

The Bandera PROPHECY

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Today in Texas history

German nobles unite for Texas colonization

By Bandera Spirits of Texas

On April 20, 1842, the Adelsverein (the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas) was provisionally organized by 21 German noblemen at Biebrich on the Rhine, near Mainz. The society was formed to establish a new Germany on Texas soil by means of an organized mass emigration.

In May 1842 the association sent two of its members, counts Joseph of Boos-Waldeck and Victor August of Leiningen, to Texas to purchase land. In January 1843 Boos-Waldeck bought a square league (4,428 acres) in what is now Fayette County, near Industry, as the base for future colonization.

The first immigrants disembarked in Texas in December 1844, near Carlshafen (later Indianola). The society brought more than 7,000 Germans to Texas. It also established Texas as a major goal of subsequent emigration from Germany.