

December 2, 2015

The Wennerberg Barn (c. 1895)
At 501 S. Park Street
Carlton, Oregon (incorporated 1899)

The Wennerberg Barn is (believed by second family owners), to be 120 years old to date. "Local historians agree that this wooden barn located on the southwest corner of Park and Taft is the **OLDEST STRUCTURE IN CARLTON PROPER**. It was on the farm of John Wennerberg (1837-1918), an early benefactor to the town of Carlton". (1)

ABOUT THE MAN

John Wennerberg was a Swedish emigrant (1852), from seaport town of Halsingborg. He initially left his homeland to venture out to sea on ships as a seaman, traveling the world's major waterways, holding various positions and titles - from cabin boy to minor ship's officer.

In the 1970's he was lured to "the Oregon country" by his brother (an earlier emigrant to Oregon and accomplished cabinet maker living in Portland), and the favorable publicity that this part of the world was gaining. He found steady and fulfilling work with Ladd and Reed farm properties in the Yamhill River Valley west of Carlton. He eventually acquired a substantial amount of acreage for himself, around the yet to be incorporated Carlton area, and some of which is where Carlton now stands.

John began managing his own farm, The Wennerberg Farm, on which partial property the **Wennerberg Barn** stands today. The farm became a popular landing ground for other Swedish emigrants and their families, as Wennerberg offered his fellow countrymen work opportunities on the farm. He later helped them get started on farms of their own. "Thus one might say that he was the **founder of the Swedish-American community that grew up around Carlton**" (2)

ABOUT THE BARN

The 3-bay **Wennerberg Barn** is of post and beam construction, 44' wide x 52' deep (2,288sq ft. m/l) It straddles two "city" lots of that time period on .37 acres (16,200 sq. ft.) This barn is rectangular in shape with a straight gable roof. The roof is composed of original shingles on skip(sp?) sheeting, with a metal roof on top. The exterior siding is original and in poor condition with some siding missing. It is built on grade **with no foundation**. Haphazard windows have been installed in recent years that need to be removed and re-designed for period appropriate-ness!

Part II of "The Barn"

New information as of 12/09/15
Submitted by Susan Cole
to be added to original document
referencing **The Wennerberg Barn** of Carlton Oregon

In 1918 John Wennerberg sold his "Red Barn" (as it became known), to Dell Brooks of the Carlton Nursery Company. Dell moved his company's packing and storage shed to the property. His son-in-law Kent McDaniel joined the business in 1919, along with Dell's brother Frank, (who later sold his portion to Dell's son Lyle), and another of Dell's brothers- Lynn Brooks.

Kent's job was representing the nursery as an outside salesman- traveling and selling on the road. The shipping was all done from the "Red Barn" until it was no longer financially feasible- due to WWII, a gasoline shortage, and therefore a need "to move the shipping point and growing grounds closer" (3) to the Carlton Nursery headquarters established and located in Forest Grove. All but Kent McDaniel moved to Forest Grove.

In 1936 McDaniel sold his Carlton Nursery holdings, (retaining the rose business portion), and after a three year hiatus, started the **Carlton Rose Nurseries** at the "Red Barn"- with fifth generation nursery family members (including Kent's daughter Phyllis and her husband Bruce Miller) working the business. In 1967 Kent turned the rose business over to Bruce and Phyllis (who had been gifted the barn from her father when she was a young adult).

As of date, Phyllis Miller lives across the street from the "Red Barn" on S. Park Street in Carlton, and is 97 years old. I bought the barn on November 18, 2015, am currently living in the fishing village of South Bend Washington, with hopes and aspirations of moving to Carlton and into the "Red Barn" in the next few years- after experiencing a labor of love rehabilitating the barn, and making it livable and usable as a venue available for community use.

(3) Source: the book Reflections of Carlton

A black and white photograph of a building at night, possibly a school, with several bright lights on its roof. The lights are reflected in a pool of water in the foreground, creating a shimmering effect. The sky is dark, and the overall mood is quiet and reflective.

