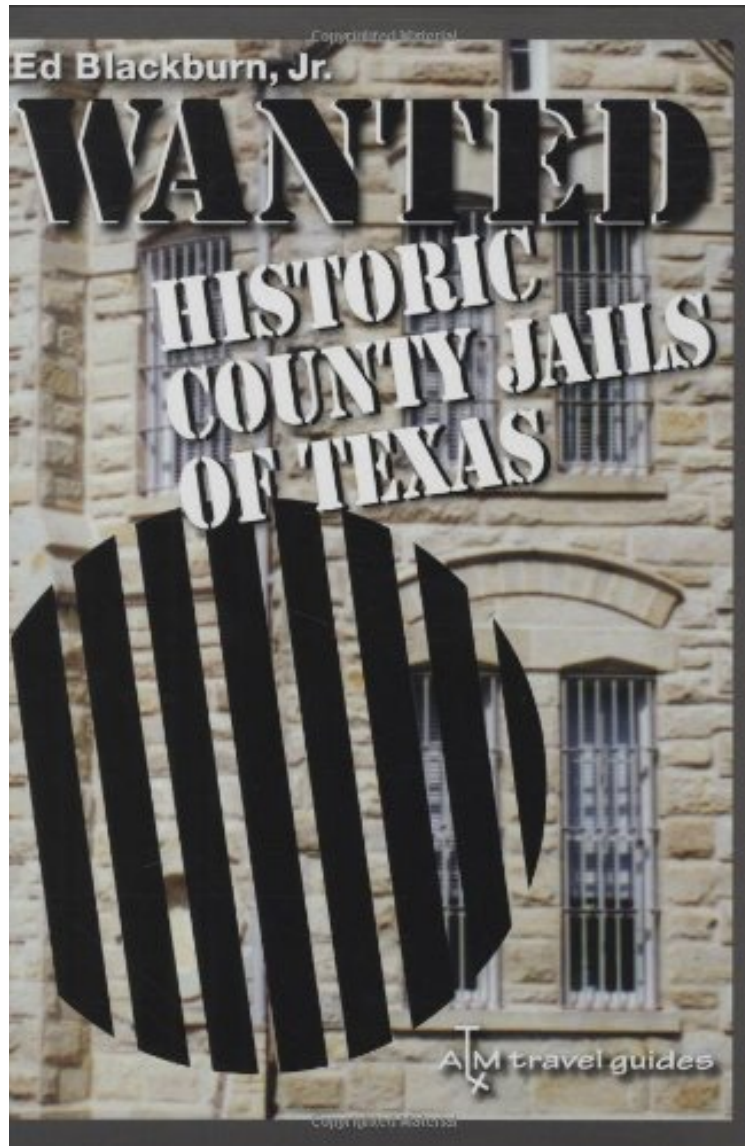


(Free) Wanted: Historic County Jails of Texas (Clayton Wheat Williams Texas Life Series)

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Edward A. Blackburn Jr.

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Edward A. Blackburn Jr. : Wanted: Historic County Jails of Texas (Clayton Wheat Williams Texas Life Series)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wanted: Historic County Jails of Texas (Clayton Wheat Williams Texas Life Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... thought the author managed to make an engaging subject dull by his prosaic style of writing and uneven coverage ...By G. StormsI thought the author managed to make an engaging subject dull by his prosaic style of writing and uneven coverage of some county jails. For instance, the article about

Young County contained nothing but general history and one sentence each about its three jails. A real pity, because the oldest jail was the scene of numerous attempted lynchings and fatal shootouts between law officers and outlaws, including the famous Marlow Brothers.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Blackburn did a good job researching and writing the bookBy Barbara Thompson. Having always been fascinated with architecture, I became curious about jails I have seen in Brady, Lufkin and Jourdan. I learned about those jails, early Texas jails, and more about the history of Texas Counties. Dr. Blackburn did a good job researching and writing the book.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Corrections in Early TexasBy Dan R. BetoEdward A. Blackburn, Jr., a retired Houston physician, visited all 254 Texas counties in the preparation of his book - Wanted: Historic County Jails of Texas. In addition to examining the early forms of confinement at the county level, Dr. Blackburn also provides the reader a brief history of the county. Persons interested in the history of corrections in Texas, especially at the local level, would find this book compelling.

Along with the settlement of the Texas frontier came rustlers, public drunks, gunfighters, and other outlaws. A jail in which to incarcerate the lawbreakers was thus often the first public building raised in a new town.Later, as government developed, public buildingsmdash;notably county courthouses and jailsmdash;assumed not only practical but also symbolic importance. The architecture of these buildings in the nineteenth century reflected the power and status with which the community imbued the government; many of the same architects applied the aesthetic standards of the day to both. In later years, the safety and at least limited comfort of the prisoners became concerns and jails were remodeled or abandoned to other uses in favor of modern, more utilitarian structures.In this heavily illustrated guide to the historic county jails of Texas, Ed Blackburn Jr. takes readers to each of the 254 counties in the state, presenting brief histories and of the counties and their structures that housed their criminals. He provides general information about the architecture and location of the buildings and, when possible, describes the present uses of those that have been decommissioned.Interviews with local officials, historians, and newspaper publishers have yielded colorful anecdotes for many of the jails. Revealing photographs of many of the old jails have been gathered from local and archival sources, and Blackburn himself has taken pictures of extant buildings. Together, these words and images not only provide a survey of the way Texans have housed their criminals, but also, with the aid of thumbnail maps of county locations, offer residents and tourists throughout the state a guide to a fascinating aspect of architectural and cultural history.

ldquo;It should reach a wide audience in Texana readers, historic preservationists, and scholars. The authors are to be commended for their diligent field work and research.rdqquo;--T. Lindsay Baker, Director, W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas, Tarleton State University