

Naval Ship Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION

This evaluation is unclassified

| Name | Hull Number |
|---|---|
| JOHN McDONNELL | T-AGS 51 |
| Ship Class | Previous Ship Designation (if any) |
| JOHN McDONNELL (T-AGS 51)-class surveying ship | |
| Ship Location | Current Status |
| INACTSHIPMAINTO Pearl Harbor | Stricken, plan GSA sale |

| Initial Evaluation Date | Initial Finding |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 8 May 2012 | Ineligible |
| Final Evaluation Date | Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places |
| 11 July 2012 | Ineligible |

Vessel Snapshot

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| Lineage | Named for the late CAPT John R. McDonnell (1933-1984), first commander, Naval Oceanography Command (1978) |
| Displacement | 2,054 full load |
| Length | 208 ft |
| Beam | 45 ft |
| Draft | 14 ft |
| Speed | 12 knots |
| Propulsion | Diesel, single screw |
| Laid Down | 3 Aug 1989 |
| Launched | 13 Dec 1990 |

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| Built By | Halter Marine, Inc., Moss Point, Mississippi |
| Sponsor | Mrs. Mary McDonnell, widow of the late CAPT John R. McDonnell, USN, for whom the ship was named |
| Delivered | 15 Nov 1991 |
| Inactivated | 16 Aug 2010 |
| Stricken | 16 Aug 2010 |

Ship History

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| Deployment Summary | In her nearly 20 years of service, JOHN McDONNELL has collected approximately 392,500 NM of swath bathymetry and 35,000 NM of side scan sonar imagery, in addition to having charted and verified thousands of navigation hazards. In support of the Navy's safety of navigation program, the ship has dropped 17,900 expendable bathythermograph probes and conducted 4,500 conductivity-temperature-depth casts. She conducted a joint survey mission with the Indonesian Navy (22 May-15 Jun 2010), mapping about 300 square miles of previously unsurveyed seabed off the coast of northern Sumatra. |
| Awards | Two Meritorious Unit Commendations (one as part of MSC, one as part of the DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) Battle Group); 2 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals; Southwest Asia Service Medal; 2 Armed Forces Service Medals |
| Noteworthy Events | Using her side scan sonar, JOHN McDONNELL, with NAVO Detachment 124 embarked, located two downed F-16 <i>Fighting Falcons</i> in the Northern Arabian Gulf (1993), the wreckage of a USN helicopter in the Strait of Hormuz (1994), and a crashed F-14 <i>Tomcat</i> in the Central Arabian Gulf (1996). |
| DANFS* Entry | None at present. |

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

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| i. Was the ship awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation? | No |
| ii. Did an individual act of heroism take place aboard the ship such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross? | No |
| iii. Was a President of the United States assigned to the ship during his or her naval service? | No |
| iv. Was the ship the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities? | No |
| v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board? | No |
| Historic Evaluation Conclusion | Ineligible |
| Assessment of integrity of (as appropriate) design, materials, workmanship, feeling and/or association (only for ships determined to be eligible) | N/A |

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| Sources | www.nvr.navy.mil/nvrships/details/AGS51.htm |
| | www.navy.mil/navydata/fact_display.asp?cid=4500&tid=700&ct=4 |
| | www.navsource.org/archives/09/10/1051.htm |
| | www.msc.navy.mil/sealift/2010/August/mcdonnell.htm |
| | NHHC Archives, Washington Navy Yard |

Historic Preservation Stakeholder Comment

Historic preservation stakeholder comments received are considered when preparing final determinations. The initial determination for this ship was made available for comment by historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received no written comments.

¹ Evaluation conducted using triggers established for naval ships in *Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels*, issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 15 March 2010.