Reflections of CARLTON

Published by the Carlton Elementary
School Bicentennial Club

Reflections of CARLTON

*Reflections of Carlton we bring now to you,
We hope you'll enjoy the reflections in view;
Many were the plans of each subject it brings,
In Reflections, to show you each phase of most things
Happening in the beginning of Carlton so mere;
Events that brought sadness, events that brought cheer
To our early settlers that paved the way here,
To make Carlton our little city so dear;
Reflections, Reflections, for this special year.*

by Merry Berry



Stuart French when he belonged to a Pig Club in 1922, before 4-H clubs were started.

4-H CLUBS

The first club that anything could be found out about was a Pig Club. Stuart French was a member of this and exhibited his pig at the County Fair. He also won an award for being an outstanding youth. Site of the fair was south of the Armory building in McMinnville where animals were tied in the street.

The records in the Yamhill County 4-H office show there was a need for a 4-H club in the Carlton area in 1930 to 1931. This is believed to be the starting year. From this need Rex Warren, County Agent, helped the following boys win award and a scholarship to 4-H summer school at Oregon State College in Corvallis. Don McKimens, Stanley Brown, Roger Dumdi, Belvin Terry and Holmes Tupper. The boys raised various types of stock. The girls clubs were organized a little later. Mrs. Leonard Jernstedt was a leader for a sewing club around 1940.



Streeter Roy in the 1930s with his 4-H project.

The County Fair was held in and around the armory. Pens held the livestock under the trees. Carlton students now have the opportunity to much more variety in clubs. Local clubs are a Ceramic Club, Garden Club, Gun Safety, Cooking, Sewing, Livestock Clubs and many more. Some of the leaders are Mrs. James Reiley, Mrs. Ron Schock, Mrs. Keith Brown, Mrs. Alvin Roy, Mrs. Lewis Brown, Mr. Tom Anderson, Mr. Rollin Wood, and Mrs. Jack Gray.

THE HISTORY OF THE CARLTON NURSERY COMPANY, CARLTON, OREGON

Originated in 1906 by Dell and Frank Brooks

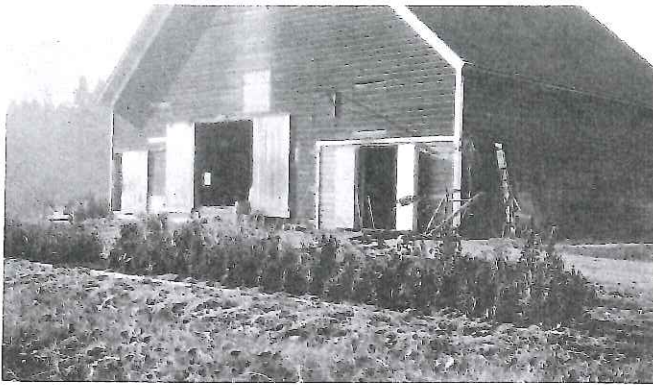
Contributed by Mrs. Kent McDaniel

The Carlton Nursery Company is an extended branch of a Nursery family headed by John S. Brooks in the vicinity of Cedar Mills, Oregon. Mr. Brooks came to Oregon from Cory, Penna. in the late 1800s and settled in the Cedar Mills area, southwest of Portland. He started growing fruit trees for people wanting family orchards in that area. After some time around Cedar Mills, the family consisting of five sons and three daughters moved up to Yamhill County. In the late 1800s he again planted Nursery stock on the farm purchased about five miles east of Carlton. At that time the sons were all at home, and the first to branch out and set up a separate business were Jay and Bert, who went to the Lafayette area and started a Nursery called the Lafayette Nursery.

Early Carlton Nursery stock with Dell Brooks, Lee Benedict and Frank Brooks.



Meantime Dell Brooks married and in 1898 or 1899 went back to Cory, Penna. where he lived on the original Brooks land holdings, and operated a sawmill on the Broken Straw creek. Three children were born there, Essie, Mable and Lyle. In 1906 he came back to Oregon, settling near Carlton, where he and his brother Frank branched out and formed what was to be called the CARLTON NURSERY COMPANY, Carlton, Oregon. They grew fruit and nut trees for four years on the farm east of Carlton. In 1910 the business had expanded, and a move closer to the railroad was necessary, as all hauling was done by wagon and horses those days. Shipping was all done by railroad so they purchased a warehouse in Carlton along the railroad track, on which they could load the heavy boxes of trees. This warehouse is still located on the south side of Madsen Grain Company, and a part of that company now. An office was built there also, and a sales yard set up for local trade which was used for many years, still operated by the two Brothers, Frank and Dell Brooks.



The former John Wennerberg barn, now McDaniel nursery barn.

In 1918 following the first world war, Dell Brooks purchased the Red Barn and land owned by John Wennerberg, and moved the packing and storage shed to that location in the south part of Carlton on Park Street. It still is one of the old landmarks of early Carlton. In 1919 Kent McDaniel (son-in-law of Dell Brooks) came into the business doing the selling on the road covering the commercial orchard country in Oregon, Washington and California. We still had the office on the highway, but the shipping was all done from the "Red Barn" some carload lots going into Colorado at that time. Some years passed with Frank, Dell and Kent operating the Nursery. In 1924 Dell Brooks passed away, and Frank Brooks who was soon to retire sold out to Lyle Brooks (son of Dell Brooks). Soon another of the brothers, Lynn Brooks, entered the business and for several years Kent McDaniel, Lyle Brooks and Lynn Brooks carried on the operation in the Carlton Area, but the growing grounds had been moved to the Gaston and Forest Grove area. The second world war came

on, and with the gasoline shortage, it was necessary to move the shipping point and growing grounds closer, so the families all moved to Forest Grove, excepting Kent McDaniel. In 1936 Kent McDaniel sold out his holdings to Wayne Melott, and took a two year leave of absence living in Honolulu, Hawaii during this time. He had retained the rose end of the business, and upon his return to Carlton in 1939 started the Carlton Rose Nurseries. In 1967 he retired and turned the rose business over to Bruce and Phyllis Miller. It is now still a going business with Bruce and Phyllis Miller, Glen and Pat Strahle carrying on as one branch of the original family of nursery people, now in the fifth generation.



Budding roses for Carlton Rose Nursery in 1967.

The Carlton Nursery moved out of the Forest Grove area to Dayton in 1970 and have very large plantings of commercial plantings of Nursery stock there, amounting to several hundred acres on what is known as the Alderman Farms. Lynn, Kent and Eugene Brooks operated the Carlton Nursery Co. for a number of years in both the Forest Grove and Dayton areas. However as of this writing, year 1976, both Lynn and Kent are semiretired, and the next and fifth generation are starting to take over, and will be the owners and operators. The boys' names are Gary and Michael Brooks. The saying in our Brooks family is that "Once a Nurseryman, always a Nurseryman," and it has proven to be so. A love of growing things to beautify the landscape and enjoying the results of their labor. Many new varieties of fruits have been introduced by the Carlton Nursery Company over the years, and more will come as time goes on.

The rose growing branch of the family, Kent McDaniel, Bruce Miller, and Glen Strahle together with their wives have operated in Carlton, growing rose plants for the greenhouse trade all over the United States and Canada. Shipping is mostly by air and truck, with Carlton the delivery point. Formerly several hundred thousand plants were produced in the Gaston area, but with the changing times, they are mostly

grown in California and trucked into Carlton for distribution. A large cold storage located in the old Carlton Coast warehouse, has been made into cold rooms for storing large quantities of already graded and boxed rose plants.



Kent McDaniel,
Rose Hybridizer

Since Mr. McDaniel's retirement in 1967 he entered the hybridizing of new varieties of roses for the greenhouse trade. At this time he has been successful in creating the "Cara Mia" a dark Velvet Red Rose, for which he won the "Golden Rose" award at the Rose Show in San Diego, California in September 1975.

