



Century Farm Applications

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CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Norman L Larson
Name(s) to appear on certificate Norman L & Adeline Larson

Address 706 James Blvd.

Address of farm, if different from above R.R. 2
Worthington, Minn. 56187

Section 26 Township Bigelow County Nobles

Number of acres in the farm at present 160

Date of original purchase by member of your family Homesteaded 1871

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
NE 1/4 22-101-40

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Peter Larson	from 1871 to 1904	Husband & Father
(owner in 1876 or B4) Brita & Lewis Larson	from 1904 to 1905	Mother
next owner Lewis Larson	from 1905 to 1934	Father
next owner Viola Larson	from 1934 to 1957	Mother
next owner Norman Larson	from 1957 to —	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (x)	Court file in Registration
Land Patent (x)	Proceedings ()
Original Deed ()	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (x)	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Jay Howard
(Witness sign here)

Norman Larson
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 28, 1974

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre?
4. Where was the first owner born? Jamtland, Sweden
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Jamtland, Sweden
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use?
No
10. When was the present home built? About 1885
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Beans, Oats Hay
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Worthington Daily Globe

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Indomitable Spirits



OBEDIENT FOLK

THROUGH ONE HUNDRED YEARS
WITH THE MOBERG AND LARSON FAMILIES

Dedicated to
JOHN and NORMAN
two Obeveklig Folk
of 1972

-- Adeline Larson

INDOMITABLE SPIRITS - OBEVEKLIG FOLK

Even though David Livingston was making history in Africa and the Chinese emperor was granting an audience to western powers for the first time in his country's history, Johann (John) and Elizabeth Moberg and Per (Peter) and Brita Larson were oblivious to these history-making events as they were making their plans in the 1860's to cross the Atlantic together to start a new home in America. They were neighbors and life long friends near the town of Jarpen, Sweden.

John and Elizabeth, who were 35 and 37, respectively, brought with them, 8 year old Anna, 5 year old Erick, 3 year old Nelson (Nels) and Elizabeth Christina (Christine) who was only 1 month old. A son, Nels, had been born 4 years before but died the same year.

42 year old Peter and 43 year old Brita Larson were accompanied by two sons, Lewis, 10 years, and Jacob (Jake), 3 years.

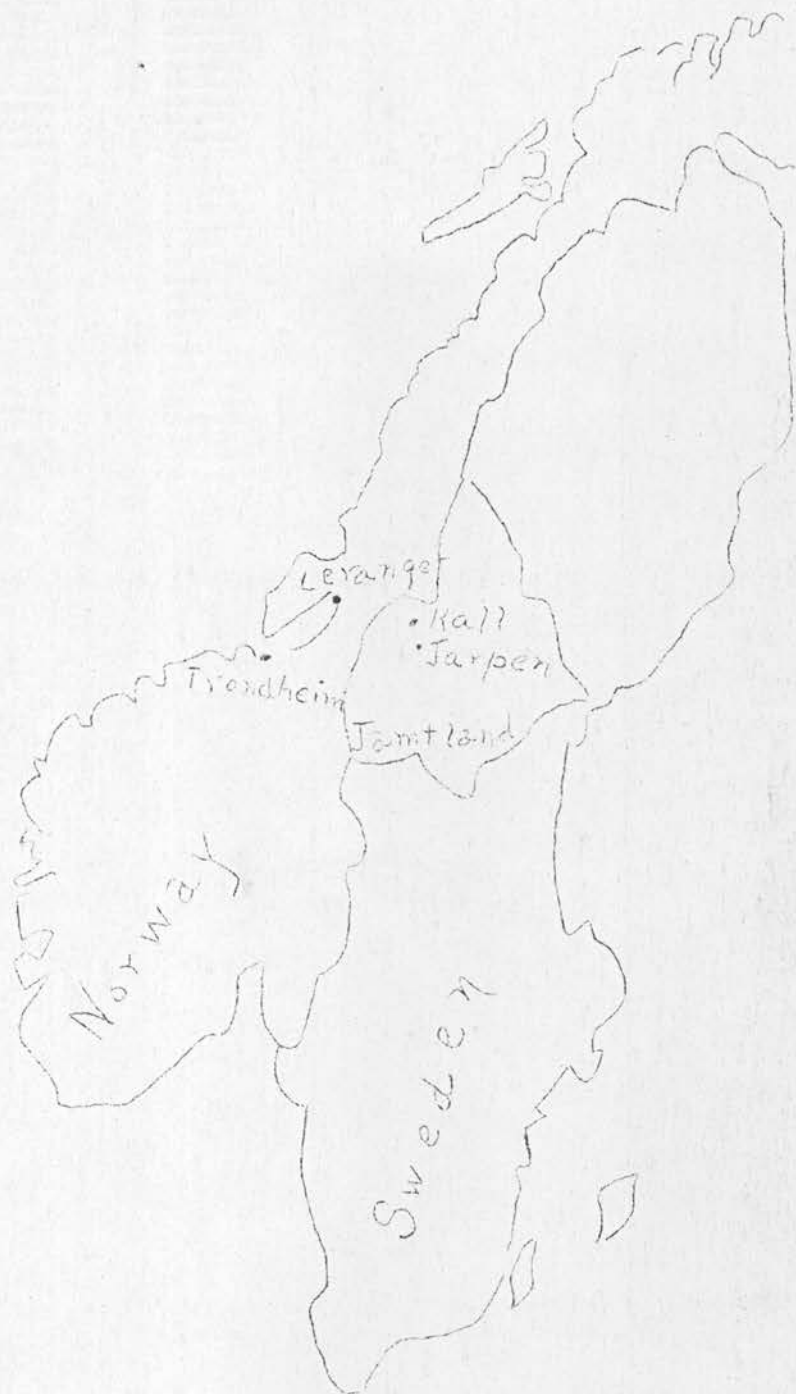
We'll quote from Lewis as he wrote in 1930 about ^{54 yrs}thirty-one years in the lives of the Larson and Moberg families:

"Our farm home was in the province of Jamtland, Sweden. My parents, like so many other people of the Scandinavian countries, had heard the story of America, where land could be gotten for living on it 3 years, where the poor people of the foreign countries could come and get a start in life. In their home country the poorer class could get nowhere even though they spent their lifetime at it.

"Our trip began in the month of May, 1870. There being no trains in these days, our trip was made by foot, carts and boats. We had to pass a part of Norway and also cross two lakes. In between, we, or the women, rode in the wheel carts and the men had to walk (what a difference to the travel of today in our glass cages). We finally arrived at Levanger, Norway from which point we got the steam boat that took us to Trondheim, Norway. Here we visited the noted Dome Church. There is a story that Carl the 12th, of Sweden, kept his horses in this church when he tried to conquer Norway. From Trondheim we followed the coast to the North Sea and across to Hull, England. From Hull to Liverpool we traveled by train, which by the way, was the first train I had ever seen. After a week's stay at Liverpool we were on the Atlantic Ocean. After 6 days out we encountered a storm that lasted 24 hours and caused a lot of excitement and disturbance among the passengers. Off the coast of Newfoundland we encountered large icebergs so the boat could travel only in daylight. Finally we arrived at the coast of North America, stopping first at Quebec, Canada and then on by rail to Chicago. This was now the end of our journey and our ticket. My dad had \$350 in his pocket as we started life in America.

