

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE3743

## Reibey, Mary

(1777 - 1855)

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**Born** 12 May, 1777, Bury England

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**Died** 30 May, 1855, Newtown Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Occupation** Businesswoman, Convict

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### Summary

Mary Reibey was orphaned as a girl and arrested in 1791 after disguising herself as a male, James Burrow, and attempting to sell a stolen horse. As James Burrow she was sentenced to seven years transportation and arrived in the colony on 7 October 1792. Through marriage to her husband Thomas Raby, with whom she had seven children, Mary grew wealthy. She continued to accumulate property after his death, though the family fortune was strained by the misadventures of two of her sons-in-law.

### Published resources

#### Resource Section

Reibey, Mary (1777-1855), Walsh, G. P., 2006,  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A020327b.htm>

#### Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988

Dear Cousin: The Reibey Letters: Twenty-two letters of Mary Reibey, her children and their descendants, 1792-1901, Irvine, Nance, 1995

#### Book

Mary Reibey - Molly Incognita: A Biography of Mary Reibey, Irvine, Nance, 1982

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Author Details

Barbara Lemon

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