

Mary Munro: A Yorker Wife



The accompanying picture is a miniature of Mary Brower Munro, mounted on a silver box, circa 1760-1770. Although the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) says the artist is unknown, they credit Thomas Arnold, who probably is the silversmith.

The Munro's were married in 1760, so this box was either a gift from her parents or her suitor. John was a Justice of the Peace in Albany County before the war and did battle with Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys. During the Revolution he was the second senior captain in the 1st Battalion. The Munro's had a large family. John Junior was an accredited Volunteer in the 1st battalion at age 9 (obviously, a perc to his father). In 1784, they had one boy over 12 (that must be John Jr.), two boys less than 12, and one less than 6. There were two girls over 12 and one less. As this was a much larger family than showed on an earlier return, it may be that the Munro's were looking after the children of relatives.

This image is particularly significant as, other than Polly Johnson, no other picture of a Royal Yorker wife has yet been found.

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