaths almost at the same time in 1899. When it was divided, the south east corner went to James Andrew. By then, he had other holdings on the island, along the Lambert slough and to the south, so he donated a road to Grand Island to connect with the Dayton-Salem road that ran through his claim.

As a youth, Andrew had gone to eastern Washington to teach and had married a pupil, Mary Jane Rose. They reared two sons, Roy Hewitt, a lawyer in Salem, and Elmer, a railroad man in Albany, and three daughters, Olive Smith, Leeta Coats of Unionvale and Sylvia Kerr of McMinnville.

Community enterprises always enlisted the crusading zeal of this family. When Andrew promoted a cannery, he was equally pleased that many young people earned money for school and that a cooperative market was established for a more intensive row-crop agriculture. In a day when horse travel and rough roads made distances greater a crossroads store and a blacksmith shop served the neighborhood. For a time the corner field was used for a community baseball field and for the July 4 fireworks.

About the time of World War I, Andrew and Mary Hewitt sold the land on the west side of the road and built a new, for then, very modern house on the east side. The house and the 31 acres around it were left by Olive and Rollie Smith to their two daughters, who jointly own it. They, Erma Smith Shelburne and Elsie Smith Warmington, have lived on their own farms in McMinnville area for more than 35 years, but hold their portions of the old Hewitt donation land claim until such a time when some of their children and grandchildren might like a portion of the old home.