

CFR 0779

Mrs. (Helen D.) Homer W. Egan

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.

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS--1976
(Rules Attached)
Deadline for filing application: July 1, 1976

PLEASE PRINT

Your name ~~XXX~~, Mrs., ~~MISS~~) Homer W. Egan (Helen D.)

Your address: Route 6 P.O. Box _____ Town Brooks

Location of farm: 9855 River Road N. E. Marion
(Address) (County)

Acres in your farm today: 20 Acres in original farm: 450

Does your farm comply with the definition at top of page? Yes

Name of family member who was founder or original owner of farm (please print):
William H. Egan

Year founder settled on farm? 1875 Where did he come from? 2 miles down the road

How many families have farmed this land? Two

Are any of original buildings still in use? No

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? Daughter-in-law

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm 100 years ago, please list Diversified:
grains, fruit, cows, pigs, chickens, horses.

What do you raise on farm today? Fruit - pears

How many generations live on the farm today? (Names) 3 Helen D. Egan, daughter Adele L. Egan, son William H. Egan, granddaughters Marion A, Ellen L.

Has the farm ever been rented? No How many times has original farm been divided? 4

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

Mail to: Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Agriculture Bldg., Salem, OR 97310

Helen D. Egan
(Signature of owner)
(Mrs Homer W.)

Submitted by Mrs. Homer W. (Helen D.) Egan
(Name and Address)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The pear trees on this property were planted before the turn of the century. A few apple trees left date back further--before the big freeze.

On the portion of the original farm lying east of the county road and now owned by Wm. S. Downer are 3 pear trees (Vicar of Wakefield) and an apple tree that date back to 1849 and was planted by the original donation land claimant John Lemmon.

Across the front of my own home (built in 1922) is a white picket fence. The pickets were once around the old Marion County Court House. They were made in 1874. When removed from the Court House, (livestock no longer wandered loose on the streets) Wm. H. Egan purchased the fence and placed it around his home and down the lane of the barnyard. Portions were then redesigned in 1922 for my place.

CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Mrs. Homer W. Egan (Helen D.)
(Owner's name and address)

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


* County Commissioner-Recorder ~~xxxxxxx~~

June 11, 1976
(Date)

*Please strike office not applicable

47

SALEM ABSTRACT COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1880
CAPITAL \$ 50,000.00

ABSTRACT OF TITLE No 16421.

47
WORLD WAR VETERANS STATE AID COMMISSION

Beginning at an iron pipe in the north line of the J. J. Lemmon donation land claim 46.05 chains from the south east corner of the John Albrights donation land claim in Township 6 South Range 2 West of the Willamette Meridian in Marion county, Oregon; thence south 15° and 5' West along the center of the county road 8.44 chains to an iron pipe; thence north 84° 30' West 16.21 chains to an iron pipe; thence North 15° 5' East 10.44 chains to a steel bar in the north line of said Lemmons' claim; thence South 78° E. 15.99 chains to the point of beginning, containing 15.08 acres of land in the J. J. Lemmon Donation land claim in Township Six (6) South Range Two (2) West of the Willamette Meridian, in Marion County, Oregon.

