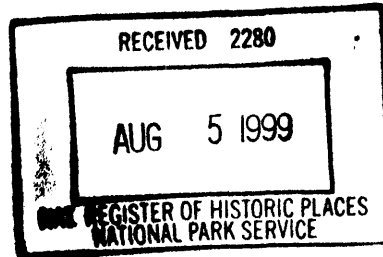


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



1094

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin

other names/site number Behunin Cabin

=====

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street & number N/A not for publication N/A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. [Signature] 8-15-96
Signature of commenting official Date

Utah State Historic Preservation Office
State agency

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined eligible for the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ___ removed from the National Register
- ___ other (explain): _____

Mel M. Woz 9/13/99

Signature of Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ___ private
- ___ public-local
- ___ public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- ___ district
- ___ site
- ___ structure
- ___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	___ buildings
___	___ sites
___	___ structures
___	___ objects
<u> 1 </u>	___ 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: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions

Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: NPS Wayside Exhibit

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification

Other/Vernacular

Materials

foundation Sandstone
roof Wood; bentonite
walls Sandstone
other Wood

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 1883-1884
Significant Dates 1883
Significant Person n/a
Cultural Affiliation n/a
Architect/Builder Behunin, Elijah Cutler

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheet.)

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

O'Bannon, Patrick: *Capitol Reef National Park Historic Resource Study and Survey Report*, NPS, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO, June 1992.

Capitol Reef N. P. Archives, Torrey, Utah.

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

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 acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>12</u>	<u>485141.938</u>	<u>4236932.0</u>	3	___	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___	___

Verbal Boundary Description

The area encompasses a 0.1 acre area in which the Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin is located. This area corresponds with the UTM reference point noted above.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses only the historic 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 Page**

Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin
Wayne County, Utah
Capitol Reef National Park MPS

Section number 7, 8 Page 1

Description

The Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin is located in the north central portion of Capitol Reef National Park. It is just off the south side of Utah Route 24, roughly 6.5 miles east of the Visitor Center. The cabin is a single story, rectangular building measuring approximately 13 feet by 16.5 feet and is constructed of sandstone and wood. The cabin maintains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association from the historic period.

The single-room building is constructed of coursed sandstone covered with a thickly applied coat of wash. The low-pitched gabled roof consists of wood pose covered with wood sheathing and bentonite. A low sandstone chimney is located on the east elevation. The entry is centered in the north elevation. It consists of a rectangular opening with a wood lintel, a wood door frame, and a wood door. A single rectangular window opening, with wood lintel, sill, and frame, and a wood shutter, is located east of the entry. A small opening is located in the west gable end. The interior consists of a single room with a dirt floor. There is no ceiling.

The Behunin Cabin, which was restored by the National Park Service in the late 1960s, is the most intact example of a nineteenth century settler's cabin extant in Capitol Reef National Park. The building is an excellent example of local vernacular masonry construction.

Statement of Significance

Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin has local significance under National Register Criterion A for its association with early exploration and settlement. The cabin served as the residence of the Behunin family from 1883-1884. The period of significance corresponds to these dates. (NOTE: While the cabin most likely also qualifies for listing under criterion C, area of significance "architecture," no architectural context has been developed or included in the associated multiple property submission cover form. For this reason only crit. A is marked for this property; an amendment to the cover form would be required to list the property under crit. C.)

This nomination is part of the "Capitol Reef National Park Multiple Property Submission." The Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin is associated with the historic context "Mormon Settlement and Agriculture in the Area of Capitol Reef National Park, 1880-1946."

The Behunin family lived in this cabin for only a brief period of time. They abandoned the site after one year because the nearby Fremont River flooded their fields and threatened the cabin itself. In 1893 the Behunins moved to Fruita, where both Elijah Cutler Behunin, and his son, Hyrum S., filed applications for homesteads. By 1902 the elder Behunin had moved to Grover, west of Fruita. Elijah Cutler Behunin was responsible for the 1883 construction the Blue Dugway, the

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Page**

Elijah Cutler Behunin Cabin
Wayne County, Utah
Capitol Reef National Park MPS

Section number 8 Page 2

Statement of Significance (continued)

principal transportation route through Waterpocket Fold to the communities east of Fruita. The construction of the Blue Dugway was of major importance opening the Waterpocket Fold to settlement and served as the principal route through the region until 1962.

The abandonment of the Behunin cabin after only one year of occupation testifies to the tenuous nature of settlement patterns in the American West and the mobility demanded by environmental unpredictability.