

CFR 1181

Albert Defrees

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Date April 30, 2012

Type of designation (please check) Century Farm Century Ranch

Legal owner / Applicant name Albert L. Defrees, TTEE

Farm or Ranch Name Defrees Ranch

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant Redacted for Privacy

Redact

Telephone Redacted for E-mail address Redacted for Privacy

Contact name (if different than legal owner) N/A

Mailing address of contact N/A

Contact telephone N/A E-mail address N/A

Location of farm or ranch (which is the subject of this application):

County Baker

Distance 25 miles from nearest town Baker City

Township 10 South 10 Range 37 East Section 13, 24

Address or physical location of the farm or ranch (which is subject of this application)

Redacted for Privacy

GPS (Global Positioning System) Coordinates, if known N 44 degrees, 41 minutes,

28.7 seconds; W 118 degrees, 7 minutes, 26.0 seconds

(Please continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application - Continued

Founder(s):

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) Jacob Jennings Defrees

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) 1908

(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today? Albert L. Defrees and L. Dean Defrees

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Please explain lineage. (See Application Qualification #7)

Albert - grandson

Dean - great-grandson

History of buildings:

Are any of the original buildings still in use? Yes No

If yes, please describe the buildings and their former and current use:

N/A

Are any of the buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places? Yes No

If "yes", please describe:

N/A

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:

What were the early crops or livestock?

Hay, Dairy, Hops, Chickens

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? 120

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years?

From hay sold to Portland race track, dairy and hogs to sheep and dairy to beef cattle to beef cattle and timber.

(Please continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch – Cont'd:

What are crops / livestock raised on the subject farm or ranch today?

Beef cattle, retained ownership to retailers.
Pasture for summer use
Hay for winter use.
Timber for sawlogs, pulpwood, firewood, and post and poles.

How many acres does the subject farm or ranch include today?

1,998.49 owned, 786 leased for total of 2,774 acres

How many acres are in agricultural use today?

100 percent

The Family:

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

Three

List names and birth years:

Albert Lyle Defrees, 1933
L. Dean Defrees, 1959 with wife, Sharon, 1959
D. Nathaniel (Nathan) Defrees, 1984
Tyler D. Defrees, 1986
Kallas K. Defrees 1991

Please submit two or three pages of family history narrative, including, but not limited to generational transfers of the farm or ranch. Please also submit historical & current photos of the property & family, if available. Digital format photos (at highest resolution [300 dpi] are particularly desirable, so that they may be used in publications, the CF&R Program Database or the web site. Submitted information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries' University Archives for future reference. Please send digital photos included with your application to cfr@oregonfb.org.

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved to farm or ranch from
- Significant events in the family (births, deaths, marriages, etc)
- Any major changes to operations (methods of production, etc.)
- Additional information on crops, buildings, other changes from the original farm or ranch

(Please continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation
3415 Commercial Street SE, Salem, OR 97302
503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org

Statement of Affirmation

I, Albert Lyle Defrees,
hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at Redacted for Privacy

Redacted for Privacy, in the County of Baker

has been owned by my family for at least 100 continuous years, as specified in the qualifications for the Century Farm & Ranch Program, on or before December 31 of the current calendar year. Further, I hereby affirm that this property meets all other requirements for Century Farm or Ranch honors, including that the farm or ranch has a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding making this statement. I understand that the application materials will become property of the OSU Libraries' University Archives and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

Albert L. Defrees
Signature of Owner

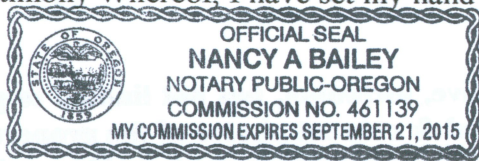
5/3/2012
Date

Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of Baker

Be it remembered, that on this 3rd day of May, 2012, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named Albert L. Defrees, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that Albert L. Defrees executed the same freely and voluntarily.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.



Nancy A. Bailey
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission Expires 9-21-15

Fees

Application Fee
(includes one certificate) \$ 65.00

Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ 65.00

For office use only

Date Received _____

Approved? Yes No

Authorization _____
Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator

Make checks payable to:

Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation or OAEF

A. Lyle Defrees

Redacted for Privacy



May 10, 2012
Sharon Leighty
Program Coordinator
Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
3415 Commercial Street SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Sharon,

Enclosed is an Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application with supporting documents. Please let me know if additional documents are needed.