814 6-26-75

CHAIN OF TITLE

PAGE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	VOL.	PAGE	Kind of Instrument	DATE OF INSTRUMENT		
3	United States	John Lemmon	24	50	Pat	14	Dec	66
5	J Lemmon	E C Davis	9	460	W D	14	Jun	67
7	E C Davis-	L Savage	5	599	Mtg	7	Oct	70
8	" " "	W Drinkwater	5	603	Mtg	7	Oct	70
9	Estate of W Drinkwater (1 page)							
10	C H Davis	R Lee	13	47	W D	15	Feb	71
11	R Lee	S Jones	6	166	Mtg	5	Mar	72
12	" "	N Drinkwater	6	224	Mtg	3	Jul	72
13	N Drinkwater	R Lee	32	625	Sat	--	--	73
14	R Lee	W H Egan	18	290	W D	26	Jun	75
15	United States	J Albright ref.	18	106	Pat	23	Dec	73
18	J Finney vs W H Egan.							
25	W H Egan	Bd. Comrs	19	191	Mtg	13	Jul	87
26	Bd Comrs-	W H Egan	31	101	Sat	22	Dec	94
27	W H Egan	W A Cusick	26	247	Mtg	19	Mar	92
28	W A Cusick	W H Egan	34	74	Sat	20	Dec	94
29	W H Egan	Alliance Tr Co	34	57	Mtg	15	Dec	94
30	Alliance Tr Co	W H Egan	41	631	Sat	2	Dec	99
31	" " "	W McMaster	56	61	P A	3	Sep	80
34	W H Egan	Trustees of Fund	34	64	Mtg	18	Dec	94
35	Trustees	W Haeger	41	94	Asg	27	Jan	98
36	W H Egan	A L Warren	46	454	Mtg	2	Mar	03
37	A L Warren	W H Egan	63	346	Sat	12	Nov	08
38	W H Egan	O E Co. ref	97	57	D	3	Oct	06
40	W H Egan	Iadd & Bush	63	346	Mtg	10	Nov	08
43	A N Bush	S Bush	81	658	Asg	25	Feb	14
45	Estate of A Bush in part.							
49	A N Bush	J N Skaife	85	544	Asg	20	Sep	15
50	S. Bush	A N Bush	133	483	P A	7	Oct	14
52	J N Skaife	W H Egan	--	--	Mar Sat of		63-346	
53	W H Egan	J N Skaife	91	65	Mtg	30	Mar	17
55	J N Skaife	W H Egan	109	215	P R	17	Oct	21
58	W H Egan	H W "	165	285	W D	17	Oct	21
59	Plat of land abstracted.							

DEED

Reuben Lee _____

Book 18, Page 290.

to

Dated June 26, 1875.

William H. Egan,

Recorded June 26, 1875.

Consideration \$4400.00

-----bargain, sell and convey-----

Beginning at the N. E. Corner of Claim No. 63, Township Six (6) South Range two (2) West and running thence South 10.62 chs. Thence N. 78° W. 83.25 chs., to the township line thence south on Township line 5.73 chs. thence West 44.00 chs. to the West boundary line of claim No. 63, T. 6 S.R. 3 West. Thence North 18.06 chs. to the N. W. corner of last mentioned claim (63) Thence East 44.00 chs. Thence North 4.29 chs. Thence S. 78° E. on the North Donation claim line 83.25 chs. to the place of beginning and containing 214,84 84/100 acres & lying the whole length East and West on the North side and being one third (1/3) one third part of claim No. 63 T. 6 S.R. 2 West and one third (1/3) part of claim No. 63 T. 6 S.R. 3 W. the whole covered by Notification No. 394 & entered under the donation law by John Lemmon situate in Marion County, Oregon. Also a certain tract of land situate in the county of Marion and State of Oregon and beginning at the south West corner of the Albright Donation land claim situated in Township 6 South of Range 3 West and running thence east on the south line of said Albright claim and North line of the Donation land claim of John Lemmon, Fifteen chs.

(15.00) Thence North 6.50 chains to a stake from which an ash 20 inches in diameter bears S. 40° E. 27 links Dist and an Ash 18 inches in diameter bears S. 14° E. 30 links dist. Thence about N. 50° W. through the centre of a certain lake 15.70 chains more or less to the North line of said Albright's claim thence West about 3.00 chains to the North West corner of said Albright claim thence south 16.65 chains to the place of beginning & containing 18 88/100 acres more or less & part of section 12 T. 6 S.R. three west

---that they are free from all incumbrances, and that he will warrant and defend the same from all lawful claims whatsoever.

Two Witnesses:

Signed, sealed and scrolled.

Acknowledged before a Co. Judge, Marion County, Oregon, by
Reuben Lee _____

agriculture until 1909 when he definitely abandoned his labors and bought property in Glendale, Oregon, where he now resides.

In 1866 Mr. Hobbs was united in marriage to Miss Victoria Hardison, a native of Oregon, and to their union were born seven children, Alice, Charles, Lottie, George, Dessia, Lee and Mary. In his political views Mr. Hobbs is a consistent democrat and has served as justice of the peace for two years. He is seventy-four years old and can look back upon a long and active life. His career included a period of development in the history of northwestern America and it is his greatest satisfaction that he found himself equal to bearing his part in the evolution by constant labor along progressive lines.

