1. Name of Property

historic name __Lesley Morrell Line Cabin and Corral________

other names/site number __Lesley's Cabin; Cathedral Valley Line Shack________

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street & number _______ N/A _______ not for publication N/A ______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.)

Signature of certifying official

Ronald M. Stengel

Date

8-4-99

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 Historic Preservation Officer

Date

8-15-96

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: ____________________________

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

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Total: 2

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: Domestic Sub: Camp
Cat: Agriculture Sub: animal facility
LESLEY MORRELL LINE CABIN WAYNE COUNTY, UTAH

Current Functions
Cat: Vacant/Not In Use  Sub: Vacant/Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
Other/Vernacular

Materials
foundation Stone
roof Shingle
walls Log
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  Agriculture
Period of Significance  1935-1946
Significant Dates  1935
Significant Person  N/A
Cultural Affiliation  N/A
Builders  Paul Christensen; Les H. Morrell (reassembled original cabin)

Narrative Statement of Significance
(See continuation sheet.)

9. Major Bibliographical References


Capitol Reef N.P. Archives, Torrey, Utah
Bureau of Land Management Records, Salt Lake City, 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 N.P. Archives, Torrey, Utah

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.1

UTM References

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<th>Northing</th>
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Verbal Boundary Description
The boundary encompasses a 0.3 acre area in which the Lesley Morrell Line Cabin, associated horse corral, and connecting "yard" are located. This area corresponds to the UTM reference point noted above.

Boundary Justification
The boundary includes the historic line cabin, the adjacent horse corral, and yard, all of which were historically associated with the operations of the line cabin.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Benjamin Brower, Historian
organization for: National Park Service, IMFA, CPSSO date 1995
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.
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Lesley Morrell Line Cabin  
Wayne County, Utah  
Capitol Reef National Park MPS  

Section number 7, 8  

Description  
The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin and Corral are located in the northern portion of Capitol Reef National Park approximately 1,500 feet west of Cathedral Valley Road, and 1.5 miles north of Hartnet Road Junction. The cabin is a one-room, one-story, rectangular building measuring roughly 10 feet by 14 feet. It is constructed of wood and has a wood shingled roof. The cabin maintains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the time of its relocation by Morrell in the mid-1930s.

The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin is constructed of squared logs with half-lapped corner connections; it rests on a rubble stone foundation. The gaps between the logs are chinked with mortar, and in some locations, are covered with thin wood battens. The gabled roof and the gable end walls are clad with wood shingles. Lateral floor joists are set into notches in the lower two rows of log framing. The single entry is centrally located in the north elevation. A small six-pane window is located immediately east of the entry in this elevation. A small, square window opening is centered in the south elevation. The interior consists of a single room with no ceiling.

In front of the cabin is an NPS fence; a historic photo shows that a vernacular fence was once located there. An old hitching rail is located next to the NPS fence. Located about 25 feet from the cabin, is an associated post-and-rail corral, approximately 20 by 20 feet in size. The corral has a feedbox and grain storage boxes on the side nearest the cabin. The area between the hitching rail and the corral contains historic debris, and is included in the boundary for the property.

While the cabin has retained its original appearance, the building has deteriorated over time; currently steps are being taken by the park and Morrell family to restore and preserve it. Restoration includes the removal of non-historic chipboard on the interior walls, rehanging of the entry door, and replacement of the roof and a missing front step. The corral is in poor condition; there are plans to restore it as well.

Statement of Significance  
This nomination is part of the "Capitol Reef National Park Multiple Property Submission." The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin is associated with the historic context "Grazing in Capitol Reef National Park, 1880-1946."

The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with agriculture (cattle ranching) in the Capitol Reef area. Since ca. 1935, the Lesley Morrell Line Cabin has served as shelter for the cowboys responsible for the cattle of Les H. Morrell and his descendants. From 1952 until 1970, the cabin was used by Rulen Morrell who grazed in the area. The line cabin is one of the few surviving resources representing the ranching era in Capitol Reef National Park which is eligible under National Register criteria. The period of significance for the line cabin is from its construction on its current
Statement of Significance (continued)

According to the family, the line cabin was built in the 1920s on Lake Creek (Thousand Lakes Mountain) by Paul Christensen as a summer residence for the NPS family at the location of their sawmill. About 1935, Christensen gave up his sawmill operation and sold the cabin to Lesley H. Morrell, a local cattleman. Morrell disassembled and moved the cabin, then reassembled it on its current site. The building served as a winter camp for cowboys tending Morrell's herd. The cabin was still in use by the Morrell family until 1970, when it was sold to the NPS. It ceased to be utilized on a regular basis after the stove was removed from the building. The building is now vacant.

The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin was constructed at a time when drought and high livestock numbers had brought overgrazing of western ranges to a crisis situation. The 1934 passage of the Taylor Grazing Act was intended to deal with this environmental crisis in order to make ranching economically profitable once again. Prior to the Taylor Grazing Act, huge roaming herds of cattle and sheep competed for the scarce forage of the Capitol Reef area in under-restricted grazing which resulted in major ecological damage. After 1934, a permit system was introduced on federal lands by which the open range was divided into grazing allotments leased to cattlemen by the Department of Interior. This system was designed to favor local ranchers as it was believed they would be the most responsible and sensitive to environmental considerations. The permit system ended the era of wide ranging, nomadic livestock grazing and led to a more predictable grazing environment: the same ranchers grazed in the same ranges from year to year. This new situation led to the construction of many livestock associated facilities on the range such as new wells and corrals, as well as line shacks.

The Lesley Morrell Line Cabin and Corral are one of the best preserved extant resources representing ranching activities in Capitol Reef National Park. They exemplify the kind of range improvements that became common in the two decades preceding World War II. The remote location of the Lesley Morrell Line Cabin and Corral testifies to the large geographic areas utilized by cattlemen and the physical isolation experienced by those engaged in ranching activities. In addition, it is a product of larger political, economic, and environmental trends which had great historical impact on the rural society of the Capitol Reef area in the early 20th century.
1) LESLEY MORRELL LINE CABIN
2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, Utah
3) Patrick O’Bannon
4) November 1990
5) John Milner Associates
6) View to North
7) 1
1) LESLEY MORRELL LINE CABIN
2) Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, Utah
3) Patrick O’Bannon
4) November 1990
5) John Milner Associates
6) View to South
7) 2