

CFR 0801

Raymond French

MORROW

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

Your name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) Raymond French

Your address: Rt 2 Box 2396 Happner 97836
Street, Route, or Box Town Zip

Location of Farm: Happner Morrow
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 Jesse Harner

Year founder settled on farm 1873 - approx Where did he come from? Unknown

Who farms the land today? Raymond French & Norma French

Relationship to original owner? Great-Grand Grandson

Are any of the original buildings still in use? If so which ones? No

If you know crops or livestock raised on farm one hundred years ago, please list: Cattle

What do you raise on farm today? Cattle, Hay, Wheat

How many generations live on the farm today (Names)? Two - Susie Ward
Kindsey Ward

How many times has the original farm been divided? None

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

Please return form to:

Raymond French
Signature of Owner

Elizabeth W. Buehler, Field Historian
Oregon Historical Society
1230 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon, 97205

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CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which Raymond French

(owner's Name and Address)

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

Barbara Bloodsworth
(County Recorder/Clerk)

5-23-84
Date

DILLARD AND SUSAN FRENCH HISTORY

Jesse Dillard French was born at Vinson, Oregon in 1869, son of John French and Irene Hamer.

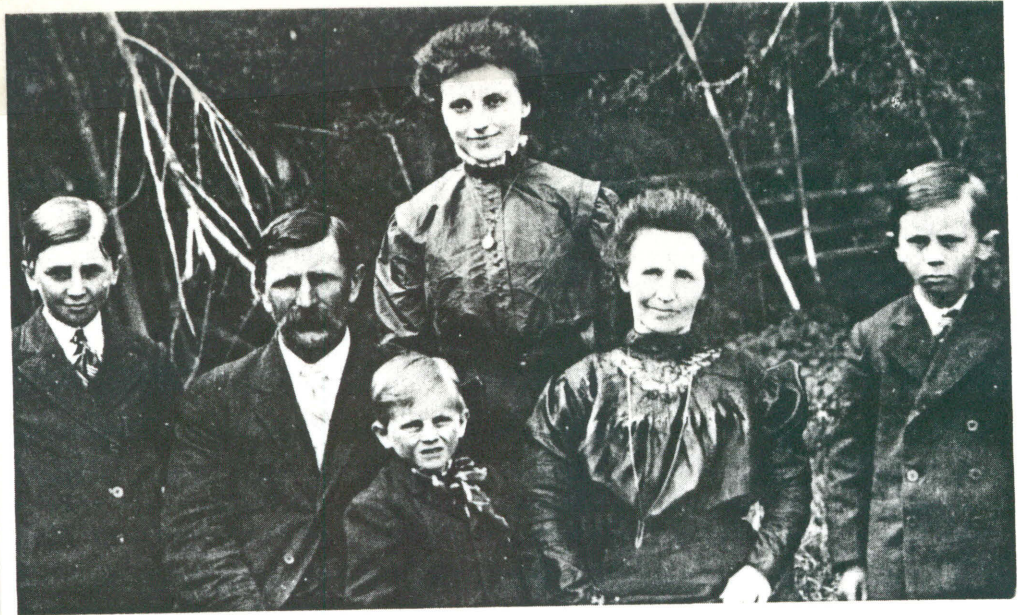


Dillard and Susan French 50th Anniv. — 1941

John French was born in Missouri in 1831 and emigrated to Oregon in the early 1850's and settled at Vinson, Oregon. His original homestead is still owned by Pete French, his great-grandson. John died in 1909 at the age of 78 years.

Irene Hamer was a daughter of Jesse and Methabel Hamer, who originally came from Indiana. They homesteaded on what is now the headquarters of the Raymond French ranch in the late 1870's. Raymond is the great-great-grandson of Jesse and

151



Dillard and Susan French — Taken 1910 John — Jesse — Agnes — Herbert

Methabel and this property has remained continuously in the family since the original homestead filing. Irene was born in 1851 and lived until 1925.

Besides Dillard there were 6 other children making a total of five boys and two girls in the family.

Susan Mary Doherty was born in Donegal, Ireland in 1870 and came to America when she was sixteen years old, arriving in Quebec, Canada in 1886 and came west by train.

Her parents were Patrick Doherty and Mary Canny who homesteaded in the Butter Creek area. Paddy creek, later known as the East Fork of Butter Creek, was named after Susan's father, Pat.

After Dillard and Susan were married in 1891 they lived on their homestead on Butter Creek on what is now also a part of the Raymond French ranch. During this year they also purchased the present Raymond French ranch from Dillard's grandfather, Jesse Hamer.

Their four children were born here, Agnes in 1892, John in 1898, Herbert in 1900, and Jesse in 1904.

Agnes married Cleve Walton, who also homesteaded in Morrow County, in 1911. They later ranched in Grant County near Ritter, finally returning to the Pendleton area prior their deaths.

John married Letha Moore and ranched at Long Creek, Oregon, finally returning to operate the family ranch on Butter Cheek after his father's death until his own passing in 1967.

Jesse French died in 1919 at the early age of 15.

Dillard and Susan were in the sheep business for many years, finally switching to cattle in the late 1930's. They acquired extensive grazing land holdings during this time, both in the Butter Creek area and at Ukiah, including the original French family homestead at Vinson.

They had the satisfaction of living to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 1941. Dillard died in 1946 while still operating his ranch and was followed by Susan's passing in 1948.