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NEWS RELEASE

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Release Date: Immediately

ARCHITREATS: FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION
ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SIT-IN PROTESTS OF 1960
BY JOE L. REED
AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

ArchiTreats: Food for Thought offers informative talks on Alabama history at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Join us at **noon** on **Thursday, February 18** as **Joe L. Reed** presents *Alabama State University Student Sit-In Protests of 1960*.

On February 1, 1960 four black students at North Carolina A&T University went to the F.W. Woolworth store to order food and decided to 'sit down' and eat rather than stand up. This decision to 'sit down' sparked a massive new movement in support of civil and economic rights. For the first time, students made an independent decision, on their own, to actively oppose segregation. Soon the movement spread to Montgomery where Alabama State University became the focal point of the entire 'sit-in' movement in Alabama.

Joe L. Reed was born in Conecuh County where he attended public schools. He served a tour of duty in the U.S. Army in Korea. A graduate of Alabama State University (ASU), Reed was president of the junior class and president of the student body. While a student there, he was an organizer of the 'sit-in' movement in Montgomery, and a founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. He received a master's degree in Political Science from Case Western Reserve University and an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from ASU. Reed has served numerous positions in the Democratic Party and as a Montgomery City Councilman for 24 years and is widely known as a champion for voting rights and equal representation. Currently, Reed serves as Associate Executive Secretary of the Alabama Education Association.

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

This program is part of the statewide *Becoming Alabama* initiative to commemorate three landmark events in the development of Alabama: the Creek War of 1813-1814, the Civil War and Emancipation, and the Civil Rights Movement.

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