United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: McMaster Ranch Historic District
   Other names/site number: 24BW1126
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location
   Street & number: 6043 US HY 12/287 E, East Helena MT 59635 (P.O. Box 483)
   City or town: East Helena State: Montana County: Broadwater
   Vicinity: X

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
   the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
   Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria.
   I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
   level(s) of significance:
   ___national ___statewide X_local
   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   X_A ___B X_C ___D

   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
   Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
   
   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register
   criteria.
   Signature of commenting official: Date
   Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

__ entered in the National Register
__ determined eligible for the National Register
__ determined not eligible for the National Register
__ removed from the National Register
__ other (explain:) _____________________

Signature of the Keeper __________________________ Date of Action ____________

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private: X
Public – Local
Public – State
Public – Federal X

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)
District X
Site
Structure
Object
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Agricultural outbuilding
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Storage
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Agricultural field
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Irrigation facility
- OTHER: Crawler-Tractor
- DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

Current Functions
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Agricultural outbuilding
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Storage
- LANDSCAPE
- DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
7. Description

Architectural Classification

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER: Vernacular

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundations: WOOD: Log

__________ STONE

__________ CONCRETE

Walls: WOOD: Weatherboard, Log

Roof: WOOD: Shingle, boards

__________ METAL: Iron, Steel

__________ OTHER: (asphalt, earth)

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph
The McMaster Ranch Historic District lies four miles northwest of Winston, Montana, in Broadwater County. The state capital, Helena, lies just over 14 miles to the northwest. The western bank of Canyon Ferry Reservoir (the Missouri River) is just over three miles to the east. The Big Belt Mountains are visible to the east and the Elkhorn Mountains to the south and west. Access to the McMaster Ranch occurs via State Highway 287, just west of the building cluster.

A ranch headquarters comprised the majority of the built resources, the adjacent irrigation fields, and irrigation system, and pastures representative of the expansive holdings of the McMaster Ranch contain the nominated elements. Available documentation about the ranch itself dates from 1893 and later. Central to the historic district is the ranch headquarters, which includes the primary residence and its grounds (including orchards), ranch hand housing, cattle barns, poultry facilities, livestock corrals, stock watering tanks, and a schoolhouse. Within the headquarters perimeter is a section of the ranch’s irrigation system. Beyond the headquarters, hay and crop fields are nominated, along with the pastures of the earliest homestead claims upon which the
ranch was founded. The ranch exhibits a high degree of historical integrity, having no intrusive components of meaningful size.

Structural components common to the headquarters include spiked corner-post log walls, earthen roofs sandwiched between board-and-batten layers, open or randomly supported sill logs and timbers, trabeated pole-shed interiors, and stucco-over-log or conventional framing. Earth-roofed buildings were among the first at the ranch. Log construction was also first used and continued to be so until after 1900. Board-and-batten stock shelters that date from the early 20th century enclose the largest spaces. Several random outbuildings employ stone, frame, and log components, some of which show signs of repurposing. Only one building on the ranch appears to be commercially derived. The remainder were most likely built by the owners themselves. The post-Depression or post-WWII era saw the application of stucco both as an improvement on log exteriors and in new construction. No buildings or significant elements of the McMaster Ranch were installed after the period of significance, although during the later years, several outbuildings and a large barn were removed.¹

**Narrative Description**

The largest concentration of historic resources at the McMaster Ranch is located at the headquarters, a collection of buildings and corrals on the southern alluvial slope of the Spokane Hills in the Northwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 9 North, Range 1 West of the Principal Meridian in northern Broadwater County, Montana. These are placed within a larger set of broadly distributed resources consisting of fields, pastures, transportation elements, and a sprawling irrigation system. Together, these resources represent the nominated property’s historical associations.

**CONSTRUCTION CHARACTERISTICS:**

Structures at the McMaster Ranch, while employing a variety of materials, display certain constructional consistencies. By far, wood, particularly in the form of logs and rough-sawn planks and boards, is the most prevalent building material. The practicality of this choice is demonstrated by nearby stands of pine, documented as being present during the period of significance and which remain there today.² Lumber was also readily available at area sawmills.

At this ranch, whole log units stacked horizontally to form walls are standard and date from the very beginnings of the headquarters into the 1930s. During all this time, a favored cornering technique was applied: a modified corner post. Instead of working long ends, the McMasters cut them off flat at the desired length. The logs were then stacked horizontally to meet at 90 degrees, forming the corner of the building with the wall ends secured by thick vertical planks spiked into the face of the end logs. The planks thus set, created a square notch into which was placed a square upright timber. Large iron spikes driven through the timber secured the planks and held

¹ McMaster Photographic Collection, series 1923 & Aerial 1956.
² Notification of J. McMaster timber claim appears is in *The Helena Daily Independent*, June 18, 1917, p. 10.
the walls in place. This application omitted complex joinery such as dovetailing or saddle notching, and no doubt accelerated construction times.

The only log building using a variant of this technique is the earth-roofed barn. A corner post is used here but is secured by notching the end-logs to accommodate it inside the notch and the logs fastened from the outside into the corner timber using lag bolts.

Several of the buildings, whether log or frame, sit on open or loosely constructed foundations where the sills are supported by stumps and the floor joists feature limbs or posts for interior piers. More substantial concrete foundations are employed with more or less consistency around the base of larger structures, such as the long barn, but the home-made nature of these buildings is indicated by the introduction of found stones, filled barrels, random bricks, and inconsistent aggregate.

Fasteners at the ranch are also generally consistent. There are no observable square nails on the property, although square nail holes are present in the heavy wooden door jambs of the stone cooler. All of the buildings employ round-headed spikes and wire nails. Certain of the latter display distinguishing and possibly diagnostic exes (x) forged into their heads. Some also are slightly ‘leaved’, like clovers, possibly misshaped in an early manufacturing possess. Mortice and tenon methods are absent. Bolts and lag screws (as mentioned) tie ends together or affix wall supports. Slot-headed screws secure hinges and gate boards.

Rafters, joists, studs, and other members in larger buildings are mostly rough-sawn dimension lumber from commercial sources and are nailed into place. Otherwise, found tree limbs, poles, and posts provide vertical and lateral support or shield walls from livestock erosion. Shingles are cut cedar, similarly sourced. These have deteriorated and many are covered with corrugated iron sheets. The oldest buildings featured board-and-batten “sandwich roofs,” with sod or earth packed between two layers of wood.

Although a somewhat dynamic feature of the McMaster Ranch, its corral system exhibits established perimeters that became fixed during the period of significance and remain in place today. Nonetheless, the corrals display a consistent construction approach over time. Heavy pine logs embedded at depth on one end act as corral corner posts and corral wall posts, so do salvaged railroad ties. Corral walls made of timber or cut lumber laterals are faced with “whaley board” or rough pine slabs, the outer scrap of sawmill production. These are often interspersed with sections of modern welded-steel fences or, on the northeastern corrals, wire fencing. Several corral gates display construction of light angle-iron frames onto which are screwed moderately wide, planed boards, with one or two free to act as sliding locks that engage slots in their end-posts.

Masonry, other than the stone cooler next to the main house, is limited to foundations and chimneys. Concrete structures appear as waterers for livestock. Only one was poured in place, the others commercially supplied.
RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS:

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<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>Log, Frame, Stucco</td>
<td>Asphalt</td>
<td>Fieldstone, Concrete</td>
<td>(irregular plan)</td>
<td>65’ X 40’</td>
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Vernacular in style and originally a log structure, possibly similar to the building immediately north of it, the main house served as the primary residence on the property for many years, if not always. It is unlikely that any other edifice served as such, given the nature of outbuilding construction. Typical of rural homes, the house began as a rustic log cabin with a peaked hipped roof. It was expanded after 1923 as the family grew in size and associated demands of comfort. A change in foundation materials mark where a western addition was built, and the hipped roof stretched east-west to cover it.

By the early 1920s, the house had taken on decided aspects of domesticated style and modernity. Then an L-plan building with the main house block under a square hipped roof on the west and an east gabled wing, it featured finished dormers and slightly battered, square trimmed porch posts in the Craftsman tradition. The porch ran across the southern first floor and continued along the east wing. At that time, and until at least 1959, the south exterior of the house was sheathed in cedar siding. In fact, the entire house was probably lap-sided for a while.3

Eventually, stucco solved the draft issues associated with re-chinking logs, even if a layer of cedar siding tried to intervene. The house, save for the south porch interior, appears to have been stuccoed over by 1956. It may be important to note that stucco became locally popular in the 1930s when many Helena homes were coated with it after the 1935 earthquakes. The family points out that the present west wall is an addition that contained new bedrooms (substantiated by foundation changes). On the east, in the early 1980s, another bedroom appeared to better serve the needs of an aging Olive McMaster.4 Typical of the times was the later enclosure of the south porch now sheathed with exterior paneling and aluminum-framed windows and doors,

3 McMaster Photographic Collection, images of Main House, 1923, 1956, February 10, 1959. A significant number of photographs dating from both 1923 and 1956 are in the McMaster Photograph collection providing an invaluable resource in documenting the ranch.
4 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 3, 2020.
salvaged from a refurbishing project at Fort Harrison near Helena. These changes are visually intrusive but do not overwhelm the home’s historical feeling.

The post-1923 alterations affected this structure’s symmetry. When the west addition was installed, the original hipped roof with its boxed eaves was extended to cover it, leaving two gabled dormers off-center to the east. One dormer occupies the north roof slope of the resulting long-peaked termination, and the other on the south. They feature sheathing of narrow, lapped, wooden siding and two-over-two double-hung windows on their outward façade. Chimneys are off-set as well, one centered on the east corner of the hipped roof, the other sits west and south of the peak on the west slope.

The north façade exhibits the same bias, with three two-over-two double-hung units in regular order on the east side of the wall and an isolated one-over-one unit in the west addition’s wall. Its west wall holds two more of the same unit type, offset to the south. A companion is on the south-west elevation.

Substantial visual changes appear on the south façade where the front porches were enclosed with exterior wood paneling in the 1980s, but the house conforms to its description of over a decade ago:

“The south side [the front porches] of the [house] contains: one 4-light fixed window, one 10-light fixed window, five 2-light single hung aluminum screens, one 2-light casement aluminum screen, one 2-light double hung storm window, and one screen door entry. The west side of the feature exhibits two 2-light single hung windows with storms. The north side included one 2-light single hung window with storm, two 2/2-light double hung windows with storms, and one paneled door. The northeast addition has two 2-light sliding casement windows.”

The same type of paneling adorns the flat-roofed addition that filled in the northeast elbow where the east wing meets the main block. The east side of the house has elevated flower beds along its lower wall.

The main house at the McMaster Ranch contributes to that property’s historical integrity through its association with the McMaster family from the founding of the operation to the present day. The alterations over time mark important milestones in the family’s history and are in keeping with patterns of use common to many family ranches and farms. It also retains a great degree of materials and design dating from the historic period.

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5 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25, 2020.
A recognized Montana Heritage Orchard lines the southern fence of the main house perimeter on the McMaster Ranch. Visible in the historic 1923 photographs and later in the 1956 aerial image, the orchard, its companion lilac enclosure off the home’s northeast corner, and a fence and plantings to the west are contributory to the history of the ranch during the historic period. The orchard runs east-west just beyond the south porch of the house. (See also Map Key #6, South Paddock). Given the arid climate and harsh winters, the plants grew slowly but inexorably to their present height. The hardy quality of their fruit renders them valuable to future regional varieties as promoted by the Heritage Orchard program.

My grandmother was the farmer. . . She planted the apple trees, pie cherry trees (boy were they ever sour), chokecherry trees, currant and gooseberry bushes, and horseradish. As time went by, more apple trees were planted. Over many years, only three of the original apple trees still hang on. The currant and gooseberry bushes have faded away, but the tough horseradish is still strong as ever.7

The grounds enclosure features a series of fences constructed of large wooden posts onto which are fixed wide, thick planks (on the east, north, and west), “hog wire,” a laced or woven wire mesh (on the south east), and a decorative woven wire and steel posts along the south, which encloses the orchard. Gates on the east and west provide access, the latter serving as the formal entry – a commercial gate of galvanized iron and woven wire.

The home grounds and orchard contribute to the history of the McMaster Ranch by illustrating the domestic husbandry conducted on the property, a tradition common to regional ranch life during the period of significance.

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7 Dolly McMaster, *McMaster Ranch*, Montana Heritage Orchard Program (Western Ag Research Center, Montana State University), accessed September 5, 2020, mtorchards.org. Both Lizzie and Olive McMaster would have contributed to the development of the grounds (see Section 8 discussions on the main house and south paddock).
The stone cooler is a square masonry structure, gabled on the south and east and built of
fieldstone fixed with lime mortar, the latter later patched with a concrete mortar in places. A door
and window (window to the right, or east) pierce the center of the south wall and sit in heavy
sawn timber boards or slabs that act as jambs, potentially made from repurposed material. These
openings meet toward the top of the doorway. Together they require the support of a heavy
timber header set in the masonry. The window-sized opening, slightly wider than the door, has
been boarded over for a long time. It is possible this opening may have been used for additional
access and not light. Plywood sheaths the door. A second entry appears in the east wall,
accessing the central corral. Of some age and probably original to the building, the doorway
displays treatment as previously described, but its header is a slab timber that meets the wooden
plate atop the masonry walls. The door itself is made of three vertical planks nailed to cross
members near the top and bottom. Heavily patinaed, and of rough-sawn, non-dimensional pieces,
this doorway exudes antiquity.

As mentioned, a wooden plate, also of sawn timber, tops the west and east stone walls. It carries
sawn wood boards held aloft by purlins (heavy poles) at the peak and upper center of the gables.
Inside, a transverse squared beam and a pole support a storage space in the attic rear. The only
visible interior feature is a wooden nailer set in the west center wall. The McMaster family
removed the original earthen roof and sheathed the lower boards in sheet metal.8

Cold storage was essential for keeping milk and other products prior to the development of
refrigeration. As no other building or facility on the ranch was set aside for this use, it is
reasonable to assume that this stone building, the only one present, originally served that
purpose. Remembrance of a sod roof on the building, the kind used for the Blacksmith Shop and
Earth-roofed Barn, tends to reinforce that theory. In Dolly McMaster’s time, ice was cut from the
Missouri River, hauled to this building, and surrounded with sawdust. The building cooled
goods, including those used in the ice cream maker and other household uses.

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8 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25, 2020; 1956 aerial, McMaster
Photographic Collection.
The stone cooler contributes to the McMaster Ranch as an early structure with a singular and significant food product storage use that retains a very high level of historical integrity.

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<tr>
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<td>Lap siding on frame</td>
<td>Cedar shingles on N/S gable</td>
<td>Poured Concrete</td>
<td>16' X 12'</td>
<td>1900-1923.</td>
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The well house stands as a frame structure on a timber foundation. Its cladding includes narrow lapped cedar siding except for the west side, which displays vertically patterned plywood siding. Entry is through a four-panel wood door on the west side of the south wall. Windows appear on the north and east, centered on the wall. These are nearly square, half-sized, two-by-two awning units. Surrounds are flat boards trimmed with shallow, narrow drip caps. Sills are heavy wooden planks. Trim boards, also flat and unadorned, appear on the corners and under the eaves. A skirt board appears at foundation level and meets the ground.

The well house sits on a poured concrete foundation of recent age that encloses an underground chamber housing tanks, pumps, and pipes drawing water from the 100-foot hand-dug and dry-laid stone well below it.

The gabled, north-south axial roof is covered with sawn cedar shingles topped with a galvanized iron ridge piece fitted at either end with a ball finial. A metal chimney cap projects from the southeast slope. Eaves are raked and boxed.

This little trim building stands out as an exception at the McMaster Ranch headquarters. It looks like a small residence or office, given its finished nature and fenestration. Unlike other ranch buildings, it is carpenter-built with matching trim and commercially derived materials. Its grey paint scheme with a darker foundation band may differ from the treatment visible in 1923 photos, but it is reminiscent of railroad buildings. There are two-wire electronic insulators on the front and rear gables, evidence that it housed the “light plant” recalled by Dolly McMaster. This “light plant” consisted of a gas-powered electric generator that supplied power to various buildings around the ranch. An area power company’s lines later rendered it obsolete.

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9 A very similar building appears in a photograph in the author’s collection. It is an outbuilding next to an early 20th century, eastern Montana ranch house. The structures may have been sold commercially.

10 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, August 29th, 2020.
As for its age, the structure’s utilitarian vernacular design offers few clues. Given its materials, it was likely built after 1900 and certainly before 1923 when photographed on the ranch. At that time, a ladder to a step-board on the roof is clearly visible in a photo, present to access a roof-top opening used to conduct maintenance on a large water pump inside the building.\(^\text{11}\) The chimney cap (the pump-arm access point) on the roof today evinces human occupational intent. Finally, the ca 1915 porch improvements on the main house were also carpenter-built, suggesting that if skilled workers were on-site, they could have also constructed this shed.

The well house contributes to the McMaster Ranch headquarters as a structure from the historic period that housed its essential purposes to the property for many years. Save for more recent siding on one wall, it retains its historical appearance and may contain clues about the history of the property’s development.

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<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Lap</td>
<td>Sawn</td>
<td>Timbers on grade.</td>
<td>8’ X 8”</td>
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<td>Cedar Siding on Frame</td>
<td>Cedar Shingled over boards.</td>
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The rear of the small pig shed stands on the outer perimeter of the south corral and near the corral’s southwest corner. The west irrigation ditch runs immediately behind (north) of the shed. This frame building displays a shed roof sloping northward, its sawn cedar shingles still largely remaining in place. A single metal chimney pierces the center of the roof. The rear (north) rafter ends have deteriorated. Transverse roof boards are visible there, terminating at the wall's edge where short rafter ends are visible. All of these elements are commercially produced dimensional lumber. The rafters appear at regular, wide-set intervals and pierce the uppermost length of siding, consisting of flat boards nailed horizontally to the inner studs. On the east side, the building exhibits shiplap siding. A large window opening on that side is covered with a sheet of plywood.

