

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 13 1987

date entered MAY 14 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic McDonald Ranch

and/or common McDonald Ranch

2. Location

street & number 14 miles southwest \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Chugwater  vicinity of

state Wyoming code 056 county Laramie code

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Roger and Lindy Schroeder

street & number P.O. Box 61

city, town Chugwater  vicinity of state Wyoming 82210

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Laramie County Clerk

street & number County Courthouse, 19th and Carey

city, town Cheyenne state Wyoming 82001

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Has not been previously surveyed has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1985 \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county  local

depository for survey records Chugwater CLG

city, town Chugwater state Wyoming

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ n/a
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The McDonald Ranch is located 14 miles southwest of Chugwater on Chugwater Creek. It is situated on a level, grassy meadow area within the floodplain of Chugwater Creek. The site is surrounded by a stand of large cottonwood and willow trees. The surrounding area is characterized by rocky ridges and hills cut by eroded ephemeral drainages and covered with prairie grasses, yucca and intermittent low sagebrush. The McDonald Ranch complex contains seven buildings, six of which are considered to be contributing elements of the complex. These buildings include a large L-shaped ranch house dating from 1890 constructed of native stone covered with stucco. The ranch house faces northwest and looks out upon a circular gravel drive lined with large spruce, elm, boxelder, silver leaf maples, pine and cottonwood trees. Two large wood frame barns with gambrel roofs, built in 1927, form a U-shaped complex open to the southwest. A wood frame barn with gable roof, possibly from an earlier date, forms the bottom of the U. Other outlying buildings include the original hewn log homestead cabin built about 1881, an early 20th century frame garage, a frame bunkhouse covered with stucco, and the remains of two rock-lined root cellars dug into a hill southwest of the ranch house.

The ranch retains a high degree of physical integrity and integrity of setting. No buildings have been added to the ranch complex in the last 50 years. The interior of the ranch house was renovated in 1984-85. However, it retains high integrity in spaces and woodwork throughout. The original windows were replaced with sympathetic windows with wood frames and sash. Some of the original windows were altered or sealed over during renovation. However, the scale, proportions, and materials of the original structure have been retained, including wood shingles on the roofs, and gray-colored stucco exterior wall covering. The buildings within the complex are described below; sequential numbers correspond with locations on the sketch map.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1881 **Builder/Architect** Donald McDonald; Frank McMillan

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The McDonald Ranch is an important representative of the pioneer southeastern Wyoming cattle industry, not only because of its influence on the economic development of the Chugwater area, but also because it retains architectural features and spatial orientation which reflect late 19th-early 20th century ranching. Unlike other nearby ranches, such as George Rainsford's Diamond Ranch or the Scottish-backed Swan Land and Cattle Company, the McDonald Ranch was established without eastern or foreign backing or family fortune. Yet Donald McDonald and his descendants were able to compete with and eventually absorb portions of the nearby Diamond, Foss, and Whitcomb Ranches. The McDonald Ranch therefore became one of the cornerstones of the ranching economy of Platte and northern Laramie Counties and helped provide an economic base for the settlement and development of the nearby town of Chugwater. The economic success of the ranch is represented in part by the architectural remains, starting with the hewn log homestead cabin and continuing with the stone ranch house and the 20th century twin gambrelled roof barns. All of the buildings were designed and built by the McDonalds or by hired local carpenters. A recent intensive historic ranch survey in this area shows that late 19th century pioneer homestead cabins were constructed from cottonwood stands along major drainages. More substantial stone masonry construction generally replaced the homestead cabins on successful ranches. In an area nearly devoid of timber, stone masonry construction was quite common. However, only a few well-preserved examples remain in southeastern Wyoming. By the early 20th century, when railroads better served the area, woodframe construction became more common, as reflected by the McDonald barns and outbuildings. All building stages were characterized by well-crafted but modest structures generally devoid of ornamentation or architectural features that represented specific styles. Spatial orientation was directed toward the practical concerns of ranch management. Buildings were generally laid out in close proximity in a rectangular pattern with two central loci, the ranch house and the main stock barn. The McDonald Ranch is therefore important from an architectural standpoint, not because it is unique to the region, but because it is a well-preserved example of these regional rural building trends. It conveys a high degree of feeling and association with its period of significance due to a nearly pristine setting. The large cottonwood, spruce, silver maple, box elder and elm trees surrounding the ranch complex were planted by Donald McDonald and augmented by his son Hugh and daughter-in-law Rissa. The trees provided not only shelter from the prevailing winds, but also an aesthetically pleasing environment on the open and treeless prairie. The McDonald Ranch represents late 19th-early 20th century cattle ranching, reflecting the pioneer rancher's attempts to cope with the isolated, high plains environment of southeastern Wyoming.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ADDENDUM

