

Kim Hartmann

The American Revolution on the Northern Frontier: Fort Ticonderoga and the Road to Saratoga

July 12-17, 2015

History Mystery – Museum Walk

Jacob Schieffelin - Loyalist

#### Learning objectives:

1. Students will be able to analyze primary sources in their historical context.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate thinking skills by evaluating historical information from multiple sources.
3. Students will examine a series of clues to reexamine the notes from the investigation into the Loyalist, Jacob Schieffelin.

#### Grade level and time frame:

7<sup>th</sup> grade US History – Revolutionary War Unit

Students will work on this over a period of two days.

#### Procedures and materials to use:

1. Make printable badges for each student and “deputize” them for today’s activity.
2. Watch video clip to “set the scene.”
  - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZfRaWAtBVg>
3. Students will read “The Loyalist” handout with a partner, and underline important facts about loyalists in early America.
4. Students will “travel” through time (in the hallway) by looking through primary source photos and other documentation to determine facts and inferences on the life of Jacob Schieffelin.

#### State standards:

### Strand 1: American History

#### Concept 1: Research Skills for History

*PO 1. Construct charts, graphs, and narratives using historical data.*

*PO 2. Interpret historical data displayed in graphs, tables, and charts.*

*PO 3. Construct timelines (e.g., presidents/world leaders, key events, people) of the historical era being studied.*

*PO 4. Formulate questions that can be answered by historical study and research.*

*PO 5. Describe the relationship between a primary source document and a secondary source document.*

*PO 6. Determine the credibility and bias of primary and secondary sources.*

*PO 7. Analyze cause and effect relationships between and among individuals and/or historical events.*

*PO 8. Describe two points of view on the same historical event*

## 13c. The Loyalists



Thomas Hutchinson, a Supreme Court justice in Massachusetts, was the most hated man in America before Benedict Arnold, and was hung in effigy many times for being a loyalist.

The year is 1774. Whether you are a merchant in Massachusetts, a German-born farmer living in Pennsylvania, a tavern-owning woman of Maryland, or a slave-owner in the South, you share some things in common. For instance, you probably don't like paying taxes on such goods as tea that wind up going to support the royal coffers in London. At the same time you like the notion of being part of the British Empire, the most powerful in the world.

Chances are you speak English and have many British relatives or ancestors. Or, even if you're a German farmer with no ties to Britain, you are still grateful for the opportunity to farm peacefully in this British-ruled land. Yet, you hear murmurings — radical notions about separating from Britain are making the rounds. Those hotheads in Boston recently threw a load of tea in the harbor and the British retaliated with something called the **INTOLERABLE ACTS**. A confrontation is looming.

Who will you support? The radical Americans or the British? Fact is, it's not an easy decision. Not only will your way of life be drastically affected, but whomever you choose to side with will make you instant enemies.



Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia at the start of the Revolutionary War, offered freedom to enslaved Africans and Indians for joining the British Army.

Any full assessment of the American Revolution must try to understand the place of **LOYALISTS**, those Americans who remained faithful to the British Empire during the war.

Although Loyalists were steadfast in their commitment to remain within the British Empire, it was a very hard decision to make and to stick to during the Revolution. Even before the war started, a group of Philadelphia **QUAKERS** were arrested and imprisoned in Virginia because of their *perceived* support of the British. The Patriots were not a tolerant group, and Loyalists suffered regular harassment, had their property seized, or were subject to personal attacks.

The process of "**TAR AND FEATHERING**," for example, was brutally violent. Stripped of clothes, covered with hot tar, and splattered with feathers, the victim was then forced to parade about in public. Unless the British Army was close at hand to protect Loyalists, they often suffered bad treatment from Patriots and often had to flee their own homes. About one-in-six Americans was an active Loyalist during the Revolution, and that number undoubtedly would have been higher if the Patriots hadn't been so successful in threatening and punishing people who made their Loyalist sympathies known in public.

One famous Loyalist is **THOMAS HUTCHINSON**, a leading Boston merchant from an old American family, who served as governor of Massachusetts. Viewed as pro-British by some citizens of Boston, Hutchinson's house was burned in 1765 by an angry crowd protesting the Crown's policies. In 1774, Hutchinson left America for London where he died in 1780 and always felt exiled from his American homeland. One of his letters suggested his sad end, for he, "had rather die in a little country farm-house in New England than in the best nobleman's seat in old England." Like his ancestor, **ANNE HUTCHINSON** who suffered religious persecution from Puritan authorities in the early 17th-century, the Hutchinson family suffered severe punishment for holding beliefs that other Americans rejected.



