



ALABAMA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 36 • ISSUE 1 • FALL 2021



Join us for the Fall Pilgrimage to Historic Blakeley State Park | Saturday, October 2, 2021

- 3 President's Message
- 4-8 Feature Article: *Historic Blakeley State Park*
- 9 Event Schedule
- 10 Pilgrimage Park Tours
- 12 Pre-Meeting Options
- 14 Map and Accommodations
- 16 Pilgrimage to Feature Panel Discussion on the Civil War
- 17 History Revealed Marker Project
- 18 2020/21 Award Winners
- 20 2022 Annual Meeting Call for Papers
- 21 2022 Award Nominations
- 22 Special Thanks

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Ben Severance, Auburn University Montgomery

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Baggett, Birmingham Public Library

SECRETARY

Mark Wilson, Auburn University

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Maiben Beard, Auburn University

TREASURER

Gayle Thomas, Abbeville

EDITORS

The Alabama Review

Matthew Downs, University of Mobile

Michael Robinson, University of Mobile

AHA Newsletter

Mark Wilson, Auburn University

AHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2020-2021

John Allison, Morgan County Archives

Felisha Anderson, Baldwin County Department of Archives and History

Laura Anderson, Alabama Humanities Alliance

Richard Bailey, Montgomery

Annette Bradford, Jackson County Historical Association

Carolyn Barske Crawford, Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

E.E. (Skip) Campbell, Pinson

Bert Frandsen, Montgomery

Rhonda Davis, USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park

Joycelyn A. Finley, Black Heritage Council

Ronald Fritze, Athens State University

Keith Hebert, Auburn University

Bert Hitchcock, Auburn

Rebecca Todd Minder, Alabama Heritage

Stanley Moss, Pinson Historical Society

Laura Murray, Auburn

Graham Neeley, Montgomery

Marty Olliff, Troy University Dothan

Victoria Ott, Birmingham-Southern College

Justin Rudder, Alabama Department of Archives and History

Jen Stewart, Jackson County Heritage Association

Ruth Truss, University of Montevallo

Tara White, Wallace Community College Selma

Jason Williams, Valley Historic Preservation Commission

Parliamentarian/Counsel

Chriss Doss, Birmingham

The AHA Newsletter is designed and printed by

Davis Direct, Montgomery, Alabama.

Founded in 1947, the Alabama Historical Association is the oldest statewide historical society in Alabama. The AHA provides opportunities for meaningful engagement with the past through publications, meetings, historical markers, and other programs. The AHA is a volunteer-led and membership-supported organization. Our members are from every walk of life but share a common interest in Alabama history and a belief in its value for society today. Visit www.alabamahistory.net for more information.

Cover Photo: Aerial view of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta from Blakeley, courtesy of Tim Ard



Ben Severance

Greetings fellow members. I trust that everyone is enjoying once again the fresh air of the real world as we all emerge from our coronavirus cocoons. This experience reminds me of my father relating his exhilaration when stepping onto the bridge of the *USS Grayling* (a fast attack

submarine) and inhaling the brisk sea breeze after enduring a lengthy period underwater. Like the good skipper that he was, my dad always rotated as many sailors as possible up the ladder so that they too could experience that welcome breath themselves.

Anyway, for those who don't know me, I am a Professor of History at Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM). My area of specialty is the American Civil War and my most recent publications focus on Alabama's experience in that ordeal. Now, it is my great honor to be serving as the 74th President of the Alabama Historical Association. Of all the organizations that I've been involved with over the years, the AHA is undeniably the best, a principal reason being the many excellent people who regularly participate in its activities. Among those is my immediate predecessor Frazine Taylor, who magnificently guided us through the pandemic and thereby became our longest serving president. As a result, I became the longest serving vice-president. It is my sincere hope that neither of these records are ever broken!

Every president of the AHA has a vision of some sort. Mine is not particularly original, but it is worthy all the same. First, I want to maintain the momentum of Frazine's Task Force One initiative on diversity. It is all too

common for good ideas to get filed away after a change in leadership. The pursuit of diversity, however, is too important to abandon. To that end, we will continue to strengthen our incipient ties with the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History. While diversity often brings to mind race and gender, especially in our current social climate, it can also encompass age groups. Therefore, my second plan is to make a concerted effort to draw more youth into the AHA, specifically History students from Alabama's many fine institutions of higher education. As the membership rolls indicate, we are a fairly elderly organization. This is perfectly fine, but we absolutely need an infusion of young blood to guarantee our future and to keep our programing and emphases up to date. Personally, I wish someone had made me aware much earlier in my scholarly career that vibrant gatherings such as the AHA existed beyond the classroom. The AHA will soon become that "someone."

The coming seasons offer much of interest. In October of this year, we will hold the Fall Pilgrimage at Historic Blakeley State Park. The Director there, Mike Bunn, has done wonders in transforming that site into beautiful place to explore the past. In April 2022, we will hold the Annual Meeting in Florence. This is where Frazine originally expected to preside during her tenure, and so I am the grateful beneficiary of the work that she and Carolyn Crawford (the AHA's point of contact in that area) have already done to prepare the stage there. Needless to say, I look forward to getting back together with everyone, face-to-face. Here's to having a safe and normal year.

HISTORIC BLAKELEY STATE PARK:

Gulf Coast Gem

By Mike Bunn – Director, Historic Blakeley State Park

Adapted from *Historic Blakeley State Park: A Guide to the History and Heritage*

Historic Blakeley State Park, named for the early Alabama town which once stood on the site, encompasses approximately 2,100 acres of the largest National Register Historic Site in the eastern half of the United States. Within the park's grounds are the site of the last major combined-forces battle of the Civil War; the site of the important early Alabama town of Blakeley; colonial era homesteads, and American Indian settlements

State Legislature established Blakeley as a state agency and created the Historic Blakeley Authority to operate and develop the park. In 1990 the Foundation received its largest single gift of land, 1,000 acres encompassing most of the Civil War battlefield, from International Paper Company. In 1998 Alabama's Forever Wild Land Trust incorporated into the park an additional 400 acres within the National Register site.

Today Blakeley is one of Alabama's largest and most diverse cultural and natural heritage attractions. It offers visitors unique opportunities to explore the layers of its history and appreciate its beautiful setting in over twenty miles of hiking, biking, jogging, and horseback riding trails; through a series of programs and special events taking place throughout the year; on guided and self-guided tours; and through a cell phone-based tour. The park also features regular excursions throughout the scenic and historic Mobile-Tensaw Delta aboard its fifty-passenger pontoon boat, the *Delta Explorer*. Blakeley is the Delta's longest-running cruise operator.

