



A program of the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education

Date: 4/29/2017

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Type of designation (please check one) Century Farm Century Ranch

Press Contact (please check one) YES, both applicant & contact person (if different)
 YES, Applicant only NO

(This give us permission to give members of the press who request it your contact information for possible articles about your farm or ranch)

Legal owner / Applicant name: Robert Colton, Lorene A. Colton, Michael R. Colton

Farm or Ranch Name (this is the name used in all publicity & marketing): Charles M. Colton & Sons

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant:

Redacted For Privacy

Telephone: Redacted For Privacy

E-mail address: Redacted For Privacy

Contact name (if different than legal owner): Same

Mailing address of contact: Same

Contact telephone: Same

E-mail address: Same

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

County: Baker County, OR

Distance: 8 miles from nearest town: Baker City, OR

Township: 8 Range: 40 E.W., Meridian Section: 4 & 5

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

Redacted For Privacy

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application - Continued

GPS (Global Positioning System) Coordinates, if known: Not known

Please attach a map or drawing showing the location of the eligible property within the context of the family farm or ranch.

Founder(s):

Original family owner(s) or founder(s): William H. Colton and Charles H. Colton

Founder(s) prior Country or State if not Oregon: Oregon

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s): March 28, 1917
(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today?: The ranch is currently operated by Robert & Lorene Colton and their son, Michael Colton and his wife Kathy Colton

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Clearly explain lineage from original ownership documents to current applicant. (See Application Qualification #7): Robert L. Colton is the great grandson of William H., the grandson of Charles H. and the son of Charles M. Michael R. Colton is the great, great grandson of William H., the great grandson of Charles H., the grandson of Charles M. and the son of Robert L.

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? 480 acres

How many acres are included today in the farm or ranch? 320 acres

How many acres are in agricultural use today? 320 acres

If the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, please explain the owner's role in this relationship. For example, is the owner actively involved in the management of the land?

This ranch has never been rented or leased.

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:

What were the early crops or livestock? We raised sheep for wool and meat as well as replacement ewes for some Idaho ranchers. We also used land for pasture and grass hay.

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years? We began buying cows and yearling calves about 1960 to gradually build up a herd. The sheep were sold in 1973 as we were unable to continue taking them to high mountain pasture in the summer time

What are crops / livestock raised on the farm or ranch today? We currently raise cattle and grass hay.

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued

History of buildings:

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

When was the first house built? If it is still in use, describe the changes that have been made. It is unknown when the first house was actually built. There was a fire in or about 1935. Another house was immediately built in the same place and is currently in use by Bob and Lorene Colton. A second bathroom has been added, the kitchen has been expanded and a mudroom and laundry room were installed. Another house was moved onto the property in 1938. Mike and Kathy Colton live in that house. An upstairs apartment was added in the 1960's for Edna Colton to live in when Charles H. died.

What years were other structures built (examples: barns, silos, machine shops, coops, smokehouses, dryers, etc.). Describe the changes that have been made to them, including any demolition. A barn was built in 1928 and is still in use as is a shop, built in 1953. A certified scale was built in the late 1960's and is still used. Other ranchers in the area have also used the scale from time to time.

The family:

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today? Three generations live on the ranch at this time.

List names and birth years: Robert L. Colton, born 1938
 (Wife) Lorene Colton, born 1940
 Michael R. Colton, born 1961
 (Wife) Kathryn L. Colton, born 1966
 Jonathan R. Woolard, born 1990

The family history narrative:

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. Do *not* send original documents as they will not be returned. Digital format photos (at highest resolution [300 dpi]) are particularly desirable, so that they may be used in publications, the program's database or the web site. Submitted information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please send digital photos included with your application to cfr@oregonfb.org by **May 1**.

