

HISTORY SHAPES COMMUNITIES

Who were the first people to settle in your community? Why did they settle there? The answers to these questions can tell you how history shaped your community. Every community has a history. Some were settled centuries ago. Some have grown. Others have disappeared. Some are still under construction today.

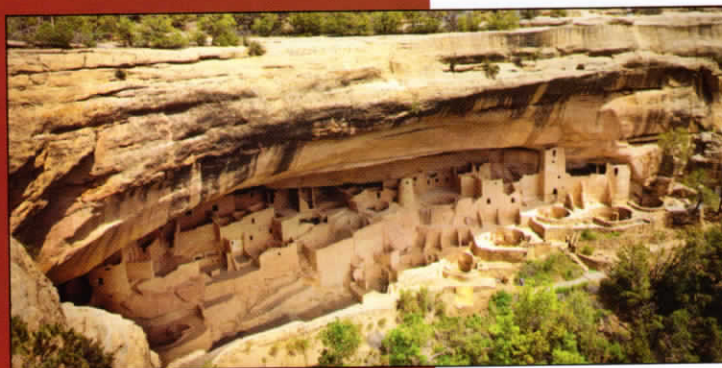
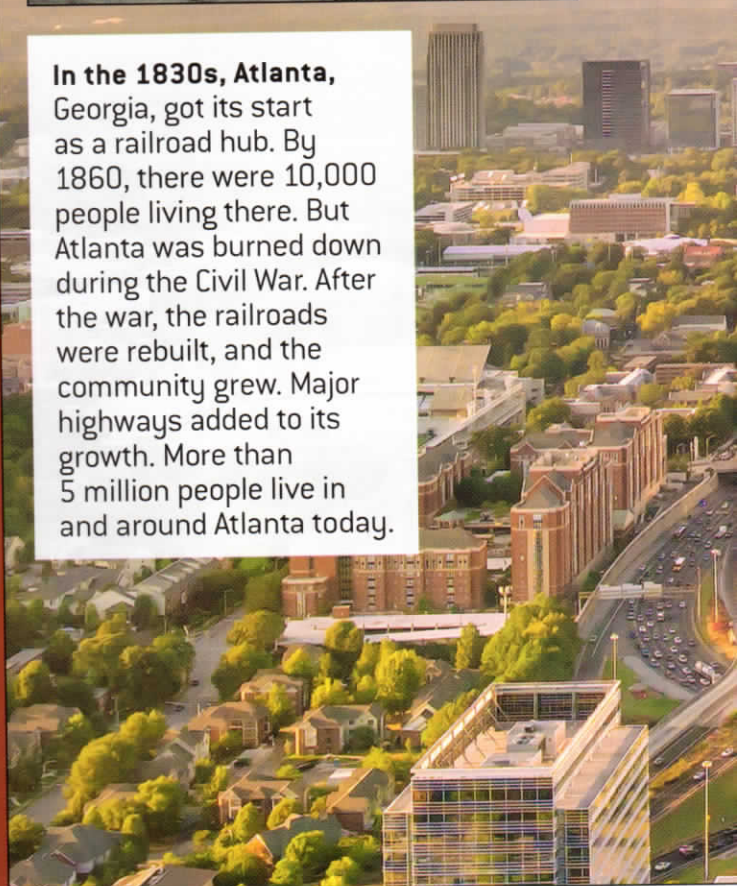
Transportation plays a big role in the history of many communities. Transportation is the movement of people and goods from place to place. Many older communities are located near bodies of water. Other communities grew because they were next to railroad lines or major highways.

Natural resources have also affected communities' histories. People may move to communities with natural resources because they can find jobs. They may also leave these same places when the resources are gone.

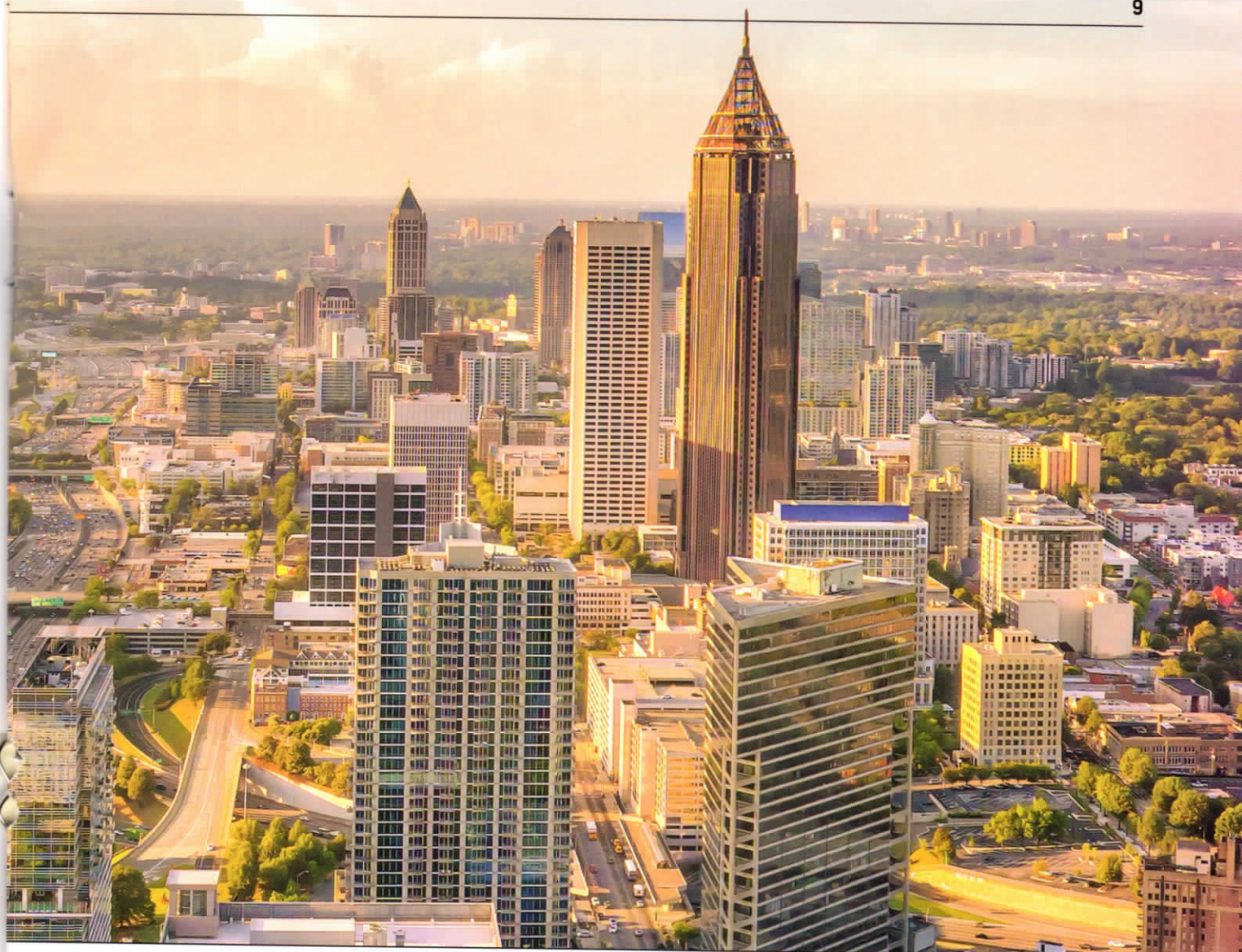
Take a look at how history shaped these communities.



In the 1830s, Atlanta, Georgia, got its start as a railroad hub. By 1860, there were 10,000 people living there. But Atlanta was burned down during the Civil War. After the war, the railroads were rebuilt, and the community grew. Major highways added to its growth. More than 5 million people live in and around Atlanta today.



← **Tucked in the cliffs in Colorado** is what people now call Mesa Verde. About 800 years ago, the ancestors of today's Pueblo Indians built this community. About 100 years later, they left. No one is sure why.



← **Nantucket is an island off** the coast of Massachusetts. Because of its location, it became a whaling center in the 1700s and 1800s. But when whaling stopped, many people left the island. In the 1950s, developers began restoring the old homes there. Today, Nantucket is a popular summer resort.



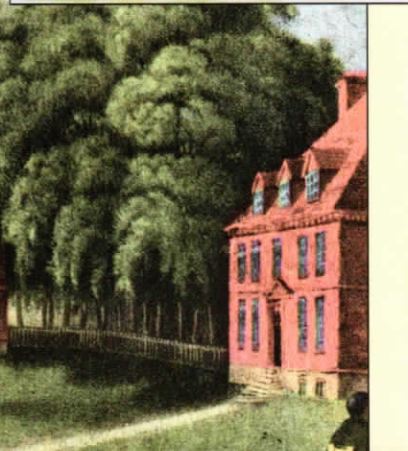
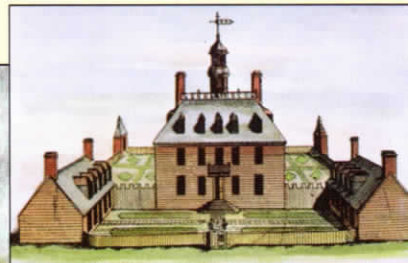
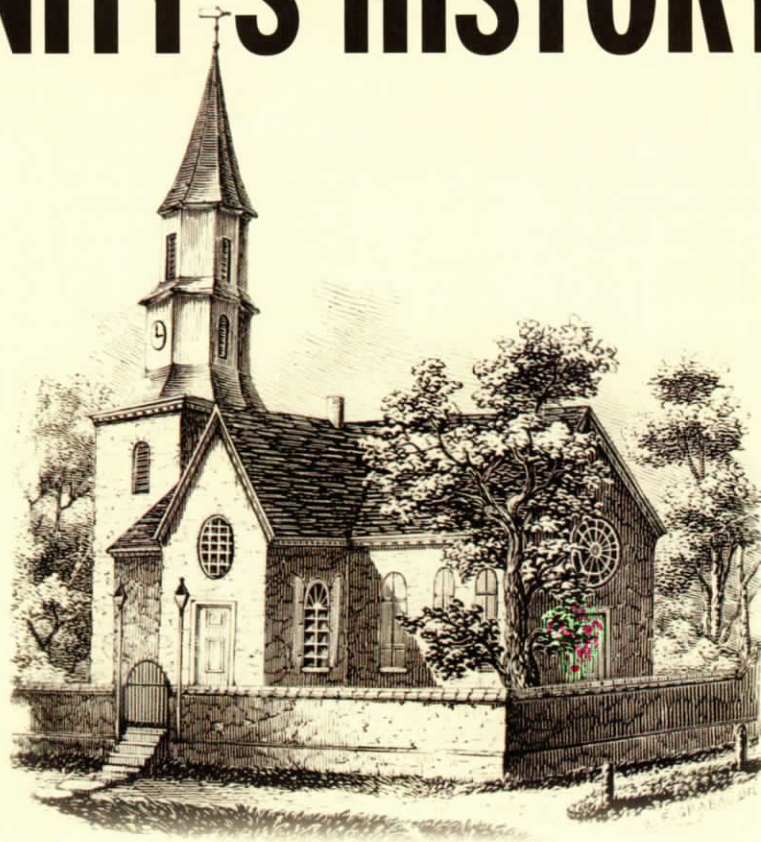
← **Rodney, Mississippi,** was once a busy port on the Mississippi River. By 1860, it had 4,000 residents. But then the Mississippi changed course and flowed in another direction. Boats could no longer reach Rodney. Now it's a ghost town. Only a few old buildings remain.



← **History is still being** made today. Some companies continue to plan and build communities. In this planned community in Henderson, Nevada, some people have moved in, but other homes are still under construction.

A COMMUNITY'S HISTORY

History has certainly shaped Williamsburg, Virginia. It was the capital of Virginia before the Revolutionary War. But after Virginia moved its capital to Richmond in 1780, Williamsburg declined. About 150 years later, people began to restore and rebuild the old town. Now called Colonial Williamsburg, it's a major tourist attraction. Tourists visit to see how people lived in colonial times.



COMES ALIVE

