Camp Security Shelters

What kind of structures did the prisoners inhabit inside the stockade at Camp Security? The most likely structures within the stockade were log huts.

Logically, the huts built were constructed of logs because logs were the main building material of the day. Since time was a major factor, the huts were raised quickly and logs were easily obtained on the property.

Log structures were referenced in documentation from the period. In his petition after the war, David Brubaker notes the timber used in the camp construction.

"A petition of David Brubaker, of Lancaster county, in the State of Pennsylvania, was presented to the House and read, praying compensation for a quantity of timber, furnished for the purpose of building stockades, huts, &c. for the use of the British prisoners, during the late war."

Andrew Anderson also notes the log houses in his pension application in 1834.

"... this applicant served his said last mentioned period of duty at Little York, and at a Garrison near that place, that the soldiers built a Stockade of loggs in the woods, and put up logg Houses to live in,"

In addition to the written word, there is also archaeological evidence from the 1979 Dig at the Camp Indulgence section of the Camp Security site.

"Pieces of clay “daub,” the material used for the chinking to seal gaps between the logs of the huts, were also recovered."
The log structures probably resembled this hut that was reconstructed at Valley Forge National Park.

Shippensburg Project Update

The Shippensburg University’s Department of Geography-Earth Science geophysical study has now concluded. In the next few weeks, the Friends of Camp Security Board will meet with the Shippensburg team to learn of their results. A meeting is in the planning stages to share those findings publicly this fall. Watch future newsletters for more information!

Join Us

Please direct any comments or questions to:

campsecurity@campsecurity.org