



Press Release

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ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION MOBILE 1865: THE SIEGE AND REDUCTION OF SPANISH FORT AND FORT BLAKELY PRESENTED BY ROBERT BRADLEY

ArchiTreats: Food for Thought continues another year of interesting and informative talks on Alabama history at the **Alabama Department of Archives and History** on **Thursday, April 16**. Join us at **noon** as Robert Bradley presents *Mobile 1865: The Siege and Reduction of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely*.

As the American Civil War began to draw to a close 150 years ago in April of 1865, part of the last major campaign of the war was played out in Alabama during the siege of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, located east of Mobile. During this campaign, both sides brought to bear all that had been learned in four long, brutal years of war. Robert Bradley will focus on the specifics of the campaign and how the events in Alabama in April, 1865 fit within General Ulysses S. Grant's plan for ending the war. He will also discuss the current condition of the sites.

Robert (Bob) Bradley is the Chief Curator at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. From 1974-1986, he was a historian with the National Park Service, specializing in the management, preservation, and interpretation of 18th to mid-20th century fortifications and military sites. Of his several permanent and temporary assignments, his position as Chief Historian at Fort Sumter National Monument in Charleston, South Carolina, was his favorite. From 1986-1988, Bradley was Historic Sites Administrator for the Alabama Historical Commission. Since coming to the Archives in 1988, he has been responsible for the preservation, documentation, and conservation of the Department's collection of nearly half a million artifacts. He is the author of *Documenting the Civil War Period Flag Collection at the Alabama Department of Archives and History*, which is available on the Department's website, and he has contributed to a wide variety of Civil War publications. He is also very active in Civil War battlefield preservation.

This ArchiTreats presentation made possible by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history. Complimentary beverages are provided. **Admission is always FREE!** To view the full 2015 ArchiTreats schedule visit www.archives.alabama.gov.

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