



Century Farm Applications

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CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner James M Andrews
Name(s) to appear on certificate James M & Sharon D Andrews
Address Route # 1 - Box 111, Owatonna, Minn 55060
Address of farm, if different from above Same

Section 4/6/ 5 & 8 Township Meriden County Steele
Number of acres in the farm at present 166
Date of original purchase by member of your family April 7, 1856
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
West 1/2 of NE 1/4 and East 1/2 of NW 1/4, Section 8, Township 107, Range 21 West

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Thomas A Andrews</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	<u>April 7, 56 to May 2, 1887</u> from to	<u>Father</u>
<u>Mary (Andrews) Raymond</u> next owner	<u>May 2, 87 to March 15, 1893</u> from to	<u>Brothers</u>
<u>James W & Arthur T</u> next owner	<u>March 15, 93 to Aug 22, 1921</u> from to	<u>Wife of James W.</u>
<u>Katherine J Andrews</u> next owner	<u>Aug 22, 1921 to Jan 3, 1951</u> from to	<u>Son</u>
<u>Harry S & Lucille</u> next owner	<u>Jan 3, 1951 to Jan 8, 1973</u> from to	<u>Husband</u>
<u>Harry S Andrews</u> next owner	<u>Jan 8, 1973 to July 23, 1975</u> from to	<u>Son</u>
<u>James M Andrews</u> next owner	<u>July 23, 1975 to present</u> 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 ()	Proceedings (x)
Original Deed (x)	Other (please explain <u>notes by my father</u>
County Land Record ()	<u>to cover same information</u>

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

June 30, 1976
(Witness sign here)

James M. Andrews
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 30, 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? From John Olson
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? 600.00 for the entire 160 acres
4. Where was the first owner born? Columbus, Ohio
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? St. Paul
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?
Do not believe so
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? Unknown
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Rented to the Owatonna Canning Co for raising vegetables
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna Peoples Press

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

This farm was recognized in 1958 for being a Minnesota Century Farm and being under the ownership of ^Harry S Andrews and Lucille Andrews, by parents.

See attached Biography of Thomas Andrews.

Note: The last child born to Thomas Andrews was born on July 4, 1876 and was named to celebrate the occasion; Clarence Centennial Andrews

Thomas Andrews was born in Columbus, Ohio, February 20, 1829. His parents were natives of Ireland and New Hampshire. Mr Andrews came to Minnesota in 1854, locating in St. Paul. In 1856 he came to Steele County and settled on Section 8, in Meriden Township, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr Andrews was married May 19, 1856, to Miss Margret Blong, who was born in Ireland March 29, 1836. The result of this union was seven children:

Cleos Francis, born July 25, 1857;
Mary Ellen, born October 11, 1858;
Robert Stewart, born January 19, 1860;
James Watson, born July 22, 1867;
Jennie R., born August 25, 1869;
Arthur Thomas, born February 23, 1870;
Clarence Centennial, born July 4, 1876.
Cleos Francis was killed in the "St. Cloud Cyclone," April 14, 1886. He was a member of the Baptist Church for five years. Robert was married November 20, 1881 to Miss Ellen Safford. They reside near Fergus Falls, Minn. They have three children: Margret Maud, William and Ellen. The rest of the children are living at home. Mr Thomas Andrews died May 4, 1887, and was buried in the Owatonna cemetery. He was a Republican in politics, and was a man who was highly respected by all who knew him. He had held the office of school director two years.

Extracted from;
History of Steele and Waseca Counties,
Minnesota.
An album of History and Biography, 1887

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner

Patrick J Brady

Name(s) to appear on certificate

Patrick J Brady

Address

Route #1 Melford Minn

Address of farm, if different from above

Same

Section

9

Township

Deerfield

County

Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present

320

Date of original purchase by member of your family

1856

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

SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 108 NORTH, RANGE 21 WEST, EXCEPT COMMENCING AT A POINT 49 RODS WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER, THENCE NORTH 8 RODS, WEST 20 RODS, SOUTH 8 RODS, EAST 20 RODS TO PLACE OF BEGINNING

NAME

DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP

BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER

*CHARLES BRADY*from *1856* to *1878**FATHER*

(owner in 1876 or B4)

*JAMES F. BRADY*from *1878* to *1929**FATHER*

next owner

*GEORGE BRADY*from *1929* to *1956**FATHER*

next owner

*GEORGE L. BRADY*from *1956* to *1966**1ST COUSIN*

next owner

*JAMES M. BRADY*from *1966* to *1973**FATHER*

next owner

*PATRICK J. BRADY*from *1973* to *1976*

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 ☒Land Patent ☐Original Deed ☒

County Land

Record ☒

Court file in Registration

Proceedings ☐

Other (please explain)

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

James M. Brady
(Witness sign here)

Patrick J. Brady
(Signature of present owner)

Date *Aug 14, 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? Charles my forefather stated the
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Given by government
4. Where was the first owner born? Cork Ireland
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? migrated down from
6. Was this a homestead? yes st Laurence seaway
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 see bottom of
pages
10. When was the present home built? 1976 to commemorate the event
(BI CENTENNIAL YEAR)
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna Peoples Press, Owatonna Minn.

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

PLEASE RETURN TO: MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
CENTURY FARMS
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

I am just in the process of finishing a new colonial style house on the farm which we started more than a year ago. The house is constructed with brick in which I have a corner stone dedicating the house to Charles Brady who homesteaded on this farm in 1856 and his descendents (THE HOUSE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF)

Steele

PLEASE COMPLETE THESE BRIEF QUESTIONS AND SEND BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!

Names to appear on 1976 Certificate

PATRICK J BRADY

ADDRESS

ROUTE #1

MEDFORD MINNESOTA

FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION BY THE FAMILY

1856

PLEASE RETURN THIS BY AUGUST 17, so we may fill out the certificate for you to have ready on September 4. The sign the FARMER Magazine is giving you will be mailed after the State Fair.

PLEASE MAIL THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION BLANK SEPERATELY or bring it with you to the Fair. The information on this sheet is most important for fairtime.

RETURN TO:

Karen A. Humphrey
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul, Mn. 55108

thank you for your immediate attention.

