

CFR 0525

Harold L. and Helen D. Mendenhall

Mail this to  
STATE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
158 12th St., N.E.  
Salem, Oregon

APPLICATION for CENTURY FARM HONORS - 1959

PRINT

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) Harold I. and Helen D. Mendenhall

Your address: Route 2 Box 79 Town Willamina, Oregon

Location of farm: 4 1/2 miles N.W. of Willamina

County: Yamhill. Acres in original farm: 320. In yours: 181.

If you farm only three acres of the 100-year-old farm, do you make \$150 a year from it?       

Name of founder of farm (please print): Hezekiah Burford and Levina Burford

What year did founder settle on the farm? prior to 1852. How many families have  
farmed this land? 4

Are any of original buildings still in use? No

Brief description of farm enterprises today Sheep, Dairy, Beef, Hay and grain  
and pasture

Who farms land today: You X; a renter       ; a manager       ; other       

If you own the farm but live in town, do you manage the farming operation?       

What relation are you to the original owner? Great-Grandson

If you know original crops or livestock of this farm, please list native timothy  
hay, wheat and oats

How many generations now live on this farm? 2

Has the farm ever been rented? no. How many times has original farm been divided? 1

PLEASE list here or on separate page other historical facts you know about this farm       

We have a child's grave in the middle of a field with the name

William, son of H. and L. Burford Born August 14, 1852 and died Dec. 27 1854

You do not need to have this application notarized, but do you declare that the statements  
made here are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? Yes

Harold I. Mendenhall  
Signature of Owner

Telephone call 876 2483 Willamina  
7/22/65 cleared up the "none" which referred to Sanford where BLC was  
U.S. Census Definition of a Farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of  
\$50 or more a year; or, if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year. *who died to transfer family*  
*merchandise*  
*and*

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS--1965  
(Rules attached)

Deadline for filing application: June 15, 1965

PLEASE PRINT

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Miss) HAROLD L. and HELEN D. MENDENHALL

Your address: Route 2 P.O. Box 79 Town WILLAMINA.

Location of farm: 4 1/2 miles NW WILLAMINA YAMHILL  
(Address) (County) 320

Acres in your farm today 190. Acres in original farm 177.85.

Does your farm comply with U.S. Census definition at top of page? Yes

Name of founder of farm (please print): CHARLES FENDALL HEZERIAH and LAVINA BUTTORD  
*born 1859*

Year founder settled on farm? 1859 - in present family (Fendall) 1845 Where did he come from?

How many families have farmed this land? 5

Are any of original buildings still in use? No. Original barn but remodeled

Who farms land today? You yes? A renter ? A manager ? Other

If you own the farm but live in town, do you manage the farming operation?

What relation are you to the original owner? None Great grandson *in phone call*

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm 100 years ago, please list WHEAT-

TIMOTHY HAY - CATTLE and HORSES

What do you raise on farm today? SMALL GRAINS - grain, CLOVER,

ALFALFA HAY SHEEP and CATTLE

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) Owner only

Has the farm ever been rented? No. How many times has original farm been divided? 1

PLEASE list on separate page attached other historical facts you know about this farm.

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

Harold L. Mendenhall  
Signature of Owner  
Helen D. Mendenhall

Mail to: State Dept. of Agriculture  
158 12th St., N.E., Salem, Oregon



## Department of Agriculture

Inter-Office Communication

Date Monday 27th

To: Judith Scharff Paget  
 From: Genevieve Morgan  
 Subject: Century Farms

*Mendenhall  
 came in this AM.  
 so this is complete  
 Gen*

Yesterday I tried to locate some of the Century Farms in Linn county; a slow process. But at the Bertha Lena Watson farm she showed me an old sausage grinder--well rusted which they dug out of the ground. Had ~~xxxx~~ a double-barrel effect. I had never seen one like it. Told Mrs. Watson (and her husband who is Walter A.) that the Oregon Historical Society would be interested in the old grinder, I thought. So that's an entering wedge if you should not have one of them. I got the impression that when his mother died he gave a lot of very old things to the state college at Corvallis.

