

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wyoming
COUNTY: Sweetwater
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JAN 11 1976

1. NAME

COMMON:
Parting-of-the Ways (Oregon Trail Site)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

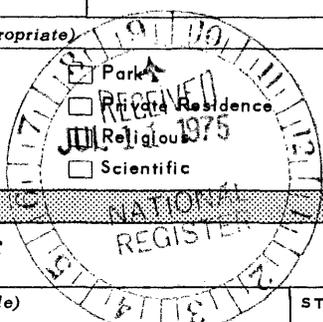
CITY OR TOWN: **15 miles northeast of Farson, Wyoming. See attached**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: **Wyoming** CODE: **56** COUNTY: **Sweetwater** CODE: **037**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Grazing - under multiple use management



4. AGENCY

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Wyoming State Office

CITY OR TOWN: **Cheyenne**

STREET AND NUMBER: **2120 Capitol Avenue**

STATE: **Wyoming** CODE: **56**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Sweetwater County Clerks Office, Sweetwater County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Green River**

STATE: **Wyoming** CODE: **56**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Sites Along the Oregon Trail - Aubrey L. Haines

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Denver Service Center, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:
Denver Federal Center, 7200 W. Alameda

CITY OR TOWN: **Denver**

STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **80226** CODE: **08**

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER:

DATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site is a fork in the Oregon Trail which marks the origin of the Sublette-Greenwood Cutoff route. The original trail continues ahead (southwest) to Fort Bridger while the Sublette Cutoff veers right(west) to cross the Little Colorado Desert providing a short cut to the Bear River.

The site is located on an open sagebrush plain. The Oregon Trail at this point has been bladed some years ago evidenced by a slight berm, but some ruts are evident immediately to the south. The Sublette Cutoff Road has not been improved and is probably near its original condition.

A small reddish sandstone approximately 15 inches high with a rounded top marks the junction. This stone is marked with a left-pointing arrow followed by "F. Bridger," and a right-pointing arrow, followed by "S. Cut Off." The stone was placed by L.C. Bishop and Paul Henderson.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1844 - Early 1900's**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<u>National expansion</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This historic fork in the Oregon Trail was a point where many wagon trains parted company. Some took the short dry route to Bear Valley saving 46 miles, while others took the longer Fort Bridger route to Oregon or on to Utah and California. The dry route included 50 waterless miles and became popular during the gold rush period.

The cutoff route was established by a mountaineer named Greenwood in 1844 rather than Sublette. The route became known as the Sublette route when Joseph E. Ware in his Emigrants' Guide to California (St. Louis, 1849) through an error listed the old Greenwood Cutoff west of South Pass as the "Sublette Cutoff."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Old Historic Diaries quoted by Aubrey Haines in his "Historic Sites Along the Oregon Trail."

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"			
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	12	46	140
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	46	79	680
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: J. Homer Benton - Recreation-Forester		DATE: 7/19/73
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Bureau of Land Management		
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 1088		PHONE: 307-362-6613
CITY OR TOWN: Rock Springs	STATE: Wyoming	CODE: 56

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

Yes
 No
 None

Paul H. Aselt
 State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is National State Local

Walter A. Wood
 Federal Representative Signature
 Date: **DEC 18 1975**
Deputy Assistant Secretary
 Title

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Joseph A. Rose
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

