





Proclamation

Recognizing Joy Alexander as Sponsor of the Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker, Meriwether Milling.

WHEREAS, In 1847, William Hunter Meriwether, a native Virginian and plantation owner, purchased 480 acres of land in the Comal Springs area from Maria Antonio de Veramendi Garza and her husband, Rafael C. Garza, and 200 acres from the German Emigration Company for the purpose of developing a milling industry. In 1847, he dammed the Geyser Springs, locally called Las Fontanas, and used slave labor to dig a mill race canal from the Comal Springs to the Comal Creek. This created water pressure to run a grist mill, cotton gin and sawmill. Meriwether eventually sold his holdings in the Comal Springs tract to Joseph Landa. The Landa family expanded the milling operations to include a flour mill, cottonseed oil complex, ice plant and hydroelectric plant. In the 1920s the Landa family began liquidating their assets in the Comal Springs area and in 1936, after being bought by the city, much of the original Meriwether property became Landa Park; and

WHEREAS, Meriwether Milling has been awarded a Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker that will be displayed on the grounds of the Meriwether Mill House, circa 1850, the only remaining Meriwether domestic structure at 133 Landa Street; and

WHEREAS; Joy Alexander, marker sponsor, primary researcher for the history of Meriwether Milling, and owner of the Meriwether Mill House, has written an under-told story about the people who dug the mill race canal and initially developed the springs, opening up the area for industry. The resulting contribution coincided with the rapid and permanent development of New Braunfels, evident in the fact that it became the fourth largest city in Texas in 1850, just five years after its establishment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Comal County Commissioners and the Comal County Historical Commission wish to commend Joy Alexander on her work towards receiving this marker and her dedication to historical preservation and recording the history of Comal County.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 15th day of November 2012.


Sherman Krause, County Judge

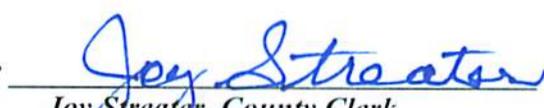

Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct 1


Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct 2


Gregory Parker, Commissioner Pct 3


Jan Kennedy, Commissioner Pct 4



Attest: 
Joy Streater, County Clerk