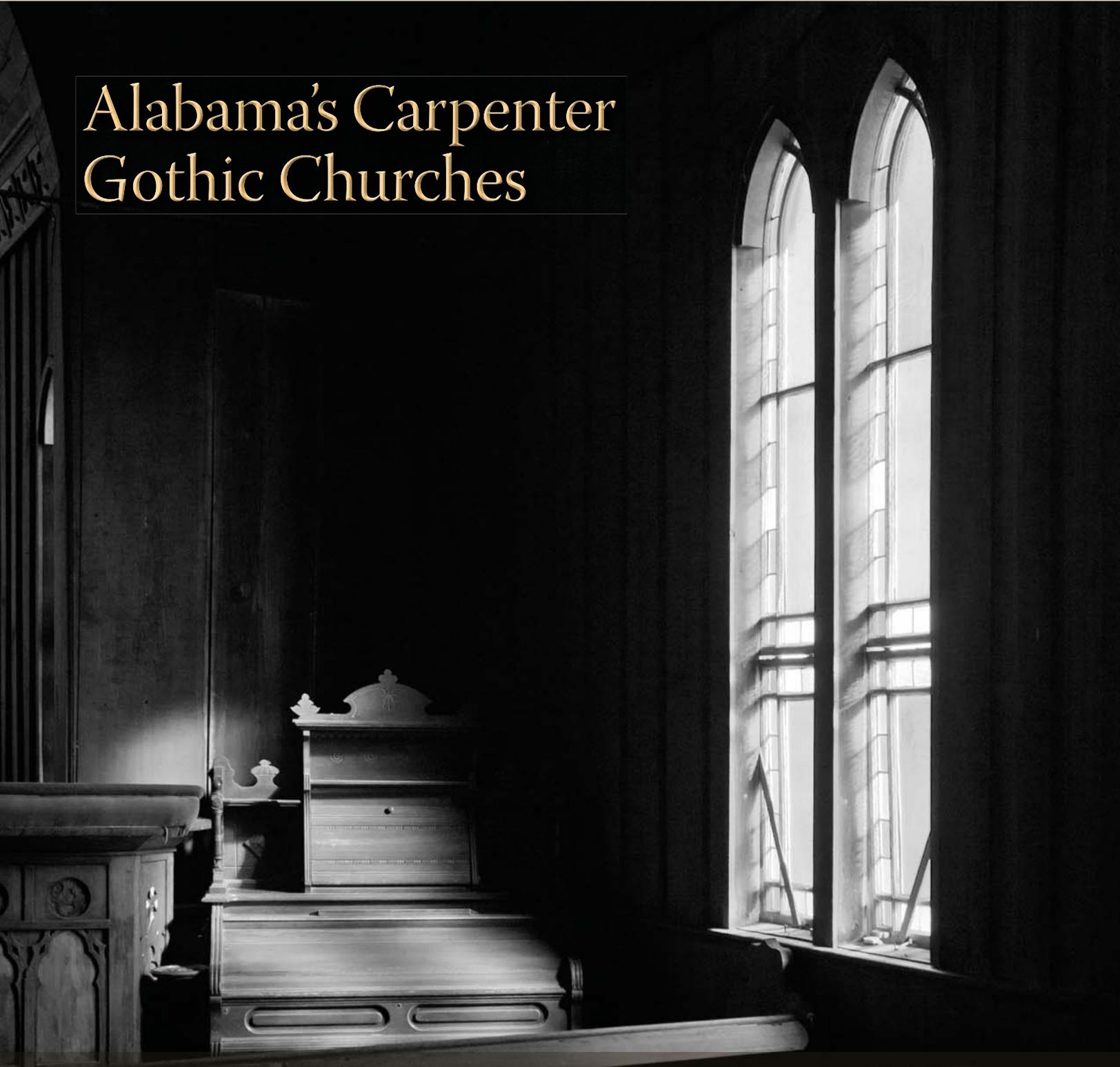


# Alabama Heritage

## Alabama's Carpenter Gothic Churches



PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM,  
AND THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

# Alabama Heritage

Alabama Schools Sponsor

## BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF ALABAMA

Alabama Heritage is grateful to Blue Cross and Blue Shield for giving the magazine to every school in the state.

Alabama Heritage wishes to thank the following for their generous support:

ALABAMA POWER  
COMPANY

HANNA STEEL  
CORPORATION

PHIFER INCORPORATED

PROTECTIVE LIFE  
CORPORATION

VULCAN MATERIALS  
COMPANY

YELLAWOOD

A corporate-level gift has been made in honor of

JOHN J. MCMAHON JR.

*Alabama Heritage* (ISSN 0887-493X) is a nonprofit educational quarterly published by the University of Alabama, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Entire contents, copyright 2015 by the University of Alabama. All rights reserved.

*Alabama Heritage* disclaims responsibility for all statements of fact or opinion expressed in signed contributions to the magazine. The editors will give careful consideration to all unsolicited materials but cannot assume responsibility for their safety; return postage is requested. Writer's Guidelines are available at [www.AlabamaHeritage.com](http://www.AlabamaHeritage.com).

### Editor

Donna Cox Baker

### Designer

Robin McDonald

### Marketing & Advertising

Sara C. Martin

### Associate Editor

Susan Reynolds

### Digital Media Editor

Rebecca Todd Minder

### Consulting Editor

Elizabeth Wade

### Contributing Editors

L. J. Davenport, Stephen Goldfarb

### Circulation

Cindy Sanford

### Assistants/Interns

Jamie Bowman, Sara Gibson, Ashley Goins, Taylor Hughes, Sarah Rumfelt, Taylor Zimmerman

### Proofreaders

Jessica Lowther, Cassandra M. Nelson

Published by the University of Alabama, the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Alabama Department of Archives and History

### The University of Alabama

Judy Bonner, *President*

Joe Benson, *Interim Provost*

Jennifer D. Greer, *Associate Provost*

### The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Ray L. Watts, MD, *President*

Shirley Salloway Kahn, *Vice President, Development, Alumni and External Relations*

Linda C. Lucas, *Provost*

### Alabama Department of Archives and History

George P. Evans, *Chairman, Board of Trustees*

Shirley Dowling McCrary, *Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees*

Steve Murray, *Director*

### The Alabama Heritage Foundation Board of Directors

PRESIDENT: Steve Williams, Birmingham • VICE PRESIDENT: John Scott, Montgomery

Edwin C. Bridges, Montgomery; Lella Bromberg, Birmingham; Paul W. Bryant Jr., Tuscaloosa; H. E. Cauthen Jr., Montgomery; Larry Foster, Birmingham; Gillian Goodrich, Birmingham; Charles Graffeo, Huntsville; Elmer B. Harris, Birmingham; Betsy Lowe, Huntsville; Gordon Martin, Birmingham; Gaylon McCollough, Gulf Shores; Sid McDonald, Union Grove; D. Joseph McInnes, Montgomery; Thomas McMillan, Brewton; Tennant S. McWilliams, Birmingham; Emmett Meyer, Tuscaloosa; Vaughan Morrissette, Mobile; Beverly Phifer, Tuscaloosa; Cathy Randall, Tuscaloosa; Barrett C. Shelton Jr., Decatur; Brenda Sonner-Fox, Montgomery; Neal Travis, Birmingham; Neal Wade, Montgomery; Suzanne Wolfe, Tuscaloosa.

### Editorial and Advisory Board

Edwin C. Bridges, Emeritus, Alabama State Department of Archives and History; Wilton S. Dillon, Senior Scholar Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution; J. Wayne Flynt, Professor Emeritus, Department of History, Auburn University; Robert Gamble, Retired Senior Architectural Historian, Alabama Historical Commission; Virginia Van der Veer Hamilton, Professor Emerita, Department of History, University of Alabama at Birmingham; William J. Koopman, Chairman Emeritus, Department of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Tennant S. McWilliams, Professor Emeritus, History Department, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Robert O. Mellow, Department of Art, University of Alabama; George C. Rable, Summersell Chair in Southern History, University of Alabama; Michael Thomason, Department of History, University of South Alabama.

**Changing your address?** Please notify *Alabama Heritage* as soon as possible; the post office does not forward bulk mail. Rates, postpaid in the United States: One year (four issues) \$18.95; two years (eight issues) \$32.95; single copies \$6.00 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. All correspondence regarding subscriptions, donations, or manuscripts should be directed to: *Alabama Heritage*, University of Alabama, Box 870342, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0342, (205) 348-7467. Toll-free (orders only): 877-925-2323. Visit us online at [www.AlabamaHeritage.com](http://www.AlabamaHeritage.com).

# Table of Contents



**Cover:** *St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Prairieville. See article, page 10. (Robin McDonald)*

## DEPARTMENTS

6

### Southern Architecture & Preservation

Of Carrots and Sticks:  
The National Register of  
Historic Places

48

### Becoming Alabama

Quarter by Quarter  
Calendar of Events

54

### Alabama Governors

Israel Pickens (1821–1825)

56

### From the Archives

The Long Arc of Civil Rights  
History in Alabama

58

### Potraits & Landscapes

Cornel Wilde and  
Cathedral Caverns

60

### Revealing Hidden Collections

The Birmingham  
History Center

64

### Reading the Southern Past

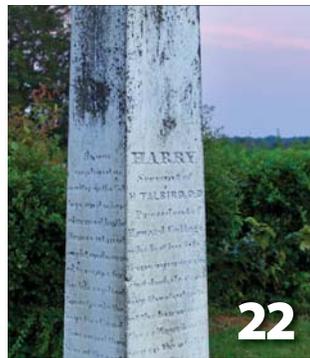
Alabama and the Great War

## FEATURES

### RICHARD UPJOHN'S GOTHIC REVIVAL IN ANTEBELLUM ALABAMA

BY STEPHEN McNAIR

*Across the state, Episcopal churches reflect a long—and sometimes contentious—history of careful thought about the intersection of architecture and faith.*



### HARRY: FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

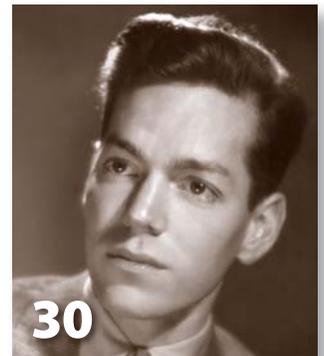
BY CHRISTOPHER LYLE McILWAIN SR.

*A slave's fateful service during a time of crisis reflects the nation's smoldering tensions on the eve of the Civil War.*

### "SUCH A LOVELY GIFT": HUGH MARTIN'S MUSICAL LEGACY

BY MARIDITH WALKER GEUDER

*Born and raised in the Five Points South neighborhood of Birmingham, Hugh Martin went on to an illustrious career as a composer of the American musical, on both stage and screen.*



### A PORTRAIT IN THE PANE: LIGHTNING PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE CARROLLTON COURTHOUSE WINDOW LEGEND

BY WILL McCARRY

*During the nineteenth century, the reported phenomenon of lightning portraiture captured the minds and fears of communities throughout the country.*

# Reading the Southern Past

## ALABAMA AND THE GREAT WAR

BY STEPHEN GOLDFARB

**N**ow that the last veteran of World War I (WWI) has died, it is more important than ever to record the battlefield deeds of those American men who fought in France in that war nearly a century ago. Nimrod T. Frazer (a decorated combat veteran of the Korean War) has done just that in his recently published *Send the Alabamians: World War I Fighters in the Rainbow Division* (University of Alabama Press, 2014). Drawn to this subject by the experiences of his father, Frazer has written what is likely to be the standard history of this 167th infantry division for many years to come.

One of the first American units to join the battle with the German enemy, these brave Alabamians, led by Col. William P. Screws, fought valiantly for most of 1918 (from February to November), first on the defensive and then taking the offensive to ultimate victory. Then for a time they served as occupational troops in Germany. Earlier, while still the 4th Alabama and serving on the Mexican border in 1916, these young men earned a reputation for fierceness and boisterousness, with one general, Edward H. Plummer, declaring, “In time of war, send me all the Alabamians you can get, but in time of peace, for Lord’s sake, send them to somebody else!”

