



## FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

**Female Ancestor Number: o8o**

**Name:** Conoway, Mary Hollingsworth

**Dates:** (25 Mar 1656 - 1746)

**Colonial Society:** PA

**Date added to ROA:** 8-27-2023

**Service:** Historic Founder (Arrival 1682 Penn Ship)

**Authority:** McCracken, George E., Penn's Colony, Vol. 2 Welcome Claimants (Heritage Books, 2007), 252; Myers, Albert Cook, Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania, 1682-1750...(Swarthmore, PA: s.p. 1902), 314.

### **Biography:**

Mary Hollingsworth was 26 and a new bride when she joined her husband, Thomas Conoway, her father Valentine Hollingsworth, her step-mother Ann Calvert, and several of her siblings and step-siblings aboard the ship *Antelope* headed for the colony of Pennsylvania. Life to that point couldn't have been easy. Her mother (Ann Rea) died when Mary was just 15-years-old. As the oldest, she would likely have taken responsibility for her siblings, especially her youngest sister Catherine, who was only 8-years-old at the time. She would quickly have to learn to live with her father's new wife and the additional siblings that followed. While her family considered themselves British—she was second-generation born in Northern Ireland—their lives became even more complicated when her father converted to Quakerism. This decision would lead to religious persecution and the family's decision to seek freedom in Penn's Colony.

While the family found refuge and Mary gave birth to a quick succession of daughters, her happiness would be short lived, as within seven years Thomas Conoway died, leaving her a widow of three daughters, one a newborn. We find Mary Conoway "daughter of Valentine Hollingsworth" in the records of the Chester Monthly Meeting when in 1692, Randall Marlin of Upper Providence Twp. proposes his intentions of marriage. Malin had emigrated from England in 1681 with a land grant of about 250 acres in what is present-day Delaware County (PA). He too was a Friend who had been persecuted for his religious opinions. He was also a widower, his wife Elizabeth died about 1687, with two young sons. Together Mary and Randall Malin would have two more daughters. Randal Malin became a Quaker Minister in 1712 and moved his family within the limits of the Goshen Monthly Meeting. Mary would outlive her second husband by at least 17 years, having survived through eight decades of life.

See [Ann Calvert Hollingsworth](#) for further information.