I am enclosing one photograph of the main house and a second house (red roof) that is not occupied. This is a current picture. I have many old photographs but none that I felt were satisfactory for this purpose. If you feel you need more pictures, I will review what I have and see if I can find something to forward to you.

I wasn't sure how to give information about the enclosed picture:

Date picture taken: May 5, 2012

Current main house occupants: Dean Defrees and family

Second house occupants: None

Date built and builder: Main house, 1941 by Albert Defrees, father of A. Lyle Defrees

Second house (red roof), about 1925 by Jacob Defrees, grandfather of A. Lyle Defrees

Sincerely,



A. Lyle Defrees



Defrees Ranch Family History
Submitted with Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application
For Certification as a Century Ranch

The second oldest child and second son of Jared (Tjerrd) Stoffels and Josephene Fisher DeFrees was Jacob Jennings Defrees who was the grandfather of A. Lyle Defrees (aka as Albert L. Defrees) the applicant for this certification, Jacob was born at the farm place in Locke Township, Nappanee, Indiana on 8 February 1863. His family and friends usually called him Jake. Little is known about his first eighteen years of life. Likely he successfully attended grade school, maybe more. When Jake was born his father's age was thirty-one, his mother's age was nineteen. A family group sheet for Jacob's parents is attached.

At eighteen years of age, Jacob left home and went to Oregon in 1881 – some records show 1882. Perhaps he left home in 1881 and didn't arrive until 1882. Family records show he came to Oregon with his uncle, William Fisher, who was three years older. William's records show he came to Oregon in 1881. Family legend says the two rode horses from Indiana to Oregon.

Jacob lived with family and friends at Muddy Creek, Baker Valley, Baker County, Oregon starting in late 1881 or early 1882. In November of 1884 he moved to the Swan Lake Valley in Klamath County. In Swan Lake Valley Jacob managed one of the farms owned by Lucien B. Applegate who was a grandson of Lindsay Applegate of Applegate Trail fame.

William (Will) DeFrees, younger brother of Jake, moved to Klamath County with his wife, Mary E. Montgomery DeFrees immediately after they were married on 1 April 1885. It is probable he worked on the farm that Jacob was managing. The Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records show Jacob J. Defrees homesteaded 160 acres of land on 16 April 1890 and 160 acres of land on 4 October 1890 in Klamath County. The same records show William DeFrees homesteaded 120 acres plus a lot in Klamath County on 4 June 1890. Jake and Will and their siblings used different spellings of their last name including Defrees, DeFrees, and DeFreese.

Jacob's obituary says he stayed eight years in Oregon and then returned to Indiana in 1889. A Book of Autographs of Jacob's places him in Nappanee, Indiana on 18 and 19 December 1889 and in Goshen, Indiana 12 December 1889. He soon entered Parsons' Horological Institute at Peoria, Illinois to learn clock and watch making. Soon after graduating from this institute, he married Mary Jennette Wisler on 21 August 1894.

Before being married Jacob likely established a jewelry business in 1891 or 1892. This business probably operated in Indiana until he returned to Oregon in 1905. Their first and only child, Albert Dewey Defrees, was born 4 August 1898 at Nappanee, Indiana. Mary Jennette Wisler Defrees was born 1 August 1865 in Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana. She died 14 November 1944 in Oakland, California. Her parents were Isaac Wisler, born 14 February 1829, in Columbiana, Ohio. He died 14 September 1900. Her

mother was Rebecca M. Winder, born 30 October 1837 in Randolph Township, Portage, Ohio. She died on 17 March 1917 in Nappanee, Elkhart County, Indiana. A family group record of Jacob and Mary's family is attached.

In Baker County the Fisher and Vanderwall families held Dutch picnics almost every year. The 1905 picnic was held at the Baker City Park to honor the arrival of the families of Jacob Defrees and William DeFrees. Both families moved to Rock Creek where they purchased property. Jacob continued his watch and clock repair business there.

In 1907 the two brothers took their families by prairie schooner to Oakland, Douglas County, Oregon. Those on the trip were Jacob and his wife, Mary, and son, Albert, and Will and his wife, Mary, and their children, Clarence, Lora, Clifford, and Geneva. They planned to buy farms and settle in the area. Likely the Applegate brothers, Jessie, Lindsay, and Charles had some influence on their decision to move to Douglas County. Charles had a fine farm near Yoncalla. Without finding land to buy, they returned to Baker County after five days in Douglas County.

On the return trip back to Baker Valley, they stopped for the night to camp in Sumpter Valley. Their camp aroused the curiosity of the nearby neighbors who visited the travelers to ask who they were and what they were doing. Jacob and Will learned that there were 320 acres of land owned by Sidney Tibbs (maternal great-uncle of A. Lyle Defrees) that was for sale. Sidney sold the east 240 acres of his place to William DeFrees in the autumn of 1907 and the west 120 acres to Fred Sharp. County records show the deed was recorded to William C. DeFrees on 5 July 1908. Will then sold the west 120 acres to his brother Jacob J. Defrees. County records show the deed was recorded 5 October 1908.

Will and his family soon built their house where the Defrees barn now stands and his barn was built on the small hill 200 feet south of the house. Most likely Will operated Jacob's place for several years with Jacob helping with harvest. During these years Jacob, Mary, and Albert lived in Rock Creek and Jacob worked at the Haines Commercial Company selling hardware and feed and he also set up his clock and watch repair business in that store.

It was not until 1911 or later that Jacob and his family moved permanently to Sumpter Valley. In Jacob's obituary it hints that Jacob and his family moved permanently to their home in Sumpter Valley in 1919. Some records indicate the Sumpter Valley house and barn was completed in 1912.

Jacob was engaged in the dairy business in Sumpter Valley and also continued his trade as a jeweler. He retired about 1928 when his son, Albert, took charge of the ranch. Before Albert and Ellen moved to the Defrees Farm, they had been living at her father's (Alex Izatt) farm. Jacob and Mary built a small new house about 300 feet southwest of the older home about 1925.

The last two years of Jacob's life was miserable with cancer of the stomach. He died of pneumonia on 15 August 1931 at his home near McEwen, Baker County, Oregon. Upon Jacob's death the farm transferred to his wife, Mary J. Defrees. Albert and Ellen continued to manage and operate the farm and were living in the older house.

Albert Dewey and Ellen Leona Defrees were married 27 November 1922. Albert died 8 October 1983. Ellen was born 28 September 1898 and died 12 January 1996. From this marriage two boys were born: Lowell Keith, born 29 November 1924, died 3 June 1994, and Albert Lyle, born 18 December 1933. See attached Family Group Record of Albert and Ellen Defrees.

On 9 June 1932 Mary J. Defrees purchased Will's 120 acres from Will's son, Clifford DeFrees. Then on 9 December 1940 the 240 acres owned by Mary were purchased by her son, Albert Dewey Defrees. Albert and Ellen raised hay, oats, and barley. Dairy was the most important enterprise but they also raised sheep, chickens, and hogs. This changed in 1942 when the main enterprise became beef. At that time Albert had an opportunity to obtain a U. S. Forest Service grazing permit so he bought a herd of beef cows to use the grazing permit.

Albert and Ellen retired and sold the Defrees portion of the ranch to A. Lyle Defrees on 7 February 1964. Lyle married Margaret Elaine Rice in Yakima, Washington on 27 December 1956. They had three children, Nancy Kay, Lyle Dean, and Cheryl Lee. Dean, born 7 July 1959, now manages the ranch. Margaret died 1 December 2005. See the attached Family Group Record of Lyle and Margaret.

Lyle Dean Defrees is manager of the ranch and his wife, Sharon, live now live on the Defrees Ranch. Dean was born 7 July 1959 in Baker, Baker County, Oregon. Sharon was born 18 July 1959 in Wilmington, Brunswick, North Carolina. They have three children: Dean Nathaniel (Nathan), born 1 August 1984 who is presently finishing his second year at Oregon Health Science University as a medical student; Tyler Duke, born 21 December 1986 who is graduating in May, 2012 from Seattle University School of Law; and Dallas Kathryn, born 24 May 1991 who is finishing her junior year at Oregon State University. See attached Family Group Sheet.

In 2000 the ranch land was put into a family trust with A. Lyle Defrees as trustee.

The main enterprise of the ranch is natural raised beef fed and sold through a marketing cooperative directly to meat wholesalers. The second enterprise is timber. The ranch now has 1,227 acres of timberland. The timberland products are saw logs, lumber, fire wood, pulp wood, and post and poles.

