CFR 0633

Bessie Greener

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:
Your name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.)
Your address. P.O. Box 708, Halfway, Or. 97834
Your address: P.O. Box 708, Halfway, Or. 97834 Street, Route, or Box Town Zip
Location of Farm: 2 mi. East of Halfway, OR. on Hiway #86, toward Brownlee Dam. Address County
To qualify as a Century Farm, a farm must have not less than 10 acres with a gross income from farm use of not less than \$500 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding application for Century Farm Honors. Does your farm meet this qualification? Yes
Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm Andrew P. Greener
Year founder settled on farm 1877 Where did he come from? Kansas
Who farms the land today? Bessie Greener and family
Relationship to original owner? Bessie was married to Norval Greener, Son of Andrew.
Are any of the original buildings still in use? If so which ones? Yes, a log cabin,
which was used as a Post Office in Pine Valley in 1878 and years following.
If you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago, please list:
Hay, cattle and horses. The horses were wintered on the breaks of the Snake Rive:
What do you raise on farm today? Hay. Cattle and horses. Some grain.
How many generations live on the farm today (Names)? Bessie Greener and her Great- nephew, Roger Gulick, his wife Lorna and 2 children.
How many times has the original farm been divided? Never
Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? Yes
Please return form to: Bene frence.
Elizabeth W. Buchler, Field Historian

CFR0633

Oregon Historical Society

1230 S.W. Park Avenue

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which
Ressie Greener, P.O. Box 208 Halfway Or 97834 (owner's Name and Address)
is applying for Century Farm Honors has been in his family
continuously for one hundred or more years.
Julia Woods County Clark
(County Recorder/Clerk)
NOON REGOV
Date SER COUNTY

to

Andrew.F. Greener, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Certificate No 1028)

and to his heirs, the said tract above described:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME GREETING:

WHEREAS, Andrew P. Greener of Union County Oregon, has deposited in the Someral Land Office of the United States, a certificate of the Register of the Land Office at La Grande Oregon whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Andrew P. Greener, according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April 1820 enetitled And Act making further provision for the sale of the Public lands and the acts supplemental thereto, for the South West Quarter of section ten in Township Eight, South of Range Forty Six East of Willamette Meridian in Oregon, containing one Bundred and sixty acres according to the official plat of the survey of the said land, returned to the General Land office by the Surveyor General, which said tract has been purchased by the said Andrew P. Greener.

NOW KNOW YE that the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, end in conformity to Athe several acts of Congress in such case made and provided, have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant, unto the said Andrew P. Greener

appurtenances of whatsoever nature thereunto belonging, anto the said Andrew P. Greener and to his heirs and assigns forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agrigultural, manufacturing or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws and decisions of Courts, and also subject to the right of the proprietor of a vein or lode to extract and remove his ore therefrom should the same be found

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made patent and the seal of the General Land office to be hereunto affixed.

to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, as provided by law.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the fifteenth day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight uHundred and Eighty Four and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Eighth,

BY THE PRESIDENT: Chester A. Arthur,

Seal of GenelLand Office,

Recorded Vol 3 page 487, S.W.Clark recorder of the General Land office,

Filed for Record at 1.30 oclock PM, Nov.10th AD 1888, A.T.Neill County Clerk,

By Turner Oliver Deputy

Transcribed from Vol. J of Deeds page 403, Union County records

State of Oregon, County of Union:

County of Onion: Y.

I the undersigned, Recorder of Conveyances of Chion Copyly,
Oregon, hereby coeffy that the five point transcript of U.S.S. also.
is a correct count of the record, und the wade of such, as it appears of

Halfway Oregow De Cember 4/1985 To-The "Century Farm Chairman -The Oregan Historical Society Enclased are photos taken at the "Century Farm" award Dinner far the a.P. Greener Farm, in Halfevay, Onegow. Please michede them in the file on the presentethon of the award to Bessee Greener: Sarry I took Do long to get them mailed to you. Lucille Walfe Box 47 pt.1 Halfway, OR. 97834 Sencerely 1 PM.742-7857

TO: Elizabeth W. Buchler, Field Historian Oregon Historical Society

Dear Elizabeth,

Assuming that Bessie Greener will still be alive in May of 1984, the presentation award of the "Century Farm" to her, could be held in the new Halfway City Hall-Museum building. A Community Pot Luck dinner could be held in conjunction with the presentation. Bessie's many friends and the local Historical Society members could share with her this historical occassion.

