Office of Historic Alexandria

Eleanor Breen
City Archaeologist, OHA
Museums

Friendship Firehouse

The Lyceum

Alexandria Black History Museum

Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site

Alexandria Archaeology

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum
1315 Duke Street
Freedom House Museum
Murray-Dick-Fawcett
517 Prince Street
Historic Sites

African American Heritage Park

Union Station

Lloyd House

Watson Reading Room

Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery

Collections Storage Facility
WE'RE REOPENING!
SELECT MUSEUMS - BEGINNING MARCH 25

Gadsby's Tavern Museum
Fri (11-4), Sat (11-5), Sun (1-5)

Alexandria Archaeology
Fri (11-4), Sat (11-5), Sun (1-5)

Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum
Th (11-4), Fri (11-4), Sat (11-5)

Friendship Firehouse
Select Saturdays: April 17, May 22, and June 19
Alexandria Archaeology

• Seeks to preserve and study the tangible remains of our community’s heritage for public enrichment and enjoyment
• City archaeologists and volunteers work with residents and developers to locate cites important to the City’s past and excavate them when necessary
• Visitors can learn about Alexandria’s past at the hands-on Archaeology Museum
The Archives and Records Center manages the records created by the City of Alexandria’s government agencies, preserves the archival or historical documents of these agencies, and ensures that these documents are available for public research. The Archives and Records Center must comply with the Virginia Public Records Act.
Collecting History “in the making!”

Chronicling the Pandemic: Alexandria’s Story

• Your original writings
• Your original drawings/artwork
• Your original photographs
• Your original short videos
• Photographs of objects, for consideration for acquisition
Collecting History “in the making!”

The Legacy of George Floyd: Documenting Alexandria’s Response

• Your original writings
• Your original drawings/artwork
• Your original photographs
• Your original short videos
• Photographs of objects, for consideration for acquisition
Building Preservation
Museum Collections and Conservation

The Office of Historic Alexandria preserves and interprets the past of our community for residents and visitors alike… but we also are dedicated to protecting, preserving and conserving our historical collections for the education and enjoyment of future generations.
Conservation Projects
Historic Ships Excavation

• 18th century ship discovered during waterfront development
• Currently being conserved
• Great opportunity for public to witness archaeology and preservation in action
Digital Documentation
Interdepartmental Planning and Review
Alexandria Community Remembrance Project

- Benjamin Thomas
  August 8, 1899
- Joseph McCoy
  April 23, 1897
Education and Life-long Learning
Educational Programs

All museums have educational activities for school-aged students

• SOL coordinated programs for all students of all grade levels.

• Lesson plans and outreach kits also available to educators to in classrooms

• Homeschool programs

• Scout programs

• Summer camps for K through 7
Public Programs

- 18th and 19th-century balls
- Lectures
- Foodie events, tastings
- Historic beverage events
- Re-enactments
- Specialty tours
- Birthday parties
Historic ALX Online!

Friendship Firehouse Museum
Summer Fun Kits!
Walking Tours

- Tour of sites
- African American history
- Civil War hospitals
- War of 1812 sites
- And more!
Wayfinding
Heritage Tourism

- Cultural and heritage visitors typically stay longer than business or leisure travelers
- Cultural and heritage visitors spend nearly twice the current average expenditure of other travelers
Boards & Commissions

- Alexandria Archaeological Commission – Provides guidance on cultural resource management.
- Alexandria Historical Restoration & Preservation Commission – accepts open space and interior and façade easements in historic districts. There are now 60 easements on properties in Alexandria. Commission members are appointed by the State and the City.
- Public Records Advisory Commission – advises staff and Council on records management and archival collections.
- George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee – coordinates activities to promote Washington’s connection to Alexandria
- Sister Cities – Three committees covering cultural partnerships with the cities of Caen, Dundee, and Helsingborg.
Friends Groups

• Gadsby’s Tavern Museum Society
• Friends of Alexandria Archaeology
• Friends of Fort Ward
• Mortar and Pestle Society
• Friendship Firehouse Veterans Association
Support OHA!

- Volunteer
- Attend events
- Become a museum member
- Subscribe to our weekly list serve
- Follow us on Social Media
Stay Informed!

• Sign up for our weekly enews!
• Weekly “Out of the Attic” column
• Follow us on Social Media
  • Facebook
  • Twitter
  • Pinterest
  • Instagram
  • YouTube
Thank you for your interest in the Office of Historic Alexandria
Questions?

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