"At Chicago employment was scarce and we were told that there was lots of work at Minneapolis, so it was not long before the whole party was again on the move. We arrived in Minneapolis on July 15, 1870. At that time it was a city of shacks, Swedes, Norwegians, saw mills, lumber jacks and soldiers, as it was still an Indian Reservation. We stayed at an Immigrant Home near Minneapolis for sometime until Father got work with the gravel crew on the railroad, which was building in a large way. Later Mother got work as a cook in a railroad camp, which job lasted until Christmas when the construction work of the railroad ended for the season. That December we moved into Minneapolis where my father worked on a tunnel and my mother kept a boarding house for workers. The Mobergs lived in Anoka but moved into Minneapolis at this same time. The two fathers also worked in a lumber camp.

"Six year old Erick Moberg passed away in the spring of 1871. In June we got a letter from Hans Nystrom, a former neighbor from Sweden who was already in Nobles County, telling us that there were homestead lands to be had and if we wanted some we had to come soon. Hans and his brother Olaf (Ole) had staked their claims that



summer; Hans, where Gordon Nystrom now lives, and Ole, on the 'Rueben Nystrom place'. They had come from Jamtland about the same time as we and had worked on the railroad in Wisconsin and in Duluth.

"When the Nystrom letter came we were all quite anxious, so Moberg, Mr. Solomonson (lived where Melvin Hallstrom now resides) and Father came to Worthington, or what is now Worthington (200 miles). They walked from Mankato (85 miles) as that was as far as the railroad was built.

"In the fall of 1871 John Moberg and Father again made the trip to Worthington. This time they were able to travel by rail as far as St. James (55 miles). After picking out their claims in Bigelow Township they tramped across the prairies to Jackson (35 miles) where the government land office was located and filed on their newly selected realty. Then they trekked back north. There were not many chances to thumb rides!

"Our two families then came south from Minneapolis later that fall riding in the caboose of a construction train. When we arrived at our claim, which was in Section 26 of Bigelow Township, all we had were some few personal belongings and fortunately 100 pounds of flour.

"The Big Job now was to get a roof over our heads to shield us from the cold, long winter which was close at hand as it was now November. The Moberg Claim and ours joined so it was decided to dig what is known as a dugout. You will see these in the northern part of the state today, but they are called potato cellars. As time was very short we decided to build only one and both families would spend the winter together to cut down expenses and save fuel. Our families stayed in a sod hut with earlier settlers (where Duane Krohn now lives) while this was being built. Our house was only one room, 12 by 20 feet in size, and had no floor. It faced south (the indentation in the ground on the fence line between the Moberg and Larson farms remains to this day). In the center of the front wall was a door with steps down to the dirt floor. At either side of the door was a 24 inch square window with four small panes such as we put in our sheds. The roof at the front was three feet above the ground which rose toward the back where the roof was only 10 inches above the ground. The walls above ground were sod and boards. The roof was of boards with battens. (Battens--a strip of wood put over a seam between boards as a fastening or covering.) The line between the claim ran through the middle of the one room so each family actually lived on its own claim but under the one roof and in the same room. In each corner there was a wooden bunk built so that it could be folded up in the daytime. The space was pretty well taken up when all the folks were in the room. It's possible that when Peter Larson slept in the northeast quarter of Section 26 and stretched out his foot at night, he might reach into the northwest quarter of Section 26 which belonged to John Moberg and he surely would kick the stove. (In talking recently about these crowded conditions, Linden Moberg commented, 'They weren't bashful!') The one stove stood at the back, opposite the door. The one stove pipe ran straight up through the roof in place of a chimney. The food for both families was cooked on this stove and it supplied heat for the room--both in winter and summer, especially in the summer. We got wood, for building and for fuel, from the shore of Lake Ocheda. We had come from a country that is covered with forests to a part of Minnesota that was completely devoid of trees except along the creeks or lakes. When this supply of fuel was depleted, twisted prairie grass was used for fuel.

"Our stock of provisions did not take up much room, no spuds, no meat, no milk, no eggs. About all we had was the 100 pounds of flour. Before winter set in, the railroad was built to Windom and a man with a team of horses, who had worked on the railroad, was hauling supplies from Windom to Worthington (35 miles). But as winter got harder and harder, snow got deeper and deeper and trains could not get through to Windom. Then this man had to go to Mankato to get supplies for us. That way we got through the winter.

"In January, Dad and John Moberg walked to Meron Lake Township (20 miles) and bought a cow on a partnership basis. They were gone a week.

"Youngsters of the pioneer days had good appetites. Stories were told of meals of prairie chicken and also fish. A mush called 'grot' was served often. This was simply flour stirred slowly into hot milk and after this became very thick it was served hot in a dish and eaten with a spoon.

"There was so much snow that first winter that we had to keep a shovel in our dugout so we could shovel our way out, as the whole country was buried deep. Days were long and nights longer as there was nothing to do and no place to go. I was eleven that winter and Anna was nine. Jake and Nels were both four and Christine would be two in April.

"When spring came we dug a well. Before that we lugged all our water from a slough--that is what didn't leak through the roof of the dugout, and that was considerable in the course of a spring.

"The men bought an ox team in company, then times being hard, they went to work on the railroad being built between Worthington and Bigelow and left the rest of us to break up the virgin soil. But as one could not do much work with one team of oxen we formed a partnership with one Erick Mahlberg (three miles north, where Jim Willey now lives) cousin of the previously named Nystrom Brothers, to put his team with ours and together they broke up 70 acres. Work on the railroad was the means of keeping us here and getting seed which was sold to us from one Peter Thompson, who operated a store in what was now Worthington. He had shipped in a whole carload of seed wheat. Much credit must be given Mr. Thompson as it was he and his store that saved many a homesteader from starvation and made it possible for them to stay on their claims.

"My mother was a large, strong woman. I remember that she walked to Worthington (about 10 miles) to buy flour when our supply was gone. She stayed overnight and walked back the next day with the 50 pound sack on her back. There were no bridges as yet to cross Lake Ocheda so the road to town would take us west (to where Burton Larson's live now) and then straight north toward Worthington.

"In the fall of 1872 when the men returned from the railroad work and had some money, we decided to build a frame house on our own land. The shack we built was 14 by 16 feet and located just south of where the garage is at present. It was a frame building, one story, single board wall and shingle roof, the sides were lined with sod on the outside. This two-room shanty had a window on each end, north and south. The home the Moberg's built was located where the driveways meet at the present time on their farm.

"In the spring of 1873 Father went back on the railroad for a part of the season, but later in the summer I took his place as I was now good sized boy going on thirteen years. Besides a team of oxen each farmer now owned a horse.

"At this time, there were less than a dozen settlers in Indian Lake and Bigelow Townships and when John Edward (J.E.) was born to the Moberg's in May of 1873, he had the distinction of being the first white boy born in the settlement. By the next year everything was lively and settlers were coming in by the droves, a lot of them young men, mostly bachelors, anxious to get a start in life and some land. Quite soon for most of them a young lady would arrive to share their joys and hardships. Worthington was now getting to be a town; regular trains were coming when they were not snow blocked in winter. Life on the claim to most of us seemed so bright and full of promise, but soon one calamity after the other came and made things hard for us. The blizzard of 1873 brought tragedy to many homes. The worst was the grasshoppers that seemed to come with the south winds and left when the winds went to the north and

got colder. They certainly took everything we had; they came and went for several years but the year 1878 was the hardest of them all. In the summer and fall we had such a constant fear of prairie fires that if we had not had fire guards, in a short time all would be gone." (The reader is encouraged to read in detail of these events in the publication written for the 50th anniversary of the Indian Lake Baptist Church.)

