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**ALEXANDER STREET AND ARCADIA PUBLISHING TO CREATE
ONLINE LOCAL AND REGIONAL HISTORY RESOURCE**
*Online Collection of texts and more than 1 million images will be boon to local
historians and genealogists*

Alexandria, VA and Charleston, SC (March 26, 2008)—Alexander Street Press, an award-winning publisher of online resources for research and learning in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, and Arcadia Publishing, the leading publisher of local and regional history books in the United States, today announced plans to create **Local and Regional History Online: A History of American Life in Images and Texts**.

Local and Regional History Online will contain more than 1 million historical images and accompanying texts depicting life in the neighborhoods, towns, and cities of America. Drawn from local sources, these histories and images will offer a curbside look at bygone days and a street-level understanding of the lives of our forebears. The collection will serve as a valuable addition to the local-history and genealogical resources of libraries and other information centers nationwide.

With pictorial histories and stories of thousands of towns in all fifty states, *Local and Regional History Online* will feature Alexander Street's Semantic Indexing™, a technology that allows hobbyists and scholars to tap the database's powerful search capabilities and identify new resources quickly and easily. A local historian trying to retrace his great-grandmother's footsteps might find a vintage photograph of the house in which she grew up or the church where she was married, along with descriptions of the organizations to which she belonged. A scholar of comparative history can use the collection to identify regional differences among cultural groups, comparing images and histories of African Americans in the Midwest and the Southeast.

"This collection brings together the stories of thousands of communities across the United States. In doing so, it moves beyond local history and becomes a grassroots record of what happened across America as a whole," says Stephen Rhind-Tutt, President of Alexander Street Press. "Alexander Street and Arcadia Publishing share a common belief that local history is the key to understanding the spirit of this nation."

Richard Joseph, CEO of Arcadia Publishing, says, "Users of this collection will find the database addictive. It will reconnect people with their past, elicit memories, and spark conversations of yesterday. Ultimately it will help people find *their* place in history."

Local and Regional History Online: A History of American Life in Images and Texts will be available in early 2009. For more information, visit <http://alexanderstreet.com/products/lrho.htm>

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ABOUT ALEXANDER STREET PRESS: Founded in 2000, Alexander Street Press has garnered a wide array of awards and critical acclaim for its databases, including *Women and Social Movements*, *Theatre in Video*, *Classical Music Library*, *Black Drama*, *North American Women's Letters and Diaries*, and many others. Alexander Street combines the skills of traditional publishing, librarianship, and software development to create Semantically Indexed electronic collections with a reputation for quality content, ease of use, and uniquely powerful search capabilities. To learn more, visit www.alexanderstreet.com

ABOUT ARCADIA PUBLISHING: Established in 1993, Arcadia Publishing is the leading publisher of local and regional history in the United States. Their mission is to make history accessible and meaningful and to celebrate and preserve the heritage of America's people and places. Find *your* place in history in more than 5,000 books at www.arcadiapublishing.com.

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