

## BERRY

Maria Berry and husband Gilbert, where the first white settlers in the area, coming here in 1789

They operated a tavern, a store and trading post also, a rope ferry which enabled travelers to cross the Genesee River. The tavern was favorable spot by many

Gilbert acted as General Chapin's local Indian agent

After Gilbert's passing in 1797, Widow Berry as she was known as, continued running the tavern and the ferry with the help of her sister.

Maria took a prominent part in the reorganization of the East Avon church (corner of 5&20, across from the White Horse) in 1810, when it became Congregational

On the construction of the first river bridge in 1804, the ferry was abandoned, but the tavern business continued until 1816 when Maria moved to Rochester to live with her daughter Catharine. Her daughter Elizabeth married George Hosmer, son of Timothy Hosmer.

