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
CVTSGOPFOUNTAINCEMP
VOVDTQGHVWFUQAUXNIR
IZUAOGUCSSLACHPETZE
JELRVERZIGRVTRQNEG
XDDWTMXIVJZFTBVERKE
JLRPOHABCMEDAGJUXSBR
FYDWKEOIFDEAAZQSPCOV
BLLYBJUVUWISEELOWA
DLCXHEPSURSOINUOMLT
SOACIOZZTETCOTIAMRMII
TGHSXMUTYBPNZROEEUNO
OHHQZZABHNQZSWQISTNGN
ROJLKSSXHISTORYCHIA
YUPKHSVSSWAHRBLBMLTM
LSSQYIEGXBFEYENMYL
KETOQLAPSCHEAKGRNP
ZGFZGLJJHJDWTBAPJHYM
PXDAZEYZMEAARPNWFE
Industry, Modernity, & the World Wars 1906-1945

Thomas County welcomed the growth of towns and innovations like the automobile and electricity in the 20th Century. While our pine forests made the County a center for the turpentine and lumber industries. Some of the businesses founded at that time, like Archbold Hospital and the Flowers Baking Co., are still open today. During the World Wars, Thomasville men and women served their country at home and abroad.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Broad Street was paved with bricks in 1907.
The Great Outdoors

Thomas County’s longleaf pine forests became very important in the early 20th century not only for the timber they could provide, but for turpentine, and for hunting plantations. Hunting plantations provided jobs and preserved thousands of acres of forest land.

Pine Cone Science

Parts of a pine cone:
- Scale
- Wing
- Seed

Pine cones can be open or closed. When it is open, that means that it has shed all of its seeds.

Is this cone open or closed?

Did You Know? Turpentine workers made diagonal cuts into longleaf pine trunks to make the sap run down into “Herty” cups. The sap was used to make turpentine.

How many herty cups can you find in the drawing below?

Pine cone wing image source: https://projects.ncsu.edu/project/dendrology/index/plantae/vascular/seedplants/gymnosperms/conifers/pine/pinus/generic/generic.html
Take Flight: Airplanes

DID YOU KNOW? Thomasville’s first airplane landing happened on February 8, 1912. The plane piloted by Robert Fowler was traveling from Los Angeles, California, to Jacksonville, Florida. It landed in a field on Clay Street.

Dear Diary
Imagine you got to see an airplane for the first time at Fowler’s landing in 1912. Write a journal entry describing what you saw. Use this photograph from the actual event for inspiration!

Be sure to include the 5 W’s: Who, What, When, Where, and Why.

Dear Diary,
Road Trip: Automobiles

In 1908, Henry Ford’s Ford Motor Company released the latest in its line of automobiles. Assembled in a factory and costing relatively little, the Model T became the most popular car in the United States.

“The control and operation is so simple that anyone can learn to drive a Ford in a short time. The simplicity of the engine design and running parts means fewer parts out of order, hence fewer repair costs. The design can be quickly understood by anyone and permits ease of adjustment.”—Ford, The Universal Car, 1923 Dealers Data Book

In the 20 years the Model T was available, more than 15 million were constructed and sold.

The Ford Company’s assembly line system revolutionized mass production and produced cars quickly and efficiently. The Model T was the first mass produced automobile to be offered at low prices with interchangeable parts. This “universal car” was reliable and easily maintained while featuring enough horsepower to navigate unpaved roads. The “Tin Lizzie” was the first “global car” and was sold across the world.

Learn more: https://www.pbs.org/video/american-experience-model-t/

Did You Know? The Dixie Highway was built in 1915 and stretched from Miami, Florida to Detroit, Michigan and passed through Thomas County. Road signs and markers like this one lined the route.

Learn More: https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/dixie-highway

Word Search

Words to Find

Production Car  Tin Lizzie  Assembly Travel  Model T  Ford
Did You Know? In 1926, Fannie Chisholm bought a brand new blue Ford Model T from Thomasville Sales Co., a local dealership. Henry Ford, owner of the Ford Motor Company, famously said the Model T was “all the car a person would, or could, ever need.” That was true for Fannie, it was the only car she ever owned. She drove her Model T from 1926 until 1961, almost 40 years! People called her car the “Blue Bomb.” As the story goes, when you heard “The Blue Bomb’s coming!” you knew to turn around and go the other way, pull over, or come out to watch what happened. After Fannie retired from driving, Fannie’s car was given to the Thomasville History Center.
The 1920’s
A New Tradition
In April 1922, the first Rose Show was held at Neel’s Department Store in downtown Thomasville. Organized by the Garden Clubs, the Show was a competition and display.

Best in Show
Congratulations, your roses have been named the Best in Show at the first Annual Rose Show! A new silver trophy has been made and your name will be engraved on the trophy.

The Thomasville Times-Enterprise newspaper has photographed your bouquet but the newspaper cannot print photos in color yet.

Add some color to your bouquet and vase!

3-D Rose Bouquet
Make your own roses! Using craft paper, scissors, tape, and a little creativity, you can make your own special rose bouquet to recreate the Rose Show at home! See our “How-To- Paper Roses” at thomasvillehistory.org/athome for the full tutorial.
A Special Gift
John F. Archbold, owner of Chinquapin Plantation, gave Thomasville and Thomas County a special gift: a new hospital. Named in memory of his father, John D. Archbold, the new hospital replaced the City Hospital that, while helpful and life-saving, was not as modern as the new one and was not equipped to serve the growing community. The new building, which is still a part of Archbold Memorial Hospital, was built in 1925.

Did You Know? There were two nursing schools at Archbold: one for white nurses and one for African-American nurses.

Thank you, Mr. Archbold!
Write a thank you note to Mr. Archbold for the gift of the community hospital. His gift has provided life-saving modern medical care, jobs, and job training to the community for almost one hundred years.