



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number: 225

Name: Logan, Martha (Daniell)

Dates: (29 Dec 1704 - 28 Jun 1779)

Colonial Society: SC

Date added to ROA: May 5, 2025

Service: Woman of Substance: horticulturist and educator

Authority: The South-Carolina Gazette, 27 February to 6 March 1742, p. 3; 26 March to 2 April 1750, p. 3; 1 August to 8 August 1754, p. 1; 28 January 1766, p. 3; 14 March to 21 March 1768, p. 3; 22 December 1768, p. 4; Schafer, Elizabeth D. "Logan, Martha Daniell." The South Carolina Encyclopedia, edited by Walter Edgar, University of South Carolina Press, 2006, pp. 563-564.

Biography:

Martha Daniell was born December 29, 1704 in Charleston. She was the daughter of Robert and Martha (Wainwright) Daniell. Robert Daniell was a merchant trader and ship captain who settled in Carolina in 1679. He acquired the title of "Landgrave" along with thousands of acres of land. He moved back and forth between North and South Carolina, serving as deputy governor of each colony.

Martha received a more extensive education than many colonial girls, learning to read, write, draw, and do a variety of needlework. She also apparently picked up a considerable knowledge of plants from her father's nursery business.

Martha's father died in May 1718. On July 30, 1719, the fourteen-year-old Martha married George Logan Jr. – two months after her widowed mother had married George's father, George Logan Sr.

Martha and George Jr. initially lived on a large plantation on the Wando River that Martha had inherited from her father. The plantation may not have provided a satisfactory income: in 1742, Martha advertised that she was operating a boarding school "at her Dwelling-House up Wando River, about 10 Miles from Charles-Town."

The Logans sold the plantation and moved to Charleston around 1750. In March of that year, Martha advertised a school at her house, "pleasantly situated on the green . . . where children may be reasonably boarded, and carefully taught, to read, write, dance, and work several kinds of needle-work." She later added lessons in arithmetic.

Martha kept an extensive garden by her house. She exchanged plant specimens with John Bartram, the



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“father of American botany,” and carried on a lengthy correspondence with him. She also maintained a horticultural business, selling native and imported plants, seeds, and roots.

She is best known for her “Gardener’s Kalendar,” a set of gardening instructions that first appeared in the South Carolina Almanack in 1752. Successive almanacs carried revised and enlarged editions of the calendar for decades. Her calendar “demonstrate[d] both a sensitivity to the local conditions in and around Charleston and an intimate knowledge of the plants and agricultural techniques needed to succeed in such an environment.”

Martha had eight children, six of whom survived to adulthood. Her husband George died in 1764.

Martha died in 1779. Thirty years later, David Ramsay’s *History of South-Carolina* noted that her “Gardener’s Kalendar . . . to this day regulates the practice of gardens in and near Charleston.”