When Bessie Greener was 90 years old, she rode her favorite horse and served as the Grand Marshall of the Baker County Fair Parade. She has since then suffered a stroke, but is still able to go for rides in the car, enjoys having visitors, operates her farm with the help of her family.

She and her husband Norval Greener had no children. Her Great-Nephew Roger Gulick and wife Lorna and two children live next door in a new home. Other family members assist her also.

Bessie had a copy of her Father-in-law's obituary that she had saved since 1927. I'll copy the information for you for Andrew P. Greener's Biography.

"PINE VALLEY HERALD" -dtd. August 11, 1927.

Death of A.P. Greener

Andrew P. Greener was born at Shelby, Ill. in 1841. In April 1873, he married Amanda Brooks. Seven children were born to this union. Five living in 1927. Elmer, Ed, Norval, Mrs Ora Sturgill of Halfway and Mrs. Evelyn Barber of Eureka, California.

At the beginning of the Civil War, he enlisted in Co."B", 57th Illinois Infantry, and was mustered out at the close of the war. He was with Sherman on his "March To the Sea". After the War, he went to Kansas, where he taught school in the Public School system. In 1875, with his wife, he crossed the plains to Oregon-locating first in the Grand Ronde valley. Two years later he came to Pine Valley where he followed farming until advancing age made his retirement necessary. He was also the first post-master in the valley.

A member of Phil Kearney Post # 66, G.A.R., Mr. Greener was the last remaining Veteran in the valley, except for Mr. Monroe Updyke. He has been a member of the local Presbyterian Church since Sept. 6, 1908. He passed quietly away at home, with his daughter, Mrs. Frank Sturgills present, on Aug. 9, 1927 at 10 A.M., at the age of 86 years and 5 months.

Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church August 9, lo A.M... Music furnished by friends of the deceased and his bamily was beautiful and impressive, and the floral offerings profuse.

The flag for which he fought was draped over his casket. There was nothing sad in the passing away of Mr. Greener. He lived a long happy and useful life and passed away at a ripe old age, full of faith and good works, surrounded by a devoted family, of self-respecting and honourable children, and his good works do follow him.

I felt so for tunate to have found this information, as feel it will add to the presentation of the "Century Farm" honor Certificate. Please keep me informed of events and I will assist in getting publicity out in the local newspaper regarding the presentation and make the arrangements for the use of the Hall. My telephone number is 742-2227. Sincerely, Lucille Wolfe, Box 47, Rt. 1, Halfway,)R., 97834

April 4, 1984

Lucille Wolfe, Box 47, Rt. 1 Halfway, Oregon 97834

Dear Lucilae:

I have been doing a good deal of thinking and trying to work something out for the presentation of Century Farm designation for Bessie Greener. The problem is that the next designation period is 1985, not 1984 which compounds the problem. We have the official ceremony every five years.

We can send Mrs. Greener a letter telling her that her farm has been awarded Century Farm designation. She could then (or you could) order one of the Century Farm signs from the firm here in Portland which die. We can also try to get a certificate signed by the Governor to her. This is a little more difficult because in the past he just signs them all at once, but I am sure that if we take it down to Salem, he would sign it for her. Then the only thing lacking would be the public ceremony, and I'm afraid there is nothing we could do about that. However the GAR or some other organization could have a little celebration for her.

