

G·A·L·W·A·Y JOURNAL

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

~ Daniel Campbell

~ Bonnie Donnan

Galway Town Hall has a framed map of early Galway on the wall. Done by our own Donald Carpenter, this map shows plots of land of Galway's early settlers interspersed with land owned by Daniel Campbell. Who was this Daniel Campbell, and how did he come into possession of this land in Galway?



In our Galway Preservation Society's book *Galway 1900 – 1949* a note regarding this states "Land in the Kaydarosseras Patent first became available in the fall of 1771. By means not clear, due to the lack of recorded title information, Daniel Campbell of Schenectady became the owner of some 14,000 acres of this half-million-acre tract and thereafter began advertising in Great Britain and Europe for settlers."

Daniel Campbell arrived in Schenectady in 1754, starting out with a pack on his back to trade with Native Americans. He made the acquaintance and became a close friend of Sir William Johnson, a fellow Irishman, and the British government's Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the northern colonies. His friendship with Sir William Johnson, success at fur trading and supplying goods to Native Americans, business partnerships, involvement in various colonial offices, and a shrewd business sense led him to quickly become quite a prosperous and well-known figure. He was one of the judges for the Court of Common Pleas for Albany County. As early as the year of his arrival his name appeared as a member of the Schenectady Militia where he reached the rank of captain, and later as major of the regiment under the authority of Sir William Johnson. Service in the military seems to have opened opportunities such as a military land bounty, and later, he purchased soldier's rights to land after the Revolution.

Campbell married Engeltie (Angelica) Bradt, a member of St. George's Episcopal Church in Schenectady. In 1762 he constructed his Schenectady mansion, pictured above, designed by Samuel Fuller, who also designed St. George's Church and Johnson Hall. It still stands at 101 State Street. He also had real property, a house, and business interests in Albany. He became a very successful business man and merchant, far advanced from his backpacking start into the woods. Campbell's business contacts extended as far as Detroit, Montreal, London, and beyond. Letter books logging business communications show trade ranging from beaver, deer, and raccoon skins to Irish linen, silk, refined sugar, rum, and land transactions and rentals. This book is in the Gems-Doolittle Library Collections of the Schenectady County Historical Society. The list is fascinating, and can be found online at Grems-Doolittle Library (schenectadyhistorical.org)

Contact us at galwaypressociety@gmail.com or visit us at
<http://www.galwaypreservationsociety.org>

Daniel lost his good friend and associate, Sir William Johnson, in 1774. He was an executor of Johnson's will.

As the Revolution approached, transport of trade goods became difficult. In April of 1776 he was refused permission to get a pass from General Schuyler "to transport goods upcountry." In May of 1777 he was labeled "a dangerous person" and subsequently took a loyalty oath to take up arms in defense of the country in case of invasion. After an arrest in July for refusing to take Continental currency in payment of a debt, he was released on bail, and many months later, negotiations and threats of removal were settled by Daniel taking the Oath of Allegiance. His name appears on the rolls of the 2nd Albany County Militia.

In the 1790 Census he was noted as the head of a Schenectady household.

In 1792 Daniel bought a grand carriage, adorned with Angelica's monogram and the Campbell coat of arms on both doors, and with a leather interior. The carriage stayed in the family for years, and is now in the Henry Ford Museum. The Museum has photos online in their digital collections website.

Daniel Campbell died in August of 1802, with his widow Anjelica/Engeltie as his beneficiary, followed by a nephew in London. Daniel and his wife are both buried in the St. George's lot.

~ *Campbell House photo is by Marc Schultz for the Daily Gazette*

~ *April 5th Zoom Meeting - The Gloves of Gloversville*

~ *Wayne R. Brandow, President*



I hope you are enjoying Spring! The sunshine (longer days), increasing warmth, the melodies of songbirds, and the greening, the growing, the budding all around us are all signs that change is in the air. Good change! I hope this newsletter finds you doing well.

We will be having our third GPS Zoom meeting on Monday, April 5th at 7 pm. I am delighted to tell you that Samantha Hill-Saladino, Fulton County Historian, will be presenting "*The Year of the Glove: How One County Created an International Celebration of Local History*". There will be a brief business meeting before the program. We hope you will be able to join us. Come a little early and converse with your friends and neighbors.

If you have not already received a link to the meeting through e-mail and would like it, please email me at wrbrandow@yahoo.com and I will send it to you. Please put "GPS LINK" in the address bar.

Photo: Barbara Sprung, age 16, at Bacmo-Postman Glove Factory in Gloversville during WWII.