American patriots used tar and feathering to intimidate British tax collectors.

Perhaps the most interesting group of Loyalists were enslaved African-Americans who chose to join the British. The British promised to **LIBERATE** slaves who fled from their Patriot masters. This powerful incentive, and the opportunities opened by the chaos of war, led some 50,000 slaves (about 10 percent of the total slave population in the 1770s) to flee their Patriot masters. When the war ended, the British evacuated 20,000 formerly enslaved African Americans and resettled them as free people.

Along with this group of black Loyalists, about 80,000 other Loyalists chose to leave the independent United States after the Patriot victory in order to remain members of the British Empire. Wealthy men like Thomas Hutchinson who had the resources went to London. But most ordinary Loyalists went to Canada where they would come to play a large role in the development of Canadian society and government. In this way, the American Revolution played a central role shaping the future of two North American countries.

History Mystery – Museum Walk

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Jacob Schieffelin - Loyalist

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

About the portrait:

Questions:	Your answers:
If you could ask the person in this image some questions, what would you ask?	
Who might have painted this portrait? Why?	
What caption would you give this image?	
If this person used Twitter what would he tweet out right now?	
How are you like the person in this painting? Is there anything about you or your life experiences that connects you to this portrait?	



About his uniform:

Questions:	Your answers:
If you could ask the person who wore this uniform some questions, what would you ask?	
Who might have sewn these clothes? Why?	
What materials do you think this uniform was made from?	
If this person used Twitter what would he tweet out right now?	
What rank (level) do you think this person has in the military?	



Officer's Coat & Leather Breeches  
Metallic trim, possibly made in Detroit, ca. 1780



For the oval portrait:

Questions:	Your answers:
Why would this person have a portrait painted?	
What does the back of the portrait say?	
Where do you think this portrait was located?	
If this was you, what would you be thinking right now? Use two hashtags to caption your feelings.	
What is the material of the frame made from? Describe the frame.	



**Works Cited:**

"The Loyalists." *Ushistory.org*. Independence Hall Association, n.d. Web. 28 July 2015.

Jacob Schieffelin, Fort Ticonderoga. Personal photograph by author. 2015. Photos by: Kim Hartmann

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"The Magazine of American History with Notes and Queries." *Google Books*. Ed. John Austin Stevens, Benjamin Franklin DeCosta, Henry Phelps Johnston, Martha Johanna Lamb, and Nathan Gillett Pond. N.p., n.d. Web. 28 July 2015.

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Stinson, John D. "Schieffelin Family Papers, 1756-1907." The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division, June 1990. Web.

Information for the teacher:

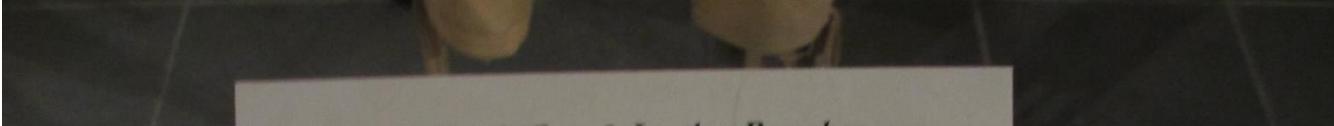
*Jacob Schieffelin*

Oil on canvas, artist unknown, ca. 1785

Museum Purchase

Jacob Scheiffelin was a Loyalist officer who served with the British army during the American Revolution. He is painted in a red military coat with black facings. His military service spanned 1777-1784. It is likely that this portrait was painted at the end of his military service as the collar of his coat rises over the lower part of his neck then falls back to the body of the coat in a style more typical of the mid to late 1780s.

PEM 87



### *Loyalist Officer's Coat & Leather Breeches*

Wool, silk, metallic trims, possibly made in Detroit, ca. 1780  
Gift of Mr. George R.D. Scheffelin, 1946

People living in America who sided with the British during the American Revolution were known as "Loyalists." During the war several Loyalist regiments were formed and served with the British army. Like officers of the British army, Loyalist officers wore coats of finer cloth and trims than their enlisted men counterparts. This simple coat with plain gold plated buttons and gold trimmed buttonhole decoration is typical of Loyalist officer clothing. The leather breeches are associated with this coat and were commonly worn by officers.

