

CFR 1124

Brett Gray

Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation

# Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Date 5-31-07

Type of designation (please check)



Century Farm



Century Ranch

Legal owner / Applicant name Brett Gray

Redacted for Privacy

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant  
Redacted for Privacy

Telephone Redacted for Privacy

E-mail address Redacted for Privacy

Contact name (if different than legal owner) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Contact E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of farm or ranch (which is the subject of this application):**

County Sherman

Distance 7 miles from nearest town Wasco

Township 2N Range 18E Wm Section 29

Address or physical location of the farm or ranch (which is subject of this application): \_\_\_\_\_

Redacted for Privacy

GPS (Global Positioning System) Coordinates, if known: North 45° 37.631'

West 120° 35.761'

### Century Farm & Ranch Program Application - Continued

**Founder(s):**

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) Bruno (B.F.) Medler

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1901  
(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today? Brett Gray

Relationship of Applicant to original owner. Please explain lineage. (See Application Qualification #7)

Bruno was my Great Great Grandfather on my dads side.

**History of buildings:**

Are any of the original buildings still in use?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe the buildings and their former and current use: The center of the house there has been 2 major remodels - and one outbuilding which is a house is an oil shed; it was an elevator for sack wheat.

Are any of the buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places?  Yes  No  
If, "yes", please describe:

**History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:**

What were the early crops or livestock? Horses, Cattle, Pigs, Sheep, Wheat & barley

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? 360

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years?  
When tractors came along the horses went away. Then as time went by the other livestock disappeared because the grains were being grown fence to fence and there wasn't any pasture.

(Please continue application on next page.)

## Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued

### History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch – Cont'd:

What are crops / livestock raised on the subject farm or ranch today?

All dry land wheat.

How many acres does the subject farm or ranch include today?

2350

How many acres are in agricultural use today?

2225

### The Family:

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

3

Please list names and birth years:

CL Gray 5-13-29  
Brett Gray 6-22-59  
Tiffany Gray 4-9-87  
Brooke Gray 1-26-90

**Please submit two or three pages of family history narrative, including, but not limited to generational transfers of the farm or ranch. Please also submit historical & current photos of the property & family, as available.**

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved to farm or ranch from
- Significant events in the family (births, deaths, marriages, etc)
- Any major changes to operations (methods of production, etc.)
- Additional information on crops, buildings, other changes from the original farm or ranch

(Please continue application on next page.)

# Statement of Affirmation

I, Brett Gray,  
hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at Redacted for Privacy,  
in the County of Sherman

has been owned by my family for at least 100 continuous 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 Ranch honors, including that the farm or ranch has a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding making this statement. I understand that the application materials will become property of the Oregon Historical Society Library and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

Brett L Gray 5-31-07  
Signature of Owner Date

## Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon  
County of Sherman

Be it remembered, that on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2007, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named individual, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he 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.



Kathleen Stregge  
Notary Public for Oregon  
My Commission Expires 11/12/2008

### Fees

Application Fee  
(includes one certificate) \$ 65.00

Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ 65

Make checks payable to:  
Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation or OAEF

### For office use only

Date Received 2007

Approved?  Yes  No

Authorization GM  
Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator  
OHS Library

MSS 1604 Program ID No. C7R1124



early 1900s





May 2007

Historical record of Brett L. and Trena Gray farm in Sherman County, Oregon. Located at Redacted for Privacy on the S ½ of Section 29, Township 2 North Range 18EWM

The earliest association with the family was through the purchase of this land by Bruno ( B. F. ) Medler. He moved to what is Sherman County in 1881 and started to purchase land, for him and his family to farm. Him and his wife had a total of 9 children, and they settled NE of Wasco.

On the land in this farm site, Bruno purchased the East ¼ from William K. Corson and wife on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1901 as shown on copy of recorded deed enclosed. He then purchased the West ¼ from Charles A. Harper and wife on April 5, 1905 as shown on copy of recorded deed enclosed.

Bruno died at the age of 69 on March 9, 1908. On settlement of his Estate, the above described property transferred to his daughter, Lena Mae, and her husband, Charles W. Johnson.

