

SFR 0032

George & Alicia Smith

A program of the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation
Sesquicentennial Award Application

Date 4-11-15

Type of designation (*please check*) Sesquicentennial Farm Sesquicentennial Ranch

Legal owner / Applicant name George W and Alicia L Smith

Farm or Ranch Name (this is the name used in all publicity & marketing)

George W Smith Ranch

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant Redacted for Privacy

Telephone Redacted for

E-mail address Redacted for Privacy

Contact name (if different than legal owner) _____

Mailing address of contact _____

Contact telephone _____ E-mail address _____

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

County Coos

Distance 5 mi from nearest town of Coos Bay, Oregon

Township 25S Range 12W Section 26

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

43deg22'32.5" W124deg05'59.8"

Please attach a map or drawing showing the location of the eligible property within the context of the family farm or ranch. (Continue application on next page)

Sesquicentennial Award Application - Continued

Founder(s):

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) William DeLaFletcher Smith

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) 1865

(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today? George and Alicia Smith

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Great Grandson of WDLF Smith
4th generation soon to be 5th generation

Clearly explain lineage from original ownership documents to current applicant. (See Application Qualification #7)

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? 95.39 ac

How many acres are included today in the farm or ranch? 286 ac

How many acres are in agricultural use today? 309.32 ac

If the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, please explain the owner's role in this relationship. For example, is the owner actively involved in the management of the land?

Year farm or ranch was awarded Century Farm or Century Ranch status, if applicable 1969

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:

What were the early crops or livestock? Crops and Livestock were historically raised on the farm, dairy stock, fish, fruit, corn, potatoes, timber, horses and asses. Pioneer History of Coos and Curry Counties mentions several sheep and hogs were saved but the fruit orchard was swept away in the flood of 1890 consisted of cherries, peaches, pears, apples, plums, crab apples and quince

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

The bottom land was improved upon to lessen damage due to freshets by clearing out of the brush and ditching for quick drainage through tide gates. Some of the Timber was harvested, old downed timber was

recovered and acreage was replanted, a cleanup of old timber harvest habits. The quality of the beef was tested by raising different breeds or crossbreeds of cattle, settling for the current red angus cross. Because of the freshets, the bottom ground is constantly watched to produce a quality hay crop.

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

A cow/calf beef cattle operation, timber and hay is harvested every summer and has evolved from loose to two string bales to round bales to haylage. Currently 100 plus tons of hay and haylage are produced to feed the cow/calf operation.

(Continue application on next page)

History of buildings:

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

When was the first house built? If it is still in use, describe the changes that have been made.

1864

What years were other structures built (examples: barns, silos, machine shops, coops, smokehouses, dryers, etc.). Describe the changes that have been made to them, including any demolition.

The first house was built on lower bench for gravity water system from spring

The chicken house and potato shed were built soon after that behind the house

The current house was built 1951 further up on the bench to avoid freshet

A garage was built where the first house was after the current house was built

A Garage and woodshed (old one fell from snow) at the current house in 1965

Unknown when First barn was built, about 1864

The Quonset style new barn built 1951 in the same footprint as the original barn, the sides and roof repair in

1992, the current roof about 2002

Shop and blacksmith shop and bull pen 1950's

Quonset style milking parlor in 1950

Heifer shed 1950

Quonset style machine shed 1950

Feed barn 1988

New Equipment bldg. by barn

Newest equipment bldg.

Purchased mini ranch 1992 and built that house

The family:

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

one

List names and birth years:

George W and Alicia Smith both in 1934

The family history narrative:

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, if available. Digital format photos (at highest resolution [300 dpi]) are particularly desirable, so that they may be used in publications, the program's database or the web site. Submitted information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please send digital photos included with your application to cfr@oregonfb.org by **May 1**.

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved from to farm or ranch
- 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

(Continue application on next page)

Sesquicentennial Award Application - Continued

Statement of Affirmation

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

Redacted for Privacy, in the County of COOS

has been owned by my family for at least 150 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 OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

George W Smith
 Signature of Owner

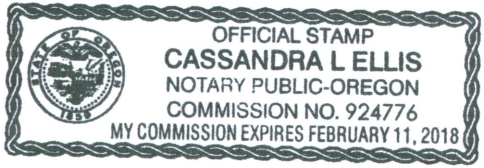
4/4/2015
 Date

Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of COOS

Be it remembered, that on this 4th day of April, 2015, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named George W Smith, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that George W Smith 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.



