# GEORGIA CENTENNIAL FARM PROGRAM APPLICATION



#### Send completed application with supporting documentation to:

Historic Preservation Division Georgia Department of Natural Resources 254 Washington Street Ground Level Atlanta, GA 30334

Questions? Contact Steven Moffson, Chair of the Georgia Centennial Farm Committee
Historic Preservation Division
(404) 651-5906
steven.moffson@dnr.state.ga.us

Application deadline postmarked by: May 1<sup>st</sup> of the award year.

### Introduction

Do you currently own a working farm that has been in your family for over 100 years? Then you may have earned special recognition for your farm. The Georgia Centennial Farm Program honors Georgia's farmers for their contributions to our state's agricultural heritage and encourages preservation of agricultural resources for future generations.

Recognition is given to farmers through one of three distinguished awards: the Centennial Heritage Farm Award, the Centennial Farm Award, and the Centennial Family Farm Award. Each of these awards honors exceptional achievement. Refer to the Award Qualifications section on the following page for details on each award category.

### **AWARDS**

Participants who qualify for a Centennial Farm award are honored each year at the Georgia National Fair in October. During a special recognition program, farm owners receive a Georgia Centennial Farm Certificate of Honor signed by the Governor. A bronze Georgia Centennial Farm plaque is also presented to those farms listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Photographs of selected farms are exhibited at special events throughout the year and during the Georgia National Fair.

### **SPONSORS**

The Georgia Centennial Farm Program is administered by the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation; the Georgia Department of Agriculture; the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter; and the Georgia Forestry Commission. The Centennial Farm Committee comprises representatives from each of these organizations.

#### AWARD SELECTION

Applications are approved and selections made by the Centennial Farm Committee. Completed applications must be postmarked by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the award year in order to qualify for the current Centennial Farm awards. *Applicants who qualify will be notified by mail*.

Once a farm has received a Centennial Farm award it will not qualify for another Centennial Farm award category. Exceptions will be made for Centennial Family Farms that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places at a later date. These farms may reapply for the Centennial Heritage Farm Award category after they have been listed in the National Register.

### AWARD QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify, your farm must be a working farm with a minimum of 10 acres actively involved in agricultural production or \$1,000 annual farm generated income. Additional requirements for each of the three award categories are as follows:

Both alternative criteria for this category have been met (as well as the criteria for forestry, independently, as described later): (a) one field is enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (cotton, base = 15.6 acres)--Appendix, Page 3; (b) 2010 farm-generated income was ~\$11,000--Appendix, Page 4. As for the forestry category, below, this enumeration pertains only to that portion of the W.H. Outlaw Farm derived from the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (referred herein as "The Farm"). As described later, the currently constituted W.H. Outlaw Farm comprises all The Farm and a small parcel added later.)

#### → Centennial Family Farm Award is the third category and includes farms:

- Owned by members of the same family for 100 years or more.\*
- Not listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

...in my direct unbroken ancestral line for 126 years.

NOTE: ONLY ONE CERTIFICATE WILL BE ISSUED FOR EACH FAMILY FARM unless the original farm has been subdivided for more than 100 years and the subdivided farm parcels have also achieved 100 years of significance as separate family farms.

N/A. I am the sole owner of 100% of the original purchase.

Farm land used for tree farming can qualify as a working farm only if the farm operates from a forest management plan written by a registered forester, has at least 10 acres of forest land, and will have forest products harvested at some scheduled time in the future.

These criteria, as mentioned, are met, too: (a) Approximately 44 acres of planted pines are being managed. (b) Management of the forest is on the basis of an extensive plan developed jointly by the Georgia Forestry Commission, the Wildlife Resources Division, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service—Appendix, Page 5; (c) Evidence is presented that the plan has been implemented properly—Appendix, Page 6; (d) The next harvest, projected by my consulting registered forester, is scheduled for around 2017—Appendix, Page 7. [As above, this enumeration pertains only to that portion of the W.H. Outlaw Farm derived from the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (i.e., The Farm); an additional nominal 25 acres in planted pines are managed elsewhere on the W.H. Outlaw Farm.]

\* The line of ownership from the first family member owning the land may be traced down through either side of the family including descendants such as brothers, sisters, nephews, or nieces.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Instructions: Please read the Award Qualifications section before completing this application. Make a copy of your application materials! Application materials will not be returned. Application materials for those farms that qualify are kept on file with the Historic Preservation Division as part of a permanent record on Georgia's historic farms and are open to the public for research.

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. SEND THE COMPLETED APPLICATION, PLUS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION POSTMARKED BY May 1st TO:

Historic Preservation Division Georgia Department of Natural Resources 254 Washington Street Ground Level Atlanta, GA 30334

### AWARD CATEGORY

Check one of the following categories and complete those sections indicated.

My farm meets the requirements for the:

X Centennial Family Farm Award (complete sections 1, 2, 3, and 5)

### SECTION 1. CURRENT OWNERSHIP

Date of Application: Mar 16, 2011

Name: William H. Outlaw Jr.

Address: P.O. Box 908

Nashville (Berrien County) GA 31639

Daytime telephone number: (850) 893-7551 (landline)

(850) 597-5193 (cell)

Farm name on certificate: W.H. Outlaw Farm

Address of farm: 789 Mark Watson Road (= 789 Co 94)

Nashville (Berrien County) GA 31639

Please see maps at <u>Appendix</u>, <u>Pages 1</u> (DOT Map) <u>& 2</u> (Google Earth Map).

Number of acres in farm at present: 187, nominally 156 of which are the original Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (i.e., **The Farm**) on which this application is based.

Number of acres in agricultural production:  $\sim$ 15.6 acres enrolled in the Direct and Counter Cyclical Program (cotton) in addition to 4 cohorts of planted pines, 44 ± acres comprising (a)  $\sim$ 28 acres in 2 cohorts of planted pines that were thinned in 2010; (b) 4.5 and 11 acres in Longleaf pines planted in 2006 and 2008, respectively. [These values pertain to just that portion known previously as the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (i.e., **The Farm**), on which this application is based; as mentioned elsewhere, an additional 25 acres of planted pines are managed elsewhere on the W.H. Outlaw Farm.] Please see map at **Appendix, Page 3** (Land Use Map).

What are the farm's major crops or products? Timber, USDA rentals, wildlife Please see **Appendix**, **Pages 3** (Land Use Map) & 4 (Gross Income).

Current (2010) agricultural production: \$10,000 - \$50,000

Please see Appendix, Page 4 (Gross Income).

### SECTION 2. FARM HISTORY

Year of acquisition by member of your family: 1885

What documents exist showing original family purchase or proof of 100 years of continual family ownership?

deeds, probate records, title searches, affidavits

Submit PHOTOCOPIES of supporting documents to verify at least 100 years of continual family ownership. Please highlight appropriate dates, legal land descriptions, and ownership on each document. Do not attach any original documents.

Number of acres in original purchase: 156

Number of acres of original purchase retained: 156

Briefly describe the history of the farm, i.e., how did your family initially acquire the farm; what crops/livestock were produced throughout the history of the farm; construction date of your farmhouse; any interesting stories; etc. Continue on a separate sheet if additional space is needed.



**Definitions, Limitations and Overview.** The W.H. Outlaw Farm (left) comprises 2 equally sized joining tracts summing to 187 acres. I inherited the northern tract directly from my mother (Christine W. Outlaw, 1918-2001) and the southern tract indirectly from her through my sister (Carolyn C. Outlaw, 1937-2007). The name is honorific, in memory of my father, who overcame crushing obstacles to maintain the farm as a unit. The name is in common use and is seen on signage, as a postal address, and—as if for emphasis—it borders the intersection of

Outlaw Road (named for my father) and the Mark Watson Road (named for my maternal grandfather.) (Map thanks to Berrien Tax Assessor's Office.)



The currently constituted W.H. Outlaw Farm has two origins. First, the larger



and older part, rather like a right triangle with the hypotenuse facing northeast, approximately 156 acres, was purchased by my great grandfather, Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton (1863-1918) from his brother-in-law, Stephen M. Lewis (1845-?) in 1885. When he purchased the farm, the property was described as "... one hundred and fifty acres more or less of land lot number two hundred and twenty two in the tenth district of Berrien County being all the part of the said lot lying west of the Ten Mile Creek and north of Beaver Dam Bay also six acres of lot number one hundred ninety three in the tenth district of said county being that part of the said lot lying west of the Ten Mile Creek." Superimposed on the map (left) is a very rough depiction of the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (using freeware downloaded from Terrago Technologies and

integrated with Acrobat). Please note that the numbers indicate land lots in the Tenth District, Berrien County. Second, a smaller parcel, the rectangular portion on the west side in the top figure, was added in the 1980s, and is not considered in this application. (Map from USGS, with thanks.)

This application is based exclusively on the portion of the W.H. Outlaw Farm that was previously known as the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (hereinafter, **The Farm**), as shown in the topological map and as described above. References including genealogical ones, unless explicitly excepted, refer to my father's family.

**History and Status of Boundaries of the W.H. Outlaw Farm.** The eastern boundary is well delineated by the Ten Mile Creek (formerly, the Allapacoochee Creek, which is the name I prefer).

The southern boundary was unequivocally established as the run through Beaver Dam Bay by Action 24996, Supreme Court of Georgia, Outlaw *et al.* v. Outlaw, Feb 6, 1969. Now, the bay is more generally known as Buck Bay (named for my great grandfather), though the run at the road is still called Beaver Dam.

The northwestern boundary is the original lot line (192/193) and was resurveyed, agreed upon with J. Herbert Watson (adjoining landowner and my mother's brother), marked with iron posts and fence inset about one foot (Hand Land Surveying, Nashville, GA, Sep 11, 2006). The northern boundary on the western side was likewise resurveyed, fenced and agreed upon. Both of these segments are part of the complete survey conducted by Hogan Surveying Co., Nashville, GA, on Jul 2, 1987 and recorded Apr 30, 2001.

The western and portions of the southwestern boundaries are well delineated as the center of County Road 94 (= Mark Watson Road). Iron survey markers are embedded in this road.

The other portion of the southwestern boundary is the original lot line (222/223). The northern segment has been resurveyed and remarked by Hand Land Surveying. Timber has been cut with prior notice and without objection from the adjoining land owner. The southern segment was agreed upon Apr 25, 1970, marked, and recorded. Parties to the agreement were Robert G. Drake, Kenneth Ford, Donald Rowan (first cousins or spouses of first cousins, representing Lena Belle Rowan née Outlaw) and Herbert Watson and Samuel L. Watson (maternal uncles, representing the M.A. Watson Estate and W.H. Outlaw).

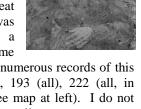
Familial Context. During my youth, The Farm was in the center of an extended-family enclave. The farm to the east was owned by Charlie Sutton (ca. 1873-1960, no relation), whose spouse was Eliza Sutton née Outlaw (1871-?), sister of my grandfather Outlaw. The farm to the south was owned by Joseph N. Outlaw (1882-1963), brother of my grandfather Outlaw and whose spouse, Bertha Outlaw née Watson (1889-1978) was half-sister of my grandfather Watson (1896-1959). The farm to the southwest was owned by Lena Belle Rowan née Outlaw (1897-1986), my father's half-sister (and also second cousin). The farm due west was owned by my grandfather Watson. The farm to the northwest was owned by my great grandmother and widow of Samuel W. Watson (1863-1925), viz. Betsey B. Gaskins (1873-1964). The farm to the north was then owned by the Hendleys, family friends, but had previously been owned by John A. Gaskins (1854-1926), great grandfather Watson's half-first cousin. The 3d generation survivor, Mrs. Winona Hendley née Griffin, lives there yet, and, interestingly, is the granddaughter of the venerable Berrien County historian W.H. Griffin (1867-1932), my half-second cousin twice removed.

Settlement of the southern central tier of Georgia, i.e., the original Irwin County, was opened by the land lotteries of the 1820s. My great-great grandfather Moses G. Sutton (1806-1875) was the first of my Sutton

line by name to come to the Tenth District. The oldest of my direct ancestors to have lived with certainty on The Farm is Fairiby (aka Pheriba, Fairby) Sutton née Mullis (right, 1828-1908), widow of war casualty Newton Sutton (1835-1864) and mother of my great

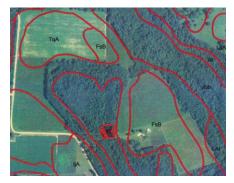


grandfather Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton with whom she lived. She herself was the daughter of Blackstone Mullis (1800-1863) and Mary Mullis née Austin (1802-1879), late of Berrien County. My great grandmother and first spouse of Buck Sutton was Susan M. Sutton née Connell (1867-1909), a descendant of James and Sarah Connell, who came



to Berrien County in the early 1830s. There are numerous records of this family's owning joining Lots 192 (450 acres), 193 (all), 222 (all, in partnership), and 223 (all)--in the mid-1800s (see map at left). I do not presently know which or when any of these Connells may or may not have actually lived on The Farm, except my great-great-great grandfather

John Ellis Connell (1821-1874; sheriff, war amputee) lived from the 1840s until the 1860s on Lot 223 (part of the presently constituted W.H. Outlaw Farm, but not part of the basis for this application).