\(^{11}\) Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
Although designated a “pig shed” by the owner’s description, the building falls short of the requirements for animal shelter and tending. However, a structure of similar configuration displaying a central door on the south and a small window to the left (west) of that door is clearly visible in the 1956 aerial picture of the ranch. A similar and possibly the same structure also appears in this position in the 1923 photograph series, suggesting it may date from before 1920. It possesses potentially diagnostic “cross-headed” nails.

The pig shed stands in the south paddock, a wire fence enclosure beginning immediately west of the granary and running about 180 feet south of the main house. The pig shed opens directly into this area, linking the two in terms of function. In 1956, a hay-roofed shelter of some size stood just east of the pig shed, adding to the number of animals possible to keep here. The irrigation ditch that ran just inside the north fence of the south paddock made the area all the more efficient. After 1923, the paddock assumed a dual role. The orchard in the house grounds was extended south, across the irrigation ditch. Raspberry bushes, gooseberries, and more fruit trees were planted in the south paddock, limiting its usefulness as a grazing area for animals due to the need to keep animals separated from the orchard.12

Given their relatively sound historical integrity and service to the ranch from at least the early 1920s, the pig shed and south paddock contribute to the history of the McMaster Ranch.

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12 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020; 1956 aerial, McMaster Photographic Collection.
Rural Montana granaries have distinctive characteristics linked to practical utility. Because sealing grain from outside elements is their primary purpose, interior sheathing is given priority over exterior weather resistance. Using stud wall construction, granary builders place the sheathing inside the studs, which are left to the elements, and a smooth interior of tightly aligned horizontal boards form the seal. Equally tight floorboards prevent water and rodent intrusion from below. This construction approach defines the granary on the McMaster Ranch, which is located along the south corral fence.

The granary has a single door on the north wall that opens into the south corral. The remainder of the building extends south of the corral fence. The granary rises from a set of twin timber sills bolted together, supported by timber stumps on the east and a rising grade on the west. Timber joists run east-west off the sill. Equally spaced pole “studs” poles are fixed in the space between the twin sills at their base and continue up to the rafters. Narrow tongue-and-groove boards attach to the inside of the poles. The building’s gables face north and south. Eaves are raked and boxed. The rafters consist of pine poles, some with the bark still attached, butted together at the ridgeline and held in place by the transverse roof boards aligned in a wide-narrow-wide configuration. Wall stability is maintained by two log cross-beams running east-west. North-south stability as well as terminal points for interior wall stations, is achieved through three sets of long boards nailed to the cross-beam logs.

The upper interior is open, but the floor displays separated spaces created by low plank walls supported by poles and timbers. The west interior wall is sheathed with flat galvanized sheet metal. An old fanning mill stands in the center of the floor. Windows appear on the south and east sides. The southern opening consists of simply framed-in wide boards. No glazing remains. The north door opening is framed with poles, and the door is made of narrow vertical tongue-and-groove boards. To its upper right (north) is a small rectangular wall opening. Heavy iron spikes, round nails, and iron bolts were used to construct the Granary.
The ranch produced wheat in sufficient quantities to ship out by rail, so this building probably store feed oats and other feed grain. It is visible in the 1923 photo series and the 1956 aerial photo. Because keeping and feeding grain was an essential part of stock-growing, the granary is a significant feature. It possesses a high level of historical integrity and association, making it a contributor to the historic McMaster Ranch.

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<td>Livestock</td>
<td>Corral</td>
<td>Wood: Rail Ties, raw posts, pine slabs. Metal &amp; wood plank gates.</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>198’ (E/W) X 85’ (N/S)</td>
<td>Mid-20th Century</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The south corral is probably the oldest of the McMaster Ranch enclosures at the headquarters due to its proximity to the house and its position straddling the irrigation ditch with its life-giving water. It probably existed, in some form, since the ranch began and is visible in photographs dated 1923 and 1956, the latter showing little change from today. The corral starts on the west using the stone cooler as part of its periphery. Just to the south, it crosses the irrigation ditch built in the early 1890s, then swings a bit south to bring in the granary; it runs east-northeast just beyond the southern boundary of that ditch for almost 200 feet. There it turns north about 70 feet to meet a corral fence extending east of the earth-roofed barn. This fence and barn serve as the corral’s northern boundary. A gate at the southwest corner of the earth-roofed barn brings the corral back west to the divided stock waterer, where it straddles that feature to complete the corral just north of the stone cooler.

Even more than other corrals, the south corral employs a mixture of materials and configurations. Because it shares a line with the house grounds, part of it uses wooden posts and laced “hog wire”. Other sections exhibit fitted planks, a combination of boards and hog wire, and even closely spaced upright half-logs. The ages of sections vary, but on the east side just south of the ruins of an old timber loading chute, the posts and laterals are old enough to be embraced by a

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13 "Loading a Car, Wheat on Fairview [McMaster] Ranch", McMaster Photographic Collection. For a time (1920s to the 1950s), McMasters called the ranch, "Fairview".
large cottonwood whose bark has grown around them. In the dry Montana climate, those posts have survived for decades.

The south corral contributes to the McMaster Ranch as a necessary feature of its livestock operations. It possesses very early materials and configurations with updates over time using the building traditions of the property.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP KEY</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># 9</td>
<td>Earth-Roofed Barn</td>
<td>1 Site</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ORIGINAL USE</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
<th>WALL</th>
<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Log</td>
<td>Earth on board &amp; wooden poles</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>18’ X 18’</td>
<td>Early 20th Century</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Horizontal logs set between corner posts stabilized with spikes comprise the east wall of this old building. The west wall differs by featuring logs sawn flat on the interior and lag-bolted to the north and south wall corner posts. The foundation is poured concrete of an older type containing pebbled aggregate, a material that is worked around the base of wooden members as if they were in place before it was constructed.

Roof beams running east-west and carried on shallow gables are currently in place. These supported two layers of pine boards with several inches of earth between them, a system still partially visible. The roof has collapsed, particularly on the west, and the walls are leaning to forces trending west.

In 1923, the building was covered with boards and battens. Photos from 1956 confirm its continued presence as well as vegetation growing on the roof, substantiating an “earth sandwich” configuration. A similar roof is on the blacksmith shop, perhaps linking the two buildings temporally.

Two small, fixed-pane, boarded-over windows appear on the south side, framed in planed slabs with the log below carved flat to act as a sill. A doorway is on the east wall left (south) of center, low, and also heavily framed. A gate at half-height fixed with hand-forged strap hinges now covers this opening. The building appears to have been subjected to an alteration or re-build. The log walls exhibit “plugs” and segment inserts, particularly in the shallow east-west gables, that suggest mixed aggregate concrete.

Along with the blacksmith shop, this building is seriously deteriorated and classifies as a ruin. The building served for a long time. Older ranches often had such shops, but they are not currently well represented. Because of its location just east of the main house and stone shed, it
is among the earliest, if not the original structures on the ranch. Later years witnessed its use as a henhouse.14

The earth-roofed barn has been a component of the ranch for many years and may date to its very beginnings. Although it is a ruin, sufficient materials remain to illustrate construction techniques and aspects of stock-raising on the property. It contributes to the McMaster Ranch historic site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP KEY</th>
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<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># 10</td>
<td>Divided Concrete</td>
<td>1 Structure</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waterer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<th>ORIGINAL USE</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
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<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock Waterer</td>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>20’ X 8”</td>
<td>Ca 1950s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The divided stock waterer is a concrete structure set lengthwise between corrals and offers two basins to be filled from one tap. A corral fence runs the E/W length of the divider. This historic structure serves the specified purpose on the ranch to store water separated by a partition, allowing the stock to drink whether they roam in the south corral or the north corral. It was poured in place, and its rough striations show the progress of the work. The waterer was probably built by James McMaster and whatever ranch help was available. It sits between two corrals allowing efficient use. This feature also features a concrete apron designed to prevent the mudholes that typically form around waterers.15

The divided concrete waterer is an integral feature of the cattle operation of the McMaster Ranch headquarters, demonstrating the initiative required to set up a working operation and the “do it yourself” approach that characterizes ranch management throughout the west. Intact and in place, it contributes to the history of the McMaster Ranch.

14 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
15 Ibid. Irene Noyes, niece of Dolly McMaster, reminisced that this waterer made a fine swimming tank for grandchildren.
The central corral represents an enclosed space that shares perimeters with corrals on the east, south, and west. It contains the calving shed area and serves an essential role in managing animals linked to that facility. At one time, it operated as part of the milking operation on the ranch due to its location near the milking barn (destroyed) [see McMaster Ranch aerial photo of 1956]. Beginning at a gate at the southwest corner of the calving barn, the central corral sends southward a line of closely set, vertical half-logs on the west that create a sturdy, nearly stockade, wall between the gate and the northwest corner of the earth-roofed barn. The latter structure seals off the southwest corner of the corral. Also beginning at the aforementioned gate and running south-southeast is a sturdy post-and-hog wire fence that connects to the northeast corner of the earth-roofed barn. Together, the log wall, barn, and hog wire fence create a triangular paddock accessed on the barn’s northeast corner. The arrangement suggests the barn served as a small animal shelter and, indeed, Dolly McMaster had for a time, a small collection of sheep that resided here.\(^{16}\)

The corral extends east of the barn some 158 feet where it encounters the east corral and chute, then turns north to the northwest sorting pens of the latter feature, which turn west 50 feet back to the northeast corner of the calving shed. This building and a short gate complete the perimeter 112 feet on to the west.

Stout uprights and planks constitute the corral’s south and east sides. Within its perimeter, in the southeast corner, is a 50-foot (E/W) by 30-foot (N/S) pen. A similar feature (north pen) measuring about 80 feet wide (E/W) and 54 feet deep adjoins the Calving Barn toward its northwest end. On its east side, 12 feet to the west, another post-and-plank fence runs 30 feet

\(^{16}\) Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25\(^{th}\), 2020.
north-south to form the sorting run linked to the east corral and chute. Gates on the other corrals swing to meet this feature on the other end. Presently, there is a similar run on the east side of this north pen using modern welded steel corral panels; while the purpose remains unclear, their use likely ties to working with the animals in some fashion.

The central corral is an integral component of the ranch’s historic livestock operation. Complete and intact, it has the historical integrity and associative aspects that render it a contributing feature of the historic McMaster Ranch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP KEY</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># 12</td>
<td>East Corral and Chute</td>
<td>1 Structure</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORIGINAL USE</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
<th>WALL</th>
<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livestock corral</td>
<td>Livestock Corral</td>
<td>Wood: Rail Ties, raw posts, pine slabs. Metal &amp; wood plank gates</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>+ 166’ (Nw/Se) X 82’ (E/W)</td>
<td>Mid-20th Century</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The east corral and chute shares its west corral fence with the south and central corrals. Otherwise, it exhibits more consistent post-and-plank construction than those two areas, possibly because its construction occurred toward the end of the historic period.

On the south, railroad ties act as uprights with lateral poles supporting tightly spaced heavy vertical boards making up the wall. Elsewhere the uprights are stout posts, and the walls are lateral boards. On the north side is a cattle chute made to run animals past lateral poles between tall uprights secured toward their tops with twin plank headers. The chute rises to truck floor height at the east end. Access to the chute is on the west, where two small enclosures extend off the calving barn's northeast corner. These employ similar post-and-pole and tie-and-plank configurations as the larger corral sections. Gates of the standard light angle-iron and plank type connect these sorting pens to a runway along the west corral’s west side. This feature allows access to the south, central, and east corrals by way of several similar gates with the result that animals can be sorted or selected by driving them into the desired enclosure before moving them on to shipment. This final process appears to serve as the primary purpose of the east corral and chute.
Hauling cattle to new pastures or to market, or in the case of bulls, to their new homes, is an essential operation on a ranch. This corral section aptly demonstrates the requirements for conducting controlled and safe sorting and shipping stock. The materials fit well into the remaining themes of containment on the McMaster property. That and a high level of historical integrity renders the east corral and chute a contributing component of the ranch.

The calf shed is a one-story, long wooden frame structure that runs east/west for 130 feet and measures 32 feet wide. Its shed roof slopes north, leaving the south wall presenting seven entries to stalls within. The building is sheathed with board-and-batten siding and the doors (save two plywood units) and stall “windows” openings are made/covered with vertical planks. The latter serve each interior division, as do the doorways. Two six-light fixed units appear high in the wall. A Dutch door occupies two of the door openings. Broad iron hinges and iron clasps secure these operative openings. A central entry is boarded up.

The calf shed roof is sheathed with corrugated iron sheeting. Rafters have a facia but unboxed. The foundation is timber-on-grade with an occasional scattering of loose stone.

The calf shed appears in the 1923 photograph series and is also visible in its present form in the 1956 aerial image. Diagnostic elements are elusive, but the building’s wire nails, spikes, and hardware denote post-1890 origins; it likely dates from the post-1903 period when Lizzie and James McMaster expanded operations at the ranch. Dolly McMaster recalled the building used for many purposes at once; a hay barn, chicken shed, loafing shed for yearlings being fattened up, and a place to tend to animals needing special care.¹⁷

The calf shed is a contributor to the historic property because it consistently served as a facility on the McMaster ranch, and it possesses a high level of historical integrity.

¹⁷ Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
Poultry shed #1 (brooder house) is a single-story frame building with a steep shed roof. It is sided on the diagonal with bare sheathing boards. These are covered on the rear (north) wall with mineral-coated tarpaper and on the west with bands of large metal containers hammered flat nailed over the diagonal seams.

The full-height south wall displays a window-door-window arrangement with single fixed sashes and twin vertical panes. The bottom of these nearly square lights appears almost at the sill of the building, with their tops at hip height. A companion series of three such units spans the east wall. The windows are repurposed, as is the central entry, which employs a paneled domestic door fixed to the wall with large iron strap hinges. It sports a screened transom for ventilation. Like other ranch structures, poultry shed #1 sets on timbers at grade. The roof, once shingled, now displays its sheathing boards laid bare.

Inside, the shed walls are finished with horizontal tongue-in-groove siding, and the floors are pine boards, suitable for a residence. The ceiling opens to dimension lumber rafters, which have never been sheathed.

In the 1923 photo series, a shed-roofed structure appears near where this building is located, although that building seems to have board-and-batten siding, so this structure may have been repurposed. In the 1956 aerial photograph, this diagonally sided building is visible. Its cut-off rafter ends and attached wire fencing on the upper east wall that once served to contain and protect poultry are still there.18 “Hog wire,” an unnecessary fortification against the intentions of chickens, surrounds the building and may indicate it was also occasionally used for farrowing. The 1956 photo shows the building with a smaller companion structure, both within a board compound. Chimney holes suggest the building was heated in addition to being electrified. Heat and artificial light benefit the care of small chicks or piglets.

Poultry house #1 has long been a useful feature on the property. It retains its historical integrity and contributes to the historical qualities of the McMaster Ranch.

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18 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property

MAP KEY
NAME
NUMBER OF PROPERTIES
SIGNIFICANCE

# 15  Poultry Shed #2  1 Building  Contributing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORIGINAL USE</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
<th>WALL</th>
<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken House</td>
<td>Unused-storage.</td>
<td>Log, cedar shingles over frame.</td>
<td>Horizontal sheathing planks.</td>
<td>Fieldstone</td>
<td>17’ (N/S) X 19’ (E/W)</td>
<td>1930s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Poultry shed #2 faces south, its roof axial east/west. This log and frame structure with clearstory windows (screened) vents follows poultry house designs recommended by standard plans of the early 20th century. The south gable drops in favor of the higher north shed roof, and the south wall holds a ribbon of six uniform openings covered with wire mesh. Poultry shed #2 is distinguished by log construction to the roofline and frame under cedar shingles on the building’s ends. The building’s raked chinking has held up well, considering years of neglect. Cedar shingles also once covered the roof but have nearly all deteriorated. Certain log faces have been planed flat, particularly on the rear (north) side where strips of mineral-coated tarpaper (the same kind used on the poultry shed # 1/brooder house) once covered the wall. Only a portion remain its use here and on poultry shed # 1 suggests similar interior environments were required of the two buildings.

The interior is unfinished, though the log spacings are sealed with wooden slats. As in the bunkhouse behind the house, the rear wall’s center is reinforced by bolting two upright timbers together to hold the logs between them. Rafters set wide apart support transverse sheathing boards, now devoid of shingles. The building lacks chimney holes. In the center of the building’s otherwise open interior is a framed chicken wire divider (running north-south) with a screen door in the center. A large heating or broiling stove sits abandoned on the natural earth floor. Vertical planks cover the framing inside the building’s ends. The eaves appear to have once been boxed.

A concrete foundation rises high to meet the walls’ lowest log, but the front logs give way to beams that frame a series of square openings filled with chicken-wire running the length of this south wall. A door on the east center is made of vertical boards. This building once sported electrification.

Not present in 1923, this building appears to date to the early 1930s based on a number of metal license plates used to seal the junction of the logs and upper framing featuring a date of 1932. In 1956, this building served as a chicken house, its residence visible in the aerial photo of that year. Other than having a deteriorating roof, poultry shed # 2 has changed little since that time. Its service as a shelter for valuable animals and its considerable degree of historic integrity establishes poultry shed # 2 as a contributor to the history of the McMaster Ranch.
Bunkhouse #2 is a frame structure with board-and-batten walls. The same mineral-coated tarpaper on the chicken coop once covered the north wall of this structure. Its shingled roof exhibits gables facing east and west, which terminate the long axis of the building. Like many buildings on the ranch, it sits on timbers and poles at grade. Open to the south where the slope drops, scattered stones supplement the foundation, but the north-south running joists otherwise ride on the timbers.

Fenestration is limited to the south façade, where a central doorway is flanked by two horizontal eight-light windows with lateral-sliding sashes. The vertical plank wooden door is framed by wide boards nailed over the planking. Repurposed hardware secures it.

