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PRESS RELEASE

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**DAVID ALSOBROOK TO PRESENT BOOK TALK AT THE ARCHIVES
ON SEPTEMBER 27 AT 12:00
*SOUTHSIDE: EUFAULA'S COTTON MILL VILLAGE AND ITS PEOPLE, 1890-1945***

Montgomery, AL (9/6/17) – On **Wednesday, September 27 at 12:00**, author David Alsobrook will present a book talk on his new publication ***Southside: Eufaula's Cotton Mill Village and Its People*** at the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) in Montgomery. Admission is **free**.

In *Southside*, Alsobrook utilizes previously unpublished family records, photographs, oral histories, and other primary sources to tell the stories of ordinary cotton mill families who lived and worked in Southside Eufaula, Alabama, from the early 1890s through 1945. His book explores the rise and fall of the invisible social barriers that separated "Old Eufaula" and Southside for years. Many of the photographs that appear in *Southside* are from personal family collections and have never been previously published. During his presentation, Alsobrook will also discuss legendary mill owner Donald Comer's remarkably enlightened brand of paternalism, which differed significantly from the philosophy of many of his contemporaries in the Southern textile industry.

Dr. David E. Alsobrook was born in Eufaula and grew up in Mobile. He earned a bachelor's degree and a doctorate from Auburn University and a master's degree from West Virginia University. Alsobrook started his public history career as an archivist at the ADAH before beginning a thirty-year tenure with the National Archives and Records Administration, where he worked as Supervisory Archivist at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library, and as the first director of the George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton Presidential Libraries. Over the past forty years, he has published articles and book reviews in various scholarly journals on a wide range of Alabama and Southern historical topics. *Southside* is his first book. Alsobrook is currently serving as the president of the Alabama Historical Association.

Southside: Eufaula's Cotton Mill Village and Its People, 1890-1945 (2017) is published by Mercer University Press. Copies will be available for purchase at the presentation.

For more information about the book talk, call (334) 353-3312.

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is the state's government records repository, special collections library and research facility, and is home to the Museum of Alabama, the state history museum. It is located in downtown Montgomery, directly across the street from the State Capitol. The Archives and Museum are open Monday through Saturday, 8:30 to 4:30. The EBSCO Research Room is open Tuesday through Friday and the second Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 4:30. To learn more, visit www.archives.alabama.gov or call (334) 242-4364.

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