

# Bluffton Walking Tour

- ★ **The Heyward House Museum & Welcome Center**  
Built 1841. Museum open to the public, 70 Boundary Street
- 2 **The Fripp House**  
Built c. 1835, renovated 1998. Private residence, 48 Bridge Street
- 3 **The Card House**  
Built c. 1825, renovated 1998. Private residence, 34 Bridge Street
- 4 **Pritchard House**  
Built 1890, restored 1996. Private residence, 131 Pritchard Street
- 5 **The Bluff**  
Built 1883, rebuilt c. 1921. Private residence, 132 Pritchard Street
- 6 **Pine House**  
Built 1898. Private residence, 85 Bridge Street
- 7 **Squire Pope's Carriage House/Summer Kitchen**  
Built c. 1850, joined c. 1865. Private residence, 111 Calhoun Street
- 8 **The Church of the Cross**  
Built 1857. Episcopal Church, 110 Calhoun Street
- 9 **Huger-Gordon House**  
Built c. 1795. Private residence, 9 Water Street
- 10 **Allen-Lockwood House**  
Built c. 1850. 94 Calhoun Street
- 11 **Seven Oaks**  
Built c. 1850. 82 Calhoun Street
- 12 **Graves House**  
Built 1915, renovated 2016. Private residence, 85 Calhoun Street
- 13 **Fripp-Lowden House**  
Built 1909. 80 Calhoun Street
- 14 **Colcock-Teel House**  
Built 1890. BHPS Headquarters, 46 Colcock Street
- 15 **Cedar Bluff**  
Built 1890, renovated 2015. Private residence, 53 Colcock Street
- 16 **Bluffton Oyster Factory**  
Original structure built c. 1900. Current structure built 1954. Commercial business, 63 Wharf Street
- 17 **Garvin-Garvey House**  
Built c. 1870. Interpretive Center, 101 Bridge Street
- 18 **Orage Cottage**  
Built c. 1930. Private residence, 92 Bridge Street
- 19 **The Peeples Store**  
Built 1904. Retail store, 56 Calhoun Street
- 20 **John A. Seabrook House**  
Built c. 1850s. Private residence, 47 Lawrence Street
- 21 **Carson Cottage**  
Built c. 1890, restored 2007. Commercial business, 38 Calhoun Street
- 22 **Daniel H. Heyward, Sr. House**  
Built 1914, restored 1998. Private offices, 32 Calhoun Street
- 23 **Patz Brothers' House**  
Built 1892, restored 1995. Private residence, 26 Calhoun Street
- 24 **Planter's Mercantile**  
Built c. 1890. Private offices & residence, 20 Calhoun Street
- 25 **The Bruin House**  
Built c. 1910. Private residence, Hwy. 46 & Goethe Road
- 26 **Cordray House**  
Built c. 1910. Private residence, Hwy. 46 & Calhoun Street
- 27 **Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church**  
Built 1853. African Methodist Episcopal Church, 23 Boundary Street

## START YOUR VISIT AT THE HEYWARD HOUSE MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER

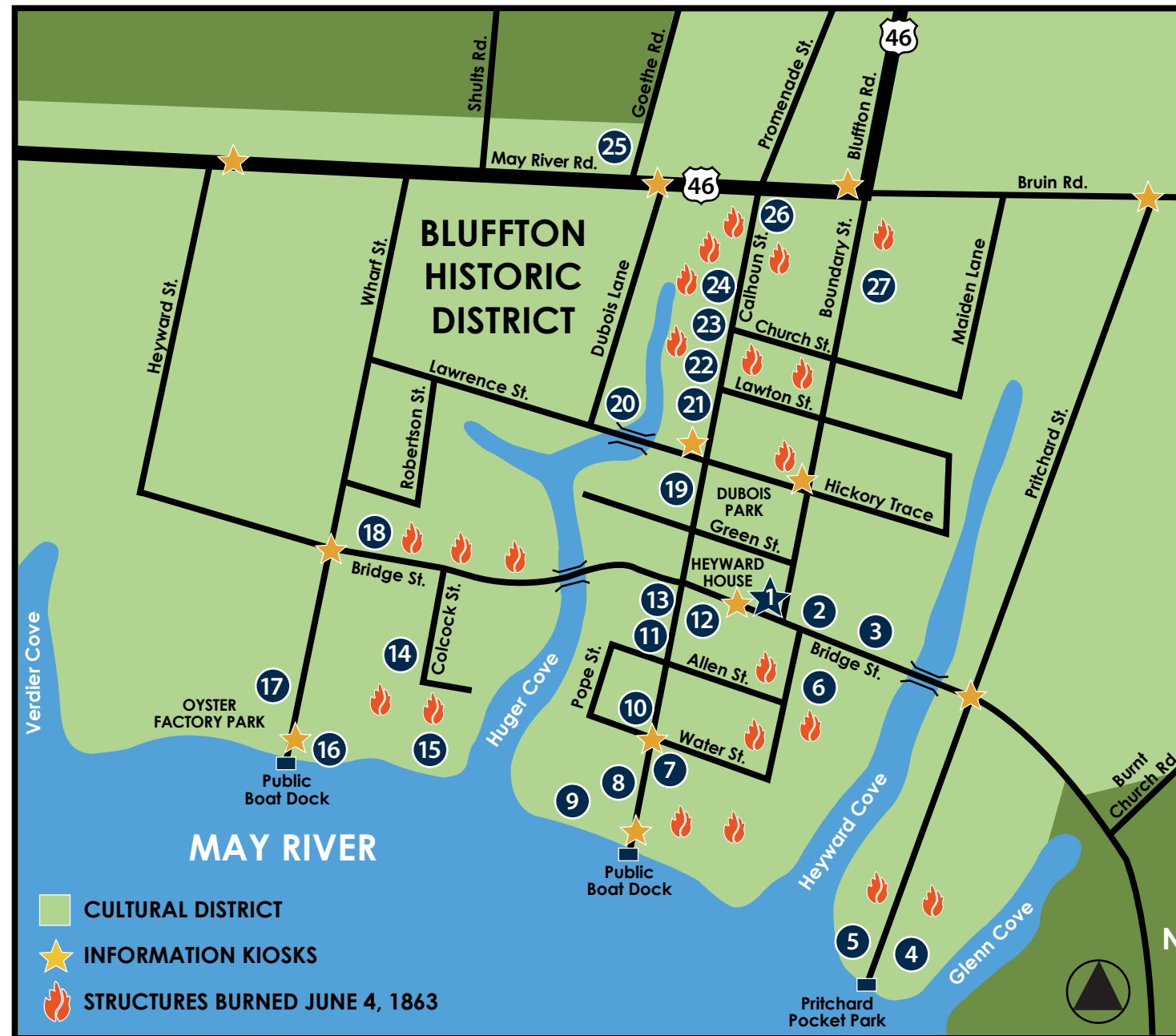
70 Boundary Street | M-F 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Sat 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Heyward House is open to the public as a welcome center and for guided tours. Historic District Walking Tours are available.

Please call (843) 757-6293 or e-mail heywardhouse@gmail.com. You can also find them on Facebook at facebook.com/heywardhouse.

# Bluffton, South Carolina

## HISTORIC RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY



On-street parking is available throughout Old Town Bluffton.

\*Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, P.O. Box 742, Bluffton, SC 29910.

# Experience

## BLUFFTON'S CULTURAL DISTRICT

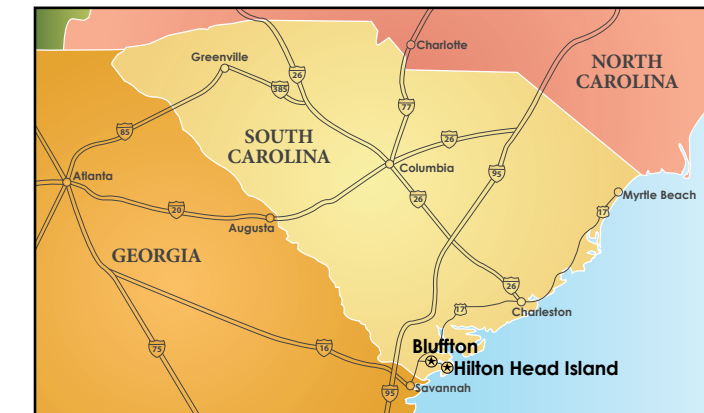
In 2016, Bluffton was designated a Cultural Arts District by the South Carolina Arts Commission. A Cultural District is an easily identifiable geographic area with a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets which serves as the center of cultural, artistic and economic activity.



Bluffton's cultural district spans from Bluffton Village south to the May River, and from Burnt Church Road west to Cahill's Market on May River Road. The area includes 120 cultural attractions and roughly three dozen annual festivals and events.

## Explore Beyond Bluffton

Bluffton is the ideal hub-and-spoke destination for exploring the Lowcountry. Hilton Head Island, Daufuskie Island, Beaufort, Savannah and Charleston are just a day-trip away.



HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



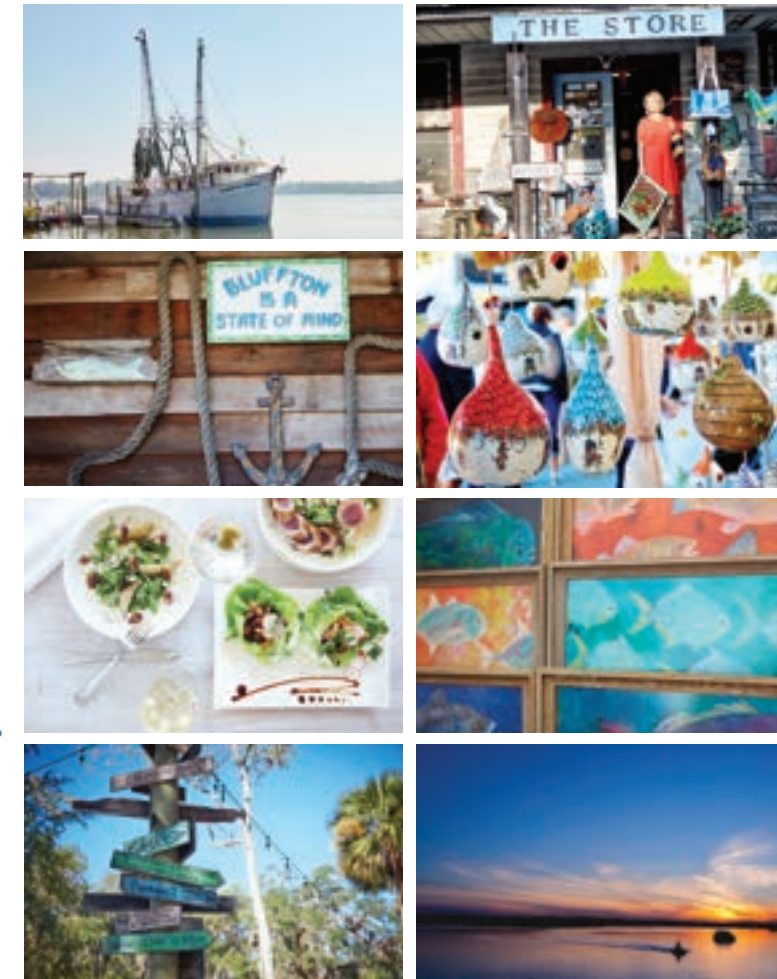
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## A WALKING TOUR THROUGH BLUFFTON'S OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

# bluffton

HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY™



## VISITBLUFFTON.ORG



# Bluffton History

Bluffton's birth and growth were intimately intertwined with the rise of the Lowcountry rice and cotton plantations during the antebellum period. Like other coastal communities, it provided a refuge from the harsher plantation environment that often manifested itself in



Calhoun Street

yellow fever and malaria outbreaks. The high bluffs facing the May River welcomed the comforting southerly winds, keeping the mosquitoes at bay and making sultry summer days bearable.

Bluffton's first small dwellings were constructed in the late 1700s on the river's bluffs. The Town was founded in 1825 and the layout of the town's streets in 1830 indicated that it had become a summer haven, and soon a commercial center for isolated plantations in the vicinity that received their goods from Savannah via the May River. Literally a hotbed for political rhetoric, in 1844, cries of secession were first given voice and debate here. With the Civil War raging and the eventual occupation of Hilton Head Island and Beaufort by Union Forces, the town was mostly abandoned by residents and utilized as a base for Confederate pickets observing Union troop movements. The town was pillaged by Union forces on several excursions up the May River and eventually burned on June 4, 1863.

Although the overall destruction was severe, 15 houses and two churches survived, including the c. 1841 Heyward House. By the turn of the century, the town again experienced growth with the opening of several hardware and dry-goods stores and the growth of a burgeoning oyster-harvesting business. Lowcountry residents returned to Bluffton, a place many continued to call home for the summer. The 1922 construction of the Houlihan Bridge from Port Wentworth SC Highway 17 ended commercial trade by water several years later. The shift away from being a center of trade ushered in a new phase of Bluffton development, where again it became predominantly a summer getaway. On June 21, 1996, the Bluffton Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places and on June 19, 2007, the local Old Town Bluffton Historic District was established. Over the past 50 years, it has attracted many full-time residents due to the livable, desirable historic character of Old Town Bluffton.



Sunday afternoon in Bluffton, c. 1900



## ★ Heyward House Museum & Welcome Center, 70 Boundary Street

This home was built in 1841 as a summer residence for John Cole, a local plantation owner schooled in the building trade. It is both a fine and well-preserved example of the Carolina Farmhouse style of architecture, a style brought to the colonies by planters from the British West Indies. The house boasts much of its original materials both on the interior and exterior. It also has two outbuildings, the slave cabin, parts of which are thought to be original and the reconstructed summer kitchen. Opened to the public by the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society in 1998, guided house tours are offered Thursday through Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and self-guided tours are offered Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. It also serves the community as a historical, educational and cultural site for special events.

## 2 The Fripp House, 48 Bridge Street

This three-story frame building on eight-foot-high piers is believed to have been built c. 1835 by James L. Pope, who died in 1863. William J. Fripp acquired the home in 1885 and owned it for 34 years. Substantial renovations were made by subsequent owners. It was later used as a bed and breakfast until 1999.



## 3 The Card House, 34 Bridge Street



late night poker games in the 19th century, it was more likely given its name because its straight lines and symmetry make it appear to be a home made of cards.

According to legend, during a high-stakes poker session held in the house in the 1840s, William Eddings Baynard won the deed to Braddock's Point Plantation on Hilton Head Island from John Stoney. However, local records do not necessarily back up this claim. Although the home was known for its

## 4 Pritchard House, 131 Pritchard Street

This home, constructed in 1890, embodies the charm and simplicity of the Carolina Farmhouse architecture along with Queen Anne-style ornamentation. The original house which burned during the Civil War was built by the owner of nearby Oakland Plantation, Dr. Paul Fitzsimmons Pritchard.

His son, Charles Teft Pritchard, built the house you see today. After his death at the age of 49, his wife took in boarders to make ends meet. This home was restored in the mid-1990s, and the two wings were added at that time.



## 8 The Church of the Cross, 110 Calhoun Street



other churches in Charleston and Columbia. The church was completed in 1857 at a cost of \$5000. Reverend James Stoney was the first rector.

While the Federal troops spared the church during the firing of Bluffton, the great storm of 1893 was not so kind. While repairing the church at that time, the narthex was altered to house the small winter congregation in heated comfort. Extensive restoration of both the interior and exterior includes: the copper standing seam roof, diamond paned rose glass windows, and palmetto frond shutters. On May 29, 1975 the church was individually listed in the National Registry of Historic Places.

## 10 Allen-Lockwood House, 94 Calhoun Street

Constructed in c. 1850 by William Gaston Allen, this house is a classic Lowcountry summer cottage with its gabled roof, high ceilings, and numerous windows. Like many other homes in the area, it is raised off the ground to help ventilate the house. It also has a wide front porch facing the direction of the river which may have been used as a sleeping porch.



Although Allen was bankrupt by 1866, at a forced sale in 1873, his daughter Susan Virginia (Mrs. Thomas Postell Lockwood) bought the house for \$10. It remained in the family's hands until 1953.

## 11 Seven Oaks, 82 Calhoun Street

This house was built in c. 1850 and owned by Lieutenant Middleton Stuart who lived here with his wife Emma Barnwell Stoney. The Stuarts did not return to Bluffton after the Civil War. During the heyday of Bluffton's prosperity as the commercial center of this area of Beaufort County until the 1920s, Mrs. Elizabeth Sanders operated Seven Oaks as a popular boarding house for salesmen and summer visitors. The interior of the original section has been virtually unchanged through time.



## 16 Bluffton Oyster Factory, 63 Wharf Street



This oyster-processing and seafood business represents an important industry in both Bluffton and the Lowcountry. The current building was constructed c. 1940 on the same site as previous oyster factories and is one of the last oyster factories on the East Coast. The Bluffton Oyster Co. is one of South Carolina's top-10 oldest, continuously operating businesses, and is the oldest cannery factory still in operation in the state. Beaufort County purchased the land surrounding the factory for preservation of open space and development of a passive use park.

## 17 Garvin-Garvey House, 101 Bridge Street

The summer home of Joseph S. Baynard was originally located here, but was burned in 1863 during the Civil War. Built c. 1870 by Cyrus Garvey, the current structure is the first freedmen's cottage built on the May River. It was originally a one and one-half story extended hall and parlor style residence on wooden stump piers with weatherboard siding and fronted by a porch supported by six square columns. Cyrus later purchased the land from Baynard in 1890. The home and land remained in the Garvey family until 1961. It is currently surrounded by the Oyster Factory Park and is owned by Beaufort County Open Land Trust, Inc. The house was added to the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network by the National Park Service in 2023.



## 18 Orage Cottage, 92 Bridge Street



The Orage Cottage, named for its first occupants, was originally built in the 1930s. Restoration and renovation of this simple shotgun cottage began in 2001. The previous occupants installed vinyl siding and soffits in the 1990s, which were removed to expose the original pine lap siding and the exposed rafter tails, common characteristics of Lowcountry-cottage architecture.

## 20 John A. Seabrook House, 47 Lawrence Street



This house was constructed in the early 1850s during Bluffton's last resort boom. John Archibald Seabrook, a planter on Edisto Island located north of Beaufort, is believed to have been the first owner. The first reference to him in the Bluffton area was his purchase of nearby Foot Point Plantation in 1853.

## 23 Patz Brothers' House, 26 Calhoun Street

This home is named for two brothers from Baltimore, Maryland who moved to Bluffton in the 1890s to open the Planter's Mercantile (building to the right of the house), a dry-goods store. In 1892, after the store had been established, the two brothers built this Folk-Victorian semi-detached double residence. It was originally designed with mirror image apartments on each side of a central partition dividing the building in two. Behind the doors, the dividing wall has been removed and replaced with a central staircase.



## 27 Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church, 23 Boundary Street

This classical revival church building was built in 1853 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and shows a good use of board and batten siding, 16/16 lite windows and the finest Greek temple-style portico in Bluffton. Although damaged by fire in the 1863 burning of Bluffton, it was not destroyed. By 1874, its congregation had moved to the St. Luke's Episcopal Church building at Bull Hill, and Campbell Chapel was sold to the African Methodist Episcopal Church, whose members have held services there for more than 100 years. Some additions and alterations, mainly to the interior, were made in 1969. The church was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 29, 2019.