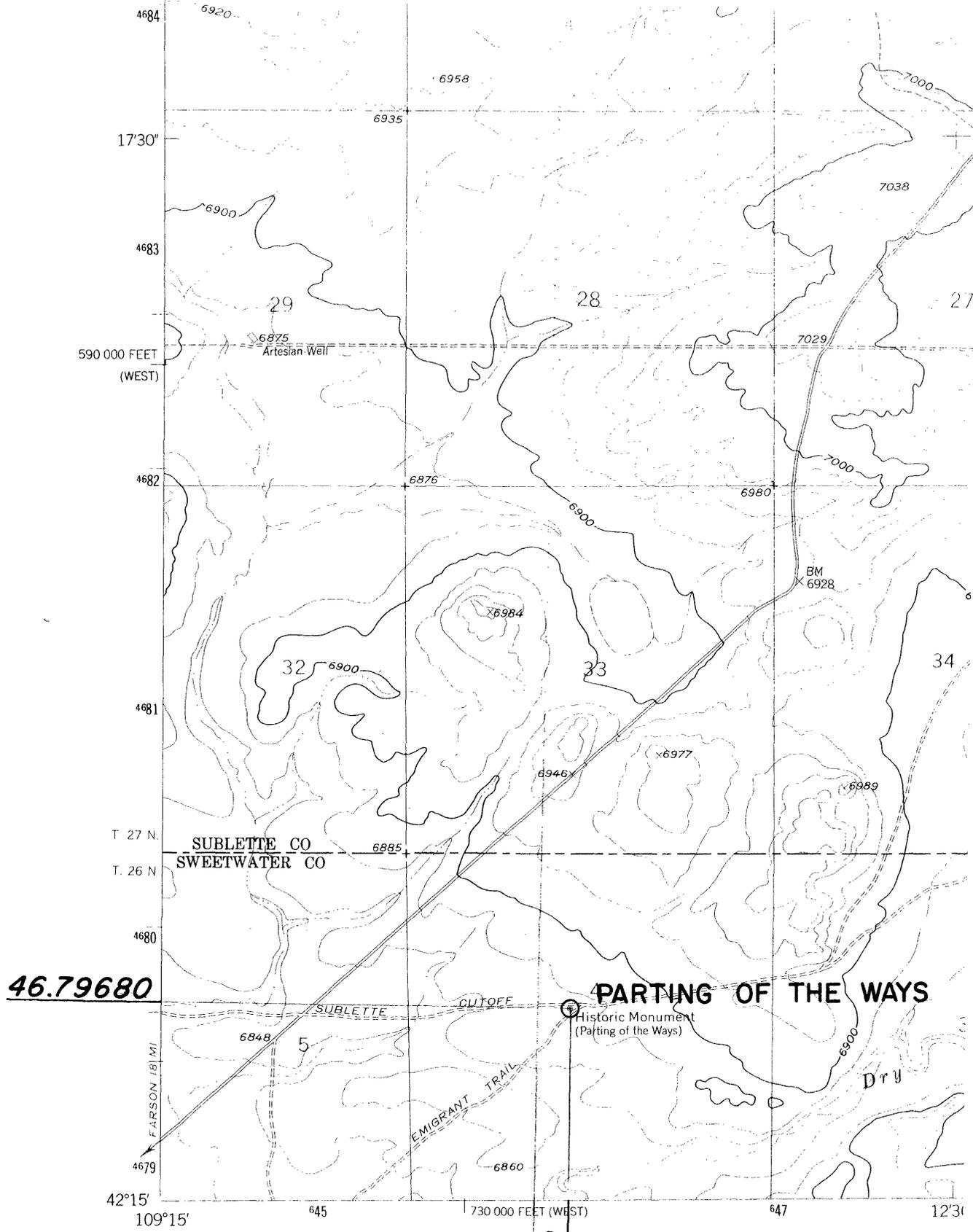
Date: **7/11/76**

ATTEST:

Charles H. Haring
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **1-9-76**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



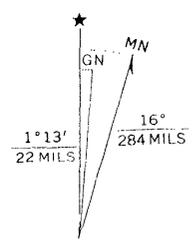
46.79680

PARTING OF THE WAYS

Historic Monument
(Parting of the Ways)

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 as part of the Department of the Interior program
 for the development of the Missouri River Basin
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1956. Field check 1958
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Wyoming coordinate system,
 west and west central zones
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 12, shown in blue

6.46140



UTM GRID AND 1958 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET