

CFR 0993

Merle Ramp

This is to certify the farm herein described has
been in the Manning family for 100 years.

Merle Frances Ramp, Granddaughter of the original
purchaser, has the original deed, also, the donation
land claim deed given to Charles Achard and signed
by Andrew Johnson. This farm was purchased by
Francis Manning from Charles Achard, July 22, 1857.
It is now jointly owned by George A. and
Merle Frances Ramp. It is located two miles north
of Brooks on Highway 99E.

George A. Ramp
Merle Frances Ramp

State of Oregon)
) ss.
County of Marion)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary
Public, this 17th day of June, 1958.

W. G. Hudson
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission Expires: 8-22-61

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AT BROOKS

married 1849 Jalesburg, Illinois

'Century Farm' Visited

By MRS. A. H. JENSEN
Capital Journal Correspondent

BROOKS—"Westward Ho" may have been the signal when Samuel and Mary Ramp left their Dutch colony in Pennsylvania and started for the Oregon Territory by ox team in 1853.

Settling in the Silverton Hills at first, they later leased the David Shannon farm on Howell Prairie. Success at farming made it possible for them to buy 324 acres of donation land claim from Harvey E. Smith in 1856. Wages were then 25 cents a day, and \$10 a month was their complete earnings.

At their death, the original farm was divided among the four children, much of which is still in the family name. At least three are certified "Century Farms."

Ninety-eight acres of the original purchase is owned by George A. and Merle Ramp, and is lo-

cated one mile north of Brooks on Highway 99E.

The old stage coach road was located on the south border of Bethel Park with the Willard Ramp home serving as the coach hotel. The south five acres of the George Ramp farm was used for a feeding lot and resting place for the stage coaches. There is still evidence of the road, and the field used for a feeding lot still grows better grass than the other fields.

Near a creek north of the house is a camping ground formerly used by gypsy bands. They lived by telling fortunes, and always carried a pet monkey. They bought hay by the armload from the Ramps for their horses.

The George Ramps built their house 53 years ago, shortly after their marriage. The huge oak trees in their yard were about six feet tall then.

Entering the house, your focus is on two muzzle-loading rifles, 50

and 51 inches long, hanging on the stairway wall. They are from Fort Vancouver, and were used in Indian wars.

By the fireplace is a pirate's trunk, brought from Ireland in 1852.

An unusual "what-not" shelf of five graduated tiers contains four autograph books dating back to 1881. There are five Bibles and New Testaments of early vintage plus an 1883 leather bound song book. There are no notes. The songs are written in poem form with instructions for the leader where to put musical expression. A U.S. History book dated 1854 is called "Republic of America."

An 1874 fifth grade reader, an 1863 fourth reader, and a tin-type album complete this library.

In the china closet are many items over 80 years old. There is fine hand painted china, and cut glass. Then there are three shaving mugs, and one delicately painted "mustache" cup. There is also an old-time deerskin money belt. The pockets were fastened with lops and buttons. The leather showed wear from gold nuggets, but is empty now.

The Ramps have donated a number of items to the Champoeg Museum of Oregon History, and their children own many of their antiques.

Maurice