This farm has been in the family for 120 years and I have built a house on the farm on this are bi-Centennial year to commemorate this event my house will speak for itself for the past 200 years. Then is American Heritage behind it over

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Kenneth & Hazel Brase

Name(s) to appear on certificate Same

Address Rt Box 61 Luaseca, Minn 56095

Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 30 & 31 Township Meriden County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 120

Date of original purchase by member of your family 6-27-1856

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

N.E. 1/4 of N.E. 1/4 Sec 31 107-21 39.25 Acres

E 1/2 of S.E. 1/4 Sec 30 107-21 80. Acres

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>N. S. A.</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from _____ to _____	
<u>CHRISTOPHER WILKHEA</u> next owner	from <u>1856</u> to <u>1877</u>	<u>FATHER IN LAW</u>
<u>WILHELM BRASE</u> next owner	from <u>1877</u> to <u>1878</u>	<u>FATHER</u>
<u>HENRY BRASE</u> next owner	from <u>1878</u> to <u>1898</u>	<u>FATHER</u>
<u>PAUL & ARTHUR BRASE</u> next owner	from <u>1898</u> to <u>1914</u>	<u>SONS</u>
<u>ARTHUR BRASE</u> next owner	from <u>1914</u> to <u>1918</u>	<u>BROTHER</u>
<u>Kenneth & Hazel Brase</u> next owner & present owner	from <u>1948</u> to _____	<u>SON & wife</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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	

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

Kevin Grove
(Witness sign here)

Hazel Brase
Kenneth Brase
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-28-1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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1. From whom was the farm purchased? N. S. A.
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 120
3. What was the cost of land per acre? ~~NO~~ PRICE LISTED
4. Where was the first owner born? GERMANY
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? _____
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?
DO NOT KNOW
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? Yes BARN
CORN CRIB
10. When was the present home built? 1963
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? CORN BEANS. CATS HAY
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
WASECA JOURNAL, WASECA OMAHONNA PEOPLE'S PRESS
OMAHONNA

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

Jesse James slept here in the old house as it was a travel motel at one time. We used some of the original house & older building to do our basement in our present house.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Alvida Ellerman Hale and Lillian E. Ellerman

Name(s) to appear on certificate Same as above

Address RFD #3, Owatonna, Minn.

Address of farm, if different from above Same as above

Section -3- Township -107- Range -19- County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 240 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family July 13, 1870

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

West half of the Northeast quarter Section 3-107-19 Steele County, Minn.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Martin F. Ellerman</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1870 to 1874	
<u>Maria Christine Ellerman</u> next owner	from 1874 to 1922	Wife by will
<u>Albert G. Ellerman</u> next owner	from 1922 to 1953	Son by inheritance
<u>Martin V. Ellerman</u> next owner	from 1953 to 1976	Son by inheritance
<u>Alvida Ellerman Hale &</u> next owner	from 1976 to -	Sisters by inheritance
<u>Lillian E. Ellerman</u> 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 ()	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:

Lester R. Bickford (Witness sign here)

Alvida Ellerman Hale
Lillian E. Ellerman (Signature of present owner)

Date June 23, 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? A.J. Woodworth and Lydia Woodworth, his wife
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \$21.50
4. Where was the first owner born? Denmark
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Denmark
6. Was this a homestead? No
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? 1905
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? oats, corn, wheat, alfalfa, soy beans, dairying and hogs
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna People's Press, Owatonna, Minn.

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

Several families and relatives of the Ellermans from Denmark settled in the area in 1864 and later. A Danish Lutheran Church was organized for worship.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner

James C + Mary Harris

Name(s) to appear on certificate

James C. + Mary Harris

Address

R#2, Owatonna Minn.

Address of farm, if different from above

Same

Section

15

Township

Somerset

County

Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present

80 Acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family

Land Grant to Jacob J. Harris on Aug 1-1865

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

W 1/2 of S.W. 1/4 Sec. 15-106-20

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME

DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP

BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER

<u>Jacob J. Harris</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1855</u> to <u>1906</u>	
<u>Jacob J. Harris</u> next owner	from to	<u>Uncle to Wm. J.</u>
<u>Wm. J. Harris</u> next owner	from <u>1906</u> to <u>1958</u>	<u>Father of James C.</u>
<u>James C. Harris</u> next owner	from <u>1958</u> to <u>Present</u>	
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 ☒
 Land Patent ☒
 Original Deed ☐
 County Land Record ☒

Court file in Registration

Proceedings ☐

Other (please explain Family Diary
kept by Jacob J. Harris)

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

Leona (Harris) Anderson
 (Witness sign here)

James C. Harris
 (Signature of present owner)

Date 8-16-76

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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1. From whom was the farm purchased? Land Grant from Federal Gov. Still in our possession in old Old Cloth Envelope
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160 Acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? homesteaded
4. Where was the first owner born? Came to Minn. from Kingston Ontario
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? ↑
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 was a sailor We still have a picture of his vessel
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? The Original home also a second home built in 1895 for Wm. J. Harris also
10. When was the present home built? 1881 First home Built now
Grainery which is the original one
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? General Farming
the residence of James C. & Mary Harris
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna Peoples Press

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

PLEASE RETURN TO: MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
CENTURY FARMS
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

James C. & Mary Harris deeded 3 acres of the original farm with the second house which was built in 1895 to Thomas C. & Donna Harris another generation

Steele

PLEASE COMPLETE THESE BRIEF QUESTIONS AND SEND BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!

Names to appear on 1976 Certificate

James C. + Mary Harris

ADDRESS

R# 2

Oshtemo, Minn.

FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION BY THE FAMILY

Circa 1858

PLEASE RETURN THIS BY AUGUST 17, so we may fill out the certificate for you to have ready on September 4. The sign the FARMER Magazine is giving you will be mailed after the State Fair.

PLEASE MAIL THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION BLANK SEPERATELY or bring it with you to the Fair. The information on this sheet is most important for fairtime.

RETURN TO:

Karen A. Humphrey
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul, Mn. 55108

thank you for your immediate attention.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Gerhard F. Johnson
 Name(s) to appear on certificate Gerhard F., Annette L. Johnson
 Address RR1 Ellendale, Minn.
 Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 19 Township Lemond County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 120

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1856

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

Sec. 19 - 106 - 21 120
NW 1/4 of NE 1/4, N 1/2 of NE 1/4

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Christian Olson</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1856</u> to <u>1893</u>	<u>Husband</u>
<u>Christianna Olson</u> next owner	from <u>1893</u> to <u>1893</u>	<u>mother</u>
<u>Ovidia Johnson</u> next owner	from <u>1893</u> to <u>1933</u>	<u>Wife</u>
<u>Herbert Johnson</u> next owner	from <u>1933</u> to <u>1936</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>Gerhard Johnson</u> next owner	from <u>1936</u> to <u>Present</u>	<u>Son</u>
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 (X)
Original Deed (X)	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record ()	

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

Richard C. Regal
 (Witness sign here)

Gerhard F. Johnson
 (Signature of present owner)

Date August 13, 1976

See reverse side for additional information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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1. From whom was the farm purchased? United States to Christean Olson
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? Not sure
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Not sure
4. Where was the first owner born? Norway
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Norway
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. He served four years in Civil War 1861-1865
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? Yes
Original home used as a garage
10. When was the present home built? 1901
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, soybeans, oats
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna People's Press. Owatonna, Minn. 55060

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

PLEASE RETURN TO: MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
CENTURY FARMS
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

We filled in a sheet like this some time ago and sent it to the State Fair board. We haven't gotten any reply so we don't know if they got our letter or not. Thank you for asking for this information. We are proud to be Century Farmers.

PLEASE COMPLETE THESE BRIEF QUESTIONS AND SEND BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!

Names to appear on 1976 Certificate

Gerhard F. Johnson

ADDRESS

RR1 Ellendale, Minn.

Annette L. Johnson

FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION BY THE FAMILY

RR1 Ellendale, Minn

Steele Co

PLEASE RETURN THIS BY AUGUST 17, so we may fill out the certificate for you to have ready on September 4. The sign the FARMER Magazine is giving you will be mailed after the State Fair.

PLEASE MAIL THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION BLANK SEPERATELY or bring it with you to the Fair. The information on this sheet is most important for fairtime.

RETURN TO:

Karen A. Humphrey
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul, Mn. 55108

thank you for your immediate attention.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Frank J. Klecker *OK*
Name(s) to appear on certificate Frank J. Klecker
Address Quatona, Minnesota *Route 2*
55060
Box 95
Address of farm, if different from above Same

Section 35 Township Sommerset County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 110 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family June 17, 1874

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

W $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 35-106N-20W.
E $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Joseph Klecker (owner in 1876 or B4)	June 17, 1874 to May 11, 1878	Great Grandpa
Vincent Klecker next owner	May 11, 1878 to Dec. 18, 1917	Grandpa
Frank J. Klecker next owner	Dec. 18, 1917 to Sept. 20, 1940	Father
Frank J. Klecker next owner	Sept. 20, 1940 to present day	I am the present owner buying it from my father Frank J. Klecker (above)
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 Proceedings ☐
Land Patent ☐
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:

Mrs. Raymond Warner *Quatona Minnesota R. 2*
(Witness sign here)

Frank J. Klecker
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 28, 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? Josef Fares and Katharina Fares
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? unknown
4. Where was the first owner born? unknown
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? unknown
6. Was this a homestead? unknown
7. Did the first owner farm the land? unknown
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
unknown
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use?
unknown
10. When was the present home built? estimated about 1900
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn, Hay, oats
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna Peoples Press, Owatonna, Minnesota
55060

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

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Earl and Laurietta McNearney *OK*
Name(s) to appear on certificate Earl and Laurietta McNearney
Address Blooming Prairie Minn B2
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 6 Township BLOOMING-PRAIRIE County STEELE

Number of acres in the farm at present 120

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1874

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

N. W. 1/2 of S W. 1/4 of Sec. 6 - Township 105 - Range 19

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
(owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1875</u> to <u>1920</u>	<u>Patrick McNearney - Father</u>
next owner	from <u>1920</u> to <u>1948</u>	<u>John W. McNearney - Father</u>
next owner	from <u>1948</u> to <u>1976</u>	<u>Earl and Laurietta McNearney</u>
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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

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

Louella Knuse
(Witness sign here)

Earl and Laurietta McNearney
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 23 - 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? Minnesota Homestead
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80
3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? County of Gallary Ireland
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Ireland
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?
small barn still standing - First wood barn on Farm
10. When was the present home built? 1898
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Dairy 7000
cows + Hay - Soybeans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Blooming Prairie Times and Oronoma Press

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

this was university land - a tax was paid to the university to promote the school - We have the receipt dated June 25 - 1875 - Taxes paid in full on June 5 - 1876 - for the year of 1875 were \$27.45

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Vernon C. Meixner

Name(s) to appear on certificate Mr & Mrs Vernon Meixner, Jeannette-Thomas
Kenneth, Karen, Sheila, Andrew

Address R#4, Owatonna, Minn. 55060

Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 23 Township Owatonna County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 95.61

Date of original purchase by member of your family June 15 - 1857

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

W 1/2 of SE 1/4 W. of R R. #11 NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 - SE 1/4 - NE 1/4
W of Hy 40 Section 23 - 107 N Range 20 West

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>Grand Father</u> <u>Joseph Kaplan</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1857</u> to <u>1917</u>	<u>Grand Father</u>
<u>Otto Kaplan</u> next owner	from <u>1917</u> to <u>1941</u>	<u>Uncle</u>
<u>Wend Meixner</u> next owner	from <u>1941</u> to <u>1959</u>	<u>Father</u>
<u>Vernon Meixner</u> next owner	from <u>1959</u> to <u>-now</u>	<u>Son</u>
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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	

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

Mrs. R. A. Gontarek
(Witness sign here)

Vernon Meixner
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 15 - 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? ? none
4. Where was the first owner born? Dlouhetre bave - Bohemia
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Covered Wagon-
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?
Part of original Home is - and made of logs
10. When was the present home built? 1st part 1857
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn & Beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Quatonna Peoples Press

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

We have a ~~complete~~ written history of the farm and how things went for Joseph Kepken from the time from Bohemia 1848 - to 1918 having 22 children - my mother, Christine was the 16th child - Vernon H. Kepken

Steele

PLEASE COMPLETE THESE BRIEF QUESTIONS AND SEND BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!

Names to appear on 1976 Certificate E. Darrell + June A. Morrison

ADDRESS Rt 1 box 247

Medford Mn. 55049

FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION BY THE FAMILY 1858

PLEASE RETURN THIS BY AUGUST 17, so we may fill out the certificate for you to have ready on September 4. The sign the FARMER Magazine is giving you will be mailed after the State Fair.

PLEASE MAIL THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION BLANK SEPERATELY or bring it with you to the Fair. The information on this sheet is most important for fairtime.

RETURN TO: Karen A. Humphrey
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul, Mn. 55108

thank you for your immediate attention.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Palmer H. Mussman and Arthur H. MussmanName(s) to appear on certificate Palmer H. Mussman and Arthur H. MussmanAddress RFD #1, Claremont, MinnesotaAddress of farm, if different from above Same as aboveSection 13 Township 107 (Havana) County SteeleNumber of acres in the farm at present 175Date of original purchase by member of your family Jan. 2, 1874

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

Southwest quarter and Lot 3 all in Section 13-107-19 Steele County, Minn.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Palmer H. Mussman and Arthur H. Mussman	1874 to 1899	
Fred Mussmann (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1874 to 1899	Son
Friedrick et al next owner	from 1899 to 1934	Wife of decedent
Palmer H. Mussman next owner	from 1934 to 1964	Two sons
Alma Mussman Estate next owner	from 1934 to 1964	Sons and daughter
Palmer H. Mussman & next owner Arthur H. Mussman	from 1964 to the present time	Two sons
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)
Land Patent ()
Original Deed ()
County Land Record ()

Court file in Registration Proceedings ()
Other (please explain)

Arthur H. Mussman

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

Lester R. Bickford
(Witness sign here)

Arthur H. Mussman
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 15, 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? Winona & St. Peter Railroad Co. in 1874
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 231 acres
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \$9. per acre for 40 acres; \$11.50 per acre for 175 acres
4. Where was the first owner born? Germany
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Hastings Minn.
6. Was this a homestead? No
7. Did the first owner farm the land? Yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
Shoe maker and musician
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? 1887
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Dairy, corn, beans, oats and hay
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna People's Press, Owatonna, Minn.

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

I still farm this land.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Ressler

OK

Name of Centennial Farm owner Lula Rysavy
Name(s) to appear on certificate Lula Ressler Rysavy, Armilla Rysavy Rice and Wm. H. Rice
Address 825 So. Oak St. - Owatonna, Mn.

Address of farm, if different from above Route 2
Blooming Prairie, Mn.

Section N¹/₂ of NE¹/₄ 14 Township 105 Range 20 County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 120 A. (80 A. owned since 1873)

Date of original purchase by member of your family Apr. 23, 1873

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
N¹/₂ of NE¹/₄ of Sec. 14, Township 105, Range 20

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER (not clear → over)
Bernard Ressler (owner in 1876 or B4)	APR. 23 Dec. 15 from 1873 to 1915	Father
Adolph Ressler next owner	Dec. 15 APR. 1 from 1915 to 1942	Brother
B.J. Ressler next owner Ludwig and	APR. 1 June 17 from 1942 to 1949	Daughter and Son-in-law
Lula (Ressler) Rysavy next owner	June 17 from 1949 to Present	
next owner	from to	There is a current Contract for
next owner	from to	Deed to Daughter & Son-in-law,
next owner	from to	Armilla (Rysavy) Rice and Wm. H. Rice
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 (X) 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:

Armilla L. Rice (Witness sign here) Lula Rysavy (Signature of present owner)

Date July 7, 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? Purchased Apr. 23, 1873 from
Adolphus C. + Amanda Work
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 86 A.
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \$17.40
4. Where was the first owner born? (In our family → Austria)
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Mauston, Wisc.
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, the original log
cabin is part of the present house.
10. When was the present home built? around 1900.
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? variety of small grains before.
corn, soybeans now.
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna People's Press - Owatonna, Minn. 55060

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

Great Grandparents Tell of the Indians that lived on the Creek running through the property

The family

Bernard Ressler deeded to Adolph, his son.

Adolph deeded to his brother, Bernard J. + wf.

Bernard J. deeded to his daughter, Lula Rysavy + husb.

Present Contract for Deed Lula Rysavy to daughter Armilla Rice + husb.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner John H. Seykora
Name(s) to appear on certificate John H. SEYKORA
Address R 4 Owatonna Minn
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 23 Township SOMMERSET County Steel
Number of acres in the farm at present 260
Date of original purchase by member of your family Nov 26 1874
Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, tax statement)
SW. 1/4 SEC 23 T. 106. R. 20

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
<u>FRANK SEYKORA</u> (owner in 1876 or B4)	from <u>1874</u> to <u>1885</u>	<u>Grand father</u>
<u>John W. Seykora</u>	from <u>1885</u> to <u>1903</u>	<u>Son</u>
next owner <u>Josephine</u>	from <u>1903</u> to <u>1917</u>	<u>Wife + widow of John W. Seykora</u>
next owner <u>John G.</u>	from <u>1903</u> to <u>1917</u>	<u>Son of Josephine SEYKORA</u>
next owner <u>Wm. Mary, Emily, Lydia, Helen, Jenny</u>	from <u>1917</u> to <u>1926</u>	<u>children of</u>
next owner <u>John G. Seykora</u>	from <u>1917</u> to <u>1926</u>	<u>SON.</u>
next owner <u>John Seykora Estate</u>	from <u>26</u> to <u>57</u>	<u>To ELIZABETH SEYKORA wife + widow.</u>
next owner <u>ELIZABETH SEYKORA</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>John H. SEYKORA son of Eliz.</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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain)
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Register of DEEDS.</u>

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

Mrs. John W. Butler
(Witness sign here)

John H. Seykora
(Signature of present owner)
+ Eliza Seykora

Date June 30 - 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? _____
3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? _____
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? _____
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? 1966 _____
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn & Soybeans.
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:

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

Owatonna Peoples Press.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner George H. Spatenka
Name(s) to appear on certificate Geo. H. Spatenka
Address Route #4, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060
Address of farm, if different from above _____

Section 25 Township Owatonna County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 80

Date of original purchase by member of your family April, 1871

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

The west half of northeast quarter (W $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section twenty-five (25)

Township one hundred seven (107) North of Range Twenty (20) West

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Frank Spatenka (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1871 to 1900	Grand Father
next owner	from to	
Frank R. Spatenka	from 1900 to 1930	Father
next owner	6/16/1930 to 3:30 PM	
George H. Spatenka	from to Present	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 (x)	Other (please explain _____)
County Land Record ()	

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

Mary Ann Cope
(Witness sign here)

Geo. H. Spatenka
(Signature of present owner)

Date June 29, 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? D. K. Hickock & wife
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 80
3. What was the cost of land per acre? 700 for the 80 acres
4. Where was the first owner born? Czechoslovakia
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? _____
6. Was this a homestead? yes
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes, no well, no house all brush and cleared by hand
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
Carpenter
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? 1874
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? beans & corn
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna Peoples Press, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060

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

My name is Eleanor Worke and I am a niece of Geo. H. Spatenka, my father was born on this farm and when checking into the centennial farms I found out that the home place was over 100 years. I hope we have answered all the questions as needed. If any More information is needed please let me know.

Eleanor Worke

Box 321

*Bloomington
Minn 55912*

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner WILLIAM SRSEN
Name(s) to appear on certificate WILLIAM AND ANN SRSEN
Address Box 29 HOPE MN. 56046
Address of farm, if different from above SAME

Section 19 Township SOMERSET County STEELE

Number of acres in the farm at present 157.22

Date of original purchase by member of your family MARCH 30, 1876

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

SOUTH WEST QUARTER SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 106 NORTH
OF RANGE 70 WEST.

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
------	----------------------------	----------------------------------

CHARLES SRSEN (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1876 to 1890	
next owner	from to	
EDWARD SRSEN	from 1890 to 1936	SON
next owner	from to	
next owner	from to	
WILLIAM SRSEN	from 1936 to PRESENT	SON
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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Court file in Registration
Land Patent <input type="checkbox"/>	Proceedings <input type="checkbox"/>
Original Deed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain <u>WE HAVE THE U.S.</u>
County Land Record <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>DOCUMENT GRANTING CERTAIN LAND</u>
	<u>FOR SERVICES IN MILITARY UNITS</u> DATED

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief: JUNE 1 1861

Catherine J. Martin
(Witness sign here)

William Srsen
(Signature of present owner)

Date 6-18-76

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? DANIEL MARSHMAN
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 156.97
3. What was the cost of land per acre? \$ 20 PER ACRE
4. Where was the first owner born? MORAVIA CZECHOSLAVAKIA
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? ABOVE
6. Was this a homestead? NO
7. Did the first owner farm the land? YES
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
NO, NOT AFTER PURCHASING THE FARM. (SEE ENCLOSURE)
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? PORTIONS OF BUILDINGS WERE USED IN REBUILDING
10. When was the present home built? 1913
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? GENERAL FARMING AND DAIRYING
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
OWATONNA PEOPLES PRESS - OWATONNA, MN. 55060

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



1875

1975

rsen

*In remembrance of the
settlement in America
of Karel & Catherine Srsen*
CHARLES

When Karel Srsen was fifty-two years old, he and his wife Katherine emigrated from Dlouha Trebova to America. For twelve years they had lived on a seventeen-acre farm which they had purchased from a cousin, Joseph Seykora. The Seykoras had emigrated to America earlier.

The family members were Karel, born in 1823; Katherine, born in 1835; sons Joseph, born in 1857; Anton, born in 1860; Edward, born in 1863; Charles, born in 1868; daughters Anna, born in 1866; and Frances, born in 1872.

One son, Frank, had gone to America one year earlier. Joseph and Frank were Karel's sons by a first marriage. Their mother's maiden name was Ribka (Ripka).

As far as can be determined, Karel was a businessman and not a farmer. He travelled from village to village contracting workers to weave materials which he would take to the larger markets to sell. It is remarkable that he had enough money to buy passage for his large family to America, and to purchase the farm in Steele County, Minnesota.

The family arrived in New York on July 3, 1875. They spent the night in a small hotel and on July 4th awoke to the banging of firecrackers and the noise of Independence Day celebration. They were frightened and worried to think that they had come to a country which sounded as though it might be fighting a war.

The family left New York by train to go to Chicago where they spent a few days resting with friends who had left Czechoslovakia earlier. Their name was probably Fisher.

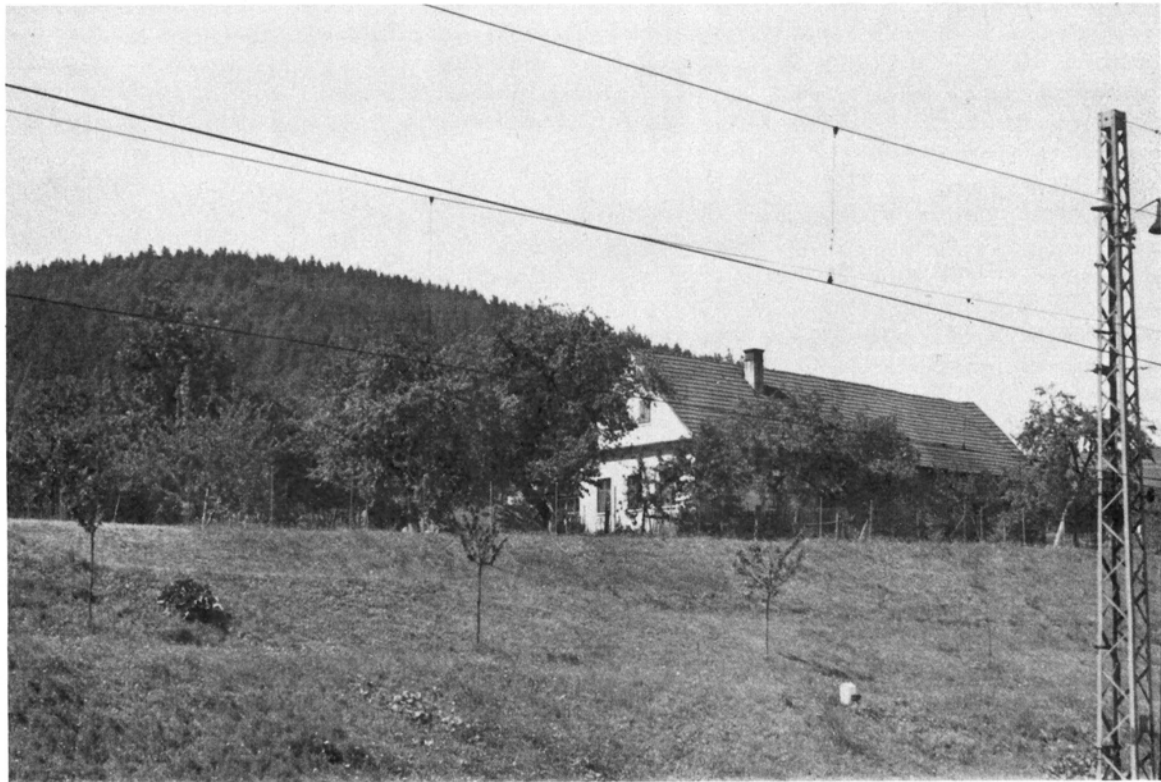
Karel had arranged by letter, presumably with his cousin Joseph Seykora, to meet the family in Owatonna. Mr. Seykora drove to the railroad station, a distance of about twelve miles, three times as it was difficult to know the exact time of arrival. The Srsen family stayed with the Seykora family until details of buying their own farm were completed.

The farm, located in Somerset Township, Steele County, had had several owners. The original owner, Charles R. Knowlton, had received the 156.97 acres from the United States as payment for services in the War of 1812. Daniel Marshman was the owner when Karel Srsen purchased it, and the Warranty Deed was filed on April 1, 1876.

Karel and Katherine Srsen settled in their new home and started their life in America. A son, Alois, and a daughter, Emily, were born here. Karel did not possess much knowledge of farming, but aided by his capable wife and family, they managed a living.

The Owatonna Municipal Hospital has a room dedicated to the memory of Karel and Katherine Srsen. Funds were given to furnish the room by members of their family.

These pictures were taken of the home in Dlouha Trebova during the 1960's by a friend.





CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

(SVATOS)

San- George Svatos lines with Mother Mrs Charles J. (Rose Skalicky) Svatos
 Name of Centennial Farm owner
 Name(s) to appear on certificate Mrs. Charles J. (Rose Skalicky) Svatos
 Address RR2, Watonna, Minnesota, 55060
 Address of farm, if different from above same as above

North 1/2 of N.W. Quarter

Section 36 Township (106) Somerset County Steele (Range 20)Number of acres in the farm at present 80 acresDate of original purchase by member of your family February 17, 1911

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

Steele County, Range 20, Township (106) Somerset
Corner North 1/2 of N.W. Quarter, section 36

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
Joseph Skalicky	July 26 from 1873 to Sept 2 1905	(Son) Grandfather and Great Grandfather
Joseph Skalicky	from same as above	
Albert P. Skalicky	Sept 2 from 1905 to Feb 17 1911	Son of above and Uncle to below.
Charles & Rose Skalicky Svatos	Feb 17 from 1911 to now	Niece of Albert - Granddaughter of Joseph
Charles & Rose Skalicky Svatos	Feb 17 from 1911 to Feb 10 1964	Charles passed away August 3, 1963
Mrs Charles (Rose Skalicky) Svatos	Feb 25 from 1964 to now	Still lives on place.
	from to	Rose's youngest son, George E. Svatos
next owner		lines with her on farm and farms the land.

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 ()
 Land Patent ()
 Original Deed ()
 County Land Record ☒

Court file in Registration Proceedings ☒
 Other (please explain)

Family History from Joseph's daughter
Lillian and granddaughter Rose
4th generation on this place

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

Georgine Angela Svatos
 (Witness sign here)

Date June 28, 1976

Rose Svatos
 (Signature of present owner)
 (nee) Mrs Charles (Rose Skalicky) Svatos

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 ^{a pioneer} whom was the farm purchased? Who had just shortly come here.
2. How many ^{next page see details} acres were in the original parcel? 80 acres intact now (+ more)
(Total 220 acres) 100 acres across and back
3. What was the cost of land per acre? 40 acres across side + corner + rest back
No record of this
4. Where was the first owner born? Dobro Dobro, Czechoslovakia (also known as Austria)
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Saco, little place of
Pioneers few miles west of this place until large house was built.
6. Was this a homestead? yes, it was
7. Did the first owner farm the land? yes
8. Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming?
No - Very busy building all farm buildings, etc.
(Built original home couple years later) (Small cabin for couple years)
9. Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? 49 years ago
Joseph was moved to Bishop, few miles East, still stands and is lived in. Larger new home built 49 years ago by Charles and Rose Skalicky, Swatos
10. When was the present home built? 49 years ago
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Soy Beans, Corn, Grain.
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Owatonna (Daily) Peoples' Press - 135 West Pearl Street
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060

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

Pages attach. please refer to it:

Mr & Mrs Joseph (Josephine) Skalicky landed in New York - and went to relatives in Chicago, of May, 1873 and came directly to Steele County, where farm is. Until cabin was built stayed with friends and relatives in "Saco" few miles East of Farm. This was two years after Great Chicago Fire of

October 8, 1871. They had relatives in Chicago.

Page T.

June 28, 1976

(This covers 103 years plus)

Brief history: Joseph Skalicky was born 1844 and about 27 years of age, also had 2 small babies, eldest Gracels, (Mother of Rose Skalicky) and son Joseph. Anna (later Mrs Joseph F Seykora) was third child born, and born in new house built on family farm of 103 years ago, there were 6 other children, (twins a boy & girl, Rose and Albert,) Frank, Adolph, Josephine and Libbie.

More history may be obtained from Mrs. Charles J. (Rose Skalicky) Svatos, Joseph's granddaughter. She has pictures of entire farm, how place looked (air view) with first old house and buildings. Also has picture of present home, built 49 years, by her & late husband. He kept up buildings and remodeled as they now stand. The original first (still) buildings on the farm are a machine shed, grainery, Chicken house converted to a hog barn. The barn was a large one, long and wide roof, built in 1878, date was carved in center of barn roof under shingles. An old hog house and wood shed have been torn down.

Grand daughter (Rose) also knows all history of first settlers, has pictures of Church and history of Church right across the road from the house. Grandfather Joseph was one (see)

of first pioneers in Community building. The Church, first wooden structure across the Road from house was built on his land he gave. In 1940 a new "Holy Trinity Catholic Church" was constructed of stones gathered from all of the area farms, good share of these came from Joseph's farms. They called the community, "Litomysl", (means tears or sorry for my suspender) for their community they came from in Europe. The Church parlor is in basement under entire Church, also a school "Of St Isidore" has been built, who is patron Saint of The farmers. Conduct classes from primary through 8th grade. This is all located on a large parcel of land that belonged to Joseph Skalicky 100 acres on this side, sold just few years ago by another son's children to another family. He also had 120 acres now farm of Rudolph Seykora, and 40 acres that is Summit Store of Lawrence Schisler couple miles further south. (Use to be a Creamery across from this, building still stands and is used for storage by store. Grand daughter Rose Skalicky Svatos has lived on the place most all her life (age 82) will be 83, August 1, 1976. "States," since she was less than knee high." Her

father Frank Skalicky passed away, when she was a small girl. (He was no relative to Joseph Skalicky) but had same ^{last} name, and his father's name also was Frank. They lived only couple miles further South. Joseph's eldest daughter Frances, married this Frank Skalicky. When Frances' husband passed away, she was left with 10 small children, one of the younger ones was Rose Skalicky (now Soates) So her grandparents (Rose's) Joseph & Josephine Skalicky, (Parents to Rose's mother Frances) took Rose, when she was a small child and reared her. So she has lived (Rose) in the same small spot almost 80 years. Few years later son Albert, of Joseph Skalicky took over this place with larger house. Grandpa Joseph, built a smaller home on next corner across the back road on 40 acres which also was his land. He had a complete small set of buildings he built here, barn, shed, grainery, Corn Crib and hog barn. It was loaded with beautiful Oak trees. Joseph's eldest son had already moved to Canada (Joseph). Few years later Albert another son that lived on original site of 80 acres was leaving for Canada. So the niece of Albert and grand daughter of Joseph (now)

Rose Skalicky now married to Charles Joseph Svatos took the original place over. Charles moved to Minnesota very young, from Morse Iowa, near Iowa City, Salon, and Ely Area. So Rose in her right has lived on the same place now some over 65 years, as the grand daughter of Joseph. On the same plot of 40 acres that Grandpa Joseph built his small retirement farm buildings, also is the "Holy Trinity Church Cemetery. It is in the center of a very slight hill side, a beautiful resting place with evergreens all around. The Church and school yard are also outlined with evergreens. Rose knows every name on that Cemetery of tomb stones, can trace relative lineage of every one in Community. A small ways below Cemetery hill was the first Community School built by Joseph and all other Pioneers. It was known as the old District School #57, all of Joseph's Children attended the school and some of his grand Children including Rose, who they reared, all of Roses' 7 Children also attended this same school.

When the legislature voted to close

Page

-5-

one room Country schools. This school was moved to Owatonna, to the Steele County Fairgrounds, to "the Village of yesteryear", along with the small Church of Saco Community, couple miles further west, and also the Bishop Railroad Depot, which was few miles East. Joseph contributed money and his help to all these Community projects. The School House now is known as "The Country Store." (Mrs. Bernard, "Barney", Libbie Skalicky, Ressler) an aunt of Rose's loves to tell about this, (Libbie is a daughter of Joseph) She even made her nieces wedding dress - (Rose Skalicky Svatos). Her husband passed away - She now lives with her only living daughter, Lula, Mrs Ludwig Rysany. Her husband also has passed away. Libbie's youngest daughter also passed away in California. They live at 825 South Oak Street, Owatonna. The original buildings, still on the Joseph Skalicky farm built by him, have been well kept up by Rose and her late husband, and now by her youngest son, George, the youngest of all her children. George put new shingles on the barn summer of 1974. ^{over}

George is a good designer and Carpenter.
Photo news Oct 5, 1974 Page 8, Carried
this item data and picture, which they have.
Headline - Flag on barn roof draws National
attention. Mather Rose - and Son George Svatos'
Barn Roof has gotten a lot of attention recently
after a photograph of red, white and blue tile
shingling job was transmitted on the
associated Press Wire to Newspapers all
over the Country.

Svatos' report Cards and letters from Ohio,
Iowa, Indiana, Tennessee, Michigan, Kansas,
Missouri, etc. in which people sent Copies
of the picture and Complimented him on the
flag design. One family from Ohio even
stopped in at Svatos' Rt 2, farm with a
Clipping from their hometown newspaper
while on their way to California on vacation.
George Svatos, youngest of Rose's Children
in his 30's, dreamed up the idea this
last Spring and had it finished a couple
weeks before the Summer Festival at the
Litomysl Holy Trinity Catholic Church just
across the road from his farm. A
Visitor at the Summer Festival apparently
snapped a photo that was picked up by the A.P.

Page 7

(SVATOS)

George Svatos lives at the farm with his mother, Mrs. Charles J. (Rose Skalicky) Svatos. George's brother, Charles lives at Soudan, Minnesota, where Soudan Mines National Park is. The local Tower-Soudan paper carried an article describing the roof, a very wide long roof on South side of barn. It can be seen from a distance, as the flag is a large tile design of red and white stripes, with 50 stars of white as flag appears now on blue background. He cut out all the white stars, all exact duplicate and replica of the present U. S. A. Flag.

City of Watoma, Steele Co. Peoples' Press Thursday, June 10, 1976 Carried this article.

It also included a picture of Joseph Skalicky's daughter, Mrs. Bernard "Barney" (she is now widow) Libbie Skalicky Ressler. Pioneer Citizens Honored. Mrs. Libbie Ressler has been chosen as the lady, Pioneer Citizen to act as Marshal for the 4th of July Parade here, Libbie, 91, was born in Litomyse and lived all her life in Steele County. She says she loves to ^{over}bake filled biscuits. She was a Clerk for many years (in their department store included

everything graciously, clothes, dry goods, and
you name it) in Ressler's Store on North
Cedar Street. She makes Cross-stitch aprons
and Crachets (Art Wilson age 93 will represent
men at parade) as will 24 other Senior Citizens
ride in parade. The nominees were honored
at a special luncheon Wednesday, sponsored by
the auxiliaries of the American Legion and
Veterans of Foreign Wars - Theme of the luncheon
was "Happy Birthday America". Mrs. Libbie
Ressler is still very active and has a
sharp memory. Her niece, Mrs Charles (Rose
Skalicky) Svatos is also very active. She
does much sewing for the Church projects
across the Road from her, for all the poor,
which is sent all over this Country and
other Countries, "Especially The Pope's Store House".
Rose loves to go places and enjoys traveling.

The local Radio Station KR 70 - FM. has a
tape recording of this Celebration and "Libbie",
is the first to tell of her history. Todd Hale
of KR 70 re aired tape and will repeat again.
He also mentioned flag on roof barn. She
was quick to say (Libbie) that is the same
barn on farm where she was born.
Libbie was one of a family of 9 Children.