To Have and to Hold the same, unto the said F W Tallmudge, his heirs and assigns forever

Witness the seal of the State Land Board affixed this 10th day of September, 1907

Geo E Chamberlain, Governor

(State of Oregon
Land Dep't Seal)

F W Benson, Secretary

G A Steel, Treasurer

State record of Deeds, Book 35, page 149

Filed for record the 15th day of October, 1908,

A. B. Smith

County clerk

---9406.3---

William H Defrees and wife

Jacob J DeFrees and wife

This Indenture Witnesseth, That William H DeFrees and Mary E DeFrees, his wife, for the consideration of the sum of Nineteen hundred and no/100 Dollars, to us paid, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain, sell and convey unto Jacob J DeFrees & Mary J DeFrees, husband and wife, jointly, the following described premises, to wit:

The East half of the southwest quarter of Section thirteen and the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section twenty-four in Tp Ten South Range No Thirty-Seven East W M, containing 120 acres of land in Baker county, Oregon.

Together with three shares in the Lockhart & Jones Ditch

To Have and to Hold the said premises, with their appurtenances, unto the said Jacob J DeFrees & Mary J DeFrees, their heirs and assigns forever. And I, the said William H DeFrees do hereby covenant to and with the said Jacob J DeFrees & Mary J DeFrees, their heirs and assigns, that I am the owner in fee simple of said premises; that they are free from all incumbrances and that I will warrant and defend the same from all lawful claims whatsoever

In Witness Whereof, we have set our hands and seals this 15th day of October, A D 1908.

Done in the presence of

E T Bowers

W S Bowers

William H Defrees

seal

Mary E Defrees

seal

Family Group Record

Husband		
Jared (Tjeerd) Stoffels DEFREES		
Born	8 Jan 1832	Place Gasterland, Gasterland, Friesland, Netherlands
Died	14 Apr 1914	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Buried	17 Apr 1914	Place Union Center Cem, Nappanee, Indiana, USA
Married	20 Dec 1860	Place , Indiana
Husband's father Stoffel Hendriks DEVRIES		
Husband's mother (Hannah) Hendrikjen Nannes WHISPHWAY		
Wife		
Josephene K. FISHER		
Born	27 Feb 1843	Place Wyckel, Gaasterland, Friesland, Netherlands
Died	25 Sep 1922	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Buried		Place Union Center Cem, Nappanee, Indiana, USA
Wife's father Klaas Haitjes FISHER		
Wife's mother Hantje Jacobs SYMENSMA		
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1 M Henry J DEFREES		
Born	27 Sep 1861	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	6 Feb 1945	Place Nappanee, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
Buried	9 Feb 1945	Place South Union Cem, Nappanee, Indiana, USA
Spouse Margaret (Maggie) LETHERMAN		
Married	4 Apr 1889	Place , Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
2 M Jacob Jennings DEFREES		
Born	8 Feb 1863	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	15 Aug 1931	Place Baker, Baker County, Oregon, USA
Buried	17 Aug 1931	Place Mt. Hope Cem, Baker, Oregon, USA
Spouse Mary Jennette WISLER		
Married	2 Aug 1894	Place Etna Green, Elkhart County, IN, USA
3 M William Clarence DEFREES		
Born	11 Nov 1865	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	15 Feb 1920	Place Portland, Multnomah, Oregon, USA
Buried	19 Feb 1920	Place Mt. Hope Cem, Baker, Oregon, USA
Spouse Mary E. MONTGOMERY		
Married	16 Apr 1885	Place Elkhart, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
4 F Hannah DEFREES		
Born	22 Apr 1870	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	31 May 1886	Place Locke Township, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
Buried		Place Union Center Cem, Nappanee, Indiana, USA
Spouse George BLILEY		
Married	12 Nov 1885	Place , Elkhart, Indiana, USA
5 M Benjamin Franklin DEFREES		
Born	20 Oct 1874	Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	23 Feb 1952	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Buried	26 Feb 1952	Place Mt. Hope Cem, Baker, Oregon, USA
Spouse Mettie A. BRASIER		
Married	2 Nov 1901	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA

Family Group Record

Husband	Jared (Tjeerd) Stoffels DEFREES	
Wife	Josephene K. FISHER	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
6	M	Otto DEFREES
	Born	27 Sep 1879 Place Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
	Died	26 Jun 1955 Place Elkhart, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
	Buried	Place Union Center C., Nappanee, Indiana, USA
	Spouse	Ida Evadelina STULL
	Married	24 Dec 1903 Place , Elkhart County, Indiana, USA

Family Group Record

Husband **Jacob Jennings DEFREES**

Born	8 Feb 1863	Place	Locke Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, USA
Died	15 Aug 1931	Place	Baker, Baker County, Oregon, USA
Buried	17 Aug 1931	Place	Mt. Hope Cem, Baker, Oregon, USA
Married	2 Aug 1894	Place	Etna Green, Elkhart County, IN, USA
Husband's father	Jared (Tjeerd) Stoffels DEFREES		
Husband's mother	Josephene K. FISHER		

