

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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SUZANNE ALLEN DE SANCHEZ
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March 12, 2009

California State Parks
Office of Historic Preservation
Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 94286
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

On March 10, 2009, the County of El Dorado Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for the Nomination of Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

Located in the Gold Hill area of El Dorado County, just a couple of miles from Coloma, where Gold was discovered by John Marshall in 1849, this first Japanese agricultural settlement by the pioneer immigrants in June of 1869, was probably one of "California's Best Kept Secrets", until the acquisition of the property by the American River Conservancy, approximately two years ago.

Today, El Dorado County is a main destination point for visitors seeking fresh farm products, wine, Christmas trees, as well as historic and recreational facilities. Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony marked the beginning of Japanese influence on the agricultural economy of California and as such, the Board of Supervisors feels the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony qualifies for the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) to be placed on the federal government's list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of preservation.

The County of El Dorado Board Supervisors would like to thank you for your consideration of our request for this nomination.

Sincerely,

Ron V. Briggs, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY