Primary Maker: Unidentified maker
Title: Desk and tools used by miniaturist John Ramage (ca. 1748–1802)
Date: 1777-1794
Medium: Mahogany with yellow poplar and pine
Dimensions: Overall: 42 3/4 x 27 3/4 x 21 1/2 in. (108.6 x 70.5 x 54.6 cm)
Credit Line: Gift of an anonymous donor
Object Number: 1947.461

Object Name: Desk
Classification: ARTISTS' TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

Curatorial Remarks:
This desk and set of goldsmithing tools belonged to acclaimed miniaturist John Ramage (ca. 1748-1802), who was active in New York City between 1777 and 1794. The tools were used by the artist to create and decorate the delicate cases that frame his elegant portraits. The Historical Society's extensive collection of miniatures, comprising nearly 800 examples, includes thirteen portraits by Ramage.

Physical Description:
Mahogany slant-top desk with top opening in two parts to reveal a center section fitted for tools; working surface flanked on either side by three tiered drawers above three stacked drawers; below is a central drawer over three smaller drawers in line, all of which are flanked by a deep drawer on one side and a compartment with a door made to look identical to the drawer front on the other side; scalloped apron; square legs and stretchers.