

CFR 0405

Mrs. Annis Tilgner

A F F I D A V I T

STATE OF OREGON)
)
 County of Polk) ss.

Gilliam D.C.

I, Mrs. Annis Tilgner, residing at Dallas, Route 2, County of Polk, State of Oregon, being first duly sworn, under oath do depose and say:

I am the grand-daughter of Andrew Jackson Gilliam who took up a Donation Land Claim in November, 1847. My father was William Douglas Gilliam and my father inherited the farm from his father and in turn I have inherited 50 acres of the original D.L.C. Four generation have lived on this farm.

The Donation Land Claim Survey of 1854 shows A. J. Gilliam and the Township Survey Map of 1852 shows the Gilliam farm. This farm being in Polk County five miles Southwest of Dallas on the Dallas-Falls City Road.

I have deeds in my possession verifying possession of this property.

Further the deponent sayeth not:

Mrs. Annis Tilgner

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Oregon this 16 day of July, 1958.

Ralph P. Howe
 My commission expires 2/20/62

Dallas, Oreg.

Aug 27, 1965.

Dear Mr. Maple:

I was looking over the Century Farmer list; in some of the papers, like Capital Press & others and I noticed that my name has been omitted.

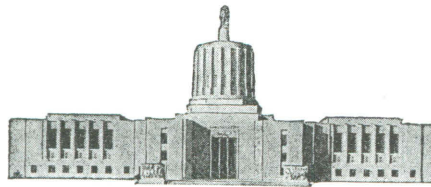
I received a letter with blanks to fill out last month from F. F. Short - Director of State Dept. of Agricul. to send in. I did so immediately, as I'm very much interested in the Century Farmer and attended the 1958, 1959 and 1960 meetings.

I am the Historian of our Gilliam Family Clan and the Pioneers mean a lot to me. I truly plan to be present next Tues. Aug. 31. at the State Fair to join the rest of "Century Farmers"

My grand-parents, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Jackson Gilliam landed 5 mi. S.W. of Dallas, Polk Co. Oreg. & took up this homestead in Nov. 1847 barely missing the same fate of the Dr. Marcus Whitman family, as they were almost persuaded to spend the winter of 1847 at the Mission.

My father was born on this farm in 1861 and lived 83 years on this place. There has been five generations lived on this pioneer farm.

Sincerely - Mrs. Annis (Gilliam) Tilgner
Dallas, Polk Co. Oreg.



STATE OF OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SALEM

September 8, 1965

Mrs. Annis Tilgner
Route 2, Box 205
Dallas, Oregon 97338

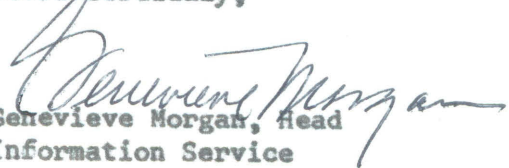
Dear Mrs. Tilgner:

Mr. Maple has referred to me your letter of August 27.

The names of Century Farmers printed this year were only those who came into the program for the first time in 1965 and, for that reason, none of the names of the 416 previously honored in 1958, 1959, and 1960, was used in press releases this year.

Director Short was extremely pleased to have your card saying that you would be present at the Century Farm program at the State Fair this year. I might add that he is also very pleased that so few of the Century Farmers of '58, '59, and '60 years have sold their farms. He sent the letter and the Blanks to call attention to the Century Farm observance at the State Fairgrounds this year hoping that many of those earlier honored would like to attend again and, also, to determine how many of the Century Farms were held in the same family.

Yours cordially,


Genevieve Morgan, Head
Information Service
State Dept. of Agriculture

GM:bg

cc-Mr. Tom Vaughan ✓

1959

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CENTURY FARM REGISTRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR -- SEPTEMBER 8, 1959

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1. Name: Anna Lilgren
2. Postoffice Address: Rte 2, Box 205 Dallas
3. County in which your farm is located: Polk
4. How old is your farm? 112. How old are you? 61.
5. Who founded your Century Farm? Andrew Jackson Gilliam
6. How many miles did you travel to come today? 21
7. Did you receive a Century Farm award at last year's State Fair? ~~#~~ Yes
8. Do you have Century Farm land on both husband and wife sides of the family? No

9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? 2
10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1959 Oregon State Fair? No

What are they? _____

11. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your county Historical Society? Polk Co. 1 yr.

CFR0405

REGISTRATION CENTURY FARM CELEBRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR, September 6, 1960

1. Check which year you received Century Farm Award:

1958 ✓
1959 _____
1960 _____

2. Name: Annis Talgren

3. Postoffice Address: Rte 2 Box 205 Dallas Ore.

4. What county is your Century Farm in? Polk

5. How old is your farm? 113 yrs. How old are you? 61

6. Who founded your Century Farm? Andrew Jackson Gilliam

7. How many miles did you travel to come today? 22 miles

8. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your County Historical Society? 3 years

9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? 2

10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1960 Oregon State Fair? —

What are they? _____

duplicate
EFR 6405

Around the County

By ED C. DUNN

It is indeed unusual to find a home which has been in the same family for 100 years, but Mrs. W. S. Tilgner of the Guthrie district has a record that beats that.

The land on which they built their home is a part of the Andrew Jackson Gilliam Donation Land Claim and has been in the family for 111 years.

Andrew Jackson Gilliam and family left Clay county, Missouri, in April of 1847 and arrived in the Willamette Valley in November of that year. Their first stop on the trip, which was made with a team in a wagon train mastered by Jesse Applegate, was at Walla Walla to visit with Dr. and Mrs. Marcus Whitman.

After a few days' visit they became suspicious of the actions of the Indians in the vicinity and came on to this valley. They learned afterward that they had already been gone from there a few days when the Whitman Massacre occurred. The Whitmans had found an Indian boy who had been abandoned by his people because he was sick with measles and they took him and raised him. After he grew up he went back to his own people and strange as it seems, was he who led the attack on the Whitmans.

Had the Gilliams stayed a few days longer they also would have been killed. Liking what they saw in the valley five miles west of Dallas they took the Donation Land Claim and started

building a home. Being so late in the year they first built a small log cabin, but spent all their spare time working on a house nearby and that is the house which stands beside the railroad track at Gilliam station on the Dallas-Falls City R. R.

There were different tribes of Indians living in the hills around them and when the younger Indians would get restless and want to go on the war path, the old chief would come to Mr. Gilliam and tell him to stay close home and if any of the younger ones came to give them something as a present and he would not be bothered.

Mrs. Tilgner was Annis Gilliam, daughter of Doug and Lizzie Gilliam and is the granddaughter of Andrew Jackson Gilliam. After her marriage to Sylvester Tilgner they built their home on a part of the Gilliam Donation Land Claim.

They have raised five fine children, four boys and a girl. The daughter is now a student at a Bible School in San Francisco. One son is employed in the First National Bank in Portland. One has his home in Dallas and is an electrical repairman. One is a sheetmetal man in Los Angeles and one lives at LaGrande where he is interested in farming and is also a salesman for a machinery company.

I hope some day to write an article about the Guthrie school district where all of their children started their education.

Polk County Hist. - Obs.

6-5-58