Lena Mae and C W Johnson made this their home, raising three children, Rolland, Cathryn, and Gordon. After school Rolland returned to the ranch to assist in farming with his father.

In 1937, Rolland married Delta M. Drinkard /Gray. At this time his mother was quite sick, and the doctors recommended that they go to a more moderate climate. Consequently Charles and Lena Mae moved to the coast area, leaving the farming to Rolland and Delta.

Lena Mae died Aug. 22, 1945. Charles W. died in 1968, and the home ranch was left to Rolland and Delta. They farmed it until 1995 when Rolland died. Delta continued living on the ranch until 1997 when she fell and broke her hip. The farming was being done by her son and grandson. She then moved to The Dalles in an assisted living facility.

In 1997, Brett and Trena, and family moved on to the main ranch.

In Dec. of 2005, Delta gave the above property to Brett And Trena Gray.

Wm. K. Corson, et ux.  
to  
B.F. Medler.

Filed for record April 17th  
1901, at 4.00 o'clock P. M.

Know all men by these presents, That William K. Corson and Della Reed Corson, his wife, of Ione, County of Morrow, State of Oregon, in consideration of Twelve Hundred dollars to them paid by B.F. Medler of Wasco, County of Sherman, State of Oregon, have bargained and sold and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto said B.F. Medler his heirs and assigns, all the following bounded and described real property, situated in the County of Sherman and State of Oregon;--

The Southeast quarter of Section Twenty-nine, (29) in Township Two (2) North of Range Eighteen (18) East of the Willamette Meridian in Sherman County, Oregon, containing 160 acres according to government survey thereof.

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and also all their estate, right, title and interest in and to the same, including dower and claim of dower. To have and to hold the above described and granted premises unto the said B.F. Medler, his heirs and assigns forever, And William K. Corson and Della Reed Corson the grantors above named do covenant to and with B.F. Medler the above named grantee his heirs and assigns, that the above granted premises are free from all incumbrances and that they will and their heirs executors and administrators shall warrant and forever defend the above granted premises and every part and parcel thereof against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whomsoever.

In witness whereof, we the grantors above named hereunto set our hands and seals this ~~eight~~ eighth day of April; A.D. 1901.  
Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us as witnesses.  
W.H. Dobyms,  
Ida Moore.

William, K. Corson. (Seal)  
Della Reed Corson, (Seal)

\$1.00 I.R. Stamp duly cancelled.

State of Oregon.  
County of Morrow, SS. This certifies that on this 8th day of April A.D. 1901, before me, the undersigned, a notary public in and for said county and state personally appeared the within named William K. Corson and Della Reed Corson, his wife, who are known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.  
In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year last above written.

(Seal)

W.H. Dobyms,  
Notary Public for Oregon.

George W. Brock et ux,  
to  
M. Damon.

Filed for record April 18th  
1901, at 8.00 o'clock A.M.

Know all men by these presents, That We George W. Brock and Alice L. Brock his wife of the County of Sherman State of Oregon, in consideration of Three Thousand Seven Hundred fifty and no/100 dollars, to us paid by Milton Damon, of the County Of Sherman, State of Oregon, have bargained and sold and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto said Milton Damon and his heirs and assigns all the following bounded and described real property situated in the County of Sherman and State of Oregon;

All of the East half (E<sup>1/2</sup>) of Section Twenty-three (23) in Township One (1) South of Range Eighteen (18) East of the Willamette Meridian, containing three hundred twenty (320) ~~acres~~ acres more or less according to the government survey,

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and also all our estate, right, title and interest in and to the

their heirs executors and administrators shall warrant and forever defend the above granted premises and every part and parcel thereof against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whomsoever

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we the grantors above named hereunto set our hands and seals this 22d day of March A D 1905

Signed sealed and delivered in

the presence of

Oliver Abbott

Honora Davey (SEAL)

John Bishop

Mary Murphy (SEAL)

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
COUNTY OF CLINTON ) SS

THIS CERTIFIES That on this 22d day of March A D 1905 before me the undersigned a Notary Public in And for said county and Stat personally appeared the within named Honora Davey and Mary Murphy widows who being by me known to be the identical persns described in and who executed the within instrument and a knowledged to me that they executed the same freely for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and .... seal the day and year last above written.

(SEAL) Nathan T Hewett  
Notary Public ~~REXX~~ in & for Clinton Co N Y

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
CLINTON COUNTY CLERKS OFFICE ) SS

I, J W H Holcombe Clerk of said County and of the courts of record thereof do hereby certify that N T Hewett esq whose name is subscribed to the certificate of the proof or acknowledgment of annexed instrument thereon written. was at the time of taking such proof or acknowledgment as Notary Public in and for said County of Clinton dwelling therein commissioned sworn and duly authorized to take the same and

further that I am well acquainted with the handwriting of said Notary Public and verily believe that the signature to the said certificate of proof or acknowledgment is genuine and that the said instrument is executed and acknowledged according to the laws of this State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Court and Cunty this 23rd day of March A D 1905

(SEAL) J W H Holcombe  
Clerk

*Book L - Page 196*

Charles A Harper et ux  
To  
B F Medler

Filed for record April 5 1905  
At 8:00 A.M.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That we Charles A Harper and Addie L Harper husband and wife of Wasco County of Sherman StatD of Oregon in consideration of Eight thousand one hundred and fifty .(\$8.150) to us paid by B F Medler of Wasco County of Sherman State of oregon has bargained and sold and by these presents does grant bargain sell and convey unto said B F Medler his heirs and assigns all the following bounded and described treal property situated in the County of Sherman and State of Oregon

All the south west quarter of section twenty nine and the North east quarter (NE) (1/4) of section thirty two (32) all in township two north Range Eighteen East of the Willamette Meridian containing three hundred and twenty acres.

together with all and singular the tenements hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and also all our este right titã and interest in and to the same including dower and claim of dower To have and to hold the above described and granted premise

Harper husband and wife the grantors above named does covenant to and with B F Medler the above named grantee his heirs and assigns that the above granted premises are free from all incumbrances except a mortgage of twenty eight hundred Dollars in favor of the Ore Mtg Co and that they will and their heirs executors and administrators shall warrant forever defend the above granted premises and every part and parcel thereof against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whomsoever

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we the grantors above named hereunto set our hands and seals this 3rd day of April A D 1905

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of us as witnesses.

F H Meader

Charles A Harper (SEAL)

Sadie C Fox

Addie L Harper (SEAL)

STATE OF OREGON )  
COUNTY OF SHERMAN ) SS

THIS CERTIFIES That on this third day of April A D 1905 before me the undersigned a Notary Public in and for said County and State personally appeared the within named Charles A Harper and Addie L Harper husband and wife who are known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily for the uses and purposes therein ~~mentioned~~ mentioned

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year last above written.

(SEAL) F H Meader  
Notary Public for Oregon

Sarah Trotter

To

W A Kentner

Filed for record April 5 1905  
At 10:30 A.M.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That Sarah Trotter a Widow Woman of Kent County of Sherman State of Oregon in consideration of (\$60.00) Sixty and no/100 Dollars to me paid by W A Kentner of Kent County of Sherman State of Oregon have bargained and sold and by these presents does grant bargain sell and convey unto said W A Kentner his heirs and assigns all the following bonded and described real property situated in the County of Sherman and State of Oregon To-wit:

All of Lots (1,2,&3 ) One Two & Three in Block (2) Two in the town of Knet as shown on the records in the county Clerks office at Moro Sherman County State of Oregon.

together with all and singular the tenements hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and also all our estate right title and interest

in and to the same including dower and claim of dower TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above

described and granted premises unto the said W A Kentner his heirs and assigns forever And

Sarah Trotter the grantor above named does ~~hereunto~~ covenant to and with W A Kentner the

above named <sup>grantee</sup> his heirs and assigns that ~~she~~ she lawfully seized in fee simple of the

above granted premises that the above granted premises are free from all incumbrances and

that she will and her heirs executors and administrators shall warrant and forever defend

the above granted premises and every part and parcel thereof against the lawful claims and

demands of all persons whomsoever.