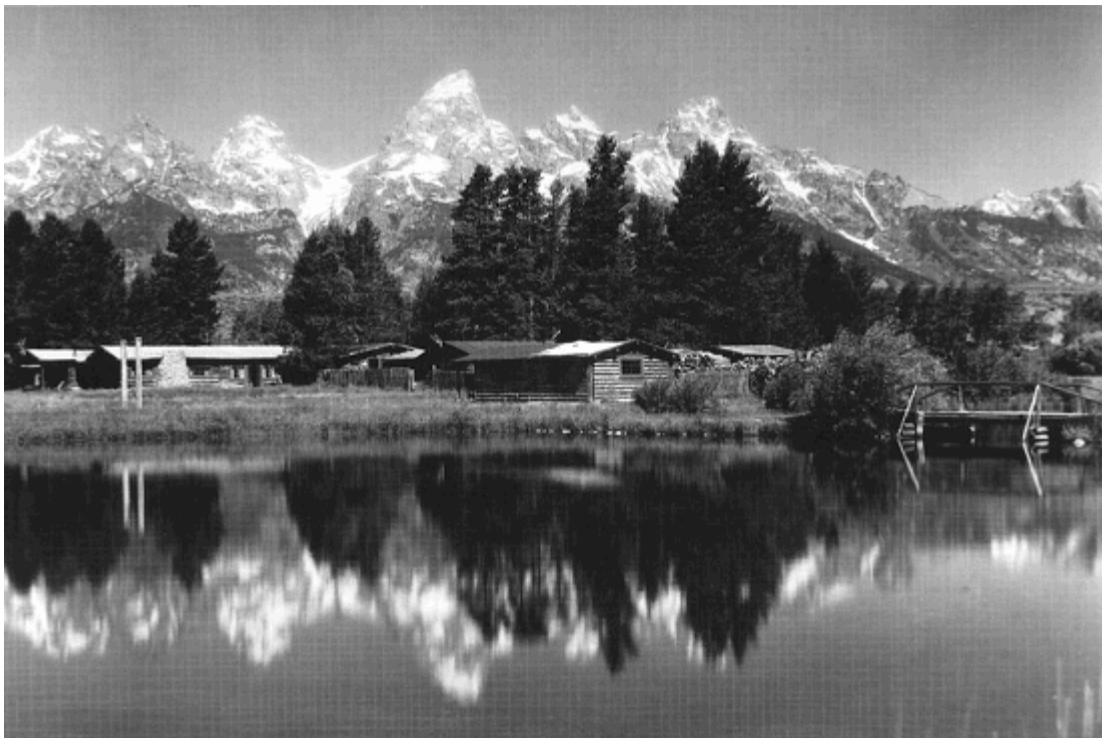

National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
1999

Revised 2007



Bar BC Dude Ranch
Grand Teton National Park

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Cultural Landscapes Inventory – General Information

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved inventory records when all required data fields are entered, the park superintendent concurs with the information, and the landscape is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places through a consultation process or is otherwise managed as a cultural resource through a public planning process.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS) in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2001), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two goals are associated with the CLI: 1) increasing the number of certified cultural landscapes (1b2B); and 2) bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (1a7). The CLI maintained by Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, WASO, is the official source of cultural landscape information.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated and approved at the regional level. Each region annually updates a strategic plan that prioritizes work based on a variety of park and regional needs that include planning and construction projects or associated compliance requirements that lack cultural landscape documentation. When the inventory unit record is complete and concurrence with the findings is obtained from the superintendent and the State Historic Preservation Office, the regional CLI coordinator certifies the record and transmits it to the national CLI Coordinator for approval. Only records approved by the national CLI coordinator are included on the CLI for official reporting purposes.

Relationship between the CLI and a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)

The CLI and the CLR are related efforts in the sense that both document the history,

significance, and integrity of park cultural landscapes. However, the scope of the CLI is limited by the need to achieve concurrence with the park superintendent resolve eligibility questions when a National Register nomination does not exist or the nomination inadequately addresses the eligibility of the landscape characteristics. Ideally, a park's CLI work (which many include multiple inventory units) precedes a CLR because the baseline information in the CLI not only assists with priority setting when more than one CLR is needed it also assists with determining more accurate scopes of work.

In contrast, the CLR is the primary treatment document for significant park landscapes. It, therefore, requires an additional level of research and documentation both to evaluate the historic and the existing condition of the landscape in order to recommend preservation treatment that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

The scope of work for a CLR, when the CLI has not been done, should include production of the CLI record. Depending on its age and scope, existing CLR's are considered the primary source for the history, statement of significance, and descriptions of contributing resources that are necessary to complete a CLI record.

Inventory Unit Description:

The inventory unit is located on the west bank of the Snake River, a few miles north of Moose, Wyoming in the southern portion of Grand Teton National Park. The bottomlands stretch out to the east of the ranch and the ranch is tucked up against a hillside that separates the bottoms from the upper tablelands of Jackson Hole and the Teton Range. The district buildings all are built in a style referred to as dude ranch vernacular, characterized by log construction with other wood products, such as board and batten siding, used for additions or specialized service buildings. The buildings are all one or one and one half stories. They tend to be rectangular in shape.

In 1912 wealthy Philadelphians Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross selected this site as the location for the Bar BC Dude Ranch. Under subsequent owners, the property continued to function in this capacity until World War II. As one of the area's pioneer dude ranches, the Bar BC helped shape Jackson Hole's character as a destination for nature-based tourism. During the 1920s, its fame spread far beyond Jackson Hole. Owing to the reputation of its founders, to its distinguished clientele, and to the picturesque setting at the edge of the river, the Bar BC became one of the best-known dude ranches in the West. The property is located in a remote area, and may be accessed by way of the "River Road," a rough gravel road suitable for high-clearance vehicles. As a result, most park visitors never see this historic landscape. However, the Bar BC is visible from a pullover on the outside road; so many people see the buildings from a distance of approximately one mile. People floating down the river can also see the buildings as they go by.

The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch is situated in a natural area of great beauty. One of its major features is the Snake River itself, which defined the ranch's eastern boundary during the historic period. At its largest, the ranch totaled over 600 acres, stretching westward from this river across three natural terraces, each one higher than the last. Burt and Carncross built the developed portion of the ranch under sheltering pines and aspens on the lowest terrace. By contrast, the two higher terraces are

dominated by sagebrush. Once, a major irrigation ditch carried water across these tablelands to the ranch below. It is now dry, but the ditch is still visible—even from a distance—as a broken line of cottonwoods marching across the treeless flats. Nearly every portion of the component landscape offers scenic views of distant mountains. To the west are the rugged peaks of the Teton Range. To the east are the rolling contours of the Gros Ventre Mountains.

An assortment of rustic log cabins stands in the center of the ranch. Historically, these buildings housed paying guests and various services. The structures are in varying states of repair, but nearly all are contributing resources of the Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District. Established in 1990, the district encompasses 38 acres, a fraction of the former ranch. Many other features built during the historic period have been removed or have deteriorated over time. Yet close inspection reveals historic landscape resources such as a network of shallow irrigation ditches, planted vegetation, and two large depressions of former swimming pools.






This CLI recommends expanding the boundary of the Bar BC Dude Ranch historic district from the 38 acres included in the existing district boundary to 763 acres (see Site Plan 2). This expansion is necessary to include key contributing landscape elements within the district. Key contributing elements within the expansion area include: the full extent of the Bar BC ditch, two historic dumps, the JO Boy's Camp site, a section of the buck-and-rail homestead boundary fence, the historic picnic grove, and the historic agricultural area. Key contributing landscape elements within the existing district include: historic vegetation (native woodland/shrubland, and planted iris patch), features associated with the BC Ditch (laterals, flumes, pipe, tank/reservoir, and remnants of historic footbridges, vehicular bridges, and fences).


Collectively, these surviving features provide a picture of the historic scene. This CLI finds that the cultural landscape retains historic integrity, but that it faces two serious threats: lack of maintenance and erosion from the Snake River. The property appears to be at a tipping point. Additional deterioration of features, particularly to the main cabin, could irreparably compromise the historic character of the cultural landscape. The overall condition of the property is poor.

Site Plan




Site Plan 1: Inset to Site Plan 2, showing core Ranch area contributing elements

LEGEND		<i>Contributing Features are Numbered</i>	
Buildings (Contributing)		Structures	Vegetation
 Foundation or Ruin		Corral ----- 1	Native Woodland/Shrubland ----- 12
 Standing Building		Fence Line ----- 2	Planted Iris Patch ----- 13
Roads		Footbridge Remnant ----- 3	Portable Objects
 River Road		Vehicular Bridge Remnant ----- 4	Hitching Rail ----- 14
 Contemporary Road (Non-Contributing)		Diving Board ----- 5	Rustic Bench ----- 15
 Contemporary Road / Historic Road Trace (Contributing)		Well/Cistern (Irrigation or Other) ---- 6	Historic Fence/Gate Remnants ----- 16
		Corse Doghouse ----- 7	
		Swimming Pool Depressions ----- 8	
		BC Ditch ----- 9	
		Irrigation Ditches ----- 10	
		Features Associated with BC Ditch -- 11 (Flumes, Pipe, Tank/Reservoir, etc.)	



Bar BC Ranch - Cultural Landscape Inventory
Site Plan with Contributing Features - **LEGEND**
Grand Teton National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Legend for Site Plan 1



Site Plan 2: Proposed District - Boundary and Major Contributing Elements

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Bar BC Dude Ranch
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	890045
Parent Landscape:	890193

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Grand Teton National Park -GRTE
Park Organization Code:	1460
Park Administrative Unit:	Grand Teton National Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

The Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District is a component landscape of the Grand Teton National Park landscape.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Incomplete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This document is the final draft for a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the historic Bar BC Dude Ranch property. The CLI is being conducted in concert with a separate CLI for the Jackson Lake Lodge NHL district. To date, these projects have involved two weeklong site visits to Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole and one visit to the Technical Information Center (TIC) at the NPS Denver Service Center. Entry of data into the NPS CLI website will constitute 100% completion of the project.

In 1994 Roy Eugene Graham, AIA and Associates prepared a draft Historic Structures Report (HSR) for the Bar BC Dude Ranch. It is the most in depth historical study of the ranch to date. Included in the draft HSR is a chapter on the cultural landscape of the ranch, authored by Edward Jelks, Historic Archeologist. The chapter contains a great deal of solid information, but it is now twelve years old. Through this CLI Shapins Associates strives to build upon this work by verifying and updating information, correcting a few errors, and contributing new data and analysis.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: No

Revisions Impacting Change in Concurrence: Other

Revision Date: 06/01/2007

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

This CLI recommends expanding the Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District boundary from the existing 38 acres in order to include key contributing landscape elements within the district (See Site Plan 2).

The proposed district boundary begins at the edge of the Snake River and stretches westward to the historic fenceline, generally matching the historic property owned by Burt and Carncross, derived from a map in the Historic Resource Study, "A Place Called Jackson Hole." At the southern edge of the proposed district expansion, the boundary follows the top of a natural escarpment, departing slightly from the historic property lines but making sense in terms of views from the core area. Finally, the entire course of the BC ditch is included within the proposed boundary expansion.

State and County:

State: WY

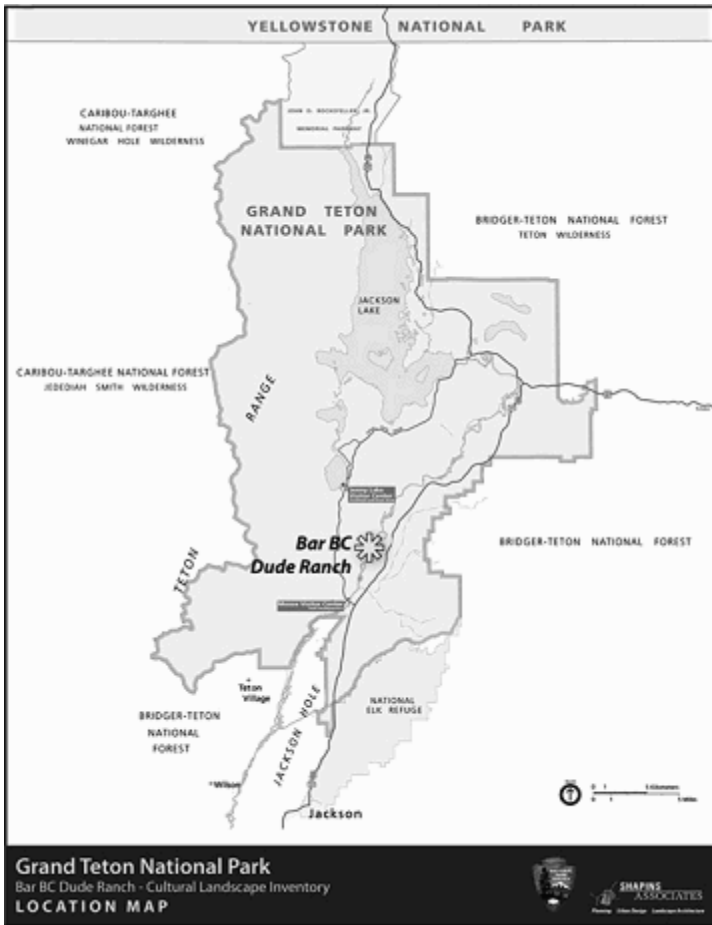
County: Teton County

Size (Acres): 763.00

Boundary UTMS:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	521,710	4,839,810
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	521,920	4,839,480
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	522,170	4,839,180
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	522,780	4,839,120
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	523,820	4,839,130
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	523,840	4,838,250
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	523,640	4,836,890
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	524,660	4,837,550
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	525,020	4,838,120
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	525,390	4,839,270
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	525,410	4,839,430
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	524,590	4,839,430
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	523,820	4,839,210
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	523,060	4,839,290
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	NAD 27	12	521,740	4,839,870

Location Map:



The inventory unit is located on the west bank of the Snake River, a few miles north of Moose, Wyoming in the southern portion of Grand Teton National Park.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained
Management Category Date: 01/30/2007

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Keeper listed the Bar C Dude Ranch on the National Register 4/23/1990; the landscape was not documented. The CLI recommends a boundary increase from 38 acres to 763 acres.

National Register Eligibility

Contributing/Individual:

Individual

National Register Classification:

District

Significance Level:

Local

Significance Criteria:

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Recreation
Facet:	Tourism
Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Ways of Life
Facet:	Ranching Communities
Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Service Industry
Facet:	Tourism--Developing the American Economy
Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Architecture
Facet:	Vernacular Architecture
Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Literature
Facet:	Non-Fiction
Other Facet:	Fiction, Poetry
Time Period:	AD 1912 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet:	Origin And Development Of The National Park Service

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category	Area of Significance Subcategory
Entertainment - Recreation	None
Industry	None
Architecture	None
Conservation	None

Statement of Significance:

Existing Documentation

On April 23, 1990 the historic Bar BC Dude Ranch was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district. The nomination determined the property’s historic significance to be at the local level under Criteria A and B and its period of significance to be 1912-1937. Throughout this period, the property operated as a working dude ranch (Mehls 1990). Measuring 38 acres, the district boundary was drawn to include surviving buildings in the developed portion of the ranch. Important landscape features were excluded (Mehls 1990).

From 1991 to 1994, Roy Eugene Graham, AIA and Associates undertook a draft Historic Structures Report (HSR) for the Bar BC Dude Ranch. It is the most in-depth historical study of the property to date. The product of extensive research and analysis, this HSR contains a wealth of information, including an entire chapter on the cultural landscape of the ranch, authored by Historic Archeologist, Edward Jelks. The draft HSR recommends redrawing the district boundary to include certain landscape features, such as a historic picnic grove and two dumping grounds (Graham 1994, 283). The HSR further recommends extending the period of significance to the decline of the dude ranching industry and the beginning of World War II (Graham 1994, 1).

Findings of the CLI

A primary objective of this CLI is to update the earlier documentation and to revisit the property’s significance. Regarding the period of significance, this CLI concurs with the judgment of the HSR: the period should be expanded to 1912-1941. The CLI recommends that the existing NR nomination be amended to include Criterion C. The property is eligible under this criterion because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a western dude ranch that was built and operated during the Golden Age of this industry.

