AFFIDAVIT Vel 15 Page 22200

STATE OF OREGON )
) ss
County of Lake )

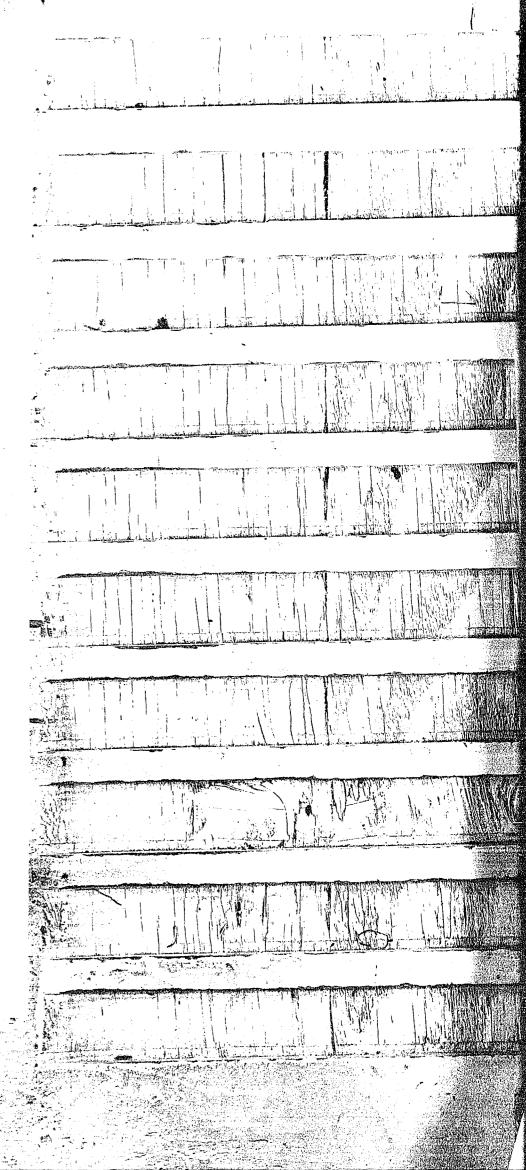
51700

I, HARRY H. HOWARD, being first duly sworn, depose and say: that I am now and that I have been during practically all of my lifetime, a resident and inhabitant of Lake County, Oregon: that I was born in Lakeview, Oregon in the year 1839 and I first started to work when I was 13 years old in the year 1902. I began to work for Joseph Howard who had a ranch in Drews Valley for many years. That the nature of my work was working in the hay field and riding for cattle which ran generally between Drews Valley and the Gerber ranch which is now covered by the water of Gerber Reservoir; that I also worked for Louie Gerber during these early years and lived at the old Gerber house, the site of which is now in the bottom of Gerber Reservoir.

That in riding over the country gathering cattle, I became familiar with the area and was well acquainted with the area known as Big Squaw Flat, Little Squaw Flat, the Tull Reservoir and Arkansas Flat and my recollection is that there were reservoirs constructed, and in existence, in 1902 when I first began riding this area. The dam in Big Squaw Flat consisted of an earth fill which had probably been thrown up with fresno and team. It extended across the lower end of the flat and dammed up all the run-off water that gathered from the surrounding hills into this area where the water was held in order to make some grass on the flat and when the water receded in summer and fall, of course, grasses were produced for cattle feed in the area.

When I first saw this reservoir, it had the appearance of having been built some time as there was vegetation and some low sage growing on the bank. I would guess from its appearance it could have been in existence for as much as from 5 to 10 years at that time. Most years there was water there late in the fall.

That I make this affidavit for the purpose of establishing the fact that the Big Squaw Flat Reservoir was constructed prior to the year 1902; that I observed this for a good many years thereafter as I worked and rode in the area  $\frac{1}{2}$ 



both for Joe Howard, who had the Drews Valley Panch and for Louie Gerber who had the Gerber ranch lying to the west and insofar as I know Big Squaw Flat Reservoir held water every year. Harry 7+ Howard

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rdday of October, 1975.

Notary Public for One My commission expires: June

STATE OF OREGON; COUNTY OF MIJAMATH; SE.

Gled for record was reasonable

this 6th day of October A. D. 1975 at / o'clock P.M., and duly recorded in Vol. M 75 of DEEDS

Ret: Thereiane A. Trann La keniev Une