Historical Agricultural Production. Part A. Crops and Livestock. The cropland soil is primarily Fuqua series, mostly level, well drained, but slowly permeable, and prone to a high perched water table as indicated by changes in Fe redox states. Around the field margins, a poorer soil predominates. This soil is not well drained. Overall, this soil has low pH (~4.4, i.e., >100x more acidic than is optimum for most plant growth) and relatively high buffer capacity (2 tons lime/acre to pH 6.5). It is low in nutrients. As indicated by the topological map above, the cultivated land quickly recedes into swamp and bays. Tellingly, when the advisability of funding Coffee Road (Jacksonville, GA, and on to Florida via Nashville, GA) was debated in the Georgia Legislature in the 1820s, a legislator asked why Man should build a road through land that God

Almighty had not finished building yet. Still and all, the road was built, found its first use in carrying supplies to fight natives, and lies ~3 mi west of The Farm. Although there are good soils further south in the Red Hills Bioregion and better soils even in other parts of Berrien County, the soil at The Farm is of modest agricultural potential. This was by no means a land of wealthy planters, but of yeomen who worked the soils themselves, perhaps with the aid of a lodger or a nearby farm laborer. There is no inkling whatsoever--as far as I know--that forced labor was ever used on The Farm unless one counts the WPA, which put a ditch in Buck Bay. (Map from Soil Conservation Service, with thanks especially to the recently retired Bob Joyce.)

In 1849—before Berrien was formed from Irwin, Lowndes, and Coffee counties—White [White G.B. 1849 *Statistics of the State of Georgia*, W. Thorne (Savannah)] described county-by-county agricultural productivity. He noted that the better areas of Lowndes County were to the south and west (i.e., toward the Red Hills Bioregion) and noted the production of rice, corn, cotton, wheat and alluded to other crops. In Irwin County, he noted the production of cotton, sugarcane, and wheat among others. The cotton production in Irwin was markedly less than that in the better soils of Lowndes. Of course, the yields in those days were low (10-20 bushels corn/acre) and remained so for Berrien County well into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (average ~30 bushels corn/acre). Free-ranging livestock was essential from early times and produced legendary figures, such as Fisher Gaskins with whose descendants we are related, and hardy landraces such as Pineywoods cattle.

Of course, statistics and averages do not define a particular farm, and fortunately there is oral history and are records from the early 1900s forward. When my grandfather Lucious G. Outlaw (1873-1918) died, he owned The Farm (and the major interest in adjoining property) and the inventory (Nov 4, 1918) of his property included 2 mules valued at \$400, 20 head of hogs valued at \$250, 14 head of stock cattle valued at \$375, 100 bushels of corn valued at \$75, and seed cotton and peas valued at \$10. When my grandmother Della Outlaw Price née Sutton (1891-1932) died, she and her children owned The Farm (and she alone, another farm in Berrien County, hereafter **The Lenox Place**); the sale of her property (Dec 23, 1932) was extensive, running to 4 pages. She owned 4 mules;





innumerable hogs, sows, pigs; a large number of cows, steers, heifers, and calves; an extensive equipment list (e.g. stump puller, distributors, drills, plows, cultivators, hay rake, mowing machine); many lots of corn &c., which values see later). Her inventory indicated she made syrup, rendered lard, grew corn, peas, cotton, rye, sweetpotatoes, and sweet peas. Her large flock of chickens sold for \$69—when a sow with 9 pigs brought less than \$5. A striking observation is the loss of value from 1918 to 1932 (e.g., 1932 corn was about 30% of the value of 1918 corn). Adjoining The Farm, goats (which had their own home, but tried to join in the main house) were also raised, as were geese (which plucking annually for down incurred pinches to one's back). On this joining land, a veritable "syrup factory" operated six days a week in season, and goods for direct-to-consumer sales were produced for the curb market in Nashville. There, too, rice was grown (and it and corn were processed about a mile up the Ten Mile Creek at Avera Mill (now, Lake Lewis)), which continued operation until the mid-1970s. The grist mill and rice huller at Avera Mill are shown at left, upper and lower, respectively. As mentioned, cows were free-ranging and occasionally were "arrested" within Nashville, and released back to the farmer "on bail." Interestingly, Daddy's stock mark was "swallowfork

and underbit in one ear, crop and upperbit in other ear."

. 1, SALE	OF LIVESTOCK	RAISED	2. SALE C	F PRODUCE RA	ISED	3. OTHER FARM INCOM	IE .
Kind	Quantity	Amount	Kind	Quantity	Amount	Items	Amount
Cattle		s 5300	Grain		s 4300	Mdse. rec'd for produce	8
Horses			Hay			Machine work	
Mules			Cotton		11000	Hire of teams	
Sheep			Tobacco		5386	Breeding fees	
Swine		8697	Potatoes			Rent rec'd in crop shares	
		' '	Sugar beets	M		Work off farm	
			Vegetables		5500	Wood and lumber	
Chickens			Fruits			Other forest products	1991
Turkeys			Nuts			Agricultural program pay-	
Ducks			Dairy products			ments	25
Goats			Eggs		1867	Other (specify):	
Bees:			Meat products				
Other (specify):		NA.	Poultry, dressed.				

Swine and cattle held their own on The Farm in the 1940s (see Daddy's Farm Income Schedule, left). There had been a seachange in cash income, though, and clearly tobacco was king, producing more than all crops other combined.

Throughout the early days, the farm economy also depended on reducing expenditures of all kinds;

thus, my great grandfather Buck Sutton planted a pecan orchard. In my youth, on The Farm and adjoining farms, various types of permaculture were practiced (viz., walnuts, pomegranates, muscadines, pears, quinces, figs, peaches, and apples). . . . and, of course, the garden. Native edibles supplemented what farmers grew, but my family was not bold, and stuck to blackberries (when they could be separated from chiggers and snakes), blueberries and huckleberries (Daddy's sweet memories of picking huckleberries for his mother to use in pies!), and especially fish, usually smallish sunfish and speckled catfish. There was nothing Daddy liked to do more than fish, and there was nothing he liked to eat more than fish. I ate squirrel and rabbit, but both were novelties. I trapped bobwhites, which we called partridges, with traps made of tobacco sticks until I found that fish traps would work well, too. Finally, we depended on western evidence-based medicine as well as snake oil, but we also used a farm product, green walnut husk (which contains the fungicide jugalone), for treatment of ringworm (a fungus) and we used turpentine, an indirect farm product, for chiggers and other skin conditions.

I grew up in the 1950s and early 60s on the wave of a change with regard to The Farm. Swine, once pastured on every farm, were now placed in CAFOs, though certainly not of the magnitude seen today. Chickens



disappeared from all but a few farms, or those that raised thousands and millions. Mechanization was the order of the day with new harvesters, where none had existed before. As an aside, the individual who has stood on his head pulling peanuts, or pried out sweetpotatoes on his knees with a leaf spring, or hung tobacco with his legs spraddled in a sweltering barn, requires little convincing of the benefits of mechanization! Improved breeds—I pose with my show steer, right—were pushing out the old. Literally,



South Georgia went from common use of draft animals—even in my day, e.g., in pulling tobacco sleds (left, behind my sister, grandfather, and me)—to watching television wherein a man landed on the moon. Almost unbelievable. Diversification became a quaint outdated idea related to "inefficient" farms.



**Part B. Timber.** When my great grandfather bought the farm in 1885, most of the virgin forest in South Georgia remained intact, except for that which was accessible by river or rail. A map by Sargent (1884), which I copied from Lee & McGee (Lee G.W., A. McGee 2006 Project 05-158 *Grand Bay-Banks Lake Stewardship Partnership - Phase II*; Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program), demonstrates this phenomenon well (left, center: Berrien County), where the orange areas had been logged and the background had not. It was not long, however, until the richness

of the forests was exploited. Indeed, 1920s-era Herty cups—like the intact one I found in Buck Bay (right) —were deployed, and their use replaced the more destructive practice of boxing trees.

Our family took a hands-on approach to timber use, and I recall vividly that my Aunt Lena was herself dipping tar on her joining farm when she was in her late 50s and early 60s; she wore a dress in the woods, of course, but also wore thick gray cotton stockings. She came so close to being a victim of a venomous snake bite that its fangs were caught in her stockings, a story I asked her to tell me over and over. She was luckier, thus, than a tenant on The Farm, who was bitten by a rattlesnake in the crib late one day (early 1940s), and much luckier than the small boy who died of a snake bite



(perhaps 1920s) while helping Uncle Joe on a fence on our property line in Buck Bay (both oral histories). Daddy and tenants worked the trees on The Farm (see invoice for supplies at left); Since Aunt Lena, Daddy, and Uncle Buren (not shown) all worked the trees themselves *nonexclusively*, it is a reasonable supposition that my earlier ancestors did, too. Lastly (Feb 16, 1960), Daddy contracted with the late Perry Hendley to harvest tar from all pines greater than 10" dbh; one near the creek took 5 cups, but all those large trees are gone







now. Actual working of the trees fell to the late Sylvester Copeland (above), a kind humble man I remember with fondness. Incidentally, Syl snapped a section of stove pipe on each of his legs (between his knees and ankles) to protect against snake bites.

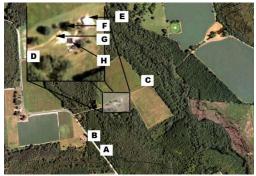
Of course, timber was felled also by landowners and snaked out of the woods for mobile mills such as one set up on Aunt Lena's farm or small permanent mills such as that on the Perry Hendley place (both operations joined The Farm). I will also mention later the very little I know about a small community built on The Farm for woodsmen. Providing a representative photograph and because he lived on The Farm from about 1946-1955 (i.e., after WWII and except for the period he was recalled for the Korean War), Sam Watson (1923-2004), my mother's brother, poses (left) in the mid-1940s with a high-wheeled cart. Clamped by the dogs underneath, logs were lifted off the ground and moved out of the forest. (The alternative of

dragging them on the ground was avoided so that the attendant dirt would not dull saw blades.)

Finally, note the high value of fuel extracted from the forest and used for diverse purposes, including "cooking" syrup, curing and drying tobacco, scalding hogs, smoking meat, cooking, and heating water. (Please see my grandmother Della Outlaw née Sutton's washpot, right.) Some wood fuel was also sold, primarily stumps for charcoal used in the manufacture of gun powder.

Altogether, the wooded region of The Farm has been a substantive resource and it continues to be.







**C. Historical structures.** Regrettably, no historical structures remain, except wells. The narrative below is keyed to the map (left).

A. One of my earliest memories of The Farm (~1950-52?) was of a working launched from Aunt Lena's to tear down a tenant house, which D.M. Griffin showed somewhat north of my location in his survey, "Plats of Lands of W.H. Outlaw" dated Sep 8, 1939. Being so young then, I do not remember the parties to the working, except Daddy and Bob Drake (1923-1988), Aunt Lena's son-in-law. In notes made earlier, I described this as a log structure, "a half porch on the front and traveler's room on the other side of the front. The back also had a porch or stoop. The house

was set at an angle to the road," and had not been occupied for some time. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wade had lived there for a period (evidenced by his 1937 sale of tobacco to the Union Warehouse (top of sales ticket, left)). In addition, Dolly Wade helped Mama with her market cucumbers.

At another time, William and Lerene Fender née Sirmons (~1918-~2000, Mama's first cousin on the Fountain side and less related on the Watson side) lived there, I thought briefly, but my late sister

thought for years. In short, Daddy and Uncle Buren were farming together at that time, and William stood in for Daddy, who had a job off The Farm, too. Unfortunately, William had two incongruous bad habits, drinking in excess and showing his money. He disappeared without a trace when he went to work as a merchant marine on the Great Lakes. Lerene's visits to the area turned up nothing, and it is presumed he was robbed and thrown overboard.

B. Ca. 3 hastily built and temporarily occupied houses for loggers exist only as memories relayed to me. The only trace I have ever seen is a shallow well. Guessing would place the time frame about 1910-1930.

C. Remains of a structure that had virtually been taken back by nature sticks in my early memories.





D. A log, mostly fallen, tobacco barn settled further one day in the early-1950s, killing a prized purebred sow that was owned by my Uncle Sam Watson, who lived on The Farm for many years, as alluded to earlier.

E. The last structure erected before my stewardship of The Farm was a tobacco barn built by Saran Parr (left) who lived there from 1943-46, i.e., immediately after the Wetheringtons. Alton Rowan, Saran's step-son, explained to me that Saran built the barn almost singlehandedly using two long poles as skids to slide the logs up in place. (By that time,

Alton had starting working at L.L. Browning's in Nashville and it was not long afterward that Saran started working in town, too, at J. Henry Gaskins' abattoir.) A single image of this barn remains (upper right); Mama donated it to the fire department for training--she had an exaggerated fear of old buildings falling on people.

I have many memories of this barn and reverse engineered it (left) and commissioned a ceramic likeness of it (right) for my spouse. (Thanks, Regina Coffee.)