What do you think of these ideas. I would like very much to have the designation made while she is still around to enjoy it, and if you agree with the above plans, we could start negotiations with the governor.s

Sincerely,

Elizabeth W. Buehler Field Historian

Halfway, Oregon June 20, 1984 Dear Elizabeth, Im wondering what the States is an abtæining the "Century Farm" certificate for Bessie Greener. Both the Baker County Museum Commission, and the Halfevay Museum Will co-operate in the Presentation of the award to Bessie. The Haefway Museum Society well sponsor the Community Pat luck denner en her honor,

The new city hall and museum building has Retchen facilities, and the dinner can be served Ithere is a problem in getting the Governor Lo Sign it - I could passelly get it segmed July 13 o He well be attending the Republican State Convention en Klamath Falls, and so evill 9. If I had the Certificate at that time,

I'd ask him to Sign it while he was there. What do you think About this edea? also-please send me the address of the ferm in Partland, That makes the "Century Farm" Signe. Do you know the cost? I'll be anxious to hear from you. Besse is leving on barraeved time naw- and any delay cauld prevent her receipetion; her receiving the receipetion; Succerely, Seculle R. Wagle

(certificate sent) July 2, 1984 Lucille Wolfe Box 47, Rt. 1 Halfway, Oregon 97834 Dear Lucille: Your suggestion is a great one, particularly since we failed to get the Governor's attention long enough at the Tall Ships FEstival yesterday to get him to sign the certificate (which I had carried along for just that purpose). He came and went so fast that we couldn't even whip the pen out fast enough. I will therefore send the certificate to you completed except for the Governor's signature. It sounds like an excellent cooperative effort between the Baker County Museum Commission and the Halfway Museum. I hope Bessie Greener will stay healthy for the presentation. If you take any pictures or have a write-up in the paper, I hope you will send me a copy. This is a little out of line, and I don't want to start a precedent of awarding the certificates at odd times during the five-year period, so we probably wouldn't give it much publicity at this end. But we would like to have some material for our permanent archives. Thank you so much for your cooperation in this matter. Sincerely, Elizabeth W. Buehler

April 7, 1984 Halfway, Oregon 97834 Dear Elizabeth, Thank you for your Service letter regarding Berrie Greeners' Century Farm' It would be wonderful award. for you to send Bessie a letter stating that her farm is designated as a Century Farm" also please send the address of the Frim that makes the signs. a Certificate signed by Govenar atiga would be great! Tell him that her

family, are all good Republicans - So he Can do the special favor for Besse, as a good deed for his political party. Hopefully Bessie can be present for the 1985 award Ceremony, but une can make suce she recieves it personally, by the means that you have suggested. It would be appreciated! The been discussing the idea with a member of the Baker Co. Historical Society, and museum Commission

- 3 -

about establishing a Baker County Register
Of "Century Farms, and
"Historical Sites"—and as we have Lather farms in Pine Valley still sweet ley families that have been owners for over. 100 years - that Can't qualify for the Oregon State designation, due So the fact that the places hove been leased ar rented upon occarsion. They could receive a

Baker Co. Certificate of kecognition-if we fallace through with This idea - Bessie Greener Could also recieve her Baker County "recognition. I just submitted a Map to the Oregon State Highway Dept, showing historical roods and trails, and sites located here in Pine Valley. We have a branch of the Oregan Frail "Here-Istablished by Tem Loodallin 1862. Lelso shown on it ore

the Many Indian drails used by the Indians in Their annual Trek from Wallacoa, to the Snake River Carryon In the Winter Time. Their are 4 Indian granes also marked on the map, Plus the sites of the ald Fart, the first school house, Past office, Oalien etc. Past office, Oalien Alafavay The bood Musicigh Halfway leads to the "National Recreational area of Hells Coneyon-so qualifies & a"Semic Highway als o.

The local Museum and Historical Society, here in Halfway, have agreed to sponsor a

Public pat luck denner in their new museum building - so Bessie's friends and family "Could be present with her when she is presented the "Century Jarm "certificate publicly. I really appreceate your interest and concern, in Trying to honor Bessie as Soon as Passeble. Thank you.

Lucelle Walfe BOX 47, Rt.1 Malferay 1 Oregon Torread Society Phone (503)
742-2227 Hackway hour in Their new Murseum burlding - Do Bearier fueride and family Could be present with All wheter she in of recented the "Continue Farm" certificate publicly. I heally apprecedit your interest and concern, lin Thyring to Thouar Adersie as Doku as Passible. Thank you.

