

**THE MARTIN HANDCART COMPANY** of 1856 was caught in the October blizzard. Rescue waggons from Salt Lake City brought food and clothing. The company continued its trek to a temporary refuge at **MARTIN'S COVE**. Although some 150 died, more than 425 handcarts and pioneers were saved.

# WYOMING

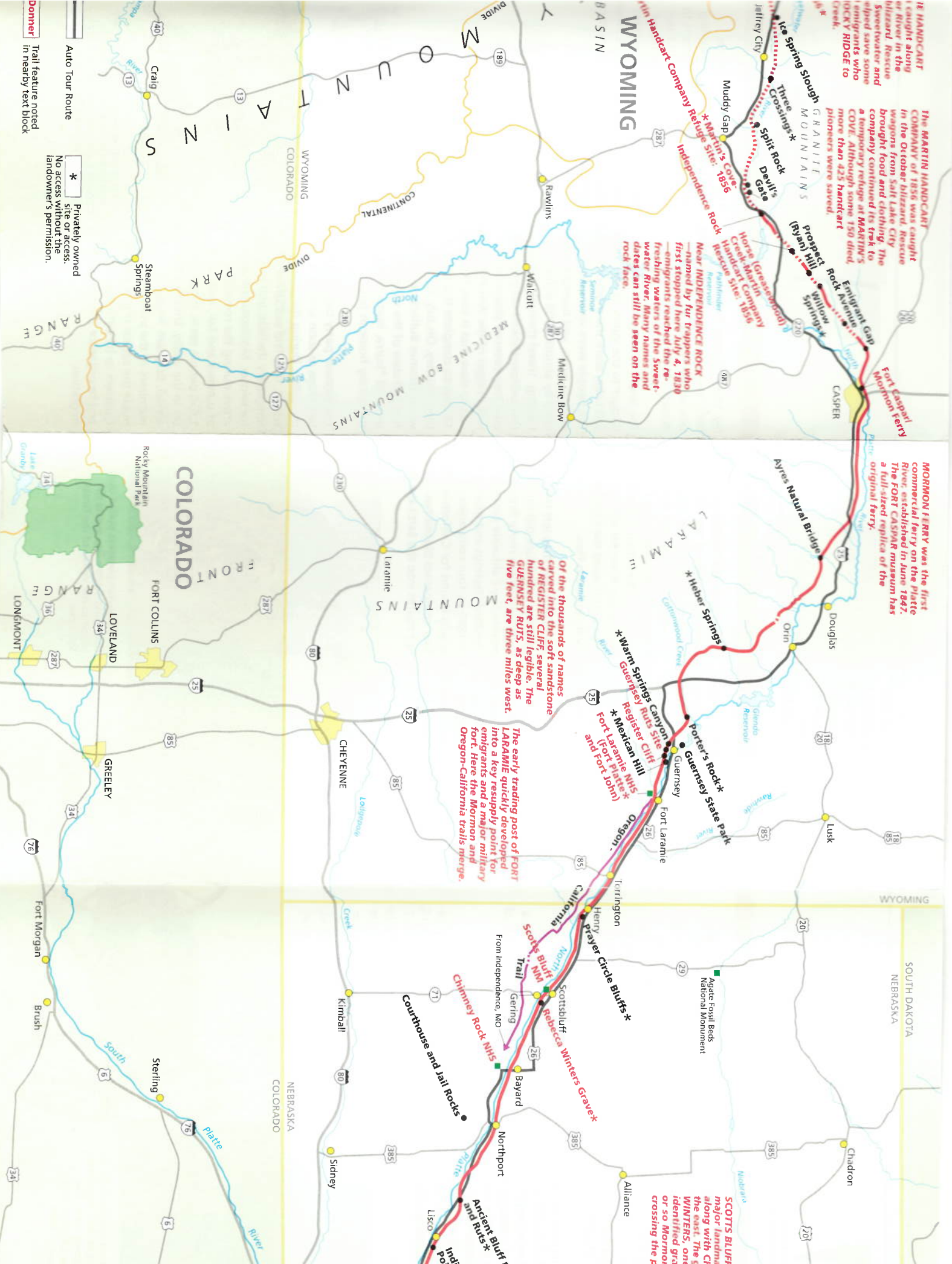
**NEAR INDEPENDENCE ROCK** — named for fur trappers who first stopped here July 4, 1830 — emigrants reached the refreshing waters of the Sweetwater River. Many names and dates can still be seen on the rock face.

**MORMON FERRY** was the first commercial ferry on the Platte River, established in June 1847. The **FORT CASPARI** museum has a full-sized replica of the original ferry.

Of the thousands of names carved into the soft sandstone of **REGISTER CLIFF**, several hundred are still legible. The **GUERNSEY RUTS**, as deep as five feet, are three miles west.

The early trading post of **FORT LARAMIE** quickly developed into a key resupply point for emigrants and a major military fort. Here the Mormon and Oregon-California trails merge.

**SCOTT'S BLUFF** major landmark along with **CLIFF** the **WINTERS**, are identified gra or so Mormon crossing the F



**donner** Trail feature noted in nearby text block

Auto Tour Route

\* Privately owned site or access. No access without the landowner's permission.