I take liberty to mention that Saran lived near The Farm, with W.G. Avera (1855-xxxx), when he was young. Mr. Avera—eccentric, brilliant, and widely admired—was the father of Saran's deceased mother. Among other contributions, Mr.

Avera wrote "A summary of the organization of Berrien County and an epitome of its antebellum history,"









which I doubt could be improved upon. The concordance of our thought processes astounds me (birds of a feather . . . . Mr. Avera's mother was my great-great grandfather Newton Sutton's full sister, and Mrs. Avera (Eliza née Sirmons) was half niece to my great-great grandfather Mark R. Watson, 1816-1898.)

F. The label points at an Elliot pecan, planted by my mother. Between that tree and the next westward, a Shumard oak, stood the oldest structure on the farm that survived into the 21st century. The Shumard oak was one of many grown by my mother from acorns collected by Robert G. Godfrey (field botanist extraordinaire, 1911-2000) and me about 1983. A very strong and beautiful oak, it stands just west and slightly south of the crib location (upper left). The crib had little original structure (e.g. the side shelter I used for my steer, mentioned earlier, was gone). The roof, including rafters, had been replaced, and termites had decimated the building structurally. It had served a useful life and I was able to salvage square hand-made nails. I wish it had been different, and I tried hard to find alternatives.

A second building (direct left), a tobacco packhouse, was built for my father in about 1953. It was built as a solution to an urgent problem, and as the image shows, the floor had deformed toward the center; the western wall had bowed out, and it was a matter of time until it collapsed. I had vowed never to enter it again. Although I worked in this building some

(e.g., unstringing tobacco), it had neither character nor substance. It attracted rattlesnakes, three I know of died there.

G. At about this location, the mule yard ran around an outbuilding, in broad terms resembling the crib, above, except it was larger, squatter, and had shelters on three sides. The decrepit condition of this building was the impetus for the the construction of the building at upper left. Like the crib above, it was probably an original building on The Farm. There are no images of it to my knowledge, and it was never more than an ephemeral image in my memory.

H. The original farm house was lost in a fire in 1929. What a shame! . . . gone now, leaving hardly a memory and no image. My mother described it as being similar to that at the Stodgill Place (later owned by Aunt Lena and her husband, Cornelius Rowan (1898-1973)) and that at the Joe Outlaw Place before it was enclosed and renovated by Floyd Griner (1913-2001). The smokehouse, east of the house, did survive the fire, but was charred on



the side. The only image I have of the smokehouse, which was removed over Christmas break, 1980, is at left, taken in late fall, 1969, not too long after I finished with the army. It stands behind (l,r) me, my father, my mother, and my sister. When this photograph was taken, the building could have been salvaged and Mama tried to donate it to the Agrirama, but the transfer was never effected, as implied, due to lack of interest on their part.

The earliest photograph of the replacement farmhouse, the result of a four-day neighborhood working, is the background in Mama and Daddy's wedding photo (right). I am so grateful to have this photograph that I do not notice that it is imperfect. Actually, they used the two rooms on the north, and Aunt Bessie and Uncle Buren used the two rooms on the south. It was tight quarters, but the times (1937) were hard. Daddy was embarassed to have so little to offer Mama, but she reassured him in a love



letter that it was better than some had, and she was right—they later allowed a laborer to live in the smokehouse, above, and he ate meals that Mama set out on the back for him.

In later years, we used the farmhouse essentially as a camp house. It provided overflow accommodations when company visited, a place for me to have sleep-overs, and a quiet place for me to read and study. For years, Mama and Daddy would visit each afternoon and have a nap. The Farm is a place of comfort.





One of the final images of the farm house (left) provides a more complete view of it. As for outbuildings, the farmhouse was beyond restoration, though it took me several years to give in to this essential truth.

A lot of my soul is on this spot of land. It is where Daddy lowered milk into the well to keep it cool for his young daughters (one of whom died in childhood). It is where Mama traded eggs to the traveling grocer for cloth.

It is where my great grandmother Susan Sutton died, and she would have done so alone had it not been that Moon Eyes, the mule, had started acting up and my great grandfather Buck and grandfather Lucious had to abort their mission to go clean Empire Cemetery. It is where I went early of the morning on Nov 11, 1986, after my father died. It is where I went on the night of Jan 19, 2001, when my mother died. . . . and it is where I have built my residence, albeit part-time, and an agricultural building (left). Note the Shumard oak, aforementioned.

### Officers Died In Plane Crash Near Here Friday

An army training plane from Moody Field below Ray City crashed in a rain and thunder storm four miles east of Nashville last Friday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock, taking the lives of two army officers, Capt. Dallas L. Morris, Army Air Corps Pilot, and Chaplain First Lieut. Lawrence A. Gough, both stationed at Moody Field.

The plane went down in a field on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Outlaw beyond the farm and home place of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Watson. The farm place was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ira Weatherington and fanily, and one of the Weatherington boys found the plane shortly before sunset. The Weatheringtons were away from home at the time of the storm and crash of the plane.

Report of the crash was made from Nashville at about 8 o'clock, and shortly afterwards wrecking crews from Moody Field arrived and took charge of the disaster.

Capt. Morris, 28, was a native of Charlotte, N. C., while Chaplain Gough was from New York. **D.** Airplane Crash ("Interesting Story"). Captain Dallas Lester Morris, (Pilot and Commanding Officer, Training Group 3) and Chaplain (First Lieutenant) Lawrence Aloysius Gough, of Moody Field, Valdosta, Georgia, died in an airplane crash near the homestead on The Farm on Sep 11, 1942. A newspaper clipping is found at left whereas an image of the downed AT-9 Jeep, which was extracted from the Incident Report, is seen at right. I have written a



history of this event, including additional eye-witness reports of the aftermath, so my account here will not belabor the issue: human and materiel remains were scattered over about 100 yards, with some artifacts being recovered years later. By all accounts, it was a gruesome scene.

In short, a storm blew in and fearful for the safety of his student pilots in the air, CPT Morris went up to signal them in. (Recall, of course, that communications were primitive then.) He himself was caught in the storm and he was unable to control the AT-9 Jeep, an aircraft that was purposefully designed to be unstable in order to teach student pilots the finesse needed for more advanced new-generation aircraft. In fact, it proved to be too unstable.

To the best of my knowledge, this event resulted in the only miliary inline-of-duty deaths in Berrien County since the Battle of Brushy Creek (1836) when two white combatants were killed.

**E.** Current Activities at the W.H. Outlaw Farm. Several circumstances converged in the 2000s, which permitted the commitment of more of my resources, especially time, to the W.H. Outlaw Farm. Obviously, many







considerations came to the front, viz., avoidance of activities that would encroach on adjacent properties, diminishing their values or uses while practicing sound water, soil and air conservation on the W.H. Outlaw Farm. Practically speaking, the farm must produce sufficient income to be self-sustaining, and personally, I am only comfortable with a hands-on approach. Increasing the proportion of managed timber is consistent with these goals and others (e.g., carbon sequestration in standing biomass, ecosystem restoration, reduction of inputs, and increased diversity through judicious use of prescribed fire). Thus, I took 33 acres of row crops out of production to let the soil rest and permit degradation/loss of herbicides, limited access to the property (upper left) and cleaned all known debris from the woods (including a tv, bed springs, front of truck, water heater, tires, wheels, battery, axle from steer skidder. The property of the aggressive mechanical fire and chemical controls that I use in an effort to eliminate







Chinaberry, Chinese privet, Chinese tallow tree, and Chinese "mimosa"). The first round of longleaf pines were planted in 2006 (upper center) and the second round was planted in 2008 (upper right). The older cohort of planted pines were thinned for esthetics and wildlife (left, at left) and the younger cohort was



thinned and firebreaks were installed (above left). In the meantime, I have kept a portion of the fields in DCCP and am considering various permaculture options to which end I have also renovated the dual-purpose farm pond--irrigation and pleasure--which is shown at left.

As shown in an earlier photograph, an agricultural storage building (engineered to 110 mph) was erected as was a small residence, merely 740 ft<sup>2</sup>, the latter building to the highest level I am capable of--e.g., cdx covering the entire perimeter and fastened with hurriquake nails; threaded rods through the top plates and anchored in the foundation; all interior walls

anchored to foundation with epoxied rods; though roof trusses were engineered for cantilever construction, they are anchored to the foundation and also with screws at right angles to substantive columns at top; special-order "hurricane" shingles, each attached with 4 ss nails; metal straps over top and bottom plates to studs; 4" closed-cell foam insulation; geothermal heat pump with built-in desuperheater; passive cooling and heating; Pella Impervia windows; fiberglass doors; all vertical exterior surfaces covered by cementitious fiber products, laminated PT, or durable composites; and through the use of air-admittance valves, avoided roof penetrations and so forth). All utilities are underground. Regrettably, as mentioned, the original structures could not be saved, but we have borrowed from the past as much as possible (e.g., right, see wainscoting in new residence salvaged from farmhouse). Similarly, it is appointed with items from the past (e.g., the stand on which the Motorola reported news





of troop movements in WWII, Mama's sewing machine (used at The Farm, left), family crochet). Outside, initial steps have been taken to restore edible plantings (e.g., planting of a mulberry I propagated from a local seedling, planting of a pomegranate, planting of two Pierce-disease-resistant euvitis grapes, one I grafted onto Dog Ridge understock); more plantings are planned.

Aside from resurrection of the settlement and return to more intense forest management, wildlife management has emerged as a priority. About 4 acres of fire lanes and margins have been cleared and limed (except for an area I will put blueberries in). Over the next few years, I intend to make several permanent plantings, with the focus on native plants (swamp chestnut oak,

mulberry, persimmon), but exotic non-invasive species are also planned (e.g., fire-blight resistant pears with suitable chilling requirements (e.g. Hood, Florda Home, Warren, Orient), a few sawtooth oaks). An additional ~3 acres near the settlement have been set aside for miscellaneous purposes (e.g., about an acre has been planted to ball clover).



The traditional use of renewable wild resources for pleasure and sustenance, as discussed in the previous section, continues. As examples, I enjoy visiting the Ten Mile Creek (left) and checking on the beavers (right), which—after all these years—still control the run at Beaver Dam, as implied in the original deed description.









Small sunfish (above, left), crawfish (above, center) and watching wild poults eat my blueberries (above, right) delight me too.





Honey (far left) produced from woodland plants such as spring titi, tupelo, gallberry is enjoyed directly, or after it has been converted to mead (immediate left). Wine is produced from wild elderberries and wild muscadines; and jelly, from blackberries. The small wild blueberries are my spouse's favorite for pancakes as



the dough cooks uniformly around them.

Lastly, I mention that I do not collect edible mushrooms at the W.H. Outlaw Farm (though I have tasted boletes from there), the logs for shiitake-mushroom cultivation are harvested in the woodlands (left).

In summary, forest products have been a source of income, sustenance, and pleasure at the W.H. Outlaw Farm for generations.

### LIST FAMILY OWNERS

List all family owners. Begin with original owners and continue to present owner; indicate relationship to present owner and give dates when the property was owned. Continue on a separate sheet if additional space is needed. *N.B. This table pertains only to The Farm* (i.e., *the Jerry.S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place on which this application is based*).

Supporting Documentation is provided in order in the Appendix, Page 8-24. If one wishes to read a supporting narrative, continue to the next page.

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	DATES PROPERTY	DEED BOOK	BIRTH AND
	TO PRESENT	WAS OWNED	NUMBER-	DEATH
I G ((D 12) G )	OWNER	1005 1012	PAGE	DATES
Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton	Great Grandfather	1885-1912	U-131	Jan 20, 1863-
	~	1010 1010	40.500	Nov 5, 1918
Lucious G. Outlaw	Grandfather	1912-1918	48-298	Jan 24, 1873-
	G 1 1	1010 1022	D 450 460	Oct 21, 1918
Della Outlaw ( <del>Price)</del> née	Grandmother	1918-1933	B-159-160	Jun 22, 1891-
Sutton, incl estate			(Probate)	Sep 7, 1932
(1/3 undivided interest)				
W.H. Outlaw	Father	1918-1933	B-159-160	Sep 25 1912-
(1/3 undivided interest)			(Probate)	Nov 11, 1986
Buren P. Outlaw	Uncle	1918-1933	B-159-160	Dec 20, 1917-
(1/3 undivided interest)	(Father's Brother)		(Probate)	Feb 3, 1976
Lena Rowan née Outlaw	Aunt	1933	52-379	Mar 10, 1897-
(1/3 undivided interest)	(Father's Half-sister)	(< 8 hours)		Dec 3, 1986
W.H. Outlaw	Father	1933-1939	52-379	Sep 25 1912-
(increased to 1/2 undivided				Nov 11, 1986
interest)				
Buren P. Outlaw	Uncle	1933-1939	52-379	Dec 20, 1917-
(increased to 1/2 undivided	(Father's Brother)			Feb 3, 1976
interest)				
W.H. Outlaw, incl estate	Father	1939-1987	58-161	Sep 25 1912-
(increased to full ownership of				Nov 11, 1986
The Farm)				
Christine W. Outlaw née	Mother	1987-2001	171-160	Jan 9, 1918-
Watson (all of W.H Outlaw				Jan 19, 2001
Farm, which includes all of The	(Additional parcel	not related to this application	on added to The F	'arm in 1986.)
Farm)				
W.H. Outlaw Jr.	Self	2001-2007	393-68/69	Mar 16, 1946-
(1/2 divided interest, W.H.				
Outlaw Farm)				
Carolyn C. Outlaw (1/2 divided	Sister	2001-2007	393-70/71	Dec 29, 1937-
interest, W.H. Outlaw Farm)				Aug 5, 2007
William H. Outlaw Jr.	Self	2007-present	614-198/199	Mar 16, 1946-
(increased to all of the W.H		_		
Outlaw Farm)				

Supporting Documentation is provided in order in the Appendix, Page 8-24.

