

**OREGON CENTURY FARM & RANCH PROGRAM**  
**2017 Applicant Approval Checklist**

Name of applicant David & Bonnie Brown

Name of Farm or Ranch Four Ridge Orchards County Wash. Co.

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

Other fees (additional certificates, @ \$20 ea.), amount \$ (3) 60.00  
Total fees pd. \$ 310.00

1. Applicant is legal owner  yes \_\_\_ no other \_\_\_\_\_

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

Comments 1908

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

Comments notary

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

Photos included with application \_\_\_ yes  no Sent digital photos \_\_\_ yes  no

Additional information needed from applicant photos needed - emailed contact 6/8/17

Dig. is fine

Concerns or questions \_\_\_\_\_

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

Reviewer #1: Initials LAL OR - PENDING RECEIPT OF PHOTOS

Notes: APPLICANT NEEDS TO SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR APPLICATION TO BE COMPLETE.  
THIS FARM MAY BE OLDER THAN THE STATED 1908 DATE.

Reviewer #2: Initials: RHS 1908 - original deed

Notes: Needs pix This farm started ...  
of

Reviewer #3: Initials: BNP Need photos

Notes:

Reviewer #4: Initials: RA

Notes: Photos?

Reviewer #5: Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

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



A program of the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education

Date: March, 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 **David A. Brown, Bonnie D. Brown**

Farm or Ranch Name (this is the name used in all publicity & marketing) **Four Ridge Orchards**

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant **Redacted For Privacy**

Telephone **Redacted For Privacy** E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name (if different than legal owner) **Dan Brown**

Mailing address of contact **Redacted For Privacy**

Contact telephone **Redacted For Privacy** E-mail address **Redacted For Privacy**

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

County: **Redacted For Privacy**

Distance: **7 miles South** \_\_\_\_\_ from nearest town  
**Hillsboro**

Township **2S** Range **3W** Section **1**

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 \_\_\_\_\_

**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) **Finis Brown**

Founder(s) prior Country or State if not Oregon **N/A** (Born in Oregon) \_\_\_\_\_

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

*(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7) (copy of deed included)*

Who farms or ranches the land today? **David Brown, Dan Brown, Jeff Brown**

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Clearly explain lineage from original ownership documents to current applicant. *(See Application Qualification #7)* **David is grandson of Finis Brown. Dan and Jeff are sons of David. (Lee Brown, who owned farm between Finis and David, was David's father and son of Finis).**

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? **80** \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres are included today in the farm or ranch? **55** \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres are in agricultural use today? **45** \_\_\_\_\_

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?

**N/A**

### History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:

What were the early crops or livestock?

**Dairy cattle, hay, grain crops, other variety crops.**

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

**First walnuts planted around 1940 on former pasture. Dairy herd sold around 1970. Primarily grain grown in 1970s. First filberts planted in 1978. Crops remain walnuts and filberts**

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

**Walnuts and filberts**

*(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.

**The first house, belonging to Finis, was built around time of purchase (1908) and occupied by Finis until his death in 1965. This house sat vacant until early 1990s, when it was torn down as a hazard. The garage associated with this house remains and is in use as equipment storage.**

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 house for Finis' son Lee Brown was constructed in the early 1930s and has been since added onto on multiple occasions. This house still stands and is in use.**
- Additional houses for David (1979) and Dan (2016) were subsequently added.**
- Main hay barn was built in 1930s and remains in use today. It's 2 associated silos were demolished in the 1970s.**
- Most recent dairy milking shed was built in early 1950s and remains, repurposed as storage.**
- Cattle loafing shed was built around 1955 and was subsequently converted around 1990 to serve as walnut storage and packing facility. This building was razed and replaced with modern walnut storage and packing facility in 2014.**
- Hazelnut and walnut wash line and dehydrator was constructed in 1993 and remains in use.**
- Machine shop was constructed in 1973 and remains in use.**
- Equipment storage shed was constructed in 1970s and remains in use.**
- Additional timber frame storage barn was constructed in 2010.**

### **The family:**

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

3

List names and birth years:

