United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Hanks' Dugouts

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number N/A

city or town Torrey not for publication N/A

state Utah code UT county Wayne code 055

vicinity Wayne

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 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official
Ronald W. Gurrola Date 8-14-79

National Park Service
Federal agency

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

Signature of commenting official
Utah State Historical Preservation Office
State agency
4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain): ______________

Signature of Keeper: ___________________________ Date of Action: 9/13/99

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

☒ private

☐ public-local

☐ public-State

☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

☒ building(s)

☐ district

☒ site

☐ structure

☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing   Noncontributing

_____ buildings

1

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

1

_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing

Capitol Reef National Park MPS

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Cat: Agriculture/Subsistence   Sub: Agricultural Outbuildings

Domestic   Single Dwelling

Current Functions

Cat: Vacant/Not In Use   Sub: Ruin
7. Description

Architectural Classification

No Style

Materials
- foundation: n/a
- roof: Wood
- walls: Earth
- other

Narrative Description
(See continuation sheet.)

8. Statement of Significance

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: Exploration/Settlement
Period of Significance: 1883-1888
Significant Dates: 1883
Significant Person: n/a
Cultural Affiliation: 
Architect/Builder: Hanks, Ephraim K.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(See continuation sheet.)

9. Major Bibliographical References


Capitol Reef NP Archives, Torrey Utah

Final Homestead Proofs, Bureau of Land Management Records, RG-49, National Archives, Suitland, Maryland

HANKS' DUGOUTS

Wayne County, 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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.0

UTM References

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Verbal Boundary Description
The boundary encompasses a 1 acre area in which the Hanks' Dugouts are located. This area corresponds with the UTM reference point noted above.

Boundary Justification
The boundary includes the historic dugouts, associated occupational scatters (cans, dish fragments, buttons, portions of agricultural equipment) and associated fences.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Benjamin Brower, Historian; revised, K. McKoy; revised also by Lee Kreutzer 1998
organization for: National Park Service, IMFA, CESSO

date 1996
street & number: 12795 W. Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287 telephone (303) 499-7195

city or town: Denver state: CO zip code: 80225-0287

Additional Documentation

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

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
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.
Description
The Hanks' Dugouts are located in the north central portion of Capitol Reef National Park approximately six miles south of the Visitor Center. They are on the south side of Pleasant Creek and roughly .4 miles south of Sleeping Rainbow Ranch. Features at the site of Hanks' Dugouts consist of the remains of three dugouts, and at least one other unidentified structure.

The dugouts are all collapsed; elements of log or pole roof structures are evident. The above-ground structure appears to have been of stone construction. The area around the structures is scattered with ceramics, glass, and other archeological artifacts. Other evidence of habitation, including a wagon road, the possible supports for a feed trough, and fences. The remains of a wagon are scattered across the site.

Other than deterioration over time, they have undergone no discernable or documented alterations, and the site itself appears remarkably undisturbed since the historic period.

Statement of Significance
This nomination is part of the "Capitol Reef National Park Multiple Property Submission." Hanks' Dugouts are associated with the historic context "Mormon Settlement and Agriculture in Capitol Reef National Park, 1880-1946."

Hanks' Dugouts originally served as the residence of the Ephraim K. Hanks family. The dugouts are the only surviving resources from Hanks' settlement on Pleasant Creek which was known as the Floral Ranch. The period of significance is from the date of Hanks' arrival in 1883 to 1888 when the family built a four-room frame house and most likely abandoned the dugouts.

Ephraim K. Hanks settled on Pleasant Creek in April 1883. According to Hanks' son, Sidney, the family first lived in a dugout, although Hanks' widow disputed this claim when she filed her final Homestead Act affidavits in 1899. She stated, instead, that the family built a one-room log home when they settled on the property. The 1895 government survey of the area clearly indicates the presence of a residence in this location occupied by Sidney Hanks.

The dugouts were typical of early Mormon construction in remote settlements. Lack of information about climatic conditions and the feasibility of agriculture meant that Euroamerican pioneers usually viewed their initial settlement as temporary. Dugouts were relatively easy and inexpensive to build and could be abandoned if the agricultural pursuits failed. In the case of the Hanks family, their settlement succeeded and the dugouts were abandoned in favor of the more permanent, and presumably comfortable, wood frame house.

The remains of the dugouts and other structures at the site appear largely undisturbed.
1) Hanks' Dugouts
2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, Utah
3) Brad Frye
4) November 1990
5) John Milner Associates
6) View to west
7) 2
1) HAWK'S DUGOUTS
2) CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK, TORREY, UTAH
3) BRAD FRYE
4) NOVEMBER 1990
5) JOHN MILNER ASSOCIATES
6) DUGOUT, VIEW TO SOUTH
7) 3
1) HANK'S DUGOUTS
2) CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK, TORREY, UTAH
3) BRAD FRYE
4) NOVEMBER 1990
5) JOHN MILNER ASSOCIATES
6) LARGE DUGOUT, VIEW TO NORTH
7) 4
1) Hanks' Dugouts
2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, Utah
3) Brad Frye
4) November 1990
5) John Milner Associates
6) Detail of large Dugout View to East
7) S