

Fort Atkinson plan, not to scale. 1842 Reynolds.

## MAP LEGEND

- North Barracks, 1842
- Parade Grounds
- West Barracks, 1840
- East Barracks, 1842
- 5. Guard House, 1840
- 6. Commissary, 1840
- 7. Sutler's Store, 1842
- Cistern, 1840-43
- Laundress
- 10. Laundress
- 11. Laundress
- 12. Carpenter Shop
- 13. Blacksmith Shop
- 14. Bake House
- Early Fort building, constructed in 1840.
- 15. Quartermaster's Stables
- 16. Granary
- 17. Comany "I" Stables
- 18. Company "B" Stables
- 19. Other Stables
- 20. Ice House
- 21. Root House
  - Later Fort building, constructed in 1842.

- 22. Quarry
- 23. South Barracks, 1840
- 24. Powder Magazine, 1842
- 25. SW Blockhouse, 1842
- 26. NE Blockhouse, 1842







May 30, Fort Atkinson is founded Buildings constructed: - South Barracks - Enlisted Infantry - West Barracks - Officers - Guard House - Commissary - Cistern begun Units stationed at Fort Atkinson: - Company F, 5th Infantry 1841 Fort construction continues Units stationed at Fort Atkinson: - Company F, 5th Infantry\* - Company B, 1st Dragoons - Company K, 1st Infantry \* Company F relocated to Florida 1842 Buildings constructed: - North Barracks - Enlisted Dragoons - East Barracks - Officers - SW Blockhouse - NE Blockhouse - Powder Magazine - Sutler's Store Units stationed at Fort Atkinson: - Company K, 1st Infantry - Company B, 1st Dragoons - Company I, 1st Dragoons Lt. Reynolds visits and sketches Fort 1843 Cistern work is completed. 1844 **Buildings Constructed:** - Kitchens added to East Barracks Units stationed at Fort Atkinson - Company E, 1st Infantry - Company B, 1st Dragoons - Company I, 1st Dragoons 1846 lowa becomes a state Units stationed at Fort: - Regular Army troops removed from Ft. Atkinson to fight in Mexican War - 2 Companies of volunteer militia 1848 Winnebago removed from Neutral Ground 1849 Last troops leave Fort Atkinson



Photo Gēnus, 2008.



Sketch of Fort Atkinson. 1842 Reynolds.

Fort Atkinson was an active military post on the frontier of the expanding United States in the 1840s. The purpose of the Fort was to keep the Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) tribe on the Neutral Ground in the Iowa Territory and keep them from escaping back across the Mississippi to Wisconsin. The soldiers at the Fort also kept the peace on the frontier between the Ho-Chunk, Sauk, Fox, and Sioux tribes and Euro-American settlers.

The Fort was an active military post from its founding in 1840 to its abandonment in 1849. No battles were ever fought at the Fort and most of the soldiers' time was spent constructing the buildings of the outpost. After the Fort was abandoned it passed into private hands and fell into disrepair. In 1921 the fort was acquired by the State of lowa and became part of the State Preserves system in 1968.

This map is part of a downloadable audio tour for the Fort and surrounding grounds. The files are compatible with .mp3 players. The files are available at the following web address: http://www.iowadnr.gov/preserves/index.html