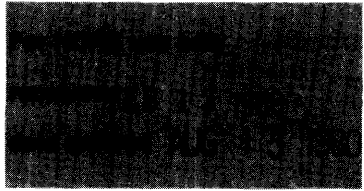


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



**1. Name**

historic Foster, (Philip), Farm  
and/or common \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 066 OR 211 \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication  
city, town Eagle Creek vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 2nd  
state Oregon code 41 county Clackamas code 005

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mrs. Albert H. Powers  
street & number 554 Warner Parrott Rd.  
city, town Oregon City \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Oregon 97045

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clackamas County Courthouse  
street & number 8th and Main  
city, town Oregon City \_\_\_\_\_ state Oregon 97045

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date 1979 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local \_\_\_\_\_  
depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office  
city, town Salem \_\_\_\_\_ state Oregon 97310

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Philip Foster Farm consists of the house, barn, milk and fruit storehouse, and other related structures. Foster had originally built a log cabin on the site in 1846 which burned in 1880. Therefore, the oldest remaining structure is the barn, which is purported to have been erected in 1874. The Foster House, storehouse and well were constructed in 1882. The vernacular style of the shiplap-sided house was augmented by sparse applications of Eastlake and classical detail. The various buildings have been wholly or partially restored by the present owner. They are in use and in good condition.

The farm is oriented to the north in NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31, T2S, R4E, W.M., and is adjacent to State Highway 211, which runs between Sandy and Eagle Creek, Oregon.

Close to the route of the famous Barlow Road, established as an immigrant toll road by Foster and Barlow in 1846. It is located in the westerly foothills of Mt. Hood in a meadow that for many years had been kept clear of trees by the Indians. Here the Indians burned off the bracken and dried grass each fall in order to have a fresh pasture for their horses in the spring when they came to harvest salmon in the nearby Clackamas River and Eagle Creek. Only the oak trees were protected as they were considered sacred and also provided abundant shade. Close to the hillside were marshy bogs where camas root flourished, furnishing supplies of food for the Indians.

At the northwest corner of the house is a lilac tree estimated to be 125 years old.

### The House

The house, believed to have been completed in 1883, shortly before Philip Foster's demise, is T-shaped in plan. The two-story main block is 17x19' and contains a parlor and bedroom on the lower level, and three bedrooms on the upper. The one-story wing is 14x24' and contains the dining room, kitchen and bath (original pantry). There are porches on the south (rear) elevation and north (front) elevation. The foundation consists of brick piers. These support large sill beams which, in turn, support the plank walls. These are covered on the exterior in horizontal novelty fir siding. The gabled roof was originally covered in cedar shingles which were replaced in 1979. There are two corbeled brick chimneys, one in the wing and one in the main block. Windows are one over one double hung sash set into simple corniced frames. This detail also appears on the door frame in the wing. The main front door is composed of octagonal panels with a transom set into the frame.

Of particular interest on the front elevation is the porch which is covered by a hipped roof. This porch covers the length of the house and follows its contours. Originally, each of the supports consisted of pairs of thin posts, attached to each other so that several inches of space separated them. These were replaced by solid 4x4 timbers. These are attached to the original sawn scroll brackets. There are no railings. Corner boards on all elevations are enlivened at the frieze level by stylized, simple capitals.

The interiors are unaltered with the exception of the bath, which replaced the pantry around 1930. The plank walls were covered with cloth and wallpapered (c. 1925) and later paneled with wall board (c. 1940). Beaded wainscoting with a chair rail appears in the kitchen and dining room. Some rooms have picture moldings. All rooms have drop cornices below the plank ceilings. Floors are fir and have been sanded, stained and sealed. Most interior doors are paneled and set into molded frames.

During restoration, asbestos sheeting was attached to the foundation to eliminate the draft. Also, a skirt was extended to the ground on the front porch for the same purpose.

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Foster (Philip) Farm

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Milk and Fruit Room

Attached to the back porch by a ramp, the storage building, 10x12', was built at the same time as the house. It is covered with the same siding, has one small window to the south and a single door to the north. The brick footings have been augmented by concrete blocks. The gable roof was reshingled in 1979.

Well

Located ten feet west of the house, the 30'-deep well was hand dug in 1882. A rope and bucket were used until 1915, when a hand pump was installed on the back porch. In 1940 an electric pump was added. A 4'8" square cement casing, three feet high, now surrounds the well (early 1900s). The housing is made of 1x12 rough fir siding with batten trim. The shingled gable is in cedar, done with the other roofing in 1979. Also, at that time, this structure and the house and storage room were painted antique gold. Trim is white. While not historically accurate, enough is known about the original color that it can be restored.

Barn

The barn was erected around 1874. Located in the southeast corner of the acreage, its dimensions are approximately 53' square (including a 39' loafing shed to the east). The rock and cement foundation supports the 1x12 rough fir siding. The double pent gabled roof was reshingled with cedar in 1979.

The height of the building is 26' at the ridge and lowers to 18' at the sides. Restoration included repair and replacement of some portions of the lower walls, repair of the foundation and addition of batten trim to the siding.

Other Buildings

The woodshed was built in the early 1900s. It is 12x15', erected on rock and cement block footings, has 1x12 rough fir siding (attached vertically), has a tin-covered shed roof (ten feet to eight feet in height) and is painted to match the house.

The chickenhouse was built approximately the same time. Located 12' from the southern boundary of the property, the 8½'-square structure is covered by 6" tongue and groove siding. The tin-covered shed roof varies in height from five to eight feet. It is unpainted.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1882-83 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Philip Foster Farm was an important rendezvous point on the Barlow Toll Road, the last leg of the Oregon Trail through the Cascade Mountain Range to the Willamette Valley. Pioneer diary entries which describe stopping at the Foster Farm are numerous. The site was considered the last major stop on the Trail before arriving at Oregon City. Foster's log cabin no longer stands and his first house on the property burned in 1880. Foster erected the present house c. 1882-1883, chiefly, it is believed, for one of his sons, and it is the only house associated with Foster remaining at Eagle Creek.

Philip Foster was born in Bangor, Maine in 1805. He married Mary C. Pettygrove in 1833 and sailed with their four children and her brother's family to Oregon City, by way of the Horn, in 1843. Francis W. Pettygrove, Foster's brother-in-law, laid out and named the city of Portland in 1844. He and Foster founded a general store in Oregon City in 1843. In the same year, Foster staked a 640-acre donation land claim on the banks of a tributary of the Clackamas River, at what is now the town of Eagle Creek. There he built a log cabin and grist mill.

From July 1844 to July 1845, Foster served as Treasurer of the Provisional Government of Oregon. He is credited with establishing on his Eagle Creek claim the first hostelry and store west of the Missouri River on the Oregon Trail, supplying the immigrants with fresh vegetables, meat and hay. In the late fall of 1845, Foster's young sons, George and Francis, found Samuel K. Barlow and William Rector, who were on foot, in extremis, attempting to locate a wagon route around the south side of Mt. Hood. Foster received the men at Eagle Creek and saw them safely to Oregon City. The following year Barlow and Foster obtained a charter from the Provisional Government to develop the 80-mile route. Barlow Road became a toll road in 1846 and many thousands of settlers followed it into Western Oregon. It is estimated that 3/4 of the early immigrants into the Willamette Valley passed through this route; the first traversed by wheeled vehicles across the Cascade Mountains. Toll charges were \$5.00 for a team and a dollar a head for men, women and cattle. Of the many who used it, few had the money to pay, and the road proved a financial loss. Foster collected fees and sold meat and vegetables to the arriving families at his farm.

Foster also organized the first public school at Eagle Creek in 1850, which was named after him. He was appointed Captain in the Indian Wars of 1855-56 by Governor George L. Curry. He was the first postmaster at Eagle Creek, serving from August 1, 1867 to August 1, 1874. He was a farmer and led one of the most profitable agricultural and stock-raising enterprises in Clackamas County. He also became roadmaster and was responsible for the building of Foster Road, a main route from the Valley to Portland. A grade school on SE 86th Street in Portland is named the Philip Foster School. Foster died in 1884.

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The Barlow Road, last link of the Oregon Trail, was the route by which overland immigrants crossed the Cascade Range into the Willamette Valley. Dr. Stephen Dow Beckham, Associate Professor of History, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, describes its use over seventy years as follows.

From 1846 until the first decade of the twentieth century, the Barlow Road was a route used by travelers on foot, on horseback or mule, or in wagons. As a wagon road it required four to five days of difficult travel, climbing in elevation to 4,157 feet at Barlow Pass. The route passed through the watershed of the glacial-fed White River and on the west followed the rugged banks of the Zigzag River in its torturous course to the Sandy. The route passed through dense forest and, except at Summit Meadows, provided little opportunity for the weary and hungry livestock to find food or a respite from the constant climbing over hills and rocks. With the development of settlement in Central and Eastern Oregon in the 1870s and 1880s, an eastward bound contingent of pioneers also used this road as its gateway to a new promised land.

As a route of transportation in Oregon, the Barlow Road stood unique as the state's longest-operated and privately-controlled toll road. From its charter in 1845 by the Provisional Legislature to the eventual deeding of the road by its last owner to the state in 1919, the route was under private maintenance. Each of the toll companies holding control of this route exacted a toll for travelers, wagons, and livestock. Few firms found the proposition a remunerative undertaking. Many incorporators spent but one season clearing and improving the road before abandoning the enterprise after the collection of the begrudgingly paid tolls at the gates on the route.

By 1903 the Barlow Road had passed into a new era with the journey of an automobile over its ruts to Government Camp. Slowly recreation-seekers rather than home-seekers became the common travelers on this road. In the 1920s the construction of Highway 26, a graded and paved road, markedly changed the speed and experience of travelers over the western part of the Barlow route. Where days had been consumed by the weary travelers of the 1840s and 1850s in descending Laurel Hill or braving the Devil's Backbone, minutes or an hour or two were all that were required for travelers to reach the crest of the Cascade Range at Barlow Pass.<sup>1</sup>

The importance of Philip Foster's farm at Eagle Creek as the last major stopping place on the Barlow Road in the period of the road's heaviest use is illustrated by emigrant diary entries such as the one set down by Esther McMillan Hanna in the early 1850s.

Mr. Foster has accommodations for emigrants and their sick. He has a store to supply them with provisions and he boards a great many of them at his own table. He also has pasturing for stock, an abundance of hay, oats, in short everything that the emigrant needs when stopping. Nearly everyone stops a few days to re-

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Foster, Philip, Farmhouse, Eagle Creek, Clackamas County, Oregon

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cruit before going farther up the valley. Mr. Foster has several cabins in which they can stay for a short time.<sup>2</sup>

While the Barlow Road was still an entity after Philip Foster's house burned in 1880 and the existing house on the Foster Farm was completed ca. 1883, the farm was most prominent in the story of overland immigration from 1846 to 1859. Nevertheless, until as late as 1908, the year in which the Portland Traction Company's railroad to the new townsite of Estacada was completed, travelers paused at the Foster Farm to avail themselves of fresh water springs. During the time that the railroad was under construction, E. N. Foster, one of Philip Foster's ten children, and operator of the family farm, fed the railroad workers--among whom were many Chinese laborers--and put them up in the woodshed, which doubled as a fruit and general storage building.

The farm entered its most productive period under E. N. Foster. It produced sheep and cattle, apples and pears. Around 1910 berries were introduced to the farm, and neighborhood children who were hired to pick them were given lunch at the back porch or kitchen of the farmhouse. During the First World War, some of the fruit orchards were taken out and replaced by potatoes and vegetables. A potato shed erected between the house and barn is no longer standing, but its concrete foundation is still evident.

<sup>1</sup>Stephen Dow Beckham, The Barlow Road: An Historical Study (Portland, for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Mt. Hood National Forest, 1979), Vol. 1, pages 1-2.

<sup>2</sup>Eleanor Allen, Canvas Caravan: Based on the Journal of Esther Belle McMillan Hanna, who with her husband, Rev. Joseph A. Hanna, brought the Presbyterian Colony to Oregon in 1852 (Portland: Binford and Mort, 1946), 119-120.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Meyer, Edgar Leroy. Barlow Toll Road 1846-1919: The Story of Two Men from "Fort Deposit"; They Called it Jack-Knife; Foster-Pettygrove Store Lists. Pamphlets republished in 1972 by Genealogical Forum of Portland, Oregon, Inc., Suite 320, Governor Building, Portland, OR 97204.

