



FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

Female Ancestor Number: 081

Name: Robinson, Catherine (Hollingsworth)

Dates: (Jul 1663 - 29 Aug 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), 315.

Biography:

Catherine Hollingsworth was 19 when she joined 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. Her memories of her mother, Ann Rea, might have faded, as Catherine (who lost her mother when she was 8-years-old) had now spent more time with her step-mother and additional siblings. Together, they were headed to William Penn's colony which promised freedom from the religious persecution her family suffered in Northern Ireland. It would be another six years before Catherine married George Robinson. Family folklore held that while Catherine had several suitors, she only had eyes for George. George, however, was Church of England which was unacceptable to the Hollingsworths, despite their ideals of religious freedom. Their daughter would "marry in the Meeting" and that was that. George declared his intentions to join the Society of Friends, but the elders questioned if his sudden conversion meant he wasn't really interested in being a Friend. He was asked "*dost thou join the Society of Friends from conviction, or the love of [K]atherine Hollingsworth?*" Their first declaration of marriage intentions were recorded in 1688 in the Kennett Monthly Meeting records in Chester Co. They would have three children, Mary, Ann and Valentine. George died at the age of 72, while Catherine lived a long life of 83 years.

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