



# NEWS:

Edward A. Diana  
Orange County Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, June 14, 2011

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## **Orange County Holds Dedication Ceremony of New Historical Marker** *"Camp Wickham" symbol of service*

**(Goshen, NY)** – Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana and County Historian Cornelia W. Bush, along with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, today unveiled and dedicated a new "Camp Wickham" historical marker in Goshen on the grounds of the County Government Center at the corner of Main and Erie Streets.

"By prominently marking the location of 'Camp Wickham,' we honor the spirit of service of those who came before us," said County Executive Diana. "They protected our country and preserved our rich heritage, and we honor them as well as those who continue to serve our great nation."

The commemoration of the Civil War recruitment camp, "Camp Wickham," signifies Orange County's recognition of the commencement of the Civil War on its Sesquicentennial, and the contributions made by Orange County residents to the preservation of the Union during that war.

In attendance at the dedication were officers of the Sons of Union Veterans Jeffrey Albanese, NY State Department Commander, and Bruce Crandall, Commander, Colonel Augustus van Horne Ellis Camp 124, as well as members from the 124<sup>th</sup> New York State Volunteers.

County Historian Bush said, "While today we are here to recall an era of the past, today on Flag Day, we remember all our veterans, regardless of war or conflict, who fought for Old Glory and for what she represents."

Novelist Stephen Crane is known to have interviewed veterans of 124th while researching his book "The Red Badge of Courage," which is thought to have based some experiences in the book on their testimony.

The 124<sup>th</sup> was raised during the summer of 1862 in response to President Lincoln's call for an additional 300,000 volunteers and was mustered into federal service and left for the war from Goshen in early September 1862. Five of its members would earn the Medal of Honor and two hundred and forty-one would die during the war.

"Camp Wickham" was located on the property of widow Bridget McDonell Wickham, and was named for her late husband General George Wickham, a militia officer during the War of 1812, which now sits on a portion of the current Orange County Government Center in Goshen.

For more information, as well as events and happenings taking place please visit the County Historian's page at [www.orangecountygov.com](http://www.orangecountygov.com).

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***(L-R) 124<sup>th</sup> NY State Volunteer Christopher Gjersvic, Sons of Union Veterans Jeffrey Albanese, Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana, Sons of Union Veterans and 124<sup>th</sup> NY State Volunteer James Meaney, Sons of Union Veterans Warren McFarland, and Orange County Historian Cornelia W. Bush.***