This CLI recommends expanding the district boundary to include all known cultural landscape features associated with the ranch and to reflect historic property boundaries. The dude ranch was established in 1912 when Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross homesteaded adjacent tracts of land, totaling nearly 320 acres. The eastern boundary of the ranch was the Snake River, and the ranch extended westward across all three terraces. Burt and Carncross pursued a policy of expansion, and the ranch grew over time, most notably through the desert land entries the partners filed in 1913. During this CLI, researchers discovered the remnants of a historic buck-and-rail fence, running north to south along a

section line—the boundary between sections 7 and 12 in the Moose USGS quad map. This line marks the main western boundary of the ranch during the historic period. The proposed district boundary begins at the edge of the Snake River and stretches westward to the historic fenceline, generally matching the historic property owned by Burt and Carncross, which was pieced together from a map in the Historic Resource Study, *A Place Called Jackson Hole*. The boundary would include a historic picnic grove and irrigated fields north of the ranch center, and the site of the historic JO boys' ranch to the south, all of which were part of the historic property. At the southern edge of the proposed district expansion, the boundary follows the top of a natural escarpment, departing slightly from the historic property lines. Finally, the entire course of the BC ditch would be included.

Criterion A

The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch property is significant under National Register Criterion A for significant contributions to regional history. Specifically it is associated with the rise of dude ranching in the Rocky Mountain West, and the important role that this industry played in developing this area for tourism.

A dude ranch is a ranch designed and operated to offer a vacation experience to outsiders. During the late 19th century, the first dude ranches began as working cattle ranches that took on vacationers for extra income. Guests enjoyed experiencing a romanticized version of the cowboy life. Over time, many of these outfits dispensed with raising cattle altogether. Instead, their owners made a living by “wrangling dudes” (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

Dudes were the paying guests of a dude ranch—outsiders who enjoyed staying in rustic accommodations, participating in activities such as horseback riding, fishing, and hunting, and socializing with others of similar backgrounds. Typically these dudes hailed from urban areas in the East or Midwest. Often they were well educated and wealthy. These people were drawn to dude ranch vacations by a sense of romance and adventure. The combination of western landscape and the cowboy life offered them a freedom not available in their everyday lives (Graham 1994, 5; Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

The popularity of dude ranching grew during the first decades of the 20th century. Attendance at dude ranches soared during World War I as wealthy Easterners delayed vacations in Europe in favor of excursions out West. During the so-called Golden Age of dude ranching, which lasted from 1919 until the stock market crash of 1929, dude ranches proliferated in the northern Rockies. It was precisely during this time that the Bar BC rose to prominence. In 1912, founding partners Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross homesteaded the land and founded the ranch. The ranch expanded in size and reputation, reaching the height of both during the 1920s (Daugherty 1999 Chapter 14).

With its sublime scenery, Jackson Hole was a dude wrangler's paradise. During the 1920s it emerged as a major dude ranching center. The Bar BC was one of the first dude ranches in the valley, and it became a model for those that followed. In 1908 Struthers Burt and Louis Joy founded Jackson Hole's first dude ranch, the JY. After ending his partnership with Joy in 1911, Struthers Burt entered a new

partnership with Horace Carncross, the physician at the JY. The two men shared much in common and became close friends. Both were well educated and from wealthy Philadelphia families. Burt was a graduate of Princeton and a writer. Carncross was a neurologist who had studied under Dr. Anna Freud, daughter of Sigmund (Graham 1994, 12-13). Together they founded the Bar BC in 1912, acquiring the land by homesteading adjacent 160-acre tracts.

The Bar BC profoundly influenced development in the valley, as former dudes and employees alike purchased or homesteaded nearby land. Brothers Alfred and Frank Besette came west to work at the Bar BC as a waiter and a chef. Soon they homesteaded land of their own, near the Bar BC and the “Timbered Island.” In 1918, Maud Noble, a former dude, purchased Menor’s Ferry, a few miles downriver from the Bar BC. Some former dudes and employees even teamed up to establish dude ranches of their own. Frances Mears, a socialite from Pennsylvania, met her future husband, wrangler Buster Estes at the Bar BC. In the 1920s they established the STS, a small dude ranch near Menor’s Ferry. Tucker Bispham, a colleague of Burt’s and one of the original Bar BC dudes, teamed with Harold Hammond, one of the first Bar BC wranglers. Following precedent set by Burt and Carncross, these two homesteaded adjacent 160-acre tracts to form the White Grass dude ranch (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). The White Grass dude ranch became an important Jackson Hole institution. Thus, from its very first year of operation, the Bar BC exerted an important influence on the development of Jackson Hole.

Historian John Daugherty calls the JY, the Bar BC, and the White Grass the “pioneer dude ranches” of Jackson Hole. Following the lead of these three, a number of other outfits opened doors during the 1910s and 1920s. In addition to the STS, these included: the Danny Ranch, Half Moon, Trail Ranch, Double Diamond, Castle Rock, Circle H, Flying V, Red Rock, V Bar V, 4 Lazy F, and others (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). During this period there were more working dude ranches in the valley than hotels. In a 1925 article titled “Dude Ranches Grow Popular” the Jackson’s Hole Courier reported that 600 dudes had vacationed in Jackson Hole the previous year. Most stayed for extended vacations. The influx of outsiders helped establish Jackson Hole as a center of tourism and recreation. This trend was also occurring in other parts of the northern Rockies. Daugherty writes, “As much as any other business, dude wrangling pioneered the modern tourist industry in the American West, particularly in the Rocky Mountain states of Montana and Wyoming” (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). During the 1920s, the Bar BC was the best-known dude ranch in Jackson Hole. It was also one of the largest, and a major employer in the valley.

The Bar BC’s fame spread far beyond Jackson Hole. Burt and his partners established this reputation by cultivating an affluent, distinguished clientele. In this regard, they benefited from the prominence of the Burt and Carncross families, with their Philadelphia and Princeton connections. Guests at the Bar BC tended to be wealthy, well-educated Easterners. In comparison to other dude ranches, the Bar BC attracted a disproportionate number of literary figures, probably because both Struthers and his wife, Katharine, were popular authors themselves. Prominent guests included the authors Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner, philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and his wife Abby, as well as eminent publishers, architects, and financiers. NPS director Horace Albright visited often and his children stayed at the ranch during the summer when he was acting Yellowstone superintendent. Mary

Robert Rinehart of the educational publishing company, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston also stayed at the Bar BC. Elliott Roosevelt, son of Franklin and Eleanor, worked for the JO (for “Junior Outfit”), a boys’ camp that Burt established on Bar BC property. Most dudes stayed for a few weeks or for the entire summer season, and there were many repeat guests (Graham 1994, 20). The combination of these distinguished visitors and the picturesque landscape imparted a distinctive quality to the Bar BC Dude Ranch. By the late 1920s, the Bar BC was one of the best-known dude ranches in all the West (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

Criterion B

The Bar BC component landscape is significant under NR Criterion B for its association with Struthers Burt and Katharine Newlin Burt. One of the founding partners of the Bar BC, Struthers Burt was an important promoter of the new dude ranch industry and a strong voice for the conservation of the Teton country during the 1920s. Both he and his wife, Katharine Newlin Burt, became nationally recognized authors by writing about the American West.

Struthers Burt was among the very first dude ranchers in Jackson Hole. Together with Louis Joy, he built and operated the JY dude ranch from 1908 to 1911. Burt learned the basics of dude ranching through this endeavor (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). After terminating his partnership with Joy, Burt formed a new one with Horace Carncross, the resident physician at the JY. In 1912 the Bar BC Dude Ranch came to life through the combined efforts of these men.

Though Burt became a dude wrangler, writing was his chosen profession and his true love. From 1898 to 1900, he took a position as a reporter for the Philadelphia Times. Reportedly, he had a tendency to embellish stories, prompting his editor to suggest a career in fiction. Burt continued his literary pursuits as a student at Princeton University (1900-1904). In 1906, two years after graduating, he briefly returned to his alma mater as an English instructor (Graham 1994, 12).

In 1912 Struthers met Katharine Newlin, a promising young writer, while studying at Oxford. They married soon afterwards. After moving to Wyoming, each continued to write, eventually gaining widespread recognition. Struthers wrote poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. He wrote prolifically throughout the 1920s, authoring 37 tales, most of which were published in periodicals including Scribner’s, Colliers, and The Saturday Evening Post (Campbell 1997; Graham 1994, 16). Published in 1924, *The Diary of a Dude Wrangler* is his most famous work. Critics praised the book and Burt’s ability to relate practical knowledge about dude ranching with the art of a storyteller. The book did much to introduce the average American to the practice of dude wrangling (Graham 1994, 17).

Katharine Newlin Burt also built a national reputation by writing about the West. Her specialty was fiction, and her short stories were widely published. Some of her novels contributed to the myth of the American cowboy. Several of them were made into movies, including *Snow Blind*, part of which was filmed at the Bar BC Dude Ranch. It was partly through these novels and movies that Americans formed a mental picture of the West and its ranches (Graham 1994, 12, 16). Struthers and Katharine celebrated the birth of their first child, Nathaniel, while living at the Bar BC in 1913. Nathaniel, too,

became a highly regarded author.

During the 1920s Struthers Burt became an advocate for conservation in the Teton region. Burt had always been concerned with development in Jackson Hole, fearing that it would threaten the wilderness character of his ranch. On these grounds, Burt and Carncross opposed a 1919 proposal by Horace Albright, the superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, to extend the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park south into Jackson Hole. In their view, the park expansion would require the construction of new roads and hotels and spur other undesirable changes. But after the National Park Service opposed a plan to dam the outlet of Jenny Lake—a stand that coincided with Burt’s own views—he began to view the coming of a national park in a more positive light. Over time, he struck up a relationship with Horace Albright himself (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17).

Burt and Carncross were both present at the famous July 26, 1923 meeting at Maud Noble’s cabin, at Menor’s Ferry. During this meeting, Albright and community leaders formulated a plan to save a portion of Jackson Hole from commercial development (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). Over the next six years, Burt advocated the creation of a Grand Teton National Park through his writings in *The Nation* and *Outdoor America* (Graham 1994, 24). These efforts were rewarded in 1929 when Congress set forth 96,000 acres as a national park, including the Teton Range and eight glacial lakes at the base of the mountains. The very next year, Burt and surviving business partner, Irving Corse, sold the Bar BC to the Snake River Land Company. Agents of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. established this corporation to purchase private lands in the valley for conservation. In 1943, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proclaimed the establishment of Jackson Hole National Monument in order to preserve the cultural resources of the valley, encompassing lands in the valley purchased through the Snake River Land Company (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17, p. 6). In 1950 most of these lands were included in the new Grand Teton National Park (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17).

Criterion C

The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch is significant under Criterion C because it embodies the distinctive architectural and organizational characteristics of a Western dude ranch built and operated during the Golden Age of this industry. Dude ranches evolved directly from working cattle ranches, and their structures and physical layout were patterned after them. A 1933 article in *Dude Rancher* magazine described the typical dude ranch: “Composed of little groups of cabins, corrals, and bunkhouses, all of which are familiar to the native westerner of cattle country, they are rustic and unique” (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14 quoting source found in Roundy Collection, 3550, Box 1, University of Wyoming Archives). In the arrangement of its buildings and spaces, and the stylistic expression of its structures, the Bar BC property still fits this description.

The dude ranch buildings, most of which are still standing, were executed in a style that has been termed “dude ranch vernacular” or “the Cowboy Style”. All low structures, they are predominantly of log construction. Ranch hands or local builders erected them quickly, using a variety of building techniques and limited available materials. Featuring rough-hewn logs, smaller dimensional lumber, and naturally finished exteriors, these buildings were designed to capture the picturesque flavor of Western

pioneer cabins (Mehls 1990, Item 7; Graham 1994, 5).

A variety of other structures contributed to the ranch's "picturesque utilitarian" character during the historic period. These structures were executed in the same spirit as the buildings. Rustic buck-and-rail fences defined property boundaries. Log post-and-lintel gateways marked important points of entry. Most of the fences and gates have been removed, but some examples survive, including the corral, which still stands near the main entry road. Another prominent structure was a log footbridge spanning the gap between two sections of the outdoor swimming pool. Though now in ruins, its log beams and tie rods testify that it was once a decorative feature that coordinated with the ranch buildings and fences.

There is an informal pattern to the ranch's layout, with distinct zones for guest lodging, wrangler operations, recreation, and utilities. The main cabin stands at the center of the ranch. Guest cabins surround it, arranged in distinct clusters. Most of these buildings are tucked into wooded areas of lodgepole pine and aspen. These stands provide shade and shelter, and accentuate the picturesque qualities of the buildings. Facilities for guest recreation are conspicuous features of the Bar BC. The corral and tack shed highlight the importance of horseback riding. Guests could also choose from other activities, such as swimming, fishing, and shooting. Because the river was cool and swift, the ranch owners dug a swimming pool/pond, which was fed by a major ditch. A dance cabin was erected on the far side of the pond, and beyond that lay a simple skeet shooting range. Today, the dance cabin and skeet shed remain. The pool is now dry, but its outlines are visible, and is currently being eroded by the river. The second pool has been cut in half by the river.

An essential component of the Bar BC is its picturesque "western" setting. Virtually all dude ranches were located in the western United States. To entice dudes to visit, owners located these establishments in areas of natural beauty. Struthers Burt considered attractive natural scenery an absolute prerequisite. He and Carncross had very specific requirements for the site. They desired a location: that was in Jackson Hole; that offered a spectacular view of the Tetons; that was located by water so that it offered good fishing and was cooled by breezes, which would also keep mosquitoes to a minimum; that featured stands of timber, abundant natural feed, and an "unfailing" water supply; and that was near open country for pack trips. They selected the site with great care, exploring "out-of-the-way corners of the valley" before deciding on two adjacent homesteads at the edge of the Snake River (Graham 1994, 14, 31-33). The original intention was to combine them which was against the intent of the Homesteading Act (Cronenberger 2006). In *Diary of a Dude Wrangler* Burt praised the natural beauty of the site, noting its aspen and pine trees, and the beginnings of a meadow at its southern end.

Dudes arriving at the ranch after an arduous journey from the East must have viewed the setting as idyllic and extremely remote. This remote quality was one of the ranch's chief assets, but it also posed challenges. Located so far from a major town, the Bar BC Dude Ranch was designed to be self-sufficient (Graham 1994 31). One important lifeline was the BC Ditch, which carried water to the ranch from its head on Cottonwood Creek, more than three miles away. This water from Cottonwood Creek was used for a number of purposes, including irrigation, laundry, generating electricity for utilities,

and supplying water for the swimming pool. Today this ditch no longer carries water, but it survives as a major landscape feature. Its course is clearly visible on the terraces west of the ranch: an intermittent line of trees marching across the sagebrush flats. To walk its course today is to understand the isolation of the historic dude ranch and its reliance upon the natural surroundings.

The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch has experienced major changes since the historic period, yet overall it retains integrity. Certain buildings have been added or removed after the period of significance, while other structures have fallen into disrepair or ruin. Changes to the natural landscape have also affected the historic scene. In particular, the westward migration of the Snake River threatens the historic dance hall and areas once used for recreation and raising crops. Another threat to the integrity of the landscape is the uninhibited growth of young trees. During the period of significance, tree growth was kept in check by thinning. Without such intervention, young aspen and pine have taken hold in new areas. Certain portions of the ranch are considerably more wooded than when the dude ranch was operating. Despite these changes, enough landscape features and patterns survive to provide a sense of the ranch's appearance, organization, and function during the historic period.

Period of Significance: 1912-1941

This CLI finds that the period of significance is 1912-1941. However, the 1990 National Register nomination established the period of significance for the Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District as 1912-1937. 1912 is the founding date for the ranch and a logical starting date for the period of significance. The closing date is not explained in the nomination, although it may be the date that Struthers Burt sold his remaining interest in the dude ranch to Irving Corse. The thoroughly researched draft HSR finds that the period of significance should extend to the decline of the dude ranching industry and the beginning of World War II (Graham 1994, 1). After 1930, the title to the property was transferred to the Snake River Land Company, but the Corse family continued to run it as a dude ranch. The HSR challenges the notion that the Corses allowed the ranch to deteriorate immediately afterwards. Instead, the authors found evidence that the Bar BC retained much of its historic character for "at least a decade longer" (Graham 1994, 26). On this point, the CLI defers to the judgment of the HSR. The period of significance for the district is 1912-1941.