Unpainted, this building displays heavy weathering, and although it appears to be missing from the 1923 images, aspects of its construction suggest it bears some age. It does appear on the 1958 aerial photo in its present location. Some features argue for occupation: it was electrified, and a chimney hole indicates it once was heated. There is a stove stored inside.

While tradition purports this building served as a bunkhouse, it was also used in this location alongside the chicken coop and within the east end of the north corral as a storage shed. Its location seems unlikely as a location to house people. Some agricultural buildings were constructed so they could be sledding from place to place, and bunkhouse #2 with its open joists suggests this might have been the case here. A sledded claim shanty would have been useful to the McMasters.

Whether moved around on the ranch or from somewhere else, bunkhouse #2 has occupied this spot since at least the mid-1950s. It was important enough to keep in the proximity of other buildings sheltering animals and it remains in keeping with the historical fabric of ranch properties. With a good degree of historical integrity and association, bunkhouse #2 contributes to the historic nature of the McMaster Ranch.
The north corral is a large bisected (E/W) area enclosed by a combination of post-and-plank and steel post barbed wire fencing. It occupies the northernmost area of the stock pen system at the ranch headquarters. Beginning at the northern corner of the house grounds, the north corral connects and encloses bunkhouse #1, jogging a bit west and north to link that building to the long barn. It then runs north-northeast some 120 feet to the old line demarcated by the quarter section of the original homestead of William McMaster. Turning east, it runs about 250 feet along this line, where it encounters two gates and a steel post and barbed wire enclosure comprising the corral’s eastern half. At this juncture, a small sorting pen extends 50 to 60 feet to connect expansive northern and eastern pastures and a fenced segment of the old roadway that ran down the quarter section line. Here a series of gates allow access to those pastures and the road.

The northern corral’s east half continues east for around 165 feet and turns south-southwest for 368 feet, where it meets the north section of the large cattle chute in the east corral and chute area. The corrals of this latter feature and the north wall of the calving barn make up the north corral's southeast border. The entire enclosure completes itself by running off the west side of the calving barn to engage with (1) the west fence of the central corral, (2) the northwest gate and fence of the south corral, and (3) the east fence of the house grounds.

The north corral contains the following structures and features: (west half) bunkhouse #1, the blacksmith shop, the long barn, the machine shed, the west wall of the earth-roofed barn, logging
wagon remains, Ford truck remains, round steel waterer, debris fields # 1, 2, and 3, and the north half of the divided stock waterer. The east half encompasses poultry sheds # 1 and 2, bunkhouse #2, stone sled debris, and debris fields # 4 and 5.

The photograph series of 1923 captures the north corral in the background only once. It was a wire fence then and converted to a post-and-plank section later on (1956). Such an upgrade may have been required when the McMaster operation converted to raising bulls in the late 1940s and that is probably true of the areas along the west and north side of the corral. The eastern half of the north corral appears to have been the province of chickens, perhaps hogs, and whatever larger stock was fed at the headquarters. Both areas would have accommodated milk cows, calves, bulls, horses (as presently done), or cattle being specially tended.

The 1956 photograph shows some buildings no longer standing in the east half of the north corral. These included a small shed near poultry shed # 1, a large square hay-covered stock shelter west of bunkhouse # 2, and another smaller rectangular building, now the location of the northwest sorting pens of the east corral and chute area. The latter structure sat next to another long tending chute on the east. Toward the north side of the corral, a single-story circular building stood. In 1956 this appeared unused as the door opened askew; its remains are now a debris field. Beyond the corral, some distance to the east, stood another square hay-roofed shelter.

On the west side of the north corral once stood another long calving shed. It sat outside the corral southwest fence but faced inward and functioned as part of the pen system, south of the long barn, which was enclosed as a feed yard. Debris fields were present, as were various feed bunks. The region outside of the pen previously mentioned seems to have been an equipment staging and fueling area that also held lumber piles and some equipment.

The north corral is a significant feature of the McMaster Ranch. Its configuration, which aligns with the old quarter section line originally homesteaded by William McMaster, suggests its presence as a perimeter dates to the earliest years of the property. Although it changed over time, it is part of the essential requirements of ranching operations and demonstrates considerable historical integrity. The north corral contributes to the McMaster Ranch historical site.
MAP KEY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Machinery Shed (19)</td>
<td>1 Building &amp; 1 Structure</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; Crawler Tractor inside shed (20)</td>
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</table>

ORIGINAL USE

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<tr>
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<th>WALL</th>
<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Machinery Shed</td>
<td>Stucco over frame.</td>
<td>Corrugated Metal over wood board.</td>
<td>Fieldstone</td>
<td>16.5’ (N/S) X</td>
<td>Ca 1940.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Shed</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

The machine shed is a small, single-story, framed structure, board-sheathed on the diagonal, wrapped in chicken wire, and coated with nearly smooth (smeared) stucco. It stands on a cement pier surrounding a poured concrete pad with an apron extending from the double door opening spanning much of the east façade. Its gabled roof aligns east-west and displays exposed rafters sheathed with wide boards covered with corrugated metal. A single one-over-one fixed sash window appears on the south wall, west end. Offset to the left (south) over the door is a wooden attic entry with a solid door. Fenestration is minimal, flat, and unadorned. Entry doors are distinguished by surrounding and central rails met by diagonals at center. Hardware consists of commercial V-strap hinges and home-made latches. On the southeast rafter hangs a board that carries three electrical insulators; a second set of two on the northeast corner are wired to a live supply off a nearby pole.

A slope chimney pierces the northeast corner of the roof. The brick chimney extends down to a timber frame on the interior corner, where a thimble hole accommodates the metal chimney pipe of a commercial sheet metal stove. Both the ceiling and interior walls exhibit sheathing of flat horizontal boards. A narrow, waist-high workbench runs along the south interior wall. Visible nails are round-headed and include the same cross-embossed nails used on the pig shed.

One of three stuccoed outbuilding at the ranch headquarters, the tractor shed stands near the north fence line of the north corral’s west half. The machine shed was a garage and mechanic shop for a tractor or crawler. A similar building is at the National Register-listed Gehring Ranch in Lewis and Clark County to the northwest and was built for a specific machine.19 The McMaster Ranch version currently houses a small Cletrac diesel crawler tractor. An older abandoned 1933 McCormick-Deering model tractor sits in the pasture north of the ranch headquarters suggesting the Cletrac diesel now in the shed is a later addition.20 This model, serial number 10-D-722, was built by the Oliver Farm Equipment Company, the purchaser of the

19 Paul Putz, Gehring Ranch National Register nomination (listed 28 August 2017, NR #SG100001504), on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.
20 Files of the District Archaeologist, Butte Field Office, Butte, Montana.
original Cleveland Tractor Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Produced in 1947, it is a BDH (Model B, Diesel, Hillside) crawler, based on a design dating from the late 1930s. The ranch applied its workhorse qualities to hauling logs, pulling plows, opening clogged irrigation ditches, and clearing away enormous snowdrifts created by the long barn during blizzards. Crawler-tractors were common on area ranches owing to their power and stability on uneven ground. This one has a brush screen over the radiator and a steel-framed, hydraulic bulldozer attachment.

Always frugal and cautious, the McMasters continued to farm with draft horses after their neighbors switched to mechanized power. Considering new risks that electricity, fuel and machinery presented, James McMaster placed this building in the North Corral for safety’s sake to prevent sparks from welders and other fire hazards from spreading to buildings or grass. The machinery shed is visible in the 1956 photograph but not apparent in the 1923 photographic series suggesting it dates from the 1940s or maybe earlier. Although the Broadwater County assessment records date the building to 1940, such assessment dates may not always be accurate, as observed with the assessor's date for the long barn. It is possible “1940” is the first year the building was recorded or noted by the County, but not reflective of its construction date. Materials and design suggest a temporal line to the garage.

The machinery shed signals advancing mechanization on the ranch. Such specialized buildings served to shelter mechanized agricultural workhorses called tractors that came into use around the turn of the 20th century and demonstrate their value to farm and ranch operations at the time. Until the time this structure was made necessary, horses served for plowing, haying, and hauling at the McMaster place, as evidenced by images in the 1923 photographic series. All of those activities use draft animals. The Cletrac Tractor-Crawler was and is integral to the operation of the ranch. Tractor power would certainly supplant animal pull in meeting such power-heavy demands as plowing as soon as it was available. By 1956, of course, a host of mechanized units populated the feed yards and driveways at the headquarters. Still, the primary tractors, the muscly crawlers, enjoyed their own space under this roof. The machinery shed and tractor-crawler thus contribute to the history of the McMaster Ranch.


22 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
The McMaster family’s “Long Barn” sits within the north corral at the west-central side of the fence line. Again, one of a standard type on the ranch, the barn is a tall, one-story frame structure supported on poles set on a shallow concrete perimeter foundation. Board-and-batten clads the exterior and the interior is left open. This long structure aligns east and west and has long been sheeted with corrugated iron over transverse boards. On the barn are two 8’ x 4’ frame ridge line ventilators with cedar shingles on the gables and louvered walls north and south. The ventilators have boxed eaves, unlike the open rafters of the barn. A faint layer of white paint still adorns them. They seem a bit grand compared to the rest of the building.

The construct is trabeated. Squared pine timbers and dimensional lumber frame the walls, roof, and interior structural elements of the long barn. The robust, upright wall timbers are wide-set and topped with a single horizontal plate. Lateral members span the intercolumnar space along the walls at hip-height. From the center of these, angled braces rise to meet the plates halfway between them, creating inverted “V”s to bridge the interval further. Heavy lumber rafters support the roof. Three sets of pole uprights march down the building’s length; the outermost notched at the top to carry braced headers where they engage the rafters halfway up their slope. The ridge beam is held aloft by the center poles, x-braced at mid-rafter height. Tie beams made of boards link two or three of the posts together.

At floor level, horizontal poles create stalls, and a granary appears at center left (facing west) with stud walls sheathed on the inside with flat, horizontal, tight-fitting boards. The floor is earthen. Where the foundation appears, it consists of mixed materials, supplemented in spots by short barrels filled with cement.

A remarkable aspect of the long barn is the array of machinery and equipment it houses. A rubber-tired Oliver tractor, visible in the 1956 photograph, is stored there as well as the rope windlass that the family states William McMaster used to excavate the hand-dug, 100-foot deep, well on the ranch. Much of the material, harnesses, and other equipment is associated with specific ranch operations.

The long barn is more typical of a Montana sheep barn, long and low to shelter a large number of small animals, versus larger animals such as cattle. However, it seems to serve as a multi-
purpose barn, feed-store, and equipment shed. Perhaps it housed a ready supply of hay as well. Remnants of a sliding wall-door on the west side indicate access once occurred through that end, which has since been closed off. Presently, the east end is open, and a smaller double-sliding door on the west side of the south wall serves as the entry. Broadwater County assessment records date the barn to 1930, but the barn was undoubtedly built by 1923 and could date from anytime this side of 1900. By 1956, the barn looked much as it does today, save a wavering ridge and eave line. At that time, it stood as the northern boundary of a feed yard off its south side.

In agricultural settings, the barn is a crowning piece of a ranch’s history, and the long barn at the McMaster Ranch is no exception. Its dominant presence centers the immediate landscape and defines its ambiance. The long barn contributes to the historic McMaster Ranch.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># 22 Blacksmith Shop</td>
<td>1 Site</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The blacksmith shop is a deteriorated log structure with a fieldstone foundation supporting horizontal members tied at right angles using a modified corner post configuration common to other log buildings on the property. The shop was a single-story building with low gables on the north and south. The roof, visible in a 1956 photograph, looks like the same board-and-batten on the earth-roofed barn. It also looks like it was patched with tar paper. Entry was on the east, and a small window opening was on the east side of the south wall.

Now classifiable as a ruin, the blacksmith shop’s roof has collapsed, and its walls splayed outward in several places. The corners are fitted with heavy planks spiked into the log ends and were once further supported by spiking a square corner post into the planks. Round-headed wire nails are used throughout. The interior contains fallen timbers and a brick furnace enveloped by brush stands in the southwest corner. Various iron items hang on the walls here and there.

William McMaster was a blacksmith by trade. Anecdotally, he chose to locate his homestead on the wagon roads to and from Helena to ply that trade; thus, the blacksmith shop represents associations with the ranch’s origin. While the specifics of this intent are veiled in the past, the presence of this structure and its apparent antiquity, along with documented evidence of William McMaster’s blacksmith business in nearby Helena, render it significant as a factor in early ranch operations. Indeed, it is somewhat iconic as such, and therefore a meaningful contributor to the historic qualities of the McMaster Ranch.
The bunkhouse (#1) sits just northwest of the main house. It is a single-story, log structure with a rectangular plan with gables facing east and west. In similarity with other buildings on the ranch, the bunkhouse displays no consistent foundation but rests on a combination of gravel, dry-laid fieldstone, and wooden stumps. Robust sill logs and the joists are exposed to the open air in places along the front and sides. The walls consist of hewn-faced logs laid horizontally and chinked with lime mortar over crude laths. Corners lack notching but instead held together with thick vertical timbers spiked into the log ends and further secured by a square upright corner post. The large iron spikes used to secure these elements are common to most of the nearby structures. The remaining fasteners include round-headed wire nails and single-slotted screws.

The south, west, and north exterior walls are braced at their centers with single upright timbers bolted through to matching interior members that sandwich the stacked wall logs to prevent outward bowing. These “whalers” provide additional support to counter stresses from the relatively weak cornering system; they also appear on other log buildings on the ranch.

Sawn cedar shingles cover the south roof slope, and modern steel roofing covers the north roof slope. Cedar shingles also remain on the gable ends, although corrugated metal covers the west gable shingles. The rafters are set a steep pitch and covered with long boards exposed in the eaves but edged with a flat fascia board. Below them, a frieze board seals the wall to the roof. A single brick chimney is centered on the ridgeline.

Fenestration is limited to one entry and three windows, the former centered in the south wall. Openings are framed with simple wooden surrounds, and the windows, two flanking the door and one centered on the east wall, are (the west window opening on the south wall has lacked its glazing for 60 years) two-over-two double-hung units. The paneled door with its porcelain knob demonstrates antiquity but the door shows deterioration to the extent that it requires a plywood cover over its bottom half. Surrounds and window sills are simple flat boards. As is due to its former status as a residence, the wall corners are also trimmed.

Refining touches also distinguish the interior, including walls hewn flat and topped with a very short pony wall supporting a plate on which rest the rafters in horizontal conformity. A room on the right (east) side features vertical wainscot walls and a horizontal wainscot ceiling. A room on
the left (west) is unfinished and may have been a tack room. In more recent times, the wall cladding consisted of galvanized sheet iron. Much of the interior is either original or dates from the early years of the ranch. The building’s construction compares to the old earth-roofed barn, poultry house # 2, and probably the main house before it was stuccoed over.

Log buildings appear to represent the oldest construction on the property. Bunkhouse #1 might have served as the original residence, given its proximity to the blacksmith shop. At least it could have served as interim housing while the rest of the property was built up. Anecdotal information indicates William McMaster lived in a tent on the property, a common occurrence during the early years of property ownership. In any event, a small crew of two or three would have been required to erect the bunkhouse, house, and barns.

Census data shows ranch hands lived on the McMaster property from time to time. In 1900, this included Bert Lanning who later turned his attention to mining. No hired hand is listed on the census of 1910 (neighbor David Atkins, who later married Lizzy McMaster, lived next door and may have been hired to help), but in 1930, Edward Peters worked on the ranch. Seasonal help arrived in 1923 when 20-year-old Nathaniel (last name unknown) showed up with his camera. Spending at least the early spring and summer at the ranch, he recorded himself plowing, stacking hay, loading wheat, and posing with a coyote he shot. Some haying photos show more than one person at work, suggesting the bunkhouse possibly housed residents for special times and tasks. The ranch was not overly large and, after the Depression, fewer hands were needed. Then young members of the family were able to pitch in. Nevertheless, a bunkhouse was required and used with regularity. Bunkhouse # 1 has a high degree of historical integrity and is a significant contributor to the history of the McMaster Ranch.

MAP KEY

<table>
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<th>NAME</th>
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<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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</thead>
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<td># 24 Garage</td>
<td>1 Building</td>
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<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automobile</td>
<td>Automobile</td>
<td>Stucco over</td>
<td>Corrugated metal over</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>60’ (N/S) X</td>
<td>Late 1940s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>Frame</td>
<td>boards.</td>
<td></td>
<td>28’ (E/W)</td>
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</table>

The garage is another stuccoed frame building, like the machine shed, dating from 1940 or slightly before, given the County Assessors' notes and its manner of construction. The garage is a solidly built single-story building with gables on the north and south. Designed to accommodate large vehicles, the garage walls rise from 8 feet on the north to nearly 12 feet on the south, owing to a downward slope. The concrete foundation increases in exposure as it follows the same decline in grade. A grey stucco, applied to a rough degree of smoothness, coats the entire wall surface above the foundation. It terminates at the flat spacing boards between the building’s open rafters.
Large overhead doors appear on the north, east, and south sides. Fenestration includes an accordion door, man door, and two windows. One window on the north center wall is boarded over. The other, a fixed four-light unit, is north of the east façade’s south corner, immediately south of the man door. Simple flat boards surround all openings. The four-panel wood door next to it is divided vertically with the lower stile set knee-high. Immediately right (north) of this door, its surround reaching to the eaves, is a large, roughly 10-foot x 8-foot-high opening filled with a 6-light/18-panel overhead garage door that appears original to the building. Immediately to the north is a similar, though modern, overhead door, slightly shorter because of the rising grade. The north end of the east façade holds a slightly reduced doorway fitted with a six-panel tri-fold garage door, which may also be original. The south wall features the same 6-light/18-panel overhead garage door, probably original, like the one in the east façade; this door, however, is about 12 feet tall due to the grade.

