

# **A DAY IN WILLIAMSTOWN; GUIDE FOR VISITORS**

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A day in Williamstown; Guide for Visitors by M. E. Sherman

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**M. E. SHERMAN**

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WILLIAMSTOWN;  
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A DAY IN  
WILLIAMSTOWN

*Guide for Visitors*

M. E. SHERMAN

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS  
THE FORGET-ME-NOT SHOP  
1915

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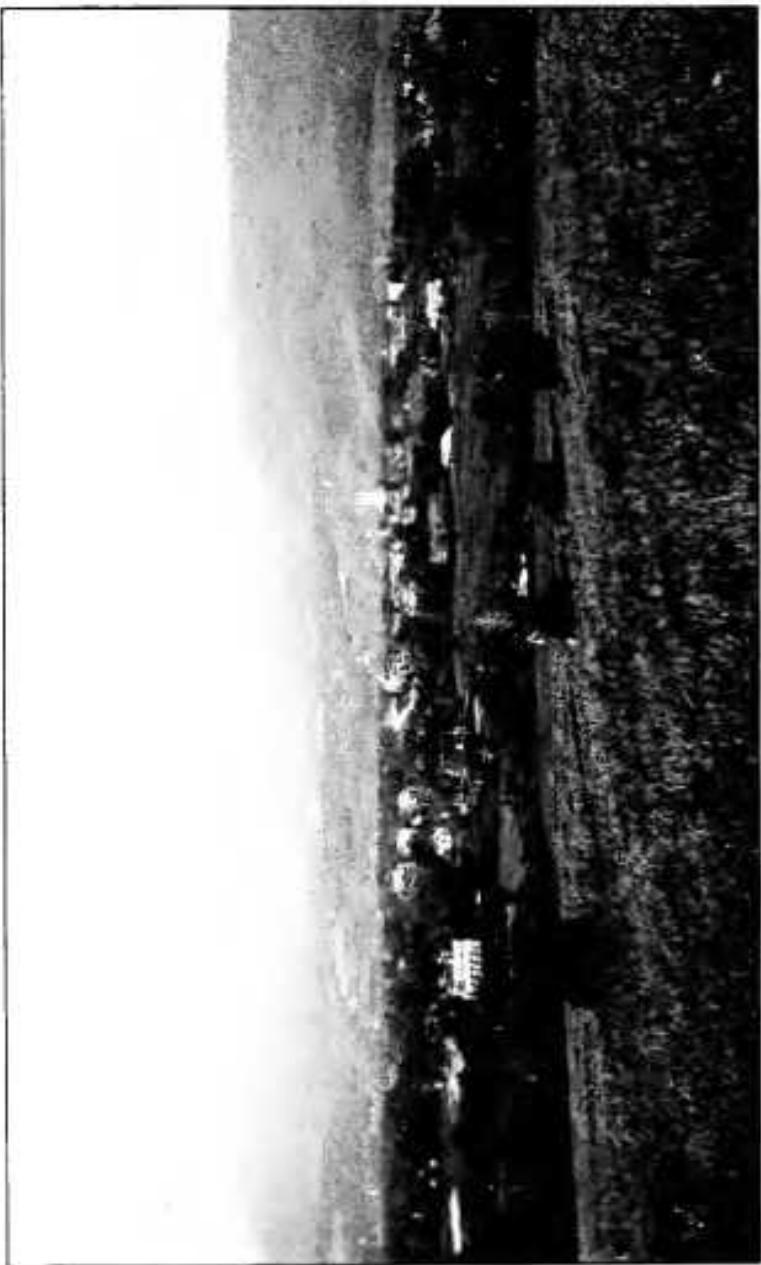
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VIEW OF WILLIAMSTOWN FROM TROLLEY

VIEW OF WILLIAMSTOWN FROM STONE HILL



## A DAY IN WILLIAMSTOWN

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**W**ILLIAMSTOWN is situated in a beautiful valley with the Hoosac mountains on the east, the Greylock range on the south, the Taconies on the west, and the Green mountains on the north.

Williamstown and Williams College both derive their names from Colonel Ephraim Williams, who was commander of Fort Massachusetts and the founder of Williams College. In his will he appropriated certain lands to be sold and the money used "towards the support and maintenance of a free school (in a township west of Fort Massachusetts commonly called the West Township) forever, provided the said township fall within the jurisdiction of the province of the Massachusetts Bay and provided also that the Governor and General Court give the said township the name of Williamstown."

The town was incorporated under this name in 1763. Previous to that time it had been known as West Hoosac.

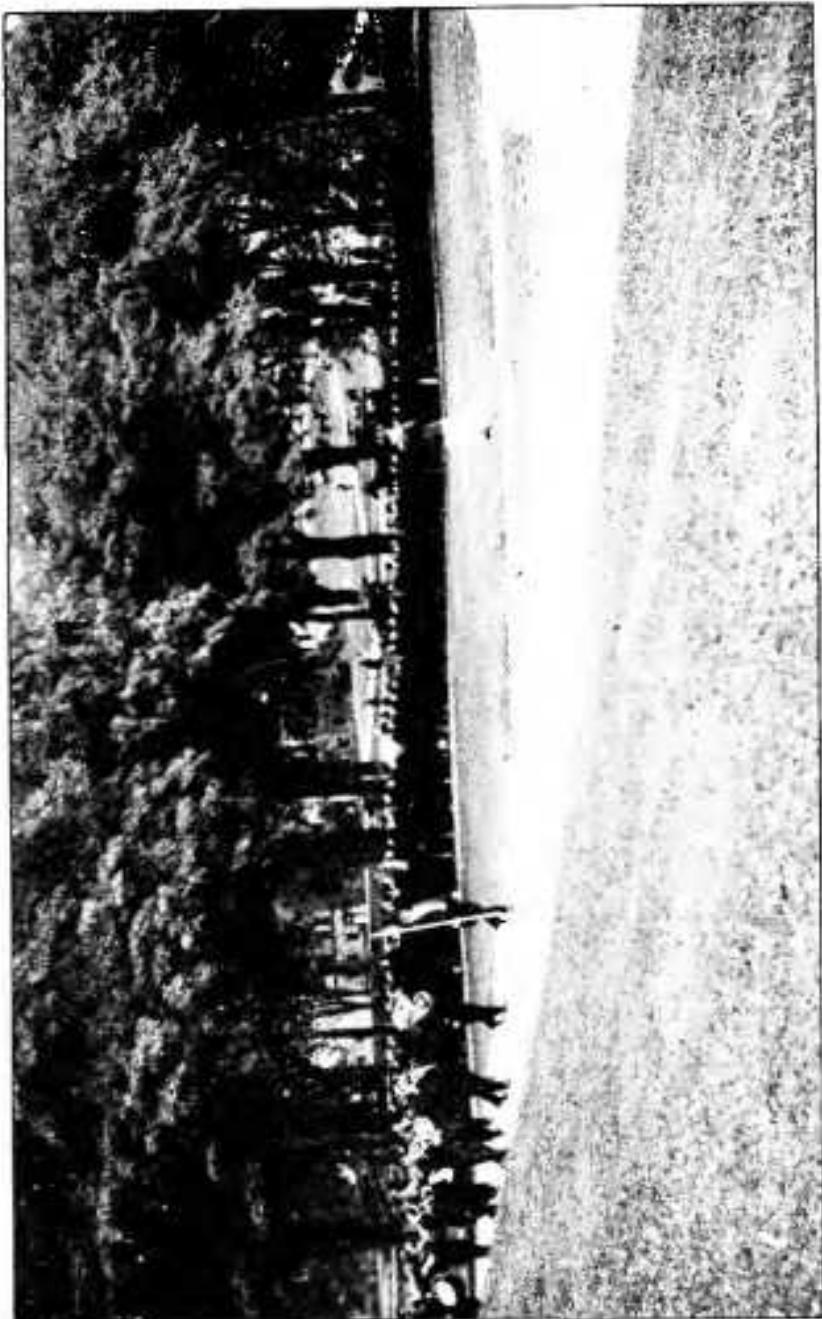
The main street of the town is fifteen rods wide, adorned by beautiful lawns and shade trees. About the year 1874 Cyrus W. Field presented the town with the sum of five thousand dollars to be used in grading and beautifying the streets, providing that all fences should be removed. In memory of his generosity "the square" at the upper end of Main street was named Field Memorial Park.

The first actual settlers in the town were soldiers from Fort Massachusetts, which was situated on the Hoosac river near North Adams. The site of this fort is marked with an elm tree, planted by the late Prof. A. L. Perry, and known as "Perry's elm." There, also, has been erected a flag pole from which float the stars and stripes. The site of this fort is visible from the highway and electric cars.

## A DAY IN WILLIAMSTOWN

Colonel Ephraim Williams was born in Newton, Mass., March 7th, 1715. At the outbreak of the French and Indian war he was stationed at Fort Massachusetts, as commander of the northern defenses of the Province. In 1755, as colonel, he marched with his regiment to Albany to join Sir William Johnson's expedition to Crown Point. He was killed while reconnoitering near the southern extremity of Lake George, on Sept. 8th, 1755. In 1855 the Williams alumni erected a monument to his memory near the spot where he fell.

Colonel Williams left no direct descendants and there is no known portrait of him in existence.



COLLEGE CAMPUS AND COMMENCEMENT PARADE