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GUILLEN SALUTES HISTORIC RANCH RECOGNITION

Rancho San Jose de la Mulada Receives Official Texas Historical Marker

NORTH OF RIO GRANDE CITY – On land that over the last 400 years has seen the passage of Spanish explorers, large herds of horses and cattle and early land grant families, Comanche raids, and generations of South Texans, local officials and residents gathered last week to erect a plaque recognizing the significant history of the Rancho San Jose de la Mulada.

Thanks to the successful efforts of Araceli Perez-Davis, the Texas Historical Commission has awarded the Rancho San Jose de la Mulada, located just north of Rio Grande City along Farmto-Market Road 3167, an official Texas Historical Marker. To celebrate this recognition, State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) has proudly filed commemorative House Resolution 1197.

"Starr County has one of the oldest and richest histories of Texas. Families have lived in our county far longer than Texas has been a state, and a unique cultural history has long defined our community," said Guillen. "Nothing makes me happier than seeing our district receive the statewide recognition that it deserves."

Pedro Jose Perez, the great, great, great grandfather of Perez-Davis, originally purchased the property in 1787. The ranch homes and other structures would later be erected around 1890. Over the years, a number of historical pieces have accumulated in the ranch, many of which were donated by Perez-Davis to the Museum of South Texas History. Additionally, Perez-Davis has recently opened a small museum in an adobe cabin that has stood on the ranch since its founding.

"With HR 1197, I asked the Texas House of Representatives to formally commemorate the dedication of this Texas Historical Marker," explained Guillen. "It is imperative that our state recognizes the deep history we have in Texas, and I am proud to help Araceli Perez-Davis, and the Perez family, receive the recognition of the Texas House of Representatives."

A dedication ceremony occurred at 10:00 a.m. on April 1, 2017, at the site of the ranch.

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