Here are 12 copies of the story---to which is attached list of Century Farmers.

I also wrote letter to Mrs. Stahlnecker urging her to look up date farm was founded and send to you. Copy is enclosed.

You'll find a temporary Salem address on Mrs. Neely's application. (Linn county)

By the way, Mrs. Stahlnecker went into McMinnville and signed the application--can tell for sure as her signature is not on the duplicate which we have made before sending to the county judge!

Don't worry about no box number on Mrs. Watson at Shedd; I asked her what Box number was and she said just Route 1 gets the. Don't think any of the folks there know what their box number is if they haven't used it for years!

Gen



April 22, 1960

Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Mendenhall  
Route 2, Box 79  
~~Dayton~~, Oregnn  
Willamina

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall:

Under separate cover is your certificate for qualifying  
as a Century Farmer in the 1959 program.

We regret the delay in sending this to you.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Scott  
Public Services Representative

RCS:rab

See 1965  
Application

REGISTRATION CENTURY FARM CELEBRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR, September 6, 1960

1. Check which year you received Century Farm Award:

1958 \_\_\_\_\_  
1959 ✓ \_\_\_\_\_  
1960 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: Harold L. Mendenhall

3. Postoffice Address: Willamina, Oregon

4. What county is your Century Farm in? Yamhill

5. How old is your farm? 114. How old are you? 53

6. Who founded your Century Farm? H. Burford

7. How many miles did you travel to come today? 35

8. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your County Historical Society? No

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? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CFR 0525

SUBMITTED BY:

Harold & Helen Mendenhall  
(Name and address)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A child's grave of the founders family is located in a hill ~~field~~ on this place. The name and dates on the stone, W.H. Burford Son of H & L Burford, August 19, 1852, December 29, 1854.

There is several apple and pear trees that were planted here about 1847, the pears are the finest tasting Bartlett pears in the country.



## Mission Bottom Farm Grows With Irrigation

Where Marion County agriculture has been, where it is now and where it might be going can be visualized on the well-known Creighton B. Jones Century Farm in Mission Bottom, 10 miles north of Salem near the Willamette River.

An area of little prairies on which individual families used to sustain themselves, Mission Bottom and the Jones farm have gone over to commercial operation with a wide variety of crops grown on the Chehalis soil. Jones speculates that the future will find the land devoted to truck crops to feed the growing Salem area.

When Jones' great-grandfather and great-grandmother, Silas and Sally Jones, settled their land in 1849, they used only enough of the 640 acres—perhaps only 1/10 of it—to provide the family and its horses with a living. Grains and meadow hay were the prime products.

### Mill Nearby

The grains were taken to the nearby mill of the French-Canadian miller, Gervais (then pronounced Ger-vay' instead of the present Jer-vas) to be ground into flour. Among those using this facility were Indians from French Prairie, who forded the river in the Mission Bottom area.

Silas also was a noted horse fancier, a carry-over from his days in the East and from Gervais to the north of his farm, where he had originally settled. His race horses competed in the first State Fair in 1861 and were winners then and

thereafter.

After Silas' death, T. B. Jones—Creighton's grandfather—bought the farm from his mother and the other children. He and his wife, Ollie, ran it until 1917.

T. B. added hops to the land, thus becoming one of the first to grow that crop.

### Creighton Begins Farming

W. L. Jones, T. B.'s son, took over the place in 1917 with his wife, Jessie, but W. L. died a year later, leaving the operation of the farm up to the widow and young Creighton and Rosalie, now Mrs. Cecil L. Rhoades of Salem.

The family carried on together until Creighton was graduated from Oregon State College in 1934, when he took over the place. Creighton's most likely successor is stepson John Stephen Crane, 19, who will be entering college this year, possibly to major in agriculture. There are also a daughter, Mrs. Mary Walker, and 2 stepdaughters, Lucinda and Beverley.

Creighton and his wife, Lenora, now operate on 620 acres of which 200 is from the original land claim and the remainder is from the Alson-Beers land claim. Beers was once the blacksmith for the Jason Lee community.

### Irrigation Produces

Most of the acreage is under cultivation, unlike earlier days. Creighton credits irrigation's arrival in 1930 for the land's versatility, not to mention irrigation from the brow while grubbing out hundreds of acres to make them productive.

## Limelight On 94th Annual State Fair

(Continued from Page One)

plement dealers.

### Century Farmers

Farmers living on farms founded at least a century ago will be honored in 2nd annual Century Farm day ceremonies on Sept. 8. This year 44 farmers will receive the Century Farm parchment from Gov. Mark Hatfield.

Another feature that day will be a hog calling contest, sponsored jointly by the fair and the Oregon Swine Growers Assoc.

Kids' Day is Sept. 10 when all rides are reduced in price and a free Shetland pony will be given to some lucky child. And as an added feature the kids will compete for prizes by trying to find 10 needles in a haystack.

Mayors of Oregon cities will be honored guests of the fair on Sept. 12, the closing day of the fair.

Field corn was Creighton's largest acreage this year. He also has substantial acreages in Pennlawn red fescue, spring barley, strawberries and winter barley and pieces in crimson clover, sugar beet seed and filberts.

While speculating that truck crops are the crops of the future for the Mission Bottom area, Creighton says that 3 years ahead is as far as he can plan his plantings, so if he's right about the truck crops he won't be ahead of anyone. But in the meantime, he's making a solid, productive farm out of what used to be a family garden.

## Modern Techniques 'Lift' Century Farm

The same place, some of the same buildings, some of the same products from the land—but what a difference there is between the Harold Mendenhall ranch and the farm that Harold's maternal great-grandfather, Charles E. Fendall, settled 100 years ago in the Willamina Creek valley just north of Willamina in Yamhill County.

The difference is that, while the Fendalls and Mendenhalls down through the years wore out the land as they used it over and over for the same crops, Harold is restoring it through modern land use methods.

It's the story so typical of agriculture everywhere. Harold credits legumes and, to some extent, irrigation and fertilizer, for the fact that his 181 acres, all from the original donation land claim, are so productive of feed for his cattle and sheep herds.

### And Hard Work

He could also credit another ingredient that was obviously added, judging from his heavily-muscled arms and shoulders—hard work. He and his brother, Glen E., who from 1945 until this year shared in rebuilding the farm, had to put a lot of sweat into their family farm to make it what it is today.

This is not to say that great-grandfather Charles E. Fendall, grandfather Riley Yates Fendall and father Claude E. Mendenhall

Up on the hill, 4 houses have been built around Charles E.'s old fireplace stone. Two were lost by fire and the 3rd has been remodeled by Harold.

### Rangeland Limited

One of the reasons Harold and Glen, who bought another place this year, had to practice good farming was because their rangeland was limited to their own property.

In earlier days, cattle and sheep could range as far as they wanted. When the feed ran out or was choked by brush, they simply moved on.

Harold and Glen had the place seeded by airplane and now the

property is lush.

Harold grows alfalfa mostly, both as a feed but also as a land restorer. He also grows oats and

barley, some for livestock feed. Most of the remaining acreage from the original claim is farmed by Harold's brother, Elvin.

## Centennial Calendar

- 4-5 Oregon Shakespearean festival, Ashland
- 4-6 Wheeler County Fair and Rodeo, Fossil
- 4-17 "The Oregon Story," Portland
- 4-7 San Francisco Opera, Portland
- 5-7 Lake County Amateur Rodeo, Lakeview
- 5-7 Illinois Valley Miners' and Lumbermen's Jubilee, Cave Junction
- 5-7 Lake County Fair, Lakeview
- 6 Floras Lake Boat Races, Port Orford
- 6-7 Lake Lytle Water Sports, outboard racing, Rockaway
- 6-7 Baker County Fair, Baker
- 10-13 Harney County Fair, Burns

