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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

1. Name of Property

historical name Pioneer Register

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication N/A  
city or town Torrey vicinity x  
state Utah code UT county Wayne code 055  
zip code 84775

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this      property be considered significant      nationally      statewide x locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M Greenberg 8-4-99  
Signature of certifying official Date

National Park Service  
Federal agency

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Max J. K. 8-15-96  
Signature of commenting official Date

Utah State Historic Preservation Office  
State agency



Materials

foundation	<u>N/A</u>
roof	<u>N/A</u>
walls	<u>N/A</u>
other	<u>Stone</u>

Narrative Description

(See continuation sheet.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations - none apply

Areas of Significance Communications

Exploration/Settlement

Social History

Period of Significance 1871-1946

Significant Dates 1871

Significant Person N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheet.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Capitol Reef National Park Historic Resource Study and Survey Report, NPS, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO, June 1992.

Capitol Reef National Park Archives, Torrey, Utah

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data  
 \_\_\_ State Historic Preservation Office  
 \_\_\_ Other State agency  
x Federal agency  
 \_\_\_ Local government  
 \_\_\_ University  
 \_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: Capitol Reef National Park Archives, Torrey Utah

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 10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property 0.2

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>12</u>	<u>485990</u>	<u>4229080</u>	3	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses a 0.2 acre area in which the Pioneer Register is located. This area corresponds with the UTM reference point noted above.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses only the historic register

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 11. Form Prepared By  
 =====

name/title Benjamin Brower  
 organization for: National Park Service, IMFA-CPSSO date 1995  
 street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287 telephone (303) 969-2878  
 city or town Denver state CO zip code 80225-0287

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 Additional Documentation  
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Continuation Sheets - included  
 Maps - see attached USGS map indicating the property's location  
 Photographs - included

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 Property Owner  
 =====

name Capitol Reef National Park  
 street & number HC 70, Box 15 telephone (801) 425-3791  
 city or town Torrey state UT zip code 84775-9602

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 Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Page**

Section number 7, 8 Page 1

Pioneer Register  
Wayne County, Utah  
Capitol Reef National Park MPS

**Description**

The Pioneer Register is located in the north central portion of Capitol Reef National Park approximately .5 miles east of Capitol Gorge parking area. The register consists of roughly one hundred inscriptions along the walls of Capitol Gorge. The register maintains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with the historic period.

The inscriptions of the Pioneer Register are carved, painted, and, in one instance, shot into the stone walls of Capitol Gorge. They include names, dates, and messages. The earliest inscriptions, dated 1871, predate permanent European settlement of the area. The names include prospectors, explorers, surveyors, cowboys, and area settlers.

**Statement of Significance**

The Pioneer Register has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with exploration and settlement in the Capitol Reef area. The register served as a means by which the early Euroamericans in the Capitol Reef area could mark their presence and communicate to others in this remote region. The period of significance of the register dates from the earliest inscription in 1871 to 1946, end of the historic period as defined by the National Register.

The Pioneer Register's significance is associated with the historic context "Early Exploration in the Area of Capitol Reef National Park, 1870-1885" and "Mormon Settlement in Capitol Reef National Park, 1880-1937" which are included in the cover form of the "Capitol Reef National Park Multiple Property Submission."

The names inscribed in the Pioneer Register include prospectors, explorers (Mormon and non-Mormon), surveyors, cowboys (primarily Mormon), settlers (primarily Mormon), and other early visitors to the area (Mormon and non-Mormon). These inscriptions constitute an important log of those who passed through the region and they provide a significant supplement to the existing written sources. Information concerning the first exploration serves as more than a trophy to those who were first, it contains important social and cultural information concerning the social makeup of, and motivations responsible for, the early Euroamerican presence in the Capitol Reef area. Case in point are the inscriptions made by the mineral prospectors J. A. Call and Walter Bateman dated September 20, 1871. These inscriptions predate the first documented exploration of Capitol Reef by one year and were not made by men in search of greater knowledge under the sponsorship of the federal government, as was the case with the documented record of Thompson, but by people who ventured into the area on their own initiative in pursuit of economic wealth. The story of these people, who were not members of the social elite, has much to contribute to the historiography of the American West. Non-textual sources such as the Pioneer Register constitute an important historical resource contributing to a fuller knowledge of our past.



J. H. ...  
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- 1) Pioneer Register
- 2) Capitol Reef National Park,  
Torrey, Utah
- 3) Patrick O'Bannon
- 4) November 1990
- 5) John Milner Associates
- 6) view to Southeast
- 7) I





- 1) Pioneer Register
- 2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey Utah
- 3) Patrick O'Bannon
- 4) November 1990
- 5) John Milner Associates
- 6) Detail of Inscriptions, View to North
- 7) 2



- 1) Pioneer Register
- 2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, Utah
- 3) Patrick O'Bannon
- 4) November 1990
- 5) John Milner Associates
- 6) View to east
- 7) 3