Vents appear in the upper gables of the garage, and its roof is covered in new grey “architectural” asphalt shingles as the original corrugated metal sheeting installed originally began to blow off. The rafters are open, giving providing a toned-down craftsman appearance. A brick slope chimney with a tile liner extends above the southwest corner of the roof, the need for which came after realization the shed required heat to start equipment in -40-degree weather.

With its period garage doors and the flat, nearly unblemished expanse of original stucco, particularly on the long unbroken west wall, the garage displays a high degree of both physical and historical integrity. Apart from an impact shatter to the right (north) of the man door, the walls remain intact. This is also true of the long concrete apron in front of the east doors, sloping upward toward each to meet grade.

A final feature associated with the building is the gasoline supply located a few feet away from the building’s southeast corner. Here an underground fuel tank and period commercial gas pump are at hand to serve the vehicles stored in the garage; this pump replaced the overhead gas tanks used in the ’50s. Although the pump dates to the historic period, the remainder of the structure was installed recently.

Like the machinery shed, the garage was constructed in response to advancing agricultural mechanization. The large doorways could accommodate both trucks and tractors as well as smaller vehicles, illustrated by their presence in a 1956 photograph. This structure and the machinery shed represent the last buildings erected at the ranch headquarters. The only more recent major changes were the main house alterations of the 1970s. Other changes since 1956 involve demolitions. Important as a service structure and indicative of significant operational advances at the McMaster Ranch, the garage contributes to the property's history.
The McMaster Schoolhouse is located on the western edge of the McMaster Ranch headquarters assemblage. It, too, is constructed of log walls secured at the corners by upright members nailed to the log ends. It sits on a concrete foundation incorporating mixed aggregates along with random stones and bricks. These carry long sill logs upon which stand the corner post arrangements and their characteristic iron spikes. Remnants of soft lime-based chinking appear here and there, in association with long willow branches stapled at the lower lip of the chinked spaces to better hold the mixture in place. Log ends are hewn flat at each corner and where doors and windows are encountered, apparently to accept fenestration trim. Such trim in the form of flat pine boards is present on the south façade, where a central plywood-covered doorway is flanked by two small windows set somewhat high on the wall. The windows are six-lite units fixed in crude plank jambs. A four-panel wood door occupies the east wall. The east wall also exhibits a stovepipe hole near the gable/wall interface, suggesting the interior location of a chimney or stove.

The log walls give way to narrow vertical boards in the gable ends. With walls gabled on the east and west, the little 13-foot x 17-foot building’s roof slopes toward the north and south. Wide-set rafters are open under the eaves, which carry flat roof sheathing boards covered with tarpaper underlayment and sawn cedar shingles. A metal ridge cap tops the roof, and on the north slope where the interior wall meets the roof are the remains of a projecting brick chimney. A remedial protective step undertaken several years ago involved sheeting the west and half of the north exterior walls with metal roofing. Presently, the front door is protected by a sheet of plywood.

This exceptional structure is heavily weathered. The logs show considerable checking and splitting, and the doors are sun-blasted. Nonetheless, the building remains square due to its
placement on a sound foundation. The shingles have also mostly held up, at least to this point. Remnants of original paint are visible near the top of the east door.\textsuperscript{23}

As a unique structure for a ranch headquarters with associations linked to the challenges facing rural families in their pursuit to educate their children, the McMaster schoolhouse represents important themes and, given its considerable level of historical integrity, the building contributes to the historic McMaster Ranch.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>NUMBER OF PROPERTIES</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td># 26</td>
<td>Loading Dock (in Northwest Equipment Array)</td>
<td>1 Structure (amid miscellaneous items not included in resource count)</td>
<td>1 Contributing Structure</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORIGINAL USE</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
<th>WALL</th>
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<th>FOUNDATION</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Loading Dock</td>
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<td>NA</td>
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</table>

Immediately west and north of the north corral between the roadway and the road leading to the summit of Spokane Hill is a scattering of ranch-related materials; piles of fence posts, lumber, antique wagons, and haying equipment, and a concrete loading dock. The concrete loading dock is in the northwest corner of the array and was used to drive equipment onto trucks. It was also used to unload livestock without employing the narrow loading chutes. The ramp sits in a leveled area excavated for its use. The ramp is made of poured concrete faced with a bumper board along its upper edge and holds back the earthen bank.

The equipment array represents items used at the ranch, illustrating ranch work. The concrete loading dock was a useful, if not essential, feature that greatly facilitated transferring stock and equipment and is a contributing element of the McMaster Ranch.\textsuperscript{24}

\textsuperscript{23} At this writing, the school is the focus of restoration efforts by, \textit{Preserve Montana}, the state-wide historic preservation non-profit.

\textsuperscript{24} Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25\textsuperscript{th}, 2020.
The most significant element of the McMaster ranch is its water source. Without adequate water to nourish crops and livestock, no agricultural enterprise can function above a subsistence level. The ranch's primary water supply was surface water running through a shallow ditch connected to the tributaries of Beaver Creek, south of the property. It cuts north through open pastures until arriving at the McMaster property at the south-central boundary of Section 22, T9N R1W. The ditch continues northward along the 4,360-foot elevation contour line to the center of the section, encounters a multi-plex concrete headgate, then turns east, crossing under the Burlington Northern Railroad track and State Highway 12/287 on its way to the McMaster Ranch headquarters. Running directly past McMaster’s Main House and through the south corral, the irrigation ditch continues on halfway into Section 23 to the east. Along the way, several headframes remain in place that controlled water flow, taking the supply into side ditches snaking across fields and pastureland where it was discharged in the form of wide sheets over the cropland.

The original French Bar ditch can be traced leading north from the above-mentioned concrete headgate. It crosses under Highway 12/287 just within the National Register boundary and continues along Spokane Mountain’s western slope. It is tapped to feed a secondary ditch winding around a low hill in Section 15 (within the district boundary). A higher secondary ditch runs from the main headgate north and then turns west and southwest, then runs some 4,330 feet

25 Historically, two parallel ditches ran from Beaver Creek to French Bar, one built just after the other. This is not the present case, at least for active water, although a secondary ditch on the McMaster property used to water lands immediately adjacent to the main ditch could be a remnant of the second ditch. See the French Bar Ditch discussion in Section 8.

26 This main headgate channels water eastward, northward, and southward in a series of interconnected walls and gates. Built in 1994, it replaced all of whatever earlier systems the ranch operated that juncture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP KEY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td># 27</td>
<td>French Bar Ditch and Irrigation System</td>
<td>1 Structure</td>
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<th>ROOF</th>
<th>FOUNDATION</th>
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<th>DATE(S)</th>
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</thead>
</table>
north around a hill and then south again to the west property line. A final set of secondary
ditches takes water south of the headgate. They parallel both sides of Highway 12/287, watering
fields respective of their position to that road.

The McMaster irrigation system, dating from the very beginnings of William McMaster’s effort
to develop a viable agricultural operation, represents water’s necessity to that end. Key to the
ranch’s success, the system continues to serve its purpose as it did when the McMaster family
ran stock and raised crops on the property. Dolly McMaster still uses it to irrigate the hay fields
and gardens. Still functioning, the West Irrigation Ditch is a contributor to McMaster Ranch
history.

<table>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Modern period.</td>
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All Montana railroad beds, depending on their integrity, are considered eligible for listing in the
National Register of Historic Places. The section within the boundaries of the McMaster Ranch
Historic District takes on the added aspect of significance associated with the McMaster Ranch.
When the Northern Pacific (NP) Railroad Company built its line from Townsend to Helena in
1883, it permanently changed the area’s transportation dynamic. For the McMaster Ranch, the
rail line provided quick passenger service to Helena. The location of Placer Siding, just a half-
mile from the headquarters, rendered convenient the loading and unloading of shipments of
products and supplies.27 Living in both Helena’s 6th Ward near the NP Depot and on the ranch
near Placer Siding, William McMaster found the railroad to be a vital asset while building up the
ranch.

<table>
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Because the McMaster Ranch was located near the main public thoroughfare between Bozeman and parts south and Helena, the changes to that road impacted the ranch in significant ways. The current alignment, probably laid down in 1928, was the final iteration in a series of alterations along that route. The road has continued to be widened and improved into the modern period, and its features lie outside of the period of significance.

McMaster Ranch crop and hay lands concentrate on the slopes leading southeast and north of the Antelope Creek-Spokane Creek Divide, both fed by the French Bar Ditch. To the east lie the beginnings of the large landscape containing unirrigated pastures.

(#30). Most of the McMaster Ranch is not irrigated but relies on natural precipitation and an occasional spring to nourish native grasses and perhaps water livestock. This nomination includes a representative portion of a very expansive section of the ranch lying east and north of the headquarters, which remained in its natural state throughout the time of McMaster ownership. This range pasture is located along the northern edges of section 22 (east of Highway 12/287) and section 23.

(#32). In the north-west quarter of Section 22 and leading into Section 15 (See Map Key # 27). Lizzie and James McMaster secured this property using the Deserts Lands Act. It consists of open pasture land, which was later partially irrigated. Having pasture near the old homestead was significant during the early years of the ranch because it allowed the McMasters herd to be built up, preparing it to range over open pastures in the Spokane Hills. Sections 22 and 15 adjoined William McMaster’s original 160-acre homestead. Unifying land was essential because fences were expensive and isolated property required more enclosure. Adjacent lands also made expanding irrigation systems more manageable because they omitted difficulties with other landowners. When James McMaster obtained more range pastures to the west, he put some of this land under cultivation. Section 22 also includes the French Bar Ditch, the old mining ditch that runs just west of Highway 287, crosses under it, and exits the National Register boundary near the upper edge of Section 22. These ditches, with their small laterals, watered James’s old cropland that was later converted to pasture.
(#31). The landforms of the McMaster property were carefully groomed to maximize its performance. In Section 22, a large area of land runs along the low slopes of the north branch of Antelope Creek that drains the adjacent highland known as Spokane Hill. The creek flows from east to west, emptying into Beaver Creek and then into Canyon Ferry Reservoir on the Missouri River a short distance away. Circumscribed on the west, south, and north by the main ditches, the fields dip gently toward the creek, providing an efficient grade for surface water to unhurriedly spill over them and soak deep into the ground. Where the greater declination occurs at the very foot of Spokane Hill, the fields, bounded by the headquarters on the north and Highway 12/287 on the west, are lined with low, contoured terraces that give pause to the water’s progress, lest it rill the soil.

When William McMaster dammed and diverted the old French Bar Ditch, so its waters ran into the excavated channels that made up the irrigation system, he began the process of laying water down on the land in a way that spread the water over the surface of fields intended to raise crops and hay. It takes several years to monitor and groom fields for this purpose. The result of those efforts can be seen in aerial photographs that display the finely etched, often contoured trenches that line the smoothed faces of those fields.

By creating artificial meadows moistened through irrigation, large quantities of hay could be produced, as evidenced by the huge stacks of it assembled on the ranch’s north corral in 1923 and the prodigious rows of baled alfalfa in later years.\(^{28}\) Hay meant winter survival for the cattle whose fare would otherwise be the sparse and withered pasture grass, frozen beneath the snow. Feeding cattle was the primary winter chore that allowed the sprawling yet thinly provided pastures to support herds far beyond their natural capacity. Small grain, mostly wheat, supplemented feed and was a cash crop, as the 1923 photograph of loading grain at Placer Siding demonstrates. The purpose to which these lands were put changed as the ranch met new challenges. During the 1930s, grain production was meager, and the experience probably told. Expensive and time-consuming, farm crops grew out of favor on the ranch. James began concentrating on high-quality beef production after the war, and Bud McMaster converted the fields to grasslands in later years.\(^{29}\)

The irrigated fields in combination with the vast pastures to the north were the foundation upon which the ranch was built and, of course, the reason for its survival. Unblemished by development, the fields possess a high degree of historical integrity, and they are contributing elements to the historic McMaster Ranch.


\(^{29}\) Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25th, 2020.
# 33 Old Road (highway remnant)  
<table>
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<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>DATE(S)</th>
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</thead>
</table>

Within the upper northwest quarter of Section 22 and lower southwest quarter of Section 15 are distinguishable remnants of an old route of the Helena-Townsend highway. This feature is associated with transportation routes convenient to the McMaster Ranch, which helped facilitate its success, including the blacksmith shop's presence on the ranch and the right-of-way issues impacting the McMaster operation in the early 20th Century.

# 34 L. H. Baum Road  
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</thead>
</table>

The L. H. Baum Road passes through the west half of Section 22 on the McMaster Ranch, joining the present Great Northern Railway (old Northern Pacific) bed and MT Highway 287 in the transportation corridor over the Antelope Creek-Spokane Creek divide. One of several variations on the old secondary road pattern in the ranch's immediate area, the L. H. Baum road did not appear on local maps until after Canyon Ferry Reservoir was built in the 1950s. A Sweeny-Baum road and a Baum road existed before this time but ran along different routes, which were often altered.30 James McMaster and his neighbor, David Myles, proposed in 1914 that a road connecting the Sweeney-Baum road run between sections 15 and 22, thence down the railroad right-of-way, but appears not to have been built.31

The L. H. Baum road as presently configured did exist during the period of significance of this nomination. Still, it only has a marginal association with the McMaster Ranch, at least so far as can be determined, which renders it a noncontributing resource to the district.

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30 School District Boundaries, Broadwater County Superintendent of Schools; Broadwater County Highway Map, State Highway Commission, 1914, Collections of the Broadwater County Museum.

31 The Townsend Star, June 16, 1914, p. 4.
Other Features
A variety of smaller-scale antique materials are found scattered throughout the McMaster Ranch property, generally within the north corral and the area immediately to the north and west. Historically associated but not included in the resource count are: a newer commercial small stock waterer in the southwest corner of the south corral, a recent round commercial metal water tank in the north corral fed by an underground hydrant, the remains of a Ford truck owned by James McMaster and formerly used on the ranch, historic wagon remains, a hay buck, a scatter of fence posts, timbers and lumber, and debris piles, some associated with former buildings that once occupied the property.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- Removed from its original location
- A birthplace or grave
- A cemetery
- A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- A commemorative property
- Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1893-1971

Significant Dates
1893

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
- William and Lizzie McMaster
- James and Olive McMaster
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph
The McMaster Ranch located in northwest Broadwater County, Montana, is eligible for listing in the National Register at a local level of significance under criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the McMaster Ranch is eligible for its historical association with the patterns of agricultural development, including ranching operations. The McMaster Ranch, owned by the same family since its beginning, epitomizes early rural ranching operations, exemplifying the crucial aspects of individual sacrifice, drive, and diversity. The ranch dates from the early 1890s and developed over the next 80 years, primarily through the family’s aggressive application of public lands policy supplemented by private purchases of less successful operators. Historic features at the property span that period, maturing as a comprehensive operation without further additions after around 1960. Though mixed farming took place there, the ranch was primarily devoted to livestock production over the years.

The McMaster Ranch is also eligible under Criterion C for the design, materials, and workmanship demonstrated in the ranch resources, including the dwellings, shed, barns, and other resources comprising the American vernacular architecture associated with the working ranch. These resources present the evolution of the ranch through its more than century of use, aptly portraying ranching practices in the region, its lifestyle, methodology, challenges, and technical evolution. A high degree of preservation, complemented by its status as a conservation site, distinguishes the McMaster Ranch from its neighbors in exhibiting historical values.

The period of significance begins in 1893 with the construction of the first building on the property and ends in 1971, the end of the historic period.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Early History of the McMaster Ranch Area
Development of the region immediately west of Montana's Rocky Mountain Front followed a surge of Anglo-American miners who staked out claims in those mountains in the early-to-mid 1860s. Beef, garden products, and small grain cash crops for feed and flour were in demand. To supply mountain mining camps with food goods, newcomers quickly established farms in lowland areas and rapidly pursued stock grazing on public lands. Hay production took up large sections of bottomland where sub-irrigation from adjacent streams allowed successful returns. While the mining population sustained demand for agricultural goods, that demand proved to be finite. After a dozen years or so, the initial placer boom played out, stultifying expansion and withering the impetus to broaden agricultural supply. Raising beef was the exception. Connected to eastern markets by rail (even at some distance), ranching ballooned into mega-herds of cattle and sheep whose presence on the open range dissuaded homesteading.

Meanwhile, farmers competed for precious irrigation water diverted to power "long toms," and hydraulic cannons needed to dislodge and sort out the proceeds of auriferous deposits. A
spiderweb of water ditches snaked for miles along the mountainsides, connecting free-flowing streams to arid gravel terraces. In time, these ditches too, became redundant when the ready supply of "pleasure" gold was exhausted. Although the ditches could then be tapped for other purposes, hard times and minimal markets frustrated Montana's agricultural ambitions, and much water flowed unused. When the Northern Pacific Railroad huffed into Helena in 1883, it opened doors to St. Paul and, eventually, Pacific ports. However, it took years to establish the dynamics required to sustain significant agricultural expansion in the state.32

Slow growth characterized areas beyond the immediate reach of markets. Helena’s economy, bolstered at first by placer digs and then outlying lode mines, languished during the depression of the 1870s and was severely damaged in the crash of 1893, its political underpinnings and financing remnants barely bracing it up. Thus, the period between 1870 and 1900 was one of disruption and slow growth for Helena, the area’s largest customer.

Farming and ranching spread into Helena’s nearby Prickly Pear Creek Valley, taking advantage of the Prickly Pear’s converging tributaries, Ten Mile, Seven Mile, Last Chance, and Silver creeks that discharged into the Missouri River some 15 miles east of town. Southeast of the Prickly Pear lay a small companion valley created by Spokane Creek that met the Missouri nearby. The Spokane Hills, a north-south trending limestone upthrust, created the Prickly Pear and Spokane Creek valleys' east wall.