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 7.5 acres

Quadrangle name McDonald Ranch, WY

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
---	-------------------	---	--

D	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
---	-------------------	---	--

E	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
---	-------------------	---	---

F	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
---	-------------------	---	---

G	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
---	-------------------	---	---

H	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
---	-------------------	---	---

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See ADDENDUM

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
-------	-----	------	-----	--------	-----	------	-----

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
-------	-----	------	-----	--------	-----	------	-----

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert G. Rosenberg

organization Historical Consultant

date June 20, 1986

street & number 55 I-25 Service Road East

telephone (307) 632-1144

city or town Cheyenne

state Wyoming

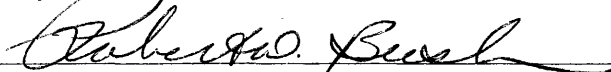
# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 7, 1987

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

entered in the  
National Register

date 5-14-87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

McDonald Ranch

Item number 7

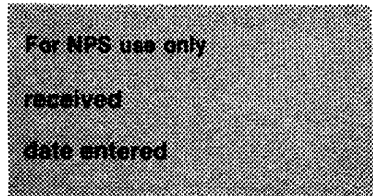
Page 2

The stone masonry ranch house (No. 1) was constructed by Donald McDonald in 1890 and is the dominant feature of the ranch complex. It is a large L-shaped building which was originally a simple rectangle. The central portion consists of one and one-half stories and the east addition is one story. It is constructed of native stone transported to the site from a quarry on Iron Mountain. Early photographs show that the stone was roughly shaped and squared, laid in courses, and held in place by lime grout mortar. The stone was covered with a light-gray colored stucco in the 1920s. The building has a side gable roof covered with wood shingles. The original structure had two brick end-wall chimneys. In the 1920s, the southwest chimney was enlarged and covered with native stone to accommodate a stone fireplace added to the interior. There is also one interior brick chimney in the east addition. This long one-story addition is also built of stone covered with stucco and was constructed in the 1920s. Shortly thereafter, it was extended eastward with a second frame addition covered with stucco. Two enclosed sun porches were added on the northeast and southwest elevations of the main structure also in the 1920s. The southwest sun porch has a gable roof. The northwest sun porch has a balustraded deck on a hipped roof. The house has a covered front porch entrance with a gable roof which was built on the northwest or front elevation in the 1920s. A partially covered veranda was added to this porch at about the same time and extended to the northeast corner of the front elevation. An open wooden beam flat roof is supported by squared tapered wood columns and stone piers.

For a period of about ten years, the ranch house was occupied intermittently by renters and ranch hands. It was then renovated in 1984-1985 and reoccupied by Roger and Lindy Schroeder. Most of the remodeling was done on the interior except for a new roof and wood shingles. The original 2 over 2-light double-hung wooden windows and frames were replaced with single-light wooden casement windows which crank outward. Some structural modifications were necessary for several of the windows. A few of the windows in the long addition have been sealed over. A dormer and two skylights were added to second floor bedroom roofs.

The main floor consists of two sun porches, a living room with stone fireplace, den, bedroom, and bath. The long east addition consists of a kitchen and dining room, two utility rooms, and bath. The original wooden stairway leads to four bedrooms on the second floor. Some of the original pine wood molding has been retained in the interior. Several French doors with glass have been retained but may date from an earlier renovation in 1952. This renovation included the covering of the original painted plaster walls with drywall and paint. The wood floors have been sanded and refinished.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet McDonald Ranch

Item number 7

Page 3

The original McDonald homestead cabin (No. 2) is located in the meadow east of the twin frame barns. It was constructed by Donald McDonald in about 1881 and consists of square hewn cottonwood logs with full dove-tail notching and mud chinking which has generally weathered away. The one-room cabin has a collapsed roof of pine log purlins and ridgepole covered with rough sawn lumber. The south elevation was modified at some later date to accommodate a garage-type door. The building was probably used for equipment storage or as a stock shelter after the new stone house was built in 1890. McDonald's original DXI brand is burned into the logs near the door in the east elevation.

The remaining barns, outbuildings, and pole corrals which make up the ranch complex are arranged in a rectangular-shaped functional layout in close proximity to one another. The buildings are of wood frame construction and were designed and built either by the owners or locally-hired carpenters. The outbuildings are either centered around the main ranch house or the impressive stock barns with gambrel roofs. All of these buildings are considered contributing elements to the ranch complex except for a recent wood frame structure (No. 7) located near the northeast corner of the twin barns. It is covered with metal siding and does not replicate materials, scale or design of the contributing elements of the complex. The remaining contributing buildings with brief descriptions are listed below.

