

### Cemetery note:

**Johannes Andreas David Roller (1730-1802)** and **Rosina Roller (1724-1794)**, both born in Germany, were the parents of [Conrad Roller](#) (1752-1824), who was the subject of our last Cemetery Note. Conrad and his younger brother John, born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, were both Revolutionary War veterans, having served in the Continental Line in Virginia, and Conrad also earlier in Pennsylvania.

What is remarkable about the Roller family is that two of the daughters (Conrad's and John's sisters) married "Hessian" soldiers – German auxiliaries whose princes hired out a number of their regiments to King George III of Britain. The German "Hessian" soldiers were thus fighting on the British side, against German-American soldiers (mostly from PA-MD-VA) fighting for American independence. Many Hessians deserted or defected from the British army, settled in America, and became loyal and patriotic Americans. In this case, Conrad's sister Rosina married Hessian defector Christopher Bornhaus at New Jerusalem in August 1784; another sister, Catharina, married Hessian defector George Ebel in January 1785. Conrad himself was married to Elizabeth Slates, the daughter of another Hessian, [Friedrich Schloetz](#), and still another sister, Margareta, married Elisabeth's brother, Frederick Slates Jr.

The "Continental" and the "Hessians" all seem to have gotten along quite well, as shown by their appearing frequently in the records as sponsors for each other's children's baptisms. We are thankful for this wonderful example of Christian reconciliation, in which one-time adversaries became family and friends.

Pictured are the gravestones of Johannes Andreas David Roller (in frame), and his wife Rosina Roller, parents of Conrad and John Roller, and Rosina (Bornhaus), Catharina (Ebel), and Margareta (Slates).





