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NEWS RELEASE

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BOOK TALK AND SIGNING,
JOHN JAMES AUDUBON – THE FORGOTTEN MANUSCRIPTS
BY DANIEL PATTERSON
AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Join us at **noon** on **Thursday, July 28** as **Daniel Patterson** presents ***John James Audubon - the Forgotten Manuscripts***. This informative talk and book signing will be held at the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

Few people know much about John James Audubon, except that he was the creator of the magnificent folio plates of *The Birds of America*. Recently recovered manuscripts from the Upper Missouri River Expedition of 1843 reveal much about this complex individual. Audubon's best friend was Edward Harris, whose papers and artifacts are at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. The journals Harris wrote on the 1843 Upper Missouri River expedition with Audubon illuminate the final stage of Audubon's conservationism in new and interesting ways and help us better understand his place in conservation history.

Daniel Patterson is a scholar of early American natural history and nature writing and professor of English at Central Michigan University. His books include *Early American Nature Writers: A Biographical Encyclopedia* (2008) and three volumes on the nineteenth-century American nature writer Susan Fenimore Cooper. Having completed *John James Audubon's Journal of 1826: The Voyage to The Birds of America* (2011), he is now at work on a book about Audubon's 1843 expedition on the Upper Missouri River.

The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history, free. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives. For more information, call (334) 353-4726.

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