National Historic Landmark Information

National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information

World Heritage Site Status: No

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Outdoor Recreation-Other

Primary Current Use: Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)

Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
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Outdoor Recreation-Other	Historic
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Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)	Current
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Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
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Bar BC Dude Ranch Hist. Distr.	Current
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Historic Bar BC Dude Ranch	Current
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Bar BC Dude Ranch	Historic
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JO (Junior Outfit) Boys' Ranch	Historic
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Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
9000 BC - AD 1870	Inhabited	Archeological evidence suggests 11,000 years of human occupation in the Jackson Hole area. The earliest Native Americans associated with the area were primarily hunter-gatherers who migrated seasonally, following the ripening of edible and medicinal plants. In the early spring, they likely utilized the floor of the Snake River Valley, moving to higher elevations in the summer (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 2, 1-2).
AD 1807 - 1840	Explored	Trappers were the first non-native people to visit Jackson Hole. John Colter may have been the first white man to enter the valley, in 1807. In North America, fur trapping followed the expansion of European exploration. After peaking in the early 1830s, trapping declined as game became scarce (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 3, 1-2).
AD 1860 - 1867	Explored	Three military surveys passed through Jackson Hole in 1860, 1873, and 1876. The Washington Territorial Legislature provided funds to ascertain a southern route to the Pacific Coast. Prospectors also searched for gold along the Snake River, but were ultimately disappointed with the small concentrations of gold found there. Jackson Hole is believed to have remained unsettled up to this point (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 4, 2; Chapter 5, 1-4).
AD 1862	Established	The Homestead Act was enacted. It declared that any citizen or intended citizen could file a claim to 160 acres of surveyed government land. After five years, the property would become the possession of the filer, provided he/she built a dwelling and other improvements, raised crops, and continued to occupy the property (Graham 1994, 260).
AD 1882	Established	The first generally accepted dude ranch was founded near Medora, North Dakota. This establishment later moved to the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming. Dude ranches were uncommon and not widely known through the end of the 19th century (Graham 1994, 13; Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

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AD 1883 - 1884	Ranched/Grazed	In 1883 or 1884, cattle began grazing in the Snake River Valley, which affected the native vegetation through the deterioration and reduction of prime grassland. The influx of settlers also displaced or eradicated wildlife (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 10, p. 4, 10).
AD 1884 - 1927	Homesteaded	In 1884 homesteaders in Jackson Hole began to establish small cattle ranches associated with small farms. Areas with access to water and good soils were settled first, leaving the sagebrush areas vacant. Settlement, which peaked between 1908 and 1919, transformed the valley (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 6, 3, 10-11; Chapter 8, 1).
AD 1890	Established	Wyoming Territory was admitted into the union as the 44th state on July 10, 1890.
AD 1894	Established	The Carey Act of 1894 gave private companies the right to bring water to, and parcel out, tracts of land into homesteads (Graham 1994, 261).
AD 1897	Established	The town of Jackson was established (Guile 1996, 1).
AD 1900 - 1910	Developed	In the early 1900s the Teton Irrigation Company filed claims for water on the Gros Ventre River, Buffalo Fork, and Spread Creek (Graham 1994, 261).
	Developed	HSR reports that in the early 1900s the Teton Irrigation Company constructed a portion of the main ditch now leading to the inventory unit (Graham 1994, 277).
AD 1904	Established	The first dude ranch in Wyoming was established at Wolf Creek west of Sheridan (Graham 1994, 270).
AD 1908	Moved	Struthers Burt, a wealthy Philadelphian and Princeton graduate, moved to northwestern Wyoming (Graham 1994, 13).
AD 1908 - 1911	Established	Together with Louis Joy, Struthers Burt was a leading figure in establishing the JY Dude Ranch near Phelps Lake, the first true dude ranch in Jackson Hole. The partnership, however, proved unhappy. During these years Burt met Horace Leedom Carncross, the staff physician at the JY (Graham 1994, 13; Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

AD 1910 - 1911	Built	<p>The Jackson Lake Dam was the first major development project in the valley and boosted the economy of Jackson Hole. It gave jobs to the locals, brought in workers, and created a need to improve the road from Jackson north to the upper valley. However, it flooded a sizable area of forest; the eyesore that resulted was the source of great public outcry. These events provided impetus for the fledgling conservation movement in Jackson Hole (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 11, 9-10; Chapter 17).</p>
AD 1912	Homesteaded	<p>On May 12, 1912, Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross acquired adjacent tracts of land through the Homestead Act. Acting as partners, they intended to establish a dude ranch, which would transition to a cattle ranch over time. Burt's tract was immediately north of Carncross' acreage (Graham 1994, 273). It is reported that Burt raised 21 acres of grain, while Carncross cultivated 25 acres of oats (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).</p>
	Established	<p>Burt and Carncross established the Bar BC Dude Ranch. Summer of 1912 was its first season of operation (Graham 1994, 15).</p>
	Developed	<p>In 1912, Burt and Carncross received an appropriation of water from Cottonwood Creek through the B.C. Ditch. Originating at the creek, the ditch circled around the south end of Timbered Island before proceeding east to the Bar BC. Who constructed the ditch is unclear, though many may have been involved. Nathaniel Burt recorded that his father, Struthers, laid out the ditch "with the help of some expert" (Graham 1994, 261). NPS Historical Architect, Rick Cronenberger, reports that Alfred Bessette constructed the ditch and that Alfred's son Reginald, had documentation on this ditch contract. However, this may refer to an expansion to the ditch rather than its original construction (see 1919 entry). In one section of the HSR, Bill Howard is credited with "the layout and construction of the elaborate canal system from the Cottonwood Creek to the Ranch" (Graham 1994, 36). Multiple flumes and parallel channels in places indicate that the ditch was repaired and expanded over many years.</p>

	Developed	In the spring of 1912 Burt and Carncross hurried to complete construction of the major ranch buildings and other improvements before their guests (dudes) arrived. In a letter dated May 12, 1912 from Struthers Burt to fiancée Katharine, he describes two sleeping cabins as being up, one halfway done, a well dug, a bridge put in over Cottonwood Creek, and logs in position for the big house (Graham 1994, 37). Carncross' acreage contained nine log cabins, 320 rods of fences and 25 acres of oats. Burt's acreage contained a frame laundry building, 9 cabins, a 20' well, 21 acres of grain, and 800 rods of fence (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
	Excavated	The well located in the L of the main cabin was dug to a depth of twenty feet (Graham 1994, 277).
	Established	In 1912 the major form of travel in the region was by horse and train. Early circulation patterns (1912-1920) on the ranch consisted of foot paths, horse trails, and wagon paths (Graham 1994, 272).
AD 1913	Domesticated	Katharine and Struthers Burt were married on February 9, 1913. Later that year Katharine gave birth to their son, Nathaniel Burt (Graham 1994, 12).
	Expanded	Partners Burt and Carncross filed a desert land entry for a total 252.72 acres added to the ranch (Graham 1994, 273).
AD 1913 - 1914	Inhabited	The Burts spent the first of only two winters at the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 13).
AD 1913	Established	Harold Hammond, one of the original wranglers at the Bar BC, and Tucker Bispham, one of the Bar BC's original dudes, teamed up to establish the White Grass dude ranch, the third pioneer dude ranch in Jackson Hole. In September 1913, Hammond homesteaded 160 acres of meadow and forest land at the foot of Buck Mountain. Two years later, Bispham took up residence on 160 acres that were adjacent. These actions follow the pattern set by Burt and Carncross at the Bar BC (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

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AD 1914 - 1929	Expanded	The young dude ranching industry greatly expanded during World War I, as Easterners put off trips to Europe in favor of vacations in the West. The period from 1919 to the stock market crash of 1929 has been called the Golden Age of dude ranching (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
AD 1915	Expanded	The early cluster of cabins at the Bar BC was expanded to include an ice house, food storehouse, ranch office, and a larger, more private house for the Burt family (Graham 1994, 278).
AD 1915 - 1916	Inhabited	The Burts spent the second of two winters at the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 16).
AD 1916	Domesticated	Julia Bleecker Burt was born at the Bar BC in the fall (Graham 1994, 13).
	Homesteaded	Burt and Carncross completed his homestead claim. Carncross cultivated 25 acres of oats and Burt had 21 acres of grain. These fields would have been served by irrigation ditches (Graham 1994, 13, 260).
	Purchased/Sold	Burt and Carncross purchased a ranch along the Gros Ventre River near Spring Gulch. They called this the Lower Bar BC and ran it as a cattle ranch, in contrast to the original Bar BC, which remained a dude ranch (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
AD 1917	Expanded	Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross continued to expand the size of the ranch. By 1917 the ranch totaled 600 acres (Graham 1994, 273).
AD 1919	Expanded	A letter from Burt and Carncross granted permission to Alfred Bessette to enlarge the BC ditch. Formerly, Alfred had worked at the Bar BC. It is believed he desired to expand the ditch to serve the land he was homesteading south of Timbered Island, close to the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 277).

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AD 1919 - 1922	Planned	Burt and Carncross, along with ranchers and others in the community, opposed a plan being promoted by Horace Albright, Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, to expand Yellowstone's borders south to the Teton area. After the NPS opposed a 1919 plan to dam the outlet of Jenny Lake, a stand that Burt agreed with, he began to view a national park in the area in a more positive light. Eventually, in 1922 he contacted Albright and established a relationship with him (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14, Chapter 17).
AD 1922	Maintained	At this time the main cabin consisted of two dining rooms, a kitchen, two sitting rooms, and two smaller rooms. The area around the main cabin had a fence to contain it from the guest cabins, and was approached from the area of the pools through a large gate between the storage house and the ranch office (Graham 1994, 52).
AD 1919 - 1941	Developed	The automobile began to exert a profound influence on the development of the American landscape and the behavior of Americans. Tourism transformed Jackson from a ranching community to an economy centered on tourism. By 1939, the most important Wyoming roads were graveled and oiled. Eventually, the circulation patterns at the Bar BC were changed due to the automobile's rise in popularity (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 15, 5-6; Chapter 14).
AD 1920 - 1925	Developed	Sometime in the early 1920s, the Bar BC acquired a truck. Circulation patterns began to change (Graham 1994, 271).
AD 1920 - 1928	Developed	Irving Corse began to work at the Bar BC. During his first 8 years at the Bar BC, Corse worked closely and amicably with the Burts and Dr. Carncross. He started as a truck driver and worked his way up to manager and eventually partner (Graham 1994, 25).
AD 1920 - 1929	Developed	Struthers Burt and Katharine Newlin Burt wrote prolifically through the 1920s. By the end of the decade, they were both nationally recognized authors (Graham 1994, 16).
	Developed	In 1920 Samuel Goldwyn invited Katharine Burt to Hollywood. Eventually her novels <i>The Branding Iron</i> , <i>Hidden Creek</i> , and <i>Snow Blind</i> were filmed as silent movies, with the later filmed partially at the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 12).

	Established	<p>Burt built a summer boys' camp for children about a half-mile south of the developed part of the ranch, but it did not succeed. It was called the "Little Outfit" or "Junior Outfit" (JO). Dates for this camp are unclear, but it seems to have been operating sometime during the Bar BC's heyday—the 1920s. At one time, Elliott Roosevelt, son of Franklin and Eleanor, worked for the camp. Various remnants can be found there today, including a well/water pump, and the foundations of a few buildings, including a fish hatchery located on what appears to be a permanent stream (Graham 1994, 62).</p>
AD 1921 - 1922	Established	<p>"To emphasize the point that dude ranching was a business, the Bar BC incorporated as Bar BC Ranches by 1922" (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14)</p>
AD 1922	Conserved	<p>Struthers Burt wrote Congressman Frank Mondell that "Mr. Albright's ideas coincide absolutely with ours" regarding the establishment of a National Park at the Grand Tetons (Graham 1994, 25).</p>
	Developed	<p>According to the Diary of a Dude Wrangler, the Bar BC was at the height of its operation about 1922, consisting of 45 buildings (Graham 1994, 62).</p>
AD 1923	Planned	<p>Burt, Carncross, Horace Albright, and others participated in the historic meeting at Maud Noble's Cabin in Moose, which occurred on July 26, 1923. They met to discuss the future of the valley and the creation of a national park. Though many ranchers, politicians, and Jackson Hole residents continued to oppose the idea of a park, Burt argued for its establishment in writings in <i>The Nation</i> and <i>Outdoor America</i> (Graham 1994, 24).</p>
AD 1924	Purchased/Sold	<p>George Tucker Bispham and Harold Hammond sold the White Grass Ranch to Bar BC Ranches and became partners in the company (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).</p>
	Established	<p>Diary of a Dude Wrangler by Struthers Burt was published. This book was very instrumental in popularizing dude ranches in America. It is probably his best-known work (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).</p>

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AD 1924 - 1926	Conserved	John D. Rockefeller Jr. first visited the Grand Tetons in 1924. In 1926 the Rockefellers returned to the Yellowstone-Teton area for a 12-day vacation. On these trips they became aware of the unsightly commercial development occurring in the valley, yet were so moved by the natural beauty of Jackson Hole that the idea of purchasing land for inclusion into a future national park began to develop (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17, 1-3). The Burts hosted the Rockefellers at the Bar BC on each of their trips (Graham 1994, 24-25).
AD 1927	Established	Agents of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. created the Snake River Land Company in order to purchase land in northern Jackson Hole for a proposed national park (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17, 3; Graham 1994, 24).
AD 1928 - 1929	Land Transfer	In 1928, Horace Carncross, Struthers Burt's partner and friend, died at his home in Whitemarsh, PA. According to an outdated will, his heiress was a wealthy cousin, Miss Anne Ellis. Without the mediation of Carncross, the relationship between Burt and Corse deteriorated (Graham 1994, 23). In 1928 or 1929 Joe LePage, another partner, died of influenza and pneumonia (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
AD 1928	Purchased/Sold	Bispham and Hammond bought back the White Grass Ranch from Bar BC Ranches (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
	Land Transfer	Struthers and Katharine Burt bought the Three Rivers Ranch at Moran for their own occupation. They began to devote more and more time to this new endeavor, and less to the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 23).
AD 1929	Established	Congress established Grand Teton National Park, which included the mountain and lakes at their base, but not the plains to the east, on which the Bar BC Dude Ranch was built (Guile 1996, 4).

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AD 1930	Purchased/Sold	Burt and Corse sold the Bar BC Dude Ranch to the Snake River Land Company (Graham 1994, 25). They sold 577.83 acres, which represented all the ranch except for 72.56 acres which belonged to Irving Corse. Burt and Corse secured a lifetime estate in exchange for the sale of the ranch. At this point, the vision of the park was that dude ranches would continue to operate in the park (Scott 2005, p.108; Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
	Inhabited	The Burts took up residence at the Three Rivers Ranch (Graham 1994, 24).
	Altered	Many Jackson Hole dude ranches began to provide electricity and modern bathrooms for their guests. This marked a real change in atmosphere at the ranches, which had always featured very rustic accommodations (Graham 1994, 63).
	Purchased/Sold	Irving Corse, who would later become a World War II pilot, purchased a bi-wing airplane about 1930 (Graham 1994, 64).
AD 1930 - 1935	Developed	At least since the 1930s the current entrance road cut has been in existence. This cut may have been made possible by new motorized vehicles. It may also have been made to exclude vehicles from certain portions of the ranch, to keep the compound as natural as possible (Graham 1994, 271).
AD 1934	Damaged	A major fire in 1934 destroyed the guest dining room and kitchen in the main cabin and a new, large dining room was added with a limestone fireplace. The area around the well was referred to as the front, where an irrigation system kept the grass green (Graham 1994, 52).
AD 1933 - 1937	Developed	Sometime in the mid 1930s a concrete and stone bathhouse was constructed by Bill Howard. It contained a boiler to heat water, modern plumbing fixtures, and plumbing (Graham 1994, 65).
AD 1934	Moved	Irving Corse had the LePage residence dismantled, moved (either from another place or possibly from its site near the Burt cabin to the northeast), and reassembled. This building no longer stands intact (Graham 1994, 64).