WILLIAM H. EGAN, one of the leading agriculturists and influential citizens of Marion county, is the proprietor of Mount View Farm, consisting of five hundred acres of land eight miles north of Salem. Practically his entire life has been spent in the Sunset state and for more than a quarter of a century he was here identified with educational interests as a school teacher. He is a native of Watertown, Wisconsin, his birth having there occurred on the 24th of November, 1850. His father, Patrick Egan, was born in Ireland, and when six years of age was brought to the United States by his parents, who made their home in Boston, Massachusetts, for four years. On the expiration of that period they established their home in the town of Nelson, New Brunswick, in British North America. It was there that Patrick Egan, at the age of twenty-one years, married Miss Catharine Canty. The young couple resided in New Brunswick for five years, at the end of which time their attention was called to the fact that Wisconsin, with her virgin soil, offered splendid inducements for the energetic and fearless to build up new homes. Accordingly they launched their fortunes with the new state, locating on a farm near Watertown. After improving the place and bringing it up to the standard of the farms at that date they disposed of the property and took up their abode in Watertown, where they remained until the spring of 1852. Fully appreciating the improvements in climatic conditions between New Brunswick and Wisconsin, they resolved to go still farther west and link their fortunes with the great Oregon country. In 1852, therefore, daring the dangers of that long journey, they started across the plains with ox teams. Like other emigrants of that year, they suffered many privations, sickness and even death, losing their little daughter Margaret. They finally reached their new home on the banks of Mary river, near the present site of Philomath, in Benton county, and named their farm The Valley of Ease. In 1857 they removed to French Prairie, in Marion county, and purchased a large farm near the present site of Waconda on the Oregon Electric railroad, where Patrick Egan died at the advanced age of ninety-one years. He was

cheerful, progressive, artistic, conservative and notably temperate throughout his long life, never using tobacco nor any beverage stronger than tea. He was a devout communicant of the Roman Catholic church and a strict member of Father Mathew's Teetotal Temperance Society, having taken the pledge at the age of twenty-one years and faithfully preserving it for seventy years.

Mrs. Catharine (Canty) Egan was born in Clonokilly, County Cork, Ireland, in the year 1812. She came to America at the age of nineteen years and located in the town of Nelson in New Brunswick, British America, where at the age of twenty-one she gave her hand in marriage to Patrick Egan. Being a woman of unusual energy, she cheerfully joined him in the journey to Wisconsin and later, feeling that "westward the Star of Empire takes its way" and that new and beautiful homes were offered to those who had the courage to brave the dangers of the trip, she nobly joined her husband in all the privations of emigrant train and pioneer home. Although born in luxury and ease, she readily adapted herself to the hardships of pioneer life and by her beautiful example of resignation and fortitude cast a ray of sunshine on the rugged pathway of many a discouraged emigrant. Her cultured mind and artistic hand served as strong supports against the disappointments and ills of border life. She became the mother of seven children, as follows: Michael J., John T., James, Mary A., Margaret, William H. and Ellen M., of whom James, Mary A. and Margaret are deceased. Mrs. Catharine Egan was a member of the Roman Catholic church from early childhood, to which she faithfully clung through every reverse of fortune. She was also a scrupulous member of Father Mathew's Teetotal Temperance Society, having taken the pledge at the age of twenty-one and keeping it faithfully until her death, which occurred at the age of eighty-two years.

William H. Egan, whose name introduces this review, was in his second year when brought to this state by his parents. Regarding his youthful days he writes as follows: "I owe my early training and education to my mother, who from my early childhood insisted upon lessons at a certain allotted time each day and endeavored to keep the hour as promptly as possible, often leaving a task half done to hear my lessons. Owing to the fact that schools were distant from our pioneer home, my education continued in her hands until I was nine years old, when I entered my first public school—a good fifth grade pupil." After completing the graded-school course he attended high school at East Salem, later studied in McMinnville College and subsequently received special training in several private schools. He early manifested a studious nature and well fitted himself for the educational work which later devolved upon him. At the age of twenty years and six months he started out for himself with a capital of ten dollars, securing employment as a cutter of black pole rails at a wage of sixty-five cents per hun-

