

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JUL 8 1988

NATIONAL 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 N/A
other names/site number Arches National Park Multiple Resource

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication
city, town Moab vicinity
state Utah code UT county Grand code 019 zip code N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>4</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Wolfe Ranch Historic District
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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] Date June 30, 1988
Signature of certifying official
National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

[Signature] Date 5/27/88
Signature of commenting or other official
Max J. Evans Utah State Historic Preservation Officer
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)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

See Continuation Pages

See Continuation Pages

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

See Continuation Pages

foundation _____
 walls _____
 roof _____
 other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Arches National Park is a 114 square-mile park located immediately north of Moab, Utah, along the Colorado River in the southeastern corner of the state. The majority of the park exists as a natural area, with only limited National Park Service development. The Park's topography is dominated by a wide valley, numerous dry washes, canyons and fins, and the sandstone formations that contain the arches for which the Park was named. The entire Park is a desert environment with precipitation averaging between five and eight and one half-inches annually. The only sources of permanent water in the interior of the Park are a handful of springs. Temperatures range from lows in the teens during January to some days well over 100° during July and August.

The historic resources included in the Arches National Park Multiple Resource Nomination represent two of the most prominent themes in the Park's history. All of the resources retain their integrity of location and setting during their respective periods of significance incorporated in this nomination. All the resources' functions and uses remain readily apparent. The two inscriptions and Old Spanish Trail have experienced minor deterioration from weathering. The custodian's residence remains in use and has been both maintained and modified over the years since its construction, however, the facade retains its integrity as designed and built.

Only one of the four resources exhibits architectural features and it is discussed individually. Detailed descriptions of all the resources can be found on the attached List of Classified Structures(LCS) Inventory Forms. The archaeological resources of Arches National Park have been and will be addressed in other nominations. One historic district, the Wolfe Ranch, representing the ranching theme, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 20, 1975, and is included here only for reference. The resources included in this nomination are:

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Julien Inscription Panel (Exploration and the Fur Trade Theme)

The inscription panel is located on a rock fin that forms a barrier in a natural campsite area near a prominent landmark known as the Dark Angel. The panel itself is approximately nine feet wide by six feet tall. The inscription is incised into the stone. Sheep herders and/or cowboys also left inscriptions on the panel, however, those are not considered to be intrusions as they do not cover the Julien inscription and those as well as some prehistoric petroglyphs indicate that the area was a popular stopping place during the years before the land was incorporated into Arches National Monument (now Park).

See attached LCS form.

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Old Spanish Trail (Exploration and Fur Trade Theme)

This site is one that shows no visible work of man that can be attributed to the Old Spanish Trail era(1780-1840). However, the site is on the historic natural access route to the crossing of the Colorado River that was used by the trail. Some earthwork and removal of stone has taken place at the site that would fit with the minimal types of improvements that would have been made to allow carts to pass over the trail. Later users obliterated all but a very short section of the route(estimated 1/8-mile).

See attached LCS form.

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Ringhoffer Inscription (Park Development Theme)

This inscription is incised into the buttress of Tower Arch, one of the arches that gave the Park its name. The inscription is heavily incised into the stone. The panel measures 4'9" by 3'6". There is another inscription on the buttress, but it is removed from the Ringhoffer Inscription and not considered as an intrusion or as marring the integrity of the Ringhoffer Inscription.

See attached LCS form.

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Custodian's Residence(Rock House)

This is the only structure included in this nomination. It is constructed of coursed rubble with decorative milled wood fascia and trim. It sits on a rusticated ashlar foundation. The cedar shingle roof has multiple end gables with an overhang decorated with milled wood and box cornices. Stylistically the house is a Greco-Federalist Revival, modified to reflect local Mormon influences. Two small additions have been added to the back of the house. The house remains in its original location, with the original landscaping in tact. The driveway has been paved. From the front the house appears much as it did when first constructed. The interior has been heavily modified over the years and is not included in this nomination.

See attached LCS form.

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METHODOLOGY

Western Historical Studies, Inc., undertook a complete inventory of all known historic structures within Arches National Park as part of Option A of National Park Service contract PX-1200-5-A070. The contract specified that the survey would be limited to historic sites and structures, and not examine prehistoric resources. The field work for the survey lasted intermittently from April through September of 1986. After the field inventory was completed, members of the Western Historical Studies (WHS) staff in conjunction with members of the Branch of Historic Preservation of the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, evaluated the resources recorded during the survey. From that evaluation resources were either dropped from further consideration, determined worthy of consideration by the Utah SHPO's staff for possible National Register stature, or selected for nomination for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, as fifty years old or of exceptional significance and representative of the themes of Arches National Park history revealed in the research and writing of the report for phase one of the contract.

The field survey itself was carried out with help from Park staff members with knowledge of the location of historic resources. They escorted WHS's principal investigator to the majority of the sites. This approach saved time and did not hamper the survey effort or its objectivity, as park staff members proved to be valuable in locating or relocating the more than thirty resources scattered throughout the 114 square-mile Park.

Access to the sites was gained from paved and gravel/dirt roads, jeep trails, and on foot. The results of the field survey identified and recorded 31 individual historic resources. From that the evaluation process led to identification of seven resources of historic significance, including three in one historic district (Wolfe Ranch listed November 20, 1975). The evaluation of the historic sites was based on identification of the major themes of Arches' history as outlined in the Park's history Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Natural Bridges National Monument Historic Resources Study, completed by WHS in draft before field work commenced and the criteria for evaluation for the National Register of Historic Places (36CFR60.4).

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The evaluation criteria used in the Arches project were based on the applicable elements of the National Register criteria as discussed in detail in NRHP Bulletin 15. Specifically, the relevance of each criteria (A through D) to the recorded resources was evaluated. What was found was a total lack of applicability of criteria D to the resources because of the fact that the recorded materials offered no potential for significant information. The remaining criteria; A, B, and C were then looked to as routes for evaluation, combined with integrity evaluations per Bulletin 15. The first evaluations were made by determining whether or not an individual resource or district was fifty years old and possessed sufficient integrity of materials, method of construction, location, setting, and an ability to convey its function and character. In addition, the resources had to have a contextural association. Once those standards were met the remaining resources were further evaluated as to identity to established whether or not they were associated with a contribution to a broad pattern of local history or a significant individual. The result was that the bulk of the recorded resources, especially a number of inscriptions and remains of pre and post-World War II ranching activity, were eliminated from further consideration, either because they were not fifty years old, were in such poor condition that their function or materials could no longer be ascertained, or they could not be identified as having a significant contextural or individual association. The handful of resources included in this nomination all met the above criteria and were felt to be significant under Criteria A.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

See Continuation Pages

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Exploration

This theme, exploration and the fur trade, spans more than two centuries, from the mid-eighteenth century Spanish expeditions to the area through the work of the United States Geological Survey of the 1950s looking for uranium. The theme encompasses explorations of two distinct types. First, those performed from the 1700s through the Civil War tended to focus on locating travel routes to and across the region, and aside from some visits into the lands of the modern Park and crossing the corner of the Park, had very little impact on it. The second phase, starting after the Civil War (1865) de-emphasized finding routes. Instead these explorations focused on accurate mapping of the area and evaluating the quantities and types of natural resources, from water to uranium, available for economic development and scientific knowledge. As a result of those efforts much information on Arches and the area around it became available to the public.¹

The first phase of exploration is marked initially by Spaniards who controlled the region until Mexico gained her independence in 1821. That date marked the beginning of Anglo-American exploration and travel into the region when fur traders and trappers began to use the Old Spanish Trail as a route to the Great Basin from Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico. The route remained in sporadic use from about 1780 through the early 1840s. It was as part of that invasion of fur men that Denis Julien found his way into the region. The fur trade came to an end during the 1840s, but within a few years other explorers, some representing the United States government and others from the Mormon Church, traversed the study area, including the first recorded visit to

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what became Arches National Park(it left no mark on the landscape). After the outbreak of the Civil War and the early Mormon failures at settlement in southeastern Utah during the 1850s exploration of the region halted until the late 1860s.²

The resources contributing to this theme are:

