

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION  
*OLD ST. STEPHENS: WHERE ALABAMA BEGAN*  
BY GEORGE SHORTER  
AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

*ArchiTreats: Food for Thought* begins another year of informative talks on Alabama history at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Join us at **noon** on **Thursday, January 21** as **George Shorter** presents ***Old St. Stephens: Where Alabama Began***.

Located on the Tombigbee River in southwest Alabama, Old St. Stephens is one of the most important historical and archaeological sites in the state. During a brief three decades, from the 1790s to its decline in the 1820s, St. Stephens was the site of a Spanish fort, an American fort and trading post, and the Alabama Territorial capital, as well as the place where the legislature met when Alabama became a state.

The Alabama Department of Tourism has designated 2010 as the Year of Alabama Small Towns and Downtowns. This program will explore the history of one of Alabama's earliest towns - *Old St. Stephens, Where Alabama Began*.

George Shorter received Landscape Architecture and Anthropology degrees from LSU. Since 1995 he has worked as a Research Associate at the Center for Archaeological Studies at the University of South Alabama. His research focuses on colonial occupations and early settlement during the 18th and early 19th centuries, and includes projects at Old Mobile (1702-1711), Port Dauphin Village (1702-1720s), the French stockade on Dauphin Island (1702-1718), and various other French colonial sites in the Mobile area. He also recently completed two years of research at Fort Morgan. For the past twelve years he has directed archaeological projects at Old St. Stephens.

This ArchiTreats presentation is made possible by the Friends of the Alabama Archives. The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives. For more information, call (334) 353-4726.

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