A high, narrow bench rose from the Spokane Hills' southern tip to the Elkhorn Mountain range a few miles to the west. This high bench rimmed the Prickly Pear Valley’s southern lip and drew water away from it to the south. The south face of the bench was a broad, nearly seamless alluvial plain, hemmed in by the Elkhorn Mountains on the west and cut down by the Missouri River on the east. It had little to offer in the way of surface water. Only two useful drainages ran through it, Beaver Creek, just south of the Spokane Hills, and Indian Creek, some 18 miles further on. These year-round streams were not overly productive. They too, had been tapped for mining in the early days, and, ironically, Beaver Creek water was re-routed to cut down the terraces above Indian Creek itself. It had also been channeled north through the French Bar Ditch, a 29-mile cut that wormed above Spokane Creek, to process rich placer deposits in gravel beds some 200 feet above the Missouri.33

What remained of Beaver Creek anointed the gardens and fields of a handful of hardy ranchers along its banks. They lived some distance from Helena on the Spokane divide, high above the Missouri River, and on the lonely stretch of road between Virginia City, Bozeman, and Helena. Later known as Winston after the construction company that built the railbed across it, this area developed slowly. In 1870, from the foot of the Elkhorns to the west, along nine miles of Beaver Creek flowing downward to the Missouri River, there stood only 46 dwellings, housing 38 families that counted 83 individual members. A few were miners, three families kept roadhouses,

33 The Helena Daily Independent, June 19, 1881, p. 3.
but the majority were farmers, stockmen, housekeepers, and hired hands. It was an agricultural community.34

Although isolated from established camps and towns, Beaver Creek had no end of passers-by. The Virginia City-Bozeman-Helena road saw increasing traffic as commerce developed between those communities. Freighters enjoyed a brisk business, hauling goods into the territory from the steamboat landings at Fort Benton to the north and returning with supplies and mining proceeds. Stages clattered past with bags of mail and bone-jarred passengers. Groups of roving fortune seekers, individual riders, buggy drivers, people on foot, and drovers moving herds of stock, some of them seemingly endless, joined the parade.35

Just under the brow of Spokane Mountain, in the path of what would become the McMaster Ranch, lay the trail between Helena and the Beaver Creek Ferry on the Missouri River, a route connecting ranches on the east side of the river to the Bozeman Road. Nearby Diamond City, a booming placer camp in the 1860s and 1870s, lent its traffic to the area and in 1874, a road constructed over Duck Pass linked ranges and towns to the east, beyond the Big Belt Mountains. It was a favorite of the large "Diamond-R" freighting company that established a mule or 'jack' farm at what later became Townsend.36

Ten years later, the scene changed but hardly in terms of a boom. Homestead claims dotted more of the Beaver Creek drainage as a few newcomers took up prospects in the isolated neighborhood. Joining old-timers like Valentine Staubach, George Beatty, and G. M. Filson, who arrived in the 1860s, came farmers James Pauly, Isaac Hall, and John Hammond, crowding in on Antelope Creek and other upper tributaries of the Beaver drainage. Still, the area remained lightly populated by small farms relying on surface water irrigation and public rangeland for stock-grazing.37 Competing for water, tapping into Beaver Creek as early as 1865, was the French Bar Ditch.38

It would not be until mines began excavating gold veins jutting into Beaver Creek's deep mountain valleys that the neighborhood saw a surge in households. Mining took hold in the 1880s, boosting the population of a fledgling settlement named Winston, a siding, located just four miles south of the McMaster Ranch and a mile or two south of Beaver Creek on the newly laid (1883) Northern Pacific track. Commerce at Winston siding and another siding called Placer quickened ore deliveries and the passage of supplies from the Iron Age and Kleinschmidt mines

34 U.S. Federal Census, 1870.
35 For descriptions of early transportation in Montana, see Jon Axline, Taming Big Sky Country: The History of Montana Transportation from Trails to Interstates, (Charleston: The History Press, 2015)
36 Helena Daily Independent, May 5, 1874, p. 3.
37 U.S. Federal Census, 1880.
back in the hills. Mineral claims quickened too, and homestead filings increased as the area spawned new promise.39

By 1890, things were bustling in the Helena region. The city was about to enter "the Capitol Fight," an intense partisan melee over locating Montana's political center provoked by statehood in 1889 (Helena would win). Regional mines seemed to burst with gold and silver; a massive new smelter billowed fumes over a nearby suburb, aptly dubbed, “East Helena,” money flowed into and out of Helena's stores and banks, and the Prickly Pear Valley was filling up with farms. Eighteen miles south of Beaver Creek, the little railroad city of Townsend took hold, and area residents plotted to create a new county by carving off a chunk of Jefferson County, a sprawling territorial remnant.40

The McMasters Arrive in Montana
On the cusp of this rising tide, availed access by rail and lured by possibility, came new area residents. Among them were members of the McMaster family, Irish immigrants who settled in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, relocated to Chippewa County, Pennsylvania, and then ventured west. The patriarch, Joseph McMaster, a laborer turned farmer, immigrated in 1848. He had married Flora Spears, just “off the boat” from Ireland in 1850. Their son, William, born in 1853, had established a career as a carriage blacksmith by 1880 and the family moved from Manchester, outside of Pittsburgh, to the village of Chippewa in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.41 It was a small distance for Joseph McMaster to move from the city to the farm in Pennsylvania but, sometime in 1886 or 1887, he and his family relocated to Helena, Montana Territory.42

Joseph’s McMaster clan now included daughter-in-law Elizabeth McMaster, who married William in 1879. Another native of Ireland, Elizabeth, called Lizzie by the family, transitioned to Montana with a domineering spirit. She and William brought their only child, a son, James, born in Pennsylvania in 1880.43 Lizzie McMaster would prove to be every inch a blacksmith's wife, an intrepid pioneer, and a fierce defender of what later became the McMaster Ranch. Her grandson, Bud McMaster, recalled her as “a tough customer.”44

Reasons for this move remain unclear, although plenty of communication channels existed between Helena and the Pittsburgh area in the 1880s. One of these channels included the investors in the French Bar Ditch, who, at the urging of One "Major" J. F. Dennison of

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39 A history of the area prepared by Agnes George and edited by Barbara Braun is in Broadwater Bygones, Broadwater County Historical Society, 1977, pp. 141-170.
41 1880 United States Federal Census, Chippewa, Beaver County PA.
44 The Townsend Star, January 22, 1989.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900
OMB Control No. 1024-0018

McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property

Pittsburgh, put up the money to buy a half interest in that waterway in 1873.45 Sufficient money from Pennsylvania, principally from investor John D. Thompson, also flowed into Helena to erect prominent buildings downtown: Penn (Pennsylvania) and the Pittsburgh Blocks, which stood on Main Street for years.46

Otherwise, direct association with people in Montana and the McMasters is not apparent. Although a McMasters mines near Jefferson City many miles away, any direct connection between the names has not been identified. It may be that the newly created railroad connection plus the urge to "see the elephant" compelled a McMaster exodus westward. Moreover, for some of them, that was not a whole-hearted displacement.

News about Joseph and William McMaster first appeared in Helena newspapers on March 1, 1888, when a J. McMaster purchased lot 10, block 24 of the Northern Pacific Addition in the city’s 6th Ward.47 The J. stood for Joseph.48 It was here that the family set up shop, actually two businesses: Capitol Grocery and William McMaster’s Blacksmith Shop, which they built in the summer of 1888.49 They owned this property for several decades.

Because block 24 was narrow and spanned the distance between two streets, the McMaster property held two addresses: 1322 Gallatin and 1323 Bozeman Avenue. William’s blacksmith shop sat at the 1323 Bozeman location. It appeared in the city directories as such for years, along with a reference that it also served as William’s residence. A photo of the building taken around 1900 shows a two-story structure that could accommodate housing on the upper floor. As for the Gallatin address, not much seems to have happened regarding the grocery store. It stands out only as the place where Joseph McMaster died in 1902.50

The commitment to Helena was not total on Joseph McMaster’s part. He and Flora still maintained their 93-acre Pennsylvania farm and did not appear to be absent from it for very long. In 1887 they paid Beaver County, Pennsylvania, taxes on a non-resident basis, but the place was in operation the following year. It stayed that way. By 1898 Joseph and Flora built a brick home

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45 Helena Weekly Herald, May 15, 1873, p. 8; Helena Weekly Herald, June 12, 1873, p. 4.
47 Helena Weekly Herald, March 1, 1888, p. 7.
48 Probate Case # 84, William McMaster, District Court, Broadwater County, Montana, Index to Probate Registers 1897-1907; Ancestry.com.
49 Helena Daily Independent, July 18, 1888, p. 6. Two-story buildings were on the lot, a stone store on Gallatin and the frame smithy on Bozeman. The $6,500 cost noted in the newspaper would have been for both or the stone building.
50 Helena Daily Independent, December 3, 1902, p. 5.
on the property. Apparently, Montana was a base for William’s blacksmith business, and his parents, Joseph and Flora, went back and forth between Chippewa and Helena. It may be that they were in Montana just setting William up in business.

William McMaster was willing to display his considerable skills. When the Montana exhibit for the 1893 World Columbian Exhibition opened in Chicago, a large plaque containing his horseshoes, artfully formed and gleaming like jewels, hung among the paintings. McMaster presented at the Montana Fair as well. Little wonder his impressive 6th Ward shop bore a sign on the door that read, "Get the Best."

Origins of the McMaster Ranch

Nothing more dramatically evidenced William’s drive than the founding of the McMaster Ranch, an effort that proved his wife and son equally determined to make it successful. Between 1888, when the McMasters purchased their Helena property, to 1893 when William filed for possession of the ranch, he had established his blacksmith shop and somehow located the ideal spot to wrest production from an otherwise unpromising tract of arid land. Indeed, if William were alert to land availability, he would have known about the French Bar Ditch and the fact that there were land protests leveled against claims filed with weak intent, that is, filed for speculation, not true homesteading. In addition to land, the water rights granted the ditch were in question because the French Bar gold deposits, which it was constructed to wash, had been exhausted of their values. Failure of the owner, Samuel Hauser, to use the water over time would release his water rights back to the public.

53 Helena Daily Independent, September 13, 1895, p. 8.
55 Helena Weekly Herald, July 29, 1880, p. 7. Samuel Hauser sold water from the French Bar Ditch to a major diversion southward to Indian Creek built in 1881. French Bar itself got the leavings (see the Helena Daily Independent July 19, 1881, p. 3.)
Perhaps it was the nexus of these situations that inspired William McMaster to tap into the French Bar Ditch, an act that took place, according to the Circuit Court, on May 1, 1893, when William dammed the ditch at the apex of the high bench running west from the foot of Spokane Mountain.56 Once contained, the water in William’s dam discharged through a headgate to the east rather than north, to flood the shallow swale containing what was no doubt an intermittent stream – Antelope Creek.

Such seeming water piracy was nonetheless legal. Somewhat edgy, however, was the land claim William made. The Surveyor General had designated the property he intended to farm as mineral land not intended for agricultural use. Thus, in June of 1893, William needed to participate in a formal hearing to alter that mineral designation.57 William had to verify that the ground bore no gold, silver, or other precious elements. He proved successful in this. He proceeded to "prove up" on 160 acres in section 22, Township 9 North, Range 1 West of the Principal Meridian as it lay in Jefferson County, Montana. The foundation of the McMaster Ranch had been laid.

At this juncture, work on the property needed to fluoresce beyond securing resources to building facilities, planting crops, raising stock, and bringing in profits. William McMaster must have become deeply engaged in his new enterprise. Leaving his shop on Bozeman Avenue, William could walk a block to the Helena Depot, board a local passenger train and be at the Placer siding in less than an hour. From there, it was a half-mile walk to the place he had designated as his homestead headquarters.58 If he were hauling materials or supplies in from town, the Helena-Bozeman road offered the best one could hope for in highways, such as they were.

Family lore holds that William lived in a tent while constructing the ranch buildings. This is plausible. He had a home in Helena and a business there, and the process of erecting a house, blacksmith shop, a barn, and hand-digging a well was probably undertaken in the course of interruptions and diversions. By 1893, his son, James, was 13, old enough to help run the blacksmith shop, but not operate it fully. His wife, Elizabeth or Lizzie, no doubt pitched in. Then there was the matter of a second blacksmith shop, this one on the ranch, which was capacious enough to handle commercial work. Again, stories persist that William McMaster repaired vehicles passing by on the roads and shod customer’s horses. With ranch headquarters placed just off the Helena-Bozeman road and directly adjacent to the Diamond City road, he could hardly escape petitions for assistance as a blacksmith. Area farms would also find him handy.

56 Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Montana from December Term 1868, Volume 37, Montana. Supreme Court, State Publishing Company, 1909, pp. 342-353, Spokane Ranch Etc. Co. v. Beatty Et Al. There were actually two ditches running parallel to one another, one built for a miner named Taylor and the other for French miners by John Murray; Broadwater Bygones, p. 142, and quoting James McMaster and also Leeson, History of Montana, 1883, and the Helena Daily Independent, June 19, 1881, p. 3.


58 Placer Station photo (verso) 1923. McMaster Photograph Collection. Pencil notation stating 2 trains daily provide service to station ½ mile from house.
Circumstances regarding these early ranch activities nonetheless remain speculative. No business records exist to strengthen the story.

Equally indistinct are the profiles of available labor that built the ranch. William likely needed help to erect the first structures there. That a McMaster built or directed the building of the house, barn, and blacksmith shop is evidenced by the distinctive corner post system used in all log structures on the property. Lack of square nails dates the buildings to at least the late 1880s and, more likely, the 1890s, aligning precisely with tapping the water ditch and James’ recollection, which pegs the ranch as beginning in 1893.

Between 1893 and 1900, William built a log house, the blacksmith shop, a log bunkhouse, the Stone Cooler, and at least one log barn. In addition to the irrigation system spanning Antelope Creek, the McMasters hand-dug a well near the house that extended 100 feet deep and lined with dry-laid stone. Fencing went in, and fields groomed. Thus, in a few short and intensive years, William McMaster summoned the personal energy, that of his family, and the physical, legal, and financial resources to establish a ranch at the Spokane Hills.

As the twentieth Century approached, James McMaster was probably operating the blacksmith shop on his own. In 1898, the McMasters tried taking on a partner, David McElvaney, a blacksmith and former neighbor from Beaver County, Pennsylvania, who lived at the Bozeman Avenue address. This arrangement lasted for a year or so, but it indicates a growing separation between ranch business and the Helena shop. The pull of both had to be forceful, and energy within the family needed to be meted out for each to succeed. In 1902, things came to a head when William McMaster died at age 47. Given all he had accomplished, there is no doubt some truth in the family story that he “worked himself to death.” Remaining family members James and Lizzie had to choose between the blacksmith business and the ranch. In 1903, James, who was recently married and probably planned to be running the shop, moved to the ranch at near Winston. From then on, James and Lizzie concentrated on expanding the family holdings.


When he died in the spring of 1902, William McMaster had created a small but respectable farm and stock-growing operation. Other than the McMaster blacksmith shop, his inventory included haying equipment, plows, and seeders for planted crops, several hogs, milk cows, feeder calves, and work horses. He also ran 23 stock cows and 26 range horses. The latter could have been pastured on public land; otherwise, the McMaster Ranch then consisted of 160 acres, but it is

59 See Section 7 narrative descriptions.
60 See the discussion of square nail availability in the Helena area in Gehring Ranch National Register Nomination; Helena Independent Record, August 18, 1956, p. 7.
61 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 26, 2020.
62 R. L. Polk & Co, Helena City Directory, 1900, p. 274; U.S. Federal Census, Beaver County PA, 1880 and 1900, Beaver County Tax Records, state of Pennsylvania 1880-1911
63 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 2020.
64 R. L. Polk & Co, Helena City Directory, 1904.
unlikely that his ambitions were static. More Homestead filings were being planned, no doubt with an eye on using the Desert Land Act of 1877, which granted dryland acreage that could be irrigated.

Bozeman historian Derek Strahn summed up reasons why this was an auspicious time for the McMasters to take the initiative:

*Several short-term trends helped trigger Montana’s remarkable [early 20th Century] homestead boom. The most significant was the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909, which doubled the free land available to settlers to 320 acres. In 1912, Congress went even farther, lowering the required waiting period for land acquisition from five to three years, while also permitting homesteaders to be absent from their lands five months each year. Together, these laws generated an eager response, ensuring that nearly 32 million acres of Montana land would pass from public to private hands.*

Both James and Lizzie moved quickly to follow up on claiming nearby property. James secured 80 acres in the adjacent Section 23 in 1907. Lizzie herself collected the western quarters of Section 22 the same year. Aiding in this effort was Lizzie’s marriage to David Aitkin, another blacksmith, who lived nearby in 1910 and may have worked for the family for some time.

Together, David and Lizzie Aitkin filed homesteads under new provisions allowing expanded ownership. This was the case in parts of sections 14, 15, and 23, where they used the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909. David Aitkin died in 1918, but not before he and his wife filed claims on 640 fresh acres for the ranch.

Meanwhile, James employed the same avenues to include an additional 800 acres between 1907 and 1924. This included 80 acres he purchased under the cash option. Desert Land Acts filings only applied to the portions of sections 22 and 23 directly adjacent to the headquarters, probably because the act’s irrigation requirements could not be met on the highland slopes of the Spokane Hills. The same was true of Lizzie’s claim that filled in the home section (Section 22).

Other Acts helped. In 1918, James picked up 80 acres in Section 10 using the provisions of the "Timber and Stone Law" of 1878. The Stock Raising Homestead Act of 1916 allowed James to acquire a strip of Section 15 between his own homestead and that of David and Lizzie Aitkin in 1924.

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67 *Helena Daily Independent*, April 23, 1918, p. 3.


69 GLO Homestead Records.
Certain other homestead property was provided with reserved mineral rights. This applied in portions of sections 10 and 15, for example, issued to the Aitkins couple. In later years, a stone mine operated on the McMaster Ranch, probably as a provision of this reserve.70

In one iteration of compiling adjacent lands, the McMasters acquired a 160-acre strip through Section 26, south and east of the home place, and in a drainage. They later sold this parcel, which probably provided the capital to make additional cash payments on higher and less well-watered property.71 James used the cash option (outright purchase of available public lands) to obtain peaks in the Spokane Hills, expanding north and east of the ranch headquarters. Considerable acreage previously held by other homesteaders was added by making direct payments. This was the case with the holdings of Harry and Leo. Lefner (Loefner) acquired between McMaster homesteads and the Missouri River that James purchased. Other outright buys included land owned by S. Strub, M. Frank, and a small corner of the Brooks Ranch. James also purchased three parcels comprising a quarter section of railroad land to close gaps between his public land claims. Somehow, a Joseph McMaster bought 40 acres over two miles north of the ranch headquarters, probably to secure a productive spring. At least one of these “cash” transactions consisted of a horse and wagon requested by the owner who just wanted to get out of drought-stricken Montana.72

Later years saw more purchases when James and Oliver bought a section from the Myles family, another quarter section from John Kane in 1943, and, by 1969, the Hauser Lake Addition, ironically including the old French Bar deposits on the Missouri River, the mining objective of the French Bar Ditch.73

The Importance of Irrigation to the McMaster Ranch

“They call it ranching,” goes an old saying, “but it’s really playing in the mud.” The reference was to irrigation, an essential part of most ranch operations and certainly those of the McMaster Ranch. From the beginning of Euro-American settlement in the territory, natural streams were partially dammed, and their water diverted into hand-dug ditches that led to planted fields. There the ditches splayed out into many small laterals to spread the water over open ground. Haylands, as well as fields of wheat and oats, were watered in this manner, creating stock feed to be dispersed in winter and cash crops to diversify income. Achieving the proper results required constant tending during the season water was available, meaning in both an environmental and legal sense. Drought could limit surface water availability. Also, irrigation water along an extensive ditch was allocated to each user by contract in quantities measured during a period of time water was allowed through an opening of so many square inches. Landowners who owned water rights conformed to the usage limits imposed on them by law. An irrigation system had to be ready for use at the proper moment because interruptions in supply caused by breached or

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70 Remnants of this quarry are still visible next to the road leading north out of Section 23.
71 Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder office, deed book.
72 Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder office, deed book; Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 3, 2020.
73 GLO Records.
clogged ditches would prove costly. Added to the need for well-timed maintenance were
decisions about which fields to tend, which crops to sow, and when to plant them, rendered the
irrigating process meaningfully complex. Miscalculation could lead to suffering, and the loss of
water meant disaster. Any threat to a ranch's irrigation system, natural or human, was likely to
prompt swift and heartfelt reaction. Little wonder that the old saw, "Whisky is for drinkin' and
water is for fightin'" was proven to be true again and again.

Built on the old French Bar Mining Ditch of 1865, William McMaster's irrigation system
diverted to his fields what had originally been water used to wash away placer overburden
farther to the north.74 In May 1893, when that water became available, McMaster tapped into it
and secured a right that made his otherwise arid homestead viable.75 He also entered the realm
of water rights. One of many Beaver Creek water users, the McMaster Ranch became caught up in
disputes over water rights claimed by others along the ditch. A significant challenge, issued in
1905, attempted to appropriate all irrigation privileges, even to the point of sending an agent, a
ditch rider, along the waterway to enforce that claim. Encountering Lizzie McMaster in her field,
the agent elicited a heartfelt reaction: she threatened violence against him or anyone else who
interfered with the French Bar Ditch. Following a trial held on Dec 13, 1905, Montana’s Ninth
Circuit Court held up Lizzie’s water right, permanently establishing the ranch’s use of its
lifeblood.76

In the meantime, the McMaster operation was able to sustain increasingly more stock with the
hay and grain raised in its irrigated fields, which enabled the irrigation system to be improved
and expanded. In the southern portion of Section 15, the old French Bar Ditch was given a new
secondary channel that covered the field just south and west of the railroad tracks.77 Headgates
were improved too, with concrete replacing older materials up until 1994.78 Over the years, the
ranch enhanced its water supply. By the 1970s, it owned over 800 standard inches of right, so
much so that Olive McMaster, acting for the ranch, took the option of selling a portion of it to
neighbors.79 The irrigation system continues to be used in the 21st Century, meaning the water
rights will not again lapse to be taken up by others or be allowed to languish. To do so would
revert the value added to the property by William McMaster in 1893.

The McMaster Ranch Matures
Hard work and frugality stood as the foundation of the ranch, along with strident exertions to
expand its territory. This may have had a toll on James' marriage to Ethel Cadwallader, who

75 Ibid. Also, Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Montana from
December Term 1868, Volume 37, Montana. Supreme Court, State Publishing Company, 1909, pp. 342-353,
Spokane Ranch Etc. Co. v. Beatty Et Al. where the findings and subsequent actions are summarized.
76 Ibid.
77 This may have been done in 1914 when McMasters hired Louis Pool to survey ditches on the ranch; The
Broadwater Opinion, May 16, 1914 p. 3.
78 Date incised on Main Headgate.
79 Montana Department of Natural Resources, Water Rights Division case # 411-W-010379-00.
returned to Helena in 1907, taking the couple’s two children with them.\textsuperscript{80} James remained a single man for 16 years. During that time, McMaster added new pastures and built new facilities. Rough log sheds, some with straw piled on overhead beams to serve as roofs, were placed in the south and north corrals, along with a two-story log milking barn. The calf barn and the long barn appeared, and the corral system itself took form. Just north of the stone cooler, a commercially constructed well house was installed over the deep hand-dug well.\textsuperscript{81}

Like most Montana ranchers, the McMasters found they were alone in intending to make changes to their property. The narrow Antelope Creek-Spokane Creek divide that funneled water toward the western foot of Spokane Mountain also directed human traffic there. The old wagon road took this route, as did the railroad. Topography may have been in favor of roads over the divide, but the soils proved uncooperative. Beaver Creek and its tributaries made for soupy ground that overwhelmed local resources to deal with the situation.\textsuperscript{82} By the early 1920s, area counties and the state began planning a major redo to which James McMaster would object.

Montana’s premier highway historian, Jon Axline, explained why changes were coming:

\begin{quote}
\textit{\textquotedblleft The most serious obstacle to motorists in the early Twentieth Century was the lack of good roads. At the dawn of the automobile age, Montana's roads weren’t much better than they were in the 1860s. County governments endeavored to construct as much mileage as possible with the limited funds at their disposal. Unfortunately, in the counties' haste to construct roads, the resulting thoroughfares often lacked any real durability and were difficult to maintain. Primarily earth-surfaced roads, they were gumbo morasses after the rain and during thaws, and they were badly rutted and washboarded in the summer.\textquotedblright}\textsuperscript{83}
\end{quote}

Montana’s growing population and the advent of automobile use created more and new types of traffic on state highways. Added pressure came from the “Good Roads” movement, intent on expanding auto use and promoting tourism.\textsuperscript{84} To this effect, the old Helena-Bozeman road of territorial days was eyed for improvement. No longer destined as a wandering trail, it was on its way to becoming a Montana state highway and the McMaster Ranch lay directly in its path.

In January 1903, Lewis and Clark County, with Broadwater County looking on, signed an agreement with the Northern Pacific Railroad that granted the county a right-of-way along the

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
\item Helena Daily Independent, December 27, 1907 p. 5; Helena Daily Independent, July 3, 1907, p. 5.
\item Confirmation of these structures present on the property and the improvements to the house is found in the 1923 photograph series, McMaster Photograph Collection.
\item C. C. Coddington to Lewis and Clark County Commissioners, February 26, 1926; Road Files B-22, Lewis and Clark County, collections of the Helena, Lewis and Clark County Heritage Tourism Council.
\item H. W. Child to J. M Rapelje, April 22, 1919, wherein Child urges NPRR action in granting rights-of-way for the "Park to Park Highway;" Road Files B-22, Lewis and Clark County, collections of the Helena, Lewis and Clark County Heritage Tourism Council; Jon Axline, \textit{Taming Big Sky Country}, p. 35.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
N.P. tracks to build a road parallel to those tracks for their entire extent in the county. Eventually, the plan unfolded, aligning itself with a new State Highway Commission. It would re-route the old Helena-Bozeman wagon road of 1866, a patchwork of improved and unimproved grades that each county contributed to as it could over the decades. The clincher for this plan was the right-of-way. With only the railway to deal with, securing permission for the route was immeasurably simpler, except where it wasn’t.

As William McMaster had to maneuver to secure and improve Section 22 around the McMaster Ranch headquarters, James and Lizzie also contended with anomalies created by having a major road and a rail line cutting across their pastures and fields. These obstacles interfered with the irrigation system, presented risks to wandering livestock and blocked ease of transport across the property. Moreover, while the railroad bed was stable, the highway was in flux, threatening to weave over the landscape like a writhing snake. An old grassed-over version of the main highway survives west of Highway 12/287 in Section 15. In the 1910s and 1920s, James actively tried to improve yet contain the beast by petitioning for non-impactful changes. In 1926, James and Lizzie sued to prevent an eminent domain taking of their land for a new highway. They lost. Montana’s highway commission succeeded in condemning a portion of the ranch to bring its current alignment into use. The points of law cost Broadwater County the court fees but the road went through in 1928. Today, a cattle pass and irrigation ditch culverts run beneath Highway 12/287 and plug the ranch’s divided portions together.

By 1923, much of the existing ranch was assembled. Also by then, the log cabin home transformed into a craftsman approximation featuring narrow siding, formal dormers, and a long porch with square, attenuated, and battered posts. More changes soon occurred to the McMaster home, including a western addition and other, much later, improvements due to a new arrival. That arrival was Olive Black Bedford McMaster, the new wife of James McMaster, who became the mother of five additional McMaster children. She was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1894, and by the early 1920s, worked as a bookkeeper at the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. Here was another Pennsylvania connection, possibly made through family acquaintances, visits, and communications. On July 11, 1923, Olive and James married in Townsend, Montana, and launched another phase of the ranch development.

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85 Agreement with the NPRY Co. and Lewis & Clark Co August [filed] 1903. Road Files B-22, Lewis and Clark County, collections of the Helena, Lewis and Clark County Heritage Tourism Council.

86 The Townsend Star, June 16, 1914, p. 4. All the roads past and through the ranch were changing. See The Townsend Star, March 20, 1919; The Townsend Star, August 13, 1925, p. 2; The Townsend Star, April 15, 1926, p. 1; The Townsend Star, April 22, 1926, p. 8.

87 The Townsend Star, February 9, 1928, p. 1. A sidebar to a lawsuit filed by James and Lizzie objecting to the highway was a Montana Supreme Court finding that the costs of condemnation should be borne by the State Highway Commission, relieving counties of that burden. Helena Daily Independent, September 24, 1927, p. 5; The Townsend Star, October 13, 1927, p. 7; The Townsend Star, November 3, 1927, p. 1.

88 Ibid.

Soon after Olive and James married, Lizzie became Mrs. A. F. Swartz and moved away, leaving the ranch-tending to her daughter-in-law.90 Apart from her assembled lands, Lizzie's legacy included the origins of the apple orchard by the main house, planted in the late “teens” or early 1920s. Olive enhanced the ambiance of the house grounds, expanding plantings into open areas and creating new gardens. After her arrival, the south paddock sprouted a berry hedge, and several fruit varieties emerged, all watered by the irrigation ditch running just past her front door.91 Olive also took over the feathered livestock operation. With their protective wire enclosures, her poultry houses are visible in the 1956 aerial photograph – complete with chickens. These activities would keep anyone busy, and Olive pursued them in addition to maintaining a household that not only included James, but waves of seasonal hired hands, and a growing brood of children.

As for the latter, here they came; Margaret in 1924, James Jr. (Bud) in 1926, Elizabeth (Dolly) in 1928, John Oliver in 1930, and Benjamin Franklin McMaster in 1932. Of this rambunctious herd, Dolly said that her mother could not keep track of all five, so, "She would turn us loose in the morning and hope that we lived to come in for supper in the evening."92 There was ample life-threatening opportunity: a couple of thousand mountainous acres to roam populated with coyotes, rattlesnakes, irritable Hereford bulls, irascible mother cows, and distracted machinery operators in a landscape with flowing irrigation water, barbed-wire fences, cliffs, unstable rockpiles, and widow-maker trees, all under the influence of Montana's capricious, unforgiving weather. It was no doubt a relief to send each little adventurer off to the safety of a schoolhouse when they came of age.

Education around Beaver Creek proved as difficult to come by as was everything else in ranch country. James and Olive found themselves providing not only the students, but the schoolhouse itself, the land on which it sat, and refuge for storm-stranded teachers. The school they erected, a small log structure, still stands next to the entry lane to the headquarters.

The exact circumstances that made this building necessary are yet to be discovered or were not recorded. No information about the schoolhouse was found in the Broadwater County Superintendent of Schools files that were purged just after 1950. What does exist are financial summaries and correspondence dating from 1920. A school district boundary book also survives. From this and census information, it can be established that the McMaster place was first in the

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91 The photograph of 1923 shows the apple trees in front of the house as saplings but the south paddock as open ground. Dolly McMaster identified her grandmother, Lizzie as "the farmer", and she likely planted the saplings not long before moving to Helena in 1924.

92 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 26, 2020.
Beaver Creek School District #14 in 1910 and then in the Placer School District #17 in 1920. Both districts' boundaries frequently changed as the sparse scatterings of school-aged children in the area merged and dissolved. Adding to the dynamic was the Clasoil School several miles to the north. Though located in a corner of Jefferson County, it drew children from adjacent Broadwater and Lewis and Clark counties out of necessity.

Dolly McMaster recollects that the log building moved from where it first stood, east and somewhat north of the ranch headquarters, and a photo of the cabin in that location exists. This placed it in Section 23, the homestead of Lizzie and David Aitken. It potentially served as their home. David Aitken's estate included that 320-acre claim, along with "improvements" of equal value to the land - $250. Other than tools, wagons, a few horses, and household goods "located on said property," nothing accounts for that value. Although a house is not mentioned, it may be surmised. Further bolstering this speculation is the U. S. Census of 1900, which lists Aitken as a homeowner and an immediate neighbor of the McMasters, but not a member of their household.

Dolly McMaster also remembers that she and her siblings attended school here for a short while. A Mrs. Knudson was the teacher at the time, she recalls, and when there were storms, the teacher stayed at the ranch. About a year or so later, the children attended the Placer or Sweeney School, two miles directly west of the ranch but farther away by road. Later, they finished up at the Clasoil School, where Dolly graduated from the 8th grade.

The Placer School District was established before the county’s creation in 1897. Its schoolhouses were in three locations before the stone school was erected. But before the 1930s, Broadwater County school district maps clearly show that the official Placer School sat west of the Northern Pacific Railroad line, the location of the stone Placer School.

Why, then, was this little log school necessary? Montana schools were supported by public land grant rentals and other assessments, including those levied against the Northern Pacific Railroad, a good source of income for the districts. Districts were thus able to go to considerable lengths to get children to school. At times they even paid to transport them through contract. Nor was

94 Pronounced "clay-soil" after the perceptible qualities of local farmland.
96 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 26. 2020.
97 Broadwater County Commissioners Journal, May 10, 1897. The school districts, including Placer, transferred to Broadwater County from Jefferson county in that year.
98 The Townsend Messenger, 1890-1901, September 20, 1900, p. 1.
it uncommon to have more than one school operating within the Broadwater County school district. Small-scale, nearly private schools, were set up for families too distant to walk or ride to school or in terrain where travel could be dangerous in bad weather. The district paid teachers around $100 a month to instruct in these places, and arrangements made to rent available cabins or homes for that purpose. An indication that the McMaster School served as such an interim facility is the building being deficient of certain standards, including available light (the windows were too small and cross-lighting was a prerequisite), although it did meet a requirement for two doors. The McMaster school was likely needed because, projecting forward from the 1930 U. S. Census, no other elementary-aged students other than the McMaster children lived in Placer District #17. Dolly McMaster believed this the case and said that the school was called "the Placer School," suggesting it held some official status and served as a replacement, at least for a while.

The period between 1925 and 1939 threw up challenges that broke many Montana farms and ranches. Hot war prices cooled after 1919 and, six years later, America’s Dust Bowl began in Montana’s ‘Big Empty,’ its central heartland. A homestead boom that took off in the “teens” faltered and turned to dust itself. Those who hung on faced hardship and privation. “We stayed right here and did without,” Dolly McMaster said, and recalled cooking “pig weed” or mock spinach for supper. The drought finally broke in 1939, and with the rains, ranching rebounded. “You couldn’t do anything wrong,” Bud McMaster remembered, “Hay grew up to your stirrups.”

World War II stabilized prices but curtailed access to machinery and materials. The McMaster's frugality meant they retained workhorses years after some neighbors turned to tractor power, but after the war, new equipment populated yards and fields on the ranch. Two new structures quickly appeared a tractor shed to house a Cletrac crawler and a large garage for trucks, pickups, and automobiles.

Some of this machinery focused on an adjusted purpose. From the early days of the ranch, white-faced cattle were preferred, and the McMasters purchased Hereford stock from rancher W.L. Velie, either directly or through local stock-grower A. B. Cook, to standardize their calves. Meaningful change took place in the spring of 1948 when James McMaster bought R. S. Princeps, the grand champion Hereford bull at the Livingston Registered Livestock Association.

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100 State of Montana Department of Public Instruction to Opal Cronk, Broadwater Co. Supt. of Schools, March 4, 1920.
102 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, August 29, 2020. Also see Randy Robertson, "Velie's Montana Ranch," Velie (Randy Robertson), accessed November 12, 2020, www.Velieauto.com; Helena Daily Independent, July 10, 1909 p. 7; July 25, 1909 p. 12; April 4, 1918 p. 9; September 11, 1919 p. 10. Wm. Velie was an heir of the Deere manufacturing family. His Elk Run ranch near the Highland Mountains east of Great Falls specialized in Hereford breeds. Velie also built carriages and automobiles and James McMaster owned a Velie buggy, now on display at the Broadwater County Museum. This connection may have stimulated the Hereford purchase.
sale. This investment of $1,625 paid for itself many times over. By the mid-1950s, the ranch created impressive numbers of prime Hereford cattle and bulls, modern products from a facility dating nearly to Montana’s pioneer era.

By 1956, the ranch headquarters was fully established; barns, ditches, garages, sheds, and corrals that are still standing were in place. No new buildings have been added to the property. Since 1956, one barn and some sheds have been removed, two buildings have deteriorated, and the main house altered, but the overall high level of historical integrity remains a prime element of the significance of the McMaster Ranch.

The August 11, 1956, issue of the *Helena Independent Record* published an aerial photograph of the McMaster Ranch, and a brief history of that place appeared in the paper a few days later. An original print of the image shows all of the buildings now present at the headquarters, plus a few that have since been removed. Other than the house, none of the buildings appear to have been altered, although the blacksmith shop is near total collapse, and the earth-roofed barn has caved in.

The period since the photograph was taken yielded consistent production at the McMaster Ranch. The family proudly recorded the massive Hereford bulls feeding in the corrals and herds of cows lining up for winter hay in the near pastures. Hunting on the ranchlands became a profitable sideline, with paid permission given to trusted applicants. The cycles of planting and reaping, summer pasturing and winter feeding continued on the property. The McMaster children grew, went through their 4-H programs, school activities, and educational milestones. Most of them moved away from the Winston area. James and Olive picked up more acreage, tended their business, and grew old on the ranch. As they aged, James Jr., or Bud, as he was universally known, took over more of the operations. Dolly came home to co-manage both the ranch and the household. Their father, James Sr., died in February 1972, at the age of 91. The children altered the main house to accommodate Olive’s deteriorating health by expanding a downstairs room and filling in the porches for her comfort. She died in December 1987.

The fencing, haying, and stock-tending continued. In 1994, the irrigation system was fitted with new headgates. Devising a grass seed-broadcaster attached to the back of their pickup, Bud and Dolly McMaster grassed-over the remaining cropland to provide more grazing and hay land, thereby devoting the ranch entirely to stock-growing. When the ranch work became too demanding, and there seemed no other family members ready to take over, Bud and Dolly pursued a conservation easement that eventually rested ownership with the Federal government, managed by the Bureau of Land Management. They made large contributions to local hospitals, and a fund created to help the BLM maintain the headquarters ranch buildings long into the future. Bud was pleased to see this through before his health failed. He died in 2007. Dolly

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103 *Montana Farmer-Stockman*, April 1, 1948, p. 41.
104 Dolly McMaster, personal communication with the author, September 25, 2020.
remains at the ranch headquarters under the conditions of a life estate, satisfied to see visitors passing by to hike and ride the trails along the rocky heights and gullied slopes of the picturesque McMaster Ranch.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Books


--- and Baucus, Jean, Helena, an illustrated history (Globe Pequot Press, 1985).


Private Collections
McMaster Photographic Collection. McMaster family papers. Private Holding. The collection is comprised of snapshot-type photographic prints in the possession of Dolly McMaster. The images include family photograph album dating from ca 1900 and a series taken between May (early spring) and August 1923, picturing buildings and activities at and around the McMaster ranch headquarters, outlying areas, and Helena, Montana. Annotated in pen and pencil front and verso by “Nathaniel”, a seasonal worker who arrived by train that spring. Others may have contributed to the notations. Also in the collection is a series taken between 1959 and 2004, depicting agricultural activities, ranch animals, hunting scenes, landscapes, equipment, and a forest fire at the ranch, taken by McMaster family members.

Interviews and Personal Communications
“Personal Communication with Dolly McMaster”. Interviews by author, August 29, 2020; September 25, 2020 (also with Irene Noyes, niece of Dolly McMaster).

Newspapers
*Great Falls Daily Tribune* (Great Falls, Montana), 1884 - present.
*Helena Independent Record* (Helena, Montana), 1870 - present.
*Helena Weekly Herald* (Helena, MT Territory), 1887 – 1900.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900 OMB Control No. 1024-0018

McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property

*The Montana Post* (Virginia City, MT Territory), 1864-1869.

*The Townsend Star* (Townsend, MT)

*The Broadwater County Citizen* (Townsend, MT), 1904-1904.

*The Broadwater Opinion* (Townsend, MT), 19??-1914.


*The Townsend Forum and Townsend Messenger* (Townsend, MT), 1901-1901.

*Townsend Inter-Mountain* (Townsend, MT), 1914-191?

*The Townsend Messenger* (Townsend, MT), 1890-1901.

*Townsend Star* (Townsend, MT), 1897-2010.

*Townsend Tranchant* (Townsend, MT), 188?-1890.


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Government Documents


Deed Books, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Broadwater County, Montana.

Records of the Broadwater County Superintendent of Schools, Office of the Clerk and Recorder, Broadwater County, Montana.


----- Superintendents Correspondence, ca. 1920-1947 (n.d.).


McMaster Ranch Historic District  Broadwater County, MT

Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Montana from December Term 1868, to, Volume 37, Montana. Supreme Court, State Publishing Company, 1909, Spokane Ranch Etc. Co. v. Beatty Et Al. where the findings and subsequent actions are summarized.

Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Management & Remediation Division, Mining District Historical Narratives, *Winston Mining District Historic Context.*  
http://deq.mt.gov/Land/AbandonedMines/linkdocs/37tech

(Google Books).

**General Sources:**

Great Northern Railway Company (U.S.), “Montana Free Homestead Land,” Digital Vault,  

“Cletrac, Inc.”, Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, Case Western Reserve University.  

Cletrac Serial Numbers,  


Historic Nail Research  


**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey   #
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office

____ Other State agency

X Federal agency

____ Local government

____ University

____ Other

Name of repository: Bureau of Land Management, Butte Field Office, Montana

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ____________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  approximately 1,330

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates – Polygon containing boundaries. (TOPO Map)

Datum if other than WGS84: __________

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1) 46.534494, -111.725165 (46°32'04.2"N 111°43'30.6"W)

2) 46.529522, -111.717465 (46°31'46.3"N 111°43'02.9"W)

3) 46.529794, -111.683368 (46°31'47.3"N 111°41'00"W)

4) 46.526073, -111.683283 (46°31'33.9"N 111°40'59.8"W)

5) 46.523385, -111.679601 (46°31'24.2"N 111°40'46.6"W)

6) 46.522564, -111.680028 (46°31'21.2"N 111°40'48.1"W)

7) 46.522510, -111.683360 (46°31'21.0"N 111°41'00.1"W)

8) 46.522329, -111.704100 (46°31'20.4"N 111°42'14.8"W)

9) 46.515675, -111.704128 (46°30'56.4"N 111°42'14.9"W)

10) 46.515065, -111.706903 (46°30'54.2"N 111°42'24.9"W)

11) 46.514991, -111.725203 (46°30'54.0"N 111°43'30.7"W)
Verbal Boundary Description
POB NW Corner of that portion of Section 15 T9N R1W that lies south and west of MT HY 12/287.

Beginning in the SW Quarter of that Section at:
1- 46.534494, -111.725165 (46°32'04.2"N 111°43'30.6"W), the NW corner post of the fence of the McMaster Property in Section 15 SW of MT Highway 287 and following that fence SE along the highway to a point at
2- 46.529522, -111.717465 (46°31'46.3"N 111°43'02.9"W), where the fence meets the north boundary of Section 22, then east to
3- 46.529794, -111.683368 (46°31'47.3"N 111°41'00"W), the approximate NE corner of Section 23, T9N, R 4W and south along the old fence line to
4- 46.526073, -111.683283 (46°31'33.9"N 111°40'59.8"W) to a point where the fence and boundary line turn SE and following that fence and boundary line to where the fence turns SSW at
5- 46.523385, -111.679601 (46°31'24.2"N 111°40'46.6"W) and following the same fence to a point at
6- 46.522564, -111.680028 (46°31'21.2"N 111°40'48.1"W) where the fence and boundary line turn west to meet the corner section line at
7- 46.522510, -111.683360 (46°31'21.0"N 111°41'00.1"W) and following further west along the south border of the McMaster property to
8- 46.522329, -111.704100 (46°31'20.4"N 111°42'14.8"W) to the corner post at the first fence or the corner of the McMaster property and following that fence line south to
9- 46.515675, -111.704128 (46°30'56.4"N 111°42'14.9"W) where the McMaster property line for this field meets the curve in Filson Road, then following that property line turning WSW to the west boundary of this field, then directly across Montana State Highway 287 and the Great Northern Railroad tracks to the corner post of the McMaster property at
10- 46.515065, -111.706903 (46°30'54.2"N 111°42'24.9"W), then following the fence line west to
11- 46.514991, -111.725203 (46°30'54.0"N 111°43'30.7"W), a point just north of the north edge of Quarter Circle Road along the southern line of Section 22, T9N, R1W at the corner post of the McMaster property then North to the point of beginning.

See attached topographic map, Additional Documentation, page 68: reference to this topographic map confirms that boundary.

The property line runs for 6.7 miles, encompasses 1.61 mi² and contains 1,330 acres, more or less.
Boundary Justification
The boundaries of the McMaster Ranch Historic District encompass resources representing the historic themes and associations which comprise its significance relative to National Register criteria. These include buildings and structures at the ranch headquarters, the irrigation system which made the ranch operable, transportation elements influencing the property’s history and lands acquired using several homestead act permutations, a major attribute of its historic development.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: _____Paul M. Putz_____
organization: ___Paul M. Putz / Historic Preservation Works_____
street & number: __101 S. Maple St___________
city or town: __Townsend_____ state: __Montana_ zip code: _59644_
e-mail____paulputz@mt.net__
telephone:___406-266-3287_
date:_December 2020___

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: See Continuation Sheets below.
- Sketch map See Continuation Sheets below.
- Additional items: See Continuation Sheets below.

Photographs
See Continuation Sheets below.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours  
Tier 2 – 120 hours  
Tier 3 – 230 hours  
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section 9 – end, page 67
Closeup topographic view of McMaster Ranch Historic District. Found on the Canyon Ferry, SW 7.5' quadrangle map. 1) 46.534494, -111.725165, 2) 46.529522, -111.717465, 3) 46.529794, -111.683368 4) 46.526073, -111.683283, 5) 46.523385, -111.679601, 6) 46.522564, -111.680028, 7) 46.523385, -111.679601, 8) 46.522564, -111.680028
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District

County and State: Broadwater County, MT N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable):

McMaster Land Acquisitions, 1893-1943. Original Homestead in Section 22, lower left.

Purchases of private land were made on the east (right) side of the ranch.

Remaining areas were developed using various Federal land distribution policies.
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Broadwater Co. Montana

Headquarters Building Cluster - Sketch Map

Wooden fences

Wire Fences

(House Grounds & Central Corral in red)

= Approx. 100 ft.

McMaster Ranch Historic District, Headquarters Building Cluster and Nearby Resources

Section 9 – end, page 70
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number: Additional Documentation—Maps

Page: 71
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—Maps

Section 9 – end, page 73
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

<table>
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—Maps  
Page: 74

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Section 9 – end, page 74
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

McMaster Ranch Satellite View 2014 North-South Exaggeration.

Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District

Broadwater County, MT

North
Highway 12/287 cuts north. Railroad and L. H. Baum road are to the left of the highway.

Section 22 begins on left. Irrigated fields are bottom center. Headquarters at pin. Open rangeland on right.

Section nominated portion in context.
**Photo Log—All Photos:** McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District / City or Vicinity: Winston Vicinity  
County: Broadwater / State: Montana  
Photographs/Graphic Enhancement: Paul M. Putz (Alternatives noted in Additional Information below)

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<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>SE</td>
<td></td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Main House - (1).JPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**  
August 29, 2020  
South elevation, east end. Shows late 1970s porch enclosures.  
Windows repurposed from Fort Harrison, MT. Non-stuccoed corner at center.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>East end of North façade. Stucco walls overlap siding and original log. Shows dormer on pre-1923 pyramidal roof. Hip ridge extended right in post-1923 addition to the west.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1970s shed roof addition was downstairs space/bedroom for Olive McMaster.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Original Photo ID</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Main House - (5).JPG</td>
<td>MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property**

McMaster Ranch Historic District

**County and State**

Broadwater County, MT

**N/A**

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**

N/A

### Section 9 – end, page 78

**Page:** 78

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**

August 29, 2020

**Description**

Foreground façade is post-1923 addition. Porch to right is pre-1923 but enclosed 1970s.

**Camera Facing**

Note

**Original Photo ID**

Dormer is pre-1923, centered over original log structure.

McMaster Ranch- Main House - (15).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0003
## Map Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Date of Photo
- August 29, 2020
- North and west walls with House Grounds. Foreground façade is post-1923 addition.

### Camera Facing
- Note: Dormer centered over original log structure. NE shed roof addition in background.

### Original Photo ID
- McMaster Ranch- Main House - (16).JPG
- MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0004

---

**McMaster Ranch Historic District**
- **Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District
- **County and State**: Broadwater County, MT
- **Original Photo ID**: MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0004
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  Page: 80

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main House – Well House – Stone Cooler – House Grounds</td>
<td>South</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Main House (pre western addition) and outbuildings. Porch before 1970s enclosure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Original taken or labeled by “Nathaniel” seasonal worker.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- overview from south late spring 1923.tif / selected view  

Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
County and State: Broadwater County, MT  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable): N/A
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 81

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>House Grounds</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**: August 29, 2020  
**Description**: Part of the McMaster Heritage Orchard immediately south of main house, front.  
**Camera Facing**: SW  
**Note**: These trees were saplings in 1923 (see photo 0005).

**Original Photo ID**: McMaster Ranch- House Grounds - (8).JPG  

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0006
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>House Grounds</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Northwest corner of grounds with west fence and plantings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Camera Facing | Note | Original Photo ID |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Main House - (17).JPG</td>
</tr>
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</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0007
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 83

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>House Grounds</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Looking northeast, away from the rear of the house. Poppy garden foreground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calf shed mid-ground, poultry sheds and bunkhouse #2 in background.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Original Photo ID</td>
<td></td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- House Grounds - (1).JPG</td>
</tr>
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McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property  
Broadwater County, MT  
County and State  
N/A  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)  

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0008
McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Broadwater County, MT  

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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stone Cooler</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
- August 29, 2020

**Description**
- Foreground is front, with south entry and access opening (boarded over).
- Roof is old substrate of earth roof “sandwich” now covered with metal.

**Camera Facing**
- Note

**Original Photo ID**
- McMaster Ranch- Stone cooler - (10).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0009
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  Page: 85

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stone Cooler</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>N (rear/left) &amp; W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Foreground is N. Showing original stone construction and repairs. Metal roofing detail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South corral is far left edge. House is off-camera on right.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Original Photo ID | McMaster Ranch- Stone Cooler - (18).JPG |

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0010
McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Well House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Front entry on south wall.</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Well House (10).JPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0011
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Well House</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Foreground is N façade with electrical insulators for “light plant” generator once housed inside.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Camera Facing: Rear of main house in background
Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- Well House (2).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0012

Section 9 – end, page 87
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 88

McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property  
Broadwater County, MT  
County and State  
N/A  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property  
Broadwater County, MT  
County and State  
N/A  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section 9 – end, page 88
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pig Shed</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
August, 1956

**Description**
Photo of south elevation now obscured by brush.

**Camera Facing**
NE

**Note**

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch-pig shed 1956.jpg

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0014
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property**

Audiochord Ranch

**County and State**

Broadwater County, MT

**Date of Photo**

October 30, 2020

**Description**

View from garage apron and on old road once leading to highway (at right).

**Camera Facing**

Irrigation ditch at lower left. Part of orchard upper left.

**SSE**

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_South Paddock (4)_stitch.jpg

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>South Paddock</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs**

Page: 90

---

Section 9 – end, page 90
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page: 91

McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation
--- | --- | ---
6 | South Paddock | CONTRIBUTING

Date of Photo | Description
--- | ---
October 30, 2020 | Telephoto view from RR (bottom). Main house left center. South paddock fence is mid-ground.

Camera Facing | Note
--- | ---
N | Irrigated field foreground. Paddock w/trees center. North corral in background.

Original Photo ID | McMaster Ranch-field series-20201029_HQ stitch- (2)_stitch.jpg
--- | ---

Section 9 – end, page 91
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

**Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State**: Broadwater County, MT  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**: N/A

### Section 9 – end, page 92

**Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State**: Broadwater County, MT  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**: N/A

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Granary</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>E &amp; N (Front/right)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**: August 29, 2020  
**Note**: View from South Corral. Foreground is front with entry door and grain grinder access (r).  
**Camera Facing**: Front door. South paddock fence in midground. Irrigation ditch in foreground.  
**Original Photo ID**: McMaster Ranch- Granary - (1).jpg

---

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0017
### Map Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Granary</td>
<td>S (left) &amp; E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Date of Photo

- **August 29, 2020**

### Description

- Rear (south) of building on left, foreground is southeast corner. Shows half-post exterior studs.

### Camera Facing

- **Note**: West elevation obscured by brush. Calf shed in background.