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved from to farm or ranch
- 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
- Any special family farm or ranch stories you'd like to share, passing on techniques, interesting characters, & family folklore

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Statement of Affirmation

I, Michael Robert Colton

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 – Special Collections & Archives Research Center and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

Michael Robert Colton
Signature of Owner

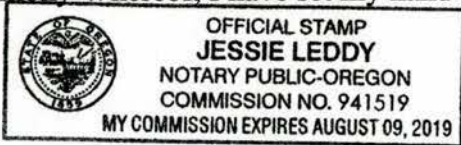
5-1-17
Date

Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of Baker

Be it remembered, that on this 1st day of May, 2017, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named Michael Colton, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that Michael Colton 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.



Jessie Leddy
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission Expires August 09, 2019

Fees

Application Fee (includes one certificate & Roadside sign, Note \$50 of this fee is non-refundable) \$ 250.00

Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ _____

Additional Signs (\$200 each)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

For office use only

Date Received _____

Approved? Yes No

Authorization _____

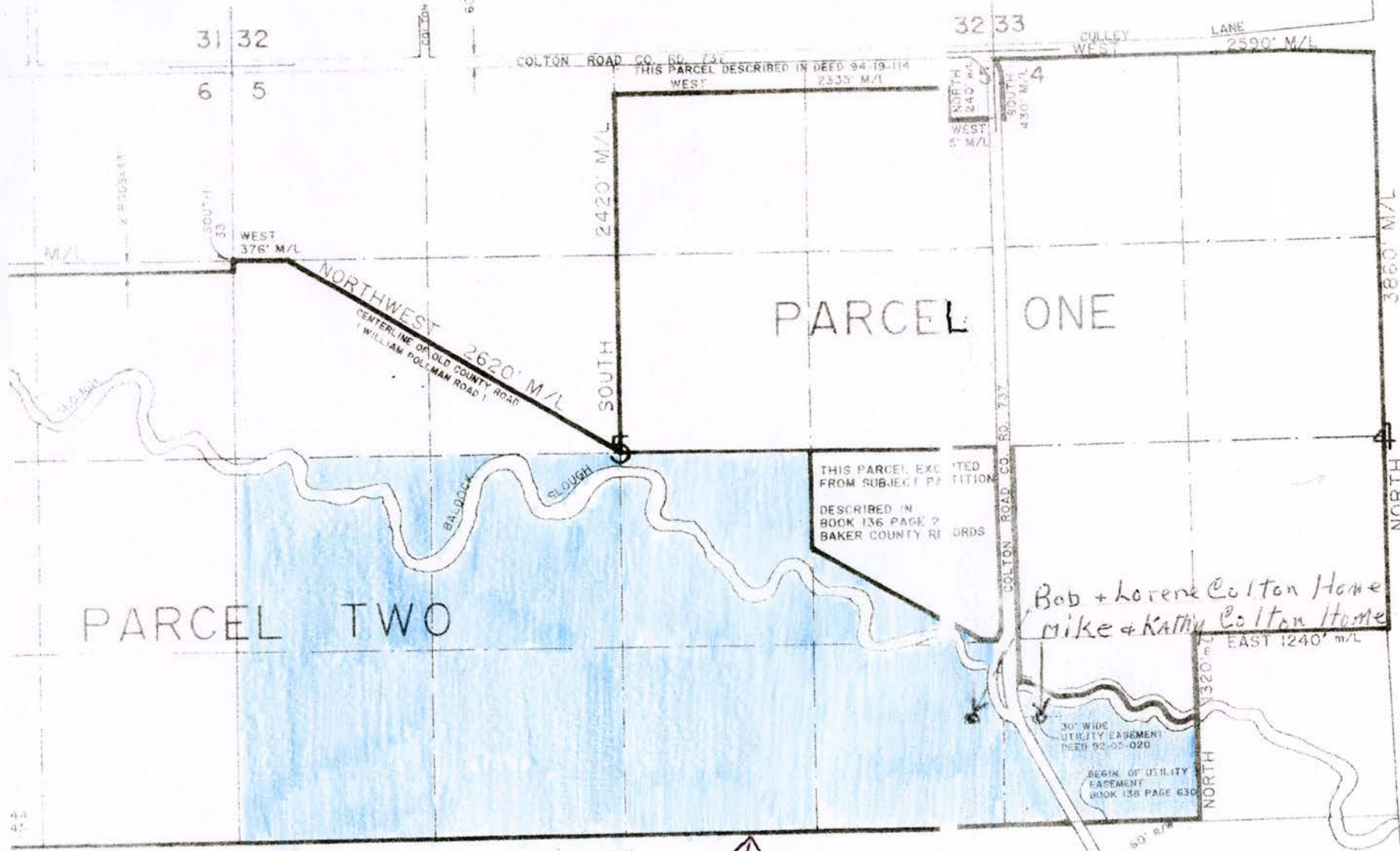
Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator

Make checks payable to: Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education

SECTIONS
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Page 214

Bob + Lorene Colton Home
Mike + Kathy Colton Home

Shaded Area ↑ 100 year ownership
Land Owned by Charles M Colton + Sons Inc.
WATER RIGHTS

NARR

The purp
partition
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of the a

**Oregon Agricultural Education
Foundation**

[Charles M. Colton & Sons]

[April 29, 2017]

Judith Mason

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program

A program of the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education

Application Guidelines



Background

The Century Farm & Ranch Program is a nonprofit, volunteer-led program to honor farm and ranch families with century-long connections to the land and recognize Oregon's rich agricultural heritage. The program is administered through the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education and is partially funded through a partnership with the Oregon Farm Bureau, the State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon State University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center, and community members throughout Oregon.

All applications are added to the OSU Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center. They provide valuable information about settlement patterns, livestock and crop choices, building design and family history. Successful applicants receive a distinctive certificate, with acknowledgement by the governor of Oregon and the director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and metal roadside sign identifying the historical Century Farm or Century Ranch at a special awards ceremony at the Oregon State Fair.

Qualifications

1. Only the legal owner(s) of the property may apply for the Century Farm or Century Ranch status.
2. The farm or ranch must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more. A farm or ranch settled any time 100 years ago or earlier will be eligible if it meets other requirements.
3. The farm or ranch must have 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 the application.
4. If living off the farm or ranch, or if the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, the owning family must actively manage and direct the farming or ranching activity on the land. Contact 503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org if you have any questions about eligibility.
5. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, siblings, or nephews and nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with other descendants.
6. Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the Century Farm and Ranch Program with all questions completed. Applicants must submit a narrative of family history, two to three pages in length that adds to the information included in the application. Copies of historical and current photographs of the farm or ranch and family are encouraged. All information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries' – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please do not send in original photos and/or documents, as all items sent with your application are **NOT** returned. Please send in quality copies of documents that support your application. Applications should include 4-5 digital photos from your application and sent to cfr@oregonfb.org by **May 1**.
7. All applications must include verification of continuous ownership for 100 years. Acceptable forms of proof include a document (high quality photocopy) showing date of earliest ownership. This may be provided through a Donation Land Claim, Deed of Sale, or Homestead Certificate. Other records, subject to review, include a family Bible, diary entry, or correspondence.
8. Applications must be signed and certified by a Notary Public.

9. Deadline for returning applications is **May 1** of the current year and must be postmarked by midnight.

Researching Farm and Ranch History

The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program website has tips on gathering information about farm and ranch history. The website is located at www.oregonfb.org/centuryfarm.

Completing the Application

This application is a Word document. You can fill information in as you answer the questions. You may notice the page adjusting as you enter text. That is OK. You can also submit a completed photocopy of this form.

Fees

A \$250 fee is required with each application. This fee covers administrative costs and includes one certificate and one roadside sign. Additional certificates may be ordered at the time of application at \$20 each and roadside signs at \$200 each. Make checks payable to **OAEF dba Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education**.

