

Museum of Alabama

AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY

GALLERY GUIDE



THE FIRST ALABAMIANS
Discover the inspiring story of fourteen thousand years of Native American culture through artifacts, murals, and a diorama.



ALABAMA VOICES
Explore the dramatic unfolding of Alabama history from the dawn of the 1700s to the beginning of the 21st century in the museum's centerpiece exhibit. Artifacts, films, life-sized scenery, interactive audiovisual programs, and murals tell the story of struggles over the land, the rise of a cotton economy, the Civil War, industrialization, world wars, civil rights, the race to the moon, and more.

THE LAND OF ALABAMA

The story begins in the land. Learn about the geology and natural resources that helped shape the state's history.

THIRD FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR

FIRST FLOOR



EBSCO RESEARCH ROOM
Open to the public
Tuesday - Saturday
from 8:30 to 4:30



HANDS-ON GALLERY & GRANDMA'S ATTIC
Fun, interactive, and educational resources for children and families.



Alabama DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY





 @AlabamaArchives
 #AlabamaHistory

museum.alabama.gov • archives.alabama.gov
 624 Washington Avenue • Montgomery, AL
 Hours: Monday - Saturday, 8:30 to 4:30 • Admission is always free



THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY

In 1901, Alabama created the first state-funded, independent department of archives and history in the United States. The Archives was originally housed in the State Capitol, where its museum collections were displayed in the legislative chambers when the House and Senate were not in session. Thomas McAdory Owen, a lawyer from Jefferson County, was the department's founder and first director.

After his death in 1920, Owen was succeeded by his widow, Marie Bankhead Owen, who continued the department's expansion. Mrs. Owen secured federal New Deal funds to construct the building that would house the Archives and serve as the state's World War I memorial. The building opened in 1940 to national acclaim.

The original construction included only the central portion of the current building. Expansions to the east in 1974 and west in 2005 completed the architect's original intent for an H-shaped building. The walls of the central building are lined with Alabama marble quarried in Sylacauga.

The Archives has been the home of Alabama history for more than a century. Today, it continues its mission to tell the story of the people of Alabama as the state's official government-records repository, as a private-collections library, and as the home of the Museum of Alabama.

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU IN *History* BE A FRIEND OF THE ALABAMA ARCHIVES

For nearly four decades, the Friends of the Alabama Archives have supported the work and mission of the Alabama Department of Archives and History to collect, preserve, and share the history of our state. From sponsoring lectures, public programming, and teacher workshops to providing funds for expanding our collections, the Friends of the Alabama Archives are an invaluable part of our institution. Join the Friends to support Alabama history and enjoy special benefits.

To become a Friend, visit
friendsofthealabamaarchives.org
Questions? Call 334.353.4636

