

SFR 0016

Marian Gray

Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation

# Sesquicentennial Award Application

Date October 27-08

Type of designation (please check)  Farm  Ranch

Legal owner / Applicant name Marian L Gray  
Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant Redacted for Privacy

Telephone Redacted for Privacy E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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 yamhill

Distance 3 mi from nearest town Carlton, OR

Township 35 Range R 4 W Section 14

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sesquicentennial Award Application - Continued**

Please provide the following information.

**Founder(s):**

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) Jeremiah Rowland

Year this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) 1844

Year farm or ranch was awarded Century Farm or Century Ranch status, if applicable ~~1947~~ 1958

Who farms or ranches the land today? Marian L Gray - by renter

20 acres  
@100 an acre + 16 Hay crop -  
600 @ yr

Relationship of Applicant to original owner. Please explain lineage.

**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:

a barn was rebuilt using timbers from original

Are any of the buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places?  Yes  No

If "yes", please describe:

if applies -- Yamhill Co Culture resources as orig-

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

DLC Jeremiah Rowland

Please describe the early crops or livestock. wheat - barley - oats  
cows - separator (to sell cream)  
hogs -

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? 640 as DLC as married  
320 single

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years?

No trading now - independent with hired labor now  
early times helping each other + sharing thresher etc.

## Sesquicentennial Award 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?

grass seed - clover

rented for cattle grazing

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

38 tillable + oak trees + pasture (19 acres)

How many acres are in agricultural use today?

22 crops - 16 permanent hay  
total 38 tillable - 19 pasture + oak  
rented oak

### The Family:

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

Please list names and birth years:

Marian L Gray (Rowland) 80

Please include a narrative of your family history. Please also submit historical & current photos of the property & family, as available. If photos can be provided in digital format at a high resolution appropriate for publication (300 dpi or greater), it would be appreciated.

Types of information to include in your family history narrative:

- From which city, state, or country original owner moved.
- Generational transfers of the farm or ranch property.
- 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, Marian L Gray

hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at Redacted for Privacy  
Redacted for Privacy

Redacted for Privacy

, in the County of Yamhill

has been owned by my family for at least 150 continuous years, as specified in the qualifications for the Century Farm & Ranch Program / Sesquicentennial Award, 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 / Sesquicentennial Award 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.

Marian L Gray  
Signature of Owner

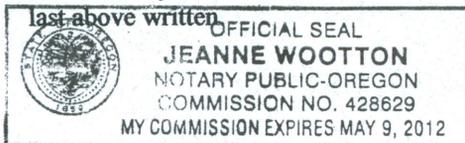
Oct 27-08  
Date

**Certification by Notary Public**

State of Oregon  
County of Yamhill

Be it remembered, that on this 27th day of October, 2008, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named Marian L Gray, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that Marian L. Gray executed the same freely and voluntarily.

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



Jeanne Wootton

Notary Public for Oregon

My Commission Expires May 9, 2012

**Fees**

Application Fee  
(includes one certificate) \$ 25.00

Additional Certificates (\$15 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation or OAEF

(7/2007)

**For office use only**

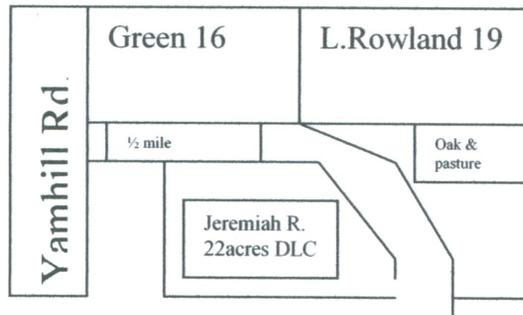
Date Received 2008  
Century Farm or Ranch ID No. if on File CFR0505  
Not on File \_\_\_\_\_

Application Approved?  Yes  No

Authorization GM  
Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator  
OHS Library  
MSS 1604 Program ID No. SFR0016

Jeremiah Rowland was born in N. Carolina. He and his son Green came to Oregon from Tennessee on their covered wagon. Some of their belongings are still in our family as keepsakes.