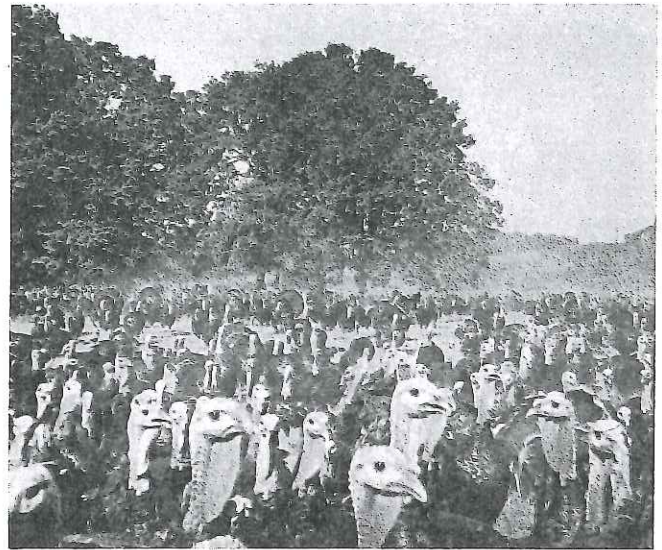
As of this date Feb. 5th, 1976 all branches of the families which originated at Carlton, Oregon are still operating, and is one of the oldest nursery families in the United States.

CHICKEN AND TURKEY INDUSTRY

In the 1940s turkeys and chickens seemed to be quite prevalent around Carlton. Several farmers were raising turkeys, among these were the Harry Williamses. In 1944 the turkey plant in the building on Kutch and Monroe Streets, which is now used for storage by Carlton Nursery, opened in Carlton. C. R. Swan was the manager and Essie McDaniel was the bookkeeper. There were 80 employed, most of whom were women. There was cold storage in the building for keeping the turkeys. They received chickens as well as eggs that were candled for shipping out. The turkey plant was forced to close about 1950 due to many state regulations forbidding them to run any more.

Some of the people who were raising chickens on a large basis at this time were Oscar Youngberg, Harry Youngberg, Pekkola brothers and the McKimens farm, now where Grant Youngberg lives.

In 1976 we have a broiler business very close in Carlton. Since 1961 our present mayor, Ernie Dietzman and his wife operate their business on 4th Street. They sell a yearly average of 100,000 broilers. They get their day old hatched chicks from Oregon City. The kind they now raise are called Hubbard. The feeding is all done automatically. The building that the chickens are kept in is heated by propane heating system. The bedding used is sawdust hauled from Willamina. Due to im-



Harry Williams' Turkeys in 1943.

proved breed and feed, the chickens are now ready for market in seven and one-half weeks. A crew of twenty-five high school age boys and girls catch chickens for Mr. Dietzman when they are ready to be loaded out. The trucks are run into the building for transport. The litter is cleaned out by a loader and scoop and is sold locally.

Another poultry farm is now located west of Carlton. Jim Ryals owns this operation. This one has only laying hens.

DAIRYING

Dairy products started with churning butter at home and traded in town for other necessary groceries as sugar, salt, flour and the basics. The farmers milked by hand until the early 1930s when they started using milking machines. They had separators which had a crank handle. This separated the skim milk from the cream if they didn't want to sell the whole milk. It had at least thirty separating cups with two spouts. The milk was poured in the top of a tank and the cream came out one spout and skim milk out the other spout. They shipped the cream to the creamery in five gallon cans. They gave the skimmed milk to their pigs.

Around 1903 to 1910, the farmers brought their cream to the Carlton Creamery. It was owned by W. A. Howe and managed by J. A. Cunningham in 1904. Mrs. Ruth Cox's father, N. E. Hansen, was a butter maker there. When this creamery wasn't operating any more, the cream was sent by train to McMinnville or other places to sell.

An article from the *Oregon Journal*, April 17, 1929 issue tells how the next creamery started. "In 1915 the Carlton Commercial Club decided to do something which would be a benefit to the whole community. They were able to think of nothing better than a cream-

