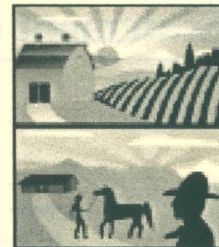


CFR 1051

John M. and Adeline F. Molthan

Century Farm & Ranch Program Application



Date June 5, 2002

Type of designation (please check) ☐ Century Farm ☒ Century Ranch

Owner's name John M. and Adeline F. Mothman

Mailing address Redacted for Privacy

Telephone Redacted for Privacy County Malheur

Location of farm or ranch 1 mile North of highway 26 at Ironside, Oregon

Township 14 Range 39 Section 21

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) Summers and Mary Jane Mothman

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) 1899 Recorded; 1899 Purchased
(Attach verifying documentation, see Rule 7)

Founder(s) came to Oregon from Arkansas

Who farms or ranches the land today? John and Adeline Mothman

Relationship to original owner Grandson

Are any of the original buildings still in use? ☐ Yes ☒ No Listed on National Register? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe _____

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch Cattle, grains, alfalfa and mowdown hay

What is raised on the farm or ranch today? Same as above

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today? Two

Please list names and birth years John M. Mothman (1918) Adeline J. Mothman (1917) ; John M. (Bill) Mothman, Jr. (1944)

Please submit two or three pages of family history narrative. You are also encouraged to submit photos of the property.

(Please continue application on the back of this form.)

Statement of Affirmation

I, John M. and Adeline J. Molthan,
hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at Redacted for Privacy
Redacted for Privacy,
in the County of Malheur,
shall have been owned by my family for at least 100 years, as specified in the qualifications for the Century
Farm & Ranch Program, on or before December 31 of the current calendar year. Further, I hereby affirm
that this property meets all other requirements for Century Farm or Century Ranch honors.

John Molthan

Signature of Owner

Date

June 6, 2002

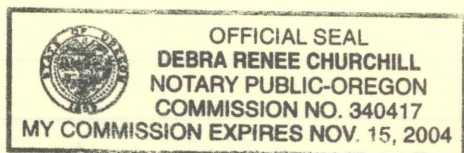
Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon

County of Malheur

Be it remembered, that on this 6 day of June, 2002, before me, the undersigned, a
Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named
John Molthan, known to me to be the identical individual described in
and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that
_____ executed the same freely and voluntarily.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.



Debra Renee Churchill

Notary Public for Oregon

My Commission Expires November 15, 2004

Fees

Application Fee
(includes one certificate) \$ 30.00
Additional Certificates (\$10 each) (3) \$ 30.00
Total enclosed \$ 60.00

Make checks payable to
Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation or OAEF

For office use only

Date Received _____

Approved? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Authorization _____

OAEF project coordinator

OHS Library

MSS 1604 Program ID No. _____

Phone & Fax
Redacted for
Privacy

PINTO ENTERPRISES

GERRY PINTO
CAROLYN PINTO

Redacted for Privacy

6-16-02


MR. & MRS. GERRY PINTO
Redacted for Privacy

Dear Mr Reed:

If you need more information
Please call or Fax. We had a lot of
fun putting this together. John & Adeline
didn't come much but we know they are
really pleased.

Would you please direct any
correspondence to us. This was a family
project.

Thanks for your help


Gerry Pinto

Gerry Pinto

Rick Reed

MOLTHAN RANCH HISTORY

Summers Molthan and his wife Mary Jane (Smith) first came to Ironside from Arkansas in 1887, settling in the area known as "the hold out." They became homesick for Arkansas and returned to farm there for three years. Missing Oregon and having suffered through a severe flood that ruined their crops and severely damaged the land, they sold the farm and returned to the Ironside area in 1894. They purchased a piece of land under a Presidential patent signed by President Benjamin Harrison.

In 1897, Summers and Mary Jane purchased from Louis and Emma Wisdom what is now called the Molthan Ranch. Over the last hundred plus years the ranch and buildings have undergone several changes and expansion but the original homesite is still the nucleus of the ranch. Summers and his brother-in-law, J.P. Smith ran cattle in Ironside for several years. An article in the Argus, reads: "J. P. Smith received word this week that three carloads of cattle that he and his partner, Molthan, shipped to Portland, brought top price of \$8.35. These steers weighed about 1,200 each, which indicates that they brought \$100 per head. The Ironside section has many bunches of good cattle and the rains this season has given them an excellent range." The JD brand was purchase from a Jim Deere and that has been the only brand used for more than a hundred years.

Summers and Mary Jane bore two children that lived, Elmer and LuLu. LuLu Molthan married a local rancher by the name of Charley Howard. They eventually left Ironside and moved to Spokane, Washington. Elmer married Mary Jane Laurance of Prairie City, Oregon and continued ranching with Summers. After Summers and Mary Jane (Smith) Molthan's health started to decline, they moved to Ontario, Oregon. On December 15, 1938, Summers and Mary Jane celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Quoting Mary Jane from an article in the Argus, "We never quarreled, and we have been very fortunate," a sentiment in which her husband agreed. "Yes, we are fortunate that we live in this county," Mr. Molthan said. "We are fortunate that to live here in Oregon and here in Ontario." Mary Jane Molthan passed away in 1939 and Summers in 1944. They are buried in the Ironside Cemetery.

Mary Jane (Laurance) Molthan came to Ironside with her brothers Fred and Walter who were feeding cows in Ironside. A Mrs. Hinton who, along with her husband, owned The Ironside Mercantile located on the Nichols Place, lost a baby and was in need of some help. A handsome, young rancher, in need of supplies, took one look at a beautiful girl with a "widow's peak." She caught his fancy and they were married on May 26, 1917. A son, John Monroe Molthan was born March 23, 1918. After Summers and Mary Jane moved to Ontario, Elmer and Mary Jane (Laurance) Molthan took over the ranch and worked it for their entire life. Just before the depression, Elmer built Mary Jane, and his son John, a stately white house that is still on the ranch and lived in by their grandson John (Bill) Molthan, Jr. and his wife, Theresa. Elmer was a true cowboy and no better horseman around. Over the years, land was added that included the Mountain Pasture, Clover Creek, Crews Place, Tub Springs and the Lofton Place, totaling more

than 5000 acres. By all accounts, Elmer and Mary Jane were exceptionally generous neighbors and no one was ever denied a meal or lodging. It has been forty years since they passed away and we still hear stories about how wonderful, kind and thoughtful they were. Elmer passed away in 1956 and Mary in 1966. They are buried at the Ironside Cemetery. Upon Mary's death, she left a sum of money to add improvements to The Pioneer Cemetery at Ironside. Because of her bequest, it is one of the most beautiful and most frequently visited pioneer cemeteries in the area.

A sawmill located up Camp Creek and owned by Fred and Echo Fish, was moved to Ironside. Their daughter, Adeline, caught the eye of John Molthan at one of the legendary dances at The Ironside Grange. They were married in Vale, Oregon, on January 15, 1938. Since both are musically inclined, John on saxophone and guitar and Adeline on drums, they played in a band at dances all around. John and Adeline are actively involved in the community, having served on school boards, helped with Bible School and are members of the Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges. In 1998 they narrowly escaped death when a cow ran at the family dog who had startled her. John was knocked down and trampled. Upon hearing the commotion, Adeline rushed to his rescue and was also attacked. Both were life-flighted to a Boise hospital for treatment. The emergency room physician had just arrived from Washington, D.C. He joked that this was his first case of "mad cow disease." John is 84 years old and Adeline is 85. They are both actively involved in the ranch. Cattle, alfalfa, meadow hay and grain are the main crops as they were a hundred years ago. In 1987, their son, John (Bill) Molthan, Jr. returned to the ranch. He and his wife, Theresa, are actively involved in the ranch, QRU, and Ironside Road District. He has three children and grandchildren. Gerry and Carolyn Molthan Pinto ranch in the Ironside area. Alex and JoAn Molthan Silva are retired and live in Nampa, Idaho.

To attest to the beauty of the ranch, in 1985, a color photograph of the Molthan Ranch won second place in a Nikon nation wide America the Beautiful contest.

Ironside Oregon is located in the upper northwest corner of Malheur County. To locate it on a map of Oregon you would find the cities of John Day, Ontario and Baker City and then look directly in the center of the triangle formed by the three cities. Ironside is 65 miles from each. The town of Ironside, if you could call it that, is located 45 miles from Vale on U.S. Highway 26.