The most heroic battle fought by the 167th was that of Croix Rouge Farm. A photograph (number seventeen in the text) shows a stout stone building surrounded by open fields. The 167th attacked this stronghold without the aid of artillery and, after suffering terrible losses, captured the farmhouse. Douglas MacArthur was quoted (a bit hyperbolically perhaps) as saying that “the 167th Alabama...had stormed and captured the Croix Rouge Farm in a manner

which for its gallantry I do not believe has been surpassed in military history.”

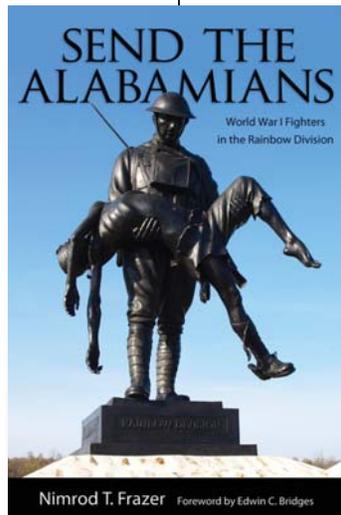
Nearly a century after the battle and with the generosity of Frazer, Croix Rouge Farm was purchased by the Croix Rouge Farm Memorial Foundation, and a memorial by the British sculptor James Butler was erected in memory of those American soldiers who fought and died there. An image of this sculpture, a soldier in WWI battle gear carrying a fallen comrade, graces the dustcover of Frazer’s book.

But not all the wartime actions consisted of heroics.

The most feared weapon was poison gas, which had its first use in combat in WWI. As Frazer explains, three kinds of gas were used: chlorine gas that smelled like pineapple; phosgene, which had a stench of decomposing fish; and the most-feared mustard gas, which “had a rich, sweet, almost soapy smell” and “caused blindness that could last for months or even become permanent.” As one soldier commented, “The smell of death is almost as disturbing as the sight of it.”

When not actually in combat, soldiers spent long stretches in trenches, where conditions were deplorable: “The place was full of rats addicted to creeping across faces or chewing up shoes.’ ...Men were required to wash their feet and change socks daily to avoid foot rot... [which] causes skin to waste away and soft decay sets in. Cooties [i.e. lice] flourished in such filthy conditions, aided by the soldiers’ louse-infested straw bedding and their inability to bathe.”

The fighters of the Rainbow Division were well-respected by the German enemy. One German officer described some recently captured American prisoners: “The nerves of the Americans are still unbroken.... The individual soldiers are very good. They are healthy, vigorous and physically able-bodied men, well-developed.... The troops are fresh and



full of strength-forward confidence. A remark of one of the prisoners...is indicative of their spirit "We kill or get killed."

Frazer is careful to point out that while the American soldier might be a superior physical specimen, back in Alabama literally thousands of men were rejected for service for numerous reasons, mostly connected to their physical condition, a sad reflection of the state of public health in Alabama. In addition to being underweight and having bad teeth, young male Alabamians frequently suffered from diseases such as tuberculosis, typhoid, hepatitis, malaria, smallpox, pellagra, and hookworm, as well as venereal disease (gonorrhea and syphilis). The latter turned out to be an ongoing problem for those men who were inducted.

In addition, in order to be inducted into the armed service, draftees had to possess "basic literacy skills"; however, 21.5 percent of whites were illiterate, another sad reflection of Alabama in the early twentieth century. In all, of the 438,657 Alabama males who registered for the draft in 1917–1918, 380,289 (86.6 percent) were rejected for not meeting either the physical or mental requirements for soldiering. (Though plenty bad, this is not quite as bad as it seems, as those registered could be as old as forty-nine, which was too old for the battlefield, and deferments were given for such things as family hardship.)

But as Robert Saunders Jr. observes (in his essay "World War I: Catalyst for Social Change in Alabama," which appeared in the volume *The Great War in the Heart of Dixie: Alabama During World War I* edited by Martin T. Olliff [University of Alabama Press, 2008]), these "unusually high rejection rates cut deeply in a culture that had long revered manliness, militarism, and the attainment of personal honor on the battlefield."

Saunders goes on to demonstrate that the sorry state of the health of young male Alabamians led to reforms, which historians associate with the Progressive movement. Whereas most Progressive reforms on both the national level and in most states took place in the decade before WWI, in Alabama they took place afterwards. Aided by two critical reports commissioned by the state, Gov. Thomas E. Kilby was able to enact some much-needed reforms.

In 1918 the state of Alabama spent \$58,000 on the health of hogs and cattle ("\$28,000 for the prevention of hog cholera, \$25,000 for the eradication of cattle ticks, and \$5,000

for the Live Stock Sanitary Board"), and only \$25,000 for the Alabama State Board of Health. This changed with legislature appropriations that increased to \$150,000 per year by the fiscal year 1921–1922 for the new department of health.

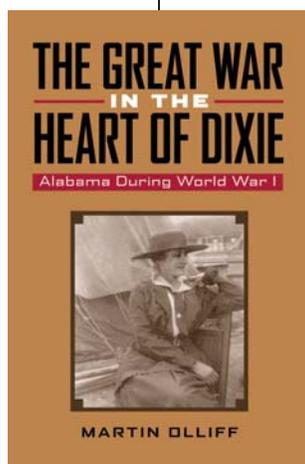
But the Progressive movement was for whites only. African American leadership had hoped that the Great War would lead to racial progress, as had the Civil War, but it was not to be. Instead of a lessening of Jim Crow, WWI was followed by some of the worst race riots in American history. It would be World War II that jump-started the civil rights movement a generation in the future.

The one lasting result of the Great War was an acceleration of the Great Migration, the relocation of Blacks from the South to the North. An estimated 100,000 African Americans from Alabama made the journey during the war years. This sad story of the African American and the Great War is dealt with in two chapters of *The Great War in the Heart of Dixie*.

Other chapters deal with the economic boom in the northwest part of Alabama, brought about by the building of Wilson Dam and an associated nitrate plant at Muscle

Shoals, and the even larger boom in Mobile, which transformed this sleepy port into a center for shipbuilding and repair. And there is an interesting chapter on the ladies of Montgomery, who undertook the task of canning surplus food to stabilize local food prices and make food available not only for the troops but for the desperately hungry European civilians as well. As a whole, this book gives the reader a feel of what life was like on the home front in Alabama during the Great War.

Taken together, these books offer a wide-ranging perspective of the war's effects on Alabamians at home and directly involved in the conflict. As the centennial of America's involvement draws nearer, these books remind readers of the costs of that involvement—and the valiant ways that many Alabamians contributed to the war effort.



---

*Stephen Goldfarb holds a PhD in the history of science and technology. He retired from a public library in 2003. The Great War in the Heart of Dixie: Alabama During World War I has recently been released in two new formats: paperback (ISBN: 978-0-8173-5492-3) and e-book (ISBN: 978-0-8173-8927-7).*

# Alabama Heritage

## DIGITAL FEATURES

THIS FEATURE IS PART of a complete issue of *Alabama Heritage*. Buying individual features is a fast, convenient, and cost-effective solution for accessing content from *Alabama Heritage*. Features are available for purchase individually through our online store at [www.AlabamaHeritage.com](http://www.AlabamaHeritage.com), and are delivered in a PDF format for easy use. This feature should not be reproduced in any format (print or digital), unless specifically permitted by *Alabama Heritage* in advance.

Most *Alabama Heritage* articles are available for purchase as a downloadable PDF. A few, however, are unavailable due to rights and permissions restrictions for the images used within the articles. A good faith effort has been made to seek permissions from those claiming rights to all images. Those without permission have been redacted.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

ONCE YOU DISCOVER how useful features from *Alabama Heritage* are, you may find it more cost effective to consider a personal subscription. A subscription to *Alabama Heritage* is also a perfect gift. To subscribe to our quarterly magazine, or to give a gift subscription, log on to [www.AlabamaHeritage.com](http://www.AlabamaHeritage.com), or call us toll free at (877) 925-2323.

## CONNECT WITH US

STAY CONNECTED with *Alabama Heritage* through our many social media sites. Follow us for fresh, daily content on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest. You can also learn more about the operations of our magazine through the eyes of our interns, and vicariously visit historic sites and attend conferences by reading our blogs. Log on to [www.AlabamaHeritage.com](http://www.AlabamaHeritage.com)