

CFR 0692

Don (Thomas D.) Ollivant

To qualify as a Century Farm a farm must have not less than 10 acres with a gross income from farm use of not less than \$500 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for Century Farm honors.

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS--1974
(Rules Attached)
Deadline for filing application: July 1, 1974

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., ~~Mrs.~~, Miss) DON OLLIVANT (THOMAS D. OLLIVANT)

Your address: Route 4 P.O. Box 585 Town ROSEBURG

Location of farm: " " DOUGLAS
(Address) (County)

Acres in your farm today: 570 Acres in original farm: 320

Does your farm comply with the definition at top of page? YES

Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm (please print):

JAMES M. ARRINGTON & KITTY ANN C. ARRINGTON HUSBAND & WIFE

Year founder settled on farm? 1851 or 1852 Where did he come from? MISSOURI

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? great grandson

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

CASH CROP WAS TOBACCO

What do you raise on farm today? sheep & hay

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) TWO; OLLIVANT AND

ALBERTSON

Has the farm ever been rented? PARTS How many times has original farm been divided? MANY

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.

Mail to: Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Agriculture Bldg., Salem, OR 97310

Don Ollivant
(Signature of owner)

Submitted by DON OLLIVANT RT 4 Box 585 ROSEBURG OREGON
(Name and Address) 97470

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Part of the original Arrington Donation Land claim has been in my part of the family continuously since original was granted in 1866. James Merrill Arrington settled on this land at least as early as 1852 possibly as early as 1850.

The present farm includes about 120 Acres of the original Arrington claim plus the Abbot L. Todd donation land claim and some odd acreage obtained at later dates.

The Arrington family were on this place when the last tribe of the local Indians were massacred almost in the door yard. This atrocity precipitated a feud of three generations between communities and families and hard feelings have been quite evident in my lifetime.

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which DON OLLIVANT
(Owner's name and address)

RT. 4- Box 585- ROSEBURG. OR.

is applying for Century Farm Honors, has been in his family continuously for
100 or more years.

Ray E. Danner
* County Commissioner-Recorder

6.24.74
(Date)

*Please strike office not applicable

AUG 23 1974

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

Great Grandfather Had 'Itching Feet'

Tobacco Was Cash Crop On Happy Valley Farm

By DON AUCUTT
Of The News-Review
(Fourth in series)

WINSTON — "Itching feet" probably brought James Merveille Arrington west to pioneer Oregon in the early 1850s, says his great-grandson Thomas D. (Don) Ollivant, who still farms and ranches part of the land claim taken up by Arrington.

Before arriving in Oregon in 1852, and finding good land in the vicinity of Happy Valley and Brockway near what is now Winston, Arrington lived a busy, varied life in the middle United States.

Of Welsh, English and French descent, Arrington was born in Livingston County, Kentucky, in April 1814.

For a time, he settled in Missouri. He worked as a steamboat pilot on the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

He married Kitty Anny Caroline Halpaine — whose ancestors included a French lieutenant who served with Lafayette in the Revolutionary War — and before they left Missouri, they had five children, including Frances Elizabeth, Don Ollivant's grandmother.

The Arringtons traveled west in two ox-drawn wagons.

One morning on the way West, the family awoke to find Indians all around. This was probably in Idaho, said Ollivant, because the Indians were somewhat hostile and offered salmon. Oregon Indians would have been

friendlier, he added, and the presence of the salmon indicates the Arringtons were west of the Rocky Mountains.

Sizing up the situation, Arrington, who was acquainted with Indians in Kentucky, jumped out in his red flannel underwear and "went to dancing," said Ollivant, recalling the old tale while sitting in the living room of his new home.

The nifty Arrington, whom his great-grandson says knew Indian psychology, gave the natives his undershirt. The Indians went off and returned with

of it or had it hauled down to the Jacksonville (gold) mines," said Ollivant, dressed as usual in his blue farmer-style denim coveralls.

A tobacco press used by Arrington is now in the collection at the Douglas County Museum in Roseburg.

Another Arrington venture was an early sawmill near Camas Valley in the upper Coquille River drainage in an area now along Highway 42. He also surveyed roads.

The family was strongly anti-slavery, said Ollivant. Although

Ollivant reported hearing the story of the massacre from his grandmother, an eyewitness at the age of 12. She saw the survivors.

Joining in the feelings of the Arringtons were their neighbors, the pioneer Cooper, Todd, Rice and Ollivant families.

Arrington helped bring Thomas Deives Ollivant from Oregon City to Tenmile — spelled Tenn Mile in the Ollivant family Bible — after Ollivant, an Englishman, lost his cattle going through Eastern Oregon's Blue Mountains.

The elder Arrington died in November 1890. His property passed to his youngest son, Albert Maurice, and to Don Ollivant's grandmother.

She became the third wife of Aaron Rose, the founder of Roseburg, through whom Don Ollivant is descended.

Don Ollivant's mother, Cora Frances Rose, married into the Ollivant family, long-time, closely tied friends of the Arringtons.

After his mother and his father, Thomas Edmund, died in the 1940s, Don Ollivant acquired his land. He has about 110 acres of James Arrington's property.

This year, Ollivant's property became one of Oregon's 564 Century Farms, which are properties honored by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Historical Society.

Ollivant, now greying and with his 69th birthday this month,

still works his land. "I don't want to quit until I have too," he says straightforwardly.

Continuing a tradition probably dating back to the French lieutenant fighting in the Revolutionary War, Ollivant works in his community. He has served on a planning advisory committee for the area and promotes water-storage dam projects.

Although the Ollivants — his wife, Mildred, came from Iowa in 1926 — just recently moved into a new house, the fourth they've lived in on their property so far, there is still evidence in their home of family history.

They have the Ollivant and Arrington family Bibles, both with pages of fading ink inscriptions of births, marriages and deaths. The Arrington Bible was printed in 1857 in Philadelphia, Pa.

An impressive Indian arrowhead collection — "mostly from the place," says Ollivant — sits next to a living room window. A massive myrtlewood table and chair in the room were carved by Ollivant's great-uncle.

In the ongoing family life, one of the Ollivants' married daughters, Toni Albertson, lives near her parents. Another daughter lives west of Sutherlin and a son is in Alaska.

Mildred Ollivant, a woman with a memory for dates and places and names, wanted the Century Farm designation, her

husband said. A Century Farm is one honored for having remained in one family and having been used for 100 years or

more. Asked about the future of their home land, the Ollivants made some hopeful comments, then

decided that they would rather not say anything.

(Next: Thomas Balmbridge settles north of Oakland.)



salmon which they gave to the Arringtons.

Once in Oregon and secure in Happy Valley, Arrington began raising tobacco, a crop he also grew in Missouri.

The tobacco, which Ollivant described as "strong as all get out," was Arrington's main cash crop. Some of it was sold at a family inn. He also hauled a lot

Arrington owned slaves in Missouri, he freed them before he left for the West.

James and Kitty Ann Arrington and their family, which included seven more children born in Oregon, sympathized with the Umpqua Indians massacred by white settlers in the nearby Lookingglass area in 1862.



Family Heirloom

Mildred and Don Ollivant sit on a couch in the living room of their home near Winston, looking through one of the two family Bibles which have passed down to Ollivant from the

pioneer Arrington and Ollivant families. Ollivant's ranch was named a Century Farm this year. (News-Review photo by Alan Buckingham)