Denis Julien Inscription Panel
Old Spanish Trail

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Old Spanish Trail

The Old Spanish Trail was opened by unrecorded Spanish traders out of New Mexico to reach central Utah and develop a route to the Pacific Coast Spanish settlements during the late eighteenth century, about 1780. From then until the early 1840s the trail was used on a nearly annual basis for caravans from New Mexico to California and return, cementing two extremities of the Spanish New World empire and later infant Republic of Mexico together. During the early nineteenth century American fur traders working out of Taos and Santa Fe also used the trail as a route to the Great Basin fur lands. After the decline of the fur trade during the early 1840s the Trail fell into disuse until the 1850s when Mormon pioneers to the region used parts of it for their route to their new homes. Failure of the Mormon settlement at Moab during the 1850s and a twenty-year hiatus in Euro-American interest in the region led to the final abandonment of the Trail, and its disappearance from the landscape in many areas. The portion of the Trail in this nomination is a piece of the route that climbs a hill out of the Colorado River valley north of the crossing used by travelers (at or near the present highway bridge). From the river crossing the Trail followed a wash to the base of the hill which is below the segment of trail identified for this nomination. From there the trail ascended the hillside and on into the Green River Desert. The period of significance for the Old Spanish Trail lasts from circa 1780 to 1845.³

The contributing resource is the Old Spanish Trail (see attached LCS form). It also will be included in a trail-wide nomination for the Old Spanish Trail that is being completed by the Utah State Historic Preservation Office.

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Denis Julien Inscription Panel

One of the fur traders who frequented the Colorado River basin and southeastern Utah during the boom days of the fur trade was Denis Julien. Julien's early background is lost to history, however, from the time he was twenty years old, about 1793, until the 1840s his career is better known. By 1808 Julien had established himself as a leader in the Indian trade in Iowa and within ten years he was active on the Upper Missouri River. From then until the 1840s he drifted about the Rocky Mountain West following the beaver and the rendezvouses, frequently as an employee of the Choteau or Robidoux families, two of the leading families of the fur trade at the time. It was during his association with Antoine Robidoux that Julien centered his operations on the Colorado and Green Rivers and their tributaries, spending ten years or more in eastern Utah and western Colorado. After about 1842 he falls back into the shadows of history, leaving little to mark his presence, except the inscription at Arches National Park, which refutes earlier theories that he died in 1836.⁴

The Julien Inscription is similar in lettering style and incising technique to others recorded in the region by reservoir salvage operations at nearby Lake Powell, at Dinosaur National Monument, and at Canyonlands National Park. Based on comparisons to those other inscriptions it is felt that this is a genuine Julien inscription. It remains as the only tangible link to this earliest phase of Euro-American history within Arches. It is also the only resource directly attributable to fur trapping and trading in the Park. Its period of significance is 1844.

The contributing resource is the Denis Julien Inscription (see attached LCS form).

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Park Development Theme

The federal government and the growth of the conservation movement is one of the most prominent themes in the twentieth century history of southeastern Utah, as indeed it is for much of the state and the West. Beginning during the closing years of the nineteenth century, the federal government changed its philosophy about Western lands from unregulated use and abuse to one of preservation and controlled use to halt the rapid degradation of America's natural wealth. This philosophical reorientation led to the creation of federal timber reserves (National Forests), federal development of water resources and the preservation of America's scenic, scientific, and cultural heritage through the National Park System. In southeastern Utah this new trend became apparent only after the turn of the century. But from Theodore Roosevelt's administration on through World War II and beyond, the federal government's role in the region has grown. The Great Depression and relief programs of the 1930s solidified this relationship.⁵

Southeastern Utah's history since World War II, tends to be a continuation of certain trends, such as the relationship with the federal government. Among the most important has been the development of a tourist industry based on the outdoor recreation opportunities offered by southeastern Utah. The federal government played an active role in stimulating and/or controlling that new industry. Of the federal agencies active in the region after World War II none has had a greater stabilizing influence than the National Park Service and its work to develop recreation-tourist facilities. Before World War II Arches National Monument existed, but its use by visitors remained small because of access and facility limitations. Under the leadership of Conrad L. Wirth the National Park Service undertook a massive program, known as MISSION 66, to upgrade and expand America's national parks and monuments. In 1971 Arches National Monument became Arches National Park, and along with Canyonlands and Natural Bridges, the three became cornerstones of southeastern Utah's modern tourist industry.⁶

The contributing resources for this theme are:

Ringhoffer Inscription
Custodian's Residence

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Ringhoffer Inscription

The inscription is significant for the development of Arches National Park and is associated with an individual important in the creation of the the first Arches National Monument, predecessor of the modern National Park. Alex Ringhoffer claimed to have discovered or at least claimed discovery of many of the arches in the Park during the late 1910s and early 1920s. After discovery of the arches, including Tower Arch, where the inscription is located, Ringhoffer contacted the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, and with their help, started a campaign to convince National Park Service Director Stephen T. Mather that the area was of sufficient natural history interest to warrant national monument status. This followed the general trend toward federal preservation of certain natural areas. The work of Ringhoffer and the railroad bore fruit in April of 1929, when on the twelfth of the month President Herbert C. Hoover issued an Executive Order setting aside Arches National Monument. The period of significance for the Ringhoffer Inscription is 1923 to 1929, from the date of the inscription to the date of the proclamation of the national monument, or the period of popularization of the monument idea.⁷

The contributing resource is the Ringhoffer Inscription (see attached LCS form).

