

# C A L H O U N - B E A D L E H O U S E (Site)

## HISTORY SHEET

### General Information

Name of Structure: John Calhoun / Morris Beadle House

Address: 1691 Walker Rd <sup>1</sup> (formerly Pleasant St)

Parcel ID: (543689) 65111-00-031903 (Dist 5, Lot 5)

Atlas: 1858: "J C Calhoun"; 1874: "M D Beidle"; 1904: "P T Sexton"

When Built/Mason: Unk

When Razed: Fire but walls remained to erode away (still standing 1930)

Reason: Destroyed in Fire 6/21/1917

Original Owner: John Calhoun

Subsequent owners: Morris Beadle, Pliny Sexton

Original Use: House

Subsequent Use: House (rented by Pliny Sexton to John Storr at time of fire)

Pictures: None known to exist

Description:

Design details: Unknown

Masonry details: Unknown

<http://www.fultonhistory.com/Process%20small/Newspapers/>

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle/](#)

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle%201917/](#)

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle%201917%20-%203927.pdf](#)

(Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1917 - 3927.pdf (6/21/1917))

Destroyed by Fire — Cobblestone Walls Crumble in Fierce Heat

Palmyra, June 20 — The home of Mr and Mrs John Storr, of Palmyra, together with most of the contents, was totally destroyed by fire last night at 11 o'clock. All the family but Mrs Storr had retired, but were roused by a crackling noise, and found the entire attic and upper rooms in flames. The hook and ladder company came over, but nothing could be done.

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<sup>1</sup> Year Built of present structure on site, 1928 <https://wayne.sdgny.org/report.aspx?file=&swiscode=543689&printkey=06511100000319030000&sitetype=res&siteNum=1> — 11 years after the fire.

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Neighbors gathered and saved some few pieces of furniture, but most of the contents, including clothing, went up in smoke.

The house was of cobblestone, a picturesque country home, vine-covered, known as the old "Beadle Homestead." The walls crumbled and went with the woodwork. The place is located on Pleasant street, a mile from the village, and without water system, and no stream near enough to use. The origin of the fire is unknown. There is but small insurance, not half covering the loss.

NOTE: John Storr was occupying the home at the time of the fire; the house itself was owned by Pliny Sexton.

Palmyra Village Cemetery:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109518556/john-c-calhoun> (1823 - 8/11/1860)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109517875/morris-d-beadle> (1818 - 10/12/1895)

John Calhoun

<https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2011/>

[Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald/](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2011/Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald/)

[Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald%201857-1861%20Grayscale/](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2011/Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald%201857-1861%20Grayscale/)

[Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald%201857-1861%20Grayscale%20-%200682.pdf](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2011/Batavia%20%20NY%20Genessee%20County%20Herald%201857-1861%20Grayscale%20-%200682.pdf) Batavia NY Genessee County Herald 1857-1861 Grayscale - 0682.pdf

8/25/1860 — Death of a Railroad Man

The friends of J C Calhoun, for some years Station Master of the New York Central RR at Palmyra, will be pained, though not surprised, to hear of his death which took place on Saturday in the village where he had so long resided. Mr C died of a pulmonary affliction which compelled him to resign his position and retire from labor on the 1st of last June. Since that time he has been gradually sinking till he expired. Mr Calhoun was an amiable man and his loss is a subject of regret to his associations and friends. He will be buried in Palmyra tomorrow by the Masonic fraternity of which he was a member.

Morris Beadle

<http://nyhistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074192/1895-10-16/ed-1/seq-3/> — Palmyra Journal

Morris D Beadle died at his residence north of the Central-Hudson depot Saturday evening about 8:30 after a long period of sickness at the advanced age of 76 years. Deceased was well-known throughout the community and was honored and respected by all who knew him. He is survived by a wife, two sons, Spencer and August Beadle and one daughter, Mrs Czar Dunning, all of whom reside in the town of Palmyra. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2:30 from the late residence, immediately after which the remains were interred in the Palmyra cemetery.

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## HISTORY SHEET

### General Information

Morris Beadle son of Ira and Hannah Beadle, both buried in Marengo Quaker Cemetery,

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/20603555/ira-beadle> (1789-1865)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/54186505/hannah-beadle> (? - 1859)

findagrave note: "wife of Ira 50 years 7 months 3 days"

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/54186550/john-l-beadle> (? - 1862) — son?

Palmyra Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109517875/morris-d-beadle> (1818-1895)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109517871/elizabeth-beadle> (1818-1902) Betsey

<http://nyhistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074191/1896-11-18/ed-1/seq-3/> Wayne County

Dispatch — Executors' Sale at Auctions —

The undersigned executors of the estate of Morris D Beadle, deceased, will sell at public auction on the premises lately occupied by the said Morris D Beadle, near the New York Central depot, on Wednesday Nov 24th, 1896 at two o'clock PM sharp, all the stock, farming implements and effects of said Morris D Beadle. For particulars see auction bills. The homestead premises will also be sold at the same time and place.

Betsey Beadle, H.P. Knowles, Executors

<http://nyhistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074191/1893-04-12/ed-1/seq-3/>

"On the evening of the 4th inst. the immediate neighbors of Mrs Morris M Beadle, living on Pleasant street, paid that lady an informal visit. The occasion was her 75th birthday anniversary. She was surprised as well as pleased. For more than 32 years Mrs Beadle, her husband and two sons have resided in their present dwelling. Her daughter Mrs Dunning, was, we believe, married there ...