AD 1936	Planted	On May 22, 1936 a letter from Bill Howard to Irving Corse mentioned that some roads were intentionally plowed and seeded (Graham 1994, 271).
AD 1937	Purchased/Sold	Irving Corse bought out Struthers Burt's interest in the Bar BC (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
AD 1938	Land Transfer	Irving Corse married steel heiress Margaretta (Maggie) Alexander Shapeless. The "lifetime lease" on the Bar BC was modified. Burt and Corse's first wife were dropped at designated lessees and Maggie was added to the contract (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
	Established	Struthers Burt wrote his second major book on Wyoming entitled Powder River, Let 'Er Buck (Graham 1994, 25).
	Moved	The Pavenstedt Cabin, which was apparently moved to the ranch, was leased to Frank Crocker (Scott 2005, 110).
AD 1939	Damaged	On August 25, 1939 a fire destroyed the dude and roughneck dining rooms, the kitchen and a commissary in the main cabin.
	Developed	Katharine Burt became the fiction editor of the Ladies Home Journal in 1939 (Graham 1994, 25).
AD 1940	Reconstructed	The burned section of the main cabin was replaced with a new wing.
	Destroyed	A fire destroyed the bathhouse (Bldg. 1390) (Graham 1994, 64). Stone foundation ruins are all that survive today.
AD 1940 - 1949	Destroyed	Sometime in the 1940s a fire destroyed the laundry house at the Bar BC (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
AD 1941	Land Transfer	The Corses subleased land to E. Webster Harrison (Scott 2005, p110).
	Built	The Harrison family built a cabin on the Bar BC property (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

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AD 1941 - 1945	Neglected	The Corses operated the Bar BC property as a dude ranch until World War II. During the war tourist travel in the region virtually halted (Guile 1996, 9). Dude ranch operations were suspended due to labor shortages. Irving Corse left the valley to work for the navy as a flight instructor at the University of Wyoming (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).
	Built	A small frame hangar was built by Harry Clissold in the southern portion of the ranch (Bldg 1384). The HSR lists 2 dates for this construction, 1941 (p. 278) and 1945 (p. 64). Today, a portion of the building stands, but most of it is in ruins. The landing field is assumed to have been the open space to the east of the Corse compound, because it was flat and treeless and near the hangar (Graham 1994, 64, 278).
AD 1943	Established	Due to controversy between cattlemen and conservationists in regards to adding the Rockefeller land to the Grand Teton National Park, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proclaimed the establishment of Jackson Hole National Monument as a temporary solution. It encompassed state and federal lands surrounding the Rockefeller holdings (Guile 1996, 9; Daugherty 1999, Chapter 17).
AD 1945	Planned	According to a memorandum from the National Park Service Director Newton Drury, it was still the intention of the park to continue the presence of dude ranches in the park (Scott 2005, 112).
AD 1946	Developed	Commercial air travel reached Jackson Hole (Huyler 2000, 127)
AD 1949 - 1950	Expanded	Grand Teton National Park was expanded to include the National Monument Grounds and 34,000 acres from the Jackson Hole Preserve, which contained most of the Snake River Land Company holdings from 1927, including the Bar BC Dude Ranch (Guile 1996, 11; Scott 2005).
AD 1950 - 1959	Built	In the 1950s, fire rings were established at the Bar BC site near the cabins that were being used (Graham 1994, 264).

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	Land Transfer	Irving Corse fell into poor health after the war, and died in 1953 (Graham 1994, 27). Beginning during Corse's illness, and for several years after his death, the Conderman family leased the ranch (Scott 2005, p110).
AD 1951 - 1952	Built	In 1951-52, a new highway was completed from Yellowstone National Park to Grand Teton National Park, which increased tourist access to the park.
AD 1953 - 1986	Inhabited	After Irving Corse died, his wife Margaretta Sharpless Corse (Maggie) continued to reside at the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 27).
AD 1953	Neglected	By 1953 the glory days of the Bar BC ended, owing to the slow down of the vacation industry due to the Great Depression and World War II. The flexibility that the automobile gave to tourists changed their vacation habits. Tourists began staying at vacation destinations only a few days, as compared to longer stays. This change also contributed to the decline of the dude ranch industry. In its heyday, dudes had stayed at the Bar BC for a few weeks or for the whole summer season (Graham 1994, 66).
AD 1954	Abandoned	Maxwell Struthers Burt died in Jackson, Wyoming (Graham 1994, 25).
AD 1959	Destroyed	A fire destroyed one of the main residences, probably the Burt cabin, which was part of the Racquet Club (Graham 1994, 64).
AD 1962	Planned	Margaretta Corse wrote Grand Teton's superintendent, and also Senator Gale McGee, to see if an arrangement could be made to ensure that the Bar BC could continue to be run as a dude ranch by her descendants after her death. At that point she and her son were, "contemplating investing a good deal of money to put the ranch back into first class condition and running it as a dude ranch." The reply indicated there was a possibility of her heirs being allowed to operate the ranch, but that the topic would be considered only after her death (Scott 2005, 112-113).
AD 1962 - 1986	Neglected	Without the assurance that the property would be allowed to operate in the future as a dude ranch, Maggie Corse let the Bar BC structures deteriorate, investing little in maintenance (Scott 2005, 113).

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AD 1963	Developed	Walt Disney Productions made a film nearby of Sally Carrighar's A Day on Teton Marsh. Much of the crew was housed at the Bar BC including Lillian and Walt Disney and their daughter (Graham 1994, 27).
AD 1966	Established	The National Historic Preservation Act required all federal agencies, including the National Park Service to preserve cultural resources (Scott 2005, 114).
AD 1970 - 1979	Inhabited	By the 1970s the Bar BC cabins were inhabited by people in search of economical housing. Cabins were rented to teachers, college professors, writers, a feminist film-maker, wildlife artists and photographers, and students with summer jobs at the national park (Graham 1994, 27).
	Maintained	During the 1970s, the park acquired many buildings when their leases expired. Many were removed; the park was struggling to care for the buildings that were not removed. Park management during this period appears to have had a focus on natural resources (Scott 2005, 119).
AD 1977	Abandoned	Katharine Newlin Burt died (Graham 1994, 12).
AD 1978	Conserved	The Bar BC was inventoried for the List of Classified Structures, an NPS database of historic structures. The ranch was assessed as being potentially eligible to the National Register, though was not considered the best representative example of a dude ranch (Scott 2005, 115).
	Developed	President Jimmy Carter fished at the Bar BC (Graham 1994, 27).
AD 1979	Conserved	The Bar BC was documented by the Rocky Mountain Region HABS drawings (Cronenberger 2006).
AD 1981	Planned	An attempt was made by Margaretta Corse to nominate the Bar BC to the National Register of Historic Places; however, the park did not follow up with a request for a formal determination of eligibility (Scott 2005, 118).
AD 1983	Established	Nathaniel Burt's autobiographical Jackson Hole Journal was published in 1983 (Graham 1994, 28).

AD 1985 - 1989	Neglected	Grand Teton National Park's 1985 Statement for Management and 1988 Resource Management Plan, which would have guided decisions concerning the Bar BC, focused management on the preservation of natural resources, and made cultural resources a low priority. In the 1988 plan the Bar BC was marked for removal (Scott 2005, 129).
AD 1986	Land Transfer	Margaretta Sharpless Corse surrendered her life tenancy of the Bar BC, two years before her death (Graham 1994, 27). Until that time she lived in the Corse cabin which was the most modern cabin on the property (Graham 1994, 56).
	Removed	On August 16, 1986 an auction for the Bar BC buildings and their contents was scheduled. Controversy arose regarding the ownership of the Bar BC buildings. The Corse/Ross family argued that the land was conveyed to the Snake River Land Company, not its buildings. The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer argued that the complex was of transcendent importance and should be preserved on site. It was ruled that the buildings in place in 1930 at the time of the conveyance remained with the property. The Harrison Cabin and other later structures were removed, including the 1940's dining room of the main cabin. It appears that this left a gaping hole in the building (Graham 1993, 24).
	Demolished	The dining room added in 1934 was sawed up and destroyed at about the time of the auction (Graham 1994, 51). (See previous entry?)
AD 1987	Land Transfer	The National Park Service gained control of the Bar BC property (Graham 1994).
	Conserved	The Bar BC was inventoried for List of Classified Structures (Scott 2005).
AD 1988	Neglected	Charlie Ross, Margaretta Corse's grandson, wrote to the director of the National Park Service requesting consideration to run the Bar BC as a dude ranch under a concessionaire's license. His request was denied (Scott 2005, 129).

AD 1988 - 1990	Conserved	In 1990 the Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District was listed on the National Register; the nomination had originally been prepared in 1988. Measuring 38 acres, the district boundary was drawn to encompass buildings without addressing landscape features (Graham 1994, 274).
	Removed	The Crocker cabin was removed (Scott 2005, 127).
AD 1990	Removed	Charlie Ross sold the Harrison Cabin to John Horn, who moved it that year (Scott 2005, 127).
AD 1990 - 2007	Eroded	During the 1990s, the Snake River changed its course, migrating westward and eroding land once part of the historic dude ranch. The river has eroded to within approximately 50 feet of some of the buildings, and has destroyed part of the southern swimming pool/pond (Scott 2005, 147).
AD 1990	Planned	Project statement for the HSR 1991-1994 was initiated by the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resources (Cronenberger 2006)
AD 1991 - 1994	Conserved	Roy Eugene Graham, AIA Associates produced a draft Historic Structures Report for the Bar BC Dude Ranch property. This project was initiated by the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, which had been alerted by the controversy surrounding the auction to the possibility that the park might remove the ranch buildings, which were rapidly deteriorating (Scott 2005).
AD 1994	Stabilized	Roofs, snow support poles, and window coverings were installed at the Bar BC (Scott 2005, 140).
AD 1995	Planned	Cultural Resources Specialist Michael Johnson circulated an unofficial proposal for the stabilization of the Bar BC. The plan only addressed the oldest buildings since funds required for further work would probably not be available (Scott 2005, 141).
AD 1997	Stabilized	Michigan Volunteers enclosed windows and doors on Bar BC structures, and re-roofed some cabins (Scott 2005).

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	Conserved	Bar BC inventoried for List of Classified Structures (Scott 2005).
AD 1999	Conserved	Anonymous matching donation of \$10,000 for the Bar BC in the hopes of getting community support to be used on the original part of the lodge and a few of the dude cabins (Scott 2005, 147).
AD 2003	Stabilized	Park contractors, Abegglen Construction Inc., stabilized four Bar BC dude cabins and the saddle barn (Scott 2005).
AD 2003 - 2004	Stabilized	Michigan Volunteers stabilized the Dance Cabin. They replaced rotten logs and leveled the structure, which had sagged at one end more than fifteen inches (Scott 2005, 149).
AD 2005	Stabilized	In 2005 Abegglen Construction Inc. stabilized 7 buildings at Bar BC.
AD 2006	Stabilized	During work on this CLI, GRTE staff (Western Center for Historic Preservation crew) continued stabilization work at the Bar BC, propping the roof and straightening walls in the main cabin, and conducting maintenance work on other structures.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Bar BC Dude Ranch Historic District is a valuable and threatened landscape resource, and evaluating its historic integrity proved difficult. Many important landscape features have disappeared and the condition of the property is worsening. Yet a comparison of historic conditions with the present reveals that a surprising amount of historic fabric remains. Surviving landscape features and patterns convey a great deal of information about the appearance, use, and organization of the historic dude ranch. Through analysis of landscape characteristics, this CLI concludes that the property retains historic integrity, but that the condition of the property is poor. Landscape characteristics that were instrumental in this determination include: views and vistas, small-scale features, buildings, building cluster arrangement, spatial organization, vegetation, and natural systems and features.

The location and setting of the historic dude ranch has always been its most salient characteristic. Built on the western bank of the Snake River, the Bar BC offered commanding views of the Tetons and Gros Ventre Range. This isolated, scenic setting was a primary draw for its wealthy Eastern clientele. The setting is little changed since the period of significance. The two upper terraces at the western edge of the property remain open sagebrush plains, while the lowest terrace continues to support stands of Lodgepole pine, spruce, and aspen. The distant views in all directions remain much as they were when Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross first laid eyes on the site. There has been no inappropriate development within view of the ranch. The property retains a high degree of integrity of location and setting.

The Bar BC property has not retained integrity of feeling, in large part because historic land uses have not continued. During the period of significance, the ranch was a bustling “town in the wilderness,” animated by colorful wranglers and esteemed authors. Today the site is empty and silent. Dude wrangling operations ceased years ago. With little maintenance, the structures have become dilapidated. Trees fall to the ground and stay where they land. All this contributes to an unkempt appearance. During the historic period, a pleasant, orderly appearance was imperative.

An observant visitor can read in the landscape many qualities of the dude ranch’s design. For example, the vernacular rustic style of buildings is readily apparent. Due to the loss of historic fabric, other aspects of design are illegible. Changes to the road and path network have altered the way a visitor experiences and understands the site. Without conducting research, visitors no longer understand which part of the lodge faces “the front yard,” or where crops and vegetables were raised. In particular, the loss of fences has diminished historic character by blurring the boundaries between spatial zones. These changes conceal deeper understandings of the site, like how social distinctions between wranglers and dudes are reflected in the landscape. The property does not retain integrity of design.

A distinctive characteristic of the ranch is the interesting workmanship of surviving structures. Untrained “cowboy-carpenters” erected most buildings quickly using readily available materials. Today this fact is reflected in the differing levels of workmanship between buildings and in “human” details such as saddle-notch, square-notch, and hog-trough corners. The ranch retains integrity of

workmanship.

The use of native materials in ranch structures is widespread. Cabins, fences, bridges, and even a historic see-saw make prominent use of logs or poles. Quartzite cobbles are also common, appearing in cabin chimneys and at least one building foundation. The use of these materials connects these structures with the natural setting. Other materials include concrete and sheet metal. These express the utilitarian character of the ranch and its facilities. To a high degree, the property retains integrity of materials.

Finally, the ranch retains its association with the events and persons that make it significant. The connection with dude wrangling and the rise of tourism in Jackson Hole remains strong. Struthers Burt left an indelible imprint on the appearance and layout of the ranch. The impact of the place on him is equally strong and is recorded in *Diary of a Dude Wrangler*. For all of these reasons, the cultural landscape of the Bar BC Dude Ranch retains historic integrity.

Aspects of Integrity:

- Location
- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Archeological Sites

In the draft HSR, some of the deteriorated ranch structures and remnants of former structures are described as archeological features, including the Carncross Cabin, a portion of the Burt cabin, bunkhouse, and a possible ice house (Graham 1994, 279). Depressions and remains mark where outhouses are believed to have existed. Though not verified during this CLI, remnants of liquor distilleries also exist on site. These include pipes, metal funnels, and rotten board covered pits. Other archeological features include the skeet shooting range, the vegetable garden, and the pool. At the south end of the ranch is a possible barnyard. South of the barnyard is a dumping area containing miscellaneous items that appear to be from the period of significance. Another dump site exists north of the developed ranch. Other surface resources including the depression of the BC Ditch, minor irrigation ditches, and the remnants of perimeter buck-and-rail fencing, can be considered archeological features. Faint traces of historic roads and historic road cuts also survive.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Ruins of a fish hatchery at the JO Boys' Ranch site, about 1/2 mile south of the main dude ranch complex. 9/2006.

- Feature: Building remnants throughout
Feature Identification Number: 116988
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Carncross Cabin remnants (#1386)
Feature Identification Number: 116990
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Portion of Burt cabin bunkhouse
Feature Identification Number: 116992
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Possible ice house
Feature Identification Number: 116994
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Foundation of Bathhouse (# 1390)
Feature Identification Number: 116996

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Foundation of Barn (#1367)

Feature Identification Number: 116998

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bldg # 1381 (Barn) – piers and floor

Feature Identification Number: 117000

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Foundations at site of JO Boys' Camp

Feature Identification Number: 117002

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Outhouse remains

Feature Identification Number: 117004

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Skeet shooting range

Feature Identification Number: 117006

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Vegetable garden

Feature Identification Number: 117008

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Depressions from swimming pool

Feature Identification Number: 117010

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of BC ditch and flume system

Feature Identification Number: 117012

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of irrigation ditches

Feature Identification Number: 117014

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature:	Remn. of buck-and-rail perim. fencing
Feature Identification Number:	117016
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Historic road traces
Feature Identification Number:	117018
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	South dumping ground
Feature Identification Number:	117020
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	North dumping ground
Feature Identification Number:	117022
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Stills
Feature Identification Number:	117024
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Buildings and Structures

Note: A detailed inventory of buildings is beyond the scope of this CLI. Buildings were approached in a general way. The HSR contains detailed information about the buildings in the district. For this CLI, foundations of some structures have been listed as contributing features under Archeological Sites.

A number of rustic vernacular buildings survive on site in varying conditions. Sharing traits of design and construction, the buildings are excellent examples of what has been termed the “dude ranch vernacular” or “the Cowboy Style” (Mehls 1990). This collection is a very valuable resource that probably contributes more to our understanding of dude ranching than any other landscape feature on the ranch. It is hoped that the NPS can devise a way to halt the rapid deterioration of the structures and to promote the buildings to cultivate widespread support for the preservation of the historic dude ranch.

Architecture on the Bar BC was meant to emulate a working cattle ranch and to convey the impression of simple living in a natural setting (Graham 1994, 34). The choice of materials expresses sensitivity to the montane setting. Nearly all of the structures are built of logs, which were harvested from adjacent lands. Several buildings feature massive chimneys of native quartzite cobble. Nearly all of the structures sport gable roofs topped with asphalt roll roofing.

When originally built, many featured sod roofs, which further emphasized their connection to the natural environment. Through his writing, Struthers Burt advised other dude wranglers to emphasize horizontality in building design, which he believed would impart a distinctive Western flavor (Mehls 1990). All one or one-and-a-half stories, the Bar BC structures are deliberately low and close to the ground.

In general, the structures were quickly built by wranglers and other untrained carpenters, which accounts for the descriptive term, “Cowboy Style.” These natural craftsmen were also responsible for the design and construction of furniture used on the ranch (Graham 1994, 276). Historic builders invested considerable care in the construction of some buildings, which led to different levels of workmanship. Individual buildings demonstrate these differences through elements such as saddle-notch, square-notch, and hog-trough corners.

By 1922 the Bar BC contained 45 buildings including numerous single and double cabins, the main cabin, a blacksmith shop, saddle shed, granary, ranch store, several storage sheds, dance hall, laundry building, and office (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). Many of these survive in fair to good condition, while others are in poor condition or in ruins. The main cabin (# 1366) was the center of the ranch. This structure exhibits a high degree of sophistication, owing to its construction by Charles Fox, a skilled builder. This cabin expanded over time and experienced at least one fire. In 1986 an entire wing was removed, which left a gaping hole in the structure (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). As a result, the building has deteriorated quickly, despite sporadic stabilization work.

Featuring a concrete and cobble foundation and an elaborate system for heating water, the bathhouse (# 1390) was a unique structure on the ranch. Designed by Bill Howard, this building burned in 1940. Only the foundation remains today. Howard also built the power plant (# 1401) at the base of the escarpment, and has been credited with the design of the BC Ditch, though this is in question (Graham 1994, 36).

Other notable buildings include the saddle shed (# 1372), which is in good condition due to stabilization work in 2003, and the dance cabin (# 1375), which has benefited greatly from stabilization. Northeast of the dance cabin is the skeet trap. Another very small structure is a doghouse in the Corse cabin cluster. One small building (# 1391) adjacent the main cabin was the first cabin built. Originally it was used as a mess house. Struthers Burt thought it ironic that “millionaires” slept in this cabin, which at one time reeked of cooked food (Burt 1924, 137).

Two buildings that are currently approaching ruin are the Carncross cabin (# 1386) and the airplane hangar (# 1384), which was erected by Irving Corse. The Carncross cabin was in poor condition when the NPS acquired it, while a major portion of the airplane hangar has collapsed in recent years (Scott 2005, 155).

About a mile south of the ranch center was the JO Boys’ Camp. This CLI found little information on the buildings at the JO. Today the ruins of a fish hatchery and footings from at least one other structure are present.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



The dance cabin has undergone significant stabilization and repair work since 2000. 9/2006.



Stabilization work on the northern section of the main cabin. 9/2006.

Feature: Rustic vernacular design of structures

Feature Identification Number: 117166

Bar BC Dude Ranch
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Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Corse Cabin #1365 LCS 52151
Feature Identification Number: 117168
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Main Cabin #1366 LCS 52152
Feature Identification Number: 117170
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Garage/Work Cabin #1368 LCS 52153
Feature Identification Number: 117172
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1369 LCS 52154
Feature Identification Number: 117174
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Outhouse #1369A LCS 52155
Feature Identification Number: 117176
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1370 LCS 52156
Feature Identification Number: 117178
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Saddle Barn #1372 LCS 52157
Feature Identification Number: 117180
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1373 LCS 52159
Feature Identification Number: 117182
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1374 LCS 52160
Feature Identification Number: 117184
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dance Cabin #1375 LCS 52161

Feature Identification Number: 117186

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Storage Cabin #1376 LCS 52162

Feature Identification Number: 117188

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Office #1377 LCS 52163

Feature Identification Number: 117190

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1378 LCS 52164

Feature Identification Number: 117192

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1379 LCS 52165

Feature Identification Number: 117194

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1382 LCS 52166

Feature Identification Number: 117196

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1383 LCS 52167

Feature Identification Number: 117198

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Hangar #1384 LCS 52168

Feature Identification Number: 117200

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Storage/Workshed #1385 LCS 52169

Feature Identification Number: 117202

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Carncross Cabin #1386 LCS 52170

Feature Identification Number: 117204

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1388 LCS 52171

Feature Identification Number: 117206

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1389 LCS 52172

Feature Identification Number: 117208

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Bathhouse #1390 LCS 52173

Feature Identification Number: 117210

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin/Mess Hall #1391 LCS 52

Feature Identification Number: 117212

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1392 LCS 52175

Feature Identification Number: 117214

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1393 LCS 52176

Feature Identification Number: 117216

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1394 LCS 52177

Feature Identification Number: 117218

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1395 LCS 52178

Feature Identification Number: 117220

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1396 LCS 52179

Feature Identification Number: 117222
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1397 LCS 52180
Feature Identification Number: 117224
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1398 LCS 52181
Feature Identification Number: 117226
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Outhouse #1398A LCS 52182
Feature Identification Number: 117228
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Dude Cabin #1399 LCS 52183
Feature Identification Number: 117230
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Store #1400 LCS 52184
Feature Identification Number: 117232
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Generator Cabin #1401 LCS 52185
Feature Identification Number: 117234
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
Feature: Bar BC Skeet Shed BBCB-1 LCS 52197
Feature Identification Number: 117236
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined
Feature: Bar BC Dog House BBCST-04 LCS 52189
Feature Identification Number: 117238
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Circulation

When the Bar BC began operations in 1912, the major form of transportation in Jackson Hole

was by foot, ski, horse, wagon, and train. Most of the dudes came from the east, which meant a six-day train journey followed by a two-day wagon ride to get to Jackson Hole. After such a rigorous journey, a stay could last months. Once automobiles became the main form of vacation transportation in the 1920s, the nation's road system was improved and travel became more convenient and flexible. These developments shortened the length of time visitors typically stayed at the dude ranch and changed their experience of the dude ranch in other ways.

Early circulation routes to and from the Bar BC Dude Ranch consisted of wagon roads, horse trails, and walking paths. The main activity of a dude was horseback riding, which included long rides to the mountains, racing on the terraces, and short leisurely rides along the river. These activities resulted in a complex network of paths and roads crisscrossing the ranch. The entry road from the Teton Park Road to the ranch was the most formally constructed road associated with the Bar BC Dude Ranch. It was improved and graded in order to accommodate horse drawn wagons loaded with dudes and their luggage trunks, along with the wagon loads of supplies needed to run the ranch (Daugherty 1994). After turning off the Teton Park Road, the road heads east along the section line between Section 12 and 13, T43N, R116W. When the entrance road crosses Sections 7 and 18, T43N, R115W, it deviates south from the section line, which was one of the property boundaries between tracts owned by Burt and Carncross, and leads to the top of the lower escarpment.

Historically three entrances from the lower escarpment into the ranch were used at different times. Road traces found on the middle terrace appear to be associated with these entrances. From the top of the lower escarpment, the original ranch entry was a gradual cut northward down the escarpment. A later steeper road appears to have been cut in 1919 with the increased use of the automobile. Instead of accommodating cars, the intent may have been to exclude them. The grounds were kept in as natural a state as possible and automobiles were not permitted within the ranch complex. Within the ranch, roads provided access to the main areas, such as the main cabin, picnic grove, and dance cabin, with internal roads connecting areas within the ranch. In order to retain the naturalistic appeal, it appears that some of the roads were later intentionally plowed and seeded with grass and wildflowers. Many of the routes can be seen today as traces through the grasses.

Just west of today's ranch entry gate, the road from the Teton Park Road forks, one road continues north along the river and the other descends into the ranch. This entry is along the steeper most northern entrance, used since the 1930s.

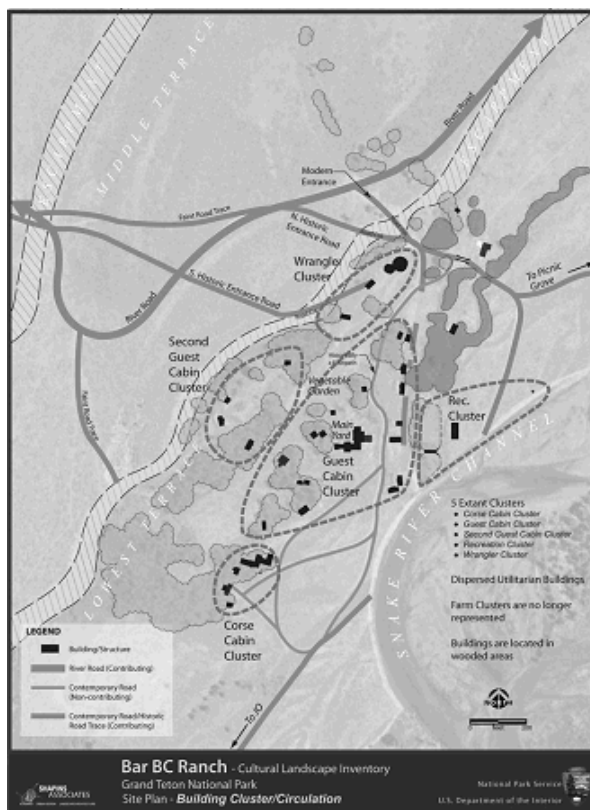
The entry road forks after descending into the ranch. One historic road headed south between a row of cabins and the swimming pool. Today only a faint trace exists of this road. The other fork heads east crossing the irrigation ditch over a collapsed bridge remnant, where it then forks again. One fork heads north toward the picnic site through the northern agricultural area. This historic road survives. The other road, which has been called the "Outer Loop" heads south toward the dance cabin, little more than a trace. Migration of the river has obliterated this trace

for approximately 700 feet. The historic road trace resumes south below the eroded section of river, and continues on towards the site of the JO. (Please see site plan.)

The current main road heads south near the base of the escarpment. It passes the Burt cabins before curving around between the main cabin and the ranch office. Eventually it continues to the Corse cabin cluster. Historically this route was a path. Over time it was drastically widened for automobiles and probably changed configuration in other ways. For these reasons, the current road is considered non-contributing. A contributing element of the former path network is the footbridge in the area of the historic swimming pool.

After World War I, the automobile and airplane became common forms of travel, making access to Jackson Hole convenient. This substantially increased the number of visitors to the area. In addition to bringing more people, the automobile changed the experience of the ranch, with its need for wide roads and accompanying noise and fumes. Tourists felt compelled to drive within the ranch. With the increase of tourists and cars, the remote mountain and ranch experience changed, becoming less wild, more crowded, and more urban.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Building Cluster/Circulation Diagram

Feature: The main entrance road
Feature Identification Number: 117026
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: The three historic entry roads
Feature Identification Number: 117028
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Historic road cuts in both escarpments
Feature Identification Number: 117030
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of historic roads in ranch
Feature Identification Number: 117032
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Trace between cabins and swimming pool
Feature Identification Number: 117034
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Eastern/Outer trace passing dance cabin
Feature Identification Number: 117036
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Fork leading to picnic grove
Feature Identification Number: 117038
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Current main road through district
Feature Identification Number: 117040
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Cluster Arrangement

The separation of land uses and the phased development of the dude ranch over time led to the establishment of several loosely defined building clusters. Some of these clusters have lost structures over time, yet overall the historic cluster arrangement is evident to this day.

Guest Cabin Cluster 1

The earliest guest cabins, main cabin, and other important buildings form a large cluster in the center of the ranch. Following the typical plan for a dude ranch, guests slept in cabins that were arranged informally around a main cabin. The main cabin contained dining rooms, a kitchen and various sitting rooms used for socializing. At Bar BC this cabin was the social and geographic center of the ranch. Described in the draft HSR as “Type A” structures, the earliest guest cabins were built in 1912 as single-room buildings measuring about 12 x 14 feet. These cabins, including #s 1388, 1389, 1392, 1393, 1394, and 1395, were arranged around the western side of the main cabin in a crescent shape, following the distribution of conifers in the center of the ranch. The cabins were located under trees so that they would benefit from the shelter, shade, and privacy that the trees provided. The close association with the trees also enhanced the picturesque effect of the structures. In *Diary of a Dude Wrangler*, Burt advised, “If he is a wise dude wrangler, he has disposed his buildings through the trees that there is no effect of crowding or of size. You must do your best, even on a place where from fifty to a hundred people are gathered together, not to destroy the impression of wildness and isolation” (Burt 1924, 52). Within this larger cluster, several of these guest cabins are grouped into pairs.

Over time, additional buildings joined this central cluster. These later additions included the ranch office and the Burt family cabins. Examples of Type B cabins were also added to this cluster. Type B cabins were built slightly later than the Type A variety, and were double-room cabins. Buildings 1379, 1380, 1373, and 1374 were arranged in a line along one of the principal ranch roadways. This road ran north to south, just west of the swimming pool (Graham 1994, 130).

Guest Cabin Cluster 2

The remaining Type B cabins compose the second guest cluster. These cabins were erected in a wide crescent near the base of the lower escarpment, again following an existing stand of trees. Some cabins (#s 1396-1399) and one outhouse survive in this location, although originally there were more buildings in this area. During the dude ranch period, outhouses were located some distance from the cabins, in clusters of trees for privacy (Graham 1994, 266, 279).

Wrangler Cluster

Another building cluster occupies the wrangler zone, to the north of the second guest cabin cluster. Today this cluster consists of the ranch store (# 1400), saddle shed (or tack shed) (# 1372) and corrals. Additional buildings were once part of this cluster.

Corse Cabin Cluster

A fourth building cluster lies at the southern edge of the developed ranch. The cluster, which developed after Irving Corse became a business partner of the Bar BC, include the Corse Cabin (# 1365), a doghouse, worksheds, and an airplane hangar (# 1384), now partially in ruins (Graham 1994, 279).

Recreational Cluster

The dance cabin (# 1375) and the skeet trap stand in the recreational zone. Along with the historic pool, these buildings compose a fifth building cluster, which was recreational in function.

Dispersed Utilitarian Buildings

A few structures associated with the day-to-day operations of the ranch are dispersed throughout the site. Surviving examples include a garage/workshed/mechanic's shed (# 1368) and the electricity building (# 1401), also known as Bill Howard's light plant. At one time a laundry shed stood close by the light plant. Both structures relied on the water provided by the BC Ditch.

Missing Agricultural Clusters

Agricultural buildings such as barns, sheds, fenced stockyards, and a blacksmith shop composed additional clusters at the northern and southern ends of the developed portion of the ranch. These agricultural clusters have disappeared (Graham 1994, 279).

Five of the historic building clusters survive in large part today. These are the two guest cabin clusters, the wrangler cluster, the Corse cluster, and the recreational cluster. A few dispersed utilitarian buildings also survive on the property.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Looking north into the "wrangler zone," date unknown. Collection of the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum (1958.0304.01).



Looking north into the "wrangler zone" today. Some structures in this cluster (store, tack shed) have survived, while others disappeared over time. 9/2006.

- Feature: Historic building clusters
Feature Identification Number: 117042
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Guest Cabin Cluster 1
Feature Identification Number: 117044
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Guest Cabin Cluster 2
Feature Identification Number: 117046
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Wrangler Cluster
Feature Identification Number: 117048
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Corse Cabin Cluster
Feature Identification Number: 117050
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature:	Recreational Cluster
Feature Identification Number:	117052
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Dispersed Utilitarian Buildings
Feature Identification Number:	117054
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Assoc. bwn. structures and tree stands
Feature Identification Number:	117056
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Constructed Water Features

With the Snake River flowing along the east side of the ranch, water seems deceptively abundant. In reality however, harnessing water for use on the ranch required great creativity and physical labor. Evidence for these efforts is widespread on the ranch today.

