



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

LASSEN-CLAPPER MURDER SITE

Hardin City:

- Is now an abandoned mining town.
- It is located about 6 miles northeast of Double Hot Springs.
- In 1849- James Allen Hardin, a member of a wagon train on the Applegate-Lassen Trail, left the group because provisions were low. He and two companions headed off northeast, towards the Black Rock Range, with hopes of shooting game for food.
- Hardin didn't find any game, but he did come across a ravine, which was scattered with shiny material.
- Hardin thought that the material was lead, so he gathered about 40 pounds of it.
- When he returned to camp, Hardin melted some of the material down and made bullets. He saved one piece of the material and continued on to California.
- While in California, he had his "lead chunk" assayed or analyzed. It was found to be rich in silver.
- July 1858- A party of 15 men went with Hardin to the Black Rock Range with the hopes of relocating the silver ledge that Hardin had been at.
- The trip was unsuccessful and the silver was not relocated.
- Hardin and the others continued to revisit the site over the next few years, but with no luck.
- 1866- Charles Isenbeck, an assayer, set up camp near the Black Rock Range. A ledge had been found near Reno, which was not silver, but the ore that was mined was worth anywhere between \$300-\$1,000. Isenbeck, however, was usually able to find some silver in the ore that he assayed, but it was later discovered that the silver was most likely remnants that were left in his equipment.
- 1866- Two brothers named Evans opened a quartz mill, and eventually houses popped up, and this was the birth of Hardin City.
- In 1870, however, the mine closed down, which led to the abandonment of Hardin City.
- All information was gathered from: Emigrant Trails in the Black Rock Desert. Technical Report No. 6. 1980



Hardin City