

Located in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains, Clintwood, VA is a charming town steeped in tradition.

"THE COUNTY SEAT OF VIRGINIA'S BABY"

Clintwood, VA is home to more than 1500 people, 672 households, and 426 families. It's the County Seat of Dickenson County, the youngest in the state, hence our famous town motto, "The county seat of Virginia's baby."

Clintwood's 1.9 square miles offer plenty of activities and adventures for resident families and visitors - from the Ralph Stanley Museum and Jettie Baker Center, to our numerous town parks, nearby campgrounds and recreational areas.

The Ralph Stanley Museum also features a two-bedroom lodging suite, located on the third floor of the museum. It can be rented as a suite or by the bedroom - [click here for more information](#).

RECREATION & TOURISM

FUN FACTS

Clintwood, VA is the home turf of musician Ralph Stanley.

In 1948, Clintwood received global publicity for electing an all-female town council.

Pro footballer Justin Hamilton was a star at Clintwood High School.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population: 1,549

Households: 672

Families: 426

Median Age: 46

Gender: 84.4 males
to every 100 females

GPS COORDINATES:

37.150054, -82.456698

The Ralph Stanley Museum

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The Ralph Stanley Museum & Traditional Mountain Music Center provides a truly unique, interactive experience. Visitors can see and hear traditional American mountain music in its original setting - the beautiful mountains of southwestern Virginia.

The museum opened its doors in 2004 with the mission of preserving and promoting traditional, Appalachian mountain and Bluegrass music, not only through its exhibits, but also through workshops, seminars and conventions. The Ralph Stanley Museum is one of [The Crooked Road](#) venues, which is a Virginia Heritage Music Trail celebrating the unique musical heritage of the region.

Even if you've already been touched by the music of Ralph Stanley, you haven't fully experienced it until you've journeyed into the heart of Appalachia.

EXHIBITS

Museum exhibits highlight the career and musical influences of Ralph Stanley & the Stanley Brothers. More exhibit information coming soon.

LOCATION & DIRECTIONS

The Ralph Stanley Museum & Traditional Mountain Music Center is located in a centuries-old, four-story home currently under design renovation in Clintwood, Virginia. The street address is 249 Main Street, Clintwood, VA 24228.

[Click here for a map and turn-by-turn directions.](#)

LODGING

A two-bedroom lodging suite is located on the third floor of the museum. It can be rented as a suite or by the bedroom, and features a king-size bed in each room, as well as a shared kitchen space and sitting area. No smoking or pets allowed.

Nightly Rates: 1 Bedroom - \$90.00 plus tax, 2 Bedroom - \$165.00 plus tax.



A Brief History of Clintwood, Virginia

Clintwood, VA was founded in 1882 when the General Assembly opted to create a brand new city on Holly Creek to serve as County Seat to Dickenson County. Prior to that decision, the county seat was located on McClure River, on or near the mouth of Caney Creek in a town called Ervinton.

Clintwood is located in the beautiful upland Holly Creek Valley in the western part of Dickenson County and is about six miles from the Kentucky state line.

THE CLINTWOOD NAMESAKE

Clintwood was named after Major Henry Clinton Wood of Scott County, Virginia, who was nicknamed "Clintwood." He was an influential member of the Virginia Senate at the time. In repayment for Major Woods' valuable advocacy of the proposed change of the county seat, Captain John P. Chase (a Confederate Army captain and a first settler of Holly Creek) caused the new town to be called Clintwood.

INCORPORATING THE TOWN

In 1864, the General Assembly incorporated Clintwood, VA as a town with appropriate officers, but the resulting local governmental unit didn't function very long and no record of its activities are known to exist. Thirty years later, in 1894, the General Assembly passed an act to reincorporate the town. This new act embraced all the territory "within the limits of one half mile each way from the courthouse."

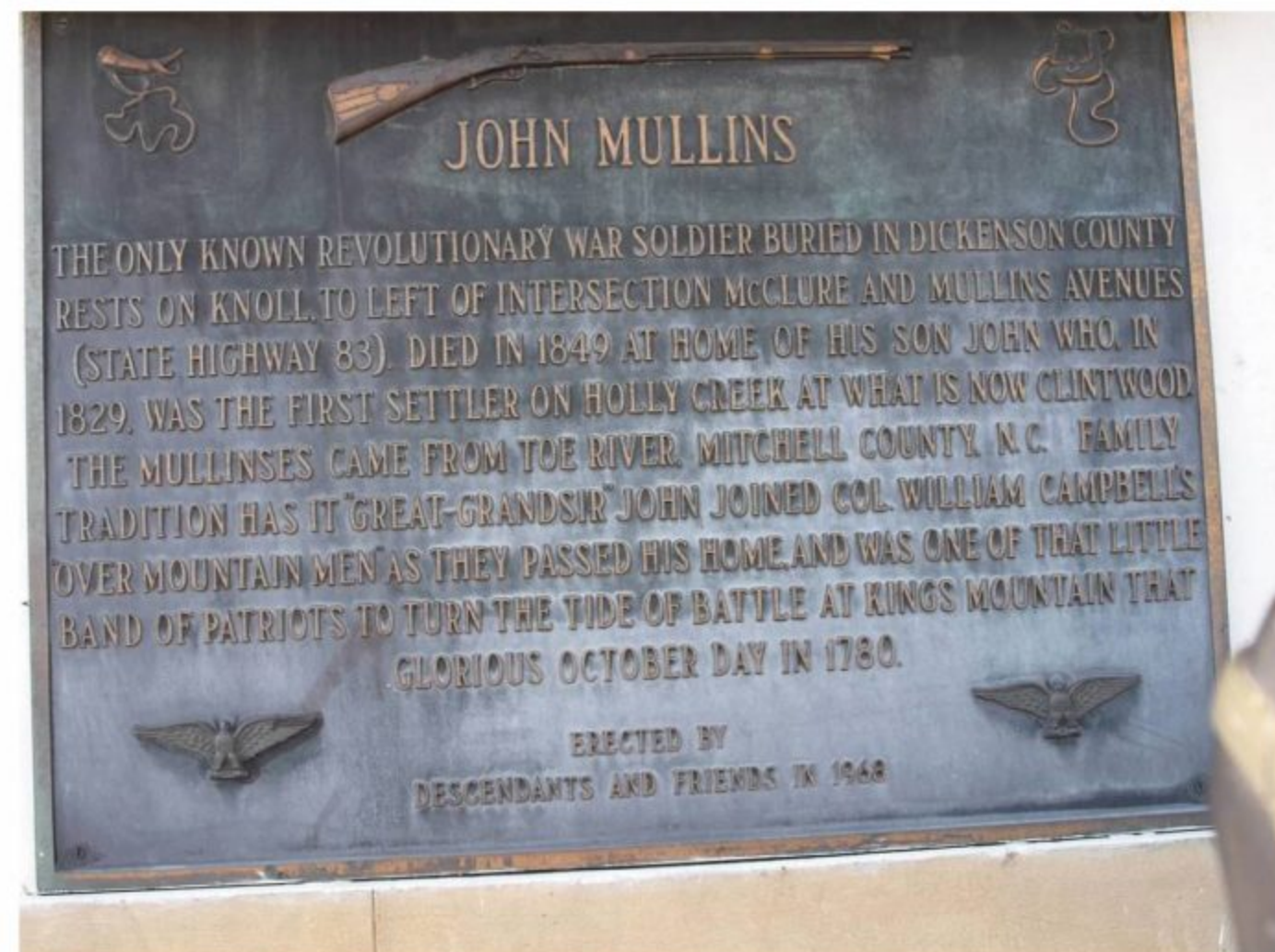
The First Settlers of Holly Creek

THE MULLINS FAMILY

Around 1829, John Mullins came to Holly Creek from Burke County, North Carolina. William Broadwater, a transient hunter, had previously built a pole cabin in the area, but had vacated it and returned to Scott County.

John Mullins moved into this abandoned cabin on what is now Main Street. After a short while, he left his fourteen year old daughter Mary and two younger sons to care for his property while he returned to North Carolina to bring back the remainder of his family.

Winter set in early and the snow was so deep that Mr. Mullins was unable to return to Holly Creek until the following spring. His three young children lived in the wilderness all this time, with their nearest neighbor at least ten miles away.



John Mullins later brought his aged father, John Mullins Sr., to his mountain home in Holly Creek, where he remained the rest of his life. The elder John Mullins was reputed to have been one of the American heroes at the battle of Kingsport Mountain and is the only known soldier of the Revolution to be buried in Dickenson County.

The younger John Mullins raised a large family on his new farm. Most of them married and settled in the vicinity of Clintwood. It is said that his sons and sons-in law owned most of the land between Pound and Cranesnest Rivers from Nickels Gap to Georges Fork Mountain.

JOHN P. CHASE

John P. Chase, a young man from Tennessee, came to Holly Creek in 1854 and was employed by John Mullins on his large farm. Later, young Chase purchased a part of Mullin's farm and remained a leading citizen of the community. Mr. Chase served as a captain in the Confederate Army and was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates for two terms.

THE FIRST CLINTWOOD STREETS & STRUCTURES

A brick courthouse and wooden jail were constructed on the public square fixed by Commissioners, who laid out the town with Main Street in the middle, High Street parallel on the north side and Walnut Street on the south. Narrow alleyways connected these three streets. Captain Chase sold lots to officials and other interested persons seeking home sites in the new community.