Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission c/o Clerk of the Board 950 Maidu Ave PO Box 599002 Nevada City CA 95959-7902 info@nevadacountylandmarks.com (530) 264-0115

29 January 2025

Nevada County Board of Supervisors 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

Honorable Chair and Board Members:

At our January 17 meeting, the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Board that the application for landmark designation of the site and remains of the 1870s Mount Lola Geodetic Survey be approved. The applicant is the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission. The site is located in the Tahoe National Forest, and the Forest Service has approved the application. The Forest Service does not intend to place a plaque at the site, but the landmark will be publicized by the Landmarks Commission and will appear on our interactive map of County landmarks. The landmark is to be designated as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 25-05, assuming the pending applications are approved first.

The landmark will commemorate work done in the 1870s by Prof. George Davidson and his team from the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. They developed quadrilateral base line measurements which served as the primary triangulation method for surveying and mapping the West Coast of the United States until the advent of GPS satellite navigation in the 1980s. Prof. Davidson worked from atop Mount Lola where evidence of his work remains. The mountain is named for the legendary Lola Montez, who lived in Nevada County in the 1850s.



The research and documentation which accompanies the application has been reviewed by several Commissioners for historical accuracy. The application and supporting documentation is enclosed.

If you approve the application, please forward the resolution and accompanying documents to the County Recorder.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

Bernard Zimmerman, Chair

cc: Chuck Scimeca

