

Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission



Resolution of Recognition

WHEREAS, fraternal orders and benevolent societies proliferated in the 19th Century and were primary providers of mutual benefits, financial support and care to members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Diamond Star Lodge No. 3711 of the predominately African American Grand United Order of Odd Fellows was established in Asheboro prior to 1894, and incorporated by an act of the state legislature in 1897; and

WHEREAS, the Diamond Star Lodge No. 3711 likely provided significant philanthropic support to Asheboro's African American community; and

WHEREAS, the Diamond Star Lodge No. 3711, in the early 20th Century, acquired a lot south of Cedar Falls Road and north of what is now Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, and established the first African American cemetery in Asheboro, now identified as the Odd Fellows Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the Odd Fellows Cemetery is the last surviving remnant of Diamond Star Lodge No. 3711; and

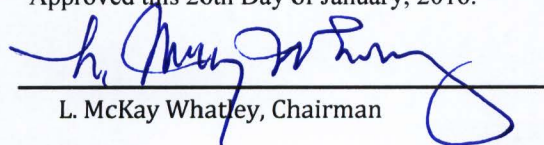
WHEREAS, the Odd Fellows Cemetery is emblematic of the charitable and beneficial work of what may be Asheboro's first and oldest African American fraternal order, and therefore sheds light on a lost world of 19th Century African American culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that official recognition as a Randolph County Local Cultural Heritage Site is given to the

ODD FELLOWS CEMETERY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is approved by the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission and recorded in its minutes, with appropriate history and photographs placed on the Commission's historical website, notation made in the county's GIS database and a suitable copy of the Resolution presented to the recipient.

Approved this 26th Day of January, 2016.


L. McKay Whatley, Chairman

Resolution Number 2016-03