

**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**

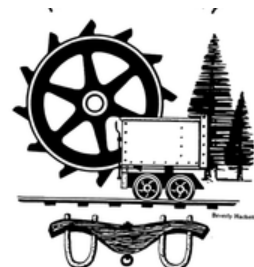
16 May 2025

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 Kneebone Ranch and Cemetery be approved. The applicant is Karen Hill, a Kneebone descendant, on behalf of all the Kneebone Family Descendants. The site is located in the Spenceville Wildlife Area and is owned by the State California's Fish and Wildlife Department, which has approved the placement of a plaque at the site. The landmark is to be designated as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 25-0_, next in order.

The landmark will commemorate the Kneebone Family, County pioneers. Joseph Kneebone, Sr. came to California from Cornwall, England in 1867, and acquired a 1,595-acre ranch near the historic town of Spenceville. He started a very successful teaming business. Together with his sons Andrew and Joseph Kneebone, Jr., they drove 20 mule team wagons, from the 1860s to the 1890s, from Wheatland to Virginia City, following the old Henness Pass Road. Their work contributed significantly to the development of the Northern Mines and to the growth of commerce and agriculture in Nevada County. On the hill overlooking the Kneebone Ranch are buried five of the original Kneebone family members: Joseph Kneebone Sr., wife Mary Martin Kneebone, Joseph Kneebone Jr., Richard Kneebone and Mary Kneebone.



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: Karen Hill

