

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Significant Date:

Statehood Era (1815-1860)

Registry Year: 1986 Erected Date: 1986

Marker Location

Address: 10964 Hamburg Road

City: Hamburg

State: MI ZipCode:

County: Livingston

Township: Hamburg

Lat: 42.44348700 / Long: -83.80254500

Web URL:

Front - Title/Description

Hamburg

The year 1831 marked the arrival of Hamburg's first settlers—Felix Dunlavey, Jesse Hall, Calvin Jackson, Cornelius Miller, and Heman Lake—and their families. In 1835 Ann Arbor merchant E. F. Gay and Amariah Hammond purchased thirty acres of land in this area, constructed a dam, and built the area's first sawmill. By 1837 the two men had sold their interests to the Grisson brothers, who had emigrated from Hamburg, Germany, in 1834. The Grissons also managed a store, a gristmill, and a hotel. In 1837 the village of Hamburg was platted, and in 1840 its post office was established. John Grisson was the first postmaster. One hundred and fifty years after its founding, the village of nine hundred residents boasted a historic Episcopal church, a volunteer fire department, several stores and factories, a library, a cemetery, and a township hall.

Back - Title/Description

Edwin B. Winans

Edwin B. Winans (1826-1894) was the first Democrat to be elected governor of Michigan after the Civil War. Serving a two-year term starting in 1890, he instituted the secret ballot system. A native of New York, Winans moved to Livingston County, Michigan, at the age of eight. He attended Albion College and the University of Michigan Law School before leaving the state to seek his fortune in the California gold rush. In 1858 he returned to Michigan and purchased a four hundred-acre farm in Hamburg. He enjoyed an active political career, serving as state representative (1861-1864), constitutional convention delegate (1867), township supervisor (1872-1873), Livingston County probate judge (1877-1881), and congressman (1883-1886). He died at his Winans