

CFR 0894

Mr. Kirk D. Hayes

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) MR. KIRK D. HAYES

Your address: RT. 1, BOX 10 JOSEPH, OR 97846
Street, Route, or Box Town Zip

Location of Farm: SAME AS ABOVE WALLOWA
Address County

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. Does your farm meet this qualification? YES

Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm JOHN W. HAYES

Year founder settled on farm 1880 Where did he come from? BORN-INDIANA

Who farms the land today? JOINTLY - KIRK HAYES, REID KOCH

Relationship to original owner? GRAND SON

Are any of the original buildings still in use? If so which ones? HOME -
SHOP - (ORIGINALLY HOME)

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago, please list:
GRAINS - HAY

What do you raise on farm today? WHEAT - BARLEY - HAY

How many generations live on the farm today (Names)? ONE - KIRK D. HAYES

How many times has the original farm been divided? NONE

Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? YES

Please return form to:

Kirk Hayes
Signature of Owner

Elizabeth W. Buchler, Field Historian
Oregon Historical Society
1230 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon, 97205

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CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which KIRK D. HAYES

RT. 1, Box 10 JOSEPH, OR 97846
(owner's Name and Address)

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

Maylene Martin
(County Recorder/Clerk)

aug 8, 1984
Date

Dec. 5, 1984

Elizabeth H. Buckler
Field Historian
Oregon Historical Society
1230 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205

Dear Mrs. Buckler:

We are sending (enclosed) our application for our home and land to be designated as a Century Farm.

The forms have been completed to the best of our knowledge, and if you should need additional information, please let us know.

So many of our friends have urged us to seek this honor for ^{the Hayes'} our home is located in a beautiful spot with the 'Wallowa' Mountains in the background. I think few farms in this area qualify for Century Farm Honors.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely

Mary Hayes



MEN OF WALLOWA COUNTY.



Died 1937

*DATE OF
PUBLICATION
UNKNOWN*

John W. Hayes still lives on the land he homesteaded, half a mile west of Joseph, in March 1880. There is nothing flighty about him; he is a stayer from way back. His mother, born in 1828, is still living and has dwelt in the same place in Indiana for 60 years.

Mr. Hayes was born October 6, 1851, at Albion, Indiana. He went to California in 1879 and in the fall of the same year moved to Wallowa valley, taking up his homestead in the spring following. He was married January 2, 1887, to Minnie Flagg and to them four sons were born, three of whom are living: Homer, Arthur and Everett. The fourth son, Shirley, died in June, 1917, shortly after finishing high school, and his loss was a severe blow to the family and friends. Mr. Hayes is a public spirited citizen and for some years has been a member of the Joseph school board.

JOHN, HOMER AND KIRK HAYES

John W. Hayes was born October 6, 1851 at Albion, Indiana. He left there in 1879 to go to California. His stay there must have been very short since he ended up in the Wallowa Country that same year. In the spring of 1880 he took up a homestead half a mile west of the present town of Joseph.

In January of 1887 John married Minnie Flagg, whose parents were at that time farming on nearby Prairie Creek. The couple had four sons, Homer, Arthur, Everett and Shirley. The latter died in 1917 shortly after finishing High School.

The oldest son, Homer, received his education at Joseph, planned to be a school teacher upon graduating from High School, but found, even after passing the examination, that he was too young for the job. He went on to college at Corvallis, and in 1911 graduated from there with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

In 1913 he married Grace Warnock, daughter of Dan Warnock, prominent Wallowa County stockman. Homer worked as a salesman in Joseph for a time, and then, with the help of their parents, took up a ranch in the hill and canyon country east of Joseph. This ranch was in the rugged and sparsely settled and very rough country over 60 miles east of Joseph at the mouth of Christmas Creek as it empties into the Snake River.

Homer and Grace spent fourteen years calling Christmas Creek home. In the spring of 1968 when Homer and Grace were honored as an outstanding couple at a testimonial dinner given by the Joseph Chamber of Commerce, they were quoted as calling these years the best of their lives. They were certainly lively years according to the stories which had drifted in and were retold at that dinner.

The couple lived in a tent when they first arrived, intending to renovate the old stone house that served as a ranch house for the place. Upon discovering that a large rattlesnake had taken up residence there, Homer and Grace immediately decided to build a new home.

In that canyon country the procuring of lumber was a problem, but this was solved when Homer found that he could buy three thousand feet of lumber for \$30.00 if he could get it down the river from Pittsburgh Landing to his place, sixteen miles. This was accomplished with difficulty and adventure. Homer's degree in

Business Administration and knack for salesmanship helped some, but not a lot in such Snake River problems.

Two sons were born to Homer and Grace while they lived in this part of Wallowa County - Kirk in 1917 and Max in 1921. In 1928 they all returned to the Wallowa valley and in 1930 they bought John Hayes' place near Joseph. They lived there until 1939 when they moved into Joseph. Their older son, Kirk, took over the ranch and, with his wife, Mary Louise (Hall) still runs it. Homer died in August 1972 and Grace in May 1969.

John Hayes' other sons, Arthur and Everett, also ranched in Wallowa County. Arthur and his wife, Mabel had no children. Everett and Margaret had two children, Mildred (Benson) and Leland. Mildred lives in Spokane and Leland in Joseph,

November 8, 1985

Mary and Kirk Hayes
Rt. 1 Box 10
Joseph, Oregon 97846

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hayes:

Thank you for your letter of November 5. I am sorry that our letter informing you that your farm had qualified for the Century Farm certificate has apparently gone astray. Your certificate has indeed been prepared, and we are planning to send it within a week or so.

We do regret the delay in getting the certificate to you-- we try to arrange for local presentations of the awards and have been unable to do so in Wallowa County this year.

Again, our thanks and congratulations for participating in the Century Farm Program.

Sincerely,

Charles F. Wellman
Coordinator, Century Farm Program

CW:c

Nov. 5, 1985

Elizabeth Buehler
Field Historian
Oregon Historical Society
1230 S. W. Park Avenue
Portland, Or 97205

Dear Ms. Buehler:

I corresponded with you late last year regarding the recognition of our farm as a Century Farm.

After your letter dated 12-10-84 I heard nothing further - but later learned through our local paper that our farm was among 85 in Oregon included on the roll by the Oregon Historical Society.

We have read several articles in the Oregonian and other farm publications where this honor was officially recognized for other Century Farms, with at least a signed certificate.

1985 is almost over - do we have nothing to show that we were accepted? Would like to hear from you. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mary & Kirk Hayes