



Press Release

For Immediate Release
September 4, 2015

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**ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION
A "LABORATORY OF LEARNING": ALABAMA STATE COLLEGE LAB HIGH
SCHOOL, A MODEL EDUCATION
BY SHARON G. PIERSON**

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, September 17, 2015 at noon.** Sharon G. Pierson will present A "*Laboratory of Learning*": *Alabama State College Lab High School, a Model Education.*

In the first half of the twentieth century in the segregated South, black laboratory schools began as "model," "practice," or "demonstration" schools that were at the heart of teacher training institutions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). They were originally designed to develop college-ready students, demonstrate effective teaching practices, and provide practical application for student teachers. This month, Dr. Sharon G. Pierson will discuss how the HBCU laboratory schools in general, and Alabama State College (now Alabama State University) Lab High in particular, greatly influenced educational training, methods, and practices throughout the region, and provided a high quality education that was separate and superior to that found in most southern white secondary schools during the Jim Crow era.

Pierson is an adjunct professor at Ramapo College of New Jersey. She earned her Ph.D. in History and Education, and M.A. in Curriculum & Teaching at Teachers College, Columbia University, where her studies of the equalities in schooling and social justice in education ignited her research interests in African American educational history. In addition to presentations and journal articles, Pierson's *Laboratory of Learning: HBCU Laboratory Schools and Alabama State College Lab High in the Era of Jim Crow*, Peter Lang Publishers was released fall, 2013.

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 brown bag lunch. Complimentary beverages are provided. **Admission is always FREE!** To view the full 2015 ArchiTreats schedule visit www.archives.alabama.gov.

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