



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

LASSEN-CLAPPER MURDER SITE

How was the murder site discovered?

- In May 1990, recreationalists discovered Clapper's remains eroding out of the stream bank adjacent to a large boulder.
- A dam was built in the late 1970's that contributed to erosion along the stream banks. Erosion, which wears away the soil, led to the visibility of the human remains.

How was the murder site lost?

- Most thought that the Lassen-Clapper Murder took place near Paiute Peak/ Clapper Canyon. In fact, a 37-acre parcel on Paiute Peak was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Applegate Lassen Trail National Register because of its infamy as the site of Peter Lassen's death in 1859.
- The omission of certain geographic features and landmark name changes made it nearly impossible for one to discern the real site of the murder.
- The DeGroot's Map was created approximately four years after the Lassen-Clapper Murder. This map from 1863 has proven to be the most accurate recording of the murder site. Subsequent maps include altered names and varying degrees of accuracy of land features.

Clapper Canyon

