

# NICHOLAS McCARTY, SR.

**b. Sept. 26, 1795**

**d. May 17, 1854**

**By Charles B. Huppert**

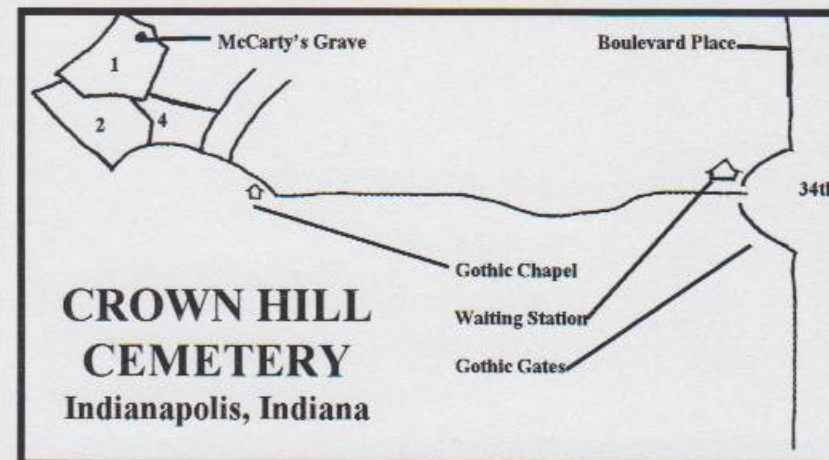
Nicholas McCarty was born September 26, 1795, in Moorefield, Hardy County, Virginia, now in West Virginia. After becoming manager of a branch office in Newark, Ohio, he came to Indianapolis in the fall of 1823 at age 28. He began a modest general merchandising business on the southwest corner of Pennsylvania Street and Washington Street, "McCarty's Store." His business became successful and he established stores in LaPorte, Greenfield, Covington, Berland and Waverly. McCarty engaged in several enterprises including the processing of ginseng and shipment to China. He also contracted for supplying provisions and became expert in the dialects of the Miamis.

Being civically minded, McCarty became a canal commissioner and thus effected the first loan made by the State of Indiana. Eventually he resigned the office because he was unhappy about the State's policy of not charging interest on the bonds it had issued for the construction of projects established under the Internal Improvements Act of 1836. McCarty believed that if his interest was paid on the bonds their value would appreciate and the State would suffer financial troubles. He resigned early enough that his good name was not harmed.

In 1847 McCarty became Whig candidate for Congress but lost. Shortly thereafter he was elected a state senator and served for the last three years of his term under Indiana's 1816 Constitution. In 1852 McCarty became the Whig candidate for governor. He lost to the incumbent, Joseph Albert Wright, a Democrat.

McCarty was married July 27, 1828 to Margaret Perkins in Boone County, Kentucky. They had four

children. His remains were moved to Crown Hill Cemetery on 6-1-1866. To reach his gravesite enter Crown Hill from the 34th street entrance through the gates. Proceed straight (left of the fountain) up the hill to the Gothic Chapel. Drive to the right of the Chapel, right at the 3rd turn past the Chapel (between Sections 2, 3, 4) and Section 1 is straight ahead. Go to Lot 71.



M  
C  
C  
A  
R  
T  
Y

Photos  
and Map  
by  
Chuck  
Huppert

