

# ARMSTRONG BARRACKS GUIDE

## 1963-65

**Submitted by Richard F. Allen & Cary King**

1. Eight Family Housing units are all labeled "1"
2. The BOQ. On the first floor two rooms were assigned to Special Service Women.
3. Headquarters, 3rd Squadron, 12th Cav. Regt. The Squadron Commander was also the Post Commander during my tenure, Dec. 1963 to June 1965, and would have supervised the post engineers, the Officers and Enlisted club, and other post, camp and station activities. I do not know what the initials WA adjacent to the building mean.
4. The Post Chapel.
5. The enlisted men's club.
6. Building 2253 (6) and 2228, The MP Station and Main Gate.
7. Building 2204 (7). Three story building, with full basement, containing the health care offices for the Post, including 2/83 Battalion Surgeon and his aides, a dental office, etc. Not sure what else. Cary King (2/83rd FA, Dec 1963 – Sep 1966) and I both have the impression that HQ Battery for the 2/83 was billeted there, but not 100% certain. The basement on the southwest side housed the storage/ training facility for our nuclear weapons. I had a Top Secret/Crypto clearance but was not allowed in since I did not have "a need to know" about such things. Security was serious business in those days.
8. Building 2205 (8). Not sure what all was in there. It was a multistory building. There was a snack bar and the Post barber shop on the lower floor, but that is all I remember. The basement on the North east side housed our guard house—not a confinement facility, but a sleeping area for those guards not on duty. The unmarried Lieutenants were always the Officer of the day. The road between 2204 and 2205 was the main thoroughfare on Post although it does not appear so on the map. I have enhanced it a bit on the map.
9. Building 2203 (9) housed most of the 2/83; 1st floor "A" Battery, 2nd floor "B" Battery, 3rd floor "C" Battery, and top floor Service Battery. In the basement each Battery had a supply cage and an arms cage.
10. Building 10 was the Battalion Mess Hall.

11. Buildings 2202 (**11**), 2201 (**12**), 2222 (**14**) and 2221 (**13**) were the billets and Mess Halls for the Cav.
12. Building 2215 (**15**) was the Headquarters, 2nd Battalion, 83rd Field Artillery, the best Artillery Battalion in V Corp, according to General Abrams, the then Corps Commander.
13. Structure 2259 (**22**) Not sure what that was. In a photo I found it looks like a shallow, concrete depression. On the ariel photo you sent, it has been replaced by a rectangular building.
14. Buildings 2210 (**16**), 2209 (**11**), and 2211 (**17**) were the Battery Maintenance Bays, but not positive about 2209 or another depression labeled 2260.
15. Building 2213 (**18**) was the Battalion Maintenance Facility, and also housed the Battalion Communications Shop, which was the Net control station, and which maintained 24 hour AM radio contact with 212th Group, V Corps Artillery and V Corps and others as necessary. On the map you can barely make out the gas pumps, 2231 (next to 2213). When we ran out of ESSO gas ration coupons, we could buy gas there for our civilian cars for 10 cents a gallon. The rear gate is just to the right of 2213. Turning left toward Orleshausen, the Ammo dump is a short distance down that road. It does appear on the map but is readily apparent in the photo. A little farther down that road is the Airfield the two units shared. We had two pilots and one L-19(fixed wing observation) but the Air Cav troop had a host rotatory wing craft.
16. Buildings 2208 and 2209 (**19**) were maintenance facilities for the Cav.
17. Building 2206 (**20**) had a small PX with bare necessities only and maybe a Motion Picture Theater, nor positive.
18. Building 2214 (**21**) was the Post Gym.
19. Red **23** was the Parade Ground, of course.
20. Red **24** was the motor pool/tank park. It does not show up on the map , but is clear in the photo. I have enhanced the map. Most wheeled vehicles and our Howitzers and the Cav's tanks sat there when not in the field.
21. Building 2225 (**25**) was the Education Center, I think, and I also think Building 2220 (**27**) was a Service Club. I am sure we had both, just not sure which is which.
22. Red **26** area had wash racks, but I don't remember what else it was used for.