Halfevayi Oregon July 19, 1924 Wear Elizabeth -I just event to fill your on the latest events taking Alace here. "Century of took the Century Farm "Certificate to Klamath Falls last Weekend, and the Sow. ded I then restrict the segn et. meiseeum beweldenig here en Halfway - far

the Community Pathuck dinner, They have not received their Chairst tables epit - so Tarrangel to get them from the Lions Chib. Everyone will have to hreng their and a Covered table services and Alish. I got a statice Put in aux lacal "Hells" Canyan Jacernal Munspaper that it would be held on July 27th, 1984 at JP.M. at the Meiseeen Bldg. The editor

of the Munspaper es Also Plesedent of the Halfevay Museum Docety. Her name is Denise Christianson. and she will do a fallow she expartible ment disek. She Will take photos of Bessee

Uneside also, The

Danie Coccrier Menspaper su Baker will also coveret. Ill send epace all the Olypings &a Capy of the program, Better ejet-Why don't you come to

attend the presentation? Mr. Jerry Van Abancisan, Presedent of the Regional, Oregon Trail Muselem's Commession - and also member of the Oregan Historical Society has agreed to serve as the Representative from Baker Oo, to present the award. See act as, Past, Mistress See act as, La introduce him. Mr. Demuis Ourtis, our local Choer & Band director la the School system will

Provide the Musical Intertainment. Im gring to ask Jaeva Steener – a sister-in-low to Bessee Greener-to Share in the events by Arouding flowers for the tables)-She lis an aved gardener L has a ejard full of lavely flowers - She is a yacing 185 years of age of She and Besse married brothers. He will invite all the family to attend the dinner.

It seems to me that in 1985, when yace publicize the presentations of other Ocegan State Century Farm's, you carell then melede The information on the " andrew P. Greener Form Withaut Muiteoneig When at evas actually presented to Bessie Greener There ley-not-creating a Precedent but your members cauld hour the

Pleasure of tracling about the history, Moralved with this Eastern Oregan Farm. Halfway has on in teresting mening heitory-"The Cornucapea" gold mine Producced more gold, than all other gold Mines total have produced in OR. The Greener place was the site of the first Post office in Penk Valley: Bessie is a second generation oconer also-Which is unusual.

Everybady in trying A make this a special Occassion for Bessee. She rode, her horse and led the Baker Co. Fack Parade, as the "If hand Matshall-" when She was 90 years old. She is quite kennakkable, Thank you so much for making this old for making this old Leccille Wolfe

Dear Elyabeth BANCR Enclased are the articles associated with the Greener "Centery Farm" award denner. We had lamps & bequets of flowers in old fashioned brocks on the tables and a good crawl attended - Bessee was pleased and sat throeigh the Whole affeir in good shape-She is 96 nace. Though for your help in carrying through on the "The nett" place for 1985. Sincerely Lucille Hofe

Oregon Century Farm



Andrew P. Greener

ANDREW P. GREENER

"... active...energetic, he's highly improved his premises by the erection of good buildings, fences, etc. and by judicious cultiva-

tion of the soil ... "

"... served in the Civil War in Co."B",57th Illinois Infantry..; was injured two times, once at Pittsburg Landing and at Corinth. He served with Sherman on his "March to the Sea". He was mustered out at the close of the war."

After the war, Andrew went to Kansas where he taught school for nine years. He married Amanda Brooks in 1873, and in 1875 they came west over the plains to the Grand Ronde area. In 1877, the Greeners moved to Pine Valley, and after teaching a term of school, Andrew proceeded to acquire 160 acres through the Land Grant office in La Grande. His final payment was in 1888, under President Arthur.

Andrew and Amanda had seven children: Birch, (deceased), Elmer, Edward, Ola, Eva, Orville, (Norvall's twin, deceased), and

Norvall, (1902).

".. Andrew was a stanch Republican... for two years served as County Assessor and to him belongs the honor of having secured the establishment of a Post office at Pine, and having acted as its first postmaster," (1878).

