

**NAME**

*nar* - archive (library) file format

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <nar.h>
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The archive command *nar* is used to combine several files into one with printable ASCII format headers. This command is provided for compatibility with UNIX 4.0 commands, and is not compatible with the link-editor *ld*.

A file produced by *nar* has a magic string at the start, followed by the constituent files, each preceded by a file header. The magic number and header layout as described in the include file are:

```
/*      @(#)nar.h3.1*/
#define ARMAG "!<arch>\n"
#define SARMAG 8

#define ARFMAG "\n"

struct  ar_hdr {
    char    ar_name[16];
    char    ar_date[12];
    char    ar_uid[6];
    char    ar_gid[6];
    char    ar_mode[8];
    char    ar_size[10];
    char    ar_fmags[2];
};
```

The name is a blank-padded string. The *ar\_fmags* field contains ARFMAG to help verify the presence of a header. The other fields are left-adjusted, blank-padded numbers. They are decimal except for *ar\_mode*, which is octal. The date is the modification date of the file at the time of its insertion into the archive.

Each file begins on a even (0 mod 2) boundary; a new-line is inserted between files if necessary. Nevertheless the size given reflects the actual size of the file exclusive of padding.

There is no provision for empty areas in an archive file.

The encoding of the header is portable across machines. If an archive contains printable files, the archive itself is printable.

**SEE ALSO**

*arcv*(1), *nar*(1), *nm*(1)

**BUGS**

File names lose trailing blanks. Most software dealing with archives takes even an included blank as a name terminator.