Let the reader stop a moment to reflect on the fact that there were few resources to sustain life. For example, we can't imagine life without milk, whether a person is an adult, youth, or baby, and yet this was a fact of life for quite sometime. A very probable situation would be a new born baby whose life would depend on his mother's milk. The following incident describes this nearly tragic state of affairs. When Fred Bird was born (Mrs. Monroe Russell's brother) his mother could not provide milk for him and they didn't have a fresh cow (one who had recently given birth) in their herd. So Mr. Bird and a friend started out to walk to each neighbor to try to find a fresh cow to buy. When they came to the Peter Larson's, three miles from home, they found what they needed but Peter was reluctant to sell the cow. He said, "If you don't find another you may buy her." After walking all day they had to return to the Larson's and buy the cow. They named her Swede.

Our story continues as told to us by Bessie Hallstrom, eldest daughter of Lewis.

"When my father was 29 years old he settled on a 'tree claim' in Jackson County. After 'baching it' for one season he married, on Thanksgiving Day, 1889, 20 year old Hersa Hardy. Her father taught in one of the first schools in Sioux Valley Township. He was born in Vermont and his wife in England. I was born the next fall and my sister Winnie 2 years later.

"I have only one memory of my uncle Jake, who had remained a bachelor back with his parents in Bigelow Township. We visited my grandparents on a Sunday and he invited me to help him with his chores. I was very shy and appreciated him taking my hand to go with him. Shortly after this in November, when he was 29 years old, Jake died quite suddenly of what was most likely a ruptured appendix.

"Our family of four moved to the 'home place' in February. I well remember 4 year old Winnie and I, who was 6, bundled up, with lots of hay, in a corner of the bob sled for the long ride. Just a few years before this the large house, in which Norman Larson's now live, had been built. We simply moved into the house with my grandparents.

"I have pleasant memories of my grandmother but also boring ones. The family loom became a very tiresome thing to me. It had been built in 1874 and was moved from place to place to allow each housewife to make the family's clothing, which was made from wool that was locally raised. I know that the underwear worn the year around was woolen and yet I can't imagine how they could wear it in the summer. In the 'old country' the women had learned to weave woolen and linen materials. Now in 1896 the loom was located upstairs in the house and was used to weave rugs. My grandmother would call to me, 'Betsy, kom o tramp!' meaning 'Bessie, come and treadle' and I would obediently go to treadle the machine for what seemed to me to be an endless time.

"She often asked me to accompany her on visits to her neighbor ladies and I remember one especially boring afternoon. I was about 7 years that summer and we walked together to visit Mrs. Wickstrom (north of Gordon Nystrom's). The two women spent a long afternoon smoking their pipes and talking. It wasn't unusual for women to smoke in those days. When we would question it, they would answer, 'It is to cure a toothache'. Even when the two women took time out to drink coffee together it didn't include me and I was left to sit in a hot corner of the room. Then suddenly Mrs. Wickstrom invited us out to the apple orchard. At last there was a treat for me and a chance for some fresh air!

"The year we moved back to Bigelow Township, my sister Edna was born and 15 months later, Carrie (Viola). About this time my grandparents built a small house to live in. The 2-room shanty which had been their second home had long since been converted into a fuel storage area and later housed our first automobile. This now their fourth home was built about 75 feet southeast of the big house.

"My grandfather died at the age of 76 of what was diagnosed as kidney trouble and my grandmother continued to live alone in this house.

"My uncle Jake had purchased the land east of the original homestead. There was no road dividing the two farms at that time and I remember being told that Jake had picked a bride and was to build a house in the small grove which is located directly south of my present home. My sisters and I herded cattle much of the time during the summer. I remember one hot summer day when Winnie and I had taken the cattle to this east pasture. A sudden terrible thunder storm came up and I can still remember the agony of making the decision whether to drive the cattle home quickly or wait out the storm--knowing from experience that whatever course of action we took, it would be just the opposite from what my father would think we should have done. Well, we waited out the storm. The thunder and lightning frightened the cows so much that they stampeded and broke the fence which separated the land from that on the east. When the storm was over we experienced extreme difficulty in rounding up the cattle and chasing them home to our farm.

"School attendance was poor for Winnie and I, especially during the busy spring and fall months. Even on the days when we did attend, the four of us had to help with the milking before school in the morning and when we got home in the evening. The routine was to milk the cows and then set the milk cans in the cooler and pump cold water on them. When we got home from school, the cream had set on the cans and we could skim off the cream and feed the milk to the pigs. Then to do the evening milking and sometimes help with that skimming in the morning and also help churn the cream into butter, whenever time permitted.

"Then one day my dad bought a cream separator from a neighbor who was the salesman for this very modern invention! I could hardly wait to get to school the next morning to tell my friends about the wonderful machine that meant we could separate the cream from the warm milk and feed the milk to the pigs immediately--no cooling and no skimming! My ego was very suddenly deflated when my best friend, Eureka Ledine said, 'We've seen that machine, too; they have to pour oil in it to make it work and the oil gets in the milk and spoils it!'

"When I was about 13, I was hired to start the fire each morning at school. In order to fulfill this duty the best, I chopped small pieces of wood each afternoon before I left school so I would have something that would ignite readily in the morning. I would then proceed to the school, often before daylight, to light the fire and see that the building was as warm as possible before the teacher arrived. For this job, I received \$2.08 for the 3 winter months; but as the school term ran from October to April there were many other chilly mornings when I was expected to make the room comfortable but I was not reimbursed.

"I well remember the events surrounding the installation of the first telephone in our house. Mother had told us which ring to listen for and to answer on that ring. Then she went to the garden to work which was located at that time some distance east of where the cattle shed is located at present. Our telephone ring came through and we cautiously answered it. The party asked for Mother and I still remember how hard I ran to the garden to get her and how fast she ran back. She said, 'Hello.' and was asked about the new telephone, there were some comments about it and then the party on the other end said, 'Good-bye' and Mother hung up. We girls could hardly wait to ask who called. She hadn't found out in her excitement! We soon learned however, that it was our neighbor, J. E. Moberg, who was trying out his new phone and only called to see if it really worked. That evening Aaron Johnson,

who lived across the road, came over to talk to Grandfather Peter about the new invention which they also had installed that day. He said to Grandfather, 'I'm going home and when you see that I am home, you call me.' So this they did. The following conversation ensued, 'Hello, is that you Per? Ha, ha, ha!' 'Hello, Aaron. Is that you Aaron? Ha, ha, ha.' 'Goodbye, Per!' 'Goodbye, Aaron'.

