Thomasville Treasures

Our History Begins Here. Let Us Start You on the Journey.

Share your completed coloring pages with us! Tag @thomasvillehistory on Facebook and Instagram and use #ourhistorybeginshere!

Thomasville History Center
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Hello, from Thomasville History Center!

Pleased to meet you, friends! This is your guide to discovering all of Thomasville’s treasures at home and across the community.

When you see a 🔍 that means there’s something you can find!

When you see a 🎨 that means there’s something you can color, a question you can answer, or an activity you can complete!

When you see a 🤔 that means you’re about to learn something new!

When you see a 🧙‍♀️ that means there is something you can make!

Remember, some items with a 🎨 don’t have to look exactly like the picture. Use it as inspiration to explore something new, find things that are alike, and things that are different.

Thomasville History Center Word Search
Can you find all of the words that describe the History Center? Words may be horizontal (left to right), vertical (top to bottom), or diagonal (across).

Thomasville
History
Center
Museum
Dawson Street
Fountain
Bowling Alley
Courthouse
Log House
Story
Explore
Discover
Community
Preservation
Historic District

DHMXUMGLUHDTDISCOVER
BYIOARXQZOIAHOOXYCMB
CVTSNOMPFOUNTAINCEMP
VOVDTQGKHWFUQAXNIR
IZUAOGUCSSLACHSPYTZE
JELRVERZIRGRVTWRQNEGS
XDDWTMXIJVZFTBVMERKE
JLRPOHABCMDAGJUXSBR
FYDWKEOIFDEAAZQSPCOV
BLLYBTJUVUIWISEELOWA
DLCJHEPSURSOINUOMLT
SOACIOZTTECTOMIARMMII
TGHSMUTYBPNZROEEUNO
OHzZZABHNNQZSWQISTNGN
ROJLKSQXHISTORYCHIA
YUPKHVSWWHRLBLLMTTLM
LSQYIEGXBFEYENMYLI
KETOQLAPSCHEAKGRNPEM
ZGFGBZLLJHJDTWBAPJHYM
PXDAZEYZMEEARPWNWFETR
The Resort Era 1875-1906
Town leaders advertised Thomasville as a winter vacation and health resort to northerners. Railroads made travel across long distances easier, and visitors enjoyed the mild climate. Thomasville’s grand hotels offered music, dancing, shooting, baseball, bicycling, and much more for guests. Some visitors purchased local plantations for hunting that still operate today. Sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and farmers worked hard to profit from the land, growing acres of cotton, sugar cane, and other cash crops. In town, orchards of LeConte pears flourished. The impacts of that era can still be seen today thanks to the vacation cottages constructed on Dawson Street and around town, as well as the investments made in plantations and business.

DID YOU KNOW? Mapmakers used a hot air balloon to gain a birds-eye view of Thomasville in 1885.

Become a Map Maker
Imagine you’re a map maker flying high over your house and neighborhood in a hot air balloon. Draw a map of what you see!

Don’t forget to label your map with the cardinal directions—use a compass app to get your directions. Add a map key for special details like roads, houses, and trees.

DID YOU KNOW? Pinetree Boulevard is a perimeter road that circles the city of Thomasville. It was built for sightseeing in 1882. The red clay road cuts through the longleaf pine forests. The road, now paved in most sections, is still in use today.
**DID YOU KNOW?** Portable cameras meant photographers could leave their studios and go out into the community to take pictures. A.W. Moller photographed Thomasville during the Resort Era and sold the photos as postcards with the photo on one side, and space to write a message on the other.

**Write a postcard!**
Imagine you are a visitor to Thomasville in 1885. Draw a picture of what you think Thomasville looked like then and write a postcard to a family member or friend telling them about what you’ve seen and done on your visit. What is your favorite place in Thomasville to explore?

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**Dear**, 

[Blank space for address]

**Love,**

[Blank space for signature]  

**To:**

[Blank space for recipient's name]

**From:**

[Blank space for sender's name]
Did You Know? Railroads made travel across long distances easier. Thousands of passengers traveled to Thomasville from across the country each winter.
DID YOU KNOW? Broad Street was the scene of bustling activity at the turn of the century. Elegantly dressed people strolled, bicycled or rode in horse-drawn carriages. They enjoyed the sunshine and “pine-scented air.” A.W. Moller took pictures to sell to the tourists. Local merchants sold everything from watches to wagon wheels. At the corner of Broad and Jackson Street the Mitchell House hotel offered first-class accommodations to 300 guests per night.
**DID YOU KNOW?** The Piney Woods, one of Thomasville’s grand hotels, burned in a mysterious fire in 1906 that spread to businesses on West Jackson Street.