

CFR 0760

Merle Richard Smith

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--1976  
(Rules Attached)  
Deadline for filing application: July 1, 1976

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., Mrs., ~~Miss~~) Merle Richard Smith

Your address: 1350 S.E. Peoria Blvd.  
Route 1350 S.E. Peoria Blvd. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Town Corvallis

Location of farm: 1350 S.E. Peoria Blvd. Corvallis \_\_\_\_\_ Linn  
(Address) (County)

Acres in your farm today: 110 Acres in original farm: 350

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): \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret & Adam Radir

Year founder settled on farm? 1875 Where did he come from? Pittsburgh, Pa.

How many families have farmed this land? four generations

Are any of original buildings still in use? yes, house, barn and grainary

Who farms land today? You? yes A renter? partial 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
wheat, oats and barley

What do you raise on farm today? cattle and pasture Renter has 80 acres of \_\_\_\_\_  
wheat

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) Merle R. & Lorraine Smith

Has the farm ever been rented? partia How many times has original farm been divided? 2

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

Merle R. Smith  
(Signature of owner)

Submitted by Merle R. & Lorraine Smith 1350 S.E. Peoria Blvd. Corvallis, OR.  
(Name and Address) 97330

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Our farm was established by a very progressive 1976 style woman. Margaret Letham Radir came from Pittsburgh, Pa. looking for new farmland. in 1875. She selected and purchased approximately 350 acres two miles southeast of Corvallis, Oregon.

Her husband, Adam, son, William T. and daughters, Mary A., Sarah E. and Permillia E. came west after the purchase of the farmland. The family built a very substantial home, barn and grainary; all of which are in continuous use. The Radir's grew wheat, oats and barley on their new farm.

After the death of Margaret and Adam Radir, the farm was divided among the children. Permillia (Millie) Smith, the youngest daughter, purchased her brother's and sister, Sarah Whitmore's shares. Mary Graham kept her share of the farm.

The Smith part of the farm now consisted of 220 acres. Millie's only child, Richard L. was born in the house. She and her son raised grain and introduced cattle to the farm. After Dick's marriage to Mae Z., the young couple lived in the old house and Millie moved to another farm she had purchased. Dick and Mae raised grain and turkeys. They had two sons, Clarence Z. and Merle R. Smith. Merle was also born in the house. The same bedroom saw two births and at least one death.

Dick's health forced him into retirement in 1946 and Merle and his wife, Lorraine D. and children, Steven M. and Judy A. moved into the farmhouse. They have raised registered Hereford cattle, alfalfa and grain.

After Dick's death, the farm was again divided between the sons, Clarence and Merle Smith, each having a farm of 110 acres.

Four generations of descendants of the Radir family have resided in the same house and made their living from the same farmland. We hope soon the fifth generation, Steven M. Smith and his wife, Kay H. will follow in the footsteps of his forebears.

The house is listed in "Oregon for the Curious" on page 103, as a home to note as one is traveling south on Peoria Road.

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Merle R. Smith  
(Owner's name and address)  
1350 S.E. Peoria Blvd. Corvallis, Or. 97330

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

Del. H. Riley, Linn County Clerk  
By Virginia H. Putnam  
\* ~~County Commissioner-Recorder~~ Chief Deputy

June 15, 1976  
(Date)

\*Please strike office not applicable