



Montgomery Historical Society
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Samuel Barnard

- b. Deerfield, MA Nov 24, 1746 d. Montgomery, VT Apr 1, 1819 or 20
- m. Oct 3, 1770 Abigail Upham b. ? Jan 14, 1745/6 d. Montgomery, VT? Sep 28 1826

Samuel was the son of Joseph and a grandnephew of another Samuel. The elder Samuel bought land and a home in Deerfield, MA in 1711 from the grandfather of Ethan Allen, which included the home where Ethan's father was born. The property passed from the elder Samuel Barnard to Joseph Barnard then to Samuel Barnard. (It served as a venue in December 1792 for a triple wedding where three of Samuel's daughters were married. The eldest being Naby to Joshua Clapp. The home still stands and is part of Deefield Academy)

Samuel went to Havard and was a lawyer and was known as "Lawyer Sam".

While in MA he participated in the First Provincial Congress in Concord, MA in 1774.

Regarding the land and home, the "History of Deerfield" states the "entail could not hold under the Constitution of Massachusettes and went no farther" which meant it could not be passed further in the family and they were forced to sell it in 1794. Samuel moved his family and at least one servant to Montgomery, VT the next year. Samuel was the father-in-law of Montgomery's first male settler, Joshua Clapp who married his daughter Naby. (This may be part of the origin of comments in some sources about financial difficulties being part of the reason for the Barnards and Uphams moving to Montgomery, that and the Clapp family connections.)

Once in Montgomery Samuel Barnard figured prominently in the early organization of the Town government (1802), serving as the Town's first Town Clerk. He also served as Asst. Judge of the Franklin County Court from 1796-98.

Several of his children were raised in Montgomery and also played prominent roles in the early civic life of the Town.

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