

## **A Short Biography of Sanford Lacy**

Compiled by Holly C. Watson

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Sanford Lacy was born about 1778 in Easton, CT, to Samuel and Huldah (Sanford) Lacy, who were married on May 9, 1765, in Easton. Huldah's parents were Zachariah and Ann (Seely) Sanford of Redding, CT (FamilySearch.org).

Lacy married Anna Ruth Gilbert, and eventually moved to NY, where they presumably lived in Manlius, Onondaga County, until at least 1814. Confusingly, however, census records attest that the young Lacy family was living in Burlington, Otsego Co., in 1800 and then in Colombus, Chemung Co. in 1810 (Heritage Quest.com).

Sanford Lacy bought land in northern Avon, NY, in 1816, and within the next few years probably began living there (Deeds, census, tax assessment records). It is assumed that he built a log cabin and a barn and farmed the land. Around 1835 he probably built the humble frame house that still stands today at 5325 Barber Road.

Sanford was, like many people of his time, fairly active in the community of early Avon. He, Anna, and some of their children were members of the First Presbyterian Church in East Avon, probably in the later 1820s and 1830s (Church records). Sanford also was on a committee in the spring of 1828 to help plan and execute an Independence Day celebration in the West Village of Avon that July. The group met at Nowlen's Hotel in Avon for this express purpose (*Liv. Register*).

On October 11, 1834, Sanford was chosen as the president of the Whigs in Avon, joining other prominent men of Avon in opposing US President Andrew Jackson's policies and actions. Thomas Wiard was a vice-president, Lewis W. Beecher stated the objects of the meeting, William T. Hosmer spoke "in a convincing and eloquent manner" to the gathered Whigs, and Sanford's son-in-law Calvin Fanning was named as one of the ten or so men who would "protect the peace" at the three-day-long polls that November. The Whigs were said to be composed of "'the bone and sinew', the republican Farmers and Mechanics of the town", and met that Saturday at the home of A. and G. W. Kneeland (*Liv. Register*).

After selling his farm in Avon in 1840 to Aaron Barber, who would later name the road after himself, Lacy remained for some years in Avon, still working as a farmer, though the land he occupied

is not identified. On February 13, 1844, he was named as the holder of the agricultural premium for the Town of Avon, with a premium of \$3, possibly for wheat (*Liv. Repub.*). Sometime in the next couple years he moved to Geneseo, NY, but by this time he was growing older, and at the age of about 69, died on June 10, 1847 in Geneseo. His will gives to his "beloved wife", Anna, one fourth of the Geneseo farm's income and crops and one third of stock animals, including swine, sheep, meat cattle, and horses. Also to Anna he wills all the household items such as bedding, furniture, and her personal apparel. To his son Dilluzon he gives the 120-acre farm estate in Geneseo. Dilluzon, possessing other properties in Livingston County, sells this farm in 1851 to William Black. Sanford Lacy is buried in Temple Hill cemetery in the village (Liv. Co. Clerk's Office, Family Search.org, Lacy's will).

### **Lacy's Genealogy**

(Courtesy of Familysearch.org)

Samuel LACY

m. Huldah SANFORD

1. Edward LACY (b. 1771)

2. Hannah LACY (b. 1771)

3. **SANFORD LACY**

m. Anna Ruth GILBERT by

1. Polly LACY (b. abt 1796)

m. Vine MARKHAM (married abt. 1812, Avon)

2. Huldah C. LACY (b. 1804, NY)

m. Calvin CHASE (married 1833, Avon)

1. Harriet CHASE

3. Hannah Matilda LACY (b. 1806, Manlius, Onondaga Co., NY)

m. Calvin FANNING (married 1827, Avon)

4. Abigail Uretta LACY (b. 1814, Manlius, Onondaga Co., NY)

m. Jonathan FANNING (married 1839)

5. Dilluzon Sanford LACY (b. 1817)

m. Jane PIERSON (married 1843, Avon)

6. Orville LACY

## RESOURCES

FamilySearch. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. 2008. Retrieved 3 Feb 2009 from <<http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp>>.

Church Records. First Presbyterian Church, East Avon, NY.

Deed Records. Livingston County Clerk's Office, Geneseo, New York.  
(Records of property transactions and mortgages.)

Heritage Quest.com. Census Records for New York State (1790-1930).

Lacey, Sanford. Last will and testament. Wills Liber 3, pg. 138. File X5354 or X5355. Surrogate Court, Geneseo Courthouse, New York.

*Livingston Register*. Microfilm at SUNY Geneseo Milne Library and Livingston County Historian's Office, Mt. Morris, NY. Index of names at Livingston Co. Historian's Office.

*Livingston Republican*. Microfilm at Livingston County Historian's Office, Mt. Morris, NY.

Livingston County Historian's Office. 5 Murray Hill, Mt. Morris, New York.  
(Newspaper index.)

Ontario County Record and Archives Center. County Complex at Hopewell, Canadaigua, N.Y.  
(Census, tax assessment records.)