

The Centreville Historic Commission  
and  
The Birmingham Public Library  
Invite You to Tour The

**Bicentennial**

# **SWEET HOME**

## **Alabama's Historical Maps Exhibit**

Monday, September 18, 2017 - Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Monday – Thursday - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Brent-Centreville Library  
153 Walnut Street, Centreville, AL 35042



*Sweet Home: Alabama's History in Maps* is an exhibit presented by the Birmingham Public Library in celebration of Alabama's bicentennial. The Library's Southern History Department has carefully selected over 50 maps from our world class collection to tell the story of Alabama. The maps in this exhibit represent 450 years of exploration, expansion, and development.

The Birmingham Public Library has been the grateful recipient of several large collections of rare, valuable, and exquisitely drawn maps. These donations were made by Rucker Agee, Dr. Charles Ochs, John C. Henley III, and Joseph H. Woodward II. As a result of their generosity the BPL has an extraordinary map collection, the like of which is rarely seen outside of academia.

Map collectors and enthusiasts have long known that maps are much more than navigational tools. They tell a story, promote an agenda, and tantalize our imagination. Maps, like any historical document, are products of their time and their creators. In the hands of a gifted cartographer, they are works of art without compare. By studying historic maps of Alabama, we gain insight into not only the physical changes of our state over the course of its history, but also into the constantly changing perceptions of who we are and who we want to be. Enjoy this exhibit that tells our story which, while not always pretty, is still ongoing and being written by all of us.