

THE BATTLE OF PLATTSBURGH COMMEMORATION BEGINS

The Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration begins with “The Three Day March Of the British: Champlain To Plattsburgh”.

DAY ONE

On Saturday, 30 August, at 11:30 AM British (Re-enactors) start the march on Route 11 near the village of Champlain. with their first overnight at the Scott House in Chazy. This twenty –plus mile march to Plattsburgh uses roughly the same route taken by the British in 1814.

On 31 August 1814, General Thomas Brisbane crossed the border into New York with one wing of the British Army, approximately 7000 strong. The next day, Lt. General Sir George Prevost crossed with 4000 more. When they reached Chazy on 4 September, they took possession of Alexander Scott’s home for use as a headquarters for Prevost and his staff.

Re-enactors expect to arrive about Noon at the Scott House. In addition to ceremonies, demonstrations and lectures, there will be a Boot Camp for young people.

DAY TWO

On Sunday, 31 August, at about 10 AM, the Re-enactors leave Chazy and arrive about Noon at Guma’s Restaurant in West Chazy where they will set up camp with more demonstrations and activities for young people.

DAY THREE

On Monday, 1 September, 10 AM – 3 PM, the march continues down Route 22, through Beekmantown and completes the march on the Quarry Road at Post 20 American Legion , the temporary British headquarters during the Battle of Plattsburgh.

THE FIRST BLOODY ENCOUNTER

On Saturday, 6 September, at 1 PM, a memorial ceremony and re-dedication of the Culver Hill Monument will take place. Culver Hill Historic Park is on Route 22, two miles north of the intersection with Route 374. Sponsored by the Town of Beekmantown.

On 6 September 1814, as the British advance ascended the slope of Culver Hill, they were met by a determined force of American regulars. Two British officers, Lt. Col. Willington of the Third Regiment of Buffs, and Ensign Chapman of the same regiment , were killed in this engagement along with many enlisted men from both sides.

On Saturday, 6 September, at 3 PM, a memorial ceremony and re-dedication of the Halsey’s Corners Monument will take place at the corner of North Beekman Street and Boynton Ave. Sponsored by the Town of Plattsburgh.

In the face of steadily advancing British column, American forces retreated towards Plattsburgh to this location where they set up two six pound field guns. The oncoming columns of Redcoats advanced straight into the maw of these guns, which were discharged repeatedly with deadly effect. The British responded bravely and charged the American line with bayonets, resulting in a retreat from this last post outside the village. The main road into the Village of Plattsburgh lay open before them.

The corners are named for the Rev. Frederick Halsey, first pastor (1797) of the Presbyterian Church and chaplain of a militia regiment in the War of 1812. His stone house still stands 300 feet west of Halsey's Corners.

BRITISH INVASION DINNER

On Saturday, 6 September, 5 – 9 PM, dinner will be served at the American Legion Post 20 on Quarry Road, Plattsburgh.

G. William Glidden, MAJOR (NYARNG – Ret)