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Archaeologist explores history of northwest Iowa villages

Learn more about the villages and people who lived in northwest Iowa nearly 1,000 years ago at the Tuesday Twilight Talk, **What's Old is New Again: A Thousand-Year Old Sioux City Village Comes to Light** on Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sioux City Public Museum. The program will be presented by Lynn M. Alex, director of education and outreach for the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa.

Local residents and members of the Sioux City Academy of Science and Letters first discovered rich, archaeological "tells" along the Big Sioux and its tributaries 130 years ago. Since that time professional and avocational archaeologists have explored these villages in an effort to understand the people who once lived here. Recent technologies allow archaeologists to "see" below the surface of these sites, often with amazing results.

In her position in the Office of the State Archaeologist, Alex heads an education committee that plans and directs outreach efforts on Iowa archaeology statewide. She has conducted archaeological research for over thirty years at numerous sites in Scotland, Norway, and the U.S. Midwest and Plains. Alex has authored, coauthored and edited dozens of articles, and published two books, *Exploring Iowa's Past* (1980) and *Iowa's Archaeological Past* (2000). She currently co-edits the Newsletter of the Iowa Archeological Society and is on the Editorial Board for the Society's Journal. She serves on Iowa's statewide Iowa Studies Committee, the Iowa Archeological Society Board of Directors, national *Project Archaeology*, and the Public Education Committee for the Society of American Archaeology. She has served on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village in Mitchell, South Dakota for more than a decade.

Housed in the historic John Peirce Mansion at 2901 Jackson Street, the Sioux City Public Museum offers monthly Tuesday Twilight Talk programs featuring topics of regional historic interest. For more information, call the Sioux City Public Museum at 712-279-6174 or visit www.siouxcitymuseum.org. Admission is free.