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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 1 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration FormNATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name CA Bar Ranch

other names/site number Hinkle, James Fielding House

## 2. Location

street &amp; number See continuation sheet.

☒ not for publication

city, town

☒ vicinity

state code county code zip code

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
1	
	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	0
	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic Resources of Roswell, New Mexico and  
outlying environs of Chaves CountyNumber of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.  
☐ removed from the National Register.  
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other:stone vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation not visible

walls Stone

roof Metal

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

### SUMMARY

The CA Bar Ranch headquarters is a T-shaped dwelling built of stone with cross-gabled roof. It is in excellent condition and has not been significantly altered.

### DESCRIPTION

A one-and-a-half story dwelling built of random aslar and dressed stone. The exterior stone walls are at least two feet thick. The steeply pitched, cross-gabled roof is covered with corrugated metal. There are two brick chimneys on the ridge of the roof, and two gable-roofed dormer windows at the front and one in the back. Fish-scale patterned shingles cover the end gables, and plain wooden shingles the dormers. A portal-style porch which extends across the front of the building has a shed roof covered with corrugated metal and supported by square wooden posts. There are segmental arched windows on the first floor. Thermal windows have been installed and a solar greenhouse has been added to the back of the house.

Although the interior has been completely remodeled, the original woodwork has been kept throughout and the beamed ceilings restored.

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## THE RANCH DURING THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE (1886-1901)

Thomas Benton (Buck) Powell, who had been an active participant in the Lincoln County War, settled on what later became location of the headquarters of the CA Bar ranch in about 1879 or 1880, according to the recollections of his son. He, along with others in the area, sold out his ranch holdings to the Penasco Land and Cattle Company in the early 1880's, became a share holder in the company, and worked for the company, in Powell's case as a trail boss. The ranch was called the CA Bar for the brand that was used.

The Penasco Land and Cattle Company, like other large cattle outfits which came into the region in the early 1880's, was organized by multiple owners from outside the region who bought up land and water rights, often putting together the smaller ranches of earlier settlers. The president of the company was George M. Casey of Missouri. These companies usually sent in a resident manager to oversee their operations, someone who was capable and had not been involved in the violent factions which had only recently dominated Lincoln County.

Another of those who pooled his holdings with the new company was Billy Matthews. A native of Tennessee, Jacob Basil Matthews, like Buck Powell, had been an active participant in the Lincoln County War. As a deputy sheriff, he was in charge of the expedition which had ended in John Tunstall's death. A former partner of James J. Dolan, Matthews settled in the Penasco Valley about 1879 to ranch and farm on a modest scale, after Dolan's mercantile business in Lincoln collapsed in the aftermath of the hostilities. In 1885, he sold his cattle to the CA Bar for a share in the company, which he then helped to manage, serving as wagon foreman for a number of years.

In October of 1885 the company sent in James F. Hinkle, a native of Franklin County Missouri and a graduate of the University of Missouri, as well as an experienced cowman, to manage the ranch. By his own account Hinkle had first come to the Valley in the spring of 1885 as one of two hundred or more cowboys sent by several outfits to retrieve a large number of cattle that had wandered across the plains from Texas to the Pecos River. His outfit, the CA Bar, began in the same year to move cattle to the ranch they had established on the Rio Penasco. Hinkle remained the resident manager of the ranch until 1901 when the CA Bar closed out. According to Hinkle, he sold 43,000 head of cattle from the ranch between 1885 and 1901. After 1895 the number of cattle raised and sold declined yearly. Hinkle claims that he was in two roundups for the CA Bar when they had 50,000 head under herd.

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After leaving the CA Bar, Hinkle was soon back in the cattle business, managing J.J. Hagerman's South Spring Cattle Company. In 1911 he quit ranching for good after they began to round up cattle with Ford cars, thus ending some twenty-five years in the range cattle business in the the Pecos Valley.

Hinkle's other career, as a leader in the Democratic party on the local and eventually statewide level, began not long after his arrival on the Penasco. In 1889 he went to the Territorial Capitol at Santa Fe for the first time to participate in the division of Lincoln County which led to creation of Chaves County. In 1891 he served as chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of the remaining portion of Lincoln County and made the settlement with Chaves and Eddy Counties. In 1892 he was elected to Territorial House of Representatives and in 1894 became treasurer of Lincoln County. He was reelected in 1895 to the next session of the House which was politically tied with twelve Republicans and twelve Democrats. In 1901 he was again a member of the Territorial legislature representing the six counties which made up all of southern New Mexico in the Council, as the Senate was then called. In 1905, he was chosen Roswell's first elected mayor. In 1912 he was elected to the first state Senate after statehood where he served in the three sessions of 1912, 1913, and 1915. Elected governor in 1923, by his own account he delivered in cowboy fashion one of the shortest messages on record to the legislature. In 1931-2 he served as Commissioner of Public Lands.

Hinkle also participated actively in the business life of the growing community of Roswell. He was one of the original stockholders of the First National Bank of Roswell, Roswell's oldest bank which had been founded by E. A. Cahoon and others in 1890 as the Bank of Roswell. He served as vice-president of the bank from 1915 until 1934 when he became president, and was chairman of the board at the time of his death in 1951. In 1901 he entered the real estate and insurance business and later organized the Pecos Valley Lumber Company of which he was president until his death.

The stone house was built by James Hinkle some time after the fall of 1885 when he arrived to manage the CA Bar Ranch. A photograph of the house in Hinkle's published memoir bears the date 1886. It was said by Hinkle (WPA File #187) to be near the spot where Captain Henry Stanton was shot through the head by a Mescalero Apache Indian, a few months before the fort named in his memory was established. It served as the ranch headquarters and was the Hinkle family home until 1901. According to Hinkle's recollections (WPA File #168), in 1886 he served as the postmaster of the Lower Penasco Post Office

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which he said was located in his bedroom at the CA Bar Ranch. Others remember its later location as farther up the river. The Lower Penasco Post Office had been established in November of 1884 with J. B. (Billy) Matthews as the first postmaster and was in operation until about 1918. From 1921 to 1923 an attempt was made to revive it. At that time it was renamed "Trail's End" to avoid confusion with the village of Penasco post office in Taos County, and operated out of the stone house.

James Hinkle's later home, which he built in Roswell in 1906, is listed on the National Register as contributing to the Roswell Historic District. The CA Bar Ranch house is significant as his home during the greater part of his ranching career and during the early years of his political rise.

Today the stone house is still part of a working cattle and sheep ranch, and is occupied by the owner/manager of the ranch.

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Mullin, Robert N. (ed). Maurice Garland Fulton's History of the Lincoln  
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Mexico: Hall-Poorbaugh Press, Inc., 1964.

Treasures of History: Historic Buildings of Chaves County, 1870-1935.  
Roswell, New Mexico: Chaves County Historical Society, 1985.

Williams, Ernestine Chesser Williams. "Trail's End Was Old-Time Post Office,"  
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## Interview

Ernestine Chesser Williams 7/14/88

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CA Bar Ranch  
Historic Resources of Roswell, New Mexico and other outlying  
environs of Chaves County

Scale of Buildings 1" : 20'

Boundary - - - - -

Photo Point 