---After Andrew's death, (1927). Norvall bought back the portion of land sold to son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sturgill and restored the original 160 acres.

Norvall was born June 2,1889. He married Bessie(Elizabeth)Gulick in September,1922. He died July 21, 1963.

The Andrew P. Greener farm is the twelveth Baker County farm to receive the Century Farm Award from the Oregon Historical Society since the program began in 1959.

BESSIE GREENER, OWNER CENTURY FARM July 27, 1984

Mrs. Donald Wolfe Mistress of Ceremonies

Invocation

Rev. Judy Marshall

2008

Dinner

C.J. VanHoomissen, Oregon Historical Society member, and Chrmn., of Baker County Museum Comm.

Harry L. Williams, President, Baker County Historical Society

Response

for your listening pleasure,

Dennis Curtis

THE OREGON STATE SONG Congratulatory and visiting time

* * * * * * * *

References used for the written material were obtained from: History of Baker, Grant, Malheur and Harney Counties, 1902; the PINE VALLEY HERALD- dtd. August 11, 1927; records within the Baker County Court House; and other personal research.

OREGON STATE SONG

108 8 8

Land of the Empire Builders,
Land of the Golden West;
Con-quered and held by free men
Fair-est and the best.
Onward and upward ever,
Forward and on, and on;
Hail to thee, Land of Heroes,
My Oregon.

Land of the rose and sunshine, Land of the summer's breeze; Laden with health and vigor, Fresh from the Western seas. Blest by the blood of martyrs, Land of the setting sun; Hail to thee, Land of Promise, My Oregon.

100 YEARS

You know we're one-hundred years old We're one-hundred years.
We'll give one-hundred cheers
For our one-hundred years!
We'll have singin' and dancin'
And people proudly prancin'
For our one-hundred years today!

- from BACKROADS TO BAKER, A Musical History of Baker 1974



JUBILEE CHAIRMAN FRED WARNER JR. — coordinated activities. Here he led off Kids Parade with golf cart carrying donated saddle.

Century Farm Program Friday To Honor Mrs. Bessie Greener

Pine Valley Museum will host an Oregon Century Farm award presentation program for Mrs. Bessie Greener at 7 p.m. Friday, July 27.

The Oregon official program is handled in Baker County by Mrs. Carol Sherrieb of Baker County Historical Society and normally presentations are made every five years. In this case through the cooperation of Mrs. Don Wolfe, of Halfway, the official certificate was signed recently by Governor Vic Atiyeh, after it was prepared by the Oregon Historical Society.

The presentation program will be in the form of a potluck in the new museum-city building.

President Jerry Van Hoomissen of the Baker County Museum Commission will speak briefly, and several members from Baker County society will attend.

The Greener farm started over a hundred years ago when Andrew Greener came to Pine Valley as a school teacher from Kansas and the place was a land grant. He passed away in 1927 and the Norval Greeners were the second generation, and Mrs. Norval (Bessie) Greener, in her 90's still resided on the Century Farm.

Museum Gets New Officers

The Pine Valley Museum Association met Wednesday, July 11, at the new museum.

New officers and three new board of directors were elected. Serving for the following term of office will be Barbara Farr, treasurer; Eleanor Smead, secretary; Denise Christianson, president; and board of directors; Margret Baird (1 year term); Ralph Smead (two year term) and Mike Romine (three year term).

Museum donations are

now being accepted.

There are three museum cases now in place and security measures are being taken to keep all donations safe. It is hoped that with enough help, the museum will be ready for a grand opening by Fair time.

Please call Barbara Farr, Billee Howard or Milo Pope if you can help or see Denise at the Hells Canyon Journal

office.



Terry Vaughan unloading supening Halfway Market.

Community Pot Luck Planned

e

5

A community potluck is planned to honor Bessie Greener's "Century Farm Award," on June 27.

The Pine Valley Museum will host the potluck at 7 p.m. at the museum. The public is invited.

Volume 1, Number 22

August 1, 1984

Halfway, Oregon 97834



BESSIE GREENER, recipient of the Century Farm Award.

Century Farm Presentation

Bessie Greener of Halfway received the Century Farm Award Friday, July 27, in a ceremony at the Pine Valley Museum.

Over 80 friends and guests met for an abundant potluck dinner, by coal oil lamp, to help Bessie celebrate one hundred years ownership of the farm by the Greener family.

C. J. Van Hoomissen of the Oregon Historical Society and Chairman of the Baker County Museum Committee, Harry L. Williams, president of the Baker County Historical Society, By Brinton of the Record Courier and Carolyn Sharried, chairwoman of the Century Farms Committee, were among the honored guests.

Bessie, who is now 96 years young, was joined by a large number of her family, including her sister-in-law Iowa Greener, who recently turned 85.

Mrs. Lucille Wolfe was mistress of ceremonies and Dennis Curtis provided musical entertainment.

The Andrew P. Greener farm is the twelfth Baker County farm to receive the Century Farm Award from the Oregon Historical Society. The Society began the century farm program in 1959.

A. P. and James Greener came to Pine Valley in the fall of 1877. They found eight white bachelors and some Chinese placer miners and no women or children. The decision was made to return to Cove. On the return trip near Mr. Blue's place in Eagle Valley they met up with three wagons of the Leep family. The Leeps provided the one thing missing from Pine Valley. The arrival of women and children convinced A. P. and James to settle in Pine Valley. A. P. returned to Cove and brought his wife Amanda and the children.

Granddaughter Iowa Greener says, "Grandpa Greener and Uncle Jimmy each filed on a homestead." The cabin built by A.P. was on the present site of Bessie Greener's now Century Farmstead.

A. P. and Amanda raised six children on the homestead, including twins Orval and Norval. Orval died of spinal meningitis at about twelve years of age.

Norval married Bessie Gulick and they continued to live on the now century old farm.

Bessie is Pine Valley's oldest resident now at age

Volume 1, Number 21

July 25, 1984

Halfway, Oregon 97834



JACQUELINE AND BOB MITCHELL presented the Pine Valley Museum with the loan of a 45 star American Flag on July 23. The flag was in use before November 6, 1907.

Halfway to Host Chautauqua

"Armed in the Spirit," a one-act play that dramatizes the American missionary experience in the Pacific Rim, will be performed July 28 at Pine Eagle High at 7:30 p.m. The play is sponsored by Cornucopia Project and the Oregon Committee for the Humanities, as part of the touring Chautauqua '84 program.

"Armed in the Spirit" is a theatrical journey into the lives of U.S. missionaries and their impact on Pacific Rim countries. This legacy, which remains as real as the morning headline, is a complex story of good intentions meeting with frustration.

"Armed in the Spirit" was written by Charles Deemer. Joining Deemer on stage are Jane Van Boskirk, a Eugene actress known throughout the Pacific Northwest for her one-woman touring shows, and Bill Douglas, a veteran actor and mime who has appeared on television and film, as well as on stages from New York to Paris.

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2.50 for Senior Citizens and students.

Museum to Host Potluck

The Pine Valley Community Museum will host a potluck dinner honoring Bessie Greener's Century Farm Award July 27.

Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. at the museum.

Jerry Van Hoomissen, chairman of the Baker County Museum Commission and member of the Oregon State Historical Society; Harry Williams, president of Baker County Historical Society, and Caroline Sherrieb, Project Director for Baker County Century Awards will be among honored guests present.

Denny Curtis will provide musical entertainment and Lucille Wolfe will be toastmistress.

The public is invited to attend. Please bring a covered dish and your own table service.





COUNTY MUSEUM COMMISSION CHAIRMAN — Jerry VanHoomissen presented State Century Farm Certificate to Bessie Greener of Halfway at a special reception potluck in Pine Valley's new City Museum last week. Carol Sherrieb of Baker County Historical Society is in the foreground as county chairman of Century Farm Program and Harry Williams, President of the Society also is at the head table. Chairman of the event for the Greener family was Mrs. Don Wolfe of Halfway.

Lower photo shows Mrs. lowa Greener congratulating her

sister-in-law.

Record Courser aug. 9) 19