

11/8/06

Richard Caton

Richard Caton the man who the Town of Caton was named after was born in England in 1763 and died in Baltimore in 1845.

Richard was a merchant in cotton and was involved with river trade development along the Tigoa River, near Lawrenceville.

In 1786 Richard Caton marries Mary Carroll daughter of Charles Carroll. Mary's Dad Charles Carroll was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Charles Carroll was very wealthy man and at the start of the revolutionary war his wealth was estimated at \$2,000,000.

In 1814 Charles Carroll purchase 4,000 acres of the Land in Wormley for \$4,000. This purchase amounted to 17% of the best land in Wormley.

Later in 1814 Richard Caton pays his farther-in-law a sum of \$1 for all of the land.

We are sure that Mary Caton never visited Wormley and it is questionable if Richard Caton ever visited.

Richard Caton had his 4,000 acres surveyed into 100-acre lots.

IN 1840 the Wormley Town Board changes the name of the Town to Caton.

In 1845 since Richard Caton did not pay his Taxes to the State of New York and the land is sold by the State Comptroller.

Much of the land, which was Richard Caton's, is purchased by Lyman Gibson. Many early deeds in the southeast corner of Caton show purchase from Lyman Gibson, including the Toby Town area of Caton.

Richard Caton fades from the scene, however his name lives on as the person the Town was named after.

Bob Lord