President Andrew Johnson awarded 640 acres of land to Jeremiah in 1844. His son Green was still single so his claim amounted to 320 acres. A road that was named "Rowland Rd." later divided their claims. This road was later joined with another private road to extend and be county property in the 1930's. The reason for this was mainly for convenience and maintenance.



This property is the remaining property and original transactions.

Jeremiah 1844 (1805-1879)

Son-Green L. 1866 (1827-1910)

Son-James F. 1869 (1869-1940)

Son- Lloyd G 1921 (1898-1969)

Daughter and son in law Marion L. 1959 (1928-present)

Green and James were farmers and carpenters whom built their own homes. I live in one that was built by my grandfather. I was born in it, married in the living room and still call it home today. The house was built in 1920 and now remodeled as it is currently.

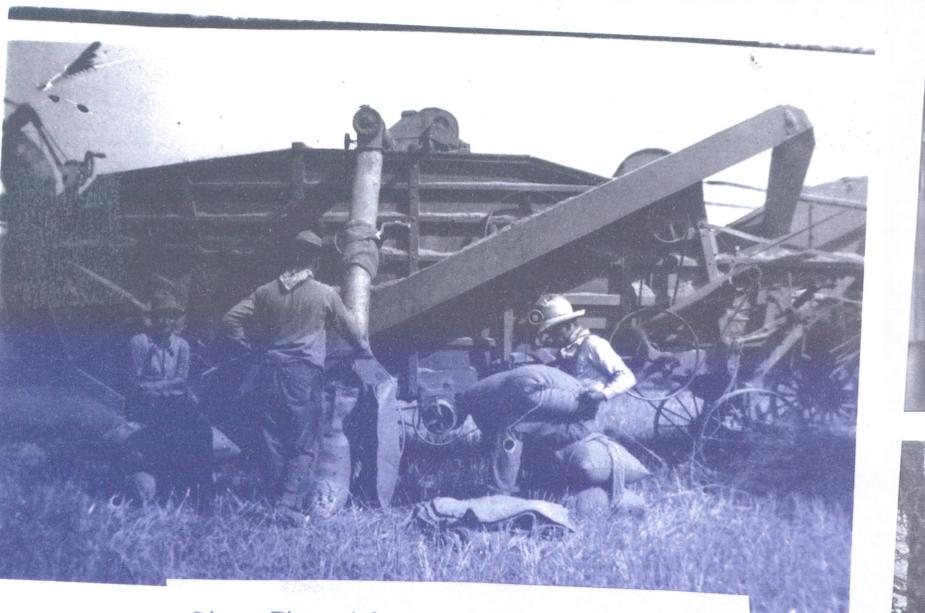
Jeremiah married 3 times due to deaths of his wives. His last marriage included stepchildren which extended to 14 total. He divided his claim and left his home that is still standing but not inhabited. This residence is located on Rowland Rd. and is by a manufactured home at the neighboring vineyard. This is not on our property.

Jeremiah was appointed the first probate judge in 1848 for Yamhill County after he moved to McMinnville. He later died there in 1879.

James sold his portion in 1933 and moved to rural McMinnville to his wives portion of Henderson D.L.C.

Green L. was active in the Grange, a former organization and was a veteran of the Cayuse Indian War.

①



Star Threshing crew in 1910 or 12  
Jim Rowland sewing sacks



*Rowland barn*

③



5



Grandma Flo

G-Grandma Henderson

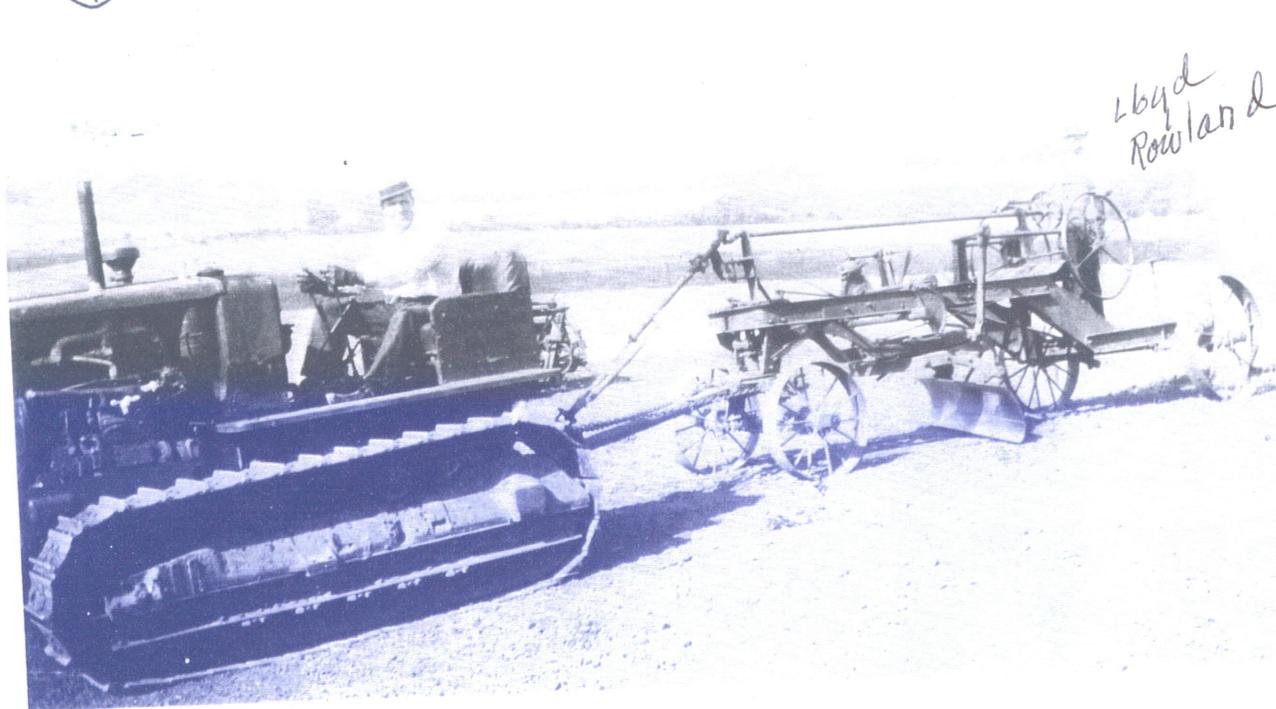
7



Home of Grand  
Dad in 1859

Jim Rowland  
Grandson of  
Grandma

4



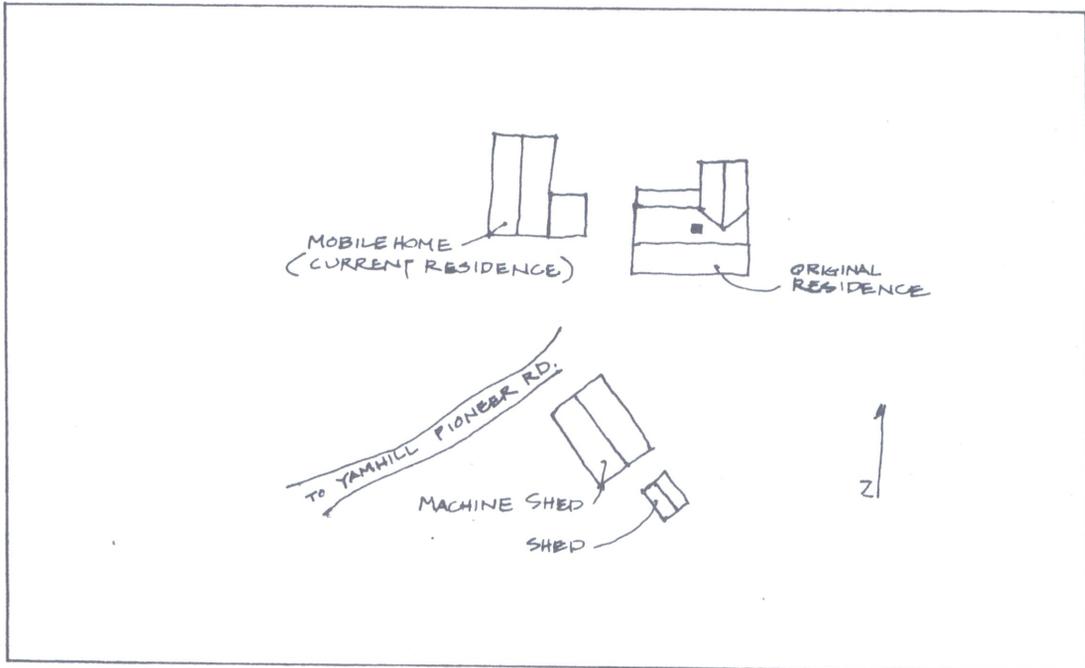
Lloyd Rowland & just  
Posing  
not  
operating

6

YAMHILL COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

T 3S R 4W Sec 14 1/4 SE      Resource No. B3414/41  
I-90

COMMON/HISTORIC NAME: Rowland/Sappington  
House



#1. The present barn was built with old timber from the original barn. The foundation was strengthened with concrete and has a new metal roof as of 1960.

*at present residence*

#2. A hay wagon base and wheels is on display. It was purchased at Montgomery Ward by Loyd Rowland.

#3. Pictures of present barn and first barn built by James Rowland and also ~~his house in his barn~~ for Jim Rowland with thresher as he sews sacks of grain for harvest.

#4. A picture of Yamhill Co. road grader that graded Rowland Rd. Lloyd Rowland and friend on it wishing they could run it as it is parked for the weekend.

#5. A picture of my house on Rowland Rd. as it looked when it was built by Jim Rowland 1920

#6. Picture of Jeremiah Rowland's house now as described in Yamhill Co. "Cultural Resources Inventory" It was built in 1860 and is still standing.

#7. Picture of Green L. Rowland's home that he built in 1859. This is no longer standing.

# Rural Life

## 150 years behind a plow

*enerable farms  
celebrated on  
Oregon's 150th  
anniversary*

**JO MCINTYRE**  
the Capital Press

Independence and cooperation are values Oregon's pioneer farmers and ranchers lived every day.

Those values are still alive in the five families that will be honored Saturday, Feb. 14, as they celebrate their 150-year-old farms at the Capitol as part of the state's sesquicentennial birth-anniversary celebration.

Among the donation land grants issued by the government in Oregon City in the 1850s and 1860s, two went to the Rowland brothers, John and Jeremiah, who bought the farms next to each other near Clifton.

Marian (Rowland) L. Gray, who owns part of the Jeremiah Rowland farm, established in 1852. Her late husband, Jack, who farmed and was a community leader in Yamhill County for many years,

"Jeremiah was a judge in Yamhill County," Gray said. He had 16 children by three marriages, including one to a man who had lost her husband on the Oregon Trail and who had six children." He died in North Yamhill on June 18, 1879, at age 74.

Gray invited two of her siblings, a daughter and two grandchildren to join her in reminiscing.

One change over the past 150 years has been from barter to cash paid for goods and services. Younger sister Carol Gray noted that parents paid their children to teach in vegetables. "The doctor called at the house. All the kids were born at home," brother Ward Rowland, 84, said. "I cost six dozen Rhode Island Reds!"

Often chickens that farm-gave doctors went to the hospital, his wife Lela said, and pre-cooked turned them into food for patients and staff. Another change was the shift from diesel-powered engines, which had trade-offs — efficiency and ability to do more with a human, horse or steam power in exchange for much higher costs to buy and oper-

On-farm steam and later,



Jo McIntyre/For the Capital Press

Three generations of Rowlands — Ward and Lela Rowland, front left, Marian Rowland Gray, and Carol Rowland Roy; Marge Menke, back left, her son Chris Menke, and Shannon Edwards — stand by a prized family heirloom, a farm wagon that could be powered by horses or a tractor. Purchased for \$30 before any can remember, it now rests on the front lawn of Marian Gray's home. The Rowland farm is one of five honored as a Sesquicentennial Farm by the Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program of the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation.

### *Oregon set to party like it's 150 years old*

Several celebrations are set for Feb. 14, Oregon's 150th birthday.

A party at the Capitol will honor five Oregon families whose land has been continuously farmed for 150 years or longer. An award ceremony and reception will be held in Senate Chambers at 1 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Yamhill County Historical Society will host a day-long party with entertainment, tours and refreshments at both YCHS facilities, one at the Museum Complex, southwest of

McMinnville at Durham Lane and Oregon Highway 18, and the other at the log cabin and church in Lafayette at Sixth and Market streets. Both free events will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Lafayette site will feature living history hosts Abigail Scott Duniway, Joel Palmer and Joel Perkins and YCHS members in costume. There will be candle making, old-fashioned games, exhibits and demonstrations at the Durham site.

The Champoeg State Heritage Area, on the banks of

the Willamette River just south of Newberg, will hold a celebration on Feb. 14 in the Visitor's Center, which has maps and displays describing Native Americans, trappers, traders, missionaries, farmers and settlers, as well as the kinds of plants, animals and land that greeted early settlers. Activities include speakers and a birthday cake. The center will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is free, but parking is \$3 per car.

— Jo McIntyre

diesel-powered, engines ran threshers and other farm equipment, like sawmills to make lumber to build sheds, barns and houses.

Wives and other family women fed the crews. Gray still remembers the thrill of helping cook and serve those dinners.

Other trends:

- Commercial activities are more competitive compared to cooperatives of the past, such as egg, dairy products, heating and fuel oil sales co-ops.

- Farmers cooperated by using jointly owned threshers, going from farm to farm during harvests.

- Fences are going away.

Not only are fewer animals raised on farms, but the huge machinery used to raise grass seed requires larger swaths of land.

- Fewer crops per farm, as farms now just raise a few or only one crop. "You had to be diversified during the Depression," Roy said.

People did more by them-

#### More online

Yamhill County Historical Society and Museum:  
[www.yamhillcountyhistory.org](http://www.yamhillcountyhistory.org)  
Friends of Historic Champoeg:  
[www.champoeg.org](http://www.champoeg.org)

selves. When electricity came to the area, Portland General Electric, the power utility, required farmers to put up their own poles and lines to the house, which PGE would then connect to the grid. Farmers logged the trees and dug holes by hand with post-hole augers.

They did the same for phone service. Farmers also had to gravel their own roads, although Yamhill County workers graded the road first, Rowland said. Farmers built their own houses from the ground up. If they didn't like where the house was, they put it on skids and moved it. Farmers built brick silos to store their crops.

Turn to FARMS, Page 14

# Families share stories of heading west

FARMS from Page 13

Gray's great-grandfather's account book recorded nearly 12,000 bushels of wheat and 11,000 bushels of oats.

The Rowlands' independent spirit showed up in the next generation, when Jeremiah's daughter, their grandmother, took part in a debate in 1894 on whether women should have the right to vote.

Other sesquicentennial farms have similar histories of their own.

For example, the Ira and Elvira Hawley ranch in Cottage Grove, founded in 1852, is now known as Hawley Land and Cattle Co. and owned by Bill Hoyt and his wife, Sharon.

"Elvira was the midwife for this area," Sharon Hoyt said. "It was nothing for her, even though they were running the stage stop at the time, to go out in the middle of the night on her black stallion, come back in and make bread."

She was busy with lambing, but took time out to talk about ranch history, since her equally busy husband was away at cattlemen's meeting.

Ira Hawley had five sons and bought them each ranches in the area. On the way to Oregon City to get a donation and claim, he took his only laughter. He put money to pay for the claims into the doll he took with her, and Bill Hoyt's cousin still has that doll.

Another Yamhill County sesquicentennial farm is the William Goodrich farm in Dayton, established in 1848.

Owner Eunice Goodrich said William's family traveled

with the Barlow wagon train, which included Joel Palmer. "They came across the plains in 1845 on the Oregon Trail," she said.

Winter snows forced them to remove wheels and tie ropes to wagons, so they could move the vehicles along steep mountain trails. Eventually, the wagons became trapped in snow, so the pioneers walked to Oregon City, leaving behind their belongings until spring.

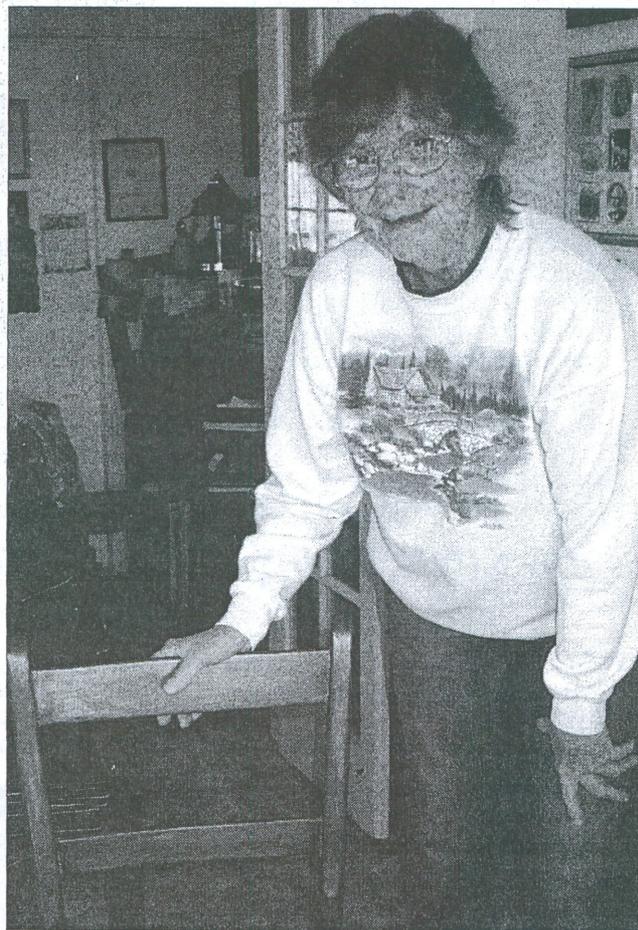
Like many early settlers, the Goodrich men, to increase cash flow, made chairs out of ash trees to sell in Portland.

They also joined the California gold rush. A family story relates that William sold his horse while he was in California, so he took a coastal boat from San Francisco.

On the way to Portland, he told the boat's crew, "I recognize that tree, let me off here." And he walked from there to Dayton.

The twist on the William Grimes Montgomery farm story is that the current owner cannot build a home on his property. Established in pieces between 1855 and 1866 in Stayton, part is now owned by Leland R. Montgomery, 59, of Salem.

Montgomery cannot live on his family's pioneer farmland, since his inherited portion is just 150 acres. State land-use laws prevent him from building a home there, unless he can earn \$80,000 from agricultural production, a near-impossibility, given the soil types and water issues. "There's no wiggle room in the law that allows building a house there," Montgomery



Jo McIntyre/For the Capital Press

Marian Gray talks about the history of the straight-backed chair that hung from the wagon her pioneer family used on the trail to Oregon. The Rowland farm, established in 1852, is one of five honored as a Sesquicentennial Farm by the Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program of the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation.

said.

Still, he loves telling about his great-great grandmother, who was 11 years old when her family came to Oregon in 1853 and 14 when she married William Grimes Montgomery, who arrived in the 1840s.

They grew corn, peas, beans and other row crops then, though most of the land was

used as pasture for livestock. Today, tenant farmers raise primarily grass seed and clover.

When asked about doing research to qualify for sesquicentennial honors, he said, "Well, I cheated. I had a great aunt who was a school teacher and she did most of the work." She died at age 96, leaving the property to her oldest nephew, his dad.

It's the story about Indians that current owner Rebecca A. Owen remembers about the founders of the Nicholas Sprenger farm established in 1852 near Shedd.

On the trek to Oregon, the Sprenger brothers "were teasing the Indians about trading their blond sister for some horses," Owens said. To their surprise and consternation, "the Indians came back with some horses!"

The family hid that little girl for several days until they were safely away.

The Sprenger family also earned outside income, running hotels in Oregon City, Albany and Corvallis.

Today, Owens is surrounded by land that has been divided for many years among family members. Her great-grandfather built the two-story barn, which has 64-foot hand-hewn beams throughout.

She lives in a house her grandparents built in the mid-1920s on about 61 acres that are leased out now. The original home burned down when her grandfather was heating inside the house to repair the roof caught on fire.

"We had a major family reunion in 1952. There were still remnants of the original log cabin at that time," she said. "We all got pieces of it."

She also has the actual donation land claim document framed, hanging on her wall. "That's a very special thing to have."

Freelance writer Jo McIntyre is based in McMinnville, Ore. E-mail: [iomcintyre@verizon.net](mailto:iomcintyre@verizon.net)

A personal note...

presented in  
1944

In reference — as I  
told you The Historical  
Society claimed the date  
1844!

Quote: in recognition of  
100 yrs. enduring service in  
the finest agricultural tradition  
of the state of Oregon —

Robert D. Holmes

Governor

(over)

*A personal note...*

Our present sign has 1844  
so will be a change. —

Sincerely,  
Marian

***Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers***  
***P.O. Box 6685***  
***Portland, Oregon 97228***

January 7, 2009

Marian L. Gray  
Redacted for Privacy

Dear Ms. Gray:

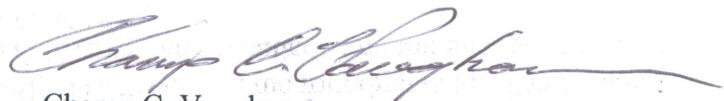
The Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program has announced that your farm, the Marian L. Gray - Jeremiah Rowland Farm near Carlton, will be honored as a sesquicentennial farm at a special awards ceremony to be held in Salem on February 14, 2009. On behalf of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, I take this opportunity to congratulate you and your family for this distinguished achievement recognizing the more than 150 years of continued family ownership and farming a portion of the original Jeremiah Rowland land claim.

We note that records of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc., and records and archives of the U.S. General Land Office and Bureau of Land Management indicate that Jeremiah Rowland settled his land claim and founded his farm on April 12, 1845. The notice of the sesquicentennial award ceremony incorrectly lists "1844" as the founding date. The founding date is actually "1845." The confusion in dates may have resulted from the fact that Jeremiah arrived in Oregon by wagon train in the Fall of 1844.

The records also show that the original land claim was settled in 1845 under the authority of the Provisional Government, before Oregon was part of the United States. The land claim was later perfected under the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850, and the land patent (deed) from the United States and President James Buchanan was issued to Jeremiah and Mary Ann Rowland on November 18, 1858, under Certificate No. 125. They had to wait for the patent until the land claim was surveyed by the U.S. General Land Office.

We hope this information is helpful to you. If you concur with our findings, please notify the Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program Coordinators to change the founding date to "1845." If you have any questions you can reach me in Molalla at 503-829-4216 or by E-Mail <vaughan@molalla.net>.

Sincerely,



Champ C. Vaughan  
Past President  
Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers