



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number: 079

Name: Hollingsworth, Ann (Calvert)

Dates: (Nov 1650 - 17 Oct 1697)

Colonial Society: PA

Date added to ROA: 8-28-2023

Service: Historic Founder (Arrival 1682 Penn Ship)

Authority: McCracken, George E., Penn's Colony, Vol. 2 Welcome Claimants (Heritage Books, 2007), 251; Myers, Albert Cook, Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania, 1682-1750...(Swarthmore, PA: s.p., 1902), 313.

Biography:

At age 22, Ann Calvert became the second wife of Valentine Hollingsworth, a man more than twenty-years older. Valentine was an Englishman born in Northern Ireland and a recent widow. His first wife (Ann Rea) died just months before, leaving two daughters and two sons behind ranging in age from 8 to 15-years-old. It was during this time that Valentine was convinced by George Fox to convert to Quakerism, (c. 1669) a decision which would lead to religious persecution in Ireland and an invitation by William Penn to seek freedom in his new Pennsylvania colony.

Ten years later (1682) Ann Calvert Hollingsworth, now the mother of four additional children, left from Belfast aboard the ship *Antelope*, headed to the Americas. William Penn granted the Hollingsworth family 986 acres near present-day Wilmington (DE), land then known as "the Three Lower Counties on the Delaware" which was owned and controlled by William Penn. Accompanying her and Valentine were step-daughter [Mary Hollingsworth Conoway](#) (age 26 with her husband Thomas Conoway), step-daughter Catherine Hollingsworth (age 19), and her 3 sons Samuel (age 9), Enoch (age 7), Valentine (age 5) and her then youngest, daughter Ann (age 1). Two more sons would be born in America, Enoch (who died before age 5) and John Valentine. Her husband Valentine became an important part of William Penn's Provincial government, as a member of the First Assembly, a Justice of the Peace, and a signer of Penn's *Great Charter*. The Hollingsworth family remained dedicated Friends, their house serving as a meeting place for religious services and ultimately donating land to create a meetinghouse and burial ground. While their land in the "lower counties" would officially become part of Delaware (circa 1776), several Hollingsworth descendants became key members of the NSCDA/PA through their relationship to Valentine Hollingsworth (one of the first men added to the Register of Ancestors), including NSCDA founders Fanny Hollingsworth Arnold and Anne Hollingsworth Wharton, along with at least eight other early members.