Where to Send Completed Application Packets

Send the completed application (including the family history narrative, map and digital photos), Statement of Affirmation, your documentation, and sign and certificate order form, with fee payment, to:

**Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education
1320 Capitol St. NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301**

Do *not* send original documents, as they will not be returned. We recommend that you make a copy of your completed application before mailing. It makes a wonderful single source of farm information for years to come.

Review Process and Notification

All applications are checked for completeness by the program coordinator and reviewed by the Program Board. All applicants will be notified about their status by July 1.

Honoring Ceremony

Successful applicants, their families and neighbors are invited to a special ceremony at the Oregon State Fair to receive the certificate. The certificate has the name of the farm or ranch and is suitable for framing.

Still Have Questions About the Program?

Contact: **Andréa Kuenzi, Program Coordinator, at 503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org**

Thank you for helping us preserve Oregon's rich agriculture heritage and the important role it plays in keeping the state a healthy and vital place for Oregon residents and visitors. For more information about the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program visit www.oregonfb.org/centuryfarm.

Century Ranch Application – Family History Narrative

In 1879, William H. Colton rode horse-back from California to Pendleton Oregon. He set up and operated a water-powered sawmill on Butter Creek, south of Pendleton. In 1880, William married Caroline Thrasher and together, they operated the mill until 1889. They began their family during this time and eventually had ten children.

In 1889, William and Caroline sold their logging oxen and bought a small band of sheep and moved into Baker County, settling in the Richland area. They began increasing their sheep herds in that area and pastured them in the summer in the Wallowa Mountains. This was several years before the U.S. Forest Service was established. The Eagle Cap range was used by the family for 72 years until the sheep were sold in 1973.

On March 28th, 1917, William H. Colton and one of his sons, Charles H. Colton and his wife Edna Love Colton bought land in Baker Valley. Charles wrote "About that time the Grier place was being offered for sale and I thought I would try to buy it. I called my father on the phone and told him to go to the bank and see if they would let me have the money, which would amount to \$14,000. Mr. Pollman said he didn't think the land was worth that much. My father told him that they could just suit themselves if they didn't want to make the loan but he knew other places where I could get it. Pollman said he didn't mean that he couldn't have it but he just didn't think it was worth what I was paying. He said, however, he would go ahead and make the loan. I had instructed my father during our phone conversation not to sign the note with me, but he was authorized to sign my name, which he did." This was taken from the writings of Charles H. Colton. The reason William H. talked to the bank was that Charles H. was busy lambing with the sheep out on Rock Creek. In the fall of 1917, after a good lamb crop and a good price (\$9.60) the bank was paid in full for the Grier place.

William H. Colton was 62 in 1917 and because of his severe asthma, now lived in Baker City where he and Caroline had purchased a home in 1908, but he continued to make frequent trips out to the Baker Valley ranch. He died on March 24th, 1931.

Charles H. Colton continued in the sheep business with help from Charles M. Colton and Walter Colton as these sons became old enough to help. Charles H. Colton contracted spotted fever from a tick bite in May of 1929. He was unconscious most of the time and nearly died. He was in the hospital

about a month and was very weak for a long time. Charles M. was barely 15 at that time and was helping take care of the sheep. As the years went by Charles H. and Charles M. were involved in the ranch together. To many friends they became known as "Old Charlie" and "Young Charlie".

Charles M. Colton began his specialized breeding program for purebred Rambouillet ewes around 1935. Except for the replacement ewes, they were bred to Hampshire rams for slaughter lambs. Some years later Young Charlie began breeding the ewes to Colombia rams. The ewe lambs from this Colombia cross were sold to Idaho sheepmen for their replacement ewes. All the sheep were sold in 1973. Charles M. had come to a time when he could no longer tend the camps in the Eagle Cap area. It was decided to raise only cattle on the lower ranch land.