**David Brown (1952)**

**First walnuts planted around 1940 on former pasture. Dairy herd sold around 1970. Primarily grain grown in 1970s. First filberts planted in 1978. Crops remain walnuts and filberts**

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

**Walnuts and filberts**

*(Continue application on next page)*

## **Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued**

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

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- Additional timber frame storage barn was constructed in 2010.**

### **The family:**

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

3

List names and birth years:

**David Brown (1952)**

**Bonnie Brown (1955)**

**Jeffrey Brown (1979) – Son of David and Bonnie**

**Daniel Brown (1986) – Son of David and Bonnie**

**Julia Brown (1980) – Wife of Jeffrey**

**Annabelle Brown (2011) Daughter of Jeffrey and Julia**

**Madeline Brown (2013) Daughter of Jeffrey and Julia**

**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](mailto: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, DAVID A. BROWN

hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at Redacted For Privacy

Redacted For Privacy, in the County of WASHINGTON

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.

David A Brown

4-19-17

Signature of Owner

Date

## Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of Washington

Be it remembered, that on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named David a Brown, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that David a Brown 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.



Christina Camarena  
Notary Public for Oregon

My Commission Expires July 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

### 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**

**Date only no text**

# Brown Family Farm History

The story of the Browns farming in Laurel actually begins one generation before the purchase of the subject property. William (Sody) Brown came to Laurel (by way of Sheridan and McMinnville) from Missouri in 1875 at which time he purchased and farmed with his wife Mary, land adjacent to the subject property. It was upon this land that Finis, the last of six sons, was born. Finis purchased the subject parcel from his uncle Jim H. Brown (brother of Sody) July 13, 1908, and that is where the story of our Century Farm begins.

Finis had married Christie (Little) in 1903. Together, they lived on the parcel belonging to Sody Brown until 1908 when they purchased the subject parcel (80 acres) for \$4100.00 and farmed a herd of milk cows and other diversified crops. Shortly after the death of his wife Mary in 1906, Sody made his home with son Finis on the subject property until his death in 1927. Finis and Christie raised 5 children on this farm including Beatrice, Glen (died in infancy), Albert (who went by his middle name Lee), Helen (who died at age 4), and Lillie. Bea and Lillie moved off the farm, but Lee stayed on the farm and operated it in partnership with his father. Lee later purchased the farm, along with additional land along Bald Peak Rd., which he farmed until he retired. Christie died in 1955, Finis in 1965. Lee was married to Bernice (Christensen) in 1931, and they had 4 children: Dennis, Linda, David, and Marvin. Lee passed away in December of 1995, followed shortly by Bernice in January of 1996.

The dairy operation continued alongside other crops including grains and alfalfa, with some of the ground being planted to walnut trees somewhere around 1940. The herd was sold and the dairy operation discontinued around 1970, at which point the farm produced walnuts and grain crops as well as some hay until the first filberts were planted in 1978. It was at this time that the farm converted (aside from a few beef cows for family consumption) completely to nut crops which continue to this day. It was also around this time (late 1970s to early 1980s) that primary operation of the farm changed hands to Lee's sons David and Marvin.

In addition to changing crops and changing of the generational guard, this period proved to be a time of major transition for other reasons. The farm was incorporated as Four Ridge Orchards, Inc. in the late 1970s. The corporation has always been fully held within the family. At this time, living on the farm were Lee and Bernice, (home farm), daughter Linda and her husband Terry and their sons, (home farm), son David and his wife Bonnie, (home farm), and son Marvin and his wife Patsy (adjacent acreage, but part of the active farming operation). Son Denny never lived on the farm after childhood. David and Bonnie had three children: Jeffrey, who lives with his wife Julia and their two daughters Annabelle and Madeline on land adjacent to the home place, purchased in 2012), Rebecca, who lives off the farm, and Daniel, who lives on the farm. 10 acres of the original 80 had been given to Linda, and an additional 15 acres of the original 80 had been sold off in the late 1970s. This left about 55 acres of the subject parcel in family ownership, with about 45 acres under filbert or walnut trees with the rest divided up into building sites, driveways, and brush ground.

