

CFR 0676

Barbara Bennett Thompson

## APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) Barbara BENNETT THOMPSON (Mrs NOEL J.)Your address: 33550 Blaha Road Warren Or 97053  
Street, Route, or Box Town ZipLocation of Farm: 33773 BENNETT Rd, Warren Columbia  
Address CountyTo 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 you farm meet this qualification? YESName of family member who was founder or original owner of farm Joseph Hall BENNETTYear founder settled on farm: 1881 Where did he come from? Michigan, via NebraskaWho farms the land today? Noel & Barbara ThompsonWhat relation are you to original owner? great grand daughterAre any of the original buildings still in use? old, but not originalIf you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago please list:  
Timberland, orchard, berries - See Attached historical account.What do you raise on farm today? hay crops, orchard, woodlandsHow many generations live on farm today (Names)? 2 - ① Barbara Thompson;  
son, ② Mark GRIFFIN; dau. ③ Sanjet L. GriffinHow many times as the original farm been divided? Several - Now has 26 A.Do you declare that the statements made above are accurate and correct to the best of your knowledge? yes

Return form to:

Barbara Bennett Thompson  
Signature of Owner

BENNETT History  
by Barbara Bennett Thompson

①

In 1874, Joseph Hall Bennett, his wife Sarah A. Wells, and seven of their nine children started west from Michigan in a covered wagon.

They first settled along the Loup River in Nebraska near Kearney, and stayed there for three seasons, each of which was the "year of the grasshoppers".

Giving up on the Nebraska farmland, they moved west again in 1878, arriving in Milton Oregon, South of Walla Walla, in time to work at the wheat harvest. It was here that they all got diptheria, and one daughter died.

West again, they spent the winter of 1878-79 near Olympia, Washington, then in the spring to the settlement of Newaukum near Chehalis. It was here that the littlest boy in the family died after eating what was suspected as nightshade berries.

Late in March 1881 they moved again, coming to the Warren area on the Scappoose Bay.

In 1881, Joseph H. Bennett and Sarah purchased 80 acres in the Warren area for \$500. (gold coin). Interest was at the rate of 10%.

It is on this piece of land that the family has resided continuously since that time.

They deeded the land to their youngest son, Homer T. and his wife Annie J. Beavers, retaining lifetime estate. Homer and Annie were married in 1893, and remained there until their deaths in 1948 and 1952.

There were six children born to Homer and Annie Bennett, all at Warren. Five grew to maturity, and four are still living at this date (1985).

Their oldest son, Earl Homer Bennett, purchased the main part of the farm from his parents as they became older and were unable to farm it. After their deaths, he acquired the remainder of the land and the house from the other heirs.

Earl Bennett purchased adjoining land in 1926, and farmed the two places until the early 1980's. He died July 1983, and the old Bennett land became the property of his eldest daughter, Barbara Bennett Thompson, who now resides

there. The old farmhouse (not the original home when the land was acquired, but built about 1890) is being purchased and is occupied by Mark Griffin, Earl's grandson. Mark's daughter is therefore the 6th generation of the family on the farm.

The farm was nearly all covered with old-growth timber when it was purchased. The area that was cleared was planted to an orchard of walnuts, apples, and some filberts, with some pasture for cows and horses. The family garden was extensive, and cane berries were planted for a cash crop.

Most of the early income came from cutting cordwood and hauling it to the Scappoose Bay where it was put on barges and sold in Portland for one dollar per cord. The road that was built from the farm to the bay is now BENNETT ROAD. On the farm was a blacksmith shop, and later a shingle mill. A tractor came on the place in 1929, and the horses were not worked much after that. The tractor also provided the power for the shingle mill.

As the land was cleared, various farm crops have been grown, wheat and oats, and hay crops. Strawberries were grown and a commercial pea crop was tried for a few years. The land is primarily in alfalfa and woods at present.

There are none of the earliest buildings remaining. The small farm cabin on the land when purchased was soon replaced with the present house which was built in various stages as the family grew. There is an early woodshed, garage and chickenhouse, but dates of construction are not known.

The present house occupied by the Mark Griffin family has had some modernization, but the structural shape has had little alterations other than closing in a back porch.

This historical account is written as a supplement to the application for recognition of a "Century Farm" by the Oregon State Historical Society, by

Barbara Bennett Thompson  
33550 Blaha Road  
Warren, Oregon 97053

February, 1985

*Barbara B. Thompson*

## Abstract of Title

*To the following described Real Estate, situated in Columbia County, Oregon:*

The northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 13 Township 4 North of Range 2 west of the Willamette Meridian, excepting therefrom that tract of land heretofore conveyed by Deed Recorded in Book "3" page 417 Deeds, July 13, 1907 to Lew Davis, and also excepting therefrom that tract of land heretofore conveyed by deed Recorded in Book "9" page 297, Deeds Sept 3, 1907 to Joshua D. McKee and Nellie McKee, his wife.



