

**Historical Marker - S679 - Camp Williams / Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry
(Marker ID#:S679)**



Front - Title/Description

Camp Williams

At the outbreak of the Civil War in early 1861, the trustees of Adrian College offered the use of campus buildings and grounds to the Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry for training. This became known as Camp Williams. The city of Adrian donated money to build a mess and dining hall. By early June ten companies of the Fourth had arrived and started their training. The 1,025 soldiers came from Adrian, Ann Arbor, Dexter, Jonesville, Hudson, Sturgis, Monroe, Hillsdale, Tecumseh, and Trenton. On June 21 nearly 30,000 people came to town to see the Fourth depart for Washington. The ladies of Adrian presented Colonel Dwight Woodbury with the regimental flag. Sewn onto the flag was "The Ladies of Adrian to the Fourth regiment Defend It."

Significant Date:

Civil War and After (1860-1875)

Registry Year: 2002 **Erected Date:** 2002

Marker Location

Address: North Hall, Adrian College

City: Adrian

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Lenawee

Township: Madison

Lat: 41.89786800 / **Long:** -84.05888500

Web URL:

Back - Title/Description

Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry

In spring 1861 the Fourth Michigan Volunteer Infantry departed Adrian's Camp Williams for service in the Civil War. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and saw action in forty-one engagements, including Gaines Mills, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Petersburg. The Fourth was one of the few regiments in the war to lose more men in battle than to disease. Out of 1,399 men, 307 died from May 1862 through June 1864. Three colonels perished in battle defending their regimental flag: Dwight Woodbury, at Malvern Hill, Virginia; Harrison Jeffords in The Wheatfield at Gettysburg; and George Lumbard at The Wilderness, Virginia. In 1864 the reorganized Fourth trained here, at Camp Williams, once more.