One haying story was the morning Charles M.'s mother, Edna, saw a very small son come through the kitchen with his bedroll over his shoulder. She asked him where he was going and young Charlie's reply was that he was heading to hay camp. Hay camp was about one and one half miles from the main house and that was where the worker's meals were served. Charlie was about five or six years old at the time.

The meadowland produced grass hay and pasture. All the haying was done with horses, using mowers, rakes, haybucks and the Jenkins haystacker. In 1936 the first tractor was purchased, a John Deere Model B with a mower. This tractor was used up into the 70's and 80's. The original intent of the tractor mower was to open up the fields for the horse mowers, but it wasn't very long before the horse mowers were discontinued. Additional tractors and hay rakes and power haybucks came into use. In 1960 a large diesel-powered haystacker for stacking loose hay was built on the ranch. This was used until 1997 when round balers came into use. We continued with round balers until 2015 when a 3 by 4 square baler was purchased and is still in use today.

In 1960 the ranch was incorporated, forming Charles M. Colton & Sons, Inc. Charles and sons Fred, Robert and Gordon and daughter Kathy were the stockholders. Fred and Kathy later sold their stock back to the corporation. Charles M. Colton & Sons, Inc. was then owned by Charles M. Colton, Robert L. Colton and Gordon E. Colton. In 1979 Charles M. Colton sold all his shares of stock to Robert Colton and Gordon Colton. In 1994 Charles M. Colton & Sons was divided into two parcels. Robert Colton remained Charles M. Colton & Sons, Inc. and Gordon's share became Colton Cattle Co. The land qualifying for 100 year ownership is still owned by Charles M. Colton & Sons, Inc.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That Lillie G. Daly and J.W. Daly her husband, Vesta Langrell and Charles S. Langrell, her husband, and Clara Grier (unmarried), all of Baker Oregon, and Pearl Shrader and Pearl M. Shrader, her husband, both of Sacramento, California, grantors herein, and all the sole heirs and next of kin of Sylvester Grier and Matilda Grier, both late of Baker County, Oregon, Deceased, for the consideration of Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, to them in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do hereby bargain, sell and Convey unto W.H. Colton of Baker County, State of Oregon, the following described lands and real property lying and being situate in said county of Baker and State of Oregon, to wit;

The southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section four (4), and the west half of the southeast quarter of section five (5), and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section five (5), and the southwest quarter of section five (5), and the north half of the northeast quarter of section eight (8) and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section eight (8) and the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section eight (8), all in township eight (8) south, of range number forty (40) east of Willamette Meridian, and containing 480 acres of land, more or less. The grantors hereby reserving the garage situate on said premises and the telephone in the residence situate thereon.

To Have and To Hold the above described real property and premises ~~and real property~~, together with the water and irrigation rights and ditches, tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, unto the said W.H. Colton, and to his heirs and assigns forever.

And the grantors above named do hereby covenant to and with the said W.H. Colton, grantee herein, that they are the owners in fee simple of said above described premises; that they are free from all incumbrances and that they will forever warrant and defend the same against all lawful demands whatsoever, *excepting the taxes for A.D. 1917.*

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals on this the Twentyeighth day of March A.D. 1917.

Done in the presence of;

_____	<u>Lillie G. Daly</u> seal
_____	<u>J.W. Daly</u> seal
_____	<u>Vesta Langrell</u> seal
<u>Himmie Dempsey</u>	<u>Charles S. Langrell</u> seal
<u>J. Messick</u>	<u>Clara Grier</u> seal
_____	<u>Pearl M. Shrader</u> seal
_____	<u>Pearl Shrader</u> seal

Witnesses for Pearl Shrader) and Pearl M. Shrader;	
<u>Geo. M. L. Foster</u>	
<u>Miss B.M. Shepard</u>	

86-346

COMPARED

INDEXED

General Warranty Deed.

412

Lillian G. Daly et al
Grantors
to
W. H. Ceston
Grantee
Chas. Felton City

State of Oregon }
County of Baker } SS.