If one wishes to read a supporting narrative, continue to the next page.

**A. Overview of Ownership from 1885-1939.** In 1939, my father owned half- interest in The Farm and bought the remaining half-interest from his brother, Buren P. Outlaw (1917-1974). The purchase was financed by a loan from the Federal Land Bank of Columbia as part of the Emergency Farm Mortgage Act of 1933. The table of contents of the required analysis of the title by an abstractor and certified by an attorney is found in the **Appendix, Page 8**. This document indicates (1) S.M. Lewis conveyed The Farm to J.S. Sutton (my great grandfather) in 1885. (2) J.S. Sutton conveyed The Farm to L.G. Outlaw (my grandfather) in 1912. (3) L.G. Outlaw died in 1918 intestate and Della Outlaw née Sutton (my grandmother), W.H. Outlaw (my father), and Buren P. Outlaw (my uncle), widow and sons, were each given third-interest in The Farm. (4) After Della died in 1932, her third-interest was sold at auction (1933) to Lena B. Rowan née Outlaw (my half aunt), who—the same day—sold this interest to W.H. Outlaw and Buren P. Outlaw, (5) In 1939, as indicated, Buren P. Outlaw agreed to sell his half-interest to W.H. Outlaw, who, at the close of this transaction, would be "vested with fee simple title to all of the captioned lands" subject only to unpaid taxes.

A perusal of the documentation for the loan does reveal obvious typographical errors, such as my grandfather's year of death on one page, and some frank misstatements (e.g., the number of acres reported by the surveyor is wrong and the statement of Joseph N. Outlaw, the administrator, is incomplete). Notwithstanding, there are no substantive misalignments, insofar as the present purpose. The particularly interested reader may wish to follow the details laid out below for the years 1885-1939; others should skip ahead to Paragraph F, when the year 1939 picks up.

#### B. My great grandfather Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton bought The Farm in 1885. Stephen M. Lewis owned





considerable property in the environs of The Farm and, indeed, his home place was on the adjoining farm until 1905 (later he moved out near Cottle and was interred at Long Bridge). Lewis is shown at far left with his spouse, Polly Lewis née Sutton, Buck's sister. Buck Sutton and my great grandmother Susan Sutton née Connell are shown at near left. (I wonder if I should have claimed even earlier acquisition of The Farm since Aunt

Polly was the sister of my direct ancestor and she was married to S.M. Lewis, who held title to The Farm.)

A copy of the deed is shown in the **Appendix, Page 9**. I made a transcript, which is much easier to read, and it is found in the **Appendix, Page 10**.

#### C. My great grandfather Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton sold The Farm to my grandfather Lucious G. Outlaw in



1912. My great-great grandmother Fairiby Sutton née Mullis passed in late Dec, 1908. My great grandmother Susan Sutton née Connell began to hear Fairiby's voice beckoning her to come hither and she did in Mar, 1909. Buck remarried (to Eliza Sutton née Sirmons (1874-1951)) and they removed to another part of Berrien County with better soils (9<sup>th</sup> District), he selling The Farm to Lucious G. Outlaw, who had married his daughter Della in 1909. Lucious G. Outlaw is shown at left with his first wife, Mary Ardelia Sutton née Lewis (1877-1907), daughter of Stephen M. and Polly Lewis. A copy of the recorded deed is found in the **Appendix, Page 11**.

Unusual for the times, husband and wife, Lucious. G. and Mary Outlaw, had previously *jointly* purchased (from Stephen M. Lewis) and lived on a farm that joins The Farm. (Incidentally, that event established the L.G. Outlaw Home Place (where my great grandfather W.H.H. Outlaw (1840-1910), an indigent with a war-related disability, died). Mary died intestate after hearing the rooster crow for her late one day and duly putting Lucious on short notice. When she passed the following morning, of her half-interest, a quarter-interest went to their only child, Lena B. Outlaw and the other quarter-interest to her husband, Lucious, leaving him with three-fourths-interest in the joining property. (These facts will come into play later.)

C. My grandfather Lucious G. Outlaw died intestate Oct 21, 1918, leaving each his widow and two sons one-third undivided interest in The Farm. When he was about 80 and I, about 10, Sermon May operated a small country store less than 0.5 mile from The Farm and he delighted in telling me unflattering stories about my family,



which were vehemently denied, of course. The reasons for his pleasure will remain unspoken, but relevantly, I have verified some of "Sermon's Tales," though not the following. According to Sermon, my grandfather Lucious had been given medical advice against drinking, being told straight up that he would likely die if he tied on another one. He did get drunk and started walking to town (even at 45, with the presumed goal of joining the army, about 3 weeks before Armistice Day). He died from a stroke, unexpectedly, of course. Sermon elaborated that Lucious' death was not unwelcome news to all; indeed, he and his brother Joseph N. owned joining farms and went 7 years without speaking, and Lucious "carried a pistol" because another man in the neighborhood, whom Sermon did not name, held a grudge having to do with the man's wife. It is surprising, therefore, that Uncle Joe was appointed as the administrator of the estate. Uncle Joe and Aunt Bertha are shown at left.

Though uneducated, Uncle Joe was very quick witted then as evidenced by his ability to return a 4-digit product (number of pounds of cotton x price per pound)

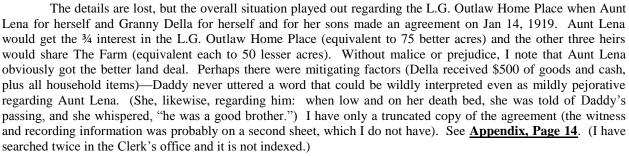
instantly and accurately in his head, according to John P. Webb, J.P. (1916-present, a descendant of Berrien County pioneer Dawson Webb (1787-1868), my great great-great-grandfather on my Outlaw side and my great-great-great-great grandfather on my Sutton side). It was, thus, Uncle Joe's choice to fail in applying due diligence, not a matter of alcoholism that overtook him and his property later. For example, his property inventory did not match the sales list. Importantly and correctly, however, the appraisers listed on Nov 18, 1918: (1) ¾ interest in 100 acres in land lots 222 & 239 (the L.G. Outlaw Home Place, which he and his first wife bought jointly from S.M Lewis, recall, and which ¾ interest was \$2400) and (2) 150 acres in land lots 193 & 222 (The Farm, valued at \$2000).



The abstract for the Federal Land Bank is shown in the <u>Appendix</u>, <u>Page 12</u>. This document shows that The Farm went to Grandmother Della Outlaw née Sutton (shown at left), my father, W.H. Outlaw, and Uncle Buren P. Outlaw. [Grandmother Della had applied for support from the estate (Oct 21, 1918.)] The Ordinary Judgment was published Nov 8, 1918 (<u>Appendix</u>, <u>Page 13</u>) and was apparently interpreted by the title analyst as granting The Farm to Granny Della, Uncle Buren, and Daddy, each with 1/3 undivided share.

Note that the documentation re the proceedings of the Probate Court, Nov session, 1918, as abstracted above, failed to mention the other farm

owned by Lucious G. Outlaw and it inaccurately stated that Granny Della and sons were the sole heirs. Recall, Lucious and his first wife had a daughter, Aunt Lena (right), then 21.



I infer that Federal Land Bank title analyst wished to strengthen the title chain because he included an affidavit from Joseph N. Outlaw, the administrator, that Lucious had only three heirs and The Farm (again, no mention of the L.G. Outlaw Home Place or Aunt Lena). See <u>Appendix, Page 15</u>. Likewise, Mark N. Sutton, Lucious' nephew who lived adjacently, across the creek, deposed, but that document is redundant and will not be included.

Finally, in the Federal Land Bank documentation, O.V. Hughes¹ deposed that he was familiar with the possession and ownership of The Farm for the past 35 years and that it had been in the "open, notorious, adverse, public, continuous, exclusive, uninterrupted and peaceable" possession of W.H. Outlaw and predecessors in title (naming immediate family members as discussed here). He further states specifically that the possession was evidenced by actual entry, clearing, fencing and cultivating a portion of the land, working the timber for turpentine, saw mill and farm purposes. See <u>Appendix</u>, <u>Page 16</u>.

### Mrs. J. D. Price Found Dead; Husband Placed In The County Jail

Mrs. J. D. Price, about 41 years of age, died some time Tuesday night at her home between Nashville and Lenex. Her death was reported early yesterday morning by her husband, Mr. Price.

Relatives of the deceased were skeptical concerning the death, so therefore, notified Sheriff Hughes, the county coroner, Mr. Overstreet, and Drs. Shuman of Nashville and Beckham of Lenox, who hurried to the scene.

An autopsy was performed and the cornor pronounced death from violence. The husband was arrested by Sheriff Hughes upon suspicion and placed in the Berrien county jail.

It is understood that the deceased appeared to have been choked to death, as blue spots and bruises were on the throat and bruises on top of the head.

Two sons of Mrs. Price by a former marriage, spent the night away from home, and Mr. and Mrs. Price were the only occupants of the home that night, it is understood.

Funeral services will be held this afternoon at Empire church and conducted by Elder J. B. Luke of Nashville.

The deceased is well known in this county as the former Miss Della Sutton, having many relatives and friends to mourn her untimely death. She was first married to Mr. L. D. Outlaw, who died in 1918, and in 1922 she was married to Mr. Price.

Those surviving are her husband, and two sons, W. H. and Buren Outlaw; brothers, Messrs J. M., G. T. and N. L. Sutton of Lenox, and M. N. Sutton of Adel; one sister, Mrs. Ellen Hooper of Lenox.

D. My grandmother Della Outlaw Price née Sutton died intestate Sep 7, 1932, and her one-third undivided interest in The Farm passed to my father and his brother, jointly. My grandmother Della literally made the mistake of her life when she remarried to James D. Price on Aug 10, 1921, i.e., less than 2 years after the passing of my grandfather Lucious G. Outlaw. At Della's marriage, Daddy was nearly 9 and Uncle Buren, not yet 4. At first, the new family lived on The Farm—she had also lived with Uncle Joe in her widowhood and on the L.G. Outlaw Home Place with Aunt Lena after Aunt Lena married (Oct 18, 1919)—but, later the new family moved in with some of Price's people, the Brantleys. Later yet (before 1929, when tenants lived on The Farm and the original house burned), they removed to the Lenox Property (aka the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton New Home Place), which she bought ~1926 from other heirs. She also had a 1/3 interest in The Farm (previous section)—and because Daddy and Uncle Buren were minors—she controlled the remaining 2/3 interest in The Farm. Further, as mentioned, she had

considerable agricultural assets aside from land, and she also was well off by standards of the day with regard to other personal property (sewing machine, organ, new Home Comfort stove, &c.), but like almost everyone else on South Georgia farms she had essentially no cash during the Depression [and, indeed, had taken in a boarder, whose paycheck was uncertain (ref. family letters)]. Jim Price's evil aim was to convert her assets to him. To this end, he entered Daddy's room one night with a hatchet, but Daddy was not asleep and escaped through a window and did not live with them after he was 12 (though he shows up as a member of their household in the 1930 Census). Time passed and was running out: once Daddy reached 21, he himself would



control his 1/3 interest in The Farm and, regardless, his maturation would be a threat to Price's plans. Price harassed Granny Della about signing over the property to him for about 18 months, but she would not relent. He killed her (see left); Daddy was not yet 20 (that night, sleeping at neighbors' as he was home from Berry College) and Uncle Buren was 15 (that night, probably with relatives, which was typical). Granny Della's brother Jerry M. Sutton (in places as "Jr." and others as "Sr.,"~1895~1936) took charge right away, saving Price from a lynching, and was soon appointed as the executor of her estate. He is shown, above right, with

his spouse Elsie née Baldree. As for Price, the Berrien Counties authorities could not guarantee his safety, and he was transferred to the Ware County Jail. Along with 17 other cases, his was tried during a 3-day session beginning Mon, Sep 26, 1932. He was found guilty and sentenced to life. Four months later, he died a death befitting a man of his character—he contracted pneumonia, was chained to a bed and left to die.

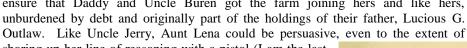
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> O.V. Hughes is almost certainly Vaden Hughes, jailer and brother of Newton Hughes, with whose family he lived (1930 Census). Newton Hughes was sheriff (1924-1933, 1937-1951, when he died in office). Earlier, Vaden Hues (sic?) was a member of the John A. Gaskins household (1900 Census). Recall that the Gaskins Home Place joined The Farm, so Vaden would have been qualified to depose concerning its ownership, would have been available (the jail is just off the Court House Square in Nashville, GA), and would have had good standing in the community. There is an additional non-conflicting record of an Oscar Vaden Hughes, born about the same time, who was a widower, explaining why he might live in his brother's household. (Thanks to Ken Christison.)