"When my sisters and I had learned our four main subjects in life's school, namely; cooking, sewing, gardening and milking cows, we were ready for a home of our own. I married 32 year old Fred Hallstrom in January shortly after my 19th birthday. He had recently arrived from Sweden and was working as a hired man on the farm where Jack McKeever lives. My sisters and I were helping my dad milk 17 cows at that time and I'm sure that in a few years Fred and I were milking equally as many. We started married life on my birthplace in Jackson County and here Arvid was born shortly after my 20th birthday. I remember when Arvid took his first steps. His dad had come in after finishing the chores for the evening. He was carrying a kerosene lantern which he set down on the kitchen floor. Arvid then rose to his feet and took his first steps in his curiosity to investigate the bright light of the lantern.

"When Arvid was 2 years old, we moved to the farm where we are living now and as the years went by, he and his two brothers enjoyed living so near their grandparents. Our first born became completely wrapped up in the plans for his Aunt Winnie's wedding which was to be a formal ceremony held in her home. As the wedding ceremony began with the bride and groom standing in the southwest corner of the parlor and 6 year old Arvid acting as ringbearer, holding the ring on one of 'Grandma's good dishes', the silence was broken as Arvid said, 'Winnie's going to get married tomorrow and we got a new rug!' Seems as my folks were making plans for the big event they thought the living room rug should be replaced and Arvid had the exciting experience of 'helping' with this. Winnie married Gunnard Larson, who had also come from Sweden, when she was 24 and he 28.

"My grandmother lived 12 years after my grandfather's death. During the last year Edna and Viola took turns spending the nights with her in her little house. In spite of this extra care her hip broke as she stepped out of bed one July morning. I well remember all of us helping to carry her to the big house in a quilt. She lay in a downstairs bedroom until November when she died at the age of 89 years.

"Edna and Viola had the privilege of attending high school and became the 'career girls' of our family. Viola took a teacher's training course along with her senior year in high school and was then eligible upon graduation to teach school. Gunnard's younger brother John Edward (Ed) had also come from Sweden and while working for his brother and also for Fred and I, he and Viola became acquainted. After teaching for one year in the 'home' school, she asked her parents for permission to go to Rockford, Illinois where Ed was stationed in the army, and get married. She was 19 then and after much hesitancy my parents gave their permission if Viola would promise to wait until her 20th birthday in October to be married. When she left in the summer I was not aware that she had marriage in mind. When I saw the lovely dress she had ordered from the Sear Roebuck catalog to make the long train ride to Rockford, I could not guess it was to be her wedding dress. Ed, who was 28, worked in Rockford for 2 years and then brought his family to Worthington to take over the Larson Homestead.

"My dad made no secret of the fact that he was disappointed in losing his 'hired men' when all four of his daughters had left home.

"I recall one hot August day when our son, Melvin, was 21. The excitement of being a part of a neighborhood threshing crew was over and his dad, his brothers and he had resigned themselves to the tedious days of cleaning the manure out of all the calf pens, etc. that had been neglected during the busy summer. Melvin broke the handle of his fork and at noon announced to the family that he was going to town

right after noon to buy a new handle. He changed his clothes and as he left the house I called after him, 'Bring home some bananas because I want to use them in a jello salad for supper.' He went uptown for the handle and the bananas, then stopped at the home of his girl friend, Dorothy Olson. The Olson's lived across the street from where my parents moved when they retired from the farm so we had all become well acquainted with them. Melvin and Dorothy decided to drive to Sioux Falls that afternoon to get married. When they arrived back to the farm the next day he not only had a new fork handle, but a new bride, as well, and a bunch of very ripe bananas in the back seat!"

Let's pause a moment to say a little more about Brita who appears to have been the most "Obeveklig" of the folk. By necessity, she became the first doctor and veterinarian in the settlement, her specialty being midwifery (obstetrics). She would be reminded by the prospective mother when she would be needed during a particular month and would then wait for the prospective father to come to fetch her in his buggy or sleigh depending on the time of year.

One cold March afternoon, Nels Nelson (where Roy Jacobson lives) went to his neighbor ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile, Gust Nystrom, Nystrom Fruit Farm) to ask him to go get Brita Larson as his wife was in labor. He found Gust Nystrom hitching up his team to go get her for his own wife. All night Brita walked alone between the two farms carrying a lantern. In the distance she could hear the wolves calling each other. Each time the sound was closer to her. Both babies were born that night. Carl Nelson (Marion Hallstrom's father) and Ida Nystrom Langseth were born one hour apart.

Another time she was called to the Saxon home where Mrs. John Saxon had been in labor a long time. Brita examined her, then said, "It is not good!" Then she asked for the lard pail and greased her arm to the elbow. She reached in, grabbed the baby by the neck and never let go. The baby (Mrs. Violet Johnson) enjoys telling about her birth. Her birthplace is now occupied by the Lloyd Robertson family.

Brita spent many anxious hours at the farm just south of the Robertson's, at the Bilsten's. Ten children were born to them, 8 sons and 2 daughters. When number 11 was due, Brita waited all night and all the next day and as evening was coming she told the anxious father to go to Worthington for a doctor. With his assistance, Mrs. Bilsten gave birth to a stillborn child.

When we consider how close this mother, Brita Larson, lived to life and death, it is easy to understand her remarks at the death of her son, Jake. When the doctor asked permission to perform an autopsy she said, "Go ahead. You can't hurt him now." Perhaps a common place remark in 1972, but rather unusual in 1896.

In thinking about the romance of Ed and Viola this writer can't help but record the following incident in the life of their only daughter, Marilyn. She was well along in college, majoring in Home Economics, when it was time for her to celebrate her 20th birthday. She suddenly surprised her dad one morning by saying, 'Dad, I'm going to get married this summer. (Although she had a 'steady' she had no such plans.) The following dialogue ensued:

Dad: "Why you aren't old enough to get married!"

Daughter Marilyn: "But Dad, you married Mother on her 20th birthday.

Dad: "Yes, but she knew how to cook!"

Mother: (coming to the aid of daughter) "Well, Ed, she is taking a Home Ec course so she knows how to cook better than I did!"

An interesting fact came to light in the writer's search for history. Let this serve as the closing sentence of the Larson record.

Bessie Larson Hallstrom's son-in-law, David Livingston, very recently learned that he is a descendent of the Englishman, David Livingstone, who was a missionary to Africa.

All of John and Elizabeth Moberg's children have been mentioned except Carolina (Lena) who was born the year after J. E. The eldest child, Anna, died at the age of 19 on Christmas Eve, 1881. This left two sons, Nels and J. E. and two daughters, Christine and Lena, who grew to adulthood.

Mildred Moberg Carlson, youngest and only living child of Nels Moberg will tell us about her family:

"Since the schools that were built were located nearer to my home than the Larson's I seem to remember more about them. Before a building could be constructed some of the older children may have walked to Bigelow to get some formal education. The first building was a sod house and was replaced in 1878 by a 'one-room school'. In 1883 this was enlarged to twice the original length. This typical rural school held classes for first through eighth grade all in one room with one teacher. There were no kindergartens. Most buildings were 2 rooms, the classroom and a cloakroom with a stove located in a back corner of the main room. The later models of stove was enclosed in a metal jacket which remained cool and was there to prevent anyone from being accidentally burned. Two outdoor toilets were located in the far corners of the 'back yard'. Schools were located so that no child walked more than 2 miles to school. This type of school was used throughout Minnesota for the next 70 years.