I certify that the within instru-
ment of writing was received for
record on the 1st day of May
A. D. 1917, at 1:00 o'clock
P. M., and Recorded in Book
on page 116 Record of Deeds
of said County.

Witness my hand.
A. P. Counts Jr.

By Mary H. Reed

140 pa. J.H.P.

STATE OF OREGON,)
) ss:
County of Baker.)

I, J. W. Dely, being first duly sworn, depose and say that S. Greer, the grantee mentioned and described in that certain deed from the State of Oregon covering the Northwest quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$) of the Southeast quarter (SE $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section Five (5) in Township Eight (8) South, of Range Forty (40) East of Willamette Meridian, bearing date of February 25, 1884, and the Sylvester Grier mentioned and described in that certain abstract of title No. 3799 prepared by W.S. Bowers, and bearing date of March 15, 1917, is one and the same person.

J. W. Dely

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day
of April, 1917.

J. W. Dely
Notary Public for Oregon.

My commission expires Sept. 1, 1919.

State of Oregon)

County of Baker) ss.

On this 28th day of March A.D. 1917 personally appeared before me, county judge of said county and state, the within named Lillie G. Daly and J.W. Daly, her husband, Vesta Langrell and Charles S. Langrell, her husband, and Clara Grier (unmarried), known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the foregoing and within instrument as grantors to W.H. Colton, grantee, and acknowledged to me, each for herself and for himself, and not one for the other, that they executed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein named.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand on this the day and year last above written.



County Judge of Baker County, Oregon.

State of California)

County of Sacramento) ss.

On this the 1st day of April A.D. 1917, personally appeared before me, a notary public in and for said county and state, the within named Pearl Shrader and Pearl M. Schrader, her husband, known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the foregoing and within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein named.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal on this the day and year last above written.



Notary Public for California.

My commission expires on the 1st day of December 1918.

OREGON CENTURY FARM & RANCH PROGRAM
2017 Applicant Approval Checklist

Name of applicant Robert, Lorene, Michael

Name of Farm or Ranch Charles M. Colton & Sons County Baker

Notarized yes ___ no Posted by May 1 yes ___ no \$250 Application yes ___ no

Other fees (additional certificates, @ \$20 ea.), amount \$ \$0

Total fees pd. \$ 250.00

1. Applicant is legal owner yes ___ no other _____

2. 100 years of continuous operation by same family yes ___ no

Comments 1917

3. Not less than \$1,000 gross income per year for three out of last five years yes ___ no

Comments _____

4. Living on or actively managing and directing the farming or ranching activity on the land yes ___ no

Comments _____

5. Line of ownership from original settler or buyer through children, siblings, nephews or nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with other descendants yes ___ no

6. Official form used with all questions answered completely, including narrative yes ___ no

Comments _____

7. Documentation showing the date of earliest ownership (Donation Land Claim, Deed of Sale, Homestead Certificate, Family Bible, diary entry, or correspondence) yes ___ no

Comments Deed Records

Photos included with application yes ___ no Sent digital photos yes ___ no

Additional information needed from applicant _____

Concerns or questions _____

Application Approval/Reviewer Notes Identification of Family Stories for Narratives:

Reviewer #1: Initials GD

Notes: Colter & Sam - 320A Sheep made
the money now Cattle is Outside pen

Reviewer #2: Initials: PA

Notes: Great narrative w/ family anecdotes. Curious if sheep were
* Sold due to Eagle cap ~~wilderness~~ wilderness designation. (doesn't impact application).

Reviewer #3: Initials: JF

Notes:
Deed, chain of ownership ✓

Reviewer #4: Initials: JUP

Notes: Looks Good

Reviewer #5: Initials: MFB & Histell

Notes: Doesn't seem that any of the orig blgs still exist

Provide at meeting:

- Blank copies of applications
- Copies of drafted narratives sent on hand
- Print digital pictures for review if only send digital
- Model "Timeline" added to application materials for applicants * This was not done, will do in 2016