Fort Defiance Civil War Park and Interpretive Center is open to visitors and is available for group tours. School groups are welcome and special activities are planned throughout the year. Please check our website for updates and additional information.

Spring/Summer Operating Hours
Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 1-5pm

Fall/Winter Operating Hours
Monday-Saturday 11am-4pm
Sunday 1-5pm

*Subject to change

www.fortdefianceclarksville.com

Experience a piece of Civil War history...

Directions
• Heading southeast on I-24 E
• Take Exit 4 for Clarksville
• Turn left at TN-79/Wilma Rudolph Boulevard
• Turn right Kraft Street
• Turn right at N 2nd Street
• Turn left at B Street
• Turn left at Walker Street
• Take slight left at Duncan Street

Fort Defiance Civil War Park & Interpretive Center
Civil War Park & Interpretive Center

Beautiful exhibits depicting the lives of soldiers, citizens, merchants, slaves and freedmen.

Guided tours with an on-site Interpreter
Educational Resource Center
Walking trail

Clarksville, Tennessee

Library of Congress
Regiments of United States Colored Troops (USCT) such as the 4th USCT shown here at Petersburg, Virginia, were raised in the North and South. They consisted of free blacks, contrabands and former slaves.
History

Located on a bluff 200 feet above the Cumberland River in Clarksville, Tennessee, the site of the Fort Defiance Civil War Park and Interpretive Center has been a hub of activity for more than two centuries. Originally inhabited by American Indians, settlers began arriving in the late 18th century and the area became a trading center and frontier settlement.

*Pictured above: Sevier Station, site of the original frontier settlement in the late 1700’s.*

During the Civil War, the hilltop was chosen by the Confederates as a site to construct a fort to defend the river approach to Clarksville. In February 1862, the Fort was captured by Union troops, renamed and occupied for the remainder of the war. The site was a magnet for runaway slaves and freedmen and many were employed in and around the Fort.

Fort Defiance Today

A visitor today will find Fort Defiance remarkably well preserved. The outer earthenworks, powder magazine and gun platforms are still discernable.

The Fort Defiance Interpretive Center was completed in March of 2011. It has both permanent and temporary exhibits, media center, educational resource center and nearly one mile of pedestrian trails.