

Historic Round Rock

116 East Main

“Saloon/Rock Theater”

Built 1879

S. W. Swinson owned this lot in 1878-79. That year, he sold the property to C. C. Bradford, who had this building put up. Bradford owned multiple buildings downtown, and at this location a combination barber shop, billiards and saloon operated through the turn of the century. In the 1900s, it was a barber shop and feed store. In 1916, the building sat vacant. The brick façade was apparently added in 1920, the same year that the bank next door was built. From 1939 to 1969, the Rock Theatre was located here, Round Rock’s first permanent movie house. Owner W. W. Rucker, who also served as mayor, brought the big movies to town, including Stagecoach with John Wayne on the opening weekend. The Rock was later operated by Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Kelley. After the Rock closed, the Sterling Theatre was in operation for a short time. Since 1975, this has been the Round Rock Professional Building, with offices for a variety of insurance agents, attorneys, realtors, accountants and so on.

