

EXPLORE OUR HISTORY

Colonial Heights VIRGINIA



Location & Contact Info:
131 Waterfront Drive
Colonial Heights, VA 23934
(804) 520-9470



Old Brick House

Built in 1685, it is considered the oldest brick house in the region. The house is located on the promontory between Swift Creek and the Appomattox River, and was simply called "Brick House."



Violet Bank

Location & Contact Info:
303 Virginia Avenue
Colonial Heights, Virginia
(804) 520-9395

The first recorded settlement in Colonial Heights was by Thomas Shore in 1775. He built his mansion on 144 acres and called it Violet Bank. While the original main building was destroyed in a fire, this remaining structure, dated to 1815, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a registered Virginia Historic Landmark.



Chesterfield House

Privately owned, visible:
151 Carroll Avenue
Colonial Heights, Virginia

This historic site, Oak Hill, also called Archer's, Hector's, or Dunn's Hill, consisted of two one-story weatherboard structures. From the lawn of this house, in May 1781, General Lafayette, shelled British-held with cannon-fire behind a boxwood hedge that still fringes the hill. The house was built in 1825 and is a one-story, frame house with Greek Revival interior detail.



Fort Clifton

Location & Contact Info:
100 Brookwell Lane
Colonial Heights, Virginia
(804) 520-9390



Fort Clifton was a Confederate stronghold on the Appomattox River, serving as an important link in the line that defended Richmond and Petersburg in 1864 and 1865. Located on a high bluff at the junction of the Appomattox River and Swift Creek, the fort controlled navigation on the river north of Petersburg and was a formidable defensive bastion that wasn't taken by Union forces until the fall of Petersburg on April 3, 1865. The three earthworks that comprised the fort's batteries still stand on the bluffs along the river.



Swift Creek Mill

Location & Contact Info:
17401 Jeff Davis Hwy
Colonial Heights, Virginia

Restaurant and Playhouse
Today "The Mill" serves a restaurant and playhouse, delighting audiences with dinner and theatrical productions since 1965. For a schedule of performances and costs, call 804-748-5203, or visit www.swiftcreekmill.com.

Grist Mill
This building housed what is believed to be the oldest grist mill in America, dating back to Virginia's early settlers. The 300 year old Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a registered Virginia Historic Landmark.