Wife **Mary Jennette WISLER**

Born	1 Aug 1865	Place	Locke Township, Elkhart County, IN, USA
Died	14 Nov 1944	Place	Oakland, Alameda County, CA
Buried		Place	Baker, Baker, OR
Wife's father	Isaac WISLER		
Wife's mother	Rebecca M. WINDER		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1 M **Albert Dewey DEFREES**

Born	4 Aug 1898	Place	Nappanee, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
Died	8 Oct 1983	Place	Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Buried	13 Oct 1983	Place	Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Spouse	Ellen Leona IZATT		
Married	27 Nov 1922	Place	Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA

Family Group Record

Husband		
Albert Dewey DEFREES		
Born	4 Aug 1898	Place Nappanee, Elkhart, Indiana, USA
Died	8 Oct 1983	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Buried	13 Oct 1983	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Married	27 Nov 1922	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
Husband's father Jacob Jennings DEFREES		
Husband's mother Mary Jennette WISLER		

Wife		
Ellen Leona IZATT		
Born	28 Sep 1898	Place Sumpter, Baker, Oregon, USA
Died	12 Jan 1996	Place Baker City, Baker, Oregon, USA
Buried	19 Jan 1996	Place Baker City, Baker, Oregon, USA
Wife's father Alexander Spoward IZATT Jr.		
Wife's mother Leona Jane TIBBS		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1	M	Lowell DEFREES	
	Born	29 Nov 1924	Place McEwen, Baker, Oregon, USA
	Died	3 Jun 1994	Place Newport, Lincoln, Oregon, USA
	Buried	7 Jun 1994	Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon, USA
	Spouse Peggy Louise WIX		
	Married	7 Feb 1950	Place Weiser, Washington, Idaho, USA

2	M	Albert Lyle DEFREES	
	Born	18 Dec 1933	Place McEwen, Baker, Oregon, USA
	Spouse Margaret Elayne RICE		
	Married	27 Dec 1956	Place Yakima, Yakima, Washington, USA

Family Group Record

Husband		
Albert Lyle DEFREES		
Born	18 Dec 1933	Place McEwen, Baker, Oregon, USA
Married	27 Dec 1956	Place Yakima, Yakima, Washington, USA
Husband's father	Albert Dewey DEFREES	
Husband's mother	Ellen Leona IZATT	
Wife		
Margaret Elayne RICE		
Born	6 Feb 1934	Place Yakima, Yakima, Washington, USA
Died	1 Dec 2005	Place Sumpter Valley, Baker, Oregon
Buried	6 Dec 2005	Place Mt. Hope, Baker City, Baker, Oregon
Wife's father	Dallas Claiburn RICE	
Wife's mother	Kathryn Magdalina BOTHMAN	
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1	F Nancy Kay DEFREES	
	Born 25 May 1958	Place Yakima, Yakima, Washington, USA
	Spouse	John Harlan BOYER
	Married 19 Dec 1980	Place Seattle, King, Washington, USA
2	M Lyle Dean DEFREES	
	Born 7 Jul 1959	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
	Spouse	Sharon Jean DUKE
	Married 11 Jul 1981	Place Portland, Multnomah, OR
3	F Cheryl Lee DEFREES	
	Born 20 Apr 1961	Place Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
	Spouse	Brian Jeffery ORME
	Married 11 Aug 1983	Place Seattle, King, WA

Family Group Record

Husband Lyle Dean DEFREES		
<small>Born</small>	7 Jul 1959	<small>Place</small> Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
<small>Married</small>	11 Jul 1981	<small>Place</small> Portland, Multnomah, OR
<small>Husband's father</small> Albert Lyle DEFREES		
<small>Husband's mother</small> Margaret Elayne RICE		
Wife Sharon Jean DUKE		
<small>Born</small>	18 Jul 1959	<small>Place</small> Wilmington, Brunswick, North Carolina, USA
<small>Wife's father</small> John DUKE Jr.		
<small>Wife's mother</small> Era Jean HILL		
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1	M Dean Nathaniel DEFREES	
	<small>Born</small> 1 Aug 1984	<small>Place</small> Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
2	M Tyler Duke DEFREES	
	<small>Born</small> 21 Dec 1986	<small>Place</small> Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA
3	F Dallas Kathryn DEFREES	
	<small>Born</small> 24 Mar 1991	<small>Place</small> Baker, Baker, Oregon, USA









