NPS Form 10-900a (Rev. 8/86)

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

## **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**



1. Name of Property	
historic name Pioneer Register	
other names/site number N/A	
2. Location	
street & number N/A city or town Torrey state Utah code UT county zip code 84775	not for publication N/A vicinity x Wayne code 055
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Hi as amended, I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> determination of eligibility meets the document properties in the National Register of Historic and professional requirements set forth in 36 C property <u>x</u> meets does not meet the recommend that this property be considered statewide <u>x</u> locally. ( See continuation Signature of certifying official	nomination request for ation standards for registering Places and meets the procedural PR Part 60. In my opinion, the National Register Criteria. I significant nationally sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official	Date
National Park Service Federal agency	
In my opinion, the property meets does criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional continu	s not meet the National Register tional comments.)
Signature of commenting official	8-15.96
Signature of commenting official	Date
Utah State Historic Preservation Office State agency	

Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: Monument/Marker

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Historic Functions

Current Functions

Architectural Classification

\_\_\_N/A

7. Description

\_\_\_\_ designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PIONEER REGISTER	WAYNE COUNTY, UTAP
Primary Location of Additional Data State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency X Federal agency Local government University Other	
Name of repository: <u>Capitol Reef National</u>	<u>Park Archives, Torrey Utah</u>
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property <u>0.2</u>	
UTM References  Zone Easting Northing Zone 1 12 485990 4229080 3 4 5 5 6 5 6 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	
Verbal Boundary Description	
The boundary encompasses a 0.2 acre located. This area corresponds with	area in which the Pioneer Register is the UTM reference point noted above.
Boundary Justification	
The boundary encompasses only the his	storic register
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Benjamin Brower organization for: National Park Service, IM street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway P. city or town Denver state CO	O. Box 25287 telephone (303) 969-2878
Additional Documentation	
Continuation Sheets - included  Maps - see attached USGS map indicating the Photographs - included	
Property Owner	
name <u>Capitol Reef National Park</u>	telephone (801) 425-3791 state UT zip code 84775-9602

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

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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. Nontextual sources such as the Pioneer Register constitute an important historical resource contributing to a fuller knowledge of our past.