



# Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership



## 2014 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant

### The History of the Plattsburgh Barracks (Digital Exhibit)

#### Project Summary

The Clinton County Historical Association (CCHA) received a \$2500 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant for a two-part project in March 2014. The project was based at the Clinton County Historical Association (CCHA) and Museum located in Plattsburgh, NY. A partnership among CCHA staff, a student intern and docents created a digital exhibit highlighting the military history of the Plattsburgh Barracks, also known as the “Old Base” or the “Oval.” A group of 15 Junior Docents were responsible for completing an historic building research project for each of the 15 buildings highlighted in *The History of the Plattsburgh Barracks Digital Exhibit*. Their research was used to complete an historic buildings section in the exhibit and was used in the *Plattsburgh Barracks Walking Tour*, being the second half of the two-part project.

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The project included a hand-held map and a digital exhibit at the CCHA Museum and online.

**History of the Plattsburgh Barracks**

**Lake Champlain: An Aquatic Gateway**

Since glaciers first retreated from as far south as Long Island they have left their mark on the land, leaving behind an aquatic highway connecting Montreal and New York consisting of the Hudson River, Lake George and Lake Champlain. As early as 10,000 B.C. Native Americans entered the Champlain Valley, using the land for hunting grounds and as a corridor to the upper St. Lawrence valley.

In 1609 Samuel de Champlain arrived to the Lake claiming it under the French flag. This discovery helped to bring European settlers along with European commerce and war into the region.

By the mid 1600's European settlers were quick to set up trade along the aquatic highway as the Dutch established trading posts along the Hudson River and the French established their own along the Fischeleu and lower Lake Champlain.

This important transportation route would bring some of the largest armies on the North American continent as European conflicts spilled over to the New York and Canadian region.

Lake Champlain - Watershed line shaded  
 by Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, 2014. Champlain.org 02-01-04-12  
 Photo: Michael G. Gagnier/USGS, CC BY-NC-SA

The project was funded by an agreement awarded by the United States National Parks Service (NPS) to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership.

**NEIWPCC** **Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership**

**MENU** **1754-1783**

A screen shot of the exhibit

<b>NEIWPCC Code</b>	L-2014-024
<b>Date Complete:</b>	5/15/2015
<b>Grant Amount:</b>	\$2,500.00
<b>Non-federal Match:</b>	\$5,303.00
<b>Total Amount:</b>	\$7,803.00