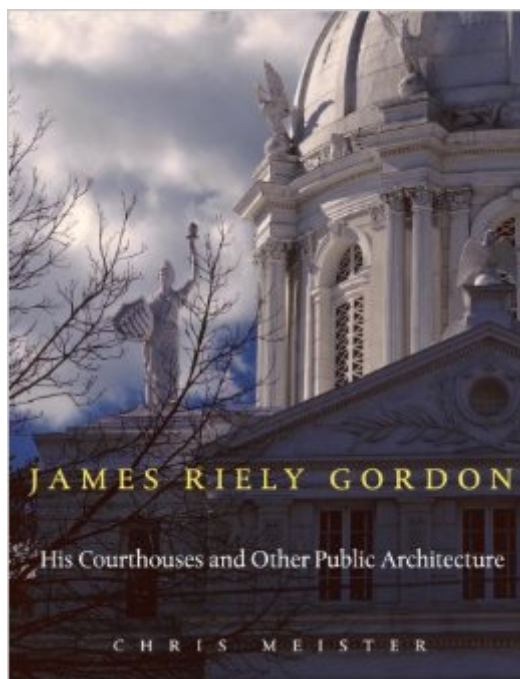


The book was found

James Riely Gordon: His Courthouses And Other Public Architecture



Synopsis

One of Texas's most talented architects in the late nineteenth century, James Riely Gordon may have been the nation's most prolific designer of county courthouses. Though Gordon's Texas courthouses made his reputation, they represent only half of a career in which we see reflected many issues and events shaping American architecture. Most notable were the effort among architects to organize their craft as a profession, the controversial Office of the Supervising Architect of the United States Treasury, the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, and the City Beautiful Movement. Situating Gordon's career, Meister focuses on the public architecture, the pursuit of which took Gordon from San Antonio to Dallas and on to Chicago and New York City as he secured commissions in nine states. Competition was fierce, and Gordon often had to defend his reputation against scandalous charges leveled by jealous architects and unscrupulous politicians. In his interdisciplinary approach, Meister examines political, cultural, and economic forces for their impact on the finished buildings as well as on Gordon's career and exposes the political and legal wrangling so often attendant to the construction of buildings that serve as the nexus for their communities.

Book Information

Hardcover: 384 pages

Publisher: Texas Tech University Press; 1 edition (October 20, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0896726916

ISBN-13: 978-0896726918

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #637,354 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #125 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Landmarks & Monuments](#) #720 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Individual Architects & Firms](#) #1251 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > History](#)

Customer Reviews

Any lover of courthouse architecture can gorge on it here, getting to know the remarkable career of James Riely Gordon, the master builder of Texas courthouses. Focusing on public buildings (and leaving houses and commercial structures for another day), the author traces the architect's steps

from grand courthouses in San Antonio, to small cities and town squares across Texas, into Mississippi, and finally to the Northeastern states after Gordon moved to NYC. The acclaimed Texas State Building at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the Arizona Territorial Capitol, and the Vicksburg City Hall are also covered. For armchair historians and academics, you get 20 pages of footnotes and 5 pages of bibliography in this first serious professional biography of one of the greatest architects to come out of Texas. For the casual reader, you can enjoy well over 100 black & white photographs and illustrations, and a special section of almost 50 color pictures that allow this to serve as a suitable-for-gifting, coffee-table book. But start to thumb thru looking at pictures and you'll get hooked! It's very nicely organized, so if you want to read only the chapter that includes your hometown favorite building, you can do that. Each chapter tells a story of its own. More likely you'll be swept along, reading just a little more and more until you know you can't stop. For even serious readers, descriptions like "fictile exterior program ... voisseurs ... corbelling ... tourelles ... a frieze filling the spandrels" may challenge and expand your vocabulary. But not to worry. Skip any words or phrases you don't quite grasp and the exciting story rushes on without them.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

James Riely Gordon: His Courthouses and Other Public Architecture The Courthouses of Central Texas (Clifton and Shirley Caldwell Texas Heritage) Research Methods in Public Administration and Public Management: An Introduction (Routledge Masters in Public Management) Essential Case Studies In Public Health: Putting Public Health into Practice (Essential Public Health) The Mac Man: Gordon B. Ingram and his Submachine Guns Jeff Gordon: His Dream, Drive & Destiny James the Brother of Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls I: The Historical James, Paul the Enemy, and Jesus' Brothers as Apostles James Brown: A Step-by-Step Breakdown of the Styles and Techniques of James Brown's Bassists (Bass Signature Licks) Straight James / Gay James James Bond Volume 1: VARGR (James Bond 007) My Traitor's Heart: A South African Exile Returns to Face His Country, His Tribe, and His Conscience Genghis Khan: His Conquests, His Empire, His Legacy Jerome Robbins: His Life, His Theater, His Dance Spanish Colonial Style: Santa Barbara and the Architecture of James Osborne Craig and Mary McLaughlin Craig Infinite Space: Contemporary Residential Architecture and Interiors Photographed by James Silverman Last Boat to Yokohama: The Life and Legacy of Beate Sirota Gordon Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured Black and White America Here Come the Girl Scouts!: The Amazing All-True Story of Juliette 'Daisy' Gordon Low and Her Great Adventure Invisible Man: Gordon Parks and Ralph Ellison in Harlem Phil Gordon's Little Green Book: Lessons and Teachings in No Limit Texas Hold'em

