



**Name:** Catherine Montour (Madame Montour)

**Years:** 1667- 1753

**Residence:** Albany, NY

**Biography:** Catherine Montour was born in Canada to a Frenchman and an Algonquin mother. Montour was illiterate but she was able to speak five languages- English, French, German, Iroquois, and Algonquin. She traveled to New York with her brother for trade and she remained in Albany after he was killed. In New York, she became an interpreter for the Governor at the time, Robert Hunter. She married an Oneida chief, Carandowana. She travelled with him while continuing to be an interpreter.

**Major Accomplishments:** Montour was known as a interpreter, diplomat, and leader.

**More Information:** *"The Celebrated Madame Montour": "Interpretress" Across Early American Frontiers* by Alison Duncan Hirsch

**Resources:** Sunbury: A History, Bucknell University, [http://www.departments.bucknell.edu/environmental\\_center/sunbury/website/MadameMontour.shtml](http://www.departments.bucknell.edu/environmental_center/sunbury/website/MadameMontour.shtml)

**By Elizabeth Wasserman**