

## **201 Supporters of Save the Round Rock Old Chisholm Trail Stagecoach Inn (Petition conducted in 2013)**

In a time when we are revamping the historic east side of Round Rock, let's not disregard and forget the west side where The Old Stagecoach Inn (Harris Stagecoach Inn), old post office, bathing beach and the Round Rock stand as strong representatives of the history of our city! The Stage Coach Inn is, without question, Round Rock's "Most Endangered Historic Structure." The City of Round Rock has applied for permit to remove the Old Stagecoach Inn, but there is still time to save this historic building and move it to a new site. Don't ignore our History. Save our past to teach our Future citizens and make the Bathing Beach a "must see" stop for visitors to our lovely city. is scheduled to be removed from it current site (901 Round Rock Ave - Currently the French Quarter Restaurant) to make way for road improvements along RM 620. Road work will begin January 2015. The Round Rock City Council will decide this summer on the future of the Inn. The Inn could either be torn down or moved to a new location.

The Old Stagecoach Inn is included in the City's Historic Overlay Zoning Program and has tremendous historic value to the City of Round Rock. The Old Stagecoach Inn was built c1848-1853 and is reported to be the third oldest structure in the City of Round Rock. The structure is historically significant to the early history of the city and as such should be preserved. Re-locating the Old Stagecoach Inn within the Bathing Beach Area has a strong fit with the design concepts for the Bathing Beach Project.

Because of its historic significance, the Old Stagecoach Inn is suitable for many re-purposing options: **Historical education element** - welcome center or small museum: The historic structure offers an opportunity for visitors to see an original Stagecoach Inn and the Inn could also provide a location on the Chisholm Trail Road for obtaining information about historic sites within Old Town and the City of Round Rock; **Arts and Cultural element** - opportunities for a Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter Chautauqua in the Park Site on the hill in front of the Inn; with the inn being used as a Round Rock Arts and Cultural Events Center; **Community Events element** - the inn could be rented out for special events such as weddings, family reunions, community events; **Revitalization along the corridor element** - as a local restaurant to draw individuals into the Bathing Beach Area and Old Town area; **General park element** - a small refreshments store by the beach that sells sodas, chips, hot dogs, ice cream, Italian ices, and Round Rock tourism items and to rent fishing equipment and bait.

Letter to  
 Mayor, City of Round Rock Alan McGraw  
 Round Rock Transportation Dept: Dean  
 Round Rock Parks & Recreation Dept Mr. Buzzell  
 Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission Jordan  
 City Council, Place 6 Kris Whitfield  
 City Council, Place 5 John S. Moman  
 City Council, Place 4 Carlos T. Salinas  
 City Council, Place 3 Joe Clifford  
 City Council, Place 2 George White  
 City Council, Place 1 Craig Morgan

Jerry Hodges

I petition the Round Rock City Council to direct the City's Transportation Department, the City's Parks Department, and the City's Planning Department to take actions necessary to re-locate the Old Stagecoach Inn (Harris Stagecoach Inn) from its current location (901 Round Rock Avenue, Suite D) to a new location beside the rock building located up the hill on Chisholm Trail Road as part of the City's Bathing Beach Project.

**ACTIONS REQUIRED:** City Departments need guidance from City Council on their desires to preserve the Old Stagecoach Inn.

a. The Transportation Department needs to know the City Council wants the Old Stagecoach Inn moved to a new location.

b. The Parks Department needs to know the City Council wants the Stagecoach Inn included in their Bathing Beach Project. The Parks Department has tentatively identified two possible site locations for the Stagecoach Inn in the Bathing Beach area. The tentative site locations are (1) on Chisholm Trail Road up the hill beside the rock building or (2) on Emanuel Road beside the log cabin which is now inside a fenced-in area.

c. The Budget Office needs authority from the City Council to fund the relocate the structure.

**BACKGROUND.** The Old Stagecoach Inn (Harris Stagecoach Inn) is, without question, Round Rock's "Most Endangered Historic Structure." The Old Stagecoach Inn is owned by the City of Round Rock and is scheduled to be removed from its current site in the year 2015 to make way for road improvements along RM620 (either through demolition or relocation).

The Old Stagecoach Inn is included in the City's Historic Overlay Zoning Program and has tremendous historic value to the City of Round Rock. The Old Stagecoach Inn was built c1848-1853 and is reported to be the third oldest structure in the City of Round Rock. The structure is historically significant to the early history of the city and as such should be preserved.

The Bathing Beach Project is the optimal re-location site because of its close proximity to the structure's current location. Re-location to the Bathing Beach area will ensure the structure remains within the Old Town location.

The close proximity of the Bathing Beach Area will minimize re-location costs. The City's Historic Preservation Office informally contacted a moving company, who estimated the cost to move the structure would range between \$75,000 and \$125,000. There would be additional costs to connect utilities to the structure at the new location.

Re-locating the Old Stagecoach Inn within the Bathing Beach Area has a strong fit with the design concepts for the Bathing Beach Project. Because of its historic significance, the Old Stagecoach Inn is suitable for many re-purposing options:

**Historical education element.** Site #1 on Chisholm Trail Road is an ideal location for use of the structure as a welcome center or small museum. The historic structure offers an opportunity for visitors to see an original Stagecoach Inn and the Inn could also provide a location on the Chisholm Trail Road for obtaining information about historic sites within Old Town and the City of Round Rock.

**Arts and cultural element.** Site #1 would also create opportunities for a Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter Chautauqua in the Park Site on the hill in front of the Inn; with the inn being used as a Round Rock Arts and Cultural Events Center.

**Community events element.** At Site #1, the inn could be rented out for special events such as weddings, family reunions, community events.

**Revitalization along the corridor element.** At Site #1, the inn could be used as a local restaurant to draw individuals into the Bathing Beach Area and Old Town area.

**General park element.** Site #2, located further back off Chisholm Trail Road, is ideal for a small refreshments store by the beach that sells sodas, chips, hot dogs, ice cream, Italian ices, and Round Rock tourism items and to rent fishing equipment and bait.

## **As a resident of Round Rock, I petition Round Rock City Council to take steps necessary to re-locate and preserve Round Rock's most Endangered Historic Structure, the Old Stagecoach Inn (Harris Stagecoach Inn).**

Because it's about the history of my beautiful state  
[Leland Benningfield](#), Rosenberg, TX

Please do not let the need for city expansion get in the way of Round Rock's true identity. These landmarks are what makes our City the treasure it is.  
[Mary Kay Schittone](#), Round Rock, TX

I love Texas and this great state needs to remember why it is great.  
[Chris Blair](#), Cedar Park, TX

You have a once in a lifetime chance to save a piece of history and see it continue to serve a meaningful purpose - perhaps educational and revenue generating. Imagine the stories the building could tell! Bring those stories to life. Educate about the Chisholm Trail and life during that time in history. The Chisholm Trail cattle sculpture near the river always sparks my imagination of what it must have been like to drive cattle up the Chisholm Trail. This building can serve a similar purpose. To ignite the imagination and keep history alive. Another reason this is important to me is that fact that my dear friend's family grew up in this house. I have heard stories about this home over the years and know the descendants would be deeply grateful if it were preserved for generations to come.  
[LuAnn Edwards](#), Leander, TX

My wife's grandparents grew up in this house  
[Gary Ricks](#), Austin, TX

It is a lovely building that has stood in its place for all these years. We need to respect and preserve our heritage.  
[Deanna Strickland](#), Austin, TX

Please help retain a piece of Round Rock and Texas history. As Round Rock grows rapidly, I feel it's essential to regard and respect its past. Furthermore, I think it would be an asset as we continue to grow tourism, culture, and historic preservation measures.

[C.R.](#), New York, U.S. Outlying Islands

Keep our city history.....eaten in there several times and never knew it was of historical significance.

[tim cormier](#), round rock, TX

While I no longer live in Round Rock, my mother was born and raised there. My grandfather, Edward Peterson was a US Mail Carrier, a big part of Round Rock's history. This site needs to be protected and preserved

[Lorin Ryle](#), Hutto, TX

My son-in-law's grandparents lived there, and it has great meaning for the family.

[Mary Bashara](#), Austin, TX

I understand the importance of road improvement in the 620/135/Chisolm Trail area, but don't want to see any of that happen at the expense of one of our most historic buildings.

[Zoy Kocian](#), Round Rock, TX

My grandmother grew up in the house and built the rock wall.

[csthie ricks](#), Austin, TX

"Cause history is way more important than roads.

[gail xandy](#), Burnet, TX

Former resident of RR. This History must be preserved.

[Darlene Strayn](#), Bastrop, TX

Preserving historical buildings is important. Find a way to work around this historical building!

[Jay Erwin-Grotsky](#), Austin, TX

The Old Chisolm Trail Stagecoach Inn is a historical landmark which played a key part in the development of the city of Round Rock. How the city treats its historic treasures is important. Does Round Rock want to be known as the city that tore down an important historical landmark to widen a road or as the city that values its past as it moves into the future? The inn belongs near our historical round rock in Bushy Creek. Make it so.

[Nikole Dearborn](#), Round Rock, TX

Please preserve The Round Rock Stagecoach Inn. It is an important part of history.

[Pat Neely](#), Manchaca, TX

JJ and Susanna Tisdale Harris who built and ran the Stagecoach Inn are my 3rd great grand parents. I would not like to see this part of history of Old Town Round Rock be destroyed and forgotten. This is a historical structure worth saving.

[Trina Gibson](#), Friendswood, Texas, TX

It is important to preserve our history. The Richards family once occupied the old stagecoach inn as their home and they have history dating back to the Republic of Texas. We must preserve these visual reminders of what life was like while teaching our children the lessons of moving forward. If we destroy

our historical places, we lose valuable teaching tools for the next generations. Our heritage is what forms our pride as a nation/state and keeps us all connected as a people and supportive of one another.

[Roy Adair](#), Manchaca, TX

This was my great grandparents home.

[Renea Beasley](#), Austin, TX

This house holds many fond memories to my husband's family and deserves preservation.

[Iulia Bateman](#), Iasi, Romania

This was my family's house from the 1800's and deserves preservation due to it's status as one of the 3 oldest buildings of Round Rock and its being the first stagecoach stop there.

[Dennis Bateman](#), Austin, TX

This was where my grandparents lived and holds many fond memories from my childhood.

[Cecelia Adair](#), Manchaca, TX

The Harris Stagecoach Inn has significant historic value to Round Rock, Williamson County and the State of Texas and should be preserved for future generations. I am a descendant of the Richards' family who occupied the home at two separate times for a total of more than 40 years. My mother, Dorothy Mae Richards Hutchison, was daughter (4th child of 7) to Harold and Sue Richards who owned the home from 1941 - 1957. I encourage the Round Rock City Council to approve the Option 1 recommendation made by the Historic Preservation Commission. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

[Judy Anderson](#), Round Rock, TX

We need to stop tearing down our historical buildings.

[Donna Hawes](#), Spring, TX

We can't have clear sight of the future without a tangible understanding of the past. Historic building give our children that understanding and are quickly being destroyed by "progress".

[Linda Payne](#), Houston, TX

My grandparents lived in this house from 1941-1957. My mother and father were married standing in front of the original fireplace in 1942. My grandfather built the rock wall surrounding this property. I am Dorothy Mae Richards Hutchison's youngest daughter.

[Dorothy Ingram](#), Spring, TX

This building has been here longer than I have and I've been here for 20 years, I frequented both Gumbo's and French Quarter. Beyond that the entire complex has been a hub of fruitful business activity for as long as I've known it and it would be ashamed to see it gone. The current business, French Quarter, has brought it back to life with its incredible menu & social offerings and it would be a loss to simply do away with the cultural experience it brings to our immediate neighborhood.

[Leslie Keeler](#), Round Rock, TX

My mother lived in this house as a child and my ggg grandfather was the first settler of Round Rock and this will help to preserve the history of Round Rock.

[Billy Harrell](#), Fredericksburg, TX

Our history provides the foundation for our rich heritage and strong value systems, which are being chronically eroded for the benefit of change for the sake of change. We should hold dear the values that

brought us this far, and we should retain visible historic signs to represent what it took to get where we are.

[Curtis Young](#), Round Rock, TX

I believe in historic preservation. These are one-of-a-kind buildings, and gives one a sense of place and time, a view into history that cannot be replicated with photographs. I like the suggestions for it to be re-purposed. Great to have some old buildings preserved among all the big box stores in the area!!!!

[Ruth Helpert-Nunez](#), Hearne, TX

We have lost many of Round Rock's older buildings to development and need to hang on to the few we have left.

[Andrea Johnson](#), Round Rock, TX

History is always important. You must look to the past to understand the future.

[Joe LaBarba](#), Dallas, TX

I grew up in Austin, at a time when Round Rock was a different town, and remember seeing this building decades ago. It was a fascinating and valuable history; it seems inconceivable that it should be destroyed. Please don't let this happen.

[Margot Clarke](#), Austin, TX

I spent many a night here with my good friend whose family lived here for decades. Please do not tear down this beautiful building! It is part of our history in central Texas!

[Kathryn Anderson](#), Austin, TX

I love Texas and too many historic buildings have already disappeared!!!!

[Keith Trawick](#), Deal, Kent, United Kingdom

Save this historic building! There is so little Texas history that is treated with the respect it deserves. Who are we if we do not have collective memory and tangible evidence of our collective memory?

[Valerie Harbolovic](#), Schaumburg, IL

I lived in this home from 1960-1982. It is one of the few historic homes left in Round Rock. As the former school house to the east of this home was torn down so a hotel (Cormfort Inn) could be built. Please preserve this home as it also has a Texas Historical marker associated with it.

[Phebe Davol](#), Florence, TX

I feel it is our responsibility to preserve the history of our great state! It is important for us to maintain historical sites for our children to learn from.

[Chrissy Davol](#), Florence, TX

A remarkable well-preserved part of Round Rock's history.

[RHONDA CMEREK](#), TAYLOR, TX

I've spend many a pleasant evening at the site when it was a restaurant and meeting place . It served folks when Round Rock was a frontier village. You don't bulldoze something like that; you find a use for it and integrate it into the larger current community.

[Jeff Townsend](#), Burnet, TX

This was the Davol family residence from 1961-1983 and has been carefully restored to be a landmark representing Round Rock's history and heritage. Growth and changes in the city's infrastructure and roads is inevitable, however, preservation of its landmarks are extremely important. Very few buildings remain from the 19th century and this building represents an important part of the Stagecoach line on the Chisholm trail.

[Frank Davol](#), Florence, TX

This is a beautiful old building and an important part of our past. While it was modified a few years back, much is still original and should be preserved!

[Milena Thompson](#), Round Rock, TX

It is important to preserve historical properties, especially one as entwined with RR history as this one is.

[Mary Massey](#), Round Rock, TX

Part of what makes round rock unique.

[Ruth Massey](#), Round rock, TX

This is a huge piece of Round Rock History. Why destroy it for a road?

[Michele Fontenot](#), Round Rock, TX

when we moved here in 1984 one thing that drew my father to Round Rock was the history that the city had kept alive. Getting rid of historical monuments such as this would be an insult to those of us who settled here for that very reason.

[katherine epperson](#), Round Rock, TX

It's important to have part of our history intertwined with the present so we can look back on great achievements and learn from them

[Ryan Tynan](#), Round Rock, TX

We need to have history that our city can be proud of and look back on future times when monuments like this are rare. Student Round Rock High School.

[Ryan Tynan](#), Round Rock, TX

To preserve history

[Claudia Whitehead](#), Round Rock, TX

The preservation of our historical structures is extremely important for the identity of our city. We need to keep this landmark in its original place!

[John Grey](#), Round rock, TX

This is an important part of our history. Please don't let financial costs to re-purpose or move it cause the city to just let it be torn down. The re-purpose and/or move will be worth it.

[Anna Davalt](#), Round Rock, TX

When I lived in Round Rock I loved seeing the historic buildings. I believe they should be left alone for people to enjoy. Sometimes paradise doesn't need to be ruined by a parking lot. Figure out a different solution to fix the traffic issue.

[Leslie Mower](#), Enoch, UT

You cannot change history! Leave it alone.

[Susan Rock](#), Round Rock, TX

My Mother graduated from RRHS when there were just 11 grades. I started teaching at RRHS in 1990. Round Rock is changing so quickly. Let us not lose the past!

[Sara Gaetjens](#), Austin, TX

This is an important part of Round Rock's history and should not be destroyed.

[Darlene Cooke](#), Round Rock, TX

My great grandfather lived just down from here.... You can't just erase the history!!!

[Janet Calhoun](#), Hutto, TX

Please move and preserve this structure. I saw bull dozers destroying the old two tory home that stood where the Gattis Pizza is now. I would love to think that you are more intelligent and value our past than those on the City Counsel in those days. I would rather it be left in its historical location. But if it is destroy it or move it; then move it.

[Janelle Eastham](#), Round Rock, TX

It is a beautiful historic building that should be kept as a reminder of Round Rock's past.

[Sue Cotter](#), Pflugerville, TX

I worked at that building for six years and still love going back thereto have a nice dinner and enjoy the patio

[Eric Reesing](#), Pflugerville, TX

Historic landmarks need to be preserved for future generations

[Perry Siegel](#), Round Rock, TX

preservation of history

[Janice Bailey](#), Champaign, IL

To understand the future, we must preserve the past. It is a major part of the history of RR.

Norma Creel, Round rock, TX

Almost every person that visits us has asked us about this building. When you see it you KNOW there is history there. Please keep some of what made Round Rock stand out to many of us and don't turn us into another cookie cutter town.

[Breanna Giannoules](#), Round rock, TX

it is a historic landmark, a part of our history..

[Teresa Carson](#), Round Rock, TX

We have an obligation to protect our heritage as we build our future!

[Dave Shearer](#), Cedar Park, TX

I'm all for keeping history a live for generations to come. We have to preserve our history!

[Cindy Stearns](#), Round Rock, TX

It is extremely important for all of us to preserve the historical elements that still exist to keep the past alive. I especially value Round Rock's history and enjoy being able to share it with my kids. I have dined numerous times at the restaurant currently occupying the building and have loved to envision it as the old Stagecoach Inn, welcoming visitors on the Chisholm Trail to the area back in the day. That seems like



one of the most important historical buildings one would want to preserve in a town that is still welcoming to visitors. Please save the Stagecoach Inn and preserve it in a way that it can still be enjoyed and remembered.

[Debbie Mahan](#), Round Rock, TX

We need to preserve the buildings from Round Rock's past! With all of the chain stores and restaurants (which are found in every city in the US), the only interesting, distinguishing, and valuable parts of a city are the things that make it unique and link the present & future with the past.

[Adare Siegel](#), Round Rock, TX

I worked there for years when it was Gumbo's, frequent it as French Quarter when I'm in town, had lots of memorable times there even before then, and always enjoyed sharing the story of the site's rich history. There were also frequent visitors whose grandparents lived there. What a great piece of history and so nice that these folks can come back and enjoy their grandparents' home. And who doesn't love the story about how the inn keepers would be alerted when a stagecoach was approaching. These are tales worth telling and it's even more meaningful when you can still visit where it all took place.

[LYN MOREIN](#), NEW ORLEANS, LA

Significant historic structures should be preserved to visually tell the history of Round Rock. This structure helps tell the story of early day transportation and mail in and out of Round Rock.

[Shirley Marquardt](#), Round Rock, TX

For the preservation of Round Rock history

[Donald Marquardt](#), Round Rock, TX

This is an important part of Round Rock history and should be preserved.

[Carol Barnhart](#), Round Rock, TX

The Stage Coach Inn is one of the Most Endangered Historical Buildings in Round Rock. Let's keep a part of our Chisholm Trail History and Save the Round Rock, TX Stage Coach Inn!

[Shirley Marquardt-Tynan](#), Round Rock, TX