



Come with us to explore
an important place in
Church history!

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Church Magazines

*Kathryn, Wyatt,
and Taplan S., along
with their mom,
visited Martin's Cove,
Wyoming. It's a special
place where some of the
pioneers found shelter
on their long, hard
journey west.*

MARTIN'S COVE

In 1847 covered wagons carrying pioneers began rolling into the Salt Lake Valley. But thousands more people who wanted to come to the valley couldn't afford wagons or animals to pull them.



Then President Brigham Young had an idea.

THE SAINTS CAN
TRAVEL BY HANDCART!
THEY ARE MUCH LESS
EXPENSIVE THAN WAGONS,
AND PEOPLE COULD
PULL THE CARTS
THEMSELVES!



In 1856, five groups of pioneers left Iowa pulling handcarts. Three companies arrived safely in the Salt Lake Valley. But two of the handcart companies left too late in the year and had trouble on the trail.

One of the groups that had trouble was the Martin handcart company.



WE'RE ALMOST OUT
OF FOOD, AND WE
WEREN'T PREPARED FOR
THIS FREEZING WEATHER!

PEOPLE ARE
DYING!

President Young heard about the struggling pioneers, so he sent a rescue team to find them.

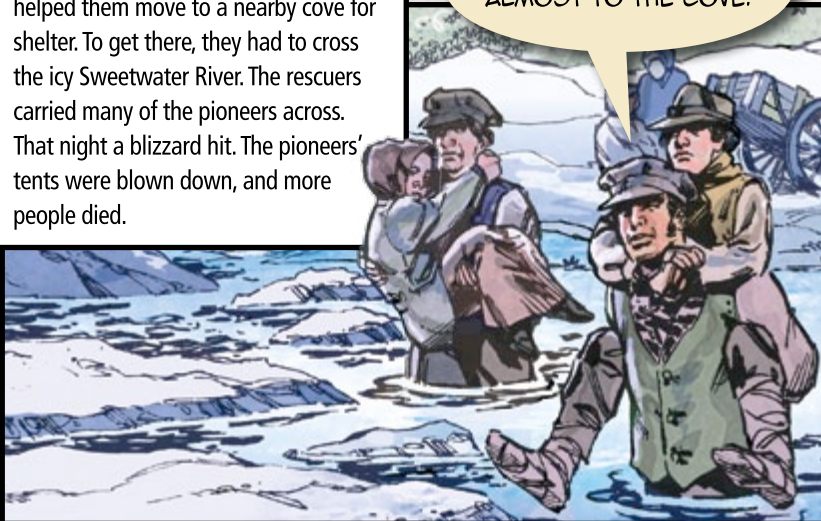
Cut out and paste to the "On the Trail" map from the July issue.



Each year many visitors come to Martin's Cove to pull handcarts on pioneer treks. It helps them think about the great sacrifices the pioneers made to travel to a place where they could build temples and live the gospel.

The rescuers found the pioneers and helped them move to a nearby cove for shelter. To get there, they had to cross the icy Sweetwater River. The rescuers carried many of the pioneers across. That night a blizzard hit. The pioneers' tents were blown down, and more people died.

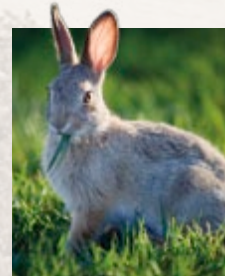
HOLD ON! WE'RE ALMOST TO THE COVE!



After five days the handcart pioneers left Martin's Cove. Eventually they met more rescue wagons. On November 30 they finally made it to the Salt Lake Valley.



HURRAH! WE'VE REACHED ZION AT LAST!



The pioneers took along flour, blankets, and pots and pans for cooking. You can see this display inside the visitors' center at the Mormon Handcart Historic Site.

