

John Lansing Jr.

Born: January 30th, 1754

Died: December 29th, 1829

Residences: Albany, Lansingburg, New York City

Brief Biography:

Lansing was born in Albany to parents Gerrit and Jannetje in January of 1754. He began his own legal practice in New York City when he was 21 after passing the New York Bar Exam. Shortly thereafter he began his military career as the secretary to General Philip Schuyler, a position he held from 1776-1777. It was after this that Lansing began his career in politics which would go on to include membership in both the New York Assembly and Confederation Conference as well as his participation in the Constitutional Conventions in Philadelphia and Poughkeepsie. Lansing was highly skeptical of the Constitution when it was proposed, he had attended the meeting in Philadelphia with the hopes of amending the Articles of Confederation rather than drafting a completely new document. When it was finally time to ratify, Lansing refused to offer his signature to the document. Following this, Lansing turned his career towards the judicial realm becoming a judge on the New York Supreme Court for 11 years. Lansing held several other prominent roles up until his retirement in 1814 at which point he began an affiliation with the University of the State of New York. Upon going out to mail some letters in December of 1829, Lansing was never seen again with the suspicion being that he was murdered.

Major Accomplishments:

- Mayor of Albany from 1786-1790
- Chief Justice of the New York Supreme Court from 1798-1801
- Chancellor of New York from 1801-1814

References:

"John Lansing Jr." Delegates to the Constitutional Convention: John Lansing, Jr. The Ashbrook Center, 2016. Web. 30 Mar. 2016.

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