

**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**



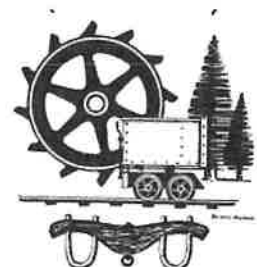
15 March 2024

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

Honorable Chair and Board Members:

At today's meeting, the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Board that the application for landmark designation of the Arrastra, located in the Tahoe National Forest near Meadow Lake, be approved. The applicant is the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission, with the consent of the Tahoe National Forest District Ranger. The landmark is to be designated as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 24-05, assuming the other pending applications are approved first.

The arrastra (from the Spanish arrastrar-to drag) is a device for crushing ore, a practical device used in California gold mines before the advent of stamp mills and then as a cheaper and often more practical alternative. This arrastra is located a few miles south of Meadow Lake. Its remains are believed to be the only example of original Mexican or Chilean mining technology still remaining in Nevada County and it remains on the site where it was originally used.



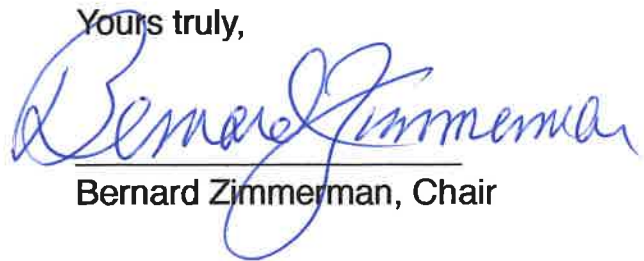
Many 49ers had no knowledge about or experience in mining for gold. That lack was supplied initially in part by miners from Mexico and Chile, which had gold and silver mines. Hence the reliance on gold mining technology such as the Mexican arrastra and the Chile mill. Yet there are presently no historical landmarks which reflect the presence of Hispanic miners in Nevada County. This landmark will heighten public awareness of the positive role that these miners played in Nevada County history. It will help correct the general omission of Hispanic miners from the County's history.

The research and documentation which accompanies the application has been reviewed by several Commissioner 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: Tahoe National Forest

