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Reclaimed 1940s Log Cabin Finds New Home at Wilder on the Taylor *Local contractor and architect combine creativity to meld history & new spaces*

GUNNISON-CRESTED BUTTE, Colo. — Nestled up to the bank of the graceful Taylor River, an Old West treasure has found a new home. [Wilder on the Taylor](#), a historic 2,100-acre ranch located between Gunnison and Crested Butte at the end of Jack's Cabin Cutoff, is the new resting place for a timeless log cabin.

Originally built in the 1940s by Sherman Cranor for the Gandy family, the cabin remained where it was originally built on Crystal Creek, part of the former Gandy Ranch, until 2009. This rich piece of hand-hewn history was headed for demolition when Scott Hargrove, president of Crested Butte-based Hargrove Construction, had the idea to dismantle and store it until the perfect opportunity arose to give it life once again.

When the owners of parcel 13 at Wilder on the Taylor, a ranch community with 26 homesteads, met with him about the riverfront home they envisioned building, Hargrove knew this was the opportunity he had been waiting for to revive the Gandy Cabin. Hargrove and Jen Hartman of Sunlit Architecture in Crested Butte have merged beauty and nostalgia into an exquisite three-bedroom log home that is currently under construction.

The owners from Oklahoma, who were attracted to the fishing opportunities at Wilder, not only will have a family legacy to fill with memories of enjoying the lifestyle in the Gunnison-Crested Butte Valley and at Wilder on the Taylor, they will have quite a story to share with future generations regarding the remarkable transformation of their historic riverfront home.

“It was a wonderful process of trying to understand the existing structure, bringing the log structure up to current code standards and then building the existing and additional spaces to compliment the original cabin,” says Jen Hartman.

However, a project of this nature is not without challenges. When the cabin was dismantled, each log was tagged and labeled to make for easy reconstruction. During the five years of storage the plastic tags did not quite weather as well as the beautiful pieces of aged lumber. Luckily, they had taken many photographs of the structure before it was dismantled and were able to make a skeleton drawing of the structure, which has served as a blueprint to the resurrection. Hargrove notes “it’s a bit like a jigsaw puzzle.”

The one-of-a-kind home features three bedrooms, an outdoor chef's kitchen, three-car

garage, stone fireplaces, and expansive porches to enjoy the surrounding scenery of the ranch, which is located on a prime stretch of the Taylor River.

“This home continues to be placed into the history of the Taylor Canyon by its new life amid the landscape at Wilder on the Taylor. It fits very well in our vision to preserve and protect the land and heritage of this wonderful treasure that we have been entrusted,” says Ron Welborn, development partner at Wilder on the Taylor.

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[Wilder on the Taylor](#) is an angling paradise and a recreational and preservation-oriented ranch community located on more than 2,100 acres. The historic cattle and hay ranch is conveniently situated on County Highway 742 between Gunnison and Crested Butte and surrounded by the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Each homestead is a minimum of 35 acres and has access to miles of private fishing water and trails, master guides, concierge services and a base camp for dining, relaxing and socializing. Wilder is dedicated to preserving, protecting and perpetuating the traditions of western Colorado. For additional information, follow [@WilderColorado](#) on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).