

The Citizens Bank/Jon C. West Building

This building was originally constructed in 1950/1951 by the Yow family for The Citizens Bank of Toccoa. At that time, the bank was housed in the ground floor of the building. In the late 1950s, attorney firm McClure, Ramsay and Struble set up offices on the second floor. They stayed in their location until the early 1960s. The Boilermaker's and Blacksmith Political Action Committee, a nationally merged organization that was partially formed in Atlanta in 1888, was also located upstairs until the 1960s.

In September, 1959 Dr. Jeff Davis and Mrs. Myrtle Yow Davis became owners of the building. The building stayed in Mrs. Yow Davis' estate, passing through the family to Katherin Yow Bond, Phyllis Hayden Yow and Mary Orme Yow. The Yow sisters retained ownership until 1966 when it was signed over to Clyde Murray. Mr. Murray had an insurance agency in the upstairs of the building at this time. In the same year, Mr. Murray signed half of the interest of the structure to Marvin Tabor.

During the early 1970s Mr. Murray and Mr. Tabor transferred ownership to Earl Clark, who established a men's retail store on the ground floor of the building. In the same time period, Attorney Alton Adams also housed his legal services in the structure on the second floor. Clark's Men's Store stayed in business until the late 1980s/early 1990s when it was replaced by Kirby Vacuum Sales. In 1993, Mr. Clark signed over the title to Mr. Jon C. West. Mr. Jim Cornwell also established legal services at this time on the ground floor. Mr. West continues as the existing owner with appraisal offices on the second floor and CPA Max Brock now resides on the ground floor. Also currently residing is the non-profit Circle of Hope that helps provide services for victims of domestic violence.

The basement has been used for various purposes as well, providing extra space for the men's retail store as well as a video store in the 1980s. Caldwell Saddle shop was also located in the basement during the 1990s/early 2000s and then the use changed to a portrait studio and private residence which it remains today.



The Citizens Bank, c. 1960s

SNAPSHOTS OF TOCCOA'S HISTORY

Main Street Toccoa

