



State of Texas §

County of Comal §

Proclamation

Recognizing Esser's Crossing at Wesson as receiving Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker

WHEREAS, in the mid-1800s, a wagon trail called Fredericksburg Road ran 19 miles northwest of New Braunfels to one of the first safe Guadalupe River crossings. Esser's Crossing at Spring Branch served almost one hundred fifty years as a place designated for secure passage into the northwest portion of the state from New Braunfels and San Antonio to Johnson City and Fredericksburg. A German immigrant, Charles Esser, Sr., settled in the area in 1858 and provided a public way-station along the route. A postal station called Wesson was established in the area in 1893 and Charles Beierle, Sr. was the first postmaster. When Esser's Crossing was flooded, teamsters drove all the way around to Fischer's Store, Devil's Backbone or Purgatory Road to cross over the 1887 Faust Street Bridge in New Braunfels. In 1904, the Comal County Commissioners Court selected Esser's Crossing to receive a new bridge. After its construction, agricultural products were brought to the New Braunfels area from as far away as Johnson City. The wrought iron whipple truss bridge, much like the Faust Street Bridge, was completed in 1904. The bridge designed for one-way traffic displayed a sign forbidding fast driving or riding or driving more than ten head of livestock on the bridge at any one time. The 1904 bridge was later condemned and removed in 1979.

WHEREAS, Esser's Crossing at Wesson has been awarded a Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker that is now displayed on HWY 311 along the TxDOT right of way to designate the location of the early crossing. The dedication of the marker was held on Saturday, April 27th at the site of the marker with a luncheon following at the Old Spring Branch Fire Station.

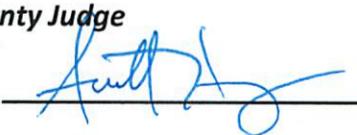
WHEREAS, the marker funding was provided by the descendants of Charles Esser, Sr. and Henrietta Knetsch Esser in their memory and the extensive marker research and application completed by Brenda Anderson-Lindemann, Carmen Beierle Rittimann and Helen Zimmemann-Weidner in honor of Vera Haag.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners Court of Comal County, duly convened and acting in its capacity as the governing body of Comal County, and the Comal County Historical Commission wish to commend you on your work towards receiving this marker and your dedication to historical preservation and recording the history of Comal County.

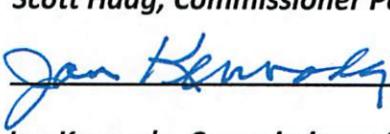
PASSED AND APPROVED this the 2nd day of May, 2013


Sherman Krause, County Judge


Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct 1


Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct 2


Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct 3

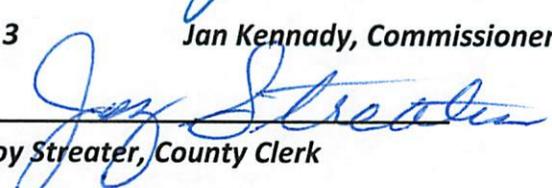

Jan Kennady, Commissioner Pct 4

Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct 3

Jan Kennady, Commissioner Pct 4



Attest:


Joy Streater, County Clerk