"When our district built a new school in 1920, it was unique in size and facilities. It consisted of a large square classroom, a separate room for a library and a larger cloakroom than usual with 2 chemical toilets located here for winter use only. There was a full basement with a large play area. The furnace was located in the basement.

"These buildings were all located on the same spot on the line between the Larson and Moberg claims very near the north edge by the road. The first wooden structure is now a pig house where Harold Holm lives."

An early newspaper article contains this information: 'Jacob Larson holds the important job of 'interpreter' of the school, forming the medium of communication between the teacher and those who cannot understand the English language'. In 1878 the teacher received \$80 for the 4 months school was in session and \$8 was paid out for fuel." (Information of this kind can be found in old school records at the Moberg home).

Christine, who was the first to leave home, married Ole Nystrom when she was 22 and he was 43. When their daughter, Alice was married to Pete Christopherson in 1918 they moved to the present Harold Holm farm and the first buildings were erected there. Rueben, the youngest of the Nystrom children, remained on the 'home place'. His father passed away only 6 weeks before his marriage. His mother continued to live with them. Marion Pfeil Christopherson recalls the day of Christine's death, August 27, 1936. "My twin sister, Mildred, and I (we were 12 years then) were helping our aunt, Mable Pfeil (Ronnie Hallstrom farm) with cooking for silo fillers. The weather had been rainy and was so that day. In the afternoon Margaret Nystrom, Rueben's wife, made an urgent call asking if Rueben would soon be home because the lightning and thunder was causing the grandmother to be very upset. After an hour or so, my sister Mildred answered the phone and then turned to say, "Now Margaret is crying. She says Grandma Nystrom is awfully sick!" The men hurried up the muddy driveway and found that she had died very suddenly of a heart attack. There was great effort put forth then for many cars to get up the drive including the ambulance."

Mildred recalls events in the lives of "her family". "I'm the youngest of Nels's children and the only one left. When my father married, he built a new house which was located just south of the present one on the Moberg farm. My oldest brother, Linden, was born in this house. Then the family moved to the present Dale

Hohensee farm where Edwin was born. My family lived in Duluth after this for 2 years, during which time Raymond was born. While in Duluth, Dad worked as foreman for a contractor on street and sewer work. After they moved back to the 'Home Farm', I was born. My grandparents had passed away and my uncle J. E. had moved the original home to the 'Pete Ahlers' farm which he had purchased. That house is still the home on that farm.

"My dad soon began to make plans to build a home to replace the one that had been built when he was married 20 years before. First this old house had to be moved a short distance to the south. I was 4 years old and I remember them pulling the house a short distance each day as they had to put poles under it and move them each time the horses pulled it a short way. My mother and I were warned to get out of the house, but I recall one morning when the moving started earlier than usual and I was told to get down on the floor. So I sat on the floor washing the cream separator, which was always my very distasteful job, and I remember how the house shook and how afraid I was. The house that was built at this time is still the home at Moberg's. The house that was moved has since been used for a chicken house.

"About this time my uncle J. E. sold his farm to Lewis Larson, moved to Worthington and became a taxi driver. He was an expert photographer and pursued this hobby diligently. My brother Ray worked in Minneapolis. He was married there but passed away before he had been married a year. He had no children."

Linden and Ed enrolled in the School of Veterinary Medicine at St. Joseph, Missouri. Edwin finished the course and remained in Kansas but Linden came home after 2 years to farm with his father. When he was 36 years he married Margaret Lindin. They had four children, Marilyn, Ruth, Paul and John. Margaret died at John's birth in February 1947. In the spring of 1946, Nels died apparently of a heart attack while fighting a grass fire. J. E. died in July of that same year. Reverend and Mrs. Walfred Johnson of the Indian Lake Baptist Church had taken Baby John into their home at the time of his birth. Eighteen months later when Alice Anderson of Long Prairie, Minnesota joined Linden's family to fill the role of wife, mother and daughter-in-law to the family of six, John also could join them.

Ruth died of cancer in 1970 leaving her husband, Dr. Alfred Anderson and two small sons.

Paul married a native of Thailand when he was stationed in that country during the War in Southeast Asia. He has a Thai stepson and two sons who were born after their return to America."

It would be amiss to allow Nels Moberg to pass out of the scene without mentioning his interest in "doing his thing". Several who knew him, tell of his daily trip to Worthington to "meet the train" after his retirement. One can only surmise that he and others of his generation never quite forgot how much their very existence was tied into the life of the railroad. It had not only brought them into this part of the country but had also been their livelihood those first difficult years.

The youngest daughter of the Moberg's, Lena, married Magnus Swedberg. He had been a neighbor of Larson's and Moberg's in Sweden, so it was natural that he should seek out these families when he arrived in this country at the age of 22. He bought the farm directly south of the Moberg claim. Lena had taught a year in her district before she married Magnus. She received \$25 a month for the six months that school was in session.

Magnus's oldest son, Rudolph, shares some memories with us:

"I recall visiting my grandmother Elizabeth Moberg with Mother and my brother, Wesley, who was 3 years younger than I. We would cut across the pasture and fields

to get to her house. We had trouble getting through or under the barb wire fences. I remember Mother carrying Wes and I walked. She lived in a small house on the Moberg farm. We once had bear meat at her house.

"I remember the day of her funeral. We all met at Uncle Olaf's (Rueben Nystrom farm). My cousin, Edwin Moberg, had traps set for gophers on their North 40, and he wanted to check them out, so off we went for a mile or more on a run. I guess we delayed the funeral. I was 5 then and Ed was 8. (Elizabeth Moberg died on Christmas Day but funerals were postponed until a grave could be dug.)

"My sister and I were often sent to Bigelow with the horse and buggy to trade a case of eggs and a can of cream for groceries. At one time we drove a white blind horse around to visit and sometimes to school. It seemed every time we got to the grade and bridge located between the Larson's and Moberg's the horse would stumble and fall down and it was quite a job to unhitch and get him up on his feet again and also to hitch him back up again to the buggy. I remember when that creek was made into a drainage ditch by plowing through it with 40 oxen hitched to a huge plow. I ran down to the road to see what all the excitement was about and then hid back of the trees to watch. I was only 5 years old. I had my first ski trip when I was about this age, too. Dad had made me a pair of skis about 8 or 9 feet long. He gave me my first ski lesson. That was first and last ski lesson, as I learned to ski very well on my own."

Wesley Swedberg farmed on the place where he grew up until he was 40 years old. Then he decided to study for the Baptist ministry.

Lena Moberg Swedberg passed away at the age of 44 from tuberculosis which was a very common occurrence in that day. She had been hospitalized for long periods of time the last years of her life and her sister, Christine Nystrom, cared for her in an isolation tent in the Nystrom farm yard in order to prevent exposure to the family. Her eldest daughter, Elsie, passed away at the age of 17, one year before her mother's death. Another daughter, Verna, was 9 years at the time of her mother's death and died at 18 years of sleeping sickness. Daughter Violet became the third one of the two original families to teach in the 'home school'.

A daughter, Helen, was born to the Swedberg's about 2 years before Lena's death but she died before her first birthday.

And what of the church? It will come last here, but seemed to always come first in the lives of these indomitable spirits.

The Moberg and Larson families were members of the Jamtland Lutheran Church in Sweden and they continued to worship as a family and together with others of the same faith in their homes. Those who settled in this community were of the same church, which was the very thing that drew them together, as was the case throughout America. They picked a spot for their rural church, the highest hill that could be seen among these early farms. This spot is one mile straight north of the Moberg-Larson Claim.

During 1872, a Baptist missionary came into the community and converted most of the settlers, including the Moberg's to his faith. The Larson's were among the few who remained true to Lutheranism but the number was small so plans to build the country church were abandoned and these families began to worship in Worthington. One of the settlers, 87 year old Henrik Solomonson, had passed away and been laid to rest where this church building was to be located. His grave was later moved to the Indian Lake Baptist Church cemetery. This church was organized in 1873.

John Moberg wrote the following in a letter to Sweden in 1892. "You are wondering how we have it religiously, when we have so many Swedes in one place. Then I

will answer - we are not disappointed, as we have a church to worship in. We have two meetings on Sunday, plus prayer meeting on Wednesday afternoon, so we have many opportunities to hear God's word. The congregation is about 100 people. We have Jons Holstrom to lead us. He has a good voice and can sing very good."

We are grateful to Viola, who spent 47 years on the Homestead, for this very fine finish to our story:

"Now as this generation commemorates the 100th anniversary of homesteading on Section 26 in Bigelow Township of Nobles County, we will turn the pages of time back 100 years and admire the determination and courage of those early settlers. BLEST BE THEIR MEMORIES."

Per Larson 1828 1904
married 1856
Brita Landberg 1827 1916

Lewis Larson 1860 1947
married 1889
Hersa Hardy 1869 1951

Jacob Larson 1867 1896

Bessie 1890
Worthington
married 1910

Fred Hallstrom 1877 1946

Arvid 1910
Worthington

Melvin 1913

Worthington
married 1934
Dorothy Olson 1916

Audrey 1936
Worthington
married 1955

David Livingston 1934

Brian 1960

Bruce 1962

Ronnie 1942 - Wqtn.
married 1961

Winora Prins 1943

Scott 1962

Todd 1964

Jeff 1966

Larry 1946
South Dakota

married 1965

Judy Allen 1946

Allen 1967

Jason 1971

Kim 1962

Harold 1912

Worthington

married 1943

Marion Nelson 1921

Rhoda 1946

Iowa

married 1967

Donald Venenda 1940

Todd 1971

Pallas 1949

California

married 1971

Deanna Henderson 1950

Abby 1957

Winnie 1892 1968
married 1916
Gunnar Larson 1888 1961

Loren 1917
Worthington

married 1940

Vesta Johnson 1918

Donus 1947

Worthington

married 1969

Jan Kieffe 1949

Burton 1919

Bigelow

married 1943

Josephine Posorske 1921

Trudy 1960

Robert 1962

Alvin 1920 1965

married 1946

Viola Saker 1921

Reading

Doyle 1946

North Dakota

married 1971

Linda DeBoer 1951

Karen 1950

Loris 1957

Edna 1897
Worthington

Carrie Viola 1898
Worthington
married 1918

John Edward Larson 1890

Russell 1920

Illinois

married 1945

Margaret Brewer 1924

Russell 1948

Susan 1949

James 1951

Marta 1953

Beryl 1922

Illinois

married 1950

Noveta Randolph 1930

Kent 1952

Marta 1954

Norman 1924

Worthington

married 1947

Adeline Iverson 1925

Lyle 1950

Philip 1951

Elaine 1953

Merian 1957

Roger 1931

Bigelow

married 1952

Marjorie Boley 1931

David 1953

Carol 1955

Keith 1957

Kevin 1959

Till 1962

Marilyn 1934

Windom

married 1956

William Peterson 1929

Vicki 1957

Tom 1958

Chia 1964

Marvin 1937

Detroit Lakes

married 1959

Darlene Niemeyer 1936

Scott 1962

Parola 1964

Steven 1969

Jonas Moberg 1835 1900
 married 1861
 Elizabeth Gronlund 1833 1908
 |
 Anna Lena 1862 1881
 Erick 1864 1871
 Nels 1866 1866

Nelson (Nels) 1867 1946
 married 1897
 Hildegard Peterson 1876 1950

Elizabeth Christine 1870 1936
 married 1892
 Olaf Nystrom 1849 1931

Jonas Edward 1873 1946
 Carolina 1874 1918
 married 1899
 Magnus Swedberg 1869 1951

Linden Alfred 1898 1971
 married 1934
 Margaret Lundin 1911 1947
 married 1948

Alice Anderson 1909
 Marilyn Ann 1936

Washington
 married 1960

Raymond Benson 1924

Christine 1962

Lars 1966

Ruth Marie 1942 1971

Sauk Rapids
 married 1966

Alfred Anderson 1942

Matthew 1968

Peter 1970

Paul Raymond 1945

California
 married 1967

Kimlon Suphakson

Richard 1965 (Stepson)

Timothy 1968

Jeffrey 1970

John David 1947

Edwin Russell 1900 1949

Kansas

married 1924

Grace Holmberg

(Continued next page)

Myrtle 1893 1965 (Mpls)
 married 1922

Carl Alfred Bengsten 1895

Louise 1924 (Texas)=

married 1949

Ralph Jacobson

Sonja 1950

Douglas 1952

Linnea 1960

Carl Alfred, Jr. 1927 (Mpls)

married 1950

Gloria Jacobson

Beverly 1954

David 1956

Janice 1959

Lori 1963

Alice 1894 1965

married 1918

Peter Christopherson 1894 1967

Burton 1922

Worthington

married 1946

Marion Pfeil 1922

Dean Allen 1948

Pearl 1925 (Reading)

married 1950

Gordon Soderholm 1924

Karen 1951

Janice 1953

Charles 1955

Elsie 1900 1917
 Carl Rudolph 1903

California

married 1938

Dorothy Hollis

Sharon Marie 1942

Washington

married 1966

Glen Chrisman

Gary Lee 1971

Nesley Helvin 1906

Lake City

married 1931

Helen Ahlberg 1912

Jerome Allen 1932

North Dakota

married 1956

Kay Nauman

Robert 1957

Kathy 1959

Henry 1962

Denise 1964

Janet Mae 1935

Missouri

married 1955

Jerry Babcock

Kristen 1956

Kimberly 1957

Nathan 1959

David 1962

Mark 1963

Robert Russell 1924

Illinois

married 1948

Alice Cutsinger

Robert 1956

Paul 1961

Wesley Allen 1926

Illinois

married 1954

Libby Aboffe

married 1970

Marie Aikins

Glen 1957

Michelle (stepdaughter-)

Lisa 1963

Raymond 1906 1935

Minneapolis

married 1934

Grace Grondahl 1906

Mildred 1913

Minneapolis

married 1944

Axel Henry Carlson 1914

Rodney 1945

married 1963

Marilyn Hill

Ross 1964

Daniel 1950

married 1972

Kathryn Granger

Reuben Olaf 1899 1971

married 1931

Margaret Liljegren 1903 1966

Carren 1933

Texas

married 1959

Ina Sheldon 1935

Brenda 1960

Brian 1963

Kenneth 1941

Faribault

Dennis Lee 1940

La Crescent

married 1963

Carol Espelain

Susan 1968

Brian 1970

Stephen Wesley 1953

Verna 1909 1927

Violet 1912

Minneapolis

married 1956

Olaf Alvin Strandberg 1918

Helen 1916 1917

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

(Return to Minnesota State Fair) CENTURY FARMS
ST. PAUL, MN 55108Name of Centennial Farm owner Mrs. Sarah Grace McLeanName(s) to appear on certificate Mrs. Sarah Grace McLeanAddress Lake Nelson, Minn.Address of farm, if different from above Magnolia, Minn.Section 28 Township 103 County 43Number of acres in the farm at present 161Date of original purchase by member of your family Homestead Patent April 14, 1886