Michel Pierter, Single. ( No. 2.  
( Mortgage  
To ( Dated March 1, 1878.  
( Rec. Oct. 5, 1878.  
John Campbell, ( In Book "C" of Mortgages.  
( At page 72.  
( Note for \$650.

-oOo-

WITNESSES, T.A.McBride, Geo. Merrill.

ACKnowledged March 1, 1878, before Geo. Merrill County Clerk,  
-Regular.

Covenants to pay the mortgage debt.

-oOo-

DESCRIPTION.

-oOo-

The N.W.Quarter of the N.E.Quarter and the E. half of the  
N.W.Quarter and the N.W.Quarter of the N.W.Quarter of Sec.  
13 in T. 4 N.of R. 2 W. of the W.M.

REMARK:-

There is endorsed upon the margin of the record of  
the foregoing mortgage the word "foreclosed".  
But we are unable to find any record of foreclosure pro-  
ceedings upon said mortgage or any other satisfaction there-  
of; at the time of the execution of said mortgage the said  
mortgagor, Pierter did not appear to have any right or title  
to the said mortgaged premises.

To secure note \$650.00 dated March 1, 1878, payable \$100.00  
each year thereafter until whole is paid.

John Campbell, Single,

To

Joseph H. Bennett.

( No. 3.

( Bond For Deed.

( Dated Nov. 25, 1881.

( Recorded Feb. 20, 1882.

( In Book "G" of Deeds.

( At page 241.

( Consideration \$500.

-oOo-

WITNESSES, W.H.Conyers, N.L.Gray.

ACKNOWLEDGED Dec. 5, 1881, before F.A.Moore, N.P. -Regular.

Said bond is conditioned at the above bounden obligor shall on the first day of June 1885 make, execute and deliver unto the said Joseph H. Bennett (provided that the said Joseph H. Bennett shall on or before that day have paid to the said obligor the sum of \$500 gold coin) a good and sufficient deed of warranty of

-oOo-

DESCRIPTION.

-oOo-

All that certain piece or parcel of real estate as follows to-wit:-

The N.W. Quarter of the N.E. Quarter and the N.E. Quarter of the N.W. Quarter of Sec. 13 in T. 4 N. of R. 2 W. of W.M. in Columbia County, Oregon.

Payments to be made as follows, to-wit:-

\$150 cash and three notes for \$100 each due Dec. first of Each year, and one note of \$50 due June 1, 1885, each of said notes to bear interest at the rate of 10% per year.

-oOo-

John Campbell, Single,

To

Joseph H. Bennett.

No. 4

Warranty Deed.

Dated July 5, 1883.

Rec. July 6, 1883.

In Book H. of Deeds.

At page 164.

Consideration \$500.

-oOo-

WITNESSES, F.A.Moore, G.W.Cole.

ACKNOWLEDGED July 5, 1883, before F.A.Moore, N.P.-Regular.

Grant, bargain, sell and convey.

Free from all encumbrances. warrant and defend.

The foregoing deed is executed in fulfillment of the bond  
for the deed as shown on sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ this abstract.

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DESCRIPTION.

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The N.W.Quarter of the N.E.Quarter and the N.E.Quarter of the  
of the N.W.Quarter of Sec. 13 in T. 4 N. of R.2 W. of the  
W.M. in Columbia County Oregon.

-oOo-

Joseph H. Bennett, and  
Sarah A. Bennett, his wife

To

Homer T. Bennett.

( No. 6 .

( Warranty Deed.

( Dated Aug. 10, 1889.

( Recorded Aug. 10, 1889

( In Book "J" of Deeds.

( At page 480.

( Consideration \$1

-000-

WITNESSES, F.A.Moore, G.W.Cole.

ACKNOWLEDGED Aug 10, 1889, before G.W.Cole N.P. -Regular.

Grant, bargain, sell and convey.

Covenants free from all encumbrances. warrant and defend.

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DESCRIPTION.

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The N.W.Quarter of the N.E.Quarter and the N.E.Quarter of the  
N.W.Quarter of Sec. 13 in T. 4 N. of R. 2 W. of the W.M.  
in Columbia County, Oregon.

RESERVING, HOWEVER, A life estate unto the said Joseph H.  
Bennett and Sarah A. Bennett, his wife, during their natural  
lives, in and to the above described real estate.

REMARK:-

The grantors named in the foregoing deed are to our  
knowledge each dead.

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HOMER T. BENNETT, also known  
as H. T. Bennett and ANNIE J.  
BENNETT, husband and wife.

WARRANTY DEED.

DATED February 7, 1920.

RECORDED February 9, 1920.

BOOK "28" Page 636. Deeds.

CONSIDERATION \$1.00.

TO

EARL H. BENNETT.

WITNESS:

Geo. H. Shinn, Ida W. Shinn.

ACKNOWLEDGED:

February 7, 1920 before Geo. H. Shinn  
Notary Public for Oregon, Columbia County,  
Notarial seal affixed.

SIGNATURES:

Sealed and scrolled.

COVENANTS:

Free from all incumbrances, warrant and defend

GRANTING WORDS:

Grant, bargain, sell and convey.

-----in consideration of One Dollar and for the purpose of  
re-conveyance to us as tenants by the entirety of the lands hereafter  
described----all the following bounded and described real property,  
situated in the County of Columbia and State of Oregon:

The Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section  
Thirteen(13) in Township Four(4) North of Range Two(2) West of  
the Willamette Meridian; Excepting therefrom those certain tracts  
of land respectively heretofore conveyed by grantors to Lew Davies  
by Deed recorded July 13, 1904 in Book "3" page 417, and to Joshua  
D. McKee and Nellie McKee, his wife, by deed recorded September 3,  
1907 in Book "9" page 297, deed records of Columbia County, State of  
Oregon; the tract of land conveyed containing thirty(30) acres.  
(Together with other lands).

Homer T. Bennett (seal)  
Annie J. Bennett (seal)

EARL H. BENNETT, a single man.

SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED.

TO

DATED February 7, 1920.

RECORDED February 9, 1920.

BOOK "28" Page 637. Deeds.

CONSIDERATION \$1.00.

HOMER T. BENNETT AND  
ANNIE J. BENNETT, as husband  
and wife (tenants by the  
entirety)

WITNESS:

Geo. H. Shinn, Ida W. Shinn.

ACKNOWLEDGED:

February 7, 1920 before Geo. H. Shinn Notary  
Public for Oregon, Columbia County, Notarial  
seal affixed.

SIGNATURES:

Sealed and scrolled.

COVENANTS:

Free from all incumbrances made or suffered  
by me, warrant and defend against the  
lawful claims and demands of all persons  
whomsoever claiming by through or under me  
and none other.

GRANTING WORDS:

Grant, bargain, sell and convey.

All the following bounded and described real property situated  
in the County of Columbia and State of Oregon:

The Northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section  
Thirteen(13) in Township Four(4) North of Range Two(2) West of the  
Willamette Meridian; Excepting therefrom those certain tracts of land  
respectively heretofore conveyed by grantors to Lew Davies by Deed  
recorded July 13, 1904 in Book "3" page 417, and to Joshua D. McKee  
and Nellie McKee, his wife, by deed recorded September 3, 1907 in  
Book "9" page 297, deed records of Columbia County, State of Oregon;  
the tract of land conveyed containing thirty(30) acres.  
(Together with other lands).

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Barbara B. & Noel. J.  
THOMPSON - 33550 Blaha Rd. Warren OR 97053  
(owner's Name and Address)

is applying for Century Farm Honors has been in his family  
continuously for one hundred or more years.

Reta C. Kerry  
(County Recorder/Clerk)

2/21/85  
Date

St Helens OR  
Chronicle  
May 3 1986

## Century award gained by Bennett family farm

Few farm properties ever stay in one family for 100 years, notes Barbara Bennett Thompson.

However, Thompson resides on a Warren farm which her great-grandparents settled in 1881. Joseph and Sara Bennett purchased the original 80 acres for \$500 in gold coin.

During the April 23 meeting of the Columbia County Historical Society, Thompson received the "Century Farm Award" from Ron Brentano. He serves as the chief field representative of the Oregon Historical Society.

The awards are presented every five years to farms which have been continuously productive and owned by a single family for more than 100 years. Some 85 such awards were presented state-wide during 1985. There are now a total of 900 Century Farms in Oregon. The program was established in 1959 in honor of Oregon's centennial.

Of the first 80 acres, Thompson explains, some 30 acres remain owned by Bennett descendants. She and her husband, Noel Thompson, and son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Sandie Griffin, reside in the farm's two houses (including the 1885 farmhouse built by Joseph and Sara Bennett). The land is located near Bennett and Bachelor Flat roads.

