

Mural honoring the history of the Railroad in New Braunfels

The Historic Outdoor Art Museum murals help tell the history and preserve New Braunfels' culture. This 10th artwork showcases the history of the railroad in New Braunfels which came to New Braunfels within 15 years after the Civil War and opened the town to a realm of economic opportunity. The ability to ship goods into and out of New Braunfels helped merchants grow businesses and made it possible for citizens to easily travel to other parts of Texas and the U.S. Harry Landa and his mother, Helena, hosted Helen Gould (daughter of railroad tycoon Jay Gould) in 1897 and she was impressed with "Landa's Pasture". That meeting led to a spur track added to the IG & N rail-line that brought the first tourists to what we now call Landa Park. The railroad played a key role in the nascent tourism industry for New Braunfels. This mural will pictorially display stories such as these about the railroad, a topic few know about, especially the role women played in this part of New Braunfels' history.

This mural adds to New Braunfels visual storytelling so the tens of thousands who annually walk or drive by to learn more about the place we call home. HOAM artworks are located outdoors (primarily downtown area) and are free to view making them the most accessible, equitable and inclusive opportunities to view art and learn something historical about New Braunfels.

This new mural will add a vital missing piece to the visual historical storytelling of New Braunfels. The mural will cover approximately 14' x 50' (~700 sq. ft) of the top of the building facing the railroad track Hill St/San Antonio St. The artist selected is Mindy Allen, the first female mural artist procured in the mural series in New Braunfels. Paint product used will be acrylic and the mural will be sealed as in the past murals. Owners of the building have been waiting in line for years for this project to take place. The building is strategically located across from the Railroad Museum and Depot. There have numerous grants received awarded to the organization to fund the project, including one by Union Pacific.

Digital Rendering:



Photo taken from Railroad Museum perspective



Photo taken from railroad tracks