Second to youngest, 4 boys and 5 girls.
another Sister Josephine (Mrs Vincent Wesely)
is also living. Twins seem to run in
the family. Joseph and Josephine Skalicky
had a set of twins, a boy and a girl,
Albert and Rose. Rose then ^{granddaughter and} niece had
2 sets of twins, twin girls, and other
set a boy and girl. (Svatos)

The twin girl is also Josephine ^{Frances} now
Mrs. Vernal A. Echeling. Her Children
also included a set of identical twin
girls Carolyn and Marilyn. Mrs. Echeling
has one boy and 5 girls. Her second
to youngest daughter Vickie Jo, was
Steel County Dairy Princess in
1974. Vickie Jo is now married to
David Skala and lives in Owatonna.
Rose's brother Joseph also had a set
of twins a boy and girl.

P.S. I didn't have any Community booklets at
hand of the Church history and yesterday Village.
as I just moved, and can't lay my hands
on everything. I am an R.W. and Rose Skalicky's
oldest daughter. I wrote this for my Mother
Signed - Georgine Angela Svatos

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner Clarence V. Wanous
Name(s) to appear on certificate Clarence V. and Virginia K.
Address Route 4 Owatonna Minn.
Address of farm, if different from above Zip 55060

Section 23 & 24 Township Somerset County Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present 140 acres

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1863

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

Sec 24 - 106 - 20 - W 1/2 of SW 1/4 (80a)
Sec 23 - 106 - 20 - E 3/4 of N 1/2 of SE 1/4 (60a)

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME	DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP	BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER
U.S. (owner in 1876 or B4) <u>Wencl Wanous</u>	from to <u>1863</u>	
next owner <u>Joseph Wanous</u>	from <u>1863</u> to <u>1906</u>	<u>Father</u>
next owner <u>Josephine Wanous</u>	from <u>1906</u> to <u>1945</u>	<u>Husband</u>
next owner <u>Clarence V. Wanous</u>	from <u>1945</u> to <u>1946</u>	<u>Mother</u>
next owner <u>Virginia K.</u>	from <u>1946</u> to <u>present</u>	
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:

Arthuro J. Foy (Witness sign here) Clarence V. Wanous (Signature of present owner)

Date 6-18-76

See reverse side for additional information.

Clarence V. Womack
Clarence V. and Virginia R.
Route 4 Quatoma, Minn.

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? U.S. gov. Winona & St. Peter RR.
- * 2. How many acres were in the original parcel? Minnesota Central RR. 80 a
- * 3. What was the cost of land per acre? _____
4. Where was the first owner born? Czechoslovakia
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? Litomysl, Czech.
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? a stone sprung house is the oldest building on the farm
10. When was the present home built? 1895
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? corn alfalfa soybeans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
Quatoma People's Press

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

The original owner of our farm was my husband's grandfather Wend Wanous. He homesteaded in 1863. and bought additional land from railroad companies in 1869 & 1876. He owned 320 acres. As his sons married each was given 80 acres. My husband's father Joseph W. Wanous being the youngest got the original home site in 1906. The original log house and log barn were still on the place plus the new house which had been built in 1895.

There was an agreement (which we still have) made between Joseph W Wanous & his father Wend Wanous that when Joseph married his father could live in the log house as long as he lived. The agreement or contract states that Joseph W Wanous is to provide

1 log house

1 log barn

1 horse

2 cows

hay & pasture for above

50 bus. wheat

50 bus. corn

the right to take water from existing wells on the place
and a note for \$2000

after Wend Wanous died the log buildings were dismantled. There is a small stone building that has water pumped into it and was used to keep milk & cream & eggs cooled. It was there as long as any one living can remember.

We have an oak tree near our house that we registered with the Forestry Div. estimated to be over 260 years old. and the third largest registered in Minn.

CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Name of Centennial Farm owner

WHAMETT Chester J. & Lois

Name(s) to appear on certificate

(Same)

Address

RFD1 Box 120 Owatonna MN 55060

Address of farm, if different from above

Section

3

Township

Meriden

County

Steele

Number of acres in the farm at present

280

Date of original purchase by member of your family

10-1-1855

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

Meriden Twp - 9022 - sec 3 - 107-21 - 160A SE 1/4Meriden Twp. - 9021 - sec 3 - 107-21 - 80A - S 1/2 of NE 1/4Meriden Twp - 9017 - Sec 2 - 107-21 - 40A - NW 1/4 of SW 1/4

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS FAMILY OWNERSHIP

NAME

DATES (YEARS) OF OWNERSHIP

BLOOD RELATIONSHIP TO NEXT OWNER

WHAMETT John O (owner in 1876 or B4)	from 1855 to 1911	Husband
WHAMETT Sarah next owner	from 1911 to 1921	Mother
WHAMETT Frank J. next owner	from 1921 to 1955	Father
WHAMETT Chester J. next owner	from 1955 to Present time	
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 ()
 Land Patent ()
 Original Deed ☒
 County Land Record ()

Court file in Registration Proceedings ()
 Other (please explain)

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

Dorlene Zoudek
 (Witness sign here)

Chester J. Whamett
 (Signature of present owner)

Date

August 13, 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? Homesteaded in 1855
2. How many acres were in the original parcel? 160
3. What was the cost of land per acre? Homestead
4. Where was the first owner born? Quebec Canada
5. Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? From Canada to Boston + on West.
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?
County Recorder for a time
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? 1871
11. What are the farm's major crops or products? Corn + Soy Beans
12. Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation:
OWATONNA Peoples Press

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

PLEASE RETURN TO: MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
CENTURY FARMS
ST. PAUL, MN 55108

Steele

PLEASE COMPLETE THESE BRIEF QUESTIONS AND SEND BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!

Names to appear on 1976 Certificate WUAMETT Chester J. & Lois

ADDRESS R.F.D. 1 Box 120

Owatonna MN. 55060

FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION BY THE FAMILY 1855 ~~1855~~

PLEASE RETURN THIS BY AUGUST 17, so we may fill out the certificate for you to have ready on September 4. The sign the FARMER Magazine is giving you will be mailed after the State Fair.

PLEASE MAIL THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION BLANK SEPERATELY or bring it with you to the Fair. The information on this sheet is most important for fairtime.

RETURN TO: Karen A. Humphrey
Minnesota State Fair
St. Paul, Mn. 55108

thank you for your immediate attention.