



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Paul A. Anthony · 830-221-1110 · anthop@co.comal.tx.us

Contact:

Karen Boyd, Chair, Comal County Historical Commission
830.625.1619
bboyd3@satx.rr.com

Historical Commission receives grant for National Register listings

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 26, 2017:

NEW BRAUNFELS — The Comal County Historical Commission this month received a \$10,000 grant to prepare two sites for possible inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places – one of just 10 such grants awarded by the Texas Historical Commission, and the only grant awarded to a county.

The grant, accepted April 20 by Commissioners Court, provides funds for the commission to prepare National Register nominations for two sites:

- The Arnold-Rauch-Brandt homestead, an 1850 structure northwest of New Braunfels near SH 46, owned by the New Braunfels Conservation Society, and
- Anhalt Halle, the 1879 dance hall near Spring Branch owned by the Germania Farmer Verein.

“Receiving this grant is a great honor,” said Karen Boyd, chair of the Comal County Historical Commission. “It will allow us to do the work needed to apply for a National Register listing for these important parts of our county’s history.”

The Brandt homestead will receive a Texas Historical Commission marker in a ceremony May 16. Anhalt Halle received one in 2014.

The grant comes from the U.S. Interior Department, which manages the National Register, and is distributed through the Texas Historical Commission, which each year selects a handful of sites in need of preservation, Boyd said.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country’s official list of historic places worthy of preservation; to date, St. Joseph’s Chapel on FM 482 is the only site in the unincorporated area of the county to be listed, although the Fischer Historic District north of Canyon Lake has been approved and is expected to be listed this summer, Boyd said.

“Comal County has a rich and unique history,” Boyd said, “and we are grateful to the Texas Historical Commission for helping us to preserve it.”

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Comal County Public Information Office

830.221.1110

anthop@co.comal.tx.us

www.comalcountytexas.com