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MOORE *the*
merrier

Animal-lover Mary Tyler Moore's upstate-New York farmhouse is filled with all creatures great and small.

BY SHERYL KAHN

■ CELEBRITY AT HOME



The glass-walled pool house "fills with sunshine from all sides," says Moore.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DANA FINEMAN/SYGMA

Mary doesn't have a little lamb on her 123-acre estate—just two goats, a pair of dogs, five horses, about a dozen ducks and 85 deer ("at last count," she says).

"It's my menagerie," confesses the 61-year-old actress. Her love for furry things embraces her life, from her involvement in several animal organizations—including Guide Dogs for the Blind, the Delta Society (which brings animals to the elderly in hospitals) and the Therapeutic Riding Center—to her production company, Blue-Eyed Horse Productions, named after an albino horse born in her barn.

"I have an absolute reverence for animals," Moore says. "I don't believe they

Right: "We've changed the house over the years," Moore explains. "But we've tried to keep its old-fashioned feel."

were put on this earth to serve us. In fact, I think in many ways they are more like us than we realize."

When she purchased the property 11 years ago with her husband, cardiologist Robert Levine, she was searching for a space that would let her connect with the great outdoors.

"We couldn't find an apartment in New York City that had a terrace, so we decided on a house in

the country," she jokes.

The original structure was built in the 1940s and came with 21 acres. "It had lots of tiny little rooms and a ramshackle barn," Moore says. "Very old-fashioned—which was its charm."

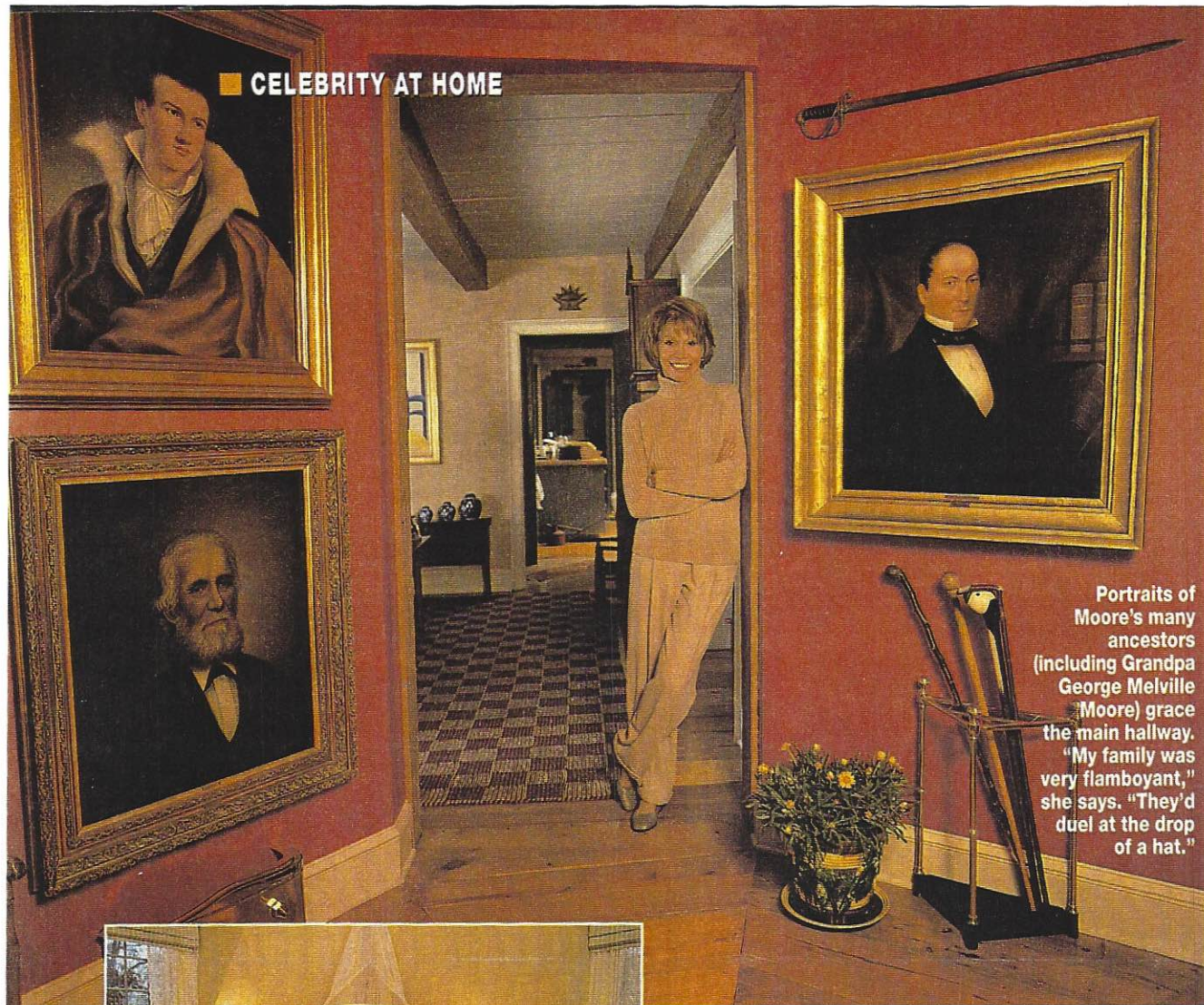
Over the years they've added to the property, buying up eight acres from one neighbor, then another 93 acres two years ago that included horse trails, ▶



