Jake and Theresa Spichiger originally purchased 40 acres for $2,500 in 1908 followed shortly after by an additional 40 acres. It had a little homestead out back, no power, no water. The current house was built in 1915, it took three years to build. At the time of purchase the land was all in timber and was cleared by using horses.

This was all done by Jake Spichiger and his wife Theresa. Jake, a Swiss immigrant, had a butcher shop at 414 Avenue B in Snohomish and Theresa a German immigrant, owned a restaurant in Granite Falls. Their only child George was born in 1915 which was when they started building the existing farm house. Jake transformed the former timberland into a diversified farming operation which included three large chicken houses which housed layers for egg production. The eggs were candled in the basement of the farm house by family members; they then sold the eggs to area restaurants and grocery stores. They were also involved in a local hatchery cooperative in Everett and sold meat birds butchered fresh on the farm.

In addition to the chickens Jake and Theresa also started a Holstein dairy in 1923 where they produced milk for Darigold. The big main barn which still houses cattle today was built for the dairy. As dairy farmers did in this time; Jake grew and harvested all of the hay, oats and silage needed for the dairy cows. The Spichiger Farm’s Darigold route number imprinted on all of their milk cans was 361.
During the years the Spichiger Farm was a working dairy they also produced peas for Cedergreen’s in Snohomish. They grew potatoes which they kept in big, long root cellars where they kept rows and rows covered in straw to sell throughout the year.

In 1928 Jake and Theresa Spichiger purchased the neighboring 70 acres for added pasture and hay land. In 1943 they purchased the 40 acres across the street for $6,115.00.

In 1945 Theresa and Jake’s only son George took over the reins of the farm. He added strawberries to the farms diversity and later added raspberries as well. At this time they were transitioning out of the dairy business but added more poultry. In 1938 George married Evelyn Westlund from the neighboring community of Getchell where her family had a large chicken farm. They began their life together on the family farm and had one child Jackie in 1942, however in 1946 they divorced. George continued to farm and at one point had 150 acres of strawberries and 20 acres of raspberries which he sold to a cooperative in Locksley (between Granite Falls and Lake Stevens) where the berries were processed. George continued to raise berries up until he died in 1971.

Jackie spent summers and weekends on the family farm and lived during the week in Everett with her mother. She met her future husband Frank Macomber when his brother went to work for George. Frank and Jackie became very good friends and married in 1963. Frank was a logger and they lived in Carnation where their first son Todd was born in February, 1964 followed by Toni 1965 and Tim in 1968.

Today Jackie owns 25 Quarter Horses with a few foals born each year. Her farm is host to natural horsemanship clinics. Every Monday night the old farm house is where the 4-H meeting continues to be held.

Up until the time of his death in 1995 Tim partnered with his dad Frank in the day to day running of the farm as well as logging. They ran beef cattle and put up hay. When Tim passed away Todd came home to help run the farm. Frank and Todd continued to put up hay, run cattle, horses and started a business together. In 2005 Frank also passed away. Todd stepped in to work with his mom Jackie on the farm.

For over 35 years 4-H kids have been getting off the school bus at the end of the driveway to ride and to learn to take care of the horses. Jackie has been a fixture in the agriculture of the county by being a long time member of the Snohomish County Agriculture Advisory Board where she works hard to protect our farm land and farmers. Making sure that agriculture is always at the table. Macomber Farms; like many Snohomish County farms has evolved with the times. Todd does custom haying but has also added haylage to the routine as well as selling grass fed beef at the local farmers markets. They are a regular at the Kirkland Wednesday Market but really enjoy the time at the new Granite Falls market where they sell to all their friends and neighbors along with the lucky passersby’s on their way up the mountain loop highway. As the horses continue to graze the fields the 4-H groups are dwindling down but the next generation of Macomers/Habegger kids are eagerly awaiting their turn.