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	(Type all entries	- complete appli	cable section	is)	MA	Y 1 1 1973	
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	AND/OR HISTORIC:						
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	Object	Both	🕵 Being	Considered	Preservation work	No	
					in progress		
	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	lore as Appropriate)					
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DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hutchinson Ranch buildings comprise the old, two-story frame family house (1874) believed to be the first frame structure (not log cabin) to be built in the Upper Arkansas Valley. Included also are the log out buildings behind the ranch residence, including a grainery or story house, a bunk house for cowboys and visitors, the saddle and bunk house, the blacksmith shop, and structures in the corral complex. These cabins are preserved today with their individual and original furniture, equipment and saddles. Their physical condition is relatively good considering their age and long, hard use.

It should be recalled that this was the first ranch in a tremendous fenceless area. The herds were grazed far up the Arkansas Valley and into South Park in the summer, and over Poncha Pass down into the San Luis Valley as far as New Mexico. The ranch also is astride the old Ute trail followed by the Ute Indians in their similar wanderings from New Mexico, the San Luis Valley, the Upper Arkansas and South Park. Other references have been made to the frequent stops of the Ute chieftains to rest and enjoy a meal with the Hutchinsons.

The principal structure on the Ranch, of course, is the frame ranch house built with a main two-story section, and a one-story kitchen and dining room wing to the east. An addition to the one-story section was made in about 1900 to provide additional kitchen facilities.

The old house exhibits an unusually refined architectural style for the period of its inception (1874), apart from its remote geographical location. The wood frame is sheathed with vertical board siding, the joints covered with battens. The windows are large, double-hung with four glass panels in each section. The decorative gable above the second story exhibits an unusually refined carved bargeboard which has withstood the ravages of time and weather. The front door is of simple design in four panel sections, and above the door was a carved wood canopy recalling the ornament on the bargeboard. Though this canopy has fallen from the house, it has been saved and can be restored at a later time. The house was originally wood shingled, and the roofs are deteriorating rapidly today.

The house was heated by fireplaces in the two story section (first and second floors) and similar equipment in the kitchen area. Each has a brick chimeny now in disrepair. In the two-story portion, the first floor had a living room in front and a bedroom to the rear; the second floor, two bedrooms. A steep wood stair ascended to the second floor from the living room. Evidence of some of the original wall paper appears in the bedroom and the living room. Some of the original furniture is still in the house.

The one-story kitchen addition has a continuous covered walk or porch on the front side, supported by five wood columns with caps. The design A recalls the typical architecture of the Southwest.

The simple but refined details and trim of this house can be recalled perhaps in earlier mid-west or plains architecture. The vertical wood treatment and battens, and the carved bargeboards are remindful of an American domestic architecture flourishing throughout the 7. Description (continued)

second half of the nineteenth century which used Gothic motives in bargeboard detail and entrance trim. This architectural style, known as Hudson River Gothic, appeared in America before the Civil War. The house, however, also shows its simple colonial influence, and certainly the effects of the Southwest in its one-story and porch section.

The lumber for the house was brought from Canon City by ox-team. The basic design for the house, and perhaps drawings, came to the Hutchinsons over this route, though no plans or any family notations describing the initial building have been located.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	🗓 20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	le and Known) 1874		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropria	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	📋 Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
🔲 Historic	Industry	losophy	
🔀 Agriculture	Invention	Science	
X Architecture	🔲 Landscape	Sculpture	
🗌 Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
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Conservation	Music	Transportation	

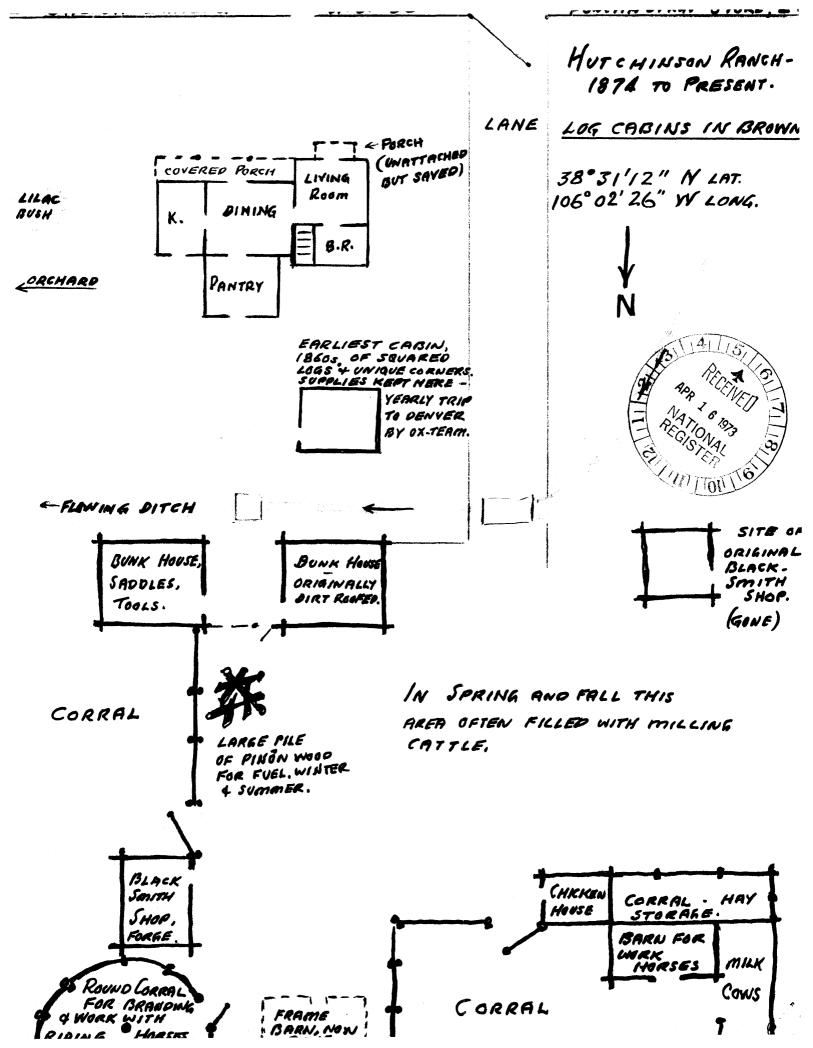
Early cattle ranch, home of Joseph S. and Annabel McPherson Hutchinson and their four sons, built in a classical location overlooking a broad meadow with stream (the South Arkansas) and groves of trees. Beyond the meadow, hayfields, extend to the foot of high forested mountains.

Hutchinson, a Captain in the 18th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiement in the Civil War came to Colorado Territory in 1866. For 7 years he was Superintendent of the Gaff Mining Company, a placer gold operation on Cache Creek west of present Granite. In 1873 he represented Lake, Saguache, Park, Fremont and San Juan Counties in the first Territorial Legislature.

The house is unique in the history of this part of Colorado, and the fact that the Ranch is still owned by descendants of the original founder is remarkable in this day of rapid change. The buildings require rehabilitation and some complete restoration, and could be operated as a working ranch of yesteryear, housing at the same time the Salida and Poncha Springs Historical Societies. First it requires proper recognition as an 'intact' working ranch of 100 years ago with a superb frame house of unusual architecture for its times.



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