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dred, with the understanding that he pay his own board and that he need work only until a better opportunity offered itself. After cutting one hundred rails he was offered a better position at a dollar and a half per day and board, and soon received two dollars and board as a mower, reaper and header driver. In the fall he used half of his earnings in speculation and utilized the remaining sum in continuing his education. Securing a teacher's certificate, he opened his first school in Mission Bottom, Marion county, Oregon. In connection with his duties as an instructor he also devoted considerable time to athletics, becoming so proficient that he could leap from a falling horse without receiving even a scar. "On one occasion," he writes, "while riding rapidly, my horse turned turtle. While he was doing so, I sprang from the saddle, lit running and was only struck on the boot by the horse's hind hoof. On another occasion, near the present site of Waconda, I was riding across a long eight-foot bridge. While in the middle an outside stringer broke. The bridge, horse and myself started down. I leaped from the saddle to the horse's head and then to solid footing, while the horse and broken section of the bridge fell into the creek below. I believe every boy and girl should be taught athletics for health, brain power and bodily safety."

Mr. Egan continued as a school teacher for twenty-six years with no intermission except the two years during which he held public office. With the exception of one year, he spent the entire period of his service as an educator within a radius of seven miles of his home, and he is justly proud of the fact that during the twenty-six years he never missed even a quarter of a day on account of illness. In the discharge of his duties during this period he spent much time in the saddle, riding more miles than measure the circumference of the globe. Since reaching man's estate he has also directed agricultural investments, has bought and sold acreage and has made much unimproved land profitable and productive. For the past five years he has directed the business incidental to the supervision of over one thousand acres. He is a strong believer in diversified farming and has always maintained that the farmer should be a student, keep abreast with the times, educate his children to the best of his ability and make them realize that there is no education or energy wasted on a well diversified farm. His home place, consisting of five hundred acres and known as Mount View Farm, is in Marion county, eight miles north of Salem, on the Salem and Champoer road and also on the Oregon Electric railroad. This property is farmed on the diversified plan and on it may be found commercial orchards of peaches, pears, prunes and apples, fields of hops, grain and hay, large gardens of beaver dam and upland, together with all kinds of live stock.

On the 27th of December, 1886, at Salem, Oregon, Mr. Egan was united in marriage to Miss Julia B. Coffey, a daughter of James and Johanna (Horriگان) Coffey. Mrs. Egan

was born in Salem, Oregon, on the 21st of October, 1868, and received her education at the Sacred Heart Academy of that place, being graduated from that institution in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Egan have three children, as follows: Albert J., Marguerite C. and Homer W.

Politically Mr. Egan is a democrat, but his patriotism has always transcended partisanship and he believes that it is the duty of every American citizen to uphold and extol the government and to exercise his right of franchise in correcting its mistakes. Notwithstanding the fact that Marion county is a republican stronghold, he was elected county clerk in 1892. Two years later he was a candidate for reelection and, though receiving double his party's vote, met defeat in the republican landslide of 1894. His religious faith is that of the Roman Catholic church, while fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen of the World, the Grangers and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His residence here covers a long period and he has always stood for that which is progressive in citizenship, cooperating in various plans and measures for the material, social, intellectual and political progress of the community. His life has at all times been upright and honorable and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

WILLIAM ABERNETHY is one of the venerable citizens of Forest Grove, having attained the age of eighty years. Much of this period has been spent in Oregon and in the improvement of his business opportunities here he has won success that now enables him to live retired. His birth occurred in New York city, September 16, 1831. His father, George Abernethy, was also a native of the American metropolis, born October 7, 1807, and there he acquired his education. In early manhood he wedded Anne Pope, who was born in Plymouth, England, September 10, 1811. Their wedding was celebrated in New York, January 21, 1830, and the remains of both now rest in River-view cemetery of Portland, Oregon, the father having died in that city May 2, 1877. The mother, however, passed away in New York city, April 30, 1884, but her remains were brought back to this state for interment. In the family were two children, the younger being Annie Abernethy, who became the wife of General H. C. Hodges, of the United States army who is now retired and lives in Buffalo, New York. His wife passed away in Washington, D. C., April 31, 1911. General Hodges is a graduate of the West Point Military Academy and was stationed first in the Indian Territory and later in Vancouver, Washington, where he served as adjutant of the Fourth Infantry. Subsequently he was transferred to California and afterward to Philadelphia.

Few residents of Oregon have resided within the borders of this state for a longer period than William Abernethy, who came to the northwest in 1840 when but nine years of age, landing at Vancouver, Washington, on

Marion Co Clerk
1892-3