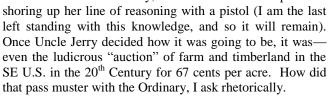
This Jerry M. Sutton was inclined to persuade the future to unfold his way. Exhibit A: when the sheriff came out to the Lenox Place to investigate Uncle Newt's killing of Mr. Ivey (Aug 3, 1925), Uncle Jerry met him and quickly disabused him of any notion that a Sutton might be arrested. However, he did grant the sheriff an interview with Uncle Newt, and that was the extent of legal doings insofar as I know. Aside from having a vision for the future, Jerry M. Sutton was scrappy. Exhibit A: Uncle Jerry was sitting on a fence post, and a man stealthily approached him from the rear. Misidentifying Uncle Jerry as an antagonist, the man attempted to coldcock him. The rest is history, and as it was told by the assailant-turned-victim, who, decades later, was still angry at the whole family, but learning from his experience was reluctant to try to settle the score. So, when Uncle Jerry put the word out that Della's Home Comfort stove was not to be bid on because he wanted it, its attraction to others was lost.

The preceding paragraph serves the singular purpose of lending plausibility to the following assertion: the paper trail concerning the transfer of Granny Della's 1/3 interest in The Farm to Daddy and Uncle Buren makes the transfer appear to have been rigged, albeit for just purposes, and by all rights as they were by law the only heirs once Price was eliminated. A team of appraisers for Granny Della's property was appointed by the Court of the Ordinary on Sep 20, 1932, and took the Oath on Sep 23, 1932. That same day, they completed and signed the appraisal and included was Granny Della's 1/3 interest in The Farm at \$260 (i.e., \$780 for The Farm). As references, Grandfather Outlaw had purchased it from Great Grandfather Sutton in 1912 for \$2000; it had been appraised at \$2000 at Lucious' death in 1918; and, Daddy purchased Uncle Buren's half in 1939 for \$1250 (i.e., \$2500 for The Farm). The point is, the appraisal was, if anything, a low-ball estimate. The appraisal was submitted to the Ordinary on Oct 3, 1932. After duly advertising, it was sold on Apr 4, 1933, for only \$35--at public outcry on the courthouse steps to the highest and best bidder—to Aunt Lena (Daddy's half-sister). See Appendix, Page 17. As further perspective, the previous December, 3 of Della's 4 mules were auctioned each for an average of more than that (Daddy bought the fourth one, a 20-year-old named Pet); her cows sold for \$316; her hogs, \$63; her chickens, as mentioned, for \$69. The report to the Ordinary was submitted nearly two years later, Aug 8, 1934. Finally, note in this context that Aunt Lena extended by 1 year a contract to Willis Norman just on high boxes on the Farm in Dec 1936 for \$75. At this point, it would appear that Aunt Lena bought the interest in The Farm for a song, and she did. . . ., but not for herself.

Before the close of business that same day, viz., Apr 4, 1933, Aunt Lena sold her 1/3 undivided interest to my father and Uncle Buren for \$35, reserving the turpentine rights for a period of time, as implied above and for which reason, I do not know. (The actual period of time varied from 7-10 years depending on which document is consulted, but see later.) See **Appendix, Page 18**. In an amusing juxtaposition, the deed to Aunt Lena is recorded below the deed from her to Uncle Buren and Daddy.

The parsimonious interpretation of extant documents is that Aunt Lena made a deal with Uncle Jerry to ensure that Daddy and Uncle Buren got the farm joining hers and like hers,





In the end (Oct, 1936), Aunt Lena sold her turpentine rights (and I infer meaning new faces) to Daddy and Uncle Buren for \$10. The latter petitioned the Ordinary (Nov, 1936) declaring no guardian and in need of support,

and—to fast forward—put out a four-year lease to William Prescott for 175/1000 faces, the estimate being 2000 faces.

Berry's dream of helping poor rural youngsters.

In summary, Daddy and Uncle Buren had jointly taken over all operations of The Farm. Uncle Buren is shown at left, ~1938, with Aunt Bessie and the first of their three children, Fayne. Daddy is shown at right, ~1935, in what I believe is his "official" Berry College photograph. As far as I am aware, Daddy was the first of his family to go beyond the 7<sup>th</sup> grade; he *exactly* represented Martha

E. My father W.H. Outlaw bought his brother Buren's half-interest in The Farm in 1939. Unquestionably Daddy loved Uncle Buren and enjoyed being with him, and I believe and hope that the feeling was reciprocal. Just how great was it (~1950-1955) to pack mullet in newspaper and drive up to see Uncle Buren and Aunt Bessie, who lived on her family's farm, to fry fish!!! As I have noted elsewhere, "As long as I live, I hope not to lose my crystal-clear and cherished childhood memories of feather beds, slop jars, well water, the wood-burning stove, the food safe, the cattle gap, a mule that would attack one who spits, and much much more, all from my visits to the Robinson place." The purpose of this section is to describe how that came to be.

Despite the familial bonds and common experiences that held them together, Daddy and Uncle Buren were not meant to be partners. Daddy had high anxiety, was serious, gave the impression of being responsive to those around him, had a poker face . . . . Uncle Buren was at the opposite pole. He was the one who would hide out in the trees overhanging the river at the Lenox Place and wait for an alligator to float along so he could dive in near and scare it, he was the one who put the Whoopee cushion in the preacher's chair for Sunday Dinner (the mid-day meal), . . . . The contrast in their personalities is illustrated by the following recollection, set about 1956 when I was 10 and after the Buren Outlaw family had moved to central Florida. During a visit, Uncle Buren took us fishing on a moonlit night. We parked and Daddy balked on seeing the "No trespassing" sign, but, unfazed, Uncle Buren slide the small wooden homemade boat into the water. We were fishing in open water, in plain view of a juke joint with a deck over the water. The drunks on the deck started shooting at us! Daddy put me in the bottom on the boat, shielded me with his body, while Uncle Buren said, "I don't think they can hit us from there," and he kept fishing. Honest.

As alluded to previously and for reasons above, Daddy bought Uncle Buren out in 1939, financing the purchase with a loan from the Federal Land Bank. A record of the warranty deed is shown in the <u>Appendix, Page 19</u>. Daddy satisfied the mortgage to the Federal Land Bank in Aug, 1951, and it has been free and clear since. (Uncle Buren turned around and bought 90 acres from J.A. Hand, which I think was near Aunt Bessie's people.)

**F.** My father, W.H. Outlaw, died, willing The Farm to my mother, Christine C. Outlaw née Watson in 1986. After a 19-year disability following a catastrophic cerebral hemorrhage, Daddy died. My mother, shown at left in a photograph made in the late 1980s, was the executrix of Daddy's estate and followed his, my sister's and my wishes. The executor's deed is shown in the **Appendix**, <u>Page 20</u>.

Really, there is no joy in losing one's spouse of 49 years. Notwithstanding, she had tremendous internal strength and an ability to make the most of a situation. She remained active, and as I have said elsewhere, the period from my father's death—she was his sole caretaker and he was bedridden—until she herself became ill in 1996 . . .



were her golden years. She had her chickens, garden, greenhouse, etc. Though she couldn't drive, she was able to visit as I would often get her and when I didn't take her home, Nedra would. The year after this [photo], she helped me take the first measurements for building our home (site elevation for permit)-she was the scribe and Liz....

G. My mother, Christine C. Outlaw née Watson, died, willing  $\frac{1}{2}$  divided

interest in the W.H. Outlaw Farm each to my sister, Carolyn C. Outlaw, and to me in 2001. Within a year after my father died and the additional parcel of land was appended to The Farm (thence, the W.H. Outlaw Farm), Mama had the property surveyed and split into 2 tracts. See **Appendix**, **Page 21**. She designated one tract to me and one to my sister, who was single and had no

children. Those wishes were carried out when she died. See <u>Appendix</u>, <u>Pages 22-23</u>.

H. My sister, Carolyn C. Outlaw, died willing her ½ divided interest in the W.H. Outlaw Farm to me in 2007. A photograph of Carolyn soon before she died is shown at right. Her wishes were carried out; see <u>Appendix</u>, <u>Page 24</u>.

### SECTION 3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

#### **IMPORTANT!** The following items must be included with your application:

□ A map showing the location of the farm. The map must include the names of surrounding roads and/or state highways and show the farm in relation to the nearest town. We recommend that you use a county highway map available at: <a href="http://georgiainfo.galileo.usg.edu/DOTmaps/DOTmaplist.htm">http://georgiainfo.galileo.usg.edu/DOTmaps/DOTmaplist.htm</a>
<a href="DONE">DONE</a>. Please see Pages 1 (DOT Map) & 2 (Google Earth Map) of the Appendix.

□ A sketch map illustrating the general layout of the farm and any archaeological resources. Indicate where farm buildings, fields, etc. are located or were located and are no longer standing.

**DONE**. Please see Pages 3 (Land Use) of the Appendix & the Narrative (Farm Buildings).

□ Current photographs of the farm including views of the farmhouse, barn, outbuildings, and general views of the property. These photographs may be used for the awards exhibit. Photographs can either be in color or black-and-white. Identify each picture on the back of the photograph. Photographs cannot be returned.

#### DONE. Attached.

□ Historic photographs (optional). If you have old photographs of the farm land, buildings, or settlers which may be of interest to the review committee, send photocopies. Please do not send original historic photographs.

### **DONE**. Embedded in narrative.

□ Photocopies of supporting documents to verify at least 100 years of continual family ownership. (This information is required for the Heritage Farm and Family Farm Award Categories only.)

DONE. Please see Pages 8-24 in the Appendix.

### SECTION 4. HISTORIC PROPERTY INFORMATION <deleted, n/a>

### SECTION 5. STATEMENT OF OWNER

I	declare	that	the	statements	made	in	this	application	are	accurate	and	correct	to	the	best	of	my
kı	nowledge	e.															

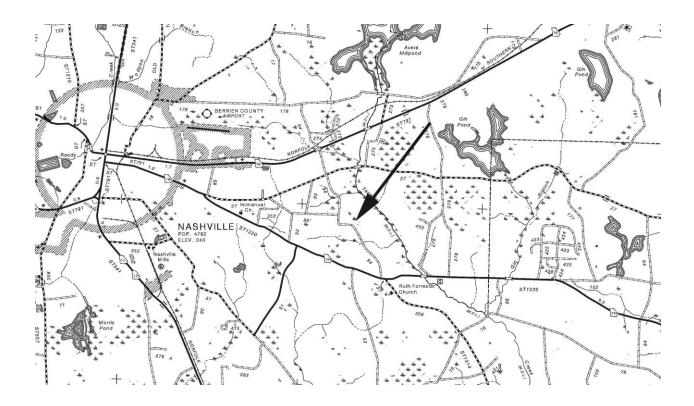
	Mar 16, 2011
Signature	Date

Acknowledgements. When used infrequently, I have cited sources directly in the text. I wish to acknowledge the general reliance on several volumes of *Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia*, the first volume of which was published in 1951 by Cooper Press, Inc. (Jacksonville, FL). The first few of this series were authored by the founding father of the Huxford Geneological Society, the honorable Folks Huxford, whose Nashville residence was about two blocks from our home. Many websites, particularly, familysearch.org, a service provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, have been helpful. I also wish to acknowledge the courteous staff at the Clerk's of the Court office and that of the Probate Judge in Berrien County for assistance with records.

