



Name: Sybil Ludington

Years: April 5, 1761 – February 26, 1839

Residence: Dutchess County, Putnam County

Brief Biography: Sybil Ludington was born to Henry and Abigail Knowles Ludington. Henry Ludington served as a militia colonel for most of the American Revolution and his daughter played an influential role in the Revolution's beginning. As large quantities of supplies were being kept in Danbury, CT, it was a prime target for attack. On the night of April 26 1777 a message was brought to the Ludington's home, it informed them of the fall of Danbury. With no one to ride to tell the militiamen, who had gone back to their homes, the then 16yrs old Sybil Ludington rode 40 miles to tell her father's militiamen to gather at the Ludington's home in order to muster a force to defend Danbury. Despite her efforts her father and his men arrived too late. In 1784 Sybil married Edmond Ogden with whom she had one child. In 1792, she and her family moved to Catskill, NY where they ran an Inn. Sybil continued to run the Inn for several years after the death of her husband in 1799. In 1811 she moved again, to Otsego County, NY where she spent the rest of her life.

Major Achievements:

Sybil's greatest achievement was her 40 mile ride to warn the militiamen. A ride like that was strenuous for a man during the day let alone for a girl of 16 at night. Her achievement has led many to refer to her as the female Paul Revere.

More Information:

Sybil Ludington's Midnight Ride by Marsha Amstel
Sybil Ludington: The Call to Arms by V.T. Dacquino

Sources:

American National Biography Online, Encyclopedia Britannica Online