(see continuation sheet)

# 10. Geographical Data **UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreege of nominated property two acres **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**  
 Quadrangle name Estacada, Oregon Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A	<u>10</u>	<u>550590</u>	<u>51022780</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See continuation sheet,

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

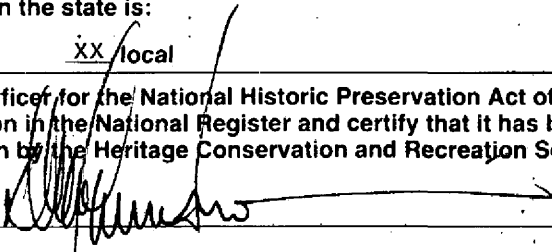
name/title Mary E. Cody  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date August, 1979  
 street & number Rt. 3 Box 37 telephone 503/630-3864  
 city or town Estacada state Oregon 97023

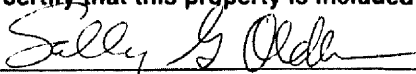
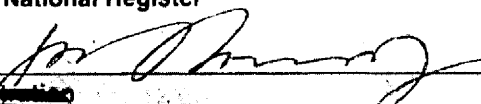
# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature   
 title Deputy SHPO date 31 January 1980

**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
  
 Keeper of the National Register date 8/15/80  
 Attest:   
 Chief of Registration date 7-24-80

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Foster (Philip) Farm

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Senstaken, Agnes Ruth. Destination West. Portland: Binfords & Mort 1942, Second edition 1972, p. 82.

Milne, Dexter, Clackamas County Surveyor. Furnished map of claim compiled in 1892. Explanation of discrepancy of size of claim in report of November 26, 1851 Pacific Surveys - Oregon. Surveyor's Office, Clackamas County Courthouse, Oregon City, OR.



FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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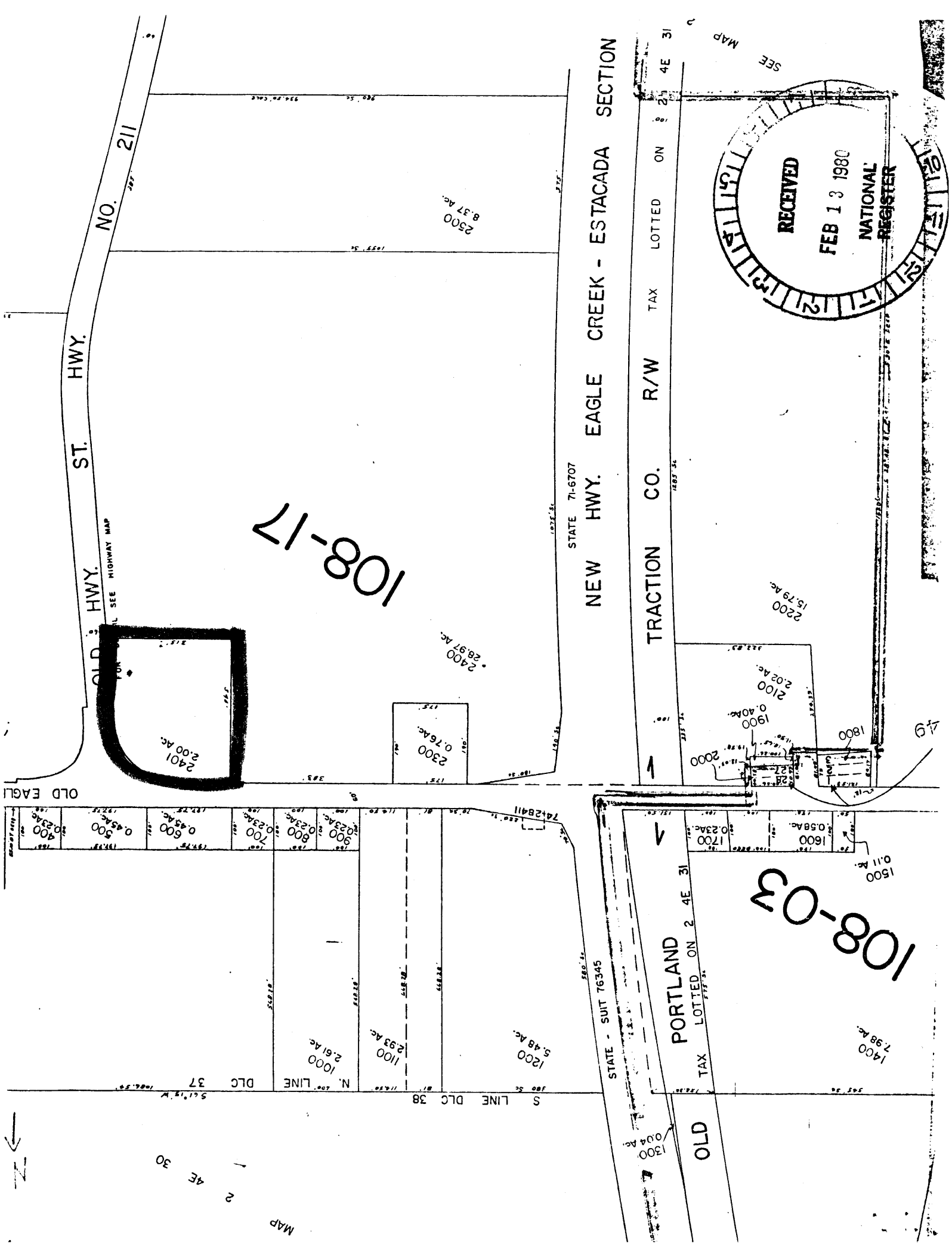
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Foster (Philip) Farm

