Worlbo of the new jail is being built twenty-four inches thick of rock and concrete while the second floor wall will be twenty inches thick." One week later, the paper reported that "work on the new jail is progressing rapidly and soon the walls of the first story will be completed." In the last week of October, 1935, "workmen were pouring the concrete flooring for the second story which will be six and a half inches of steel and concrete." Work continued as weather permitted, and the Grand Jury of March 1936 was able to report that the new jail "is modern, safe, and sanitary in every respect and is very commendable structure and improvement to our County." They also praised Ordinary Dr. J. F. Johnson "for his faithful and untiring and economical efforts used in the construction of the jail" that cost the county only $4,353.31. The jail works, including a cell patented in 1901, were moved from the former jail and still remain in the Old Rock Jail.

The Old Rock Jail functioned as the county jail from 1936 until the early 1970s when the Towns-Union jail on Trackrock in Union County was constructed.

Jerry A. Taylor Jason L. Edwards
County Historians

For more information on the Towns County Historical Society go to: townscountyhistory.org
Town County was created in May of 1856 from part of Union County, Georgia. Later a small portion of Rabun County was added to the new county. The early white settlers of the area were generally from North Carolina, upstate South Carolina, and northeast Georgia. It is the history of those early settlers, as well as that of the Native Americans who had lived in the area for centuries before being forced from their homes, that the Towns County Historical Society seeks to protect, record, and preserve for future generations. The next phase at the Old Rock Jail will be to provide a research room and repository for historical records related to Towns County.

At the Old Rock Jail, visitors can step back in time and explore a 1930s county jail complete with sheriff’s quarters and iron cells from the early 1900s. The Old Rock Jail also contains artifacts and photographs that shed light on what Towns County was like in days gone by.

Adjacent to the Old Rock Jail is the historical Presley Post Office. This building served the Macedonia Community as a post office from the 1930s until it was discontinued in 1960. The building was later moved to its current location and restored. The historical Presley Post Office is open for tours anytime the Old Rock Jail is open to the public.