3). STOCK BARNS (built: 1927)

-----

Dimensions: north addition- 180 ft x 45 ft  
south addition- 90 ft x 50 ft  
original portion- 180 ft x 45 ft

Orientation: southwest

Foundation: poured concrete footers

Walls: frame with tongue-in-groove siding

Roof: additions- gambrel; wood shingles; metal cupolas  
original portion- gable; wood shingles

Stories: 1-1/2; full hay loft above

Interior: central aisle and stalls in each addition; granary  
and tackroom with concrete floors, west end

Doors: sliding wooden barn doors, west and east elevations of  
both additions; large loft doors above

Windows: rows of four-light fixed windows with wooden sash on  
first floor and in gables.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet McDonald Ranch Item number 7 Page 4

4) BUNKHOUSE (built: ca. 1920s)

-----  
Dimensions: 14 ft square  
Orientation: northeast  
Foundation: native stone and mortar  
Walls: frame covered with stucco  
Roof: gable; wood shingles; stucco-covered chimney  
Stories: one  
Interior: one-room; wood floor; horizontal panelling covering walls  
Windows: 2 over 2-light double-hung  
Door: one wood panel door in northeast elevation

5) GARAGE (built: ca. early 1930s)

-----  
Dimensions: approx. 30 ft x 15 ft  
Orientation: northwest  
Foundation: poured concrete footer  
Walls: frame tongue-in-groove siding  
Roof: gable; wood shingles  
Stories: one  
Interior: two-stall; poured concrete floor

6) ROOT CELLARS, ABANDONED (built: ca. 1890)

-----  
Dimensions: north cellar- approx. 10 ft x 10 ft  
south cellar- approx. 18 ft x 10 ft with 6 x 6 ft enclosed entrance.  
Orientation: northeast  
Walls: north cellar- native stone and mortar  
south cellar- poured concrete  
Roof: north cellar- gable; frame covered with earth  
south cellar- flat; concrete covered with earth  
vestibule- gable; wood shingles  
(both roofs are partially collapsed)  
Interior: one-room; wooden shelves  
Doors: one wood door in northeast elevation of each

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet McDonald Ranch

Item number 8

Page 2

Donald McDonald was a native Scot born in 1844 who engaged in farming until emigrating to Ontario, Canada in 1869. He worked there as a farm hand for seven years before moving to Wyoming Territory. He was employed on sheep ranches on the Laramie Plains for five years. Finally using savings which he had accumulated through years of hard labor, he established his own ranch on Chugwater Creek in 1881.

In the days of open range cattle ranching, Donald McDonald needed only to file on land parcels for his headquarters and to control nearby water sources and meadows. He used the public domain for the remainder of his grazing land. He received a Cash Entry Patent (No. 437) on 5/23/1888 for a parcel of land along Chugwater Creek consisting of the SW/NW and Lot 4 of Section 5-T19N-R68W and the S-1/2/NE, SW/NW and Lots 1 through 4 of Section 6, totaling 363.93 acres. McDonald added to this parcel by receiving a Homestead Entry Patent (No. 338) for Lot 3 of Section 5 consisting of 45.21 acres on 7/23/1890. He then controlled most of the level meadow lands along Chugwater Creek in Sections 5 and 6.

In 1882 he married Jane Cameron, a Scotswoman. The couple gradually established a successful cattle operation and had four children: Robert D., Hugh C., Duncan N., and Margaret J. In about 1890, McDonald built a fine stone ranch house to replace the one-room cabin. He raised cattle, sheep and horses and used the DXI brand. He continued to increase his own land holdings and livestock herds before retiring with his wife to Wheatland in the late teens. Donald died in 1925 and Jane passed away in 1927. At the time of his death, his estate was valued at \$188,858.90, attesting to his economic success in the ranching business. The southern portion of the ranch passed to the three sons who formed a company known as the McDonald Brothers. His eldest son Robert and his wife Bertha moved into the main ranch house in about 1918. Donald McDonald gave the northern portion of the ranch to his daughter Margaret. The youngest son Duncan died during World War I, and Robert was killed by a fall from a horse in 1921. Therefore, the remaining son Hugh took control of the southern portion of the ranch.

In 1922 Hugh married Rissa McCann and they moved into the main ranch house. Rissa was a school teacher who had taught in Colorado and in the nearby communities of Little Bear and Horse Creek in Wyoming. Rissa was an active member of the the ranch operation and managed the finances while Hugh oversaw the everyday cattle management. It was Rissa who had the two gambrelled roof stock barns built by Frank McMillan, a local carpenter, in 1927. The couple had one daughter Ruth, although four other children died in infancy. Rissa continued to add to the ranch holdings and purchased the Whitcomb Ranch about four miles west of Chugwater on Chugwater Creek in 1944. This pioneer cattle ranch had been established by Elias Whitcomb, then purchased by the Swan Land and Cattle Company in 1884. This purchase increased the McDonald holdings by



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet McDonald Ranch

Item number 8

Page 3

over 4000 acres. In 1956, Hugh and Rissa purchased the nearby Diamond Ranch established by horse breeder and architect George Rainsford in 1878. The final land acquisition by this couple took place in 1963 when they purchased the Ned Foss Ranch about four miles east on Chugwater Creek. Their total land holdings then reached over 75,000 acres including government, state and private lease land.

Hugh and Rissa McDonald continued to manage the McDonald Ranch well into their seventies. Rissa succumbed to cancer in 1965 and Hugh lived with his daughter Ruth and her husband John Braunschwieg until he passed away in 1966. John and Ruth first lived at the Whitcomb Ranch after their marriage in 1949. After the deaths of Rissa and Hugh, most of the McDonald cattle were sold and the ranch holdings were leased to a Kansas cattle operation for a period of eight years. During this time period, the Kansas managers lived in the McDonald house. In 1968, the Braunschweigs remodeled the Diamond Ranch and opened it as a guest ranch. They re-entered the cattle business in 1975 when the Kansas lease expired. In the winter of 1984-1985, their daughter and son-in-law Lindy and Roger Schroeder had the McDonald Ranch house renovated, and they took up residence there in 1985. They currently engage in cattle ranching. Therefore, the McDonald Ranch has been operated as a cattle ranch almost continuously for over 100 years by four generations of McDonald family members.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet BIBLIOGRAPHY

Item number 9

Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bureau of Land Management, BLM Master Title Plats, Historical Indices, Tract Books and General Land Office (GLO) Maps. Cheyenne: General Land Office.

"Guest Ranch, Working Ranch and Ladies of Legend: The Fabulous Tale of the Diamond Guest Ranch." The Casper Magazine, Vol. 4, No. 5 (Dec.-Jan. 1981-82: pp. 4-10).

McDonald, Donald, Personal Diary, 1916, and Miscellaneous Personal and Legal Papers. In possession of Ruth (McDonald) Braunschweig.

Official Brand Book of the State of Wyoming. Laramie: The Laramie Republican Company (various years between 1885-1925).

Platte County Extension Homemakers Council, Wyoming Platte County Heritage. Marceline, Missouri, Walsworth Publishing, 1981 (note: History of McDonald Ranch written by Ruth Braunschweig and Lindy Schroeder).

Progressive Men of Wyoming. Chicago: H.W. Bowen and Company, 1903.

Rosenberg, Robert G., Pioneer Ranch Site Survey, Chugwater Area. Conducted for the Chugwater Historical Unity Group (CHUG), Wyoming CLG Program, 1986.

Interviews

Ruth (McDonald) Braunschweig, daughter of Hugh and Rissa McDonald, Double L Ranch, Chugwater, 5/23 and 6/8/86.

Lindy (Braunschweig) Schroeder, owner of McDonald Ranch and daughter of Ruth Braunschweig, 2/26 and 6/11/86.

Photographs

Historic Photographs of the McDonald Ranch and Family. In possession of Ruth Braunschweig, Chugwater.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received 4-13-87  
date entered

Continuation sheet Verbal Boundary Description Item number 10

Page 1

Beginning at a Point (A) (see accompanying map) about 800 feet due east (Az. 90°) of the northwest corner of Section 5 on the Platte and Laramie County line (also the north section line), proceed due south (Az. 180°) 800 feet to Point B. Point B is also 800 feet due east of the west section line of Section 5. Proceed due east (Az. 90°) approximately 600 feet to Point C. Proceed due north (Az. 0° or 360°) approximately 800 feet to Point D on the north line of Section 5 (also Platte-Laramie County line). Proceed due west (Az. 270°) 600 feet back to Point A.

This boundary encompasses the significant historic buildings in the McDonald Ranch complex and includes a portion of the surrounding meadows, pastures, corrals and stands of trees planted by the McDonald family which are also an integral part of the complex. It utilizes the natural geographic boundaries of a low ridge on the west and a tree-lined drainage bisecting the meadow on the east.