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Custodian's Residence

The Custodian's Residence dates to the Great Depression period of Arches development. During the Great Depression the Civil Works Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps both undertook projects in the then National Monument. The Custodian's House, completed and occupied in 1941, was designed by Verland Norgard, a National Park Service architect, as part of a series of buildings designed for parks and monuments in the then Southwest Region of the Service. Design work and the first construction started during 1937 as the Civilian Conservation Corps worked in Arches during the winter months of the late 1930s and spent their summers in nearby, but mountainous, Manti-La Sal National Forest. The Custodian's Residence represents not only the park development theme at Arches, but also the Great Depression as it impacted the Park as well. The residence is one of seven resources in the Park recorded during the survey associated with this theme (22.5% of total survey field) and the resource associated with the theme that has a structural presence which has retained its integrity of character, design, materials, location and setting, elements that other resources associated with this theme have lost during the past thirty years. Its period of significance is 1937-1941, the period of construction. The interior of the house has been substantially modified for later uses and is not considered significant.

The contributing resource is the Custodian's Residence (see attached LCS form).

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Notes

¹Steven F. Mehls and Carol Drake Mehls, Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Natural Bridges National Monument Historic Resource Study, (Denver: National Park Service, 1986), pp. 41-48; hereafter cited: Mehls and Mehls, Canyonlands.

²Ibid., pp. 48-53.

³See LeRoy R. Hafen and Ann W. Hafen, The Old Spanish Trail, (Glendale, CA: Arthur H. Clark Co., 1954).

⁴See: O.D. Marsten, "Denis Julien," in LeRoy Hafen, ed., The Mountain Men and Fur Trade of the Far West, (Glendale, CA.: The Arthur H. Clark Co., 1968), pp. 177-190.

⁵Mehls and Mehls, Canyonlands, pp. 144-159.

⁶Ibid., pp. 162-175 and 179-186.

⁷Alexander Ringhoffer Biographical File, ms on file at Arches National Park, Visitor Center.

⁸Custodian's Residence Files, ms on file at Arches National Park, Visitor Center.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Mehls Steven F. and Mehls, Carol Drake. Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Natural Bridges National Monument Historic Resource Study. Denver: National Park Service, 1986.

Hafen, LeRoy R. and Hafen Ann W. The Old Spanish Trail. Glendale, CA: Arthur H. Clark Co., 1954.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property See continuation pages

UTM References

A
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steven F. Mehls and Carol Drake Mehls, principals

organization Western Historical Studies, Inc. date February 15, 1988

street & number 1225 Atlantis Avenue telephone (303)-666-6208

city or town Lafayette state Colorado zip code 80026

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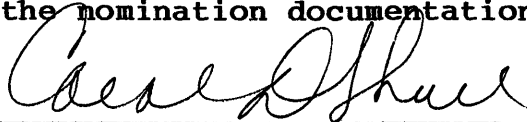
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: _____ Date Listed: 10/6/88

<u>Arches National Park MRA cover form</u>	<u>Grand</u>	<u>Utah</u>
Property Name	County	State

Arches National Park MRA
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

10-6-88

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Number of contributing resources listed in the classification section of the cover form should read as follows: 1 contributing building, 3 contributing sites. These changes were confirmed by Mary Shivers Culpin of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Arches National Park MRA
State Grand County, UTAH

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

Keeper

Carol Shue 10-6-88

1. Old Spanish Trail Substantive Review

Keeper

Carol Shue 10-6-88

Attest

2. Julien Inscription Panel Substantive Review

Keeper

Carol Shue 10-6-88

Attest

sub
f

3. Ringhoffer Inscription

Keeper

Carol Shue 10-6-88

Attest

4. Rock House--Custodian's Residence

Keeper

Carol Shue 10-6-88

Attest

5.

Keeper

Attest

6.

Keeper

Attest

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest