

# Rainbow Courts Hotel

- One of the oldest  
hotels in Texas

David Martinez Hernandez

# Founder, People & History

When World War 1 was coming to a close a man named Monroe Bullock founded a hotel around Central Texas. At the time

Texas was a mining community and Bullock would describe the hotel as an “Oasis”. Around the 1930’s Bullock would then pass down the hotel to his brother Ira Bullock but sadly much of the hotel would be burned shortly after. The hotel itself would gain recognition as Bob Willis, and many other celebrities would stay at this unique, antique hotel. In 1970 Ira Bullock would die leaving the hotel as an heir. A few generations later Joan Ratliff and Dan Ratliff would then buy, renovate and preserve this historic landmark for generations to come.



## Significance

This hotel is significant because it is a historical landmark in which more than 100 years of history takes place.



## Timeline & Link Info.

<https://www.fox7austin.com/news/rainbow-courts-motel-for-sale-rockdale-texas>

<https://www.texasmonthly.com/travel/rainbow-courts-oldest-motel-texas-rockdale/>

-1931  
A lot of  
the hotel  
is lost  
after a  
fire  
starts at  
Rainbow  
Courts

-1950's  
Bullocks  
remodel  
the hotel

-1992  
Joan and  
Dan Ratliff  
begin  
Renovations  
after  
purchase

-1918  
Monroe  
Bullock  
founds  
Rainbow  
Courts Hotel

-1936  
HWY 79  
is built  
making  
the hotel  
more  
popular

-1970's  
Ira  
Benjamin  
Bullock  
dies

-2024  
Rainbow  
Courts  
stands as a  
historical  
landmark  
to this day