

**Individual Narrative of Mary<sup>5</sup> Way [46]  
Daughter of John Way and Martha<sup>4</sup> Leverich [12]  
Wife of James Killmaster**

Mary Way was born at an unknown date, probably at Newtown, Queens, New York. She was a daughter of John Way and Martha Leverich, according to Glenn Way's *Descendants of James Way of Newtown, N.Y.* No source has been found to confirm this.<sup>1</sup> She married James Killmaster of New York on 7 Mar 1757 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>2,3</sup>

Several records exist of a James Killmaster in Manhattan, New York County, New York in this time period. However, there is no direct evidence connecting him with the James Killmaster who married Mary Way.

On 9 August 1739 a James Killmaster, Feltmonger, was named a "freeman."<sup>4,5</sup> On 21 September 1752, Mary Killmaster, widow of New York, "skinner", made a will which named among others her grandchildren, including James Killmaster, Thomas Killmaster, Anne Killmaster, and Elizabeth, wife of Nathaniel Slone of New York, mariner. The will also mentions property purchased in 1745 of John and Elizabeth Killmaster, without specifying a relationship.<sup>6</sup> A James Killmaster was among the signers on 16 October 1776 of a memorial to Admiral Lord Richard Howe and General Sir William Howe, expressing loyalty to King George the Third. This may or may not have meant James was a loyalist. It is suggested that many Whigs signed out of fear of the consequences of not signing, since New York was then occupied by British forces.<sup>7</sup> No "James Killmaster" is found in the 1790 Census. This census does record an Elizabeth Killmaster and a Nathaniel Killmaster in the Montgomery Ward, New York County.<sup>8</sup>

Neither a specific date of death nor a place of burial has been identified for Mary Way Killmaster or her husband James Killmaster.

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## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup>Glenn C. Way, *Some of the Descendants of James Way of Newtown, N.Y.* (Niagara Falls, New York: Glenn C. Way, 29 January 1935), page 2. Hereinafter cited as *Descendants James Way Newtown*.

<sup>2</sup>Arthur White, "Newtown Presbyterian Church Records," 1922, Transcription, New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Irma and Paul Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History and Genealogy, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York 10018, Marriages 1757. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."

<sup>3</sup>Kelby, Robert H. and Scott, Kenneth; *New York Marriages Previous to 1784, a reprint of the original edition of 1860, with Additions and Corrections* (1860; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1968), Marriage Bonds, Volume 1, page 459. Hereinafter cited as *NY Marriages Previous to 1784*.

<sup>4</sup>David T. Valentine, *History of the City of New York* (New York, New York: G. P. Putnam & Co., 1853), page 371. Hereinafter cited as *History of the City of New York*.

<sup>5</sup>New York Historical Society *Collections of the New York Historical Society for the Year 1885*, Volume 17 (New York, New York: Printed for the Society, 1886), page 139. Hereinafter cited as *Collections NY Historical Society V17 1885*.

<sup>6</sup>William S. Pelletreau, compiler, *Abstracts of Wills in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York, Volumes 1-17, 1665-1801* (New York, New York: Collections of the New York Historical Society, 1893-1909), Volume 5 (1754-1760); Liber 21, page 99. Hereinafter cited as *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*.

<sup>7</sup>The Mercantile Library Association of New York, compiler, *New York During the American Revolution; being a collection of original papers* (New York, New York: Privately Printed for the Association, 1861), pages 117 ff, & 129. Hereinafter cited as *NY During the American Revolution*.

<sup>8</sup>1790 U.S. Census, New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, No citation.