

Revolutionary War soldier buried alongside Route 4

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Q: Just north of Fort Ann there is a grave on the right side of the road. It always has flags on it. I have always been curious as to who is buried there and why in such a place.

-- Joan Brown, Hudson Falls

A: According to Fort Ann historian Virginia Parrot, the little family cemetery located just off Route 4 about a half-mile north of the village is the final resting place for Revolutionary War soldier Daniel Weller and his wife, Lucinda Treat.

Weller was born in 1760 in Sharon, Conn., and enlisted in the Continental Army at the age of 15, ultimately attaining the rank of sergeant. He drowned in Wood Creek in 1829 at the age of 69, according to the website, rootsweb.com. His wife, Lucinda, his first cousin, was born in 1762 in Lenox, Mass. She died of cancer in Fort Ann in 1853 at the age of 90, according to the website.

Daniel and Lucinda probably lived in Lenox, Mass., for most of the time he was in the Army, according to the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. They likely moved to Westfield (now Fort Ann) in the late 1780s or early 1790s, according to several sources. The couple had 11 children, six of whom -- Miriam, Samuel, Henry, William, Chloe and Eliza Weller -- were born in Westfield.

As to why the cemetery is in that particular spot, Washington County is dotted with old family cemeteries at seemingly random locations. The Weller family cemetery, established in the early 1800s before Route 4 became a major highway, is one of them. The graves of Sgt. Weller and his wife are the only plots in the cemetery that are marked, according to Parrot. But she said she believes other family members are also buried there.

The cemetery was originally maintained by a man from Whitehall and local Boy Scouts, Parrot said. It is now taken care of by the American Legion in Fort Ann, which puts flags on the graves and maintains the grounds.

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