

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission
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21 August 2020

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

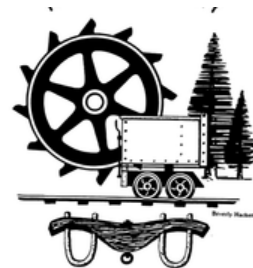
Honorable Chair and Board Members:

At today's meeting of the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Board that the application for landmark designation of The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite be approved. Applicant is The Nevada County Historical Society. The plaque is to be placed at 330 Alexander Street in Nevada City. The property is currently owned by David and Louise Beesley, who support the application. The landmark is to be designated as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 20-05.

Preston Alexander (1834-1889) and Louise Alexander 1838-1902) were among the earliest African American pioneers in Nevada County. Preston arrived in Nevada City in 1853. He bought this property on May 19, 1859, and built a house on it, which he expanded over the years to accommodate his growing family. The street in front of the house was named Alexander Street after him. The house was razed in 1928.

His many accomplishments are detailed in the application. In describing his funeral, the Daily Transcript stated that "No citizen could have had a higher tribute paid to his memory than has been accorded on all hands to that of Mr. Alexander." Less is known about Louisa. Her obituary comments on her cheerfulness and large circle of friends. Interestingly, most of her pallbearers were white men, including prominent Nevada City businessmen.

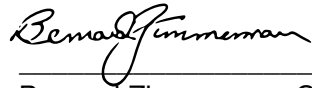
The applicant has provided a thorough and compelling level of research and documentation to accompany the application, which has been reviewed by the Commission for historical accuracy. The application and supporting documentation is enclosed.



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: The Nevada County Historical Society.

