



Alexandria Times

Established in 1797 as *The Alexandria Times and Advertiser*

Marking Time

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Alexandria Times, August 30, 2007

Image: Birds Eye View of Alexandria, map by Charles Magnus, circa 1863. Photo, Office of Historic Alexandria.

"History is a kind of introduction to more interesting people than we can possibly meet in our restricted lives; let us not neglect the opportunity." –Dexter Perkins.

Thirteen thousand years ago, Native Americans sat on a bluff overlooking Hunting Creek and made tools.

We know this because Alexandria archaeologists uncovered a spear point, identified as a Clovis point, while excavating at the site of the Freedmen's Cemetery near the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. From that time to the present, Alexandria has preserved its history in many ways. Beginning next week, the Alexandria Times, in partnership with the Office of Historic Alexandria, will introduce a weekly feature, "Marking Time," which will give readers a glimpse of the city's rich and diverse heritage.



Lance Mallamo, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria said, "We are very excited about this partnership because it will give us an opportunity to tell everyone about our public museums and variety of historic places and invite them to visit and explore the sites that are featured.

"Marking Time" will provide information about each historic feature that is featured. "This is a great idea because it will allow us to provide interesting information about Alexandria's history which might lead people to explore other aspects of the city's past as well as regional or national history," said Audrey Davis, assistant director and curator at the Black History Museum. "For example, we have information on the sit-in in Alexandria in 1939 and that might lead to interest in the Civil Rights movement over-all."

Barbara Magid, an archaeologist with Alexandria Archaeology agreed.

"We have artifacts from the 13,000-year-old spear point to Depression glass from the 20th century and we find different pieces of history all the time," she said.

--- Carla Branch

"Out of the Attic" is published each week in the Alexandria Times newspaper. The column began in September 2007 as "Marking Time" and explored Alexandria's history through collection items, historical images and architectural representations. Within the first year, it evolved into "Out of the Attic" and featured historical photographs of Alexandria.

These articles appear with the permission of the Alexandria Times and were authored by Amy Bertsch, former Public Information Officer, and Lance Mallamo, Director, on behalf of the Office of Historic Alexandria.