Cassandra J. Ellis
 Notary Public for Oregon
 My Commission Expires 2/11/2018

<u>Fees</u>	<u>For office use only</u>
Application Fee (includes one certificate & roadside sign, Note \$50 of this fee is nonrefundable) \$ 250.00	Date Received _____
Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ _____	Approved? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Additional Signs (\$200 each)	Authorization _____
Total Enclosed \$ <u>250.00</u>	Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator

Make checks payable to: Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation or OAEF

George W Smith Ranch

1896 WDLF moved into town leaving the farming to his sons William (Bill) H Smith and George F Smith. WDLF passed away in 1906 and was buried at the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery. After Williams (Bill) death in 1926 George took over the farm, his sons came together, but continued their own careers, to help him run the farm.

William (Bill) F Smith was also a Deputy Sheriff and collected the poll tax for the Coos River area and carried a license for Marine Navigation.

Upon George F Smith's death in 1940, his sons Max, Carl, Cecil and Donald (Jimmy) took over the farm. Finally tiring of milking cows they changed over to cow/calf operation in the early 1960's.

George F Smith served as Coos River School Director, Southwestern Oregon Dairy Herd Improvement Association and one of the founders of Coos River Creamery. The Creamery was built in 1939 and burned in the early 1950's. The co-op was started by local farmers who wanted more money for their milk. They started the co-op and made cheese into 25 to 50 # rounds. The Cheese maker was George's brother in law Angus J McDonald. The creamery was located on the farm near the forks of the river.

The County Road was built as far as the Coos River School, in 1924, at that time the milk cans were placed on a platform at the end of the driveway where they were taken by truck to the creamery in town.

Max Smith had worked on the water feeding logs to a lumber mill before he came back to the ranch

Carl Smith was a mechanic by trade and fabricated in the blacksmith shop and made repairs as needed and carried a license for Marine Navigation

Cecil Smith worked in a lumber mill and on several tugs and boats in the area and off the Oregon coast and carried a license for Marine Navigation

Donald (Jimmy) is a graduate of Oregon Agricultural School, now known as Oregon State University, in Agriculture. He was a buyer for McNeil Libby before returning to the farm to help his brothers.

In 1965 Cecil's son, George W Smith took over the Ranch along with his wife Alicia and their three children. The cow herd consisted of about 18 head at that time. Over the years the heard has increased and decreased, went from polled Herefords to Santa Gertudes to Red Angus due to their ease of handling. When George and Alicia took over the farm, another flood, in late December 1964, and had left about a foot of silt in the 80 acres of hay fields and a tremendous amount of flood debris. All the bottom land had to be cleaned of debris, ditched and replanted for hay and grazing, taking years to recover.

The bottom ground was also cleared of willow and myrtle trees and drain fields were laid along with ditching and tide gates increasing the size of usable acreage for hay harvest. The timber land was cleared of all the debris and replanted with 120 acres of two year old trees. At this time there is more timber on the land than there has ever been. There is a portable sawmill on the property and all the wood building materials are milled from trees on the ranch. Most of the repairs are made from this lumber. The logs coming from those recovered from logging years ago and downed trees from winter storms.

Hay is harvested every summer and has evolved from loose to two string bales to round bales to haylage. Currently 100 tons plus of hay and haylage are produced to feed the cow/calf operation.

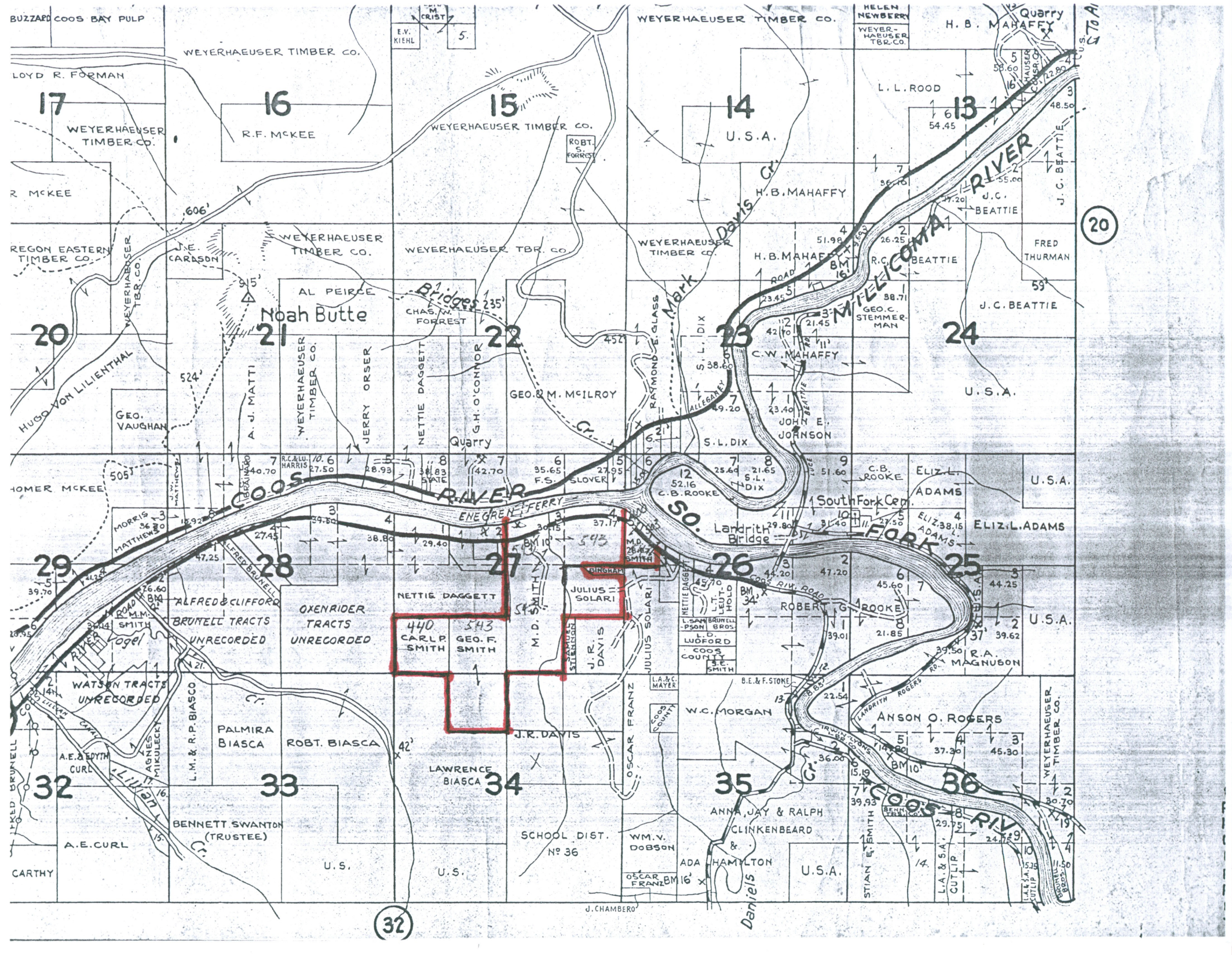
The original homestead consists of 95.39 acres with a 2nd land grant purchased a year later of 80 acres. Through the years property was purchased and sold all around the original ranch and is now

George W Smith Ranch

309.32 acres. (This includes 13.43 acres of bottom ground 4 miles down the river, purchased in 1992, for haying purposes)



W. D. L. F. Smith



BUZZARD COOS BAY PULP

WEYERHAEUSER TIMBER CO.

WEYERHAEUSER TIMBER CO.

HELEN NEWBERRY
WEYERHAEUSER
TBR. CO.

H. B. MAHAFFY

LOYD R. FORMAN

R. F. MCKEE

WEYERHAEUSER TIMBER CO.

U. S. A.

L. L. ROOD

17

16

15

14

13

WEYERHAEUSER
TIMBER CO.

WEYERHAEUSER TIMBER CO.

U. S. A.

L. L. ROOD

613

R. MCKEE

REGON EASTERN
TIMBER CO.

WEYERHAEUSER
TIMBER CO.

WEYERHAEUSER TBR. CO.

WEYERHAEUSER
TIMBER CO.

H. B. MAHAFFY

L. L. ROOD

613

COOS RIVER

COOS RIVER

COOS RIVER

20

20

Noah Butte

22

23

24

HUGO VON LILIENTHAL

GEO. VAUGHAN

A. J. MATTI

WEYERHAEUSER
TIMBER CO.

JERRY ORSER

NETTIE DAGGETT

G. H. O'CONNOR

GEO. & M. MCILROY

RAYMOND E. GLASS

L. L. DIX

H. B. MAHAFFY

C. W. MAHAFFY

JOHN E. JOHNSON

R. C. BEATTIE

GEO. C. STEMMERMAN

J. C. BEATTIE

FRED THURMAN

J. C. BEATTIE

U. S. A.

HOMER MCKEE

COOS RIVER

27

26

25

29

28

27

26

25

MORRIS MATTHEW

ALFRED & CLIFFORD

BRUNELL TRACTS

OXENRIIDER TRACTS

NETTIE DAGGETT

JULIUS SOLARI

LANDRITH BRIDGE

ROBERT G. ROOKE

ELIZ. L. ADAMS

ELIZ. L. ADAMS

U. S. A.

WATSON TRACTS

BRUNELL TRACTS

OXENRIIDER TRACTS

NETTIE DAGGETT

JULIUS SOLARI

LANDRITH BRIDGE

ROBERT G. ROOKE

ELIZ. L. ADAMS

ELIZ. L. ADAMS

32

33

34

35

36

A. E. EDYTH GURL

AGNES MIKULECKY

L. M. & R. P. BIASCA

PALMIRA BIASCA

ROBT. BIASCA

J. R. DAVIS

OSCAR FRANZ

W. C. MORGAN

B. E. & F. STONE

ANSON O. ROGERS

CARTHY

A. E. CURL

BENNETT SWANTON (TRUSTEE)

U. S.

U. S.

SCHOOL DIST. No 36

WM. V. DOBSON

ADA HAMILTON

U. S. A.

STIAN E. SMITH

L. A. & S. A. CUTLIP

L. A. & S. A. CUTLIP

32

J. CHAMBERO

Daniels



To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

CERTIFICATE

No. 648.

Whereas, *W.D.F. Smith of Wasco County Oregon*

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the UNITED STATES, a CERTIFICATE of the Register of the Land Office at *Roseburg*, whereby it appears that FULL PAYMENT has been made by the said *W.D.F. Smith* according

to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the public lands," for *the lots numbered Three and Four of Section Twenty seven, and the lot numbered Five of Section Twenty six in Township Twenty five South of Range Twelve West in the District of lands subject to sale at Roseburg Oregon containing Ninety five acres, and thirty nine 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 tracts have been purchased by the said *W.D.F. Smith*

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 *W.D.F. Smith* and to *his* heirs, the said Tract above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said *W.D.F. Smith* and to *his* heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I, *Andrew Johnson* 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 *Fifteenth* day of *August* in the YEAR OF OUR LORD one thousand eight hundred and *sixty five* and of the Independence of the United States the *Ninetieth*

BY THE PRESIDENT:

Andrew Johnson



21

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

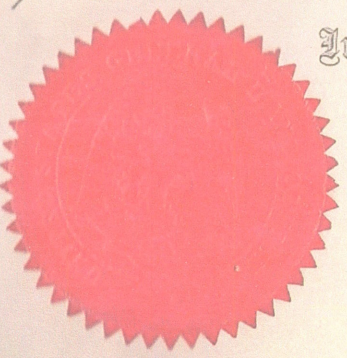
Certificate }
No. 5452

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas W. D. L. F. Smith of Cross County, Oregon
has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon
whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said W. D. L. F. Smith
according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," and the
acts supplemental thereto, for the west half of the south east quarter of section twenty seven, in township twenty-
five south of range twelve west of Willamette Meridian, in Oregon, containing eighty acres

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 W. D. L. F. Smith

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 W. D. L. F. Smith
and to his heirs, the said Tract above described: **To have and to hold** the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances,
of whatsoever nature thereunto belonging, unto the said W. D. L. F. Smith 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.



In testimony whereof, I, Chester A. Arthur, 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 first day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and eighty four, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and eight

BY THE PRESIDENT: Chester Arthur

By M. H. Park, Secretary.
J. W. Leark, Recorder of the General Land Office.

Recorded, Vol. 10, Page 400

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

648

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting

Whereas *W. D. L. Smith* of *Clatsop County Oregon*

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the RIGHTS OF THE LAND OFFICE at *Roseburg*

W. D. L. Smith whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said *W. D. L. Smith* according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1850, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands,"

the Lots numbered *Three and Four* of *Section Twenty seven*, and the Lot numbered *Five* of *Section Twenty six* in *Township Twenty five* South of *Range Twelve West* in the *District of* *Oregon* *Land subject to sale at Roseburg Oregon* containing *thirty five acres and thirty six 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 tracts have been purchased by the said *W. D. L. Smith*

NOW KNOW YE, THAT

the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress in that behalf made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said

W. D. L. Smith

and to *his* heirs, the said tract above described: We have and to hold the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereto belonging, unto the said *W. D. L. Smith*

and to *his* heirs and assigns forever.

In Testimony Whereof, *J. Andrew Johnson*

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 *Fiftieth* day of *June* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *Sixty five* and of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the *thirtieth*

BY THE PRESIDENT: *Andrew Johnson* Secretary *Geo. D. Miller*

J. S. Granger Recorder of the General Land Office

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

1882

Whereas *H. D. L. Smith* of *Coos County, Oregon*

has presented in the General Land Office of the United States a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office of *Oregon* whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said *H. D. L. Smith*

according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 21st of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," and the acts supplemental thereto, for the west half of the south east-quarter of section twenty-seven in Township twenty-five south of range twelve west of Willamette Meridian, in Oregon, containing eighty acres

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 *H. D. L. Smith*

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 *H. D. L. Smith*

and his heirs, the said Tract, above described: To have and to hold the same together with all the rights, privileges, exemptions, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, descents belonging unto the said *H. D. L. Smith*

and to his heirs and assigns forever, subject to any valid and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and irrigation, and 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 projectors of a vein or lode to extract and remove lode or therefrom, should the same be found to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, as provided by law.

In testimony whereof *Chester A. Arthur*

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 first

day of *May*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty four, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and eighth

U.S.

By the President: *Chester A. Arthur*

W. H. Crook, Secretary

A. W. Clark, Recorder of the General Land Office

George W Smith Ranch

Established 1865

William De La Fletcher Smith was born 7 July 1828 in New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut. His father, Preserve Smith established a farm in Mount Vernon Ohio called the Five Corners Farm, a dairy farm, when William was 3. At the age of 21 William (WDLF), the third of 10 children, left the farm in 1849 to sell Fanning Mills in Indiana and Iowa. Somewhat a wanderlust he caught gold fever and crossed the plains with an ox-team train in 1852. The train did have Indian trouble near Shell Creek losing a few of their cows.

Arriving in California, WDLF began mining through Northern California and Southern Oregon where in 1855, on the Rogue River; he enlisted with Company K of the Oregon Volunteer Militia taking part in battles at Rogue River, Big Bend and Illinois River as well as other Indian skirmishes.

In early 1856 WDLF continued on to Port Orford where he helped to build and work in the Cedar mill. In 1857 WDLF moved on to Coos County where he worked in the coal mines in timber related issues then on to Empire and North Bend where he assisted with the building and worked in the mills of Simpson Lumber Company sawmill and HH Luse Mill. WDLF married Mary Luse in 1859. WDLF and Mary had 5 children, two boys, William and George and three daughters, Ada Florence and Edith.

In 1865 WDLF purchased 95.39 acres of land, a Land Grant, at the Forks of Coos River on the south side, 7 miles east of Marshfield. In 1884 an additional 80 acres were purchased by Land Grant.

Crops and Livestock were historically raised on the farm, dairy stock, fish, fruit, corn, potatoes, timber, horses and asses. Pioneer History of Coos and Curry Counties mentions several sheep and hogs were saved but the fruit orchard was swept away in the flood of 1890 consisted of cherries, peaches, pears, apples, plums, crab apples and quince. Each fruit harvest was taken to Alden Vegetable and Fruit Preserving Factory, established in 1876, until the flood, where the fruit was preserved and shipped to market in San Francisco.

WDLF was an engineer by trade and also piloted boats up and down the coast carrying a license for Marine Navigation he was known as Captain WDLF Smith; he was a justice of the peace, a school director as well as a school clerk. He was a founding member of the Coos County Pioneer Society.

The first house was built near the river, the lintel stone bears the year 1864. This home was replaced by the present home on higher ground in 1951 so that it would be safe from winter freshets.

The first barn was built at the same location the existing barn was built on in 1864. They milked around 28 cows for years and as the milking machines were added the herd size increased. The new barn (a Quonset design) built in 1950 could house 50 head of milk cows. The wood rot was repaired and a new roof was put on the barn in the early 1990's. Another roof was placed on the barn in early 2000's. The milking parlor, (a Quonset design) was built before the new barn in 1949 and had 3 stanchions. The milk parlor was repurposed as a shop around 1965 and the old shop and blacksmith sheds were razed. A feed barn was added in 1992 to accommodate the feeding of round bales. A Quonset machine shed still stands next to the milk parlor as well as two new equipment sheds built in 2000 and 2010.

Their first motorized tractor was a Fordson. A model T was used, at times, to pull the sickle bar to cut hay. In later years a Ford Ferguson tractor was used and still runs today.

1st Barn



2nd
Barn





Coos 
Historical & Maritime Museum
992-8-0060



Coos 
Historical & Maritime Museum
992-8-0061









Feed Barn

Hay Barn

Shop

Equipment Shed

Equip Shed

Equip Shed & Feed Barn

Garage

House

Site of 1864 house

CENTURY



FARM

GEORGE W. SMITH

Lintel Stone 1864

