



Press Release

For Immediate Release
February 20, 2015

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JEFFREY C. BENTON TO PRESENT *THROUGH OTHERS' EYES: PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF ANTEBELLUM MONTGOMERY* ON FEBRUARY 25TH AT NOON CO-SPONSORED BY NEWSOUTH BOOKS

On Wednesday, **February 25, 2015 at noon**, the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) will present a book talk by Jeffery C. Benton entitled *Through Others' Eyes: Published Accounts of Antebellum Montgomery, Alabama*. This presentation is co-sponsored by NewSouth Books.

In this companion book to Benton's popular history, *The Very Worst Road: Travellers' Accounts of Crossing Alabama's Old Creek Indian Territory, 1820 – 1847*, this new book is a collection of twenty-seven published accounts of Montgomery, Alabama spanning 36 years between April 1825 and May 1861. The accounts were written by travelers both famous and obscure. Besides the unsurprising comments on the horrible state of accommodations and food in Montgomery and along the Federal Road, and the trials of travel by stagecoach, steamboat, and railway, these writers commented on slavery, natural history, agriculture, and their impressions of Alabamians. Benton will present and discuss these captivating insights into the world that was the antebellum South. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

Jeffrey C. Benton is a retired Air Force colonel and has taught history and English at the high school and graduate school level. He holds master's degrees in English, Political Science, and History. Benton's books on Montgomery and its environs include *A Sense of Place: Montgomery's Architectural Heritage, 1821 – 1951*; *The Very Worst Road: Travellers' Accounts of Crossing Alabama's Old Creek Indian Territory, 1820 – 1847*; and *They Served Here: Thirty-three Maxwell Men*. In 2013, NewSouth Books published *Respectable and Disreputable: Leisure Time in Antebellum Montgomery*.

This presentation is **FREE** to the public. The Alabama Department of Archives and History is located in downtown Montgomery across the street from the State Capitol on Washington Avenue. For more information visit www.archives.alabama.gov or call (334) 353-3312.

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