



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Index Number: 072

Name: Walker, Anna (Classon) Fredricks

Dates: (____to____)

Colonial Society: DE

Date added to ROA: 8-II-2023

Service: Historic Founder, New Castle

Authority: Craig, Peter Stebbins, 1671 Census of the Delaware (Philadelphia, PA: Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, 1999), 18; Craig, Peter Stebbins, the 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware (Winter Park, FL: SAG Publications, 1993), 55

Biography:

Anna Classen's birth and death dates are not definitively recorded. Some genealogical sources suggest she was born around 1662 in Mill Dorp, New Sweden (present-day New Castle, Delaware), and died in 1745 in Lower Dublin, Philadelphia. However, these dates are approximate and may vary across different records.

She was the eldest daughter of John Classon (also spelled Claesson), a Swedish immigrant who settled along the Delaware River.

Around 1675, Anna married Francis Walker, and the couple initially resided in Bensalem, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. They later relocated to Duck Creek in lower New Castle County, Delaware, where they had a daughter named Frances born in 1677, who married c.1697 Jonas Hansson Keen. Records show that Francis Walker and his partner Dunk Williams were part of Robert Ashman's group securing a patent at Passyunk on 1 Jan. 1667/8. On 30 Oct. 1675, a 450-acre tract known as "Point Pleasant" was surveyed for them on the lower side of Neshaminy Creek. In 1685/6, Francis Walker also owned 300 acres near Duck Creek, New Castle County with Anna's two eldest brothers, Clas and Dirick. The 1693 tax list for Bensalem township, Bucks County, valued Widow Walker's property at £20.

Following Francis Walker's death in 1686, Anna married Michael Fredericks, a neighbor.

Anna's family was prominent among the Swedish settlers in the Delaware region. Her siblings married into other notable families, strengthening the community's social fabric. For example, her sister Gertrude married Hans Lycon, and her sister Elisabeth married William Williamson. These familial ties highlight the interconnectedness of early Swedish settlers in colonial Delaware and their contributions to the region's development.