

Brossmans farm near Fivepointville since 1832

FIVEPOINTVILLE — William B. and Fern Furlow Brossman are the proud owners of a 103-acre Lancaster County farm that this week received the designation of Century Farm.

According to Fern, the reason she applied for the Century Farm award was for her sons', Brian, Jan, and William F., heritage. She explained she had read about the program in an article published in a Lancaster newspaper, written by County Extension Agent Max Smith.

In order to complete the application, Fern said Brian went to the county courthouse and began researching the farm's history.

"We were able to trace the farm in the Brossman name

back to 1832, but we know there were Brossmans here before that," Fern said.

According to the county records, Jacob Brossman took title to the farm on April 4, 1832. Then, on March 27, 1847, the farm passed to Jacob's son, John.

On April 3, 1869, John's son William became the owner of the Brossman farm, and he, in turn, sold it to his son John on March 14, 1884. "Grandfather John used to drive the stagecoach to Reading from the Fivepointville area," Fern recalled.

Then, on April 8, 1907, William F. Brossman took title to the farm and sold it to his son, William B. on January 15, 1944 for slightly over \$6000.

"Back then, my husband paid for the farm probably what it would bring per acre today," Fern exclaimed.

She also pointed out that in every transaction made up until the time her husband purchased the farm in January, 1944, all the land transfers were made around the first of April.

"Back in those days, everyone moved the latter part of March-beginning of April," Fern remarked. "Sometimes people were moving out on the same day someone else was moving in. It was tradition."

The history of the house on the Brossman property is not documented, but Fern said she believes it is at least as old as the barn, built in 1849.

"The house, built out of log, was erected in stages," she said. The wide-plank hardwood floors reveal where additions were constructed onto the original two-story, two-room house.

Within the past ten years, the Brossmans undertook the enormous task of restoring the barn and house.



The buildings on the Brossman homestead were built during the mid-nineteenth century, and were recently restored under the watchful eyes of Fern Brossman.

"We started on the barn first, repointing the stones, replacing the roof, and applying a fresh coat of red paint. Then we went to work on the house, making sure we kept it as original as possible. All the old hardware is still on the doors - you know no one makes locks

like those any more. And we kept all the flooring, chair rails and coat rails."

The farmland is currently being farmed by two tenant farmers. In previous years, however, the Brossmans raised corn, wheat, and tobacco.

Fern and son, William,

tend and care for a small fruit orchard and plant a vegetable garden each year. Fern, who was born and raised on a farm in Clay Township, said she still enjoys farming.

"It's something you can never learn by reading books," she said —SM

Bishop named assistant editor

PULASKI, NY — Robert M. Bishop has been named assistant editor of Holstein World, the nation's leading dairy breed magazine with a circulation of nearly 34,000 readers.

He joined the magazine's parent company, Holstein-Friesian World, Inc., Sandy Creek, NY, in November 1979 as editor and advertising manager of another of their three magazines, Pennsylvania Holstein News.

He will continue in that capacity in addition to his duties on the World staff.

The new assistant editor is experienced in both media and the Holstein industry. Prior to joining Holstein-Friesian World, Inc., he was farm program director of WDLA radio station, Walton, NY, where he prepared daily newscasts for farm audiences.

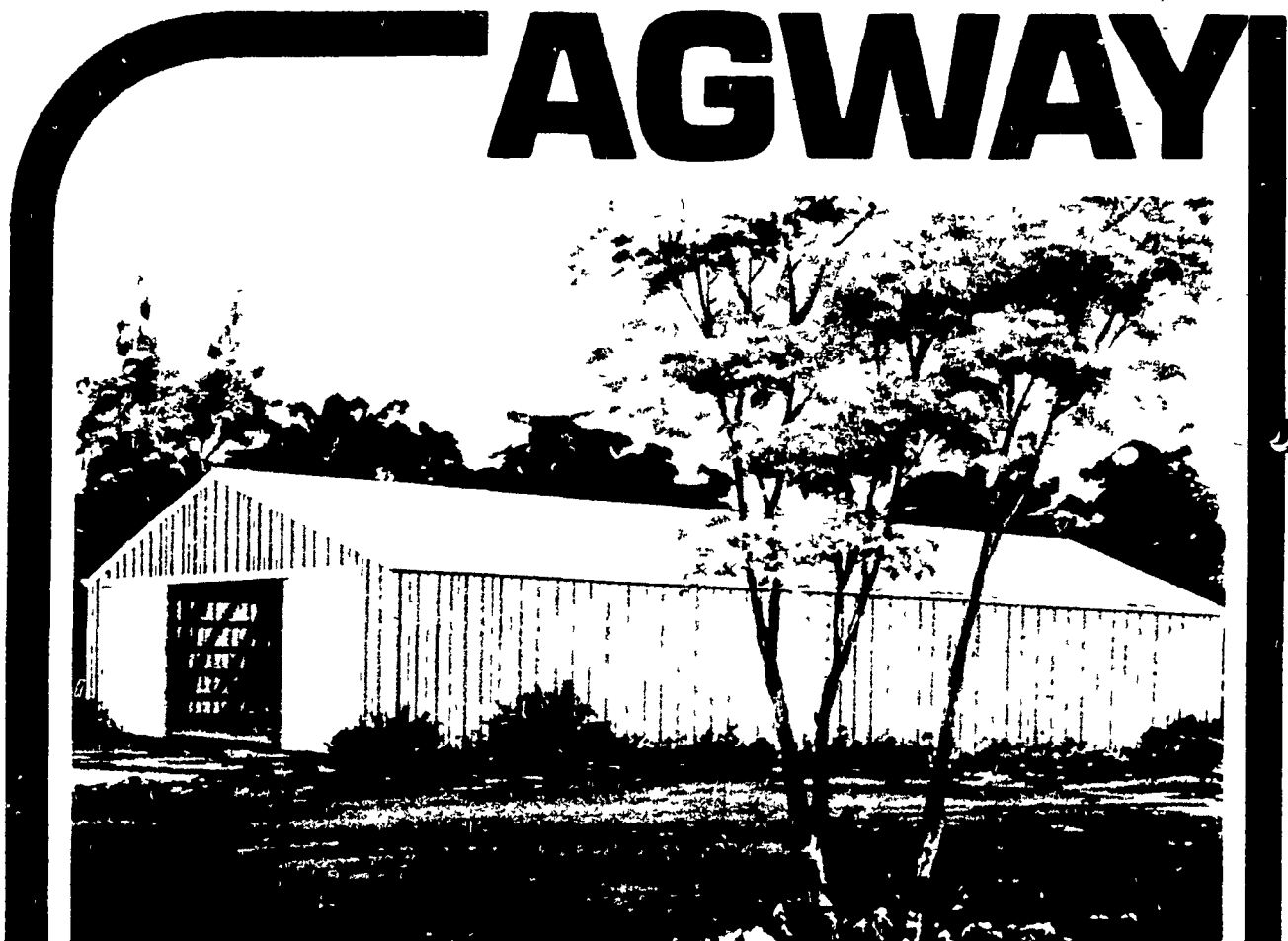
Previously, he was associated with Young's, Inc., Roaring Spring, as both a livestock nutritional



Robert M. Bishop consultant and communications coordinator.

Bishop grew up working with several registered Holstein herds in Delaware County, NY, most notably the River-Del Farm of S. Graham Jackson and Sons.

He is a native of Walton, NY, and a 1976 graduate of Morrisville State College with a degree in journalism. He and his family will continue to live at Pulaski.



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