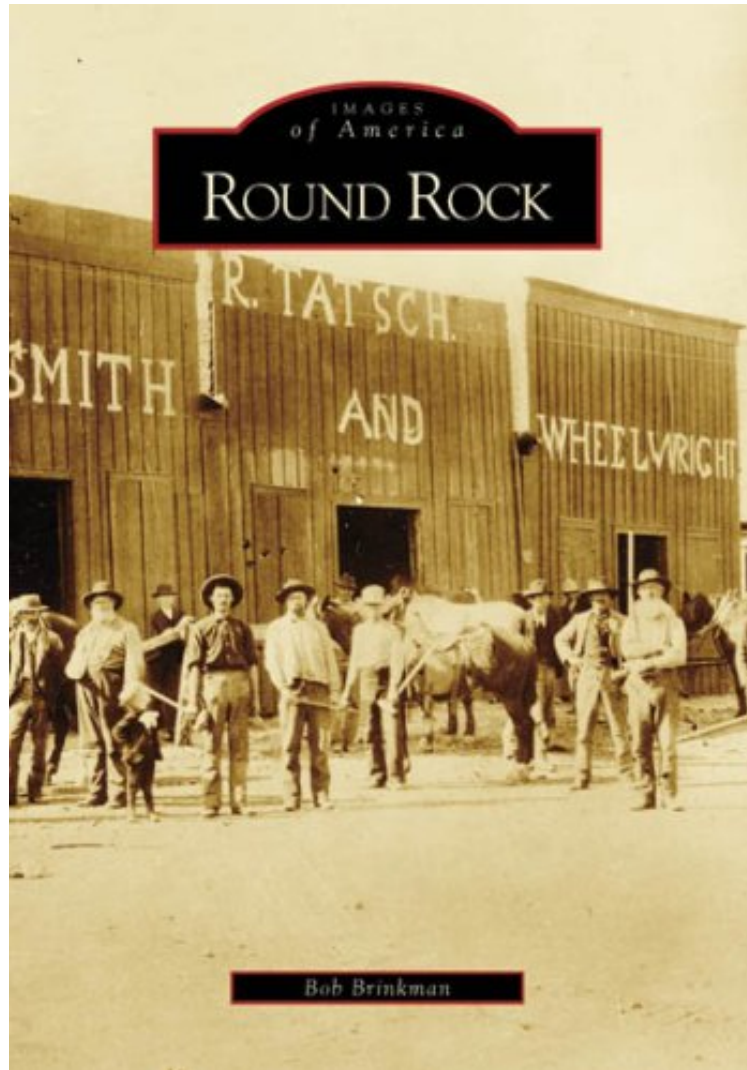


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Round Rock (TX) (Images of America)

Bob Brinkman

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Bob Brinkman : Round Rock (TX) (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Round Rock (TX) (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Round Rock (TX) Images of AmericaBy Don M.Book is filled with wonderful photos and the order arrived promptly. Thank you. I was searching specifically for early day photos of the Round Rock Old Stagecoach Inn; however, I love local history. Thank you for sharing.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome!!By Eric CepedaMy dad loved it! thanks!! The book was as advertised, and shipped fast. i would recomend to other people in Round Rock, TX.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Trip to Round RockBy Robin FriedmanRound Rock, Texas is located in Williamson County in central Texas about

15 miles north of Austin. For many years the population of Round Rock remained at about 3000, but in the past few decades the city has mushroomed to a current population of over 90,000. My daughter relocated to Round Rock several years ago, and I became familiar with the city through visiting her. I took a long train trip from Washington D.C. to Chicago and on through to Texas on the Texas Eagle, which until recently stopped at Round Rock. I had the opportunity to remember Round Rock in this new pictorial history of the city in the Images of America Series from Arcadia Publishing. The Images of America series celebrates local American life through photographic histories of communities, towns and cities throughout our country. Each volume consists of 128 pages and about 200 photographs together with introductory textual material and annotations on the photos. Bob Brinkman, a historian on the Texas Historical Commission, prepared this excellent volume on Round Rock. Many things in the book brought back memories of my visits to Round Rock. Round Rock was essentially created by the railroads. Although settlers moved to the area as early as the 1830s, the most important event in establishing Round Rock was the arrival of the International and Great Northern Railroad in 1876, making the area a boomtown. It was appropriate for me to travel to Round Rock by train, and, when I got to know the city, to see the railroad activity still prevalent in the area. Brinkman offers many photographs of trains, crossings, stations, and bridges showing the past and continued importance of railroading to Round Rock. The City of Round Rock is named for a large limestone rock - the round rock - in the middle of a stream called Brushy Creek. In 1854, the then-village of Brushy Creek changed its name to Round Rock after, of course, the round rock. The round rock is a community gathering place, a local landmark, and a Texas historical site. I saw the round rock many times during my visits to the city. There are many photos of the round rock and of people enjoying the surrounding environs in Brinkman's book. Downtown Round Rock includes several blocks of large old buildings that were used as general stores, broom factories, cheese factories, and other manufacturing or commercial ventures during the city's history. These buildings are still in use and have been designated a national historical area. When I was in Round Rock, the corner building on Main Street was in use as a restaurant with live musical entertainment during the evenings. The current Round Rock Public Library is located adjacent to this historic main street. Brinkman's book brought back memories of this delightful small town Main Street and of my walks through the area. Finally, Round Rock is famous for its doughnuts. A small business called the Lone Star Bakery established in Round Rock in 1926 makes doughnuts that put the current large chains to shame. The doughnuts are made with a unique yellowish-orangy dough that is not found anywhere else. The shop has had several owners and locations since 1926. Between two of my visits to Round Rock, the Bakery burned down and thus was forced to move from one part of downtown to another. The mere fact of knowing of this new book on Round Rock made me crave a Round Rock Doughnut. It is probably fortunate for me that doughnuts do not ship well. Brinkman has written a fine book about a distinctive American community. Readers who know Round Rock, Texas or who are interested in Americana will enjoy this pictorial history of Round Rock. Robin Friedman

Named for a distinctive rock formation that marks a natural, picturesque ford, Round Rock is a reflection of the past. Nomadic people lived here for countless ages, leaving clues of their existence for future generations. Explorers and frontier travelers visited the area bounded by rolling hills to the west and fertile fields to the east. The location became a permanent name on the map when settlers made the site their home in 1851. These pioneers established the traditions that defined the community. Positioned near the state capital, Round Rock has prospered through transportation and commerce. Horseback paths, stagecoach routes, military roads, and cattle trails have yielded to railroads and highways. Within a few generations, the community once known for education and agriculture is now equally renowned for technology and trade. A common thread through it all has been the citizens pride of place in their hometown. This is the story of a once-quiet village that evolved into a vibrant city.

About the Author Author Bob Brinkman is a historian at the Texas Historical Commission. He has also served on the Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission and the Williamson County Historical Commission.