The Griffins' daughter, Sanjet, 9, represents the sixth generation to live on the farm.

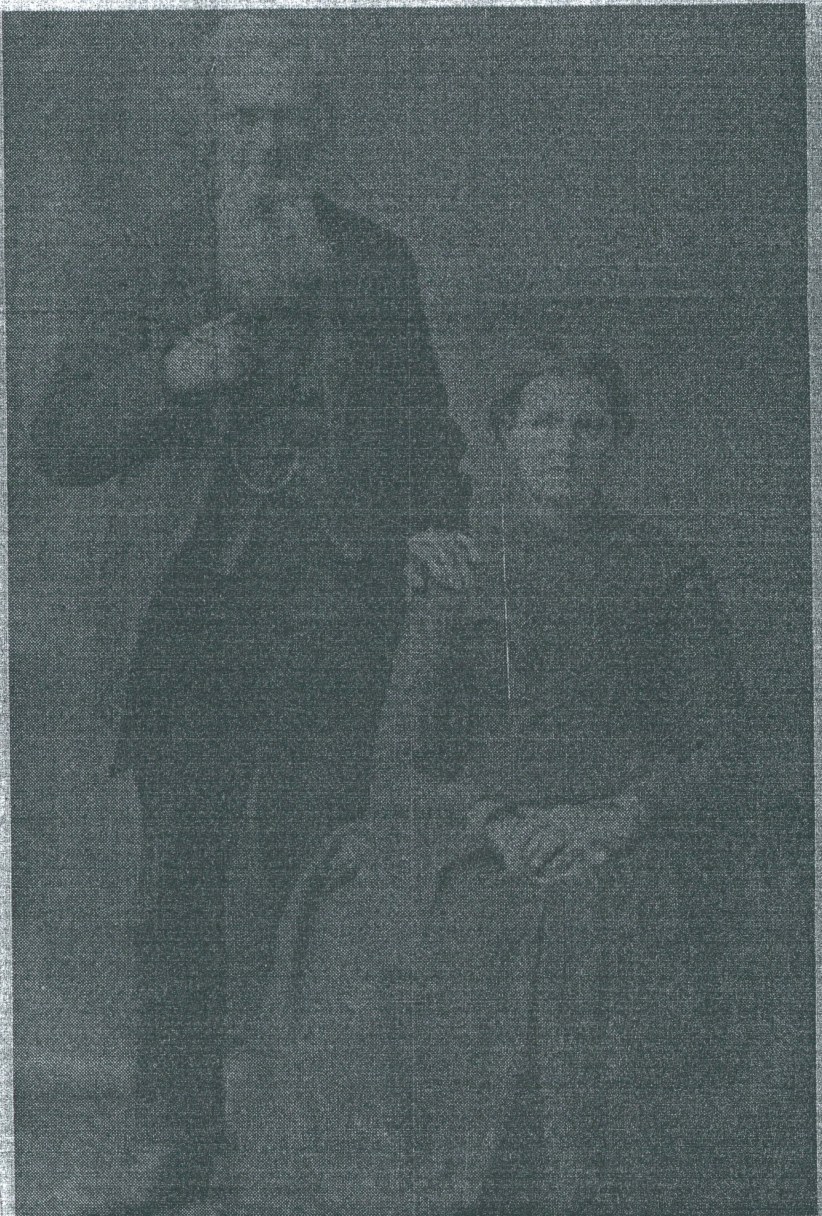
When the first Bennetts established the Warren farm, their income came from cutting and hauling cordwood to Scappoose Bay. The wood was loaded on barges and sold in

Portland for \$1 per cord, Thompson explains. Bennett Road was the original passage-way built by the family from the farm to the bay.

The land has been used for wheat, oats, hay, walnuts, apples, filberts, loganberries and strawberries. A blacksmith shop and shingle mill were once operated on the property, but burned down in the 1950s. Early woodshed, garage and chicken-house structures remain standing.

According to Thompson, the farm has remained productive but not served as the family's sole support since the 1930s. The property now is used for cow pasture, alfalfa crops and woods.

Thompson became owner of the land when her father, Earl, died in 1983. Earl was the eldest son of Homer Bennett, who was deeded the property as the youngest son of Joseph and Sara Bennett.



WARREN PIONEERS — Joseph and Sara Bennett established a Warren farm in 1881 which recently received the Century Farm Award from the Oregon Historical Society. The award was received by their great-granddaughter, Barbara Bennett Thompson, who now owns the family farm.