

**Three John Keyser of Germantown Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary Era**

Three men named John Keyser are found in the pre-Revolutionary War tax records of Germantown, Philadelphia County Pennsylvania. Some of these records state the occupation of each John Keyser. This makes it possible to distinguish between these men and to document their respective families and their Revolutionary War service.

The pre-Revolutionary War records found for John Keyser in Germantown provide evidence for their respective occupations:

<b>1769 tax records for the 3 men named John Keyser in Germantown PA<sup>1</sup></b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Details</b>
John Keyser	Germantown	1769	Mason, 3.5 acres and dwelling
John Keyser	Germantown	1769	Cordwainer, 1 acre and dwelling
John Keiser	Germantown	1769	Tanner, 5 acres and dwelling

<b>1774 Tax Records for John Keyser, Germantown, Philadelphia PA<sup>2</sup></b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Which John Keyser?</b>
John Keyser	1 acre land and dwelling; £6.6.8 same page as Jacob, Benjamin, Derick and Joseph Keyser and Christian Snider	John Keyser, Cordwainer
John Keyser	6 acres land and dwelling, Tanyard, £6.8.0 G.R. to John Johnson	John Keyser, Tanner
John Keyser	19 acres and Dwelling £11.17.4 G.R. to Leonard Nutz	John Keyser, Mason

Correlation of the 1774 tax records of Germantown with other evidence cited below support the following conclusions:

- The John Keyser who owned 1 acre and a dwelling in Germantown in 1774 was John Keyser, Cordwainer.
- The John Keyser who owned 19 acres and a dwelling and rented land to Leonard Nutz was John Keyser, Mason.
- The John Keyser who owned 6 acres, a dwelling, and a Tanyard was John Keyser, Tanner.

**John Keyser, Mason of Germantown PA**