Ironside has suffered the declining fate of much of America's small towns. It reached its peak in the late twenties and early thirties when it was both a farming and ranching community and a small lumber mill town. There used to be numerous small ranches and homesteads scattered throughout the valley but the hard rural life and precarious economics uncertainties took its toll. The ranches of today are a consolidation of most of these smaller places and raising cattle is the primary source of income. The actual town of Ironside was once Fish Lumber Company, The Ironside Grange, The Ironside Mercantile and the Ironside school; today, it is a few houses and a small post office.

To the locals, Ironside is an area, not a specific place on the map. That area covers a lot of miles in all directions. Most of the ranches are riddled with names that serve as a common geographical reference. If you mention the Powell place in a conversation, everyone knows exactly where that is. Thus a ranch such as the Molthan ranch will be made up of Tub Springs, the Yellow barn, the Mill ground, the mountain pasture, etc. Most of these names and euphemisms provide a wealth of information to anyone researching the history of the area. Ironside has an unusually colorful history for such a remote area.



**MOLTHAN RANCH
CIRCA 1900**

Summers Maltan

Mary Jane Maltan

Elmer B. Maltan

Lillian Maltan

hen about 1890.



Grandfather and Grandmother's 60th Anniv.

December 15, 1938

Sixty years ago last Sunday, in Carroll county, Arkansas, Miss Mary J. Smith became the bride of Summers N. Molthan. Due to Mrs. Molthan's illness the anniversary was not celebrated by a party or the re-inactment of the wedding ceremony, as often is the case, but a representative of The Argus called at their home to extend felicitations and enjoy the pleasure of hearing them tell of the unusual happiness of their long married life, most of which has been spent in Malheur county.

From her sick bed Mrs. Molthan smiling said, "We never quarreled, and we have been very fortunate," a sentiment in which her husband agreed.

"Yes we are fortunate that we live in this county," Mr. Molthan said. "We are fortunate to live here in Oregon and here in Ontario."

Left Oregon Once

"We came here to Malheur county in April, 1887," Mr. Molthan said in telling of their experiences. "I had heard of this section from Joe Whitely, one of the pioneers of the Ironside country. So we went directly to that section. Our first home was on the Little Malheur at what is now called the Hold Out.

"I shall never forget the first day we were there. Two of the Duncan boys came along and they had just killed a deer. Although we were strangers they gave us that venison. That was our introduction to the people who were to be our neighbors. I do not know how others feel but it seems to me folk were more neighborly then. We had no locks on the doors, and every stranger was welcomed. The Ironside section was pretty well settled even then, and the people were comfortably well off.

"But we were lonesome for Arkansas, after three years, so we sold what we had and went back where I bought a farm, fixed up

the fences and had part of the land plowed to plant a crop when along came one of those awful rains and floods they have down there. The plowed land was torn up, and boulders scattered over the field. Right then I made up my mind to go back to Ironside, so I sold the place and came back, and I have never regretted it.

"I do not know whether people are better or worse now than they were then, but in those days we had no locks on our doors and neighbors riding the range could always help themselves to a meal. Once when we were all gone a range outfit came by and cooked themselves a meal and left on the table what they thought it was worth, though they need not have done it.

"Perhaps the biggest change in this country has been the roads. It used to take a full day to get to Vale from our ranch which was located about a mile north of the Ironside store. Now it is only section, Mr. and Mrs. Molthan

Mr. Molthan was born in 1859 and Mrs. Molthan a year later. They can dimly remember events of the civil war, particularly can Mr. Molthan recall the capture of their territory by a regiment of federals and the destruction of their home.

Two of their three children are still living, they are Mrs. Lulu Howard, of Spokane; and Elmer Molthan of Ironside. They have also five grand children: Ellis Howard, Klamath Falls; Jack Howard, Bandon; Mrs. Ruth Bennett, Bandon; Mrs. Hazel Lunnborg, Spokane; and John Molthan, Ironside. They have, too, two great grand children.

After more than 40 years in the livestock business in the Ironside section Mr. and Mrs. Molthan moved down to Ontario fifteen years ago and have made their home at the corner of NW 4th street and 2nd avenue.