As previously mentioned, by 1980, the farm had completely converted to nut crops in the form of filberts (hazelnuts) and walnuts. In the early days of nut farming, our filberts were hauled to the Hazelnut Growers Coop in Cornelius, where they were dried and packed; and walnuts were hauled to the nearby Denfeld farm where they were dried and packed. Around 1990, we assembled our first walnut sort line, and began packing (though not yet drying) our walnuts here on the farm. In 1994, we constructed a wash line and nut dryer that would handle both our filberts and our walnuts. This facility remains in use to this day. Around this time, the fifth generation of Brown farmers (in the persons of David's and Marvin's children) began making contributions to the farming operation.

It should be noted that around the late 1980s and early 1990s, the future of nut farming in Oregon was very much in doubt. Walnut production had dwindled to a few farms in the state, and Eastern Filbert Blight was taking a terrible toll on orchards around the state, including ours. Despite this, we continued to exclusively farm nuts. It wasn't until the middle of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup>

century that filbert varieties resistant to filbert blight were released. We've begun planting these varieties on newly purchased land, and will slowly convert our existing orchards over the next decade or so.

In 2007, David and Marvin, having inherited the farm from father Lee, agreed to split the farm in half, with Marvin holding everything north of Bald Peak Rd, and David and his wife Bonnie taking everything to the south of the road, including all of the remaining (55 acres) subject property. The home farm had grown by acquisition of neighboring land by that time to around 200 acres. David's portion, that included the subject parcel was about 98 acres. In 2012, an additional 82 acres of adjacent land to the east was purchased by David and Bonnie, bringing the total acreage owned to roughly 180 acres.

This brings us to the present day. We're still actively farming on the original home place as well as purchased adjacent land. Primary operation has begun to shift to the 5<sup>th</sup> generation of Browns (4<sup>th</sup> on the subject parcel) in the persons of Daniel and Jeffrey Brown, and the first members of the 6<sup>th</sup> generation are living on the farm.

Know All Men by These Presents, That J. A. Brown and  
L. J. Brown his wife  
of Hillsboro County of Washington State of Oregon, in consideration of  
Forty one hundred DOLLARS  
to them paid by F. L. Brown  
of Laurel County of Wash. State of Oregon, the receipt whereof is  
hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and  
convey unto said F. L. Brown heirs, assigns, all the following  
bounded and described real property, situate in the County of Washington, State of Oregon.

To wit: The west 1/2 of the S.W. quarter of  
Sec. 1 in T. 2 S. Range 3 W. Gill Nev.  
containing Eighty (80) A.

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any-  
wise appertaining, and also their estate, right, title and interest in and to the same, including dower and  
claim of dower.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described and granted premises unto the said  
F. L. Brown his  
heirs and assigns forever. And J. A. Brown and L. J. Brown,  
his wife  
grantor above named do covenant to and with F. L. Brown

the above named grantee his heirs and assigns that they the owner s in fee simple of the above  
granted premises, that they are free from all incumbrances

except one mty for \$1300 in favor of  
Wm. Seigrist & one mty in favor of Mrs. W. Seigrist for \$1000 both  
of which mtys grantee herein assumes & agrees to pay as part of purchase  
price; also one lease with J. H. Dance which grantee agrees  
to assume on part of J. A. Brown.

and that all will and our heirs, executors and administrators shall  
warrant and forever defend the above granted premises, and every part and parcel thereof, against the lawful  
claims and demands of all persons whomsoever. except to said mtgs and lease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and seals this 13th  
day of Feb. A. D. 1905

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presence of us as  
Witnesses. J. H. Brown (Seal)  
L. J. Brown (Seal)  
J. Chusatti (Seal)  
Wm. Seigrist (Seal)

Call

4378

Warranty Deed.

TO

STATE OF OREGON, }  
County of Washington } ss.

I, Killis Ireland

Recorder of Conveyances in and for said County, do hereby certify that foregoing instrument of writing was received for record on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of Feb A. D. 1908, at 1<sup>20</sup> o'clock P.M., and recorded on page 333 in book 78 of Records of Dads of said County.

