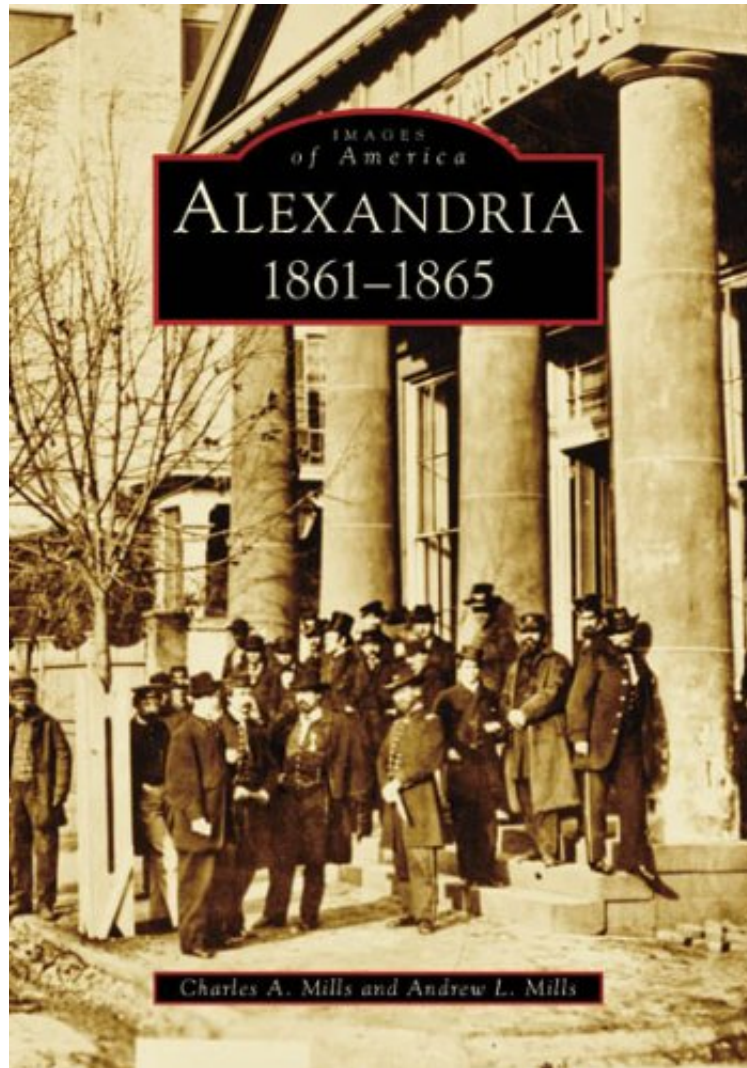


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Charles A. Mills, Andrew L. Mills : Alexandria, 1861-1865 (Images of America: Virginia) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alexandria, 1861-1865 (Images of America: Virginia):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of the Best in the Images of America Series By Colinda There are many books in the Images of America series and they vary tremendously. While some seem like mundane community scrapbooks, this one is a compelling collection of historical images accompanied by well-researched text. Alexandria, Virginia was a significant town in the American Civil War. It was occupied by the Union Army and used as a base for various military activities. Local citizens were greatly inconvenienced and in some cases financially

ruined by the military presence. Fortunately for the many of us who are interested in the Civil War, photographers were actively recording military life on the Union side and many of these pictures still exist. This book contains a wealth of examples of these photographs. The authors are historians who share intriguing background information for the images. The book includes chapters on African Americans, railroads, the Potomac River and its busy waterfront, hospitals and prisons, forts, scenes in nearby Northern Virginia, and memorializing the war. Sometimes the same subject is repeated from a different viewpoint, which might be of value for the serious researcher but seems unnecessary to the casual reader. Still, there are many fascinating photographs presented here. As someone who lived many years in Alexandria and studied its history, I was pleased to find images that were new to me. Also I found the text to be enlightening and easy to understand. I recommend this book to Civil War buffs, students of African American history, and researchers of Virginia History.

Alexandria and Northern Virginia were the first areas to feel the fury of the Civil War. The New York Herald war correspondent observed, Many hamlets and towns have been destroyed during the war, Alexandria has most suffered. It has been in the uninterrupted possession of the Federals. . . . Alexandria is filled with ruined people; they walk as strangers through their ancient streets, and their property is no longer theirs to possess. . . . these things ensued, as the natural results of civil war; and ones sympathies were everywhere enlisted for the poor, the exiled, and the bereaved. This book graphically portrays the scenes of war and occupation.

About the Author Alexandria: 1861-1865, by Charles A. Mills and Andrew L. Mills, is a compilation of rare Civil War-era photographs from the Library of Congress and the private collections of Alexandrias William Francis Smith and Mollie Somerville. Smith began collecting photographs as a boy and specialized in 19th-century views. Somerville was secretary to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Charles A. Mills is the author of numerous books on the Civil War, including Echoes of Manassas and Treasure Legends of the Civil War. Andrew L. Mills is a history teacher and host of the cable TV show Virginia Time Travel.