MOLTHAN RANCH CENTENNIAL PRESENTATION





MARY JANE & Elmer MOLTAN
CIRCA 1920



MARY JANE MOLTHAN

JOHN MOLTHAN

1922



John & Adeline Molthan



John (Bill) Molthan Jr.
Theresa Molthan



GERRY
Pinto

JoAN
Silva

John
Molthan

CAROLYN
Pinto

Adeline
Molthan

Alex
Silva





Molthan Upper Field



Molthan Yellow
BARN



Molthan Ranch 1967





L. C. McDonald

To S. M. McThane.

03168

This Indenture

Made this 26 day of April in the year of our Lord 1897 between L. C. McDonald of Ironside, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon and Emma, his wife of the first part and S. M. McThane of the same place of the second part witnesses.

That the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Twelve Hundred and Seventy five dollars in hand paid by the said party of the second part, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, and sold and by these presents do grant, bargain and sell unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, all the following described lot, piece or parcel of land situated in the County of Multnomah State of Oregon to wit:

The West $\frac{1}{2}$ of S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$; N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ and the West $\frac{1}{2}$ of the S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 21, Township 14 South, Range 39 E. 4. N.

Together with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents issues and profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, claims and demands whatsoever, of the said party of the first part, either in law or equity, of in and to the above bargained premises with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging.

To Have and to Hold

The said premises above bargained and described, with the appurtenances, unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever. And the said L. C. McDonald and Emma, his wife, parties of the first part, hereby expressly waive, release and relinquish unto the said party of the second part, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, all right, title, claim, interest and benefit whatever in and to the above described premises and each and every part thereof, which is given by, or results from all laws of this State pertaining to the exemption of Homesteads; and that the same are free and clear from all former and other grants, bargains, sales and liens, taxes, assessments and encumbrances of what kind or nature soever; and the above bargained premises in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns against all and every person or persons lawfully claiming or to claim the whole or any part thereof the said party of the first part shall and will warrant and forever defend.

In Testimony Whereof, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands.

Signed Sealed and Delivered

in presence of

Chas L. McCannan

Mary J Lawrence

Louis C. Wisdom *Test*

Emma A. Wisdom *Test*

State of Oregon }
County of Multnomah } ss

Before the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace for the precinct of Carlisle in the County of ~~Multnomah~~ and State aforesaid personally appeared the within named L. C. Wisdom and Emma A. Wisdom, his wife, to me known to be the individuals described in and who executed the within conveyance and the said L. C. Wisdom acknowledged that he executed the same; and the said Emma A. Wisdom being by me *separately* and apart from her said husband then and there acknowledged that she executed and such conveyance freely and without ^{fear} or compulsion from any one.

This 26 day of April, 1897.