### Original Photo ID

- McMaster Ranch- Granary - (3).JPG

---

Section 9 – end, page 93
McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**Name of Property**  
Broadwater County, MT  
**County and State**  
N/A  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 94

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>South Corral</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>East corral and chute is beyond gate in midground. Tree grows through fence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Camera Facing</td>
<td>Note Granary is off-camera to the right past visible ditch. Central corral far left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ESE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 95

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>South Corral</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WNW</td>
<td>Earth-roofed barn center right. Bunkhouse #1 beyond it. Long barn right edge.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Original Photo ID**  
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0020

---

Section 9 – end, page 95
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

**Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Broadwater County, MT**

**County and State**: N/A

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**: N/A

---

### Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

**Section number**: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

**Page**: 96

### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District

**County and State**: Broadwater County, MT

**N/A**

**Date of Photo**: August 29, 2020

**Description**: West wall and collapsed roof. South corral right, central corral left.

**Camera Facing**: ESE

**Feature Name**: Earth-roofed Barn

**Elevation**: West

**Original Photo ID**: McMaster Ranch- Earth Roofed Barn - (6).JPG

---

### Table: McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Earth-roofed Barn</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>West wall and collapsed roof. South corral right, central corral left.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0021**
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Earth-roofed Barn</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>View from South Corral</td>
<td>Divided waterer far left. Gate into central corral at center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- South Corral - (26).JPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0022

Section 9 – end, page 97
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Divided Waterer</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Shows construction method, concrete ground apron, center dividing fence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td></td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Divided Concrete Stock Waterer - (1).JPG</td>
</tr>
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</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0023
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

#### Name of Property
- McMaster Ranch Historic District

#### County and State
- Broadwater County, MT

#### Description
- Waterer in context. View from south corral. Long barn and tractor shed midground.

#### Camera Facing
- N

#### Date of Photo
- August 29, 2020

#### Map Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Divided Waterer</td>
<td>Waterer in context. View from south corral. Long barn and tractor shed midground.</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Original Photo ID
- McMaster Ranch- Divided Concrete Stock Waterer - (3).JPG

---

**Section 9 – end, page 99**
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 100  

McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property  
Broadwater County, MT  
County and State  
N/A  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Central Corral</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>View from south end of north corral west. Calf shed on left. Earth-roofed barn is past stockade fence and tree left center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Camera Facing  
Original Photo ID  
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0025  

Section 9 – end, page 100
### National Register of Historic Places
#### Continuation Sheet

**Section number:** Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
**Page:** 101

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**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>Broadwater County, MT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County and State</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of multiple listing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Map Key** | **Feature Name** | **Elevation** |
---|---|---|
11 | Central Corral | CONTRIBUTING |

**Date of Photo** | **Description** |
---|---|
August 29, 2020 | View from west fence. Tending chute is left center. Calf shed off-camera to left. |

**Camera Facing** | **Note** |
---|---|
SE | South corral tree in background. |

**Original Photo ID** | **McMaster Ranch- Central Corral - (4).JPG** |
---|---|
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0026

---

Section 9 – end, page 101
#### Map Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>East Corral and Chute</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Date of Photo

**Date**: August 29, 2020

**Description**: View from central corral sorting pens (11) into east corral to south stockade fence.

#### Camera Facing

**Note**: Trees begin at right on east end of south corral.

#### SSE

**Original Photo ID**: McMaster Ranch- East Corrals and Chute (2).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0027
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
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<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>East Corral and Chute</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>View from north corral east with central corral sorting pen foreground.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESE</td>
<td>Midground is north east corral and chute with the chute on far left.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- East Corrals and Chute (4).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0028
**Map Key** | **Feature Name**          | **Elevation**   |
--- | --- | --- |
13  | Calf Shed           | CONTRIBUTING |
|     |                     | S & W (left) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>View from south end of north corral west.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corral gate typifies several board-and-angle iron units at the ranch.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
<th>McMaster Ranch- Calf Shed - (4).JPG</th>
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MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0029
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

**Name of Property**
Broadwater County, MT

**County and State**
N/A

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Calf Shed</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>E (left) &amp; N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
August 29, 2020

**Description**
Shows roof and east wall. View from central corral, NE sorting pen (foreground).

**Camera Facing**

**Note**
Bunkhouse #1 and schoolhouse in right midground.

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch- East Corrals and Chute (13).JPG -cropped

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0030
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs
Page: 106

Map Key | Feature Name       | Elevation   |
---------|--------------------|-------------|
14       | Poultry House #1   | CONTRIBUTING|

Date of Photo
August 29, 2020

Description
Shows diagonal board sheathing, transom ventilator and ground-level windows.

Camera Facing
Note
Long barn is at far left.

Original Photo ID
McMaster Ranch- Brooder House- (14).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0031
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Poultry House #1</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Side of building covered with strips of thin iron sheeting. Calf shed in background.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Photo: August 29, 2020

Camera Facing: E

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- Brooder House- (1).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0032
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Poultry House #1</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Rear of building covered with mineralized tarpaper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Original Photo ID</td>
<td></td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Brooder House- (15).JPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Name of Property:** McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State:** Broadwater County, MT  
**Date of Photo:** August 29, 2020  
**Camera Facing:** North  
**Note:** House grounds in background.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Poultry House #2</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Long Barn in background left, Spokane Mountain at right.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1930s auto license plate trim covers the shingle-log intersect left of door.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
<th>McMaster Ranch- Poultry House 2 - (12).JPG</th>
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McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0034
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Poultry House #2</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Foreground shows rear wall partially covered with strips of mineralized tarpaper.</td>
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</table>

Date of Photo: August 29, 2020

Camera Facing: SE

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- Poultry House 2 - (2).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0035
McMaster Ranch Historic District

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<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>Broadwater County, MT</th>
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<td>County and State</td>
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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bunkhouse #2</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Front entry in foreground. West wall to left. Pasture in Section 23 in background</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Same fenestration configuration as schoolhouse.</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Bunkhouse 2 - (5).JPG</td>
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MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0036
McMaster Ranch Historic District

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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bunkhouse #2</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Poultry house #2 at right.</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<th>Original Photo ID</th>
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<td>SW</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Bunkhouse 2 - (9).JPG</td>
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MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0037

Section 9 – end, page 112
McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
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<td>County and State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of multiple listing</td>
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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>North Corral east</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>View from north center of corral fence shows north east half of corral.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Pasture entry gate in foreground. West corral and chute at far right.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
<th>McMaster Ranch- North Corrals - (8).JPG</th>
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MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0038
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District

Broadwater County, MT

County and State: N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section 9 – end, page 114

Map Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Corral east</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Photo: August 29, 2020

Description: View from west side of corral shows poultry houses and southern portion of east half.

Camera Facing: E

Note: Debris pile (foreground) is in west half of north corral

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- North Corrals - (14).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0039
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>North Corral, west portion</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Date of Photo**  
August 28, 2020  
Description  
View from rear of bunkhouse #1 looking northeast into corral  
**Camera Facing**  
NE  
**Original Photo ID**  
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0040  
Original Photo ID  
McMaster Ranch- North Corrals - (12).JPG
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>North Corral, west portion</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
August 28, 2020

**Description**
View from rear of bunkhouse #1 looking north into corral

**Camera Facing**
Note: Tractor shed in rear, left center, with long barn and blacksmith shop.

**NE**

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch- North Corrals - (13).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0041
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page: 117

McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section 9 – end, page 117
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property:** McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State:** Broadwater County, MT  
**N/A**  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable):**

---

#### Section 9 – end, page 118

**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Shed</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo:** August 29, 2020  
**Description:** Shows entry doors.  
**Note:** North corral fence, Elkhorn Mountains in background.

**W**

| Original Photo ID | McMaster Ranch- Tractor Shed - (6).JPG |
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Tractor Shed</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**

- August 29, 2020

**Camera Facing**

- N (North corral fence in background. Stucco comparable to main house.)

**Original Photo ID**

- McMaster Ranch- Tractor Shed - (2).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0044
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation
---|---|---
20 | Cletrac Tractor-Crawler | CONTRIBUTING

Date of Photo | Description
---|---
September 26, 2020 | Front of tractor-crawler parked in tractor shed.

Camera Facing | Note | Original Photo ID
---|---|---
SE | Composite photo | Cletrac Tractor -11-5-202026 stitch-TU.jpg

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0045
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

---

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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<table>
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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Cletrac Tractor-Crawler</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Rear of tractor-crawler parked in tractor shed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
August 29, 2020

**Camera Facing**
Note: Wide tracks designate machine as “hillside” model.

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch- Crawler-tractor (7).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0046

---

Section 9 – end, page 121
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page: 122

McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Name of Property
McMaster Ranch Historic District

County and State
Broadwater County, MT

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section 9 – end, page 122

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation | Description
--------|--------------|-----------|------------------
21       | Long Barn   | CONTRIBUTING | S (Left) & E (front/right)

Date of Photo
August 29, 2020

Camera Facing
NW

Original Photo ID
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0047

View from center of north corral. Openings are in front facade of barn.

Spokane Mountain in background.
# McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property**
McMaster Ranch Historic District

**County and State**
Broadwater County, MT

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**
N/A

---

## Section 9 – end, page 123

### Map Key

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Barn</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>View from west access road. Bunkhouse #1 in background.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Previous sliding door elements in gable.</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McMaster Ranch- Long Barn - (12).JPG</td>
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Section 9 – end, page 123
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Black Smith Shop (ruin)</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2020</td>
<td>Shows protective fencing, implements nailed to walls.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Long Barn in background</td>
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Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch- Blacksmithy (1).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0049

Section 9 – end, page 124
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation
---|---|---
22 | Black Smith Shop (ruin) | CONTRIBUTING | N (left) & W

Date of Photo | Description
---|---
August 29, 2020 | Tree grows near brick forge.

Camera Facing | Note
---|---
SE | Bunkhouse #1 at right. See 1956 photo for pre-ruin state of building.

Original Photo ID | McMaster Ranch- Blacksmithy (4).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0050
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**

**Name of Property**

Broadwater County, MT

**County and State**

N/A

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**


**Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs**

**Page: 126**

---

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Feature Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bunkhouse #1</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>August, 29, 2020</td>
<td>Front of bunkhouse on left.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>View from what may have been old Diamond City Road.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td></td>
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**Original Photo ID**

McMaster Ranch- Bunkhouse 1 - (12).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0051

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Section 9 – end, page 126
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property:**
McMaster Ranch Historic District

**County and State:**
Broadwater County, MT

**N/A**

**Name of multiple listing (if applicable):**

<table>
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<th>Map Key</th>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Bunkhouse #1</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Date of Photo: **
August, 29, 2020

**Description:**
Protective metal in gable and flattened iron pieces on west wall.

**Camera Facing:**
Note: Shows whaley beam uprights on wall centers.

**Original Photo ID:**
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0052
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  Page: 128

McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
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<th>Map Key</th>
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<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S (left) &amp; E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Photo
August, 29, 2020

Description
Front of building. Large overhead door on south was for truck entry.

Camera Facing
Note
Underground gasoline storage, foreground. Spokane Mountain background.

Original Photo ID
McMaster Ranch- Garage - (6).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0053
### McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property:** McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State:** Broadwater County, MT  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable):** N/A

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#### Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

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<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August, 29, 2020</td>
<td>Rear of building. View from west access road.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 130  

McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property  
Broadwater County, MT  
County and State  
N/A  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Schoolhouse (McMaster School, Placer School)</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING S &amp; E (right)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26, 2020</td>
<td>Front entry on south wall left, second entry facing camera on east wall.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Entry door protected w/plywood. Rechinking is part of restoration project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Original Photo ID: McMaster Ranch-051_01012014.JPG  
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0055  

Section 9 – end, page 130
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Schoolhouse (McMaster School, Placer School)</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING N (left) &amp; W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
- August 29, 2020

**Description**
- Metal protective sheeting over original logs.

**Camera Facing**
- Note: Garage midground left, irrigation ditch midground right.
- SE

**Original Photo ID**
- McMaster Ranch- Schoolhouse - (5).JPG
- MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0056
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 132

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Loading Dock</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**  
August 29, 2020

**Description**  
South wall of dock.

**Camera Facing**  
Note: Spokane Mountain is at upper right.

**Original Photo ID**  
McMaster Ranch- Northwest Equipment Array - (1).JPG

---

McMaster Ranch Historic District  
Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
County and State: Broadwater County, MT  
N/A

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0057
**McMaster Ranch Historic District**  
Name of Property: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
County and State: Broadwater County, MT  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>McMaster Irrigation System. (North ditch, NW Qtr., Section 22.)</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td>Ditch is midground in grassy field, extends left of center to the west. Photo 59 is taken just across HY 287 (passed white car center right)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**: August 29, 2020  
**Camera Facing**: View from west access road looking toward highway from schoolhouse.
## McMaster Ranch Historic District
### Name of Property
McMaster Ranch Historic District

### County and State
Broadwater County, MT

### Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>McMaster Irrigation System (French Bar Ditch headgate)</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Date of Photo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 30, 2020</td>
<td>French ditch comes in from south. Headgate turns water 180 degrees sending it back to the secondary to water side field left or (far lower left corner) eastward to the ditch in photo 58.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Camera Facing</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_McM Ditch-FBD confluence (5).JPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0059

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Section 9 – end, page 134
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>McMaster Irrigation System (secondary ditch SE Section 22)</td>
<td>CON CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Photo</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>View from Filson Road North along HY 287.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camera Facing</td>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Ditch is fed from north ditch near entrance road. French Bar Ditch upper left.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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N/A

Original Photo ID

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanch HistoricDistrict_0060
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs  
Page: 136  

### McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**Name of Property**: McMaster Ranch Historic District  
**County and State**: Broadwater County, MT, N/A  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable)**: N/A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Original Photo ID</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>McMaster Irrigation System (west secondary in SW corner of Sect 22)</td>
<td>October 30, 2020</td>
<td>MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of Photo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONTRIBUTING</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30, 2020</td>
<td>Telephoto View from Qtr. Circle Road to North. Secondary and laterals water pasture.</td>
<td>Concrete headgate at center left. Spokane Mountain in background.</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camera Facing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Original Photo ID</strong></td>
<td><strong>CONTRIBUTING</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch-field series-20201030_west secondary in SW Q Sec 22 to North.JPG</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Section 9 – end, page 136
McMaster Ranch Historic District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>Broadwater County, MT</th>
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<tr>
<td>County and State</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of multiple listing (if applicable)</td>
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### National Register Photographs

**Map Key**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BNSF Railroad Bed</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 30, 2020</td>
<td>View from Qtr. Circle road looking North. HY 287 parallels the tracks at right.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Camera Facing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Headquarters (brown tree line) is center right-base of Spokane Mt.</th>
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</table>

**Original Photo ID**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_BNSF RR to N (2).JPG</th>
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</table>

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MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0062

---

Section 9 – end, page 137
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Montana Highway 12/287</td>
<td>NONCONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**
October 30, 2020

**Description**
View to south from ranch entry road. Irrigated fields are to left and right.

**Camera Facing**
S

**Note**
McMaster ditch (east to HQ) crosses under 287 and the approach at center.

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_HY 287.JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0063

Section 9 – end, page 138
McMaster Ranch Historic District

Name of Property

Broadwater County, MT

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Page: 139

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation
--- | --- | ---
30 | Range Pasture | CONTRIBUTING

Date of Photo | Description
--- | ---
October 30, 2020 | Section 23 pasture on hill, center. View east from pasture entry gate, north corral.

Camera Facing | Note
--- | ---
| Area is west end of NR district (Lizzie & David Aikin homestead, 1919). Irrigated field sloping down at right center (J. McM. Desert lands, 1907).

Original Photo ID | McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_View to Sec 33 from gate-3 (2).JPG

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0064
**Map Key** | **Feature Name** | **Elevation**
--- | --- | ---
30 | Range Pasture | CONTRIBUTING

**Date of Photo**
October 30, 2020

**Description**
View from pasture entry gate (see photo 64) but to north and west, into N ½ Sec 22.

**Camera Facing**

**Note**
Shows range pastures N of HQ (hill center right, J. McM purchased of RR land). NR boundary is along face of same.

**Original Photo ID**
McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20_north pasture stitch (1)_stitch.jpg

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0065
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Irrigated Hay Land</td>
<td>CONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Photo</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 31, 2004</td>
<td>Aerial satellite photo, east half Sec. 22/north central Sec. 23. Main Complex upper left.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camera Facing</td>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Shows irrigation ditches and small laterals on contour, green fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down</td>
<td>Original Photo ID</td>
<td>Northeast field 12-31-2004 Landsat-Copernicus Aerial.jpg</td>
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</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0066
**Map Key** | **Feature Name** | **Elevation**
---|---|---
32 | Irrigated Pasture, SW Corner, Section 22. **CONTRIBUTING** | 

**Date of Photo** | **Description**
---|---
October 30, 2020 | Slope in foreground watered by secondary ditch originating at French Bar Ditch (FBD) headgate.

**Camera Facing** | **Note**
---|---
NNE | FBD headgate on other side of hill, center right. Fence in foreground and on left side is NR boundary. Spokane Mt. in background.

**Original Photo ID** | 
---|---
MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0067 | McMaster Ranch-field series-10-30-20 SW corner Sec 22 looking NNW (1)_stitch.jpg
McMaster Ranch Historic District
Name of Property
Broadwater County, MT
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number: Additional Documentation—National Register Photographs

Map Key | Feature Name | Elevation | Description
--- | --- | --- | ---
33 | Historic Road | CONTRIBUTING | Trace of old road from NW corner of NR boundary, Sec 15 s of HY 287.

Date of Photo | Description
October 30, 2020 | Trace visible as slight cut and roadbed along illustrated line center.

Camera Facing | Note
S | McMaster Ranch-field series-20201030_old road_NW Dist Corner-287 -look South.jpg

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0068

Section 9 – end, page 143
# McMaster Ranch Historic District

**Name of Property**: L. H. Baum Road – NONCONTRIBUTING

**Map Key**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>L. H. Baum Road – NONCONTRIBUTING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date of Photo**

- **October 30, 2020**

**Description**

-VIEW FROM CENTER, SECTION 22 LOOKING WEST.

**Camera Facing**

- **W**

**Original Photo ID**

- McMaster Ranch-field series-20201030_L_H Baum Road to West -mid Sec 22.JPG

- MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0069

Section 9 – end, page 144
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Key</th>
<th>Feature Name</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>McMaster Ranch Main Complex (Headquarters)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August, 1956</td>
<td>Aerial Overview Photograph of the McMaster Ranch “home place”.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camera Facing</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Shows all of the primary structures and nearly all of the features remaining today.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MT_BroadwaterCounty_McMasterRanchHistoricDistrict_0070