WITNESS my hand hereunto set and seal of office this 13<sup>th</sup> day of Feb, A. D. 1908.  
Killis Ireland  
Recorder of Conveyances.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

STATE OF OREGON,  
County of Washington, } ss

THIS CERTIFIES, That on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of Feb, A. D. 1908

before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said

County and State, personally appeared the within named J. W. Bump and

J. W. Bump

known to me to be

the identical person 5 described in and who executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that

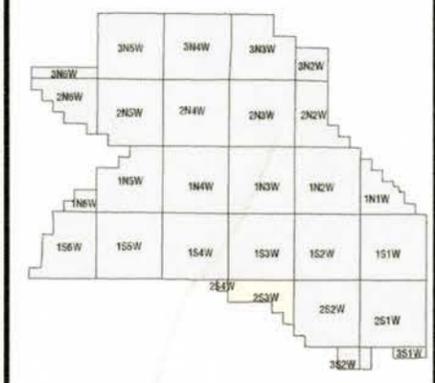
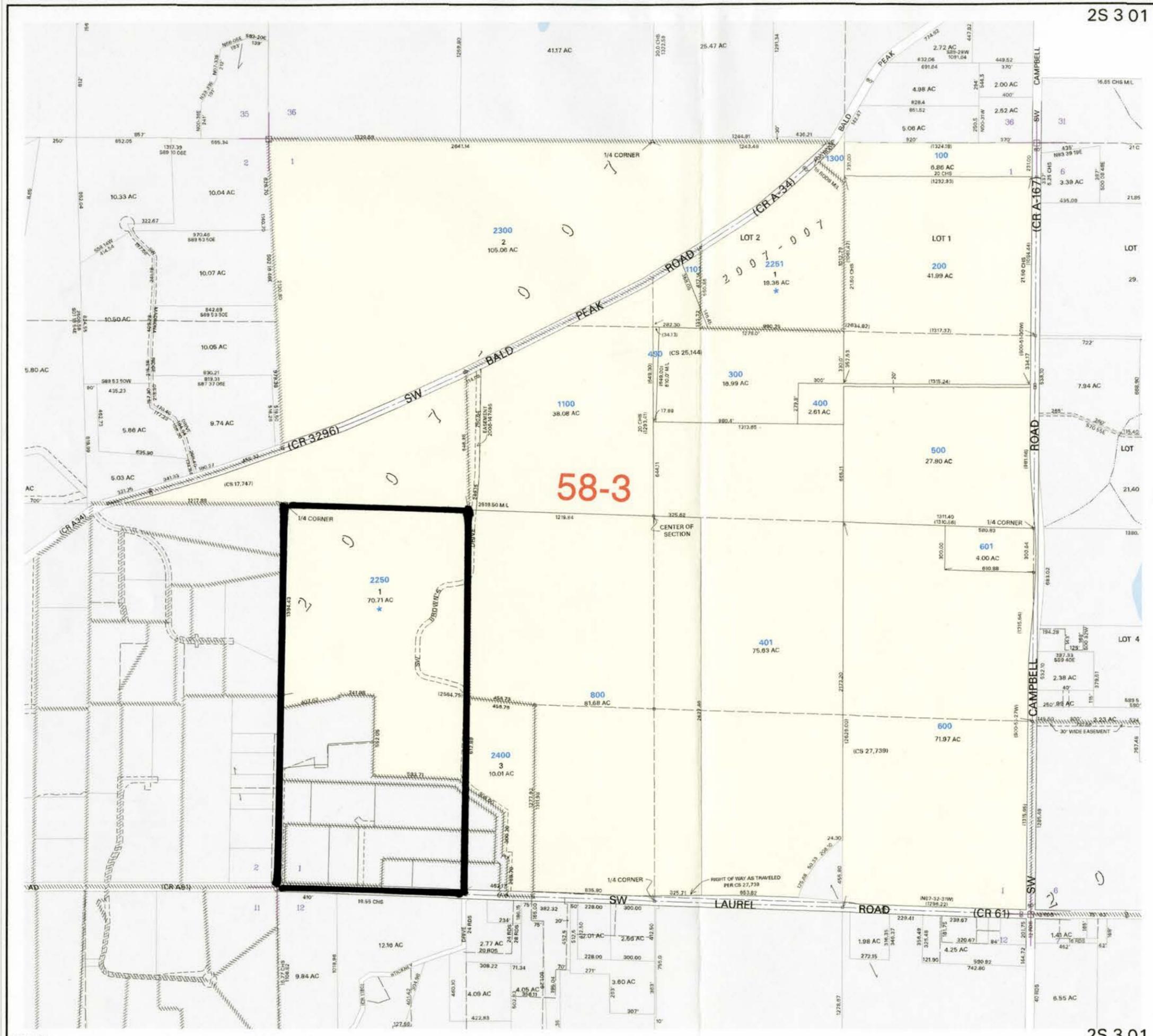
they executed the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal the day and year last