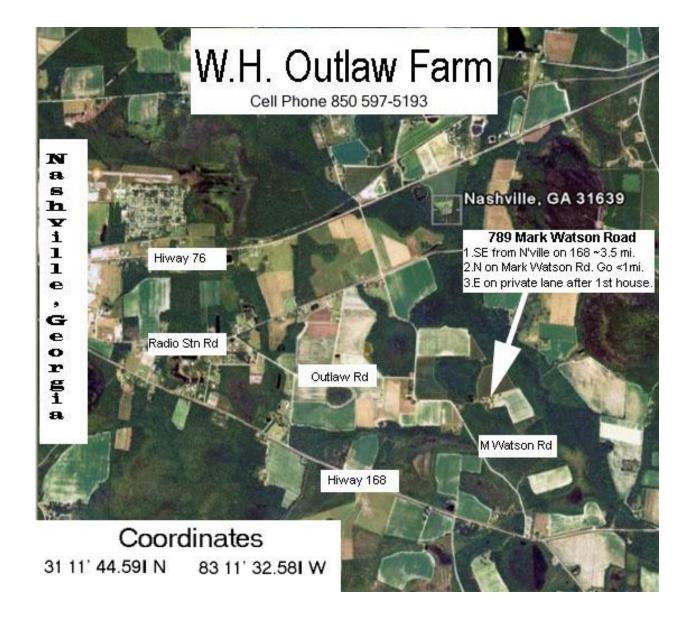
### LIST OF PAGES IN THIS APPENDIX

DOT Map to Farm, 2011
Google Earth Map, Amended, to Farm, 2008
Current Land Use Map, 2011
Gross Income Farm, 2010
Georgia Forest Stewardship Plan, 2010
Evidence for Successful Implementation of Forest Management Plan, 2010
Statement of Independent Consulting Forester, 2011
Analysis of Title, Table of Contents, Federal Land Bank, 1885-1939
Warranty Deed Recording, Stephen M. Lewis to Jerry S. Sutton, 1885
Warranty Deed Recording, Stephen M. Lewis to Jerry S. Sutton, 1885, Transcript
Warranty Deed Recording, Jerry S. Sutton to Lucious G. Outlaw, 191211
Extract, Federal Land Bank Title Analysis (conducted in 1939), Lucious G. Outlaw Estate to Della
Outlaw née Sutton, W.H. Outlaw, Buren P. Outlaw, each an undivided 1/3 interest in The Farm,
1918
Probate Court Order, 1918
Agreement among heirs for The Farm to go to Della Outlaw née Sutton and her sons, 1919 14
Affidavit by Joseph N. Outlaw (1939), Administrator of Lucious G. Outlaw Estate, that Della Outlaw née
Sutton and her sons inherited The Farm, 1918
Affidavit (1939) of Possession of The Farm, 1904-1939
Warranty Deed Recording, Della Outlaw Price née Sutton Estate to Lena B. Rowan née Outlaw, 1/3
Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1933
Warranty Deed Recording, Lena B. Rowan née Outlaw to W.H. Outlaw and Buren P. Outlaw, 1/3
Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1933
Warranty Deed Recording, Buren P. Outlaw to W.H. Outlaw 1/2 Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1939, .
Executor's Deed, W.H. Outlaw Estate to Christine Outlaw née Watson, 1987
Plat of W.H. Outlaw Farm, 2 Tracts, Divided, 1987
Executor's Deed, Christine Outlaw née Watson to William H. Outlaw Jr. 1/2 Divided Interest in The Farm,
2001
Executor's Deed, Christine Outlaw née Watson to Carolyn C. Outlaw ½ Divided Interest in The Farm,
2001
Executor's Deed, Carolyn C. Outlaw to William H. Outlaw Jr. 1/2 Divided Interest in The Farm, 200724

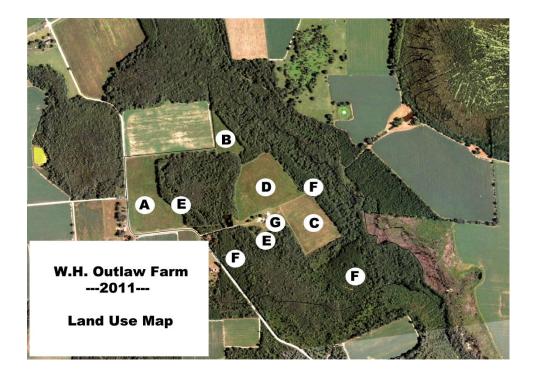
### **DOT Map to W.H. Outlaw Farm**



### Google Earth Map, Amended, to W.H. Outlaw Farm



### Land Use Map of W.H. Outlaw Farm



- B. Longleaf pines planted 2006. CRP Sign-up No. 33 on 4.5 acres @ ~\$49.80/acre/year.
- C. Longleaf pines planted 2008. CRP Contract No. 175 on 11 acres ~\\$61.25/acre/year.
- D. Cotton, Direct and Counter Cyclical Program, 15.6 acres, 2011 contract = \$597 + Counter Cyclic if any.
- E. 27-year-old planted pines, nominally 3 acres, "plantation" thinning in 2010 for esthetics and wildlife predominately
- F. 17-year-old planted pines, nominally 25 acres, fifth-row thinning in 2010.
- G. Annual weeds and ball clover, nominally 3 acres, for wildlife.

"B" and "C" represent recurring annual income not subject for renewal until 2021 and 2018, respectively, summing annually to ~\$900. D is renewable annually, ~\$600 per annum base, plus counter-cyclic as appropriate. Next timber harvest on F (& E) is scheduled for 2017 when substantial return is expected. (Harvest of 1/5 of trees in 2010, primarily on "F," was ~\$11K, so ~\$44K of timber left today just in "F," which will continue to increase in mass and class.)

Note: "A" and portions of "E" are not in the original Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Old Home Place (The Farm) on which this application is based. They are thus shown in this separate section to avoid confusion with The Farm but to permit an overall understanding of the operation of the W.H. Outlaw Farm.

- A. Longleaf pines planted 2006. CRP Sign-up No. 33 on 17.5 acres @ approx. \$48.48/acre.
- E. 27-year-old planted pines, nominally 7 acres, "plantation" thinning in 2010 for esthetics and wildlife predominately.

Please see **Appendix**, **Page 4**, for Income Generated.

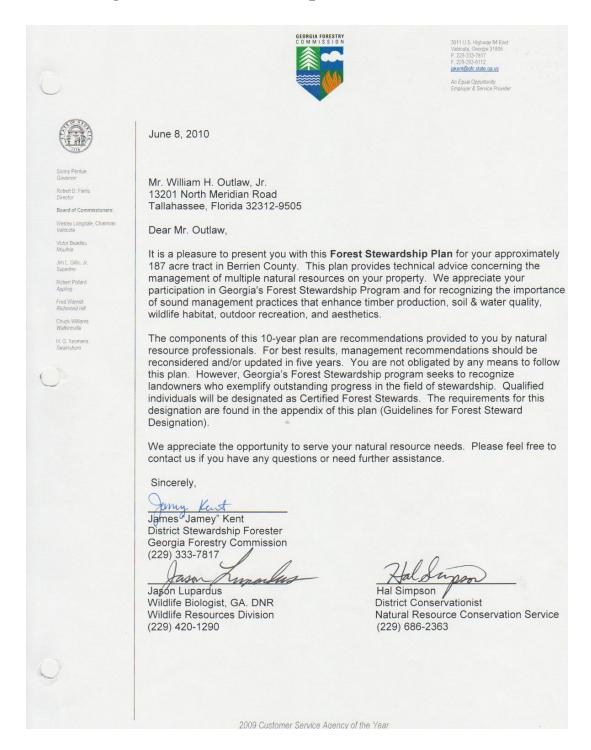
### Gross Income of W.H. Outlaw Farm in 2010

	2010 CALENDAR YEAR CER	RTAIN GOVERNMENT PAYME			
'S name, street address, city, state, ZIP code		RECIPIENT'S Identification Number	PAYER'S F	eceral Identific	
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICUL		XXX-XX-6213		43-095	1685
rm Service Agency - Commodity RRIEN COUNTY FSA OFFICE	Credit Corporation	Type of Payme	ent	Reporta	able Income
6A COUNTY FARM ROAD SHVILLE GA 31639		DIRECT AND COUNTER CYC CRP ANNUAL RENTAL	CLICAL PROG		751.00 1,816.00
ENT'S name, street address, city, state, ZIP cod	е				
LLIAM OUTLAW JR 201 N MERIDIAN RD LLAHASSEE FL 32312-9505					
		7. Total Agriculture Pay	ments		\$2,567.00
		9. Market Gain			0.00
CCC - 1099 - G (11-01-10)	REPORT OF PAYM	MENTS TO PRODUCERS	FOI	RM APPROVE	D OMB NO. 1545-0120 001290270
CCC - 1099 - G (11-01-10)			FOI	RM APPROVE	
FILER'S name, street address, city, st	☐ COF	RECTED (if checked)	FOI		
FILER'S name, street address, city, st	COF cate, ZIP code, and telephone no.	RRECTED (if checked)	OMB No. 1545-0	0997	
FILER'S name, street address, city, st CANAL WOOD LLC 2430 NORTH MAIN ST	COF cate, ZIP code, and telephone no.	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing	1019131	9997 Pro	001290270
FILER'S name, street address, city, st	COF late, ZIP code, and telephone no.	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing  062510	OMB No. 1545-0	) Pro Es	001290270
FILER'S name, street address, city, st CANAL WOOD LLC 2430 NORTH MAIN ST PO BOX 260010	COF late, ZIP code, and telephone no.	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing  062510  2 Gross proceeds  \$ 10625.67	OMB No. 1545-0	) Pro Es	oceeds From Rea
FILER'S name, street address, city, st CANAL WOOD LLC 2430 NORTH MAIN ST PO BOX 260010 CONWAY SC 29528 FILER'S federal identification number	COFiate, ZIP code, and telephone no.  T -6010  TRANSFEROR'S identification num 255-68-6213	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing  062510  2 Gross proceeds  \$ 10625.67  aber 3 Address or legal description	OMB No. 1545-0	) Pro Es	Copy I For Transfero This is important to information and is beir furnished to the Intern Revenue Service. If you
FILER'S name, street address, city, street a	COFiate, ZIP code, and telephone no.  T -6010  TRANSFEROR'S identification num 255-68-6213	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing  062510  2 Gross proceeds  \$ 10625.67  aber 3 Address or legal description	OMB No. 1545-0	) Pro Es	Copy I For Transfero This is important to information and is bein furnished to the Intern Revenue Service. If you are required to file return, a negligenous penalty or other than the control of the return, a negligenous penalty or other than the control of the return, a negligenous penalty or other than the control of the return, a negligenous penalty or other than the control of the control o
FILER'S name, street address, city, standard WOOD LLC 2430 NORTH MAIN STREET PORTON TO BOX 260010 CONWAY SC 29528  FILER'S federal identification number 57-1110464  TRANSFEROR'S name, street address (in WILLIAM H OUTLAW PO BOX 908	COFiate, ZIP code, and telephone no.  T -6010  TRANSFEROR'S identification num 255-68-6213	RRECTED (if checked)  1 Date of closing  062510  2 Gross proceeds  \$ 10625.67  aber 3 Address or legal description	OMB No. 1545-0 2010 Form 1099-	) Pro Es	001290270

The gross income of the W.H. Outlaw Farm in 2010 summed to \$13, 193.

The gross income of the portion previously known as the Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton Home Place (herein, The Farm) was  $\sim$ \$9500 from timber sales (recurring periodically),  $\sim$ \$800 from DCCP (recurring annually), and  $\sim$ \$900 for CRP (recurring annually) for a sum of  $\sim$ \$11,000.

### **Georgia Forest Stewardship Plan—Documentation**



Appendix, Page 6

### **Evidence for Successful Implementation of Forest Management Plan**

<delete>

From: Josh Goodman <jgoodman@GFC.STATE.GA.US>

To: James Pitts cpitts@GFC.STATE.GA.US>
CC: "'Bill Outlaw'" <bill@southernmatters.com>

Subject: 12-13-10 Visit

<delete>

#### Hey Jamie,

I just wanted to make you aware of a landowner in Berrien County who is interested in meeting you. His name is Bill Outlaw. I met with him yesterday to give him his forest stewardship plan that Jamey Kent finished before he left. Mr. Outlaw is interested in becoming a certified forest steward and I believe he meets the criteria. I believe sometime after the first of the year would be a good time for us to evaluate the property and for you to meet Mr. Outlaw. He is an absentee landowner who splits his time between Nashville and Tallahassee. Feel free to call me sometime so we can further discuss this. I'll be out of the office this afternoon, but will be in tomorrow morning. Thanks Jamie.

### **Statement from Consulting Registered Forester**



### ENVIRO-WORKS, INC.

Thursday, February 17, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Joe Matthews and I am the consulting forester and am the consulting forester for Bill Outlaw. I have assisted him for over a year now in his efforts to manage his forest on his family in Berrien County, Georgia. In 2010, we performed a first thinning on roughly 45 acres of seventeen year old planted pine and performed a second thinning on some 27 year old planted pine. The thinning was primarily aimed at stand enhancement and we reduced the basal area from 140 ft² to approximately 70-80 ft₂/acre. Over 90% of the income generated from this sale came from the original 156 acre tract known as the Buck Sutton Old Homeplace.

Mr. Outlaw has a Stewardship Plan and has exercised above average efforts to manage the resources according to this plan. It is obvious that his overall objective is to manage all resources in the best manner possible to insure this legacy will continue in his family for generations.

If market conditions are favorable we plan to perform another harvest when the average stand structure reaches sawtimber class which should be in or around 2017

In my opinion, Mr. Outlaw is doing an outstanding job managing his property and is a prime example for others in the community.

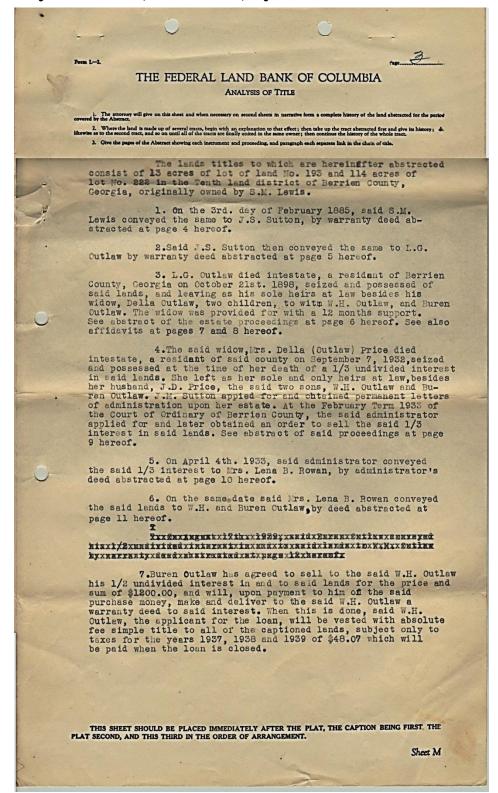
Sincerely,

Joe Matthews R.F #2119

PO Box 1 • Nashville, Georgia 31639 • Phone - 229.686.9199 • E-Mail - joem@surfsouth.com

Georgia Registered Foresters #2119, #2004

### Analysis of Title, Overview, by the Federal Land Bank



### Stephen M. Lewis to Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton, Original, 1885

MD: SM. Lewin To IS Sullow
State of Georgia &
Berrier County & For and in Consideration of the sum of Low Kingered
Dollan to me in bound paid by J. Service of the anny and clase aforewait
I I'M Lewis of the same files do hereby grant bargain sell and conjey
unto the said J. & Sutton his heir and accigin one Knowend and figing acres
more or less of lot of land sunter Two Hundred and Teventy Live in the
Tenthe Deit of Bernen County being all the part of sand lat liging West of the ten
mile Creek and north of Reaver Dam Buy also six acres of lot number due Kindens
and muly Three in the Tenth Destrol of Rais County having that but of
said lot lying west of the ten quite Creek. To have but to hald sauge bar-
gamed fremmen unto lim the our f. I. Dutton his been and accoging loyelies
full all and amyricar the region members and appenden onces to the same
In any manner belonging to his and their own proper we benefit and
behoof forever in fee simple and a the send SM Lewis for my-
self my hum and legal representatives the Raid bargamen frequen
and alim the said for into his heirs and accigin will warrant and
forever defend the algest and little thereof against duriselver and against
the claim or claims of any and all atter persons whomseem
on which whereof & the said SM Lever bowe hereinter
set my hand and official my seal Thin February 3d 1881; Regicul scaled
and delimin in france of. SM. Luin 2530
D.P. Luke OUP + En of gp.
Reaming Ale 1401
Decorred Alee. 140 1401

### Stephen M. Lewis to Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton, Transcript, 1885

W.D. S.M. Lewis To J.S. Sutton
State of Georgia

Berrien County. For and in consideration of the sum of Two Hundred Dollars to me in hand paid by J.S. Sutton of the County and State aforesaid I S.M. Lewis of the same place do hereby grant bargain sell and convey unto the said J.S. Sutton his heirs and assigns One Hundred and fifty Acres more or less of lot of land number Two Hundred and Twenty Two in the Tenth Dist of Berrien County being all the part of said lot lying West of the Ten Mile Creek and north of Beaver Dam Bay Also six acres of lot numbered one Hundred and ninety Three in the Tenth District of said County being that part of the said lot lying west of the Ten Mile Creek. To have and to hold same bargained premises unto him the said J.S. Sutton his heirs and assigns together with all and singular the rights members and appurtenances to the \*\*\* in any manner belonging to his and their own proper use benefit and behalf forever in fee simple. And I the said J.S. Lewis for myself my heirs and legal representatives the said bargained premises unto him the said J.S. Sutton his heirs and assigns will warrant and forever defend the right and title thereof against ourselves and against the claim or claims of any and all other persons whomsoever.

In witness whereof I the said S.M. Lewis have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal This February 3d 1885 signed sealed and delivered in presence of

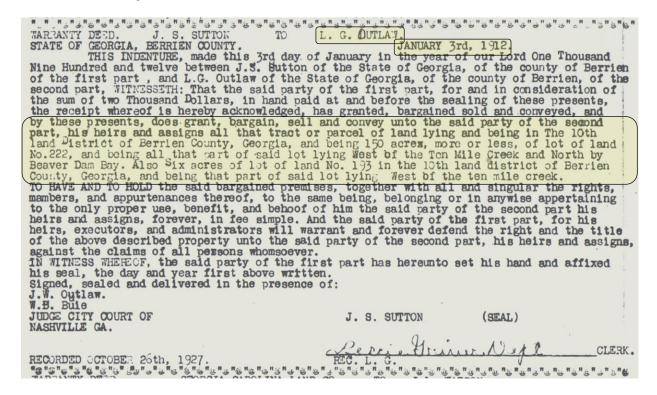
M.S. Hadsock S.M. Lewis

D.P. Luke \*\*\* + Ex.off. JP

Recorded Dec 14th 1901

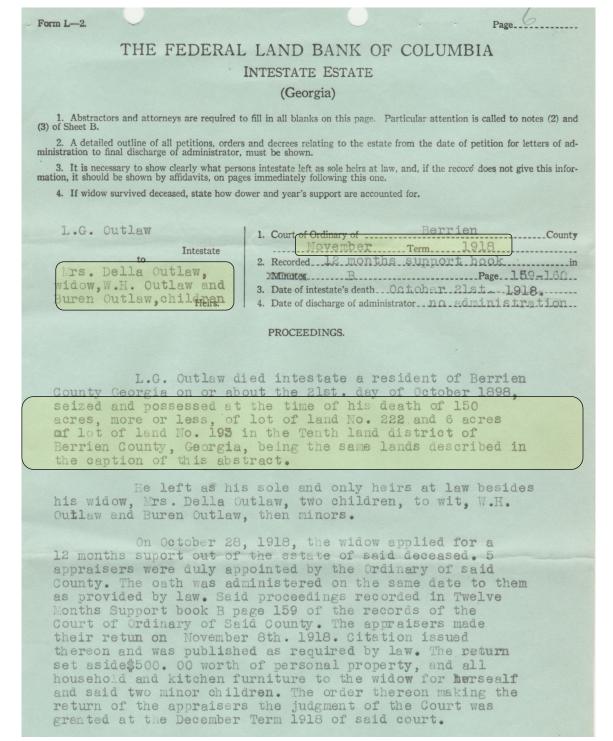
J.D. Lovett Clerk S.C.

### Jerry S. "Buck" Sutton to Lucious G. Outlaw, 1912



# Lucious G. Outlaw Estate to Della Outlaw née Sutton, W.H. Outlaw, Buren P. Outlaw, each with 1/3 Undivided Interest, 1918

(Widow and their two sons, equal undivided third interest to each)



### **Probate Court Order**

BERRIEN, Court of Ordinary.
Dec Term, 191.
The report of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraisers appointed to set apart to the widow and minor children of the appraise app
the Court being satisfied that the same is in due form, and properly made, and citation having been issued and published, and no objection being filed, it is ordered that the same be admitted to record, and stand as the judgment of this Court.

### Agreement between Lena B. Outlaw and Della Outlaw née Sutton for herself and sons regarding the Distribution of Farms held in the the L. G. Outlaw Estate, 1919

Vnow All Men By These Presents:
That Whereas, L.C.Outlaw, late of Berrien County, Georgia, died seized and possessed of real estate, as follows:
A three-fourths undivided interest in and to 100 acres, more or less, in lots of land numbers 222 and 239, in the 10th land Dist., of said state and county, bounded as follows: North by an agreed

or less, in lots of land numbers 222 and 239, in the loth land Dist., of said state and county, bounded as follows: Horth by an agreed line; East by agreed line and lands of John A.May; South by agreed line and lands of John A.May; West by original lot lines and lands known as the Bob Kirkland place; the remaining one-fourth undivided interest in said 100 acres being vested in Lena B.Outlaw;

Also the whole title in and to 150 acres, more or less, in lots of land numbers 222 and 193, in the 10th Lnad Dist., of said state-and county, bounded as follows: North by agreed line and lands of John A.Gaskins; East by agreed line and which line is the run of the Ten Nile Creek; South by agreed line and lands of J.T.Outlaw and the tact above described; West by original lot lines, and lands of S.W.Watson.

And whereas, the lawful heirs of said L.G.Outlav at his death are as follows: widow, Della Outlaw, children Lena B.Outlaw, age 21 are as follows: widow, Della Outlaw, children Lena B. Outlaw, age 21
years, W. H. Outlaw, age 6 years, and Buren Outlaw, age one year.

And where, there has been administration on the estate of
the said L.C. Outlaw, fully disposing of all the personal property
which belonged to said L.G. Outlaw at the time of his death, and collecting all debts due to him and paying all debts owing by him, which
took the whole of personal property, thus leaving to said heirs undisposed of said above described lands;

Now therefore, in order to-fully devise and provide for the
needs of the said heirs of the said L.G. Outlaw, deceased, and as well
provide for the handling, control and use of said lands above described, we the undersigned, Della Outlaw and Lena B. Outlaw do hereby
contract and agree as follows:

That Lena B. Outlaw shall have use and control for own use
the Three-Fourts interest in the 100 acre tract of land above more
fully described, and as a consideration therefor she does hereby relinquish all right or interest that she may or might have in and to

linquish all right or interest that she may or might have in and to any and all income that may or might be derived from the use of or rents derived from the other tract of 150 acres, above more fully described, to Della Outlaw and W.H.Outlaw, and Buren Outlaw, heirs of said L.G.Outlaw, deceased, and

That Della Outlaw shall have use and control for her own use and that of W.H.Outlaw and Buren Outlaw, minor heirs of said L.G.Outlaw, and for their support and maintenance, the 150 acre tract of land

law, and for their support and maintenance, the 150 acre tract of land above more fully described, and as consideration therefor the said Bella Outlaw does hereby relinquish to the said Lena B.Outlaw, all right title or interest to the rents, income or profits that she and the said W.H.Outlaw and Buren Outlaw, may or might have in and to the rents and profits that may or might be derived from yer to year from the 100 acre tract of land above described, and

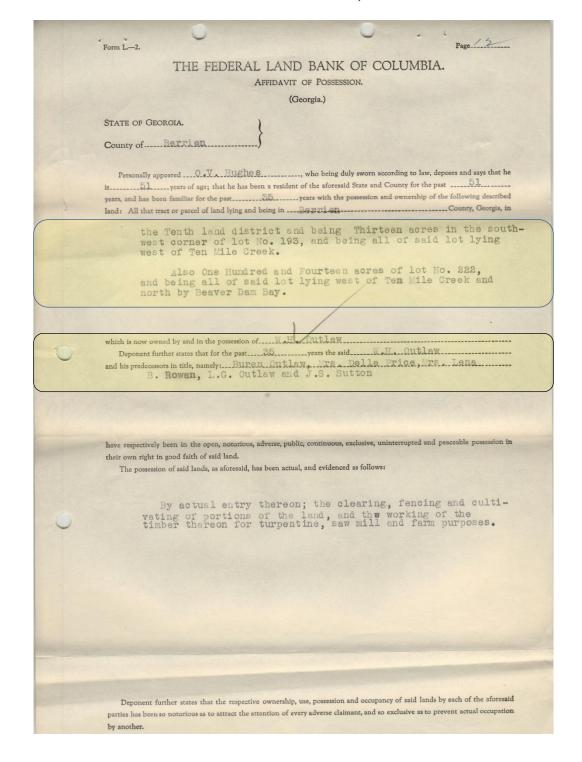
That it is fully understood and agreed that this contract and agreement is to stand without alteration or change for the term and period of TEN YEARS from this date, and SHALL THEN and at the expiration of TEN YEARS be for another period of TEN YEARS unless it be the desire of one or both the parties hereto to rescind, in which event said contract shall be terminated, but should nothing be said to the other by either party then the contract shall again extend for the period of TEN YEARS after the expiration of TEN YEARS from the date hereof, but for said consideration is further agreed that should either party to this contract undertake to rescind or that should either party to this contract undertake to rescind or violate the terms of this contract then the party so violating shall forfeit to the other heirs of the said L.G.Outlaw, deceased, the sum of \$500.00 or a like amount to be taken from her interest in the of \$500.00 or a like amount to be taken from her interest in the said lands of his said estate, and said amount is hereby declared to be due and collecable in the event of such breach.

In witness whereof the undersigned have on this 14th day of January, 1919, sealed and delivered these presents.

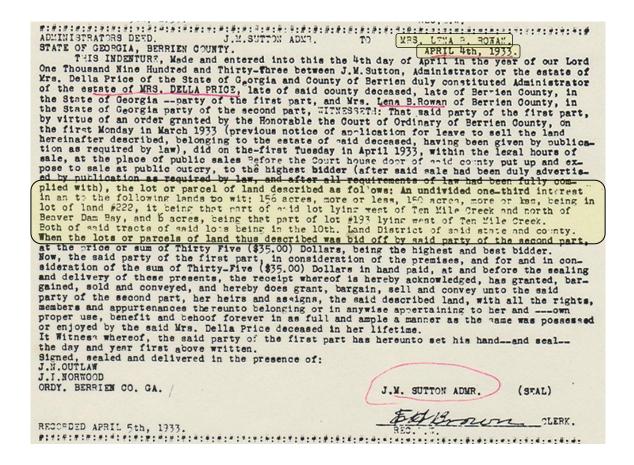
# Affidavit by Joseph N. Outlaw Regarding Estate of Lucious G. Outlaw for Which He was Administrator in 1918, 1939.

	Form L—2 Rev. 11-21-33  THE FEDERAL LAND BANK OF COLUMBIA  AFFIDAVIT
	It is important that this form, and no other, be used so that the affidavit may be easily inserted in its proper place.  STATE OF Georgia  County of Berrien
	Before me, an officer duly authorized to administer oaths, personally appeared
	J.N. Outlaw who, being duly sworn, says that he is a
	resident of the County of Berrien , State of Georgia
	that he is 57 years of age; that he personally knew L.G. Outlaw, late of Berrien County, Georgia. That he died intestate, a resident of said county on or about the 21st. day of October 1918, seized and possessed at the time of his death of 150 acres, more or less, of lot of land No. 222 in the Tenth land district of Berrien County, Georgia, and being all of said lot lying west of the Ten Mile Creek, and bounded north by Beaver Dam Bay. Also 6 acres, more or less, of lot of land No. 193 in said district, and being that part of said lot lying west of Ten Mile Creek.
	That the said L.G. Outlaw left as his sole and only heirs at law besides his widow, Mrs. Della Outlaw, two boys, to wit, W.H. Outlaw and Buren Outlaw, who were minors at that time, but who are each now more than 21 years of age and laboring under no disabilities whatsoever.
	That the said widow, Mrs. Della Outlaw, is now deceased, having died intestate in the year 1932, and leaving as her sole and only heirs at law, besides her husband, J.D. Price to whom she was married at the time of her death, and the two sons, W.H. Outlaw and Buren Outlaw, and seized and possessed of One Third undvided interest in and to the lands above described and other lands and personal properties.
0	Affiant further says that at the time of the death of the said L.G. Outlaw, he was not in debt; that there was no administration upon the estate of said L.G. Outlaw, and no necesity therefor, and that his funeral expenses of all kinds and amounts have long since been paid.
	Affiant further says that the last husband, J.D.Price is now deceased, and has been for several years.
	& n authan
	Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 1th day of September 1939.
	N.P. State at Large, Ga.

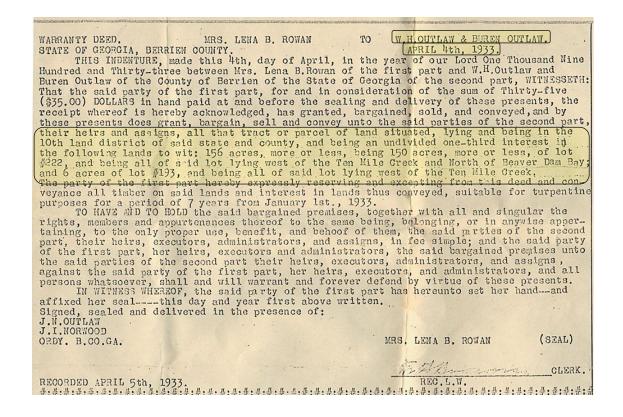
# Deposition of O.V. Hughes that The Farm Had Been in Family Possession for 35 Years, 1939



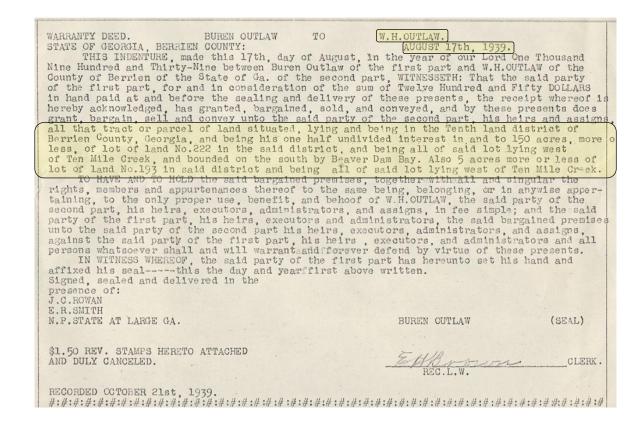
# The Della Outlaw Price-née Sutton Estate to Lena B. Rowan née Outlaw, 1/3 Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1933



# Lena B. Rowan née Outlaw to W.H. Outlaw and Buren P. Outlaw, jointly 1/3 Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1933



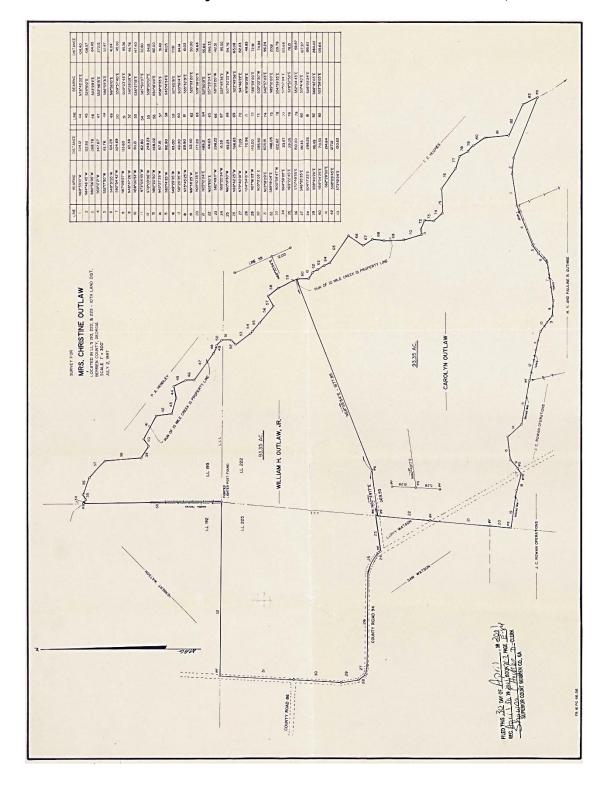
# Buren P. Outlaw to W.H. Outlaw, 1/2 Undivided Interest in The Farm, 1939



### The W.H. Outlaw Estate to Christine Outlaw née Watson, 1986

GEORGIA, BERRIEN COUNTY: The undersigned, Christine W. Outlaw, the duly qualified executrix of the Last Will and Testament of W. H. Outlaw, deceased, late of said county, does hereby assent to the devise made by Item 1 of the Will of the said W. H. Outlaw, deceased, same being recorded in Will Book D page 66 of the Office of the Judge of Probate Court of said state and county, which item of said Will reads as follows: "I give and bequeath to my wife, Christine W. Outlaw, absolutely and in fee simple, all of my property both real and personal. The real estate devised herein is described as follows: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being 150 acres, more or less, of Land Lot #222 in the 10th Land District of Berrien County, Georgia, being all of said lot lying west of Ten Mile Creek, and bounded on the South by Beaver Dam Bay; and also 5 acres, more or less, of Land Lot #193 in 10th Land District of Berrien County, Georgia, and being all of lot lying west of Ten Mile Creek. This assent is made under the provision of Section 53-2-108 et. seq., of the Official Code of Georgia to pass title to the said Christine W. Outlaw, the devisee named in said will. The debts of the estate have been paid. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL this Z & day of \_ Christine W. Outlaw in her capacity as Executrix of the Last Will and Testament of W. H. Outlaw, Deceased. Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of: N P GA STATE AT LARGE

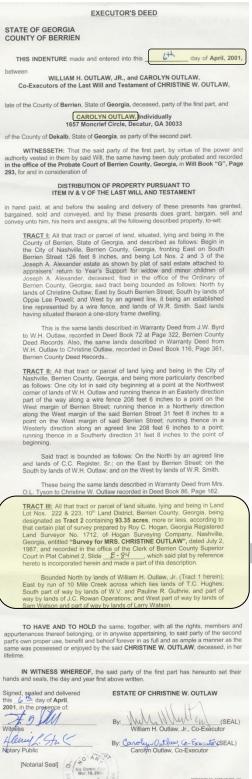
### Plat of the currently constituted W.H. Outlaw Farm, 1987



# The Christine Outlaw née Watson Estate to William H. Outlaw Jr., 2001

Page.	om of Next EXECUTOR'S DEED
STATE OF	GEORGIA OF BERRIEN
THIS INC	DENTURE made and entered into this day of April, 2001,
Co-Exe	WILLIAM H. OUTLAW, JR., and CAROLYN OUTLAW, cutors of the Last Will and Testament of CHRISTINE W. OUTLAW,
late of the Co	unty of Berrien, State of Georgia, deceased, party of the first part, and
	WILLIAM H. OUTLAW, JR., Individually 13201 North Meridian Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32312
of the County	of LEON, State of Florida, as party of the second part.
in the office	ESSETH: That the said party of the first part, by virtue of the power and ed in them by said Will, the same having been duly probated and recorded of the Probate Court of Berrien County, Georgia, in Will Book "G", Page in consideration of
	DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY PURSUANT TO ITEM IV OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT
bargained, so	at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents has granted, and conveyed, and by these presents does grant, bargain, sell and irm, his heirs and assigns, all the following described property, to-wit:
design	All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 93, 222 and 223, 10 <sup>th</sup> Land District, Berrien County, Georgia, being ated as <b>Tract 1</b> containing <b>93.35 acres</b> , more or less, according to
Land Georg 1987, Court hereto Creek of Car	rtain plat of survey prepared by Roy C. Hogan, Georgia Registered Surveyor No. 1712, of Hogan Surveying Company, Nashville, a, entitled "Survey for MRS. CHRISTINE OUTLAW", dated July 2, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of Berrien County Superior in Plat Cabinet 2, SlideE-84, which said plat by reference is incorporated herein and made a part of this description.  Bounded North by lands of Herbert Watson; East by run of 10 Mile across which lies lands of P.A. Hendley; South part of way by lands olyn Outlaw (Tract 2 herein) and part of way by lands of Larry in; and West by East right of way of County Road No. 94.

## The Christine Outlaw née Watson Estate to Carolyn C. Outlaw, 2001



Superior and being in Land Registered which said plat by reference ', dated July according Georgia, lerk of Berrien County of this description Company, Georgia less, entitled "Survey for MRS. CHRISTINE OUTLAW", County, or lying ? Hogan, more Surveying situate, Berrien acres, part O. strain plat of survey prepared by Roy Surveyor No. 1712, of Hogan Su O of land B District, 93.35 the 84 is incorporated herein and made and recorded in the office of Eparcel Land containing Slide or that tract 2 223, 2 Plat Cabinet Tract ŏ A as certain ignated a, Nos. \_\_ RACT Georgi hereto 1987, Land Court that esi Lot

of 0 part land and by T.C. Bounded North by lands of William H. Outlaw, Jr. (Tract West part of way R. Guthrie, of lands Larry Watson lies Pauline across which and and of Operations; part of way by lands of W.V. Creek by lands of Rowan ( 10 Mile J.C. part of way and of. by run of by lands Watson South am way

### The Carolyn C. Outlaw Estate to William H. Outlaw Jr., 2007

### **EXECUTORS DEED** STATE OF GEORGIA, BERRIEN COUNTY THIS INDENTURE, made this day of September, 2007, between THE ESTATE of CAROLYN C. OUTLAW, deceased, by and through WILLIAM H. OUTLAW, JR. in his capacity as Executor of said estate, and in his individual capacity as the sole heir at law of said deceased, of the first part, WILLIAM H. OUTLAW, JR., of the State of Florida and County of Leon of the second part. WITNESSETH: That the party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of TEN DOLLARS AND OTHER VALUABLE CONSIDERATIONS, by virtue of the power and authority vested in WILLIAM H. OUTLAW, JR. by those certain Letters Testamentary issued by the Probate Court of Berrien County, on the 17th day of September, 2007 and recorded in the office of the Probate Court of Berrien County, Georgia, in Minute Book Fr., Page [35], has granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and hereby does grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the second part, the following described property, to-wit: All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot Nos. 222 & 223, 10th Land District, Berrien County, Georgia, being designated as Tract 2 containing 93.35 acres, more less, according to that certain plat of survey prepared by Roy C. Hogan, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 1712 of Hogan Surveying Company, Nashville, Georgia, entitled "Survey for Mrs. Christine Outlaw" dated July 2, 1987, and recorded in the office of the Clerk of Berrien County Superior Court in Plat Cabinet 2, Slide E-84, which said plat by reference hereto is incorporated herein and made a part of this description. This conveyance includes, in addition to said real estate, all air conditioning units, heating, plumbing, expressly including all heaters and tanks, lighting fixtures, screens, blinds, and all equipment of every kind now or hereafter attached or used in connection with improvements on said real estate, it being the intention of Grantor that all such items shall be treated as permanent fixtures and part of the said real estate. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land, with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, to the same being, belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said grantee forever, IN FEE SIMPLE: in as full and ample a manner as the same was held, possessed and enjoyed, or might have been held, possessed and enjoyed, by the said deceased. Which said tract or parcel of land the said party of the first part will well and truly warrant and defend against the claims of all persons whomsoever, unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, forever in fee simple. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each grantor herein has hereunto set hand and seal, the day and year first above written. Signed, sealed, and delivered on this day of September, 2007, in the presence of: Executor of said estate, and individually