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The area nominated is located in NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, T2S, R4E, W.M., Clackamas County, Oregon. Beginning at a point in South right-of-way line of the Old State Highway 211 (Eagle Creek-Sandy section) that bears N 60° 0' East a distance of 383 feet from the NE corner of that certain tract of land conveyed to Paul W. Cain and Margaret E. Cain, husband and wife, by deed recorded November 26, 1971 under recorded Fee No. 71-33500-Deed Records said county; then southeasterly a distance of 340' to a point, then N 60° 0' East parallel with said south right-of-way line a distance of 315' more or less to a point in the westerly right-of-way line of the Old State Highway No. 211 (Eagle Creek-Estacada section) thence north-westerly and southwesterly along a westerly right-of-way line and said south right-of-way line respectively of State Highway No. 211 to the point of beginning, containing in all two acres, more or less.

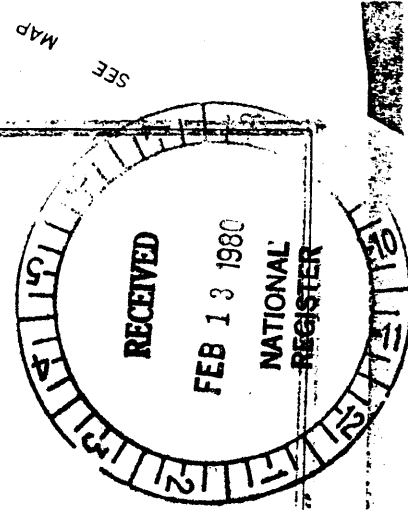


ST. HWY.