The park offers a variety of overnight accommodations. It maintains an RV campground featuring pull-through sites and utilities; primitive and improved tent (which includes power and water service) campgrounds; a horse trailer campground complete with horse stalls; two screened camping shelters; and fully-furnished cabins equipped with a kitchen, bath, and living room. Blakeley's Wehle Center is the perfect rustic venue for weddings, reunions, and other gatherings, and also hosts much of



Lillies along the Blakeley waterfront, courtesy of Brody Joe Thomassen

dating to over 2,000 years ago. The park is situated within the Mobile Tensaw Delta, sometimes referred to as the "American Amazon," a vast region of wetlands through which drain numerous large rivers including the Tombigbee, Alabama, Mobile, Middle, Tensaw, Apalachee, Raft, Spanish, and Blakeley as they make their way towards the Gulf of Mexico through an enormous estuary forty-five miles in length and roughly sixteen miles wide. The Delta encompasses over 300 square miles of some of the richest and most diverse natural habitat in the nation, and the park contains exceptionally diverse plant and animal life as a consequence.

Historic Blakeley State Park traces its origins to 1974, when the Blakeley Historic Site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1976 local civic leaders formed the Historic Blakeley Foundation for the purpose of receiving gifts of land associated with the National Register site. In 1981 the Alabama

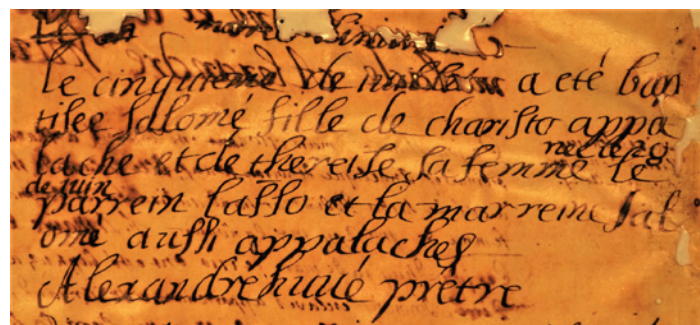


One of the cabins at Blakeley, courtesy of Historic Blakeley State Park

educational programming staged by the park. Among its other amenities are three rentable pavilions for small outdoor events, and two group camping areas designed especially for Scout groups, retreats, and other gatherings. The park has recently upgraded or expanded several of these facilities and added two “ghost structures” representing some of the commercial and residential buildings which once stood in the historic town of Blakeley to help visitors better understand its lost namesake urban entity. Future plans call for an interpretive center that will contain a small museum introducing guests to the Park’s incredible story.

A Rich Cultural History

The land that is today part of Historic Blakeley State Park has been occupied by humans for thousands of years. The most obvious reminder of Blakeley’s Woodland-era occupants today are the remnants of shell middens scattered throughout its property, especially along the swampy areas near the riverfront. These mounds of shells were formed by the refuse accumulated after periodic riverside feasts held hundreds, or even thousands of years ago. One of Blakeley’s most intensive



This Apalachee baptismal record reads “On 5 July 1710 was baptized Salome, daughter of Charisto, an Apalache, and Therese, his wife. She was born on 28 June 1710. Godparents are Lasso and Salome, also Apalaches.—Alexandre Huve, priest,” courtesy of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Mobile

Native American occupations occurred during the 1700s when it served as the home for a community of refugee Apalachee Indians. The Apalachees, who originally resided in northern Florida, had allowed Spanish priests to establish missions in their villages in the 1600s, and many had been converted to Christianity. During Queen Anne’s War (1702-13), fought between European powers for control of North America, devastating raids by the English and their Native American allies severely disrupted life in Apalachee communities. Survivors of these attacks fled their homeland and, with the permission and encouragement of French officials at Mobile, Apalachees from Mission San Luis (modern




Detail of 1825 map of Georgia and Alabama, by H.S. Tanner, courtesy of the David Rumsey Map Collection

Tallahassee) settled in the Mobile Bay area. Some established villages near Mobile, with others settling on the site of the future town of Blakeley in the 1730s. Bayou Salome, which runs through a portion of the park and empties into the Tensaw River, is named in honor of the wife of a chief of the Apalachees in the mid-1700s.

The Apalachees left the region in the 1760s when the French were forced to cede it to the British after their defeat in the Seven Years’ War (known as the French and Indian War in North America). European settlers soon moved onto the lands they had occupied. At least two colonial era plantations, owned by settlers named Strothers and Badon, occupied lands in the vicinity of the park during the period when this area was part of Great Britain’s colony of West Florida (1763-1781). Spain forcibly seized the area in military campaigns conducted during the Revolutionary War and controlled it until acquired by the United States in 1813. By the 1790s, much of what is now park property belonged to prominent local landholder Joseph Chastang as part of his “White House” plantation. It would be the visions of the subsequent owner of the land and namesake of the park, Josiah Blakeley, that left the most enduring legacy of life along the banks of the lower Tensaw in the era.

Blakeley had settled in Mobile around 1806, while the area still lay under the control of Spain, and quickly managed to acquire several thousand acres of property in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta region. His holdings included what is now known as Blakeley Island, opposite downtown Mobile. Blakeley believed the natural deep harbor at the site of what is now the park offered several advantages to shipping via the much shallower port at Mobile, however. In 1813 he purchased the property

Steam Boat Company of



ALABAMA.

NOTICE is hereby given, to all those who have failed to pay their second Instalment in said Steam Boat Company, that unless the same be paid on or before Saturday the 8th May next, the payment previously made will be positively forfeited for the benefit of said Company, agreeably to the articles of association.

J. L. SEABURY,
J. W. PETERS,
F. B. STOCKTON, } Com'rs.

Blakeley, April 23, 1818.

Advertisement for the Steamboat Company of Alabama which appeared in an 1819 issue of The Blakeley Sun, courtesy of Historic Blakeley State Park

from Joseph Chastang and hired a surveyor to plot his planned town. The first lots were sold soon after, and the town of Blakeley was formally incorporated by the territorial legislature on January 6, 1814. Blakeley dreamed of his town becoming a premier center of regional trade that would eclipse nearby Mobile as a seaport. Unfortunately, he died the following year, before he could see his dreams become a reality.

At the time of its founding, Blakeley lay within the Mississippi Territory, which was eventually divided into the state of Mississippi and the Alabama Territory. Following Alabama's admission to the Union in 1819, Blakeley experienced a brief period of explosive population growth. It is estimated that at least 2,000 people lived in the town and immediate vicinity by the mid-1820s, making it almost as large as Mobile and one of the largest cities in Alabama. In 1820 Blakeley became the seat of government for Baldwin County, and two years later the growing city was designated an official port of entry for the United States. During its heyday, Blakeley boasted one of the state's first newspapers, *The Blakeley Sun*, and several busy stores and hotels. Some of the earliest steamboats to operate in the state of Alabama were built here.

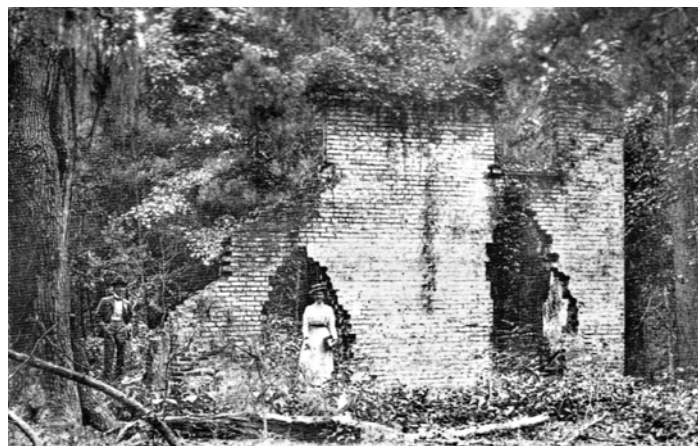
A combination of factors brought Blakeley's growth to a sudden halt in the late 1820s and ultimately led to its decline, including rapid inflation of real estate prices due to speculation by investors and navigational improvements to the harbor at Mobile. Perhaps most importantly, recurring epidemics of yellow fever—a deadly mosquito-borne disease common to riverfront towns—killed many residents and left the community with a reputation as an unhealthy place. While the community held the seat of Baldwin County

government until the 1860s, it was effectively a ghost town by the 1840s. The site of the town began attracting tourists as early as the late 1800s. Generations visited the ruins of the town before the creation of the park. Many appropriated bricks and timbers from abandoned buildings as construction materials and souvenirs.

The Battle of Fort Blakeley

Historic Blakeley State Park is most well known for its role in Alabama's Civil War history. The Battle of Fort Blakeley, fought on April 9, 1865, was the site of the largest open-field Civil War battle fought in the state of Alabama and one of the last major battles of the entire war. The climax of the combined-forces military campaign aimed at the capture of the city of Mobile which began with the Battle of Mobile Bay in August of 1864, the fall of Blakeley led directly to the surrender of the last major Southern city in Confederate hands.

In the spring of 1865 Mobile was one of the most heavily fortified cities in the country, ringed by lines of fortifications and protected from water approach by a series of batteries, navigational obstacles, underwater mines, and gunboats of the Confederate Navy. Fort Blakeley was one of two major Confederate defensive positions protecting the vulnerable eastern approaches to Mobile and guarding access to the eastern waterways of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. While the community of Blakeley had long ceased to be a major population center by the time of the war, its location along a stretch of high ground and its deep water port at the intersection of the Stockton and Pensacola Roads nevertheless made the place strategically important. Spanish Fort, consisting of three linked earthen forts overlooking a bluff along the Blakeley River, stood five miles to the south of Fort Blakeley. Nearby on islands in the Blakeley River were two large batteries, Huger and Tracy, which prevented



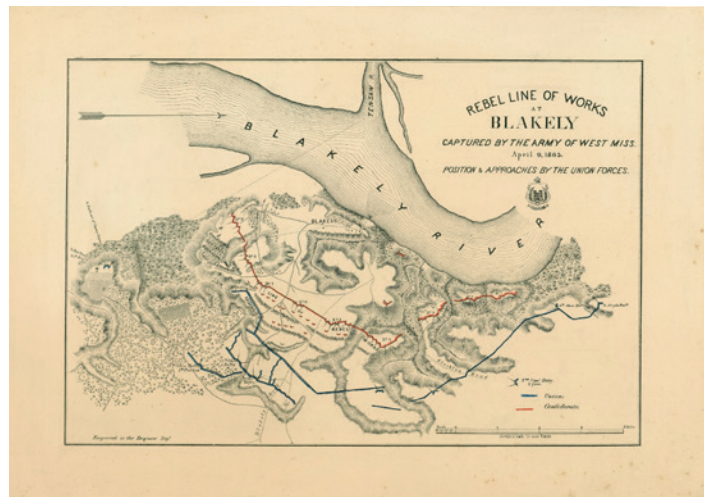
The ruins of the Baldwin County courthouse at Blakeley, ca. 1900, courtesy of the Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of South Alabama

Union warships from operating freely in the area.

Rather than a single outpost, the “fort” at Blakeley consisted of a nearly three-mile-long line of entrenchments anchored by nine earthen redoubts, or reinforced independent positions. Contained within this line of defenses were trenches, artillery emplacements, and assorted other earthen defensive structures. A series of rifle pits, in which teams of skirmishers could be deployed, lay a short distance in front of the main line. Confederate troops and impressed African-American laborers had been engaged in the construction of Fort Blakeley for many months prior to the battle. These men had cleared fields of fire in front of the main line for several hundred yards. They had also built lines of obstructions using tangles of fallen trees, and even had strung telegraph wire between stumps as barriers to approaching enemy troops. To further slow potential attackers, in places defenders buried dozens of land mines.

Brigadier General St. John R. Liddell commanded the approximately 3,500 men that comprised the garrison at Blakeley. Included in his command were veteran Missouri and Mississippi troops under Brigadier General Francis M. Cockrell which had participated in most of the major battles of the Western Theater, such as Shiloh, Vicksburg, Atlanta, and Nashville. Alongside them were raw regiments of primarily teenage conscripts under Brigadier General Bryan Thomas. Cockrell’s men occupied positions on the Confederate center and left, while Thomas’ men formed on the right. Moving against the Eastern Shore defenses were nearly 45,000 U.S. troops under the overall command of Major General E.R.S. Canby. Included in the Federal ranks were some 4,000 men of the “United States Colored Troops” (USCT), African-American regiments composed in large part of former slaves and free blacks from the South. Their presence at the Battle of Fort Blakeley ranks among the heaviest concentrations of African-American soldiers to participate in any battle during the Civil War.

Canby’s main column advanced north from Forts Morgan and Gaines in March of 1865, while another smaller force led by Major General Frederick Steele made its way to the area from Pensacola. Canby’s main column arrived at its objective first and immediately invested Spanish Fort in late March. Steele’s men arrived in front of Blakeley on April 1, after having fought several small but sharp engagements on their advance, and began to lay siege as well. The opposing armies skirmished day and night for over a week as the Federals constructed three parallels of earthworks which were located progressively closer to the Confederate position. Liddell’s men attempted to slow the Union advance under cover of dark by periodically lobbing



Map of the Union and Confederate lines at Blakeley, courtesy of the Library of Congress

“fire balls” into the air which temporarily illuminated the open expanse in their front so they could better see their targets. They also enlisted the aid of Confederate gunboats lying in the Tensaw River, which shelled the Union lines until eventually driven off by artillery. Regardless of Confederate efforts, by Sunday, April 9, the armies lay less than 1,000 yards apart. When Brigadier General Randall Gibson at Spanish Fort, severely outnumbered and his lines on the verge of breaking, skillfully evacuated his position the night of April 8, 1865, Fort Blakeley became the only Confederate post between the Federal Army and Mobile.

The Union command, concerned a similar evacuation of Blakeley might be planned, scheduled an assault on Fort Blakeley for the afternoon of Sunday, April 9, 1865. Unbeknownst to either army, that very day General Robert E. Lee surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox. Heavy fighting began around 3:00 P.M. on the Confederate left as a portion of the Union besiegers, including several units of the USCT,



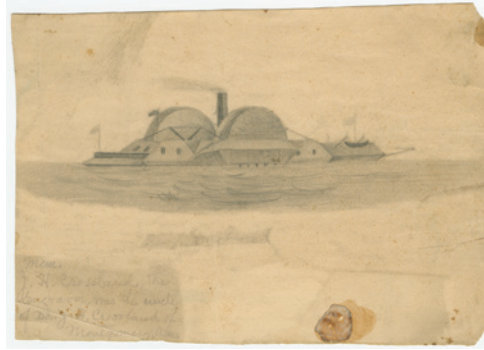
Drone photo of the Redoubt 4 area on the battlefield at Blakeley, courtesy of Tim Ard



“Last Stand for Mobile,” by Rick Reeves, courtesy of the Baldwin County Commission

probed Blakeley’s defenses. At approximately 5:30 P.M., the Union army launched a general assault with some 16,000 troops all along the nearly three-mile-long front at Blakeley. They began taking casualties almost immediately, coming under rifle and artillery fire as well as occasionally tripping scattered land mines. The surging Union column quickly drove in Rebel skirmishers posted in the advanced rifle pits and, after pausing briefly to cut their way through barriers while under fire, swarmed the main Confederate line. Fierce, close quarters combat briefly raged. Multiple Union troops were shot down while attempting to plant their flags on the earthworks, and in places the combatants waged desperate hand-to-hand fighting. In some places the fort’s defenders surrendered quickly while in others they fought to the bitter end even after being surrounded.

The entire affair was over within about thirty minutes. The great majority of the garrison at Fort



The CSS Nashville, courtesy of the Alabama Department of Archives and History

Blakeley was captured, although a very small number of Rebels managed to escape across the Tensaw River. Perhaps a few dozen were able to make their way onto the decks of the *CSS Nashville*, which had been lying just offshore at the time of the battle and retreated back to Mobile when the Confederate lines began to break. Exact casualties figures are unknown; about seventy-five Confederates were killed during the assault, while the attackers suffered about 150 killed and around 650 wounded during the entirety of operations.

Some of the Federal casualties occurred after the battle. The mine-ridden battlefield continued to claim victims until captured prisoners were forced to point out their locations. Allegations that some Confederates were shot after they surrendered to bands of USCT surfaced almost immediately after the battle and the truth of what happened in its chaotic last moments continues to be the subject of research and speculation today. Available evidence indicates some Union soldiers indeed fired on Confederates who had surrendered, but order was quickly restored and no large-scale massacre took place. Several Union soldiers were later recognized with the Medal of Honor for their bravery during the assault or

for having captured flags at Blakeley. With the fall of Fort Blakeley, and Spanish Fort earlier, Batteries Huger and Tracy were both rendered untenable and were soon abandoned. On April 12, 1865 Mobile capitulated, bringing to an end the war’s last major combined-forces operation.

The park contains the majority of the Confederate and Union lines that figured in the battle, both remarkably intact, making it one of the best-preserved Civil War battlefields in the nation. It is one of only two “Class A” battlefields in Alabama as designated by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, meaning the fighting that took place there played a decisive role in determining the outcome of a major strategic objective of the war.



Sunset at Blakeley, courtesy of John Stanush

HISTORICAL BLAKELEY STATE PARK

WEHLE CENTER

34745 STATE HWY 225

SPANISH FORT, AL 36527

251.626.0798

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Registration, coffee, and book sales

10:00 a.m. Welcome from Park Director Mike Bunn and local officials

Civil War Panel featuring:

Mike Bailey, *Fort Morgan State Historic Site, retired*

Paul Brueske, *University of South Alabama*

Paula Lenor Webb, *University of South Alabama*

John Sledge, *Mobile Historic Development Commission*

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. “Civil War on the Eastern Shore” Boat Cruise with Mike Bunn

(Max capacity is 49. A second cruise will be offered at 2:15 p.m. if needed.)

NOTE: Tickets are \$25 for the boat cruise.

See registration form for details.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Battlefield Tour, *guided by Ranger Brian Descrochers*

2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Battlefield Tour, *guided by Ranger Brian Descrochers*

2:15 - 3:45 p.m. Second “Civil War on the Eastern Shore” Boat Cruise *(if needed)*



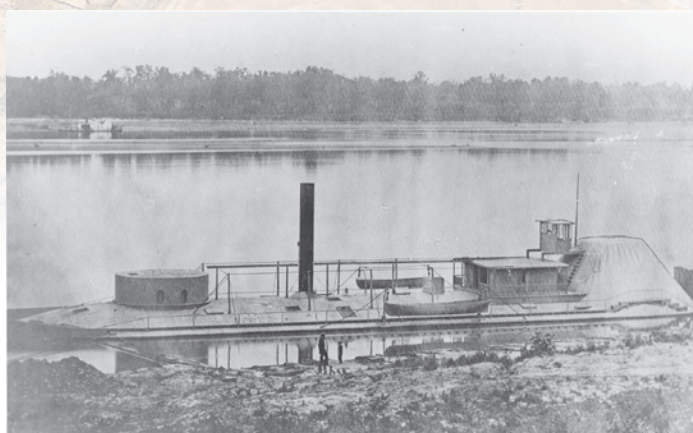
*The Delta Explorer, courtesy of
Historic Blakeley State Park*

BATTLEFIELD TOUR

This guided battlefield tour allows visitors to literally walk in the footsteps of the contending armies which fought in the Battle of Fort Blakeley on April 9, 1865. Guests will be able to tour sections of the extensive system of earthworks that formed the Confederate and Union lines on one of the best-preserved battlefields in the country. Tour stops include amazingly intact trenches, artillery positions and rifle pits. Participants will have an opportunity to walk the ground where some of the fiercest fighting in one of the last great charges of the Civil War took place.

*Photos courtesy of Historic
Blakeley State Park*





*One of the ships of the Union fleet involved in the Mobile Campaign, the USS Osage, taken earlier in the war.
Courtesy Library of Congress*

CIVIL WAR CRUISE

Blakeley's "Civil War on the Eastern Shore" cruise will allow participants to see the sites on land and water where the last major combined-forces operation of the Civil War played out. The cruise is a narrated voyage of discovery along the Tensaw River showcasing the battlefields of Fort Blakeley and Spanish Fort, the artillery positions of Forts Huger and Tracy, and the area waterways where Union and Confederate naval forces clashed. It is simultaneously an introduction to the stunning natural beauty of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta.

Photos courtesy of Historic Blakeley State Park



BATTLESHIP MEMORIAL PARK

2703 Battleship Parkway, Mobile, Alabama
251-433-2703

Battleship Memorial Park would like to invite you to stop by the park and tour while you are in Mobile. Just mention the Alabama Historical Association and you will receive discounted admission.

Admission is: adults are \$13, children 6 to 11 are \$5, and children ages 5 and under are free. The USS ALABAMA is completely open for tours, as is the USS DRUM and the Medal of Honor Aircraft



Pavilion, home to our aircraft and vintage military vehicle collection.

Check out our newest restoration projects, freshly rotated exhibit cases, and the restoration of the B-24 airplane in progress on the grounds, adjacent to the Gift Shop. We can't wait to welcome you!



DAPHNE HISTORY MUSEUM

405 Dryer Ave., Daphne, AL 36526
251-621-9620

The Daphne History Museum resides in the original Daphne Methodist Church and is the second oldest church in Baldwin County. Constructed in 1858 as a place of worship for the residents of Daphne, the church was designated in 2001 as a museum dedicated to educating the public about the history of Daphne and the surrounding communities.

In 2020, the museum went through a reorganizational process updating and rearranging all exhibits. Visitors can learn about the long history of the area including artifacts from the native American settlements dating back before 1500 AD. Exhibits include information on the Bay Boats that provided transportation of people and goods across Mobile Bay as early as 1847, the city's early settlements, focus on the pottery produced in the area in the 1870's, through the Civil War area to modern day.

The museum will be open on Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

FAIRHOPE MUSEUM OF HISTORY

24 N. Section Street, Fairhope, Alabama
(251) 929-1471

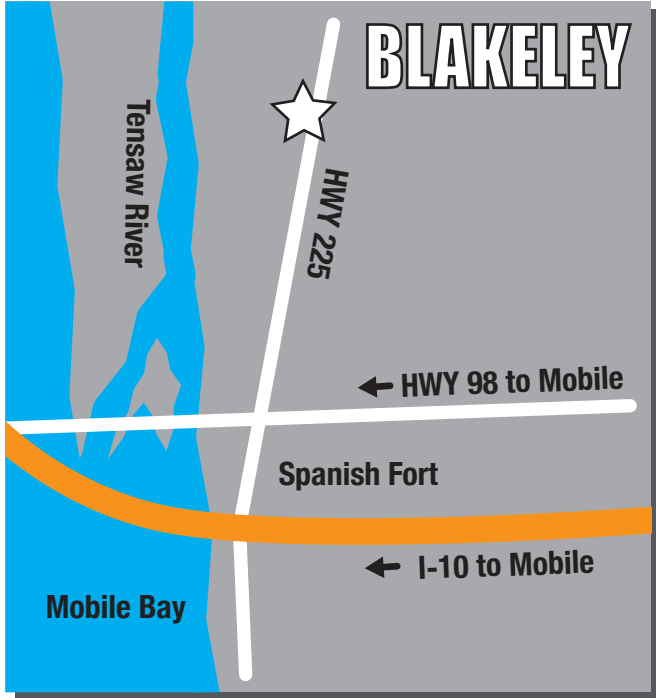
From Fairhope's earliest residents, the Native American Indians, to the potters who were attracted to the abundant, high quality clay, to the Single Taxers looking to create their own Utopia, the Fairhope Museum of History provides an enjoyable and informative presentation of Fairhope's interesting history.

The museum is located in the heart of downtown Fairhope and occupies the historic circa 1928 Spanish mission-style building which once served as City Hall. Renovated and expanded, and operated by the City of Fairhope, the museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with free admission.





Historic Blakeley State Park
 34745 AL-225, Spanish Fort, AL 36527
 (251) 626-0798
www.blakeleypark.com



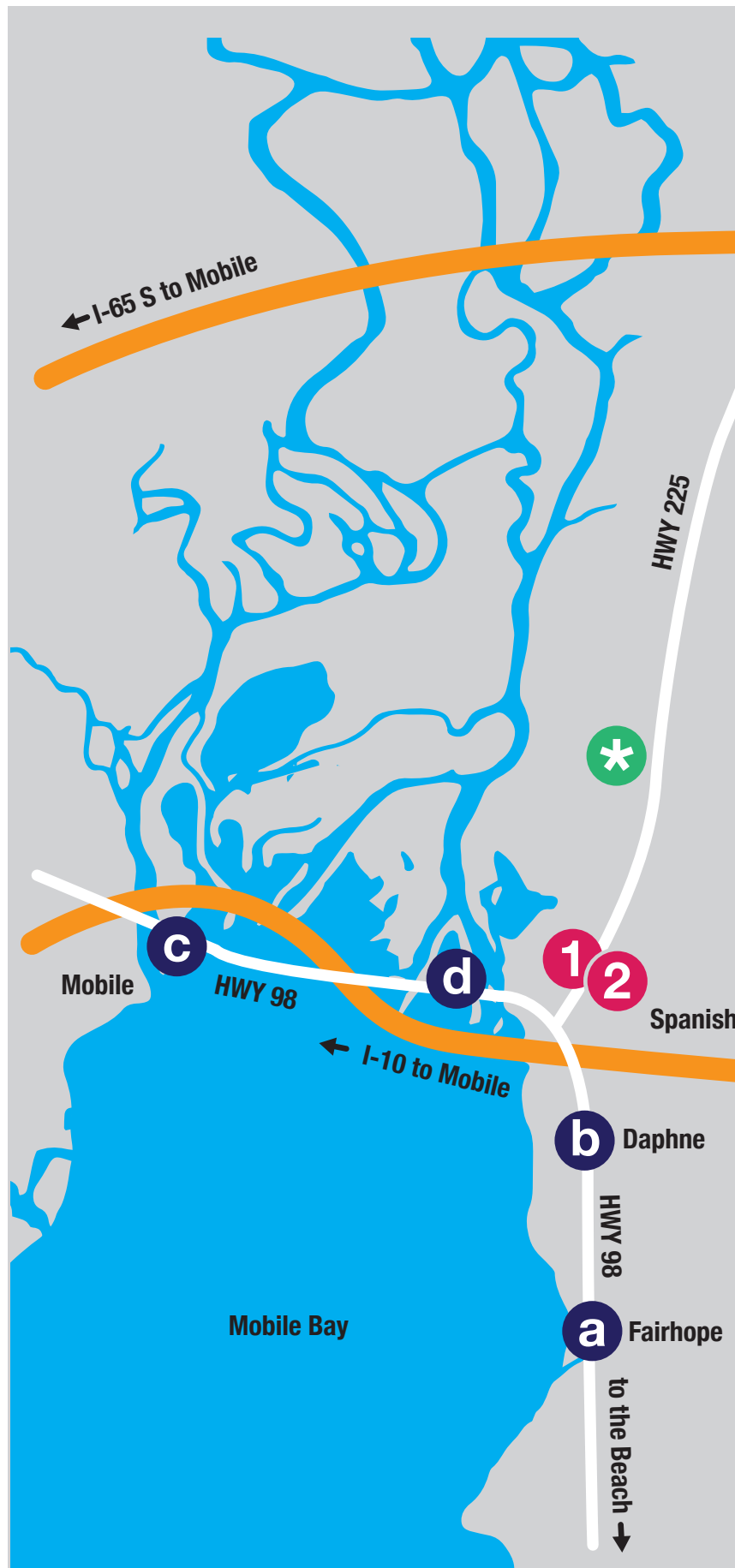
Hotels:

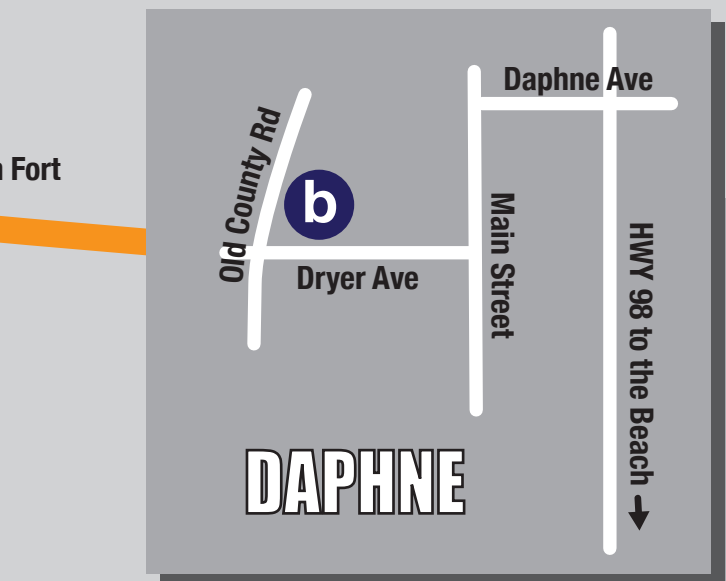
1 Courtyard Mobile
 Daphne/Eastern Shore
 13000 Cypress Way • 251-370-1161
 Visit alabamahistory.net/meetings for link.

2 Fairfield Inn & Suites Mobile
 Daphne/Eastern Shore
 12000 Cypress Way • 251-370-1160
 Visit alabamahistory.net/meetings for link.



Be on the lookout for
 the red and white
 AHA sign!





Additional Places of Interest:
On Your Own

- a** **Fairhope Museum of History**
24 N Section St
Fairhope, AL 36532
www.cofairhope.com
- b** **Daphne History Museum**
405 Dryer Avenue
Daphne, AL 36526
www.daphnemuseumalabama.org
- c** **USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park**
2307 Battleship Pkwy
Mobile, AL 36603
www.ussalabama.com
- d** **Five Rivers Delta Resource Center**
30945 Five Rivers Blvd
Spanish Fort, AL 36527
www.alabama5rivers.com

Scan this QR code for access to the Google Map.

Please don't rely on the scale of this map for navigation.

PILGRIMAGE TO FEATURE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

The 2021 Fall Pilgrimage program will feature a roundtable discussion on Mobile, Alabama during the Civil War with four noted guests.

As a lifelong resident of the Gulf Coast, **Paul Brueske** became fascinated with studying local Civil War history, in particular the 1865 campaign for Mobile. His first book, *The Last Siege*, is a result of many years of research on the Mobile Campaign. He founded the Mobile Civil War Round Table and regularly gives talks on Civil War topics. He is currently the Head Track & Field Coach at the University of South Alabama. Brueske is putting the finishing touches on a new book “Spanish Fort 1865.” ▼



▲ **Paula Lenor Webb** is a tenured Librarian at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Ms. Webb has always enjoyed research and documented her local history findings in her first book, *Mobile Under Siege: Surviving the Union Blockade*, in 2016. She has continued pursuing this avenue of research in her latest book, *Such a Woman: Octavia Walton LeVert*.



John S. Sledge is senior architectural historian with the Mobile Historic Development Commission, and a member of the National Book Critics Circle. He is the author of seven books—three on Mobile’s historic architecture; a volume of literary criticism; *The Mobile River* (winner of the Clinton Jackson Coley Award from the Alabama Historical Association); *These Rugged Days: Alabama in the Civil War*; and *The Gulf of Mexico: A Maritime History*. ▼



◀ **Michael Bailey** recently retired from a career in public history, including service with the museum division of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, the Alabama Historical Commission, the National Parks Service, and the History Office of the U.S. Army Reserve Headquarters Command. During his twenty-eight years at Fort Morgan State Historic Site, he served as Curator, Senior Historian, and Site Director. He is the co-author of *Fort Morgan*, a photographic history of the National Historic Landmark.



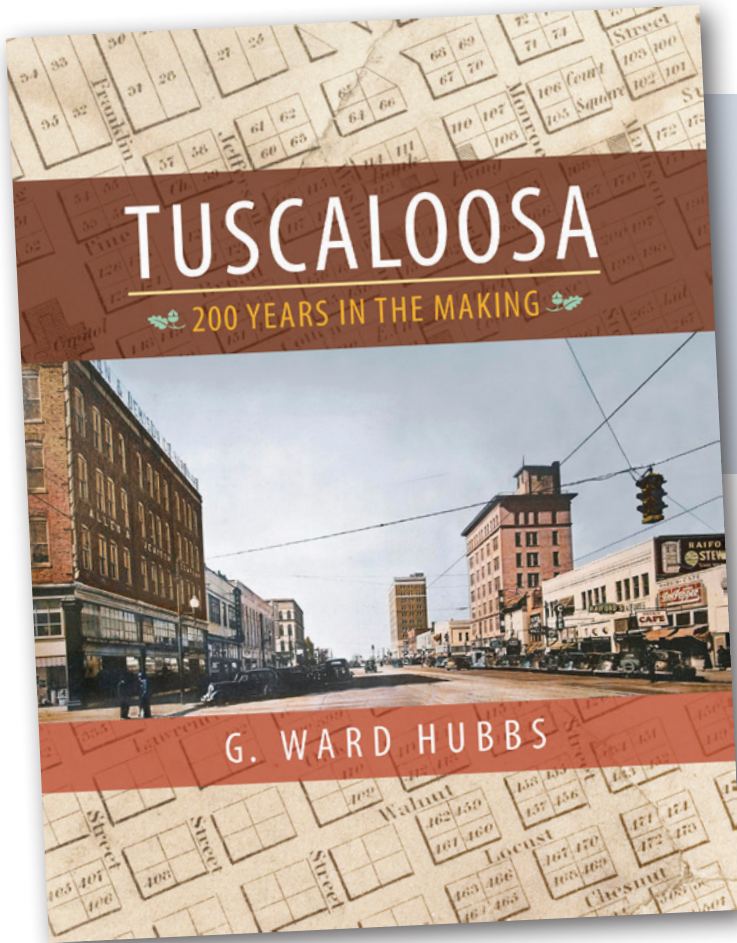
ANNOUNCING THE *History Revealed* MARKER PROJECT

In June 2021, the Board of Directors voted to support the creation of History Revealed, a pilot program to assist local communities in placing historical markers that document underrepresented aspects of Alabama history. In 2021-2022, the Association will bear the full cost of producing five markers under the new program. Applications for History Revealed markers will be received from August 1 through October 15. The marker committee will select recipients which ensure a diversity of topics and geographic distribution. The markers will be announced as part of the 2022 annual meeting in Florence.

Project guidelines and the application will be made available soon at <https://www.alabamahistory.net/historical-markers>.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS!

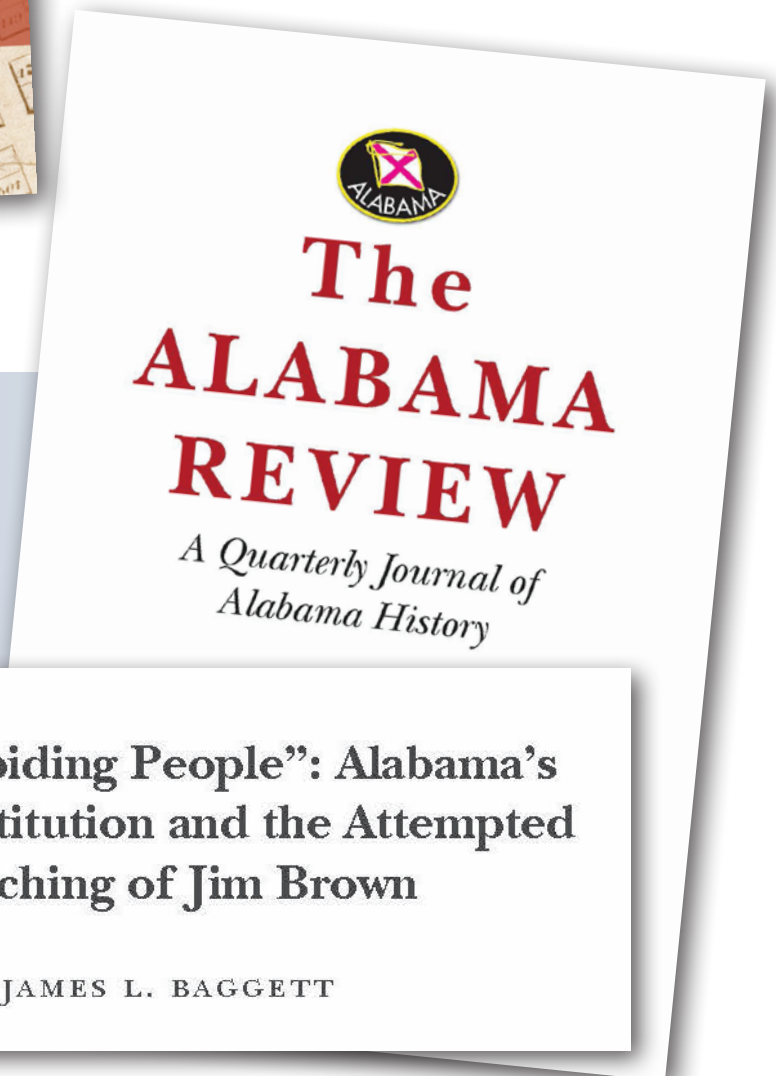


Clinton Jackson Coley Award

The Clinton Jackson Coley Book Award goes to the best book or pamphlet focusing on local historical concerns, including but not limited to the history of an Alabama community, town or county, or any institution therein. The winner of the 2020/21 award was *Tuscaloosa: 200 Years in the Making*, written by Guy Ward Hubbs.

Milo B. Howard Award

The Milo B. Howard Award is for the best article published in *The Alabama Review* for a two-year period. The winner of the 2020/21 award was Jim Baggett for his article “‘A Law Abiding People’: Alabama’s 1901 Constitution and the Attempted Lynching of Jim Brown.”



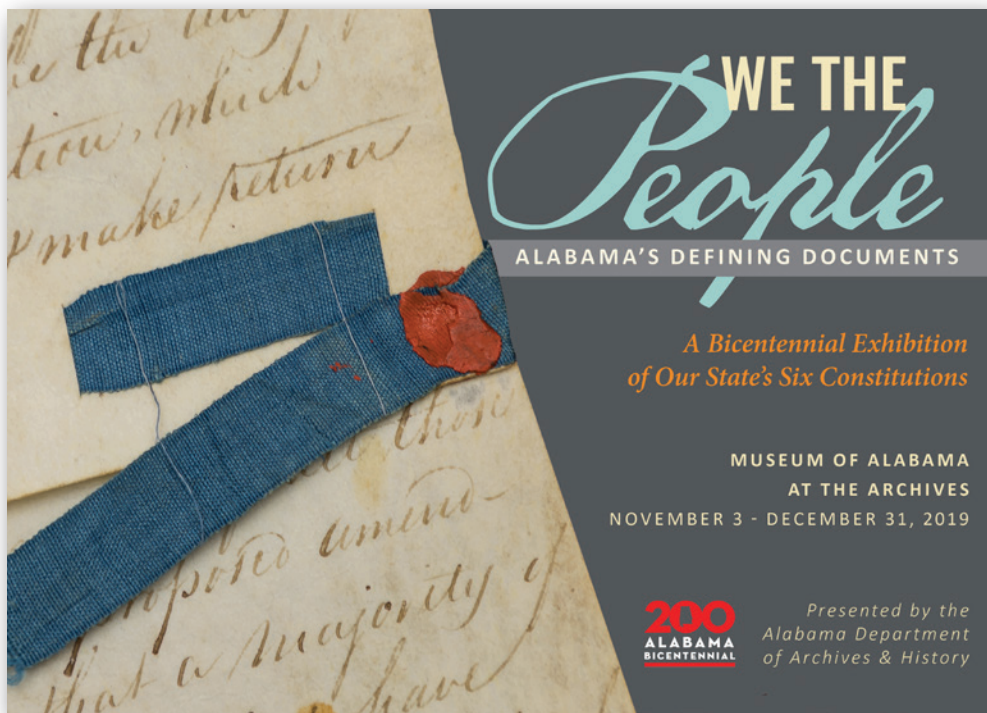
“A Law Abiding People”: Alabama’s
1901 Constitution and the Attempted
Lynching of Jim Brown

JAMES L. BAGGETT

James Ray Kuykendall Award

The James Ray Kuykendall Award honors a local historical society in Alabama for outstanding achievements and for significant contributions to a greater appreciation of community and state history. The winner of the 2020/21 award was the Autauga County Heritage Association.

Don Edgeworth and Ann Boutwell, Autauga County Heritage Association.



Digital History Award

The Digital History Award recognizes excellence for large or small digital history projects that make contributions to promulgating Alabama (state or local) history. The winner of the large project category was “We the People: Alabama’s Defining Documents,” created by the Alabama Department of Archives and History. www.wethepeoplealabama.org

The winner of the small project category was the Jackson County Historical Association for their Website: www.jchaweb.org.

“So much of what we do is ‘behind the firewall,’ separated from our audience. Yes, we see the statistics that indicate our website gets thousands of hits a month, but those interactions are anonymous and impersonal. The AHA’s Digital History Award is welcome validation from our peers that what we do is relevant, usable, and informative.” — David and Annette Bradford, JCHA



CALL FOR PAPERS

74th Annual Meeting
Florence, Alabama
April 7-9, 2022

The Alabama Historical Association invites paper proposals to be given at its 74th Annual Meeting in Florence Alabama, on April 7-9, 2022. This meeting is open to scholars, educators, public historians, students, local historians, and members of the general public who share an interest in the history of Alabama.

Proposals must include a one-page abstract of a **20-minute presentation** on original research in Alabama history and a brief curriculum vitae or résumé that includes the author's email address, postal address, telephone number, and academic or organizational affiliation (if any). Proposals should also indicate if the presenter will require any technical equipment (projectors, sound equipment, etc.)

Proposals must be submitted electronically to alabamahistory@gmail.com
by **October 1, 2021**.

All presenters are required to register for the conference and be members in good standing of the Alabama Historical Association by the time of the annual meeting. The committee gives preference to presenters who have not given papers at an annual meeting within the past three years.

For more information on the proposal process, contact:
Debra Love, Program Committee Chair, dhllab@aol.com
Mark Wilson, Secretary, mwilson@auburn.edu, 334-844-6198

2022 NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2022 AWARDS

The following awards will be presented at the annual meeting on April 8, 2022.

- The **James F. Sulzby Book Award** recognizes a book that has made the most significant contribution to greater knowledge and appreciation of Alabama history in the last two years. As a result of the pandemic, however, the 2022 Award Committee will consider books published from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021. For submission information, contact Justin Rudder at justin.rudder@archives.alabama.gov
- The **Clinton Jackson and Evelyn Coley Research Grant** provides \$500 to a graduate student conducting research on an Alabama-related topic. Applications are due **by January 31, 2022**. For more information, visit www.alabamahistory.net or contact Staci Glover at stacisglover@bellsouth.net.
- The **Virginia Van Der Veer Hamilton Award** honors contributions to Alabama history that promote appreciation and better understanding of Alabama history among the general public. Nomination packets should include a letter of nomination (not to exceed two pages) that outlines the nominee's accomplishments; supporting materials and documentation of accomplishments; letters of support (not to exceed five). Please submit nominations by **January 15, 2022** to Laura Anderson at landerson@alabamahumanities.org.
- The **AHA Museum Award** recognizes excellence in large and small historical museum that make contributions to promulgating Alabama (state or local) history. Nominations and self-nominations are welcome. For more information on the nomination process, contact Jason Williams at williams5204@charter.net. Deadline for nominations is **December 31, 2021**.

For more information on all of these awards, visit www.alabamahistory.net.

The AHA would like to thank the following individuals for their generous support!

PATRONS (\$500 LEVEL)

Dr. Ralph Draughon, Jr., Auburn
Elisabeth Marks Green, Mobile
Jacob Lowrey, Greenville, SC
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Sulzby III, Birmingham
J. Scott and Cameron Vowell, Birmingham
Larry Ward, Birmingham
Jimmy Rane, Abbeville

SPONSORS (\$250 LEVEL)

Jane Brock, Homewood
Yvonne Crumpler, Birmingham
Joe Dennis, Bessemer
William Foster, Montgomery
Tom and Jane McMillan, Brewton
William D. Melton, Evergreen
Guy Milford and Sandra Braman, College Station, TX
Steve and Laura Murray, Auburn
Dr. Ann B. Pearson, Auburn
William B. Ponder, Dadeville
Mr. and Mrs. B. Hanson Slaughter, Birmingham
George H. Smith, Birmingham
Frank Wilson, Montgomery
Alan K. Zeigler, Birmingham

SUSTAINERS (\$100 LEVEL)

Dr. Mehmed Ali, Montgomery
Laura Anderson, Birmingham
Dr. Paul J. Anderson, Jr., Enterprise
Dr. Leah Rawls Atkins, Birmingham
Joe E. Basenberg, Mobile
Dr. Edwin C. Bridges, Montgomery
Camille Butrus, Birmingham
Dr. Edgar E. Campbell, Pinson
Dr. and Mrs. J. Donald and Mary Alice Carmichael,
Birmingham
Wynne and Dianne Coleman, Greensboro
Brian Conary, Anniston
James F. Currie, Jr., Fairhope
James Dorrough, Denver, CO
Dr. Matthew L. Downs, Daphne
Willie D. Dunning, III, Mobile
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Edwards, Jr., Montgomery
Martin and Helon Everse, Vestavia
Parker Farms, Headland
Anne Feathers, Greenville
Dr. Linda Felton-Smith, Troy
Carrie Fitts Real Estate
Dr. Michael W. Fitzgerald, Northfield, MN

T.R. Henderson, Headland
 William E. Hereford, Pell City
 Thereasa Hulgan, Cherokee County Chamber of
 Commerce and Tourism
 Laura and Jayson Hill, Opelika
 Dr. Bert Hitchcock, Auburn
 Gene L. Howard, Jacksonville
 Arthur F. Howington, Tuscaloosa
 Robert L. Hunt, Birmingham
 Dr. Robert J. and Carol Jakeman, Auburn
 Dr. Barclay Key, Little Rock, AR
 Pamela Sterne King, Birmingham
 Ethelwyn Haley Dobbs Langston, Winfield
 Stallworth Larson, Ocean Ridge, FL
 Forrest Latta, Mobile
 Will and Ruth H. Liddell, Jr., Montgomery
 Frank Alex Luttrell, III, Madison
 Henry Sharpe Lynn, Jr., Birmingham
 Daryl L. and Sheila Masters, Auburn
 Dr. and Mrs. David Mathews, Dayton, OH
 Marvin E. and Lenda McCain, Lynn Haven, FL
 Mr. and Mrs. Julian McPhillips, Jr., Montgomery
 Walter R. Meigs, Mobile
 Sally Moore, Clanton
 Dr. Gary Mullen, Auburn

Mary Norman, Auburn
 James P. Pate, Vestavia
 Emily Pendleton, Montevallo
 Mrs. William A. Powell, Birmingham
 Dr. John R. Reese, Montgomery
 Margaret E. Rhoads, Tuscaloosa
 David and Frances Robb, Huntsville
 Nancy Rohr, Huntsville
 David C. and Virginia Russell, Mobile
 Kevin Savoy, Dothan
 Billy and Sylvia Singleton, Clanton
 Jenny L. Smith, Birmingham
 Murray W. and Nancy Smith, Birmingham
 Ted C. and Shirley K. Spears, Sylacauga
 Harold and Anna Speir, Selma
 Gayle G. Thomas, Abbeville
 Dr. J. Mills Thornton, Montgomery
 Dr. Jim Vickrey, Montgomery
 Laurence D. Vinson, Jr., Birmingham
 Jason Williams, Valley
 Dr. Mark and Kellie Wilson, Auburn
 A. Len and Kennie Worlund, Huntsville
 Louise A. Wrinkle, Birmingham



ALABAMA
HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION



c/o Caroline Marshall
Draughon Center for the
Arts & Humanities
Pebble Hill
Auburn, AL 36849
www.alabamahistory.net

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Montgomery, AL
Permit No. 456

SAVE THE DATE!

74th Annual Meeting
April 7-9, 2022
Florence, Alabama

Reserve your hotel room at the Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa for the special rate of \$129 per night by calling 1-800-593-6450. Visit www.alabamahistory.net/meetings to book online.