<http://wayne.nygenweb.net/gazetteer/palmyragaz.html>

Gazetteer and Business Directory of Wayne County NY for 1867-8

Palmyra

Beadle, Morris D, cattle dealer and farmer, 28

Morris Beadle and Mishael Beadle of Galen appear to have been related in some manner.

Mishael Beadle owned a cobblestone house in Galen and is documented in another cobblestone history sheet.

<http://nyhistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074454/1897-07-21/ed-1/seq-3/> Palmyra Journal

"Notice of Sale — The undersigned as executors of the estate of Morris D Beadle, deceased, will sell at public auction at the front door of the village hall in the village of Palmyra on the 23d day of July 1898 at 10AM to the highest bidder one certain judgement for \$1,300 damages and \$9.38 costs recovered in favor of Henry P Knowles and Betsey Beadle as Executors &c of Morris D Beadle, deceased, against Michael Beadle; which said judgment was duly docketed

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with the clerk of the district court in Sarpy county at Papillion, Nebraska, on the first day of October, 1866. H.P. KNOWLES, BETSEY BEADLE Executors of Estate of Morris Beadle.  
Dated, Palmyra NY, June 23, 1898

#### References:

Thomas L Cook's, *Palmyra and Vicinity*, © 1930 provides historical information, either directly or via "Echoes of the Past" serialized in local newspapers derived from the scrap book of Thomas L Cook.

#### Passages from Thomas L Cook's "*Palmyra and Vicinity*"

In the early 1850s this little farm came by purchase into the possession of the late John Calhoun. He died after living here a few years. His widow sold the farm to Allen Moore, who in the 1860s sold the same to Morris Beadle. He died in the 1890s and the little farm passed to Pliny T Sexton. Neglect and the ravages of time have wrought great changes in this property (pp 184-186)

The late John Calhoun lived upon the hill on the Walker Road on what was later called the Beadle farm. (p 300)

<https://fultonhistory.com/Newspapers%20Disk2/>  
[Palmyra%20NY%20Wayne%20County%20Sentinel/](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspapers%20Disk2/)  
[Palmyra%20NY%20Wayne%20County%20Sentinel%20%201957-1958.pdf/](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspapers%20Disk2/)  
[Palmyra%20NY%20Wayne%20County%20Sentinel%20%201957-1958%20-%200708.pdf](https://fultonhistory.com/Newspapers%20Disk2/)  
Palmyra NY Wayne County Sentinel 1957-1958 - 0708.pdf (5/18/1956)

"Echoes of the Past" Bertha Bortle Beal Aldridge

29th Installment taken from *Scrap Book* of Thomas L Cook, Palmyra NY

"...The next place, and of which finds of the house only standing walls, was the home at one time of John Calhoun. He was a ticket agent when the NYC road was first built. Here he lived when thus employed. In addition to serving the company as agent, he also furnished a great deal of wood for the locomotives. His death occurred sometime in the 1850's. Morris D Beadle later purchased the property. He followed the shipping of cattle, hogs, and sheep. In those days a great deal of stock was shipped from Palmyra station. ... For some time, the place has been owned by Mr Sexton and occupied by Mr Storr. The house burned a year or two since and has not been rebuilt."

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### General Information

<https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%202/Palmyra%20NY%20Courier/Palmyra%20NY%20Courier%201870-1885.pdf/Palmyra%20NY%20Courier%201870-1885%20-200312.pdf> (Palmyra NY Courier 1870-1885 - 0312.pdf)

Nov 10, 1871: This article is not credited to any author, however, the content and style of the narrative suggests it was written by Thomas L Cook ... just relevant section shown here.

"... In my research for facts connected with the early history of Palmyra I have met with much conflicting testimony; in fact, so much as at times to almost discourage any further progress; but I shall endeavor to give a truthful narration, and any errors that may occur will be overlooked by the reader, for whose benefit only am I encouraged to continued these articles. The second generation of this vicinity is now nearly extinct: only here and there a few remain who have any recollection of the early settlers, except what they have gleaned from hereditary history, and to them, if not to the younger class of readers, it may be a comfort to peruse in their declining years any fact connected with the history of their ancestors. The land that now comprises the town of Palmyra, was divided to the purchasers in lots as purchased, each lot of which is numbered.

Beginning on the north side of Mud creek at the Macedon line and proceeding eastward: I find that #1 was bought by Zebulon Williams, containing 100 acres; #2, Abraham Gallop, 100 acres. These 2 lots extended to the present road north from the brewery and took in Wintergreen hill. John Rousel's purchase came next, including 200 acres (#3) and extended to the road east of F Lakey's residence. Isaac Arnold next (#4), 100 acres--now owned by Mr Herbert. Next was Isaac Thayer, 800 acres, which extended to the road at the depot, and included the farms of C.C.B.Walker and M.D.Beadle, also the lands about the depot. #6 was Job Durfee's; #7 Edward Durfee's; #8 Pardon Durfee's; #9 Weaver Osband; #10 William Wilcox, and #11 was a ? lot of 12 acres that was purchased by W.Goldsmit... "