NO. 211

NEW HWY. EAGLE CREEK - ESTACADA SECTION

TRACTION CO. R/W TAX LOTTED ON 2 4E 31



108-17

108-03

OLD EAGLE

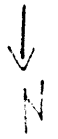
OLD HWY. SEE HIGHWAY MAP

STATE 71-6707

STATE - SUIT 76345

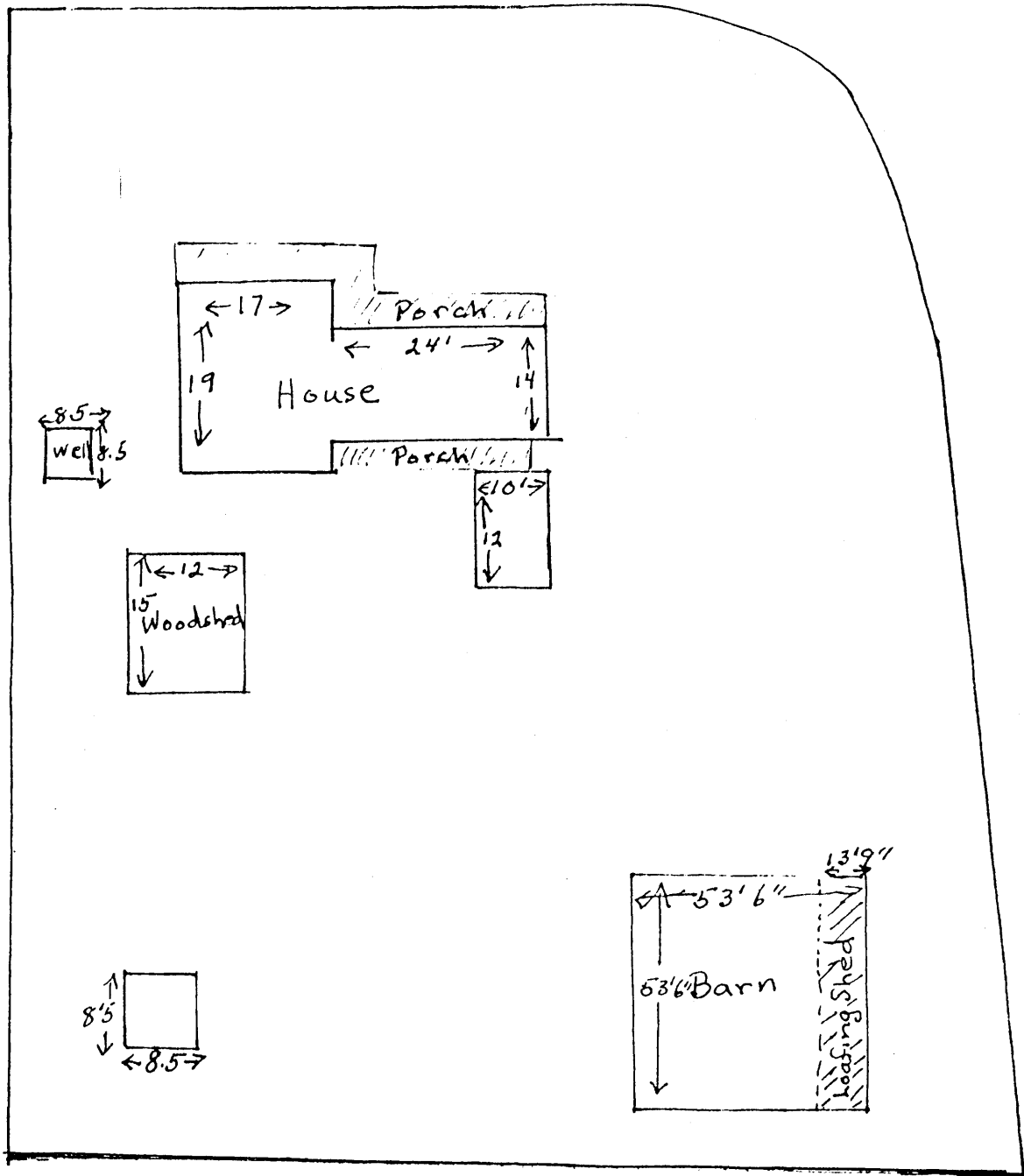
PORTLAND TAX LOTTED ON 2 4E 31

OLD



MAP  
2  
30  
4E

400 0.23Ac	500 0.45Ac	600 0.45Ac	700 0.23Ac	800 0.23Ac	900 0.23Ac	1000 2.61Ac	1100 2.93Ac	1200 5.48Ac	1300 0.04Ac	1400 7.98Ac	1500 0.11Ac	1600 0.58Ac	1700 0.23Ac	1800 0.40Ac	1900 0.40Ac	2000 2.02Ac	2100 2.02Ac	2200 13.79Ac	2300 0.76Ac	2400 28.97Ac	2500 8.37Ac
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FOSTER (PHILIP) FARM, EAGLE CREEK, CLACKAMAS COUNTY, OREGON

AUG 15 1980

