



Our history begins here. Let us start you on the journey.

On the cover: "This House Would Make a Great..." sticker that forms part of the public art component of the LP Future project.



There are many components to what we do here at the History Center (giving tours, doing research, hosting events, etc.) but one of the most important aspects of our work is planning. I know that's a word that many folks dread and it's definitely not the sexiest part of our job but it's vital to our longevity and sustainability.

Our latest venture into planning took place in October and it revolved around the Lapham Patterson House. We know that the House is a Thomasville-Thomas County treasure and that it serves an important role within heritage tourism, education, and overall community well-being. We also know that our current operational model for the property won't work forever.

With that in mind, we embarked on a year-long planning process with [Ethos Preservation](#) out of Savannah. This work is ongoing and we encourage everyone to provide us with feedback, suggestions, and commentary on how they see the House being utilized in the future.

The History Center has had the privilege of operating the Lapham Patterson House for ten years and we want to continue our relationship in the most thoughtful and productive way and in a way that will ensure the life of the House for its next 136 years of life. Please consider sharing your thoughts with us at www.lpfuture.com.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne McCudden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anne McCudden
Executive Director, Thomasville History Center



Add your vision to the (virtual) board by scanning the QR code to the left using your smart phone or tablet. When prompted, tap the link and it will open the online survey.



To complete a sticker in person please visit:

- The Lapham-Patterson House
- The UnVacant Lot, West Jackson Street
- Everett-Milton YMCA downtown
- Thomasville Visitors Center

Tiptoe Through the Tombstones

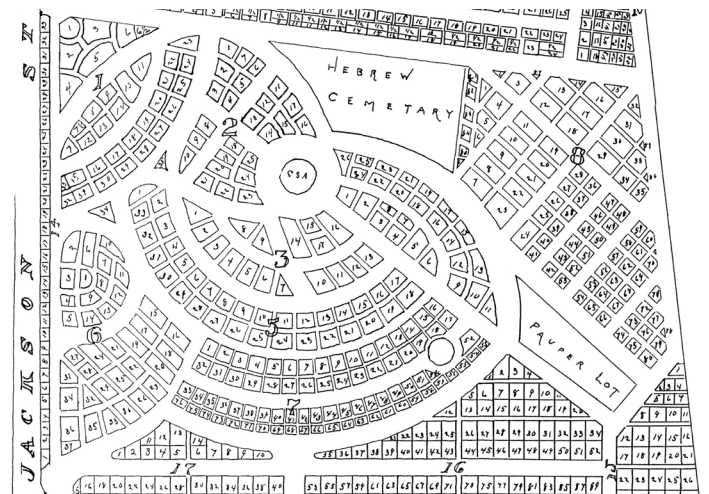
In late October, we debuted a new fall tour that explored Thomasville's oldest public burial grounds. Meme Greitzer and intern, Cassidy Weaver introduced several residents of the Old Cemetery and Flipper Cemetery. The response to those tours has inspired us to add them to our monthly roster of programs. Locals and visitors alike will have the opportunity to experience a guided tour of the Old City and Flipper Cemetery or Laurel Hill Cemetery on the first Saturday of the month from March through June and September through December. We will use the first few months of year to conduct more resident research and finalize our tour plans before debuting in March 2202. Visit thomasvillehistory.org/tombstonetours to learn more about the new tours and to check availability for upcoming dates. These tours will also be available for larger groups by appointment.



Meme Greitzer leads a tour in the Old Cemetery this October.



Old Cemetery, c. 1975



Laurel Hill Cemetery c. 1915

¡Bienvenido al Centro de Historia de Thomasville!

Earlier this fall, Summerhill Creative completed work on a Spanish-language version of our orientation video narrated by volunteer Olga Lami-Schmizzi. In addition to her ongoing work to make our Smith Homestead spinning wheels functional and tending to the dye garden at the Joyner-Callaway House, Olga translated the original script into Spanish and completed the voiceover for the video. The video will help to make our site more welcoming and accessible to Spanish speaking visitors. We hope to be able to offer Spanish language exhibit guides in the future as well.

The film is available to [view on our YouTube channel](#) and can be played upon request for visitors in the Orientation Room at the History Center. Please joining us in thanking Olga and Summerhill Creative for their hard work!

A Record Setting Fall: Crate to Plate

Crate to Plate by the Numbers:

180 Crates Sold

84 Sponsors

33 Volunteers gave 130+ hours of help

11 Local vendors featured

Crate to Plate will return for its third year in the fall of 2022. Thank you for your generosity!



We are grateful to the many volunteers who lent a hand before and during the event!



We thank you for your support (and patience!) as we distributed a record-setting number of crates on September 30.



It's difficult to capture the scope of the crates all lined up on the lawn awaiting pickup but it was certainly a sight to see!



Many of the items in the crate were sourced locally. See page 5 for a complete list of vendors and sponsors.



We'd like to give special thanks to Leianne Orr for her help in the planning, assembly, and sourcing of materials for the wreaths!



Mary & Joe Beverly
 Mary Jo S. Beverly
 Amos & Jackie McMullian

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Sass!



Georgia Crate & Basket Co.

Calendar Notes

November 30: Georgia Made Author Talk & Book Signing, by Neely Young, 7pm, Thomasville History Center. Presented in partnership with The Bookshelf

December: Visit the Lapham-Patterson House to see it decorated for the holidays!

December 4: Holiday at the Homestead, Mini-Day Camp for Kindergarten-Fifth Graders; \$50, 10am-2pm.

December 6: History Mystery with Meme (video)

December 11: Holiday Under the Oaks at Thomasville Center for the Arts, Gates open at 4:30pm. See thomasvillearts.org for details.

Holiday Closings: Both the Thomasville History Center and Lapham-Patterson House will be closed on December 24, December 25, and January 1.

January 16: 2022 Annual Meeting; 3pm, Speaker Kevin Robertson, Fire Ecology Research Scientist at Tall Timbers Research Station will present “The Central Role of Prescribed Fire in the History of the Red Hills Region.” A brief business meeting will precede the program.

February 6: Georgia History Festival’s Super Museum Sunday (Free admission), Noon-4pm, Thomasville History Center & Lapham-Patterson House

February 6-9: Georgia Association of Museums Conference held in Thomasville.

February 12: Make History: Victorian Valentines at the Lapham-Patterson House, 1pm-3pm. Donations appreciated. Open to all ages.



Collections Spotlight



To accompany the skirt, Meme crafted an 18th century style Robe a l’Anglaise using archival tissue.

The featured artifact in our newest temporary exhibit, “Relics of the Past,” is the Bibb-Adams skirt, a long rectangular blue silk skirt panel that would have been featured as a part of an eighteenth century Robe a l’Anglaise. Thomasville native Gladys Bibb donated this 18th Century skirt to the Thomasville History Center.

Bibb’s family had not lived in Thomasville long. In fact, she was the first generation to be born here. At the time of the donation, she described this skirt as having belonged to her ancestor by the last name of Adams, who had worn it while attending a party for General Lafayette of the Continental

Army. Close examination of the stitching and style reveals that this skirt is the right age to have been to a party for the famed General, but how could Bibb's story be proved? Using genealogy and online digitized archival sources, Meme traced the Bibb's genealogy back to the Adams family of Maryland and Virginia. Members of the new republic's planter elite, the Adams' were neighbors and "frenemies" of George Washington.

Historical evidence puts this skirt in the right time and place to be worn to a ball for General Lafayette. Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis de Lafayette, left France to join the American forces in their fight for independence from Britain. While in America, Lafayette and Washington became close friends, assuming a father-son relationship that lasted their entire lives.

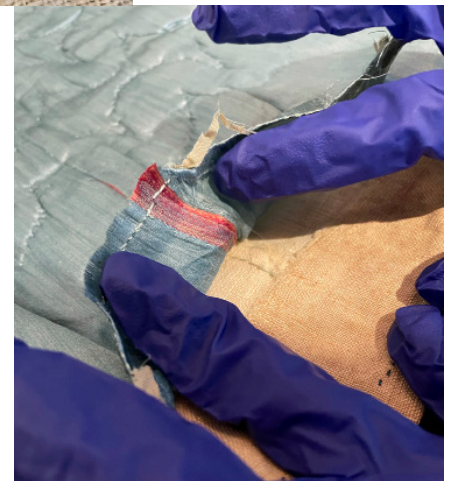
In 1784, after the War, Lafayette returned to America for a tour of the new republic. On his tour, he stayed for ten days at Mount Vernon where nightly parties were held in his honor. Since the Adams family lived across the river and were known to visit Mount Vernon on occasion due to their social connections, it is possible that Nancy Hanson Adams (wife of Washington's friend and foe, Daniel Jennifer Adams) attended a ball held at Mont Vernon and she very well may have worn this dress for the occasion.

To learn more about the Bibb-Adams skirt and the tumultuous relationship between Adams and General Washington, we encourage you to watch the *History Mystery* video released in September which is available on our [YouTube channel](#) and on Facebook @ThomasvilleHistory. The skirt and accompanying dress will remain on display through the New Year. Visit the Thomasville History Center to see it in person Mondays through Saturdays, 10am until 4pm.



Quilted Skirt
Silk, Linen, Cotton
c. 1784
Bibb Collection,
Donated by Gladys
Bibb
1989.01.1

Careful inspection revealed the hand-stitching and remnants of the original bright blue color of the silk skirt.



Memberships

This list reflects Personal and Business members who have joined or renewed their memberships between **JULY 9, 2021 AND NOVEMBER 16, 2021**. Thank you for your support! For questions or corrections, please contact Amelia, amelia@thomascountyhistory.org.

Lynn & Randy Anderson	Mrs. John Glenn	Dr. & Mrs. Homer R. Pankey
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Mr. & Mrs. Phil Ashler	Dr. Debbie & Mr. Wallace Goodman	Mrs. Diane Williams Parker
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Jennie & Michael Douglas	Jo Ann McGrotha	Mr. & Mrs. Gary Tucker
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Pamela & Charles Gee	Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Oliver Jr.	
Ashley & Tommy Gibbs	Mr. & Mrs. David Orr	
Sherri Giles	Hannah Orr	
	Mrs. Kay Tanner Owens	

A Record Setting Fall: 29th Annual Pilau

Pilau by the Numbers:

An estimated 1,200 meals distributed
22 pots of Pilau prepared
125+ Meals donated to community members in need

Please join us in extending our thanks once again to our amazing sponsor for the annual Pilau dinner: Thomasville National Bank. We also wish to thank the many volunteers who helped on the serving line and to prepare the pilau.

We are grateful for all of your support! Next year will mark the 30th Pilau dinner and we cannot wait to celebrate this milestone with you!



Thomasville National Bank

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Thomasville National Bank

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Sharon Maxwell Ferguson &
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Mr. & Mrs. Paul McCollum

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Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Oliver Jr.
Mrs. Diane Williams Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Shea
Mrs. J. V. Shields
Nancy Tillinghast
William Tinkler, Jr.

Memorials

Thomas Black

Mr. & Mrs. Charles McKinnon Jr.

Alfred Hartsell
Bunny & Bink Williams

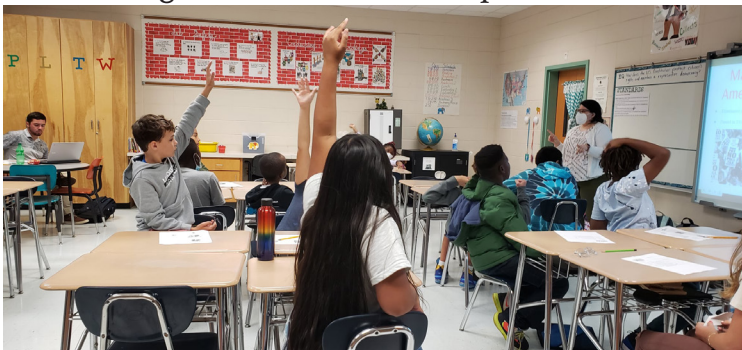
In the Classroom

Since the start of the 2021-2022 school year, more than 1,000 students in the region have visited the History Center, participated in an outreach program, or independently utilized curriculum materials provided by the History Center.

This year, educators chose from several different program options to suit their curriculum needs including Independent Explorer experiences which included trunk, activity worksheets, and digital game rentals; History Hangouts which are our traditional field trip formats; and Deep Dives: educator facilitated outreach programs in classrooms that incorporate historic and reproduction artifacts, discussion, and primary source-based digital games.

All of our education programs are aligned to Georgia Standards of Excellence and are multi-disciplinary. These offerings, in addition to our Apprentice Program, camps, and adult programs calendar, are generously underwritten by the Thomasville Antiques Show Foundation.

Revenue generated from public programs like Hands-On Heritage, Tiptoe Through the Tombstones tours, and more made possible the purchase of new technology equipment for the Flowers-Roberts Basement. This addition will be especially helpful for meetings, rentals, and field trips.



5th graders at Thomas County Middle School learned about voting rights amendments.



3rd Graders from Brookwood School visited the History Center for a History Hangout at the Smith Homestead, Lapham-Patterson House, and interior exhibits in November. The teachers opted into our hearth cooking experience and students helped bake biscuits.



8th graders at Thomas County Middle School learned about Southwest Georgia's Indigenous history and played a game of chunkee, a traditional Mississippian game involving spears and a rolled stone.

Apprentice Program Underway



Carter Newsome
Thomas County Central



Claire Pope
Thomas County Central

Eight students from across the Red Hills region comprise the first cohort of the Thomasville History Center’s Apprentice Program.

The Apprentices will learn the basics of museum and non-profit operations while shadowing staff, volunteering at events, and through the completion of a capstone project in the spring.



Anabelle Proctor
Thomas County Central



Maggie Claire
Richardson
Scholars Academy

The Apprentices first met in October and were asked to define a museum. Each provided a thoughtful answer as to the purpose of museums and their role in communities. They also completed a “Museology Scavenger Hunt” designed by Apprentice Program Coordinator Tyler Kemarly, designed to get them to take a closer look at the museum. In November, the Apprentices learned about collections care and curation.



Savannah Taylor
Thomas County Central



Ransom Young
Thomas County Central

The Apprentices dove right into volunteering at the History Center, lending a hand at our annual Trick or Treat event, Pilau, and the “Tiptoe Through the Tombstone” Halloween tours.



Parker McCollum
Brookwood School



Tyler Kemarly
Apprentice Program
Coordinator



During one of their first meetings, the Apprentices received a special tour of the property from Director Anne McCudden, which included a discussion of how non-profits like the History Center operate and the basics of running a museum.

Not Pictured:
Tallulah King
Leon High School



Thomas County Historical Society
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www.thomasvillehistory.org.



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CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:

Do you have a particular historical interest, skill,
or handicraft you would like to share with our
visitors? We invite you to get in touch and discuss
volunteer opportunities with us. Call or email Anne,
anne@thomascountyhistory.org to learn more!

WISHLIST

Can you provide an item from our wishlist?
Contact Anne, anne@thomascountyhistory.org

Enclosed Trailer

With space at a premium across our property,
we're in the market for a donated gently used
12 ft+ enclosed trailer that will hold our folding
tables, chairs, and more. This will also help us
in transporting such shared items between the
Lapham-Patterson House and the History Center.

Holiday Garland & White String Lights

Each year we add some holiday cheer to the
Lapham-Patterson House and would like some
additional materials to help us spread the cheer to
across the History Center's property. Donations of
new or gently used garland and white string lights
are appreciated.