Burt and Carncross acquired the Bar BC land through the Homestead Act of 1862 which required farming the land for five continuous years. Water was required to irrigate the crops. In addition, the Desert Land Act required that desert lands be irrigated to secure title to the land (Graham 119, 275). Through the Carey Act of 1894, private companies were given the right to provide water to and parcel out homesteaded land. These companies filed water claims and often distributed water through irrigation ditches (Graham 119, 261). In parts of Jackson Hole, however, some claimants didn't list ditches among their improvements. These people may have utilized dry farming techniques (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 9). Though the Bar BC is located adjacent to the Snake River, the river water was never used for irrigation. Water had to be transported from another source.

Water for the Bar BC was transported approximately three miles from Cottonwood Creek. On December 6, 1912, Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross secured rights to 7.05 cubic feet of water when they submitted an application to construct the BC Ditch (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 11). Beginning at Cottonwood Creek, the ditch circled the south end of Timbered Island, then east across the terraces and down the escarpments to the Bar BC. Who originally built the ditch is uncertain. Both Bill Howard and Alfred Bessette have been credited with its design and construction (Graham 1994, 36; Cronenberger 2006). It is certain that Burt and Carncross granted permission to Alfred Bessette to expand the ditch in 1919. At the time, ditches were dug by hand labor or horse-drawn plow. Occasionally individuals dug their own ditches, though frequently it was a cooperative effort with their neighbors. The ditch appears to have been the result of enlarging an existing drainage, taking advantage of its channel, and following its meandering path, rather than being excavated in a straight line.

Though the BC Ditch is no longer functioning, the original alignment has not been altered. It

still exists as a depression cutting across the terraces; in many places its path is marked by cottonwoods and willows. Multiple flumes were constructed at the upper escarpment. It appears that over time, various designs and materials were utilized, ranging from wood to metal. At the top of the upper escarpment, above the flume system, a number of concrete check dams were installed on parallel channels of the ditch. These check dams indicate the possibility of water being diverted to other ditches to the north, though this was not investigated for this CLI.

Some of the water flowing in the BC ditch went to power Bill Howard's light plant at the north end of the Bar BC Dude Ranch. This structure provided electricity for the ranch. At the top of the lower escarpment is a holding tank, probably to provide head for the electric plant, about thirty feet below. Remnants of corrugated metal flumes connect the holding tank to the light plant. Part-way down the escarpment, a metal pipe connected to the flume transported water south to the corral area. What appears to be an underground holding tank exists behind the corral. From the light plant, water was transported along a major ditch toward the swimming pool. According to Nathaniel Burt, "It came down the first terrace in a pipe, a 'flume', into a big laundry shed. From there the main stream ran southward through the ranch and split into two channels. One went east to form the swimming pool, and then ran off through the field into the river. The other passed through the corral area, watered a big vegetable garden, and then passed back across by the cabins to rejoin the swimming pool" (Graham 1994, 262). These secondary ditches, which led to the vegetable garden and ice house, remain as slight depressions.

Remnants of ditches and laterals were also found on the land north of the ranch complex and in the vicinity of the skeet trap. These appear to be evidence for the irrigation of the crop land that was required to homestead the land, and would have been part of the Burt acreage. Additional ditches east and southeast of the pool are visible in the historic birds-eye photograph.

The drinking and washing water came from a 20' deep well that was located in the L of the main cabin that was dug in 1912 (Graham 1994, 277). An overgrown depression is the remaining evidence of its existence. Another well exists outside the Corse cabin.

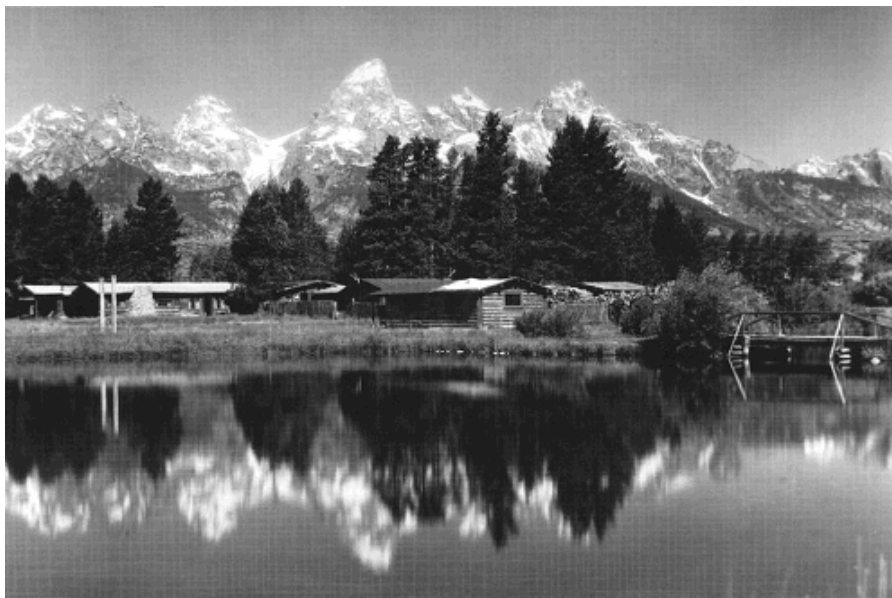
Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Remnants of two flumes along BC Ditch from different periods lying side by side on escarpment between middle and highest terrace. 9/2006.



A water settling tank adjacent to the BC Ditch, perched at the edge of the escarpment separating the lowest and middle terrace. 9/2006.



Looking west across the swimming pool to the main cabin. The pool was filled with water from the BC Ditch. Date unknown. Collection of the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum, Harrison R. Crandall, photographer (1958.2440.001).



Looking west across the dry swimming pool today. Footbridge is not visible because many pines have grown up along the pool's edges. 9/2006.



An irrigation ditch. This area (north of the ranch buildings) was probably used to raise crops while Struthers Burt was homesteading the property. 9/2006.

- Feature: Historic BC Ditch (major)
Feature Identification Number: 117058
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Flume complex on upper escarpment
Feature Identification Number: 117060
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Flume complex/tank – lower escarp.
Feature Identification Number: 117062
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Depress. of minor irrigation ditches
Feature Identification Number: 117064
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Swimming pool depress. (LCS 52194)
Feature Identification Number: 117068
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of well at the main cabin
Feature Identification Number: 117070
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of well at Corse cabin
Feature Identification Number: 117072
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Cultural Traditions

The industry of dude ranching played an important role in establishing Jackson Hole as a center for nature-based tourism and recreation. The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch was one of the pioneer dude ranches in Jackson Hole and one of the best-known throughout the West. This Western tradition no longer continues on the property, though several other historic dude ranches continue to operate in Jackson Hole.

During the first few decades of the twentieth century, Americans became increasingly infatuated with the spectacular scenery and wildlife of the West. At the same time, many Americans were coming to view the cowboy as a folk hero. This perception was advanced by popular literature and other entertainment. For these reasons, the young industry of dude ranching experienced a dramatic rise in popularity. The period from 1919-1929 is often called the Golden Age of dude ranching. It was precisely this period that the Bar BC was at its peak (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

Dude ranches were patterned after cattle ranches, with important exceptions. The rustic architecture of dude ranches, and the informal way cabins, corrals, and other facilities were arranged on the landscape can be traced to cattle ranches. But whereas cattle ranches were utilitarian institutions that were constructed with little concern for aesthetics, dude ranches were designed for the enjoyment of paying guests from other portions of the country, known as “dudes.” A picturesque, remote setting was a necessary component of a dude ranch. Dude ranches offered their guests a variety of nature-based recreational activities such as horseback riding, fishing, hunting, sightseeing, and occasionally, swimming. Guests, who usually had some connection to the owner, made advance reservations, typically stayed for an extended period of time, paid for all services at one price, and participated in activities together as part of a ranch community. For these reasons, dude ranches had little in common with hotels or lodges (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14).

The property continued to operate as a dude ranch in the classic mold until the onset of World War II. After the war, the Bar BC never again gained the prominence it had enjoyed during its heyday. In later decades the ranch was used as seasonal housing for river guides and other residents of the valley. The ranch has not been occupied since the 1980s.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Strong association with dude ranching
Feature Identification Number: 117074
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Land Use

As a dude ranch, the Bar BC was a destination for visitors from outside the region—generally Easterners—who were attracted to the area’s scenic natural beauty and to the community-oriented recreational activities offered by the dude ranch. These activities combined socializing with nature-based recreation. The primary land uses of the Bar BC property during the historic period were tourism and recreation. The dude ranch was required to be self-sustaining. So in addition to recreational activities, the property was home to residential and limited agricultural uses during the historic period. Dude ranch operations ceased many years ago, so these uses have not continued. Nowadays the Bar BC property experiences very limited use for fishing, informal hiking, and other nature-based pursuits. While not reflective of the historic period, these current activities are compatible with the historic character of the ranch.

Historic Uses - Recreational

In its heyday, the Bar BC offered many recreational activities for its guests. Activities that “placed the dude close to nature and situations where one could experience the beauty and grandeur of the western landscape” were the primary pursuits (Graham 1994, 24). These historic activities are reflected in the landscape today by the depressions which mark the former swimming pool, a skeet shooting range, the dance cabin, and—most of all—the historic corrals and saddle shed.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding was the most popular activity at dude ranches during the “Golden Age of dude ranching,” followed by pack trips, hunting, and fishing (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). The Bar BC fit this model well. In addition to being the primary means of transportation during the ranch’s early years, horseback riding was also the singlemost important recreational pursuit. In *Diary of a Dude Wrangler*, Struthers Burt notes that along the Tetons, “within riding distance, was a series of forested sapphire lakes.” (Burt 1924, 95). Trail rides in the Tetons were a major activity for dudes at the ranch. Facilities for equestrian activities, including the corral and saddle shed, were located at the northwest edge of the developed ranch, making for easy access to the open riding country and grazing on the terraces to the west. One of the main routes into the ranch dropped diagonally down the escarpment, arriving precisely in this “wrangler zone.” Though overgrown, this route is discernible today. It is easy to imagine a line of dudes riding single-file up the slope, accompanied by a few wranglers, before turning west towards the mountains. Riding to the St. John Episcopal Church’s Chapel of the Transfiguration on Sundays was another popular activity. Dudes from nearby ranches also made the trip. According to Nathaniel Burt, as many as 300 people might arrive at the little chapel on horseback on a busy day (Graham 1994, 21).

Swimming

Swimming and sunbathing were also popular at some area dude ranches. The White Grass, for instance, featured a concrete-lined swimming pool. Though the Bar BC was located long the Snake River, this watercourse was too swift and cold for swimming (Graham 1994, 264). The owners of the Bar BC constructed an hourglass-shaped pool for the use of dudes. Fed by the BC Ditch, this pool had a natural appearance, with willows growing in places along its edges. In some historic photographs, the surface of the water reflects the rugged backdrop of the Teton Range, illustrating that the pool was an important element of the scenic ranch composition. Now this pool is completely dry, but its former outline is clearly visible as two wide depressions.

Hunting/Shooting

To the east of the pool lay a dance cabin and a skeet shooting range. A small skeet trap for launching clay pigeons has survived to this day. Discarded shotgun shells lie scattered on the ground nearby. Some guests hunted live birds on the ranch. Burt reported that, “ducks and geese were plentiful, the latter along the river and the former both in the river and in some nearby sloughs” (Burt 1924, 95).

Fishing and Picnicking

The Snake River was also a draw for anglers. Burt praised the river as “very useful in the fishing season” (Burt 1924, 95). Nathaniel Burt recalls that the picnic grove at the northeast corner of the ranch was a good place to fish. There, under the canopy of large cottonwoods, dudes would also enjoy frequent campfires and barbecues at a safe distance from the wooden ranch structures (Graham 1994, 264). Today the Snake River has whittled the grove to a fraction of its former size. Beavers have also exerted a toll on this area.

Socializing

Socializing was an important part of the dude ranch experience. Social activities often took place near the center of the dude ranch, in and around the main cabin and dance cabin. Bridge and Mahjong were popular, and the ranch frequently held elaborate costume parties for the benefits of dudes and employees alike (Burt 1924, 180-182).

Historic Uses - Residential/Agricultural

By necessity, a dude ranch had to provide the essential facilities and services for housing a large number of dudes and wranglers. By 1922, the Bar BC was one of the largest dude ranches in the valley, with 45 buildings and enough housing for 50 dudes (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). Burt was proud of its size, calling it, “a small town in the wilderness, complete and self-sustaining in every detail” (Burt 1924, 88). A small vegetable garden supplied carrots and greens for meals. During the period when Burt and Carncross were homesteading the land, certain areas—probably to the northeast and south of the main ranch—were devoted to raising grain, a condition of the Homestead Act of 1862. After Burt and Carncross “proved up,” and the crops were no longer needed, these areas may have been used for open range.

During the historic period, the southernmost portion of the ranch was used as a boys’ ranch.

Struthers Burt called this establishment the JO, for “Junior Outfit.” This CLI has unearthed little information about the camp, though it appears to have supported recreational and residential uses, just like the main portion of the ranch. In 1924 Burt called the ranch a “headquarters for boys’ pack trips” (Burt 1924, 91). At some point, a fish hatchery was founded on the site. Little more than building foundations survives at the site of the JO.

Current Uses

Today, it is common to see numerous anglers in small craft anchored just offshore of the former ranch. The property itself is very lightly used; vehicles are barred from entering by a gate at the top of the lower escarpment. Park visitors traveling along the River Road sometimes find Bar BC and hike around the buildings during the summer months. On their way to fishing holes at the river’s edge, some anglers pass through the ranch on foot. Also anyone floating down the Snake River in the area can see the Bar BC and people flying in on commercial flights see the Bar BC out of the plane window. But generally the ranch is silent, in stark contrast to the bustling scene it presented during the period of significance.

Natural Systems and Features

Located in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, the Grand Tetons are a range of jagged mountain peaks rising to nearly 14,000 feet, or 7,000 feet above the surrounding terrain. The Teton Range is approximately 40 miles long and 10 miles wide. This unique terrain is the result of fault block uplift of the mountains and down drop of the valley along north-south trending faults. Over time, glaciation shaped the mountains and surrounding country, creating U-shaped valleys, cirques, and cirque lakes in the mountains, and leaving terminal and lateral moraines and glacial outwash plains at their base. The Teton faults are still active and the range is the youngest mountain range in the Rockies. Processes of erosion, therefore, have not had time to smooth out the craggy peaks. As a result, the Teton Range is exceedingly rugged and highly scenic.

Jackson Hole is a large, relatively level valley at the base of the Teton Range. Enclosed by mountains, the valley is approximately 8 to 12 miles wide by 40 miles long. Featuring very sandy, gravelly soil, much of this upland valley is characterized by sagebrush vegetation. Large streams and rivers such as the Snake River meander through this valley, supporting tall stands of Colorado blue spruce, Narrowleaf cottonwood, and other characteristic riparian vegetation. A number of scenic lakes lie at the base of the mountains.

The Bar BC Dude Ranch was intentionally sited to take advantage of this scenery. It was located on the western bank of the Snake River; the ranch buildings and main activity areas were confined to the lowest of three great terraces (discussed under “Topography”). This riverside setting ensured that dudes would enjoy excellent fishing and opportunities to hunt waterfowl. Furthermore, the river breezes would reduce insect problems as, “a ranch along a stream where a river wind blows is much less likely to be troubled by mosquitoes than a ranch back from a stream in thick woods” (Burt 1924, 94). Dudes would also have access to the stupendous scenery of the Teton Range. The range, which dominates the western view from nearly every spot on the ranch, lies just a few miles distant, within easy riding distance. In *Diary of a Dude Wrangler*, Burt also lists “nearness to building material” as an important consideration for a dude ranch (Burt 1924, 94). Logs for the construction of cabins came from

the Timbered Island, a heavily wooded glacial moraine a few miles distant. Round quartzite cobbles were everywhere, and were used to construct chimneys for the cabins. About a mile south of the ranch center is a permanent stream. Struthers Burt founded the JO Boys' Camp along its banks. Today the foundations of a fish hatchery are evident on the site.

The natural setting of the Bar BC has remained relatively unchanged since it operated as a dude ranch, though a lack of maintenance has allowed the buildings and landscape features to deteriorate. The Snake River itself has become a major threat to the Bar BC. In recent decades it has eroded its west bank, encroaching upon historic portions of the ranch. Portions of the swimming pool, the easternmost North-South roadway (known as the Outer Loop), irrigation ditches, and the historic picnic grove have been washed away. The dance building and skeet trap is also threatened by the powerful force of the river.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



The Snake River is now migrating westward and eroding land once part of the dude ranch. 9/2006.

