

WILLIAM HOLCOMBE THOMAS

Associate Justice: 1915-1945

BORN: June 10, 1867; Oakbowery, Alabama

DIED: December 22, 1945; Tuskegee, Alabama



***Portrait by W.Y. SANDERS,
Anonymous
Oil on Canvas***

A native of Oakbowery, Alabama, William Holcombe Thomas, graduated from Emory College in Georgia in 1886. He then read law under Judge James Dowdell and was admitted to the Alabama State bar in 1888.

He practiced law in Lafayette in partnership with William J. Samford. In 1892, he moved to Montgomery, where he practiced law with Thomas H. Clark and Fred S. Ball. He served as city court judge from 1902 to 1909, then resumed his law practice. Thomas was elected to the Supreme Court of Alabama as an associate justice in 1914, and he remained on the Court until his death.

Thomas wrote numerous articles on political, social, and literary topics. He also read papers before several academic, scientific, and literary organizations. His alma mater conferred on him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1936. He was a charter member of The Thirteen and was serving as its president at the time of his death.

Thomas married Lula Marian McCurdy in 1891, and they had one daughter named Georgia Willie.

Junius Moore Riggs Collection

Location: Law Library, North End Research Area, East Side, Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building