



CAMP UTLEY

Starting in June 1861, new units gathered, trained, and were equipped at Camp Utley, before joining the Civil War. It was named for Racine citizen and State Senator William L. Utley, then Adjutant General for Wisconsin, later the Twenty-Second Wisconsin Regiment's commanding officer. The 75-acre camp lay south of Racine city limits on the farm of Truman G. Wright. Approximate borders were Main Street, 16th Street, Center Street, and DeKoven Avenue (bordering Racine College).

A fence separated Main Street from a private race track, which became the camp's parade ground. Originally, recruits lived in tents west of the track. There were wooden buildings for the kitchen, dining room, commissary, and quartermaster. The dining room was 100 by 75 feet, with 10 long tables each seating 100 men. (*see other side*)

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(*from other side*) Some 1,500 artillery men were stationed here in winter 1861-62. Tents were replaced with wooden structures, each with a cook's room and sergeant's room flanking a bunk room. In February 1864 three new buildings were constructed for the arrival of the Seventh regiment. There were two off-site target ranges for artillery practice. One was west of Green Bay Road and one in Riverside Park.

Camp Utley served as the place of rendezvous for five Wisconsin regiments – the Fourth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Second, Thirty-First, and Thirty-Third. It was the camp of instruction for eight of Wisconsin's thirteen batteries of light artillery. During the last year of the war, it was used by the Seventh Wisconsin – part of the "Iron Brigade" – and the Thirteenth Wisconsin Regiments.

In memory of Charlie Rice
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