This uniform coat belonged to Jacob Schieffelin (1757-1835). Schieffelin was born in Philadelphia. At the age of three he moved with his family to Montréal where his family worked furnishing stores and provisions to the British army. In 1775 Schieffelin enlisted in the Canadian militia to aid in opposing American army's invasion of Canada. Seeking to expand his fortune, Jacob Schieffelin moved to Detroit in 1776 where he soon opened a store to supply inhabitants with general merchandise and groceries. In 1777 Schieffelin was appointed lieutenant in the Detroit Volunteers and wore this coat during his military service. He served in the militia through the fall of 1784.

UN-021a & UN-021b

Jacob Schieffelin (1757-1835)

**OBJECT NUMBER:**

1935.30

**ARTIST/MAKER:**

Unidentified Artist

**RELATED PERSON:**

Jacob Schieffelin

**DATE:**

ca.1785-90

**MEDIUM:**

Watercolor on ivory

**DIMENSIONS:**

Overall: 2 1/16 x 1 5/8 in. ( 5.2 x 4.1 cm )

**GALLERY LABEL:**

The subject was born in Philadelphia, the son of Jacob Schieffelin, Sr., who had immigrated from Germany in 1745. In 1780 he married Hannah Lawrence, a Quaker of New York, and he lived there until 1783, when he moved to Montreal. He returned to New York in 1794 and took an interest in a wholesale drug firm called Lawrence and Schieffelin until 1799; he was the sole proprietor until 1805; from that year until his retirement in 1814 it was known as Jacob Schieffelin and Son.

**CREDIT LINE:**

Gift of Major Howland Pell

**Due to ongoing research, information about this object is subject to change.**



# The Many Lives of Jacob Schieffelin

May 23, 2015

The Schieffelins were from Swabia. Johann Jacob Scheffelin (1702-1750) settled in Philadelphia. His sons Jacob the elder and George, followed him. Jacob the elder married Regina Ritzhauer in 1756, and begot our Jacob, who was born in Philadelphia in 1757. Jacob the elder moved his family to Montreal in 1760. It had just passed into control of the British, and Jacob the elder had a business furnishing supplies to the British.

## **The Loyalist**

In 1775 our Jacob, the younger, (1757-1835) joined the British army at the age of 18 to oppose the American invasion of Canada (one of the more disgraceful incidents in American military history. And we lost). Schieffelin went to Detroit, then a British fort, and ran a store supplying the army. Governor Hamilton of Detroit appointed Jacob to the Detroit Volunteers, giving him the status of an officer.

Schieffelin went with the force that captured Vincennes from the Americans; however, he in turn was captured by the Americans and taken to Virginia. He escaped and made his way to New York speaking French along the way, as the French were allies of the Americans. He reached New York July 19, 1780. There he met Hannah Lawrence, my wife's fourth great grand aunt, and anti-British poetess, arranged to be billeted with her family, and married her August 13, despite Quaker disapproval. They made their way back to Montréal. All this is described in her blog. While he was in Montreal and Detroit, Jacob had been engaging in business and in real estate speculation, some of which was with the Indians, and therefore illegal under British law. He showed an entrepreneurial spirit which would blossom into a family fortune.

After the end of the American Revolution, Jacob went to London to lobby for benefits for loyalist soldiers. Presumably he met with Effingham Lawrence, the brother of his wife's father. This Effingham had moved to London to engage in the drug business, and was the father of the Effingham whose drug business in Manhattan Jacob would later take over.



### **The New American**

Jacob returned to Montreal with a shipment of goods which he would sell. He had remained on good terms with his American relatives, and in 1794 moved to New York and took over Effingham Lawrence's drug business on Pearl Street.

*When Schieffelin and John Lawrence entered into the drug business, the trade was primarily conducted by wholesale houses in New York and Philadelphia. Before the Revolutionary War, drugs and botanicals had been mostly supplied by the English. By the time of the Revolution, about half of the drug manufacturing in England was controlled by the Quakers. Quaker pharmacists in America had ready access to the latest and most up-to-date information thanks to their coreligionists in England. At the end of the eighteenth century, druggists provided a wide array of medicines, botanical products, cooking spices, surgical supplies, medicine chests, as well items found today in hardware stores — paints and glassware, for example — to general stores, physicians, farmers, plantations, ships, and apothecary shops. Soon after the beginning of the eighteenth century, many druggists and apothecaries had expanded into chemical manufacturing, an activity that accelerated during the Revolutionary War, when, cut off from England, druggists learned new manufacturing techniques to produce the embargoed chemicals.*