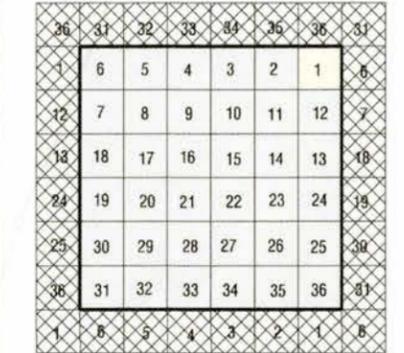
above written.

M. B. Bump  
Notary Public for Oregon.

From the Office of  
M. B. Bump,  
Attorney - at - Law.  
Hillsboro, - Ore.



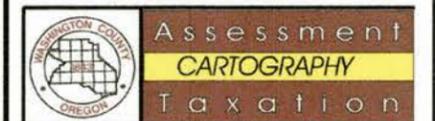
**WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON**  
SECTION 01 T2S R3W W.M.  
SCALE 1" = 400'



FOR ADDITIONAL MAPS VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT  
[www.co.washington.or.us](http://www.co.washington.or.us)

BB	BA	AB	AA
B		A	
BC	BD	AC	AD
CB	CA	DB	DA
C		D	
CC	CD	DC	DD

Cancelled Taxlots For: 2S301  
1090, 1400, 1490, 1200, 1500, 1007, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1010, 1012, 1009, 1008, 900, 901, 1011, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900, 2000, 2100, 1050, 1051, 1052, 2200, 2250-A2, 700, 2250-A1, 2300-A1.



**PLOT DATE: February 04, 2016**  
**FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY - DO NOT RELY ON FOR OTHER USE**

Map areas delineated by either gray shading or a cross-hatched pattern are for reference only and may not indicate the most current property boundaries. Please consult the appropriate map for the most current information.



**Brown Family Century Farm**  
Red outline: Original Land Purchase 1908  
Yellow outline: Portion of Original Purchase Remaining in 2017





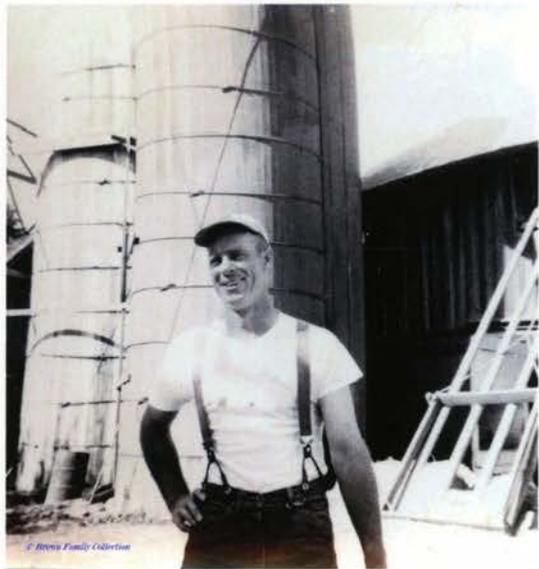
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