## **History Note2**

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<sup>[2]</sup> Amongst other Egyptian cities, Alexandria, was considered one of Egypt's most beautiful. It is worth noting that earlier last century amongst urban experts Alexandria had claimed the title of "Mediterranean Pearl". The Alexandria seaport design, as legend has it, was based on the shape of the neck opening of Alexander the Great's top armour.

The year 1993 signalled the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inception of the Greek Community in Alexandria, Egypt. The Greek population in Alexandria was the largest amongst other Egyptian cities.

During the early 1900's, other Egyptian cities also became the home of Greek communities, including the Egyptian capital Cairo and other urban areas particularly along the Suez Canal like the city of Suez, Port Said and Ismailia. The operation of Suez Canal joining the Mediterranean and the Red sea, sought the need for engineers and other professionals experienced in maritime and canal maintenance jobs. Vocational prospects in the Canal attracted for many decades the like of such workers from Greek islands, as well as other westerners with skills specifically in that industry.

As well as employment opportunities in the Suez Canal, entrepreneurial Greek nationals also worked and operated industries in other rural and or semi-rural townships across the Egyptian mainland.