"Dudley and Dash are members of the family," says Moore, relaxing with her dogs in the living room. "It's our house, but they own the place!"

HAIRSTYLING: MARIE JEAN OF THE GIL FERRER SALON; HAIRCUT: GIL FERRER; MAKEUP: GIANA FOR MAKEUP FOREVER YOURS AT NORDSTROM; MERCHANDISE CREDITS, P. 166

■ CELEBRITY AT HOME



Portraits of Moore's many ancestors (including Grandpa George Melville Moore) grace the main hallway. "My family was very flamboyant," she says. "They'd duel at the drop of a hat."



Above: A welcoming bedroom, complete with draped bed and antique candlesticks, makes guests—like best buddy Bernadette Peters—feel right at home.

(continued from p. 36)
meadows and streams.

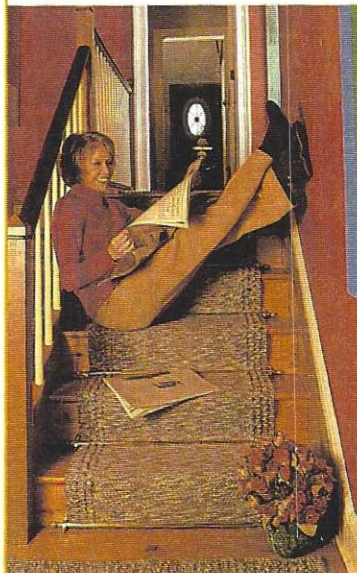
The interior has undergone some changes as well. Moore turned the original dark and drab rooms into a home that Dr. Doolittle would have adored. There are animal accents around every corner: The pool house has

an elephant end table; the living room showcases a life-size swan sculpture and a framed photo of Levine petting a Bengal tiger. A wooden stallion holds a place of honor in the guest room. Even the bed pillows are hand-painted with portraits of Moore's two beloved dogs, Dudley and Dash.

"I believe in surrounding yourself with things that make you feel good," she says. "For me, it's animals, animals everywhere." ■

Mary's tips for a comfy home

- **Think warm, earthy colors.** Moore alternated reds, browns, yellows and oranges throughout her home's walls and floors.
- **Personalize your place.** "Photos and mementos turn a house into a home," she says. "Put them here, there and everywhere!"



- **Light up your life.** Scatter candles and small lamps on surfaces. "Get rid of dark and gloomy," she says.
- **Get cookin'.** "I love the smell of fresh things baking in the oven," Moore reveals. "That just says 'home' to me." Her favorite scent? "Coffee brewing in the morning. It opens my eyes."

Moore would rather read the paper...than go stepping out.