

## Grooh's Department Store

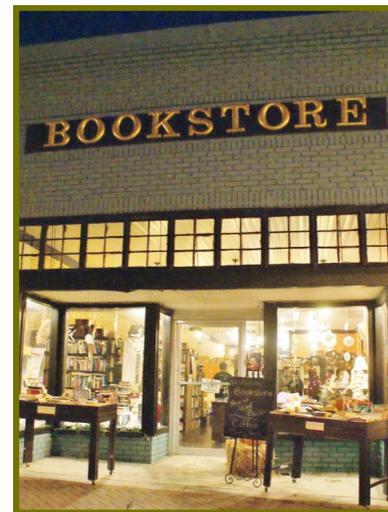
Built circa 1920, this is a masonry building considered to be above average due to its material and design. Known in the early 1940s as Grooh's Department Store, it stands as a proud example of Classical Style in the early 1900s. The buildings and walls flanking and joining it on either side are indicative of a small town initiative where buildings were built in pairs, sponsored by local developers or bankers.

After Grooh's, in 1950 John and Hazel Mullinax opened Gem Jewelry Company of Toccoa. John was an active member of the Toccoa community and served on the Committee for Restructuring Downtown Toccoa. Later, Mr. Mullinax sold the business and building to his son, Johnny, who changed the name to Mullinax Jewelers. In the early 1990s, the building survived a small fire, which destroyed the intercom system for the downtown mall canopy that was installed in the 1970s.

Today, the building is home to [ash-ling] booksellers, who have helped in the restoration of the façade and interior. The original transom windows for the building are still preserved and faintly show the Grooh's lettering.



1990s, as Mullinax Jewelers



Present, as [ash-ling] booksellers

### **SNAPSHOTS OF TOCCOA'S HISTORY**