- Feature: Snake River and riparian corridor
- Feature Identification Number: 117076
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Proximity to Teton Range
- Feature Identification Number: 117078
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Stream at south end (Spring Creek?)
Feature Identification Number: 117080
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Small Scale Features

Historic small-scale features contribute to our understanding of life on the Bar BC and the ranch's historic appearance. In certain cases, determining whether a feature contributes to the significance of the district proved difficult because of diminished structural integrity. Despite their advanced state of deterioration, a decision was made to count many small-scale features as contributing because they are so instrumental in conveying: property boundaries, qualities of vernacular rustic design, and historic activities and locations.

Fencing

From a functional standpoint, fences were probably the most important small-scale features on the ranch. Fencing marked property boundaries, confined or excluded horses and other livestock, and marked thresholds between zones. All of the historic fence was made from local materials and therefore harmonized with ranch structures and with the natural setting.

Perimeter Fences

Historic fencelines are evident on the historic birds-eye photograph (1958.2805.001) though they are easily overlooked. In fact, Figure 14 (Graham 1994, 306) in the cultural landscape chapter of the HSR mislabeled a major perimeter fence as the BC Ditch. (The ditch is also evident in the photograph, but as a meandering line of trees rather than a straight line.) Early perimeter fences were of the buck-and-rail type required by the Homestead Act (Graham 1994, 277). Carncross recorded that he had built 320 rods of fence (1 mile) on his initial homestead tract, and Burt recorded 800 rods (13,200 feet) on his (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). These numbers would seem to indicate perimeter and interior fences. Interestingly, only some perimeter fence appears in the photograph.

During the CLI researchers discovered and followed two lines of ruined perimeter fence. No segments of the fence were standing; bucks and stringers lay scattered on the ground. One fenceline, which is barely visible in the photo, followed a section line, running directly north-south. This fenceline marked the western boundary of the ranch on Baseline Terrace (see Spatial Organization). The other line divided two tracts that were part of the ranch: one belonging to Burt and one to Carncross. Interestingly, this fence does not match precisely the current section line, but rather runs in a diagonal line (see Context Map).

Internal Fences

Internal fences separated activities and defined boundaries within the ranch (Graham 1994, 277). The historic birds-eye photograph documents one such fence to the east of the dance cabin and pool. This fence, which may have been post-and-rail, kept livestock away from the main guest activity areas of the ranch. Other historic photographs depict rail fences in the wrangler zone and a puncheon fence of upright timbers surrounding the main cabin and nearby buildings (Graham 1994, 80). None of these fences survive, though what appears to be debris

from internal fences has been piled up in certain areas. One such pile rests near the site of Aunt Polly's cabin (removed) (Graham 1994, 277), and another is near the Corse cabin cluster. Some internal fences at the ranch were built of aspen poles. During the inventory, researchers noted remnants of historic aspen fencing leaning against the storage workshed (# 1385) at the southern end of the ranch.

Along with a modern metal NPS gate, remnants of post-and-rail fencing stand at the lip of the lower escarpment, marking the current entry to the developed part of the ranch. It is unclear whether these log fences are historic, but they may have been erected towards the end of the period of significance. In particular, a remnant gateway in this area feels authentic. They are counted as contributing features.

Large log gateways marked primary points of entry. These gateways, which are emblematic of ranches in the West, were built of two posts supporting a lintel or simple truss. During the historic period, there were at least two of these major gateways: one at the entry to the wrangler zone, and another northeast of the ranch office along the historic wagon road west of the north pool area (1958.0282.001P). Neither survives today, though the remnants of a smaller gateway is preserved in the corral.

Corral

The horse corral is a very important landscape feature, composed of two connected multi-sided enclosures. Sturdy log fencing defines the sides of the corral. Notched rails are stacked to a considerable height. The HSR reported that the corral was in good condition, missing only the overhead component of the gate and the ranch brand (Graham 1994, 279). Since 1994, deterioration has advanced somewhat, but the corral is still in fair condition.

Bridges

Vehicular Ditch Bridge

A vehicular bridge carries the road leading to the picnic grove over the BC Ditch. Constructed of planks, this bridge is very simple. A 1999 form recorded that it retained integrity. Comparing photographs from 1995 with current conditions, it is clear that the bridge has deteriorated dramatically in recent decades. The bridge is now approaching total ruin. All vehicles must be kept off if it is to be preserved.

Pool Footbridge

The pool footbridge is an important landscape feature. This picturesque structure provided access from the main guest zone to the dance cabin and was a rustic piece of the ranch scenery. The existing bridge is not the original, but probably a replacement built by Irving Corse about 1934 (Graham 1994, 280-281). It is of log construction with pole railings to the side. The bridge is now in terrible condition. Logs have rotted and broken apart so that the bridge has been upended. A 1999 Field Inventory Form recorded that it retained historic integrity even though it had lost structural integrity.

Recreational

Diving Board

The diving board was another feature of the pool and is closely associated with recreation. It is constructed of projecting planks that are secured to the ground by concrete ballast. Additional planks projected even further to form the springboard. In 1995 the diving board was still relatively level, but it now leans at a pronounced diagonal. Despite this sinking, it is still recognizable as a diving board.

See-saw

A historic see-saw stood east of building # 1374. In a photograph from 1995, it is easily recognized as a see-saw. A log pivoted between two posts set in the ground. Now the feature has totally collapsed. Lying in the ground in pieces, it is indistinguishable and is considered non-contributing.

Miscellaneous

Benches/Hitching Rail

A few rustic plank benches and similar features are scattered throughout the ranch. These objects were probably moved around as needed. During the inventory, researchers also located what appeared to be a hitching rail (but perhaps not) to the west of the dance cabin. None of these features are easily dated, but their design seems consistent with other features at the ranch. They are counted as contributing features.

Telephone Poles and Wire

Telephone poles stand in a few locations, though most have been removed. Some of these poles are connected with telephone wire. These appear to post-date the period of significance and are counted as non-contributing features.

Stills

Stills were mentioned in the HSR and so have been counted as contributing resources. This CLI failed to verify their presence, though they still exist on site (Cronenberger 2007).

Irrigation/Water

Sprinkler heads are counted as non-contributing do to their late dates (Graham 1994, 280-281). Features associated with irrigation ditches are discussed under Constructed Water Features.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Remnant of buck-and-rail perimeter fence. The historic fenceline can still be followed. It runs along a section line and marked the western limit of the ranch. Dates to homestead period.



View west to Tetons from Bar BC (2nd terrace near BC Ditch?). Buck-and-rail perimeter fence is in foreground. From title page of "Diary of a Dude Wrangler" by Struthers Burt, 1924.



Located by the main entry road at the base of the escarpment, the corral is in fair condition. 9/2006.



The historic diving board at the edge of the north swimming pool now leans noticeably. 9/2006.



Remnants of a historic gate and fence were found at the southern edge of the complex, leaning against the work shed in the Corse building cluster. 9/2006.



The historic see-saw is now practically indistinguishable. 9/2006.

Feature: Ruins of buck-and-rail perim. fencing
Feature Identification Number: 117082
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Interior fence pieces near bldg. 1385
Feature Identification Number: 117084
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Standing fence – entry to devel. ranch
Feature Identification Number: 117086

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Horse Corral

Feature Identification Number: 117088

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Vehic. Ditch Bridge (ST-03, LCS 52188)

Feature Identification Number: 117090

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Pool Footbridge (ST-06, LCS 52191)

Feature Identification Number: 117092

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Diving Board (BBCST-01, LCS 52186)

Feature Identification Number: 117094

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Rustic benches/hitching rail

Feature Identification Number: 117096

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Stills

Feature Identification Number: 117098

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: See-saw ruin (BBCST-08, LCS 52193)

Feature Identification Number: 117100

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Telephone poles and wire

Feature Identification Number: 117102

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Sprinkler heads

Feature Identification Number: 117104

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Modern NPS gate
Feature Identification Number: 117106
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Spatial Organization

The historic spatial organization of the ranch is evident today. Different land uses and activities were located in separate areas, arranged on the landscape with regard to function and appearance. Zones of activity radiated out from the center of the ranch, where the main guest zone was located.

Property Boundaries

The historic boundaries of the Bar BC property extended west from the Snake River across three large natural terraces. Struthers Burt and Horace Carncross acquired this land through provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862. On May 12, 1912 Burt and Carncross established residence on adjacent tracts of land with the purpose of managing the two tracts together as a dude ranch. This plan ran counter to the intent of the Homestead Act. Burt staked claim to 154.03 acres, while Carncross filed claim to 158.63 acres. The two partners pursued a policy of expansion. In 1913 each partner filed desert land entries, adding more land to the ranch. By 1917 the Bar BC encompassed more than 600 acres (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). Aside from the Snake River, physical evidence for these property boundaries is inconspicuous. Yet during this inventory, researchers discovered such evidence in the form of remnants of a historic buck-and-rail fenceline funning along the western boundary of the ranch. This line followed the section line between section 12 and 7 on the Moose quad map. Additional remnants of the historic perimeter fence may survive in other locations.

Upper Terraces

The western portion of the ranch, covering the two upper terraces, consisted of open sagebrush plains which were of little value for agriculture or development. The ranch operators appear to have used these areas primarily as open range and for recreational riding.

Developed Core of Ranch

The developed portion of the ranch arose on the lowest terrace, which featured rich soil and tall trees for shade and shelter. Within the developed portion of the ranch, the owners established a loose zone system, with separate areas reserved for different land uses. The physical boundaries of these zones also reflected social boundaries between dudes and wranglers (Graham 1994, 264). Now that the dude ranch is abandoned, these spatial zones have become less distinct, but the historic spatial organization may still be observed.

Guest Zone

The guest zone lies at the very center of the ranch. Guests resided in small cabins which were clustered in wooded areas. At the very center of the guest zone is the main cabin and ranch office. Here dudes dined and socialized, and the business of the ranch was conducted. The front yard formed by the “L” of the main cabin was an important outdoor space for socializing.

Wranglers, who were not allowed to visit the guest cabins, also ate at the main cabin, but in a separate dining room from the dudes. A vegetable garden, which supplied some food for meals, was located a short distance to the west of the main cabin (Graham 1999, 264). At the western edge of the guest zone, some guest cabins were erected at the foot of the escarpment separating the lowest terrace from the middle terrace. These buildings are also sheltered by mature trees. (Under Building Cluster Arrangement, these structures are discussed as a separate cluster, Guest Cabin Cluster 2). In general, the main structures of the guest zone survive. These buildings preserve their informal arrangement, including their association with each other and with natural features, such as the escarpment and mature trees. The feeling of the zone's primary outdoor spaces has changed significantly since the historic period. The main yard, for instance, is overgrown. Due to the current road system, which does not reflect the historic road system, most visitors do not think of the western side of the main cabin as the "front yard." The vegetable garden is very easily overlooked. Only a very observant visitor would notice the shallow mounds of earth that suggest the linear rows of the historic garden.

Wrangler Zone

Northwest of the guest zone was the "wrangler zone," consisting of corrals, a saddle shed (or tack shed), ranch store, blacksmith shop, and staff quarters (Graham 1994, 265). The main body of this zone was separated from the rest of the ranch by log fences and a large gate. Along with a few of the historic buildings, these fences have disappeared, but the association of this area with horses and wrangler activities is very evident today.

Family Zones

The Burt family lived in cabins immediately east of the wrangler zone and north of the guest zone. (Reportedly the two "Burt cabins" [#s 1369 and 1370] that exist today were once connected as part of a larger house structure.) This location, which was also very close to the main entrance to the dude ranch, reflected the Burt family's high degree of involvement in ranch operations (Graham 1994, 266).

Another so-called "family zone" was at the southern edge of the complex. This zone was associated with Irving Corse, the third business partner and later sole owner of the dude ranch. The Corse cabin, a ruined airplane hangar, a doghouse, and several sheds are in this area. A former landing strip, for Irving Corse's personal plane, is hardly noticeable today, but is assumed to have occupied the open area east of the hangar.

Recreational Zone

East of the guest zone, and stretching all the way to the Snake River was a recreational zone. Though now dry, the hourglass-shaped swimming pool was a central feature of this zone. Guests enjoyed swimming and sunbathing. A wooden diving board was constructed, the ruins of which are evident today. Just across the pool is a dance cabin, which was accessed during the historic period by way of a rustic footbridge. Northeast of the dance cabin was the skeet shooting range. The river itself was a primary recreational feature, offering excellent fishing and opportunities to hunt waterfowl. A picnic grove was located at the river's edge, some

distance northeast of the ranch center. The picnic grove was also a favorite fishing spot.

Agricultural Zones

At the north and south ends of the dude ranch were agricultural zones, with barns and fenced enclosures for animals. These zones overlapped with the recreational zone. To the north, CLI researchers discovered a network of shallow irrigation ditches, presumably built during the homestead period for irrigating crops or drowning sagebrush. The historic birds-eye photograph illustrates that the primary guest activity areas in the center of the ranch were separated from the agricultural zone by a fence. The area to the east and southeast of this fence—also criss-crossed by irrigation ditches—was quite stripped of vegetation, presumably due to grazing.

Historic Dump Areas

Some distance south of the developed area is a trash pit used during the early years of the ranch. In later years, garbage was deposited north of the developed area (Graham 1994, 265). Both dump sites were located during the inventory. One interesting feature is a loose grid of concrete footings in the northern dump area. At one time these footings may have supported a barn or storage building.

The historic spatial organization of the dude ranch is still evident. Loss of historic fencing has made the boundaries between the zones less distinct, however. Another threat to the spatial organization is the Snake River. In recent years the river has migrated to the west, removing portions of the recreational and agricultural zones. The picnic grove has been reduced in size. Pasture/range/field areas have washed away, along with the historic irrigation ditches that served them. The southeast corner of the pool depressions was also removed by the river. The skeet trap and dance cabin are in danger of being destroyed if the river continues its migration.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Historic aerial view of the Bar BC dude ranch, looking northwest across all three natural terraces. Straight line that splits off road is historic buck-and-rail fence. Collection of Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum (1958.2805.001)

- Feature: Overall historic spatial organization
Feature Identification Number: 117108
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Guest zone – center of ranch
Feature Identification Number: 117110
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Wrangler zone – by hist. riding/grazing
Feature Identification Number: 117112
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Recreational zone – east to Snake R.
Feature Identification Number: 117114
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
- Feature: Agricultural zones
Feature Identification Number: 117116

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Historic dumping ground to north

Feature Identification Number: 117118

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Historic dumping ground to south

Feature Identification Number: 117120

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Riding/range areas – far from center

Feature Identification Number: 117122

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Features marking historic prop. bound.

Feature Identification Number: 117124

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Snake River

Feature Identification Number: 117126

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnants of perimeter fencing

Feature Identification Number: 117128

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Topography

Topography was a critical factor in the siting of the Bar BC Dude Ranch and it played an important role in day-to-day operations. Aside from road cuts and irrigation ditches, little alteration to existing topography appears to have occurred. Instead, the ranch buildings and other facilities were sited to take advantage of the natural lay of the land.

The Bar BC Dude Ranch spread west from the Snake River across three natural terraces that were formed by the river. These terraces are separated from each other by two steep escarpments. In *Diary of a Dude Wrangler*, Struthers Burt describes the top terrace (Baseline Terrace) as having “no agricultural value at all,” and the middle terrace as having “not very much” (Burt 1924, 94). Because they were virtually treeless, and of limited use to agriculture, these two terraces appear to have been used mainly as open range. Facilities on these terraces were minimal, consisting of the entrance road, the BC Ditch, and perimeter fencing required by

the Homestead Act. Otherwise, these top two terraces were left in their natural state. Today they appear much as they did before the ranch was established.

The buildings and primary features of the ranch are located on the lowest terrace, which had better soils than the two higher terraces. Burt described this lowest terrace as containing rich soil but “stony and cut up with numerous little draws” (Burt 1924, 94). It supports woodlands and meadows in addition to areas of sagebrush.

The BC Ditch used gravity to transport water from Cottonwood Creek across the three natural terraces to the Bar BC Dude Ranch. The upper escarpment, which separates the highest terrace from the middle terrace, supports a concentration of BC Ditch features including check dams and flumes. A few road cuts are evident where the owners of the Bar BC or other pioneers modified the steep slope for ease of transportation. Similarly, the lower escarpment rises steeply to a level about 30 feet above the lowest terrace. Several road cuts are evident. “Bill Howard’s Light Plant” (electrical building) was located at the base of the escarpment, adjacent to the BC Ditch. Descending by way of flumes, the water passed through machinery housed in this building and produced electricity for use on the ranch. Other features associated with the BC Ditch are found near this lower escarpment.

Character-defining Features:

- Feature: Three natural terraces
- Feature Identification Number: 117130
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Lower terrace – site of developed ranch
- Feature Identification Number: 117132
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Upper two terraces – minimal facilities
- Feature Identification Number: 117134
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Vegetation

During the period of significance, vegetation on the property was managed to contribute to the scenic, natural appearance of the dude ranch, which reflected its owners’ and dudes’ romantic vision of Western scenery. Sagebrush was removed from major activity areas and replaced with native grasses, which were seeded and even watered. In general, though, the native vegetation of the site—particularly its lodgepole pines and aspen groves—was preserved as an important aesthetic element of the ranch. The property has experienced only minor maintenance for many years, which contributes to its current unkempt feel. Yet overall, the natural character of the site has survived, and native plant communities are dominant.

Sagebrush Flats

Today, as during the period of significance, the highest and middle terraces are dominated by the sagebrush community. These areas had little agricultural value and no shade or shelter, prime reasons that Burt and Carncross chose to build the main part of the dude ranch on the lowest terrace. Today the only trees on these two upper terraces are Narrowleaf cottonwoods—some alive and some dead or dying—forming an intermittent line that marks the course of the BC Ditch.

Sagebrush grew on the lowest terrace, as well, and Struthers Burt lamented its presence: “The whole place, moreover was covered with sage-brush—supposed to be a good sign of its growing capacity but a dreadful thing to clear off—and on the lowest flat, where we would want to put our houses, the sage-brush was of the giant variety that reached up to a man’s neck, and there was dead-fall piled like jackstraws. A grim task was ahead of us” (Burt 1924, 94).

Wooded Areas – Lodgepole Pine and Aspen

On the other hand, much of the vegetation on the lower terrace was agreeable to Burt: “Aspens and pine trees grew in a half-moon at the base of a bench and were beautifully parked out in the open, and to the south were the beginnings of a meadow” (Burt 1924, 95). Today, the overall character of this vegetation is generally consistent with Burt’s description, though there have been some shifts. Aspens, Lodgepole pines, and a few Engelmann spruce still grow at the base of the first escarpment and out in the open. Burt and Carncross sited the principal ranch buildings amongst these trees for shelter, shade, and privacy.

Changes in the vegetation since the historic period include the loss of some tree canopy due to the death of mature pines and aspens, as well as the unchecked growth of saplings—both aspen and pine. One small clump of pines that disappeared altogether stood above buildings # 1378, 1379, and 1380. The loss of these trees left the two surviving cabins out in the open. By comparing photographs from different periods, it appears that many of the tall pines around the main cabin and surrounding cabins have also succumbed to age. Young pine saplings are taking advantage of the increased light in these areas. Particularly around the main cabin, this new growth contributes to an unkempt character. Furthermore, this growth blocks near views, making the historic “yard” and surrounding areas feel “closed.” Yet overall, the regeneration of the pine stand should be considered a good thing, in line with cultural landscape objectives. It would not be difficult to remove unwanted young trees if they become a problem.

In 1994 the draft HSR reported that the aspen grove near the Burt Cabins (Bldg. #s 1369 and 1370) had diminished in size and was spreading west of the current road in the direction of the former vegetable garden (Graham 1994, 274). This trend appears to have continued. Furthermore, several mature aspens have fallen in this area. At least one has landed on the roofs of the Burt cabins. Because our picture of vegetation during the period of significance is incomplete, it was difficult to corroborate another finding of the HSR—that another large aspen grove (east of Bldg. #s 1397-1398) was moving to the east (Graham 1994, 274). This historic

grove is still located in this general area. It is true that many young aspens have established a foothold to the east, near the Corse cabin cluster and the former location of a barn. One interesting—but not historic—feature is a distinct line of young aspens growing to the west of the missing barn. This line appears to indicate the presence of a submerged water line. Young pines are also growing in areas they did not stand earlier, such as between the ruined bathhouse (#1390) and the mess hall (#1391), and also in the former pool, though an effort has been made to clear growth in this area. By their very nature, landscapes are dynamic; such shifts in vegetation are to be expected. In areas where young trees are taking over formerly open areas, however, the growth can be considered obtrusive, as it further obscures the historic scene.

Sagebrush in Developed Ranch

Another shift is the resurgence of sagebrush in the developed ranch. During the historic period, the sagebrush was cleared, perhaps assisted by periodic flooding. Reportedly, there was little sagebrush in the primary areas when the dude ranch was in full swing. Photographs corroborate this picture. Renee Howard Smelker recalled that these native grasses and wildflowers were seeded and even watered by means of the irrigation system. Today, sagebrush is again the predominant vegetation outside the wooded areas, though the NPS has cleared it and promoted the growth of grass just south of the main cabin.

Willows

Willows are also common on the property. Many willow thickets grow in the low-lying areas near the BC Ditch, between the main escarpment and the pool. During the period of significance, willow thickets stood in the same general location, though in the intervening years they appear to have spread somewhat.

Picnic Grove

At the property's northeast edge are the remains of the picnic grove used during the historic period. The Snake River has carved away at this area so that it is smaller than during the dude ranch period, but several tall cottonwoods still stand on the site. These trees exhibit recent damage from beavers. Some will likely die in the near future.

Planted Vegetation

During the historic period, ranch operators raised crops and vegetables. Soon after occupying the property, Carncross raised 25 acres of oats and Burt raised 21 acres of grain, in fulfillment of their obligations under the Homestead Act (Daugherty 1999, Chapter 14). Burt's acreage may have been located in the large open area west and southwest of the picnic grove. This area was served by irrigation ditches. The vegetable garden was located between the main cabin and camp store. It supplied carrots, cabbage, peas, and other vegetables for meals at the ranch (Graham 1994, 275). Today, two clumps of iris are the only obvious examples of planted vegetation on the property. One clump lies off the northeast corner of the Corse Cabin, and the other was located off the southwest of Building #1374. There may be other examples.

Overall the property retains the natural character that was maintained during the historic period. In addition to pines, aspens, spruce, and willows, native shrubs such as red osier dogwood, chokecherry, wild rose, creeping barberry, snowberry, and many grasses and wildflowers are present on the site, just as they were during the period of significance.

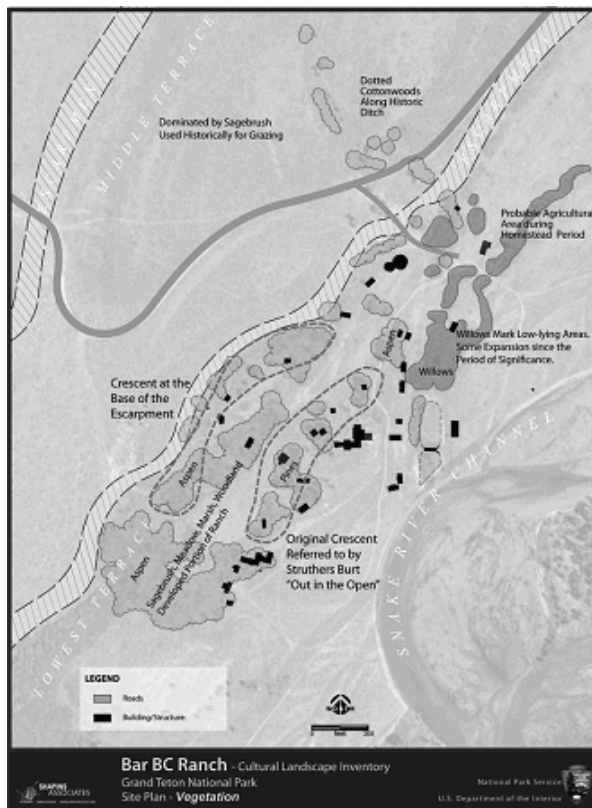
Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



A broken line of cottonwoods marks the course of the historic BC Ditch as it cuts across Baseline Terrace, which is otherwise characterized by the sagebrush community. 9/2006.



Surviving clumps of iris near certain cabins present the only obvious evidence of planted vegetation. 9/2006.



Vegetation Diagram

- Feature: Native plant communities throughout
- Feature Identification Number: 117136
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Sagebrush flats on upper terraces
- Feature Identification Number: 117138
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

- Feature: Narrowleaf cottonwoods lining BC Ditch
- Feature Identification Number: 117140
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature:	Mature conifer stands
Feature Identification Number:	117142
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Mature aspen groves
Feature Identification Number:	117144
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Willow thickets
Feature Identification Number:	117146
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Picnic grove, w/ remnant cottonwoods
Feature Identification Number:	117148
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Planted clumps of iris
Feature Identification Number:	117150
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Young trees invading formerly open areas
Feature Identification Number:	117152
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing
Feature:	Sagebrush in ranch center
Feature Identification Number:	117154
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing

Views and Vistas

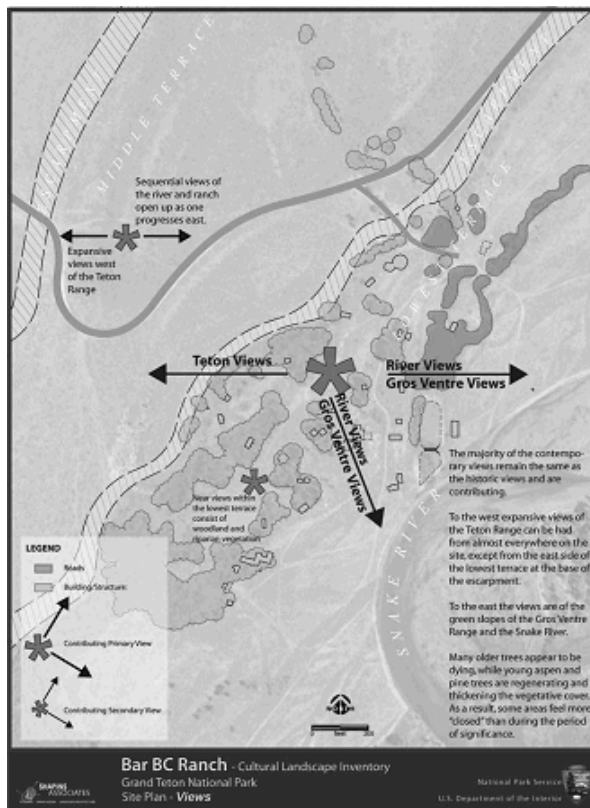
Views and vistas played a dominant role in the siting of the Bar BC Dude Ranch complex. One of the primary purposes of the ranch was to provide an opportunity for visitors to experience and admire the views, especially west to the Teton Range, but also in other directions. As described by Struthers Burt in 1924, “to the west was a magnificent view of the Tetons, not over two miles away. While further off to the south, blue in the distance, closing the valley, was a gorgeous horizon of rolling mountains, and to the east, fifteen miles or so distant, the green containing walls of the Grovont Range” (Burt 1924, 95). These views are little changed today.

The arrival experience to the Bar BC Dude Ranch is one of anticipation and surprise, as the views are revealed sequentially from the moment one turns east off the paved Teton Park Road onto the dirt River Road. This road cuts through the arid expanse of sagebrush on the upper terrace. The Timbered Island and the trees that follow the BC Ditch alignment are the only interruptions to this flat landscape. After the road drops down the upper escarpment, the river comes into view, along with the wilderness of the far bank and east to the Gros Ventre Range. The road then skirts along the lower escarpment, hinting at what awaits below before dropping into the lower terrace exploding into an oasis of aspen, cottonwood and pine.

From the developed portion of the ranch, the expansive view of the Tetons is revealed as one moves east away from the escarpment. Gradually, the scenic mountains rise above the vegetation of the lower terrace. The built structures of the ranch do not interfere with this view or the prevailing sense of nature. Views of these mountains are more prominent from open country. In wooded areas, the views are partially obscured.

The sound of the Snake River intensifies, and its view opens up, as one moves towards this major feature. Though the Teton view dominates, the naturalistic foreground views within the site give one a sense of being within almost undisturbed nature.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Views and Vistas Diagram

Feature: Arrival sequence of views
Feature Identification Number: 117156
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Views of the Teton Range – throughout
Feature Identification Number: 117158
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View of the Snake River
Feature Identification Number: 117160
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: The foreground view within the site
Feature Identification Number: 117162
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View of Gros Ventre Range
Feature Identification Number: 117164
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Poor

Assessment Date: 04/01/2007

Stabilization Measures:

Stabilization cost estimate includes work needed to stabilize structures. (new roofs etc)

Impacts

Type of Impact: Neglect

Other Impact: Severe

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The Bar BC Dude Ranch has been uninhabited for many years. Dude ranching operations ceased long before the site was abandoned. During the later years of private ownership, structures and landscape features were allowed to deteriorate. The NPS is now charged with managing the property. Structures and landscape features have been maintained sporadically under NPS management.

Type of Impact: Exposure To Elements

Other Impact: Severe

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The property is situated in an environment that can be quite harsh. In particular, snow loads can be damaging to buildings and other structures. Snow loads likely contributed to the collapse of important features such as building roofs and the footbridge near the former pool.

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact: Severe

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch is on the National Register as a historic district. Contributing features should be maintained and preserved. The NPS has struggled to conduct necessary

maintenance on buildings, structures, and landscape features. Stabilization work has taken place in an on-again, off-again manner for years. Several buildings, including the dance cabin and the Burt cabins have benefited from these efforts. However, there are a great number of contributing features on site, and deterioration of many buildings and features appears to have accelerated in recent years.

Type of Impact: Structural Deterioration

Other Impact: Severe

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: As noted above, many structures have rapidly deteriorated in recent years. This appears to be the case for the centerpiece of the district, the main cabin, even though the NPS is currently conducting stabilization work on the structure. Other important buildings, such as the airplane hangar and the Carncross Cabin, are also rapidly sliding to a state of ruin. The Carncross Cabin was in poor condition when acquired by the park (Scott 2005, 155). The hangar collapsed while under park ownership. A comparison of photographs from 1995 with existing conditions reveals that the deterioration of landscape features is also occurring at a fast pace. The historic see-saw, a vehicular bridge over the BC Ditch, the footbridge near the historic pool, and the historic diving board have all deteriorated to the point that they either have no structural integrity and are hardly recognizable, or are in danger of reaching this state soon.

Type of Impact: Erosion

Other Impact: Severe

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The westward migration of the Snake River threatens the historic integrity of the ranch. It has eroded large sections of the ranch used for recreation and for horse pasture during the historic period. Historic features such as irrigation ditches, roads, and pools have been destroyed or severely damaged. The river is now a threat to the skeet trap and dance cabin.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact: Moderate

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description:

The growth and spread of vegetation on the property is no longer controlled, as it was during the historic period. Though native, young pines and aspens are growing up and changing the visual qualities of openness and enclosure in many locations, including the vicinity of the Main Cabin and the depressions of the historic pool. Mature trees have died, leaving some formerly wooded areas open. In certain cases, trees have fallen on historic cabins, causing damage. Beavers have damaged trees in the site of the historic "picnic grove," likely toppling many in this area.

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 150,000.00
Cost Date: 06/18/2007
Level of Estimate: C - Similar Facilities
Cost Estimator: Park/FMSS

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Costs

Landscape Treatment Cost: 0.00

Cost Estimator: Regional Office

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Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: HABS

Citation Author: Historical Research Associates, Inc.
Citation Title: List of Classified Structures (LCS) Single Entry Report. Bar BC Ditch Bridge
Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: DSC/TIC

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Citation Title: List of Classified Structures (LCS) Single Entry Report. Bar BC Diving Board
Year of Publication: 1999
Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Author: Historical Research Associates, Inc.
Citation Title: List of Classified Structures (LCS) Single Entry Report. Bar BC Pool Bridge
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Citation Publisher: NPS
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Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Author: Historical Research Associates, Inc.
Citation Title: List of Classified Structures (LCS) Single Entry Report. Bar BC See Saw
Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: DSC/TIC

Citation Author: Historical Research Associates, Inc.
Citation Title: List of Classified Structures (LCS) Single Entry Report. Bar BC Swimming Pool
Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: DSC/TIC

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Source Name: DSC/TIC

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Citation Title: National Register of Historic Places Nomination form for Bar BC Dude Ranch
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Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: DSC/TIC
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Citation Publisher: University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
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