



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number : 171

Name: Bonn, Anna Maria (Brendel)

Dates: (21 Aug 1739 - 11 May 1815)

Colonial Society: North Carolina

Date added to ROA: Oct. 2, 2024

Service: Midwife

Authority: Records of the Moravians in North Carolina. Vol. 2, p. 825.

Biography:

Anna Maria Brendel was born in Pennsylvania on August 21, 1739, to George and Eva Catharine (Frey) Brendel. The Brendels had immigrated from the Alsace region of France with two children in 1638 and in Pennsylvania they would have a dozen more.

In 1766 Anna Maria was part of a group of single women who walked from Pennsylvania to the community of Bethabara, one of the small Moravian Church agricultural settlements in North Carolina. Shortly after arrival in November, she married Jacob Bonn, a doctor who had moved to the town in 1766. Their son Jacob was born a year later. Sadly, three daughters born in subsequent years died young.

Anna Maria, Jacob, and young Jacob moved to the more central town of Salem in April of 1772 and reportedly had the first private home built there. Anna Maria helped in the doctor's apothecary and started her midwife career in 1774. Records show that "it was determined that Sr. Bonn shall make her first trial with this case, and if she is successful she shall be the appointed midwife, and in addition her husband shall teach her to do other minor surgical work among the Sisters, --to bind sight wounds, and the like."

Jacob Bonn died in Salem on Oct. 31, 1781. Anna Maria Bonn would live until May 11, 1815 and also died in Salem. Their son Jacob died in Salem in October 1811. They are all buried in Salem Moravian God's Acre Cemetery.