Jackson County, Oregon Recorder's Office

The Recorder's Office is in the Annex behind 10 Oakdale. It faces Laurel Street, and a free parking lot is on the other side of the street.

Home ownership after about 1950 may be traced online at http://web.jacksoncounty.org/pdo/
This guide covers research for earlier deeds.
Begin your search with your Deed Card

Note the earliest volume and page. In this case: v444, p319

You could also search the other volumes and pages, but may not gain much more information from them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edwards, Donald R. &amp; Barbara L.</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reasonette, Jerry M. &amp; Meredith G.</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh, Elizabeth G.</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griebler, Robert &amp; Ann M</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>334</td>
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<tr>
<td>Griebler, Ann M (LD) &amp; Griebler, Sharon Ann</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>334</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Use one of the Property Research computers to look up the deed information
Click QUERY in the upper left corner

In the Historical Number field, enter: V## p###
(in this case, V13 P166)

Then click “Begin Search”
Older deeds are hard to read! You may want to print them out and pore over them later.

Use the Close option to move onto the next document.

Next Step, the Deed Indexes

Use the Index to Deeds Indirect to discover who your last known owner purchased the property from. You are looking up your last owner as the Grantee.
The oldest volumes cover recorded deeds through 1908

Look for the volume and page number for each transaction that seems relevant

Note the Book number (same as volume number) and page number, then look them up on a Property Research computer. Repeat the process for previous owners until you have the chain of title for your home completed.
CROSSROADS: Once you have traced your home to its original owners, you could switch focus, or track the property’s history

Switch Focus

- Search for information on the previous homeowners
- Explore building permits for your home
- Determine if others, such as renters, lived in the home

Keep Searching

- Explore what is known about indigenous people in the area and their land use
- Determine first settlers on the property
- Work forward from the first settler to determine how land was divided and sold (this is hard!) The Research Guide on the homehist.com home page has hints

MEDFORD BUILDING PERMITS

Begin with the Medford Land Information map

https://gisapps.medfordmaps.org/mli/
On this page, you may access building permits issued after 1961. Searching for earlier permits requires going through ledgers year by year. The staff may ask you to make an appointment for this process. (in other cities, contact the Building or Planning Department)

Learn More about Previous Home Owners

The Mega Index and Photos Index may include references to your previous home owners.

The SOHS Address Index is an important resource that includes indexing for the historical surveys done in Jackson County, plus SOHS files.
SOHS and Public Libraries have city directories that can help you determine if your homeowners lived on the property, or renters lived there.

- Polk's Medford and Ashland city directory: including Jackson County residents, 1939 -
  Polk's Medford and Ashland city directory: including Jackson County residents, 1939
  Record Type: Library

- Polk's Medford and Ashland, Oregon city directory; including Jackson County residents, 1942-1943 -
  Polk's Medford and Ashland, Oregon city directory; including Jackson County residents, 1942-1943
  Record Type: Library

- Polk's Medford and Ashland Oregon city directory: including Jackson County residents -
  Polk's Medford and Ashland Oregon city directory: including Jackson County residents

Newspapers are essential sources

- Southern Oregon History, Revised
- Historic Oregon Newspapers
- Newspapers.com by Ancestry
Focus on Property History

Many deeds refer to Donation Land Claims and Land Patents.

View the original surveys: https://glorecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx

Enter state, county, name if you know it, township, range if you have that information
This isn't a very helpful page
Determine your township and range, then search the Surveys section.

View the 1855 and the 1858 Surveys.
Select Plat Image, and there it is!

Zoom in to view details
View DLC outlines on a modern map?

- Jackson County Survey map:
  http://jacksoncountyor.org/surveyor/Survey-Index-Map

Open the map, then limit the layers

The brown outlines are Donation Land Claim boundaries. Zoom out to view the complete outline, zoom in to view the DLC number.

To look up a Donation Land Claim by its number, email or visit the Southern Oregon Historical Society Library and request the Donation Land Claim book (929 G45 1962 ). This will provide the name(s) of the grantees and sometimes provide details about them.