Plattsburgh Barracks Walking Tour

Tour Starts at 206 U.S. Oval, Moving Clockwise Around the Oval

1. Regimental Headquarters, 206 U.S. Oval
   Built in 1893, at a cost of $33,834, this building was used as an administration building, post mess hall, and a bakery. The structure was enlarged in 1932 to accommodate a finance office, courtroom, and a classroom. Many of the red brick buildings surrounding the Oval were built during an expansion of the Plattsburgh Barracks, from the 1900’s through the 1930’s.

2. Company Enlisted Men’s Barracks, 194 U.S. Oval
   Built in 1893, this building housed an entire battalion of soldiers, approximately 320 men. It was first occupied in 1894 by companies D, F, and G of the 21st Infantry Regiment, transferred from Fort Riley, Nebraska. It was these three barracks that gave the military post its name, “Plattsburgh Barracks.”

3. Guard House, 186 U.S. Oval
   Built in 1893, the Guard House was constructed to accommodate 70 prisoners and 19 guards. It is located near what used to be the main gate to the Plattsburgh Barracks.

4. Flagpole, Across from 186 U.S. Oval
   This flagpole was used for 70 years at the Plattsburgh Barracks, constructed in 1894 by one-armed Joe Foody. It was originally 109’ but was taken down in 1964 because it was no longer safe.

   Pictured above, one of fourteen duplexes built to house army officers and their families. Construction on these buildings began in 1893 and housed some very well known leaders in America’s military history including Leonard Wood, Douglas MacArthur, Johnathan Wainwright, Mack Clark, George Marshall, and Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

6. Commanding Officers’ Quarters, 124 U.S. Oval
   Built in 1893, this structure housed the Commanding Officer and his family. The residence had seven rooms and servants’ quarters on the third floor. A stone house mount can still be seen on the lawn outside of the building.

7. Gazebo, Across from 124 U.S. Oval
   Every Sunday at the Plattsburgh Barracks, the public was invited to enjoy an evening of musical entertainment by the Barracks’ Army Band. The performances were usually held in and around the gazebo.

8. Bachelor Officers’ Quarters, 112 U.S. Oval
   Built in 1894, the Bachelor Officers’ Quarters was considered the social center of the base for the unmarried officers.

   “On this spot stood Fort Moreau, an embankment which constituted the center and key point of the American line of defense during the Battle of Plattsburgh, September 6-1, 1814. It was made by the 6th and 20th regiments of infantry under Colonel Melcherth Smith.”

For more information, please visit the Clinton County Historical Association and Museum’s virtual exhibit, History of St. Plattsburgh Barracks at www.clintoncountyhistorical.org. Information was compiled by Clinton County Historical Association and Museum Director, Melissa A. Peck, in partnership with youth from the North County Historical Network, and Jane McCausland’s Jovana Duros, 2014-2015.”