M. J. Lawrence
J. P.

Deed and Maps To Molthan Ranch
1897

T. 13 S.

T. 14 S.

T. 15 S.

IRONSIDE MOUNTAIN

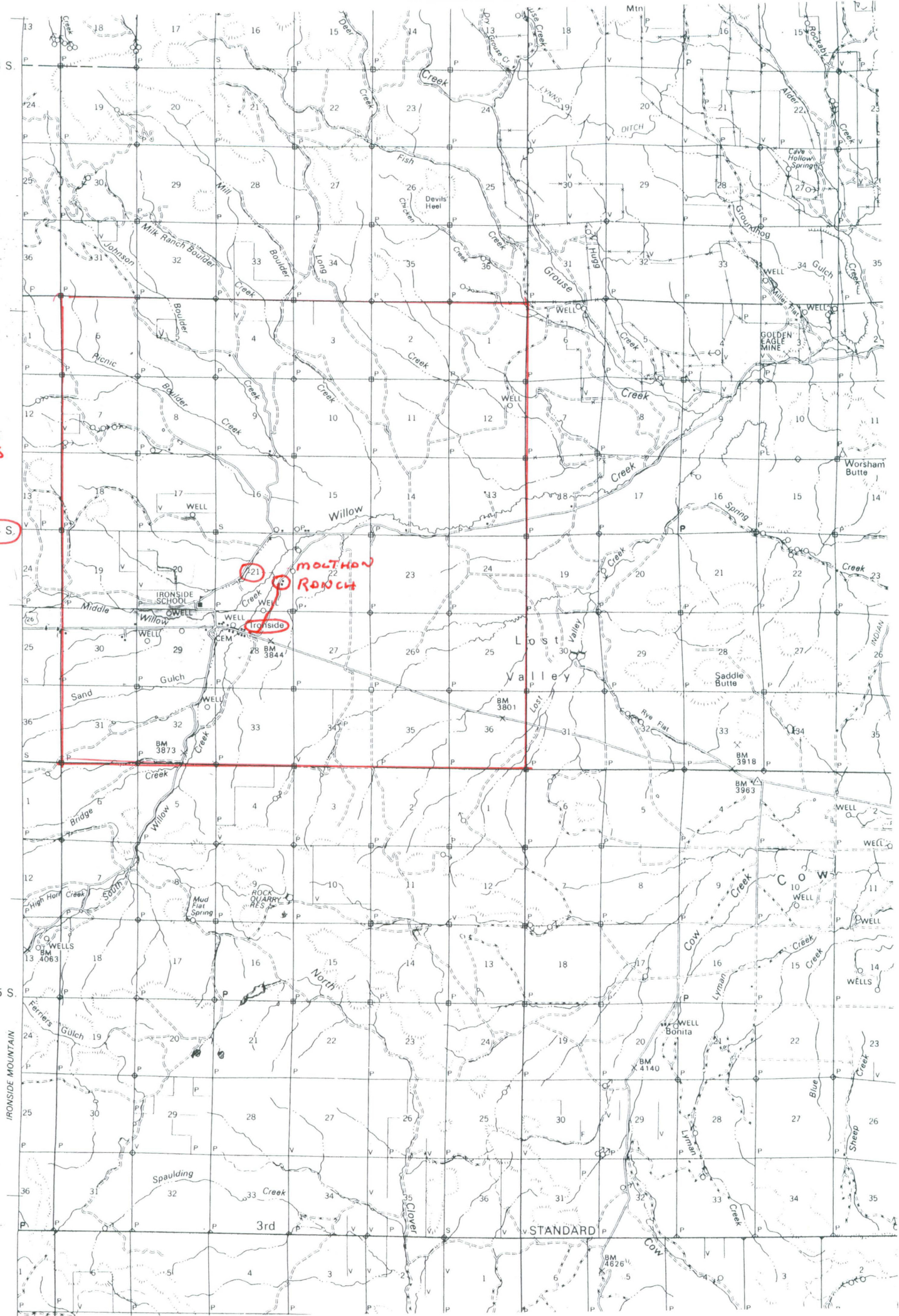
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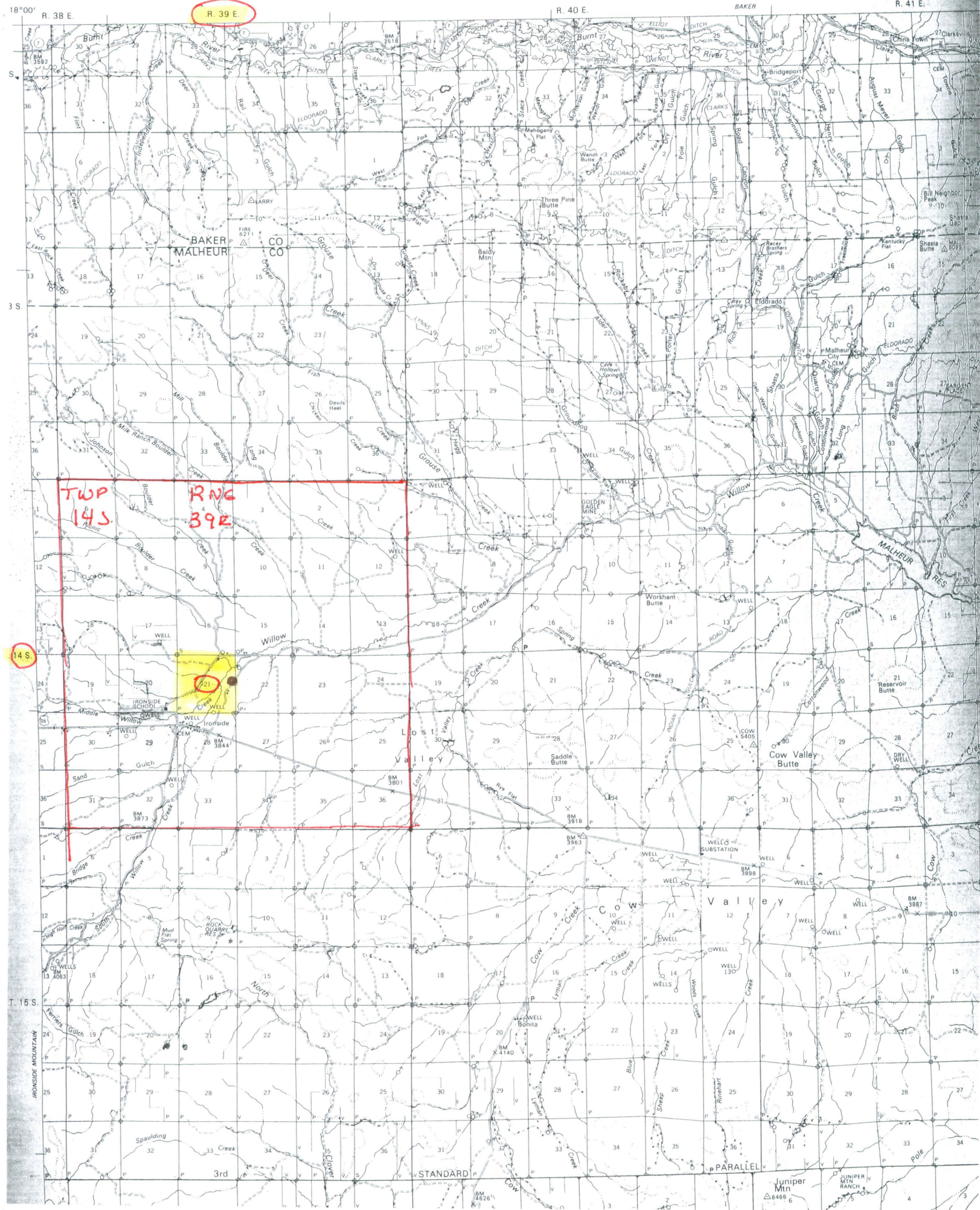
STANDARD

ORIGINAL
MOLTHAN
RANCH
1899
Sec. 21
RNG 39E
TWP. 14S

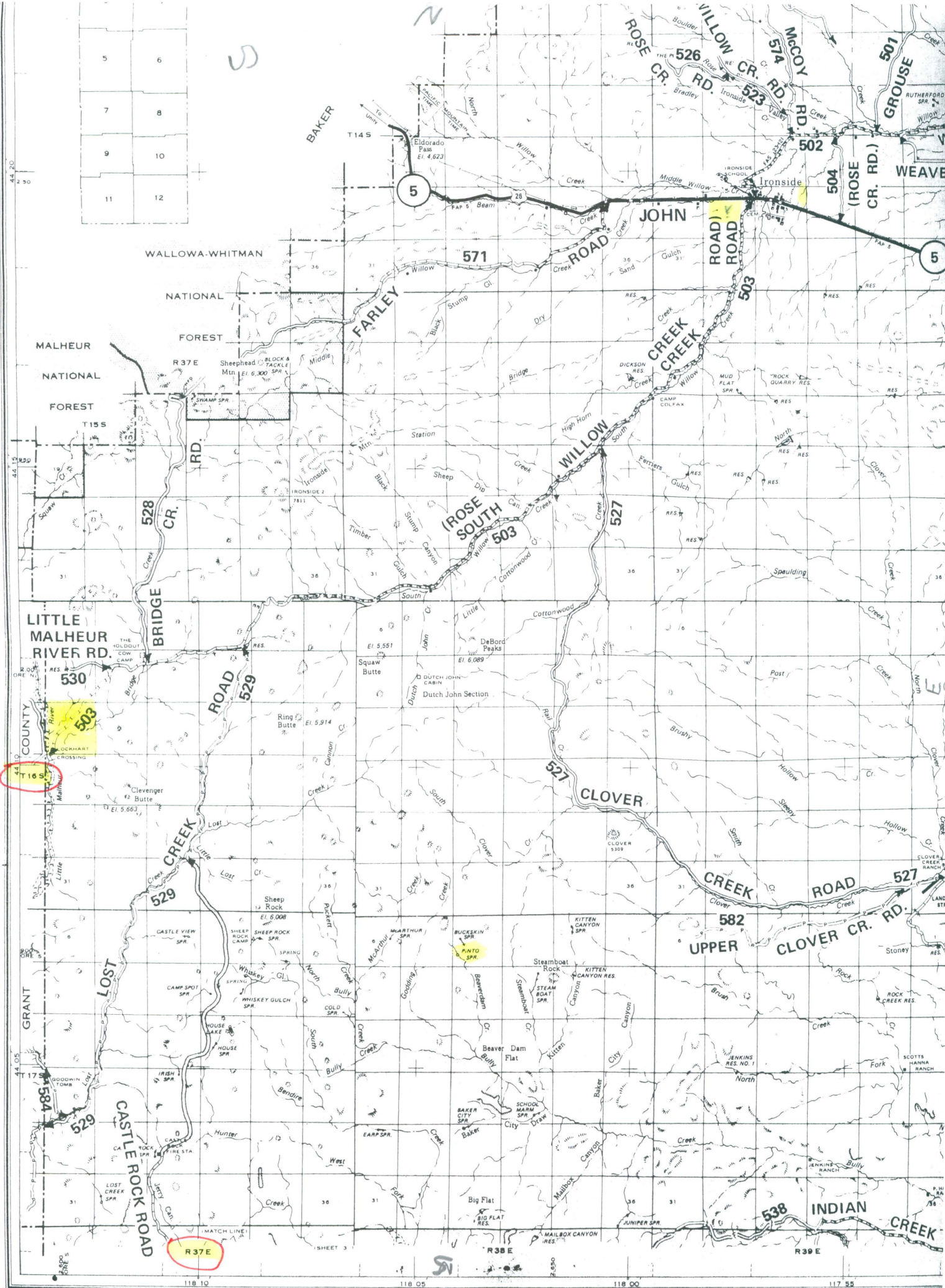
MOLTHAN
RANCH

Ironside





MOLTRAN RANCH 1894
LOCKHART CROSSING 127.06 ACRES
PRESIDENTIAL PATENT



The United States to Summers M Malthan

01863

Filed for
Record
Jan'y 26th 1894
at
8 o'clock A.M.
E. A. Test
Co. Clerk

Certificate } The United States of America
No 3596 } To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas Summers M Malthan of Malheur County Oregon, has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States a certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Le Grand Oregon - whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Summers M Malthan - according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provisions for the sale of the Public Lands," and the acts supplemental thereto, for the Lots numbered one, two, three, and four of Section eighteen in Township sixteen South of Range thirty seven East of Willamette Meridian in Oregon containing one hundred and twenty seven acres and sixty hundredths of an acre, according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, which said Tract has been purchased by the said Summers M Malthan

Now Know ye, That the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the 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 Summers M Malthan, and to his heirs, the said tract above described; So have and to hold the same, together with all the rights, , privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said Summers M Malthan and to his heirs and assigns forever, subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, Agricultural, 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 to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, as provided by law; and there is reserved

thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States.

In testimony whereof I Benjamin Harrison 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.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety one and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and sixteenth

By the President Benjamin Harrison

By Ellen Macfarland Asst Secretary

L R Conwell



Recorded, Vol 9^a Page 314

Recorder of the General Land Office
Ad interim

Holland & Eldredge To J. F. S. Diven

01864-01865

Filed For

Record

Jan'y 7th 1894

at

4 o'clock P.M.

E. N. Tuck

Co. Clerk

This Indenture witnesseth, That Isaac N Holland & Henry D Eldredge & Etta J Holland wife of I. N. Holland for the consideration of the sum of One Hundred ^{and} Eighty ^{and} no/100 Dollars, to them paid, have bargained, and sold, and by these presents do bargain, sell and convey unto J. F. S. Diven the following described premises to-wit:

One half of their one twenty fourth to-wit, a one forty eighth in and to a certain ditch in the Mel-hens river valley, known as the Gullermon & Froman ditch Company's Ditch

To have and to hold the said premises, with their appurtenances, unto the said J. F. S. Diven, his heirs & assigns forever.

And the said Isaac N Holland & Henry D Eldredge do hereby covenant to and with the said J. F. S. Diven his heirs and assigns, that they are the owners in fee simple of said premises, that they are free from all incumbrances and that they will warrant and defend

Presidential Patent and maps
1894