The beer with a past

# BLITZ

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# BACK-TO-SCHOOL SPECIALS



202

This Indenture Witnesseth That even Nathan K. Sillmon and Perscilla A. Sillmon his wife, for the consideration of twenty two hundred dollars to us paid, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain, sell, and convey unto Charles E. Fendall of Yamhill County, Oregon Territory and his heirs and assigns the following described premises, to wit: All that certain tract of land situate in the County of Yamhill and Territory of Oregon and known and designated in the Survey and plat of the United States as Lotification Number (6744) and claim No 44, forty four, in Township five South and Range No 17 Seven West, Willamette Meridian the same being the claim held by Nye Kiash Burford and Sevinah his wife as a donation right under the act of Congress of 27th September 1850, granting donations to settlers of public lands &c. Concerning three hundred and twenty acres more or less. To have and to hold the said premises, with their appurtenances, unto the said Charles E. Fendall and his heirs and assigns forever.

And I the said Nathan K. Sillmon do hereby covenant to and with the said Charles E. Fendall his heirs and assigns, that I am the owner in fee simple of said premises; that they are free from all encumbrances; and that I will warrant and defend the same from all lawful claims whatsoever.

Witness our hands and seals this fourth day of July A.D. 1859.

Executed in the presence of Nathan K. Sillmon  
of us as witnesses  
Henry Warren  
H. S. Hudding  
Perscilla A. Sillmon Seal



to his heirs, have bargained and sold, and  
 these premises as bargain, sell, and convey  
 Charles C. Fendall of Yamhill County Oregon  
 Territory and his heirs and assigns the following  
 described premises, to wit: All that claim of  
 land situate in the County of Yamhill and  
 Territory of Oregon and known and designated  
 in the Survey and plat of the United States as  
 Lotification Number (679) and claim No 44,  
 forty four in Township five South and Range No  
 7 Seven West, Bellumett Meridian the same  
 being the claim held by Elizabeth Buford  
 and her heirs as a donation right un-  
 der the act of Congress of 27th September  
 1850, granting donations to settlers of pub-  
 lic lands &c. Containing three Hundred and  
 twenty acres more or less, to have and to  
 hold the said premises with their appur-  
 tenances unto the said Charles C. Fendall  
 and his heirs and assigns forever.  
 And I the said Nathaniel S. Dutton do hereby  
 covenant to and with the said Charles C.  
 Fendall his heirs and assigns, that I am  
 the owner in fee simple of said premises;  
 that they are free from all encumbrances;  
 and that I will warrant and defend the same  
 from all lawful claims whatsoever.

Witness our hands and seals this fourth day  
 of July A.D. 1859.

Executed in the presence of Nathaniel S. Dutton  
 of us as witnesses  
 Henry Warren  
 W. S. Huddy  
 Prescilla A. Dutton

Oregon Territory

Yamhill County, ss. On the fourth day of July, A.D. 1859, before me as  
 Justice of the Peace in & for said County, came the above  
 Recorded Nathaniel S. Dutton and Prescilla his wife, who are known  
 August 20th to me to be the identical persons described in, and who executed  
 1859 the foregoing conveyance. Acknowledged that they had executed  
 J. H. Correll the same. And the said Prescilla A. Dutton on an examination before  
 Recorded state and apart from her husband acknowledged that she executed  
 the same freely without any fear or compulsion from any one.  
 Witness my hand the day & year last above written. W. S. Huddy J. P.



## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPT

STATE OF OREGON, {  
County of Yamhill, } ss.

I, Jack Beeler, Clerk of the.....County.....Court of the County of Yamhill and  
State of Oregon, do hereby certify that the foregoing copy of.....Deed Recorded in.....  
.....Volume F on page 202 on the 4th day of July 1859 and Deeded to Charles E. Fendall.

has been by me compared with the original, and that it is a correct transcript therefrom  
and of the whole of such original as the same appears at my office and in my custody.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and

affixed the seal of said Court, this.....9th.....day  
of.....June....., A. D. 196..5..

JACK BEELER

Clerk of the.....County.....Court

By.....Alice Merrill....., Deputy