Alabama Department of Archives and History Hosts Reception on the Bicentennial Release of New Book Celebrating Alabama’s Early History
Friday, October 11 Event Is Open to All

“Visually stunning and written in a lively, engaging style...Without a doubt, one of the most entertaining contributions to Alabama’s bicentennial celebration.” — Mike Bunn, author of *Early Alabama: An Illustrated Guide to the Formative Years, 1798-1826*

Montgomery, Ala: The Alabama Department of Archives and History in conjunction with Alabama Heritage, NewSouth Books, the Alabama Bicentennial Commission, and the Alabama Tourism Department join together for a reception on Friday, October 11 at 10am to celebrate the publication of *Alabama From Territory to Statehood: An Alabama Heritage Bicentennial Collection*, published by NewSouth Books. This special event is free and open to the public.

Inspired by Alabama’s Bicentennial celebrations, and produced by NewSouth Books in partnership with Alabama Heritage magazine and the Alabama Bicentennial Commission, *Alabama From Territory to Statehood* compiles the work of experts on the history of the state’s formative years. Very little has been written on this period since the mid-20th century, making this volume a welcome addition to the Alabama history canon. Lavishly illustrated articles illuminate the Alabama story. Experts describe the state’s prehistory and colonial settlement. They describe border disputes and land surveys, squatting, prospecting, and the land rush remembered as “Alabama Fever.” They tell of the early settlements and growing towns, the architecture,
food, the cultures of a place in flux. They sketch the experience of Creeks on the verge of removal and enslaved persons adjusting to arrival. They analyze the demise of a fragile economy and the legal and political creation of a new state.

Conceived, written, edited, and designed for original publication in Alabama Heritage magazine, each article in the book both stands alone and supports the larger work. Among the many noted historians who contributed to the book are Edwin C. Bridges, Mike Bunn, Kathryn Braund, Thomas Chase Hagood, and Robert Gamble. The landscape, culture, and people of the time come to brilliant life in the rich maps, historical images and paintings, and photography of artifacts, documents, landscapes, and surviving structures. This collectible volume fills a substantial gap in the story of Alabama.

Lee Sentell, director of Alabama Tourism, notes, “our state’s rich history is handsomely reflected in *Alabama from Territory to Statehood* … this book is a must for the Southern history shelf in every home library in the state.”

This special reception on behalf of *Alabama From Territory to Statehood* is scheduled for Friday, October 11 at 10am. Light refreshments will be served. Copies of *Alabama From Territory to Statehood* will be available for purchase.

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is located at 624 Washington Ave., Montgomery, Alabama. For more information contact Georgia Ann Hudson at 334-353-3312 or Lisa Harrison at 334-834-3556.

*Alabama: From Territory to Statehood* will be available through your favorite local or online retailer. Retailers, contact Ingram Publisher Services (IPS) at 866-400-5351 or email at ips@ingramcontent.com, or order via ipage.ingrambook.com. Trade Cloth; ISBN: 978-1-58838-399-0; 200 pages; $39.95 For more information: www.newsouthbooks.com.