

# COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Chair Heidi Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Edward C. Scofield, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Vice Chair Dan Miller, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Susan Hoek, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Richard Anderson, 5<sup>th</sup> District

Julie Patterson Hunter,  
Clerk of the Board

## NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### Board Agenda Memo

---

**MEETING DATE:** September 22, 2020

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** **Julie Patterson Hunter**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution designating The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite, located at 330 Alexander Street, Nevada City, CA 95959 (APN 005-350-011) as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 20-04. (District I)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached resolution requested by the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission to approve the designation of The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite, located at 330 Alexander Street, Nevada City, CA 95959 (APN 005-350-011) as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 20-04.

**FUNDING:** N/A

#### **BACKGROUND:**

At its meeting on August 21, 2020 the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission unanimously approved the application submitted by the Nevada County Historical Society, for registration of The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite, located at 330 Alexander Street, Nevada City, CA 95959 (APN 005-350-011) as a Nevada County Historical Landmark and now recommends that the Board of Supervisors designate this site as a Nevada County Historical Landmark.

The Nevada County Historical Society submitted an application on August 4, 2020 to designate The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite as a Nevada County Historical Landmark with a plaque to be placed at 330 Alexander Street in Nevada City which was approved by the current owners of the property David and Louise Beesley. Specifically, the site is the former home of Preston and Louisa Alexander who were among the earliest African American pioneers in Nevada County. As the application states, "Preston Alexander purchased the 1.6-acre property from the estate of John Ramas on May 19, 1859. On April 27, 1861, he made a Declaration of Homestead, appearing before John Kendall, acting Justice of the Peace, who recorded it that same day...On March 21, 1870 Preston Alexander paid Nevada City the sum of \$15 and was granted title to the property. Initially he had constructed a small cabin, which over time had been enlarged and improved to accommodate the growing Alexander family...At some point prior to April 19, 1900 the alley that ran along the property was named Alexander St. for Preston Alexander. It is one of only two streets in Nevada City named for a black person, the other being Nimrod St., which is named for Nimrod Jones. If designated as a landmark, 330 Alexander St. would be the first landmarked property associated with a black person in Nevada County."

The Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors on August 21, 2020, requesting the Board of Supervisors approve the designation of

The Preston and Louisa Alexander Family Homesite, located at 330 Alexander Street, Nevada City, CA 95959 (APN 005-350-011). Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors designate the site as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 20-04.

**Item Initiated by** Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst  
**Item Approved by** Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board

Submittal Date: September 7, 2020