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

S 1/2 of the SW 1/4 & the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4
of 28-103-43

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Thomas McLean</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1876</u> to <u>1899</u>	
<u>Mathew H. McLean</u> next owner	from <u>1899</u> to <u>1965</u>	<u>Son</u>
<u>Sarah H. McLean</u> next owner	from <u>1965</u> to	<u>Wife</u>
	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ()	Court file in Registration
Land Patent (X)	Proceedings ()
Original Deed ()	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (X)	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Margaret Ling
(Witness sign here)

Date June 28, 1976

Mrs. Sarah Grace McLean
(Signature of present owner)
by Carol McLean Neff
(Power of attorney)

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homesteaded
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 120
3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? Campbelltown Scotland 1850
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Columbia Co. Wisconsin
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
no
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No, they were just torn down last year.
10. When was the present home built? _____
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? corn, wheat
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Adrian Review

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Thomas McLean came to Lismore Township, Nobles County in 1876. He built a dugout and sod shanty into a hillside on the farm in section 28. He went back to Caledonia Township, Columbia County Wisconsin in the late fall, and the next spring moved his family to the Homestead. Matthew who had been born in 1875 was 2 when they moved to Minnesota. The Thomas had just moved the first wooden house onto the farm when

the blizzard of 1880⁹ struck. The land was
farmed by Thomas McLean until he sold
it to his son Matthew. Matthew farmed the
land many years. But not continuously.
Matthew's son Matthew Donald farmed the
land in the early 1950's. Since then
it has been rented to others. The present
owner, widow of Matthew McLean is
now 91 years of age.

Thomas McLean also free claimed the S.E. quarter of
Section 20, Lismore Township about the same time, and
30 acres of this has been in continuous ownership by the family.
Pg. 486 of History of Nobles Co. has a biography of Thomas McLean,
but some dates are incorrect. He was born in 1800. He came

to the U.S. (Caledonia Township, Columbia Co. Wis) at age 21 ⁱⁿ 1876.
He farmed 5 years in Wisconsin, then went to Noble Co;
where he took his claim. That was 1876 not 1878.
My dad always said he was two when the family
was moved here. He was born in 1875. My grandfather
came the year before he moved his family. That also
was always said.

By Carl McLean Nepp
for her mother -
Sarah Grace McLean

Lake Wilson, Minnesota
September 8, 1976

Minnesota Century Farms
Publicity Department
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul
Minnesota

Nobles

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you concerning the farm now owned by my mother, Sarah Grace McLean, which was designated a century farm this year at the State Fair. The farm was listed in the Farmer magazine, as being located in Rock County. It is not located in Rock County. It is located in the western part of Lismore Township, in Nobles County.

My grandfather, Thomas McLean came to Wisconsin from Campbelltown Scotland in 1871 at age 21. He lived in Wisconsin for five years, then he went to what is now Lismore Township in Nobles County, in 1876 and took his land. The next year he returned to Wisconsin and moved his family to Nobles County.

The first home that he built was a combination ~~kay~~, dugout, sod shanty, built into a hillside. He earned all of the cash money he had during the earlier years by breaking the sod with his oxen, for members of the old St. Mary's colony church, who had been brought over from Ireland, by Bishop Ireland. This church was three miles west of the present site of Lismore. Many of the early pioneers moving to the Leota area from Pella and Orange City Iowa, would make the McLean farm their last overnight stop before reaching their destination. An old military road passed just north of the farm, going from Windom to Sioux Falls.

In the late winter, before the snow had melted, Grandfather would load his sled with wheat, and with some of his neighbors, head for the mill at Hastings Minnesota, where it was ground into flour. In those day's that was quite a journey. The farm was known as the Peacock Farm, because my grandmother raised peacocks, on the prairie.

The farm was owned and farmed by Thomas McLean, his son Matthew, and farmed by his grandson Donald McLean. Now the land is rented, and the buildings are gone. My mother is 91 years old, and does not get far from home.

Sincerely yours,

Carol McLean Nepp
Carol McLean Nepp

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner ARVID E. NYSTROM
Name(s) to appear on certificate ARVID E. NYSTROM
Address ROUTE 2 WORTHINGTON, MN.
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 14 Township BIGELOW County NOBLES
Number of acres in the farm at present 80
Date of original purchase by member of your family _____
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
E 1/2 of S.E. 1/4

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
PETER NYSTROM (owner in 1876 or B4)	^{HOMESTEAD PATENT NOV. 5, 1878} from 1878 to 1897	BROTHERS
GUST NYSTROM, ETAL next owner	from 1897 to 1912	BROTHERS
GUST NYSTROM next owner	from 1912 to 1939	BROTHER
PETER G. NYSTROM next owner	from 1939 to 1973	SON
ARVID E. NYSTROM next owner	from 1973 to	SON
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (✓) Court file in Registration
Land Patent (✓) Proceedings ()
Original Deed () Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (✓)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Joyce Lemke
(Witness sign here)

Arvid E. Nystrom
(Signature of present owner)

Date 7-6-1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? HOME STEADED
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? Sweden
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Sweden
6. Was this a homestead? YES
7. Did the first owner farm the land? YES
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
NO
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? NO
10. When was the present home built? 1915
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? CORN SOYBEANS
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
WORTHINGTON DAILY GLOBE

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner William Nystrom
Name(s) to appear on certificate William & Violet Nystrom
Address Rt. 3 Garthington
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 30 Township 101 County Nobles
Number of acres in the farm at present 78 acres
Date of original purchase by member of your family _____
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
E 1/2 of N 1/4 of 30-101-39

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<i>Receivers Receipt Patent</i> <u>John Nystrom</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	1881 from 1883 to 1883	
<u>Quetta Nystrom</u> next owner	from 1883 to 1939	Brother
<u>William Nystrom et al</u> next owner	from 1939 to 1957	Sons
<u>Am. Fred Nystrom</u> next owner	from 1957 to 1970	Brothers
<u>William Nystrom</u> next owner	from 1970 to Present	Brother
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ()	Court file in Registration
Land Patent ()	Proceedings ()
Original Deed ()	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (X)	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Joyce Lemke
(Witness sign here)

William Nystrom
(Signature of present owner)

Date July 8, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? Sweden
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Sweden
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
Building Railroad
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? yes
10. When was the present home built? 1900
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Apples
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Garthington Daily Globe

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Dr Warren Nyström
Name(s) to appear on certificate Burton Christopherson
Address note attached
Address of farm, if ~~different~~ from above R R #2 Worthington Minn
Section 24 Township Bigelow County Nobles
Number of acres in the farm at present 160
Date of original purchase by member of your family this land has never been sold just inherited
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
NW 1/4 of Sec 24 - 101 - 40

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Ole Nyström</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<u>from 1878 to 1929</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>1/2 Nyström & 1/2 Bursten</u> next owner	<u>from 1929 to 1942</u>	<u>(Daughter)</u>
<u>1/2 Bursten Nyström</u> next owner	<u>from 1929 to 1965</u>	<u>Son</u>
<u>1/2 Bursten Nyström</u> next owner	<u>from 1942 to 1965</u>	<u>Son</u>
<u>Warren Nyström</u> next owner	<u>from 1965 to present</u>	<u>Son</u>
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title () Court file in Registration
Land Patent () Proceedings ()
Original Deed () Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (X) _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Joyce Lemke
(Witness sign here)

Dr Warren Nyström
(Signature of present owner)
by Burton Christopherson

Date July 6 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? _____
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Homesteaded
4. Where was the first owner born? Sweden
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Sweden
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
no
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? no
10. When was the present home built? _____
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? alfalfa Corn & Beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Washington Daily Globe

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

I'm a renter of this land at the present and have been for the last 12 years.

Ole Nystrom was my Grandfather, Reuben Nystrom was my Uncle, Warren Nystrom is my Cousin so I feel this farm is still owned & farmed by the same Blood Relation

I signed Dr Warren Nystroms name to the sheet as he ~~lives~~ lives in Texas. Permission was granted by him to sign this.

Burton Christopher

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Harry H. Russell
Name(s) to appear on certificate Harry H. Russell
Address Bigelow, Minn.
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 32 Township Bigelow County Nobles
Number of acres in the farm at present 32.0 acres
Date of original purchase by member of your family 1871
homestead

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

5.8 - 32 - 160 acres W 1/2 of SW 1/4 33 - 80 acres
1/2 of NE of 32 - 80 acres

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
(owner in 1876 or B4)	from _____ to _____	
next owner	from <u>1871</u> to <u>1903</u>	<u>Robert Bird</u>
next owner	from <u>1903</u> to <u>1939</u>	<u>Dora Bird</u>
next owner	from <u>1939</u> to <u>1963</u>	<u>H. Monroe Russell</u>
next owner	from <u>1963</u> to -	<u>Harry Russell</u>
next owner	from _____ to _____	<u>Tenant now is</u>
next owner	from _____ to _____	<u>James Russell</u>

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title (☒) Court file in Registration
Land Patent () Proceedings ()
Original Deed () Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (☒)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Harry Russell
(Witness sign here)

Harry Russell
(Signature of present owner)

Date Ted Robertson - June 28

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Homesteaded
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? No Charge - Filing fee
4. Where was the first owner born? Scotland
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Pennsylvania
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
no
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? yes
10. When was the present home built? 1905 - (also 1940)
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Sibley Gazette, Sibley, Iowa

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Robert Bird was an old Scottish seaman who went to sea as a lad, but he didn't want his sons to be seamen, so he homesteaded as far from oceans as he could. He married a German girl and they settled on the homestead - 4th generation on it now.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner MARVILLE SAXON
Name(s) to appear on certificate MR & MRS. MARVILLE SAXON
Address WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA 56187
Address of farm, if different from above RFD 3

Section 30 Township 101 County 39 *Wabasha*

Number of acres in the farm at present 160 A.

Date of original purchase by member of your family Homestead Patent Dated: Nov. 20, 1880

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

SE 1/4 of 30-101-39

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Charles Saxon</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1872 to 1906	FATHER - HOMESTEADER - 1872
<u>AUGUSTA SAXON</u> next owner	from 1906 to 1910	HIS WIFE
<u>WALTER SAXON</u> next owner	from 1910 to 1956	SON
<u>MARVILLE SAXON</u> next owner	from 1956 to 1976	GRAND SON
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ()	Court file in Registration
Land Patent (✓)	Proceedings (✓)
Original Deed ()	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record (✓)	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Joyce Howard
(Witness sign here)

Marville Saxon
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 22, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? Government
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160A.
3. What was the cost of land per acre? —
4. Where was the first owner born? Sweden
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Alameda Co. Ia.
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
No
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? No
10. When was the present home built? 1963
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Livestock, Corn, Beans
Wheat, ALFALFA.
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
WORTHINGTON DAILY GLOBE

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

Three families lived here in the house in 1872. Grasshoppers, Drought, Blizzards, Tree Claims, Tornadoes, Taxes, Inflation, Surveying, R.E.A. 1937, Closed Banks, and many more things. If farming changes more in the next 3 generations as it has in the last 3, somebody better have their stakes anchored real well.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Knudt Thomas homestead 1871
Name(s) to appear on certificate Laura Thomas Petersen Eldon Petersen
Address Rushmore Minn. Route 1
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 10 Range 42W Township Little Rock 101N County Nobles

Number of acres in the farm at present 160

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1940

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)

Section 10 Little Rock Township 101N Range 42W

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP		BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
	from	to	
(owner in 1876 or B4) <u>Knudt Thomas</u>	<u>1871</u>	<u>1939</u>	<u>Homestead</u>
next owner <u>Laura J. Thomas Petersen</u>	<u>from 1939</u>	<u>to 1942</u>	<u>Daughter</u>
next owner <u>Eldon Petersen</u>	<u>from 1942</u>	<u>to 1976</u>	<u>Son of Laura Thomas Petersen</u>
next owner	<u>from</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Grand son of Knudt Thomas</u>
next owner	<u>from</u>	<u>to</u>	
next owner	<u>from</u>	<u>to</u>	
next owner	<u>from</u>	<u>to</u>	

The above evidence of continuous family ownership of this farm since 1876 is taken from one or more of the following records. DO NOT SEND IN RECORDS, just indicate by check marks those which apply.

Abstract of Title ()	Court file in Registration
Land Patent ()	Proceedings ()
Original Deed ()	Other (please explain <u>Homestead</u>)
County Land Record ()	<u>Dec 20, 1881</u>
	<u>Lived upon it 9 years before that</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

S. L. Malmquist
(Witness sign here)

Eldon Petersen
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-30-76

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it.

1. From whom was the farm purchased? United States of America
Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Homestead 1871
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Wisconsin
6. Was this a homestead? Yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
He worked on railroad while he improved on Homestead
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? Kitchen is the old original. They built on more rooms
10. When was the present home built? 1910
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Oats, Alfalfa Hay
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Worthington Daily Globe, Worthington Minn. 56187

Related information: (please feel free to use additional sheets of paper)

I

Knudt Thomas homestead June 1871
He came from Dodgeville Wisconsin
At the age of 21 in 1871 he arrived
in Nobles County in company with
Hans Olson, Chris and Ole Peterson
The four of the four of them homesteaded
adjoining farms which
completed one section of land
in Little Rock Township

He lived in a cave on the
homestead. Until he built a Barn.
He lived in the grain bin.

Latter he built a one room house.
He added room's to this when he
married Dec. 8, 1886

He went through the hardships of
grasshopper days and the never-
to-be forgotten blizzards of
the 70's

In 1910 he Built the house that
is still lived in. The kitchen is
the old original
This homestead has always

#

• ben farmed by son's and Daughter.

Now farmed by daughter's son Eldon Petersen. Grand son of Knudt Thomas

When Knudt Thomas estate was sold, it was bought by his daughter Laura (Thomas) Petersen

Homestead Certificate No. 5260
Application 11283