

Hi John,

I remember leaving Building #58 for the last time . . . I was a Sgt. at the time and given the task to sweep down the building for the final time.

I took a squad of Marines down to cleanup & sweep the final time . . . I remember standing on the quarter deck looking into the drill team area, the barber shop, the company offices and remember the thunder of boots and shoes heading down for formation . . . It seems so long ago, yet I have so many Great memories inside those walls . . . If those walls could only talk . . . what a book you would have . . .

The outside of building is still there, but the entire insides have been removed . . . I remember just standing looking around hoping one day I could return to see all the old guys again . . . I must say it was a sad moment for me when I turned the key on the lock to secure the building . . . As I marched the squad back to the “new” barracks, I remember thinking these young Marines would never know anything about all the good times in the “Club”, the quarterdeck, the basement, down at the dock, etc. . . . You had to live there to know.....

Semper Fi,

Jim Matthews (Guard Company, 1st plt, April 72-Oct 75).