



# Alexandria Times

Established in 1797 as *The Alexandria Times and Advertiser*

## Out of the Attic

### Hallowell-Carlin House

*Alexandria Times, October 28, 2010*

*Image: Hallowell-Carlin House, 215 North Washington Street. Photo, Library of Congress.*

Educator Benjamin Hallowell had this three-and-a-half-story brick home built in 1854-1855 on the east side of Washington Street between Cameron and Queen streets. The house had four chimneys, end parapets and a roof balustrade.

Hallowell wrote of his home, located across the street from his school, "As I expected to end my days in this new building, I furnished it with every known convenience, and supplied it with all modern improvements." But he later sold the school and moved away.

During the Civil War, the structure was used as a Union hospital, as several other large homes in Alexandria were. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the house at 215 North Washington St. became the home of Joseph Broders, a successful wholesale grocer who became the president of First National Bank. In 1891, his daughter Lillian married Charles Creighton Carlin at the family home, where the Carlins would later make their residence as well.

An attorney and former postmaster, Carlin was elected to Congress in 1907 and served as a Representative until 1919. During his time in Congress, Carlin welcomed notable guests to his home including President William H. Taft in 1909 and Vice President Thomas Marshall in 1914. In the years after Carlin's death, the house became the residence of a federal judge and later of a former diplomatic officer who ran a school there in the 1940s to prepare candidates to take the Foreign Service exam.

In the early 1950s, the home was advertised for sale to a "lucky" business, school, club, fraternal organization, builder, speculator or investor. It did serve as an apartment building for several years before being demolished in 1965.



*"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.*



**Office of Historic Alexandria  
City of Alexandria, Virginia**

---

*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.*