

Capt. Sidney Berry

9/12/1783 – 5/5/1839

Plot # 8 Lot # 6

Sidney Berry was born on September 12, 1783 in Northumberland and died on May 5, 1839 in Glens Falls. His father was also Sidney. Sidney married Eliza Folsom daughter of John Folsom of Glens Falls. There were three daughters to this marriage.

He spent his early years working on the family farm. When he reached adulthood he left home to work as a lumbermen and farmer.

During the War of 1812, he commanded a company of light horse militia which was raised in northern Saratoga County. He was called Captain Berry for the remainder of his life.

In 1835 the family moved to Glens Falls to engage in the lumber business. In Glens Falls, he built Seminary Hill School for young ladies, since he wanted a safe place for his daughters to attend school. It was located on the corner of Berry and Warren Streets. He built and owned saw mills in Paradox Lake and Westport, NY and cut large tracts of land on West Mountain and in Luzerne with great success.

Berry Street, which was located where the entrance to the Civic Center is today was named after him. On the bluff, across Glen Street from the entrance to Berry Street, Berry had a grand home built for his family. Later, Duncan McGregor purchased the home and lived there until his death in 1895. (Photo of home on McGregor's page.)

Capt. Berry's father was friends with Rev Billy Clark, a very early temperance leader, and followed his belief in abstinence from alcohol for himself and his family. Sidney was of the Presbyterian faith and also believed in the teaching of Dr. Billy Clark. Berry was originally buried in the South Street Cemetery and moved to this site in the 1850's. When he died he had about \$50,000 in cash which would be over \$10 million dollars today.

Prepared by Wayne Wright, Glens Falls City Historian, from a theatrical script written by William Woodward for the Chapman Historical Museum fall Glens Falls Cemetery tour in 2005. Questions and comments should be directed to the Glens Falls City Historian at: City Hall 42 Ridge St. Glens Falls, NY historian@cityofglensfalls.com 518-761-3871.



Sidney Berry's Grave Stone