

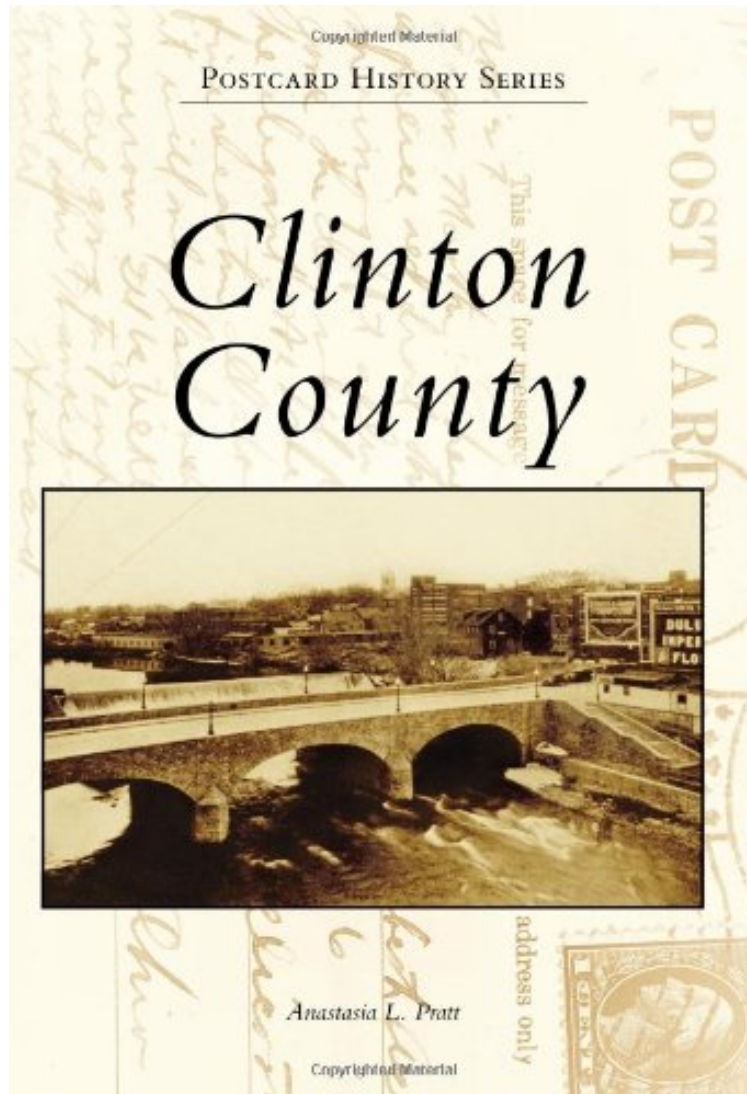
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Anastasia L. Pratt

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Clinton County (Postcard History)

Anastasia L. Pratt : Clinton County (Postcard History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Clinton County (Postcard History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy CustomerNice pictures and good local history1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. AMATEUR HOUR....PRETTY USELESSBy Aaron LightnerMY THREE STAR REVIEW IS FAIRLY GENEROUS. BADLY PRINTED, POORLY WRITTEN, WITH INEXPLICABLE PHOTOGRAPHS OF UNKNOWN PEOPLE IN HIGH SHCOOL GYMS, IN FRONT OF BUILDINGS, SEEMS MORE LIKE THIS STUFF SHOULD BE ON A BLOG ABOUT ONE PERSON'S FAMILY AS MANY OF THE PICTURES HAVE THE SAME FAMILY NAME. REALLY QUITE USELESS BOOK, I CAN'T IMAGINE ANYONE FROM OUTSIDE CLINTON COUNTY READING THIS BOOK AND WANTING TO RAVEL THERE.

TO ME IT LOOKS LIKE AN OLD FASHIONED SELF PUBLISHED VANITY PIECE, JUST SO SOMEONE CAN SAY THEY WROTE A BOOK, THEY APPARENTLY HAVE NO REAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE SUBJECT, AND HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO ACTUALLY RESEARCH A BOOK OF THIS TYPE. 5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Unacceptable Errors By HBJCI am familiar with Arcadia's "Images of America" series of books. I don't consider them reliable sources of historical information; they are certainly fun to look at, but I would not use them for serious historical research. However, I would have thought this particular book had more potential for accuracy since the author is the Clinton County Historian. Guess again. The book contains several errors regarding key Clinton County historical events. Check the Introduction (use the "Look Inside" feature) to see that the Battle of Valcour is stated to have occurred on October 11, 1775. The correct year is 1776. And it is apparently this battle that qualifies Clinton County to call itself the Birthplace of the US Navy (at least that appears to be the case in Ms. Pratt's world). Sorry, but the US Navy recognizes six locations as having played significant naval roles in the American Revolution: Philadelphia, PA; Whitehall, NY; Beverly and Marblehead, MA; Machias, ME; and Providence, RI ([...]). There is no mention of Clinton County, New York. Furthermore, before this book, I had never heard anyone make this claim; and I have spoken to many people more knowledgeable than Ms. Pratt regarding Lake Champlain and Revolutionary War history (e.g., James Millard). Besides, if Ms. Pratt doesn't even know the correct date of the supposed qualifying battle, how can we trust the accuracy of her other claims? Clinton County has a rich history and certainly played vital roles in both the Revolution and the War of 1812, but those roles did not include giving birth to the US Navy. There are additional errors, but one of the most glaring concerns the anchor of the HMS Confiance. The book contains a photo taken at the raising of the anchor from Plattsburgh Bay in 1998. However, the caption beneath states the anchor belonged to the Philadelphia, the famous gondola sunk at the Battle of Valcour (once again, the battle date is given incorrectly as 1775). The Philadelphia sank at Valcour Bay in 1776, whereas the Confiance sank at Plattsburgh Bay in the 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh. The caption correctly states the anchor is on display at Plattsburgh City Hall. Maybe Ms. Pratt should have taken a walk over there to get her facts straight. Such egregious errors are simply unacceptable and inexcusable, especially when coming from the official historian of the county.

Situated south of Montreal and north of the Adirondacks, Clinton County boasts beautiful lake and mountain vistas. Residents of the county, through 13 history museums and historical associations, celebrate their heritage, taking particular care to note early settlers who came south from Canada and north from the capital region. The county's history includes a long military tradition with a citizens military training camp and Plattsburgh Air Force Base; an active industrial culture that started with iron ore production and continued with the making of various consumer products, such as automobiles, boats, train cars, and paper products; and a vibrant agricultural heritage based on dairy farming, apple orchards, and maple syrup production. Tourism joined industry and agriculture as a significant economic factor in the county's life.

About the Author Anastasia L. Pratt is a mentor at SUNY Empire State College and the Clinton County historian. Using images from the historians office and from various local collections, she chose postcards that illustrate the county's varied work and home life, telling the story of a county that is incredibly interested and invested in its history.