

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Montana</b>
COUNTY: <b>Chouteau</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>NOV 13 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Citadel Rock (Cathedral Rock)**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Citadel Rock**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Lot 7, Section 16, T24N, R13E E of Fort Benton**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**28 miles east of Fort Benton vicinity**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**2**

STATE: **Montana** CODE: **30** COUNTY: **Choteau** CODE: **015**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>State Monument</b>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**State of Montana (Department of Lands & Investments)**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Capitol Building**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Helena**

STATE:  
**Montana**

CODE:  
**30**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Chouteau County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Fort Benton**

STATE:  
**Montana**

CODE:  
**30**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Montana Historic Sites Inventory**

DATE OF SURVEY: **September, 1968**     Federal     State     County

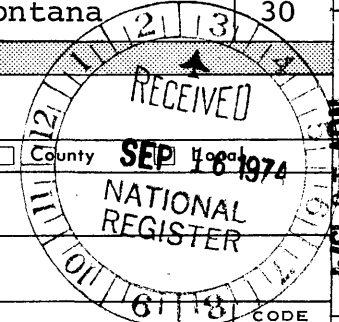
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Montana Department of Fish and Game**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Mitchell Building**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Helena**

STATE:  
**Montana**

CODE:  
**30**



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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

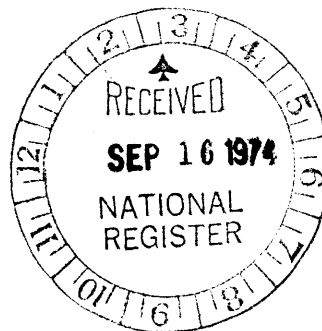
Located in the scenic "white rocks" section of the upper Missouri River, Citadel Rock is a dark conglomerate of Tertiary igneous rock which has been thrust upward through the white sandstone of the area. This tower of rock rises sharply to over 100 feet above the Missouri and constricts the river to its narrowest channel in this area, slightly over 300 feet.

There are actually two rocks, the smaller one being a replica of the larger about 40 feet high and located immediately to the north of the Citadel Rock. The land is quite dry and broken, with a sparse cover of sage, grasses and prickly pear cactus. Isolated Cottonwoods of various sizes are scattered along the banks of the muddy Missouri.

At a glance, this area appears essentially the same as it did when Lewis and Clark first noted the rock in 1805. The site is located on state school trust land and is being leased for cattle grazing. A closer inspection reveals that several improvements for this purpose have altered the appearance of this site to some extent. During the late 1960's the lessee dug a bulldozer trail which switch backs down the crest of the ridge from the plain above to the river's edge to provide access to water for his cattle. The entire length of the crest of the ridge was also fenced.

Today, the trail has washed out in several places and a new metal gate has been installed where the ridge meets the Citadel Rock. The Department of Fish and Game plans to remove the scars and fencing as soon as funds become available.

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1833

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Citadel Rock has been a landmark and inspiration to travelers on the upper Missouri River since 1805. The rock was used to plot the course of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and was noted by Captain Clark as being "...a high steep black rock riseing from the waters edge." It was one of the features of the "white rocks" section of the upper Missouri that contributed to Lewis' immortal entry of May 31, 1805, in which he coined the now famous phrase "...seens of visionary enchantment..."

The rock was named by early fur traders who used it as a river landmark. Named prior to 1833, Prince Maximilian in his epic voyage to Fort McKenzie noted it on August 6th of that year. Citadel Rock was immortalized that day in a now famous sketch by Maximilian's talented artist, Karl Bodmer. Bodmer's sketch has been reprinted many times and Citadel Rock today serves to emphasize the accuracy and detail which made the artist Bodmer famous.

The rock inspired Maximilian to write of it again on his downstream voyage of September 16, 1833, when he ..."passed the Citadel Rock, to which we bid adieu for ever, not without regret."

Until the late 1800's, Citadel Rock was also a landmark to Steamboat travelers on the upper Missouri and is noted on most river maps of that era.

In 1967 it was declared a state monument to be maintained in its original state forever.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thwaites, Reuben Gold, ed. Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, 1804-1806. (15 V. Dodd, 1904.) pp. 102-104.

Thwaites, Reuben Gold, ed. Early Western Travels, 1748-1846. Volume XXIII (New York: AMS Press Inc., 1966) pp. 80, 172.

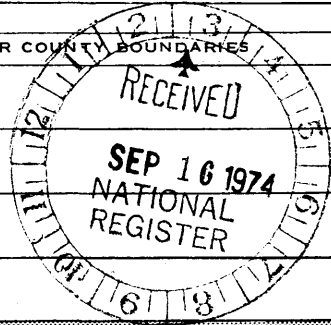
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
NW	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NE	47°	49'	59"	110°	4'	36"			
SE	47°	49'	46"	110°	4'	19"			
SW	47°	49'	46"	110°	4'	36"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 30.84 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
David G. Conklin, Recreation Planner

ORGANIZATION: Recreation & Parks Div., Mont. Dept. of Fish & Game

DATE: July 25, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN: Helena

STATE: Montana

CODE: 30

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Ashley C. Roberts  
Ashley C. Roberts

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date August 29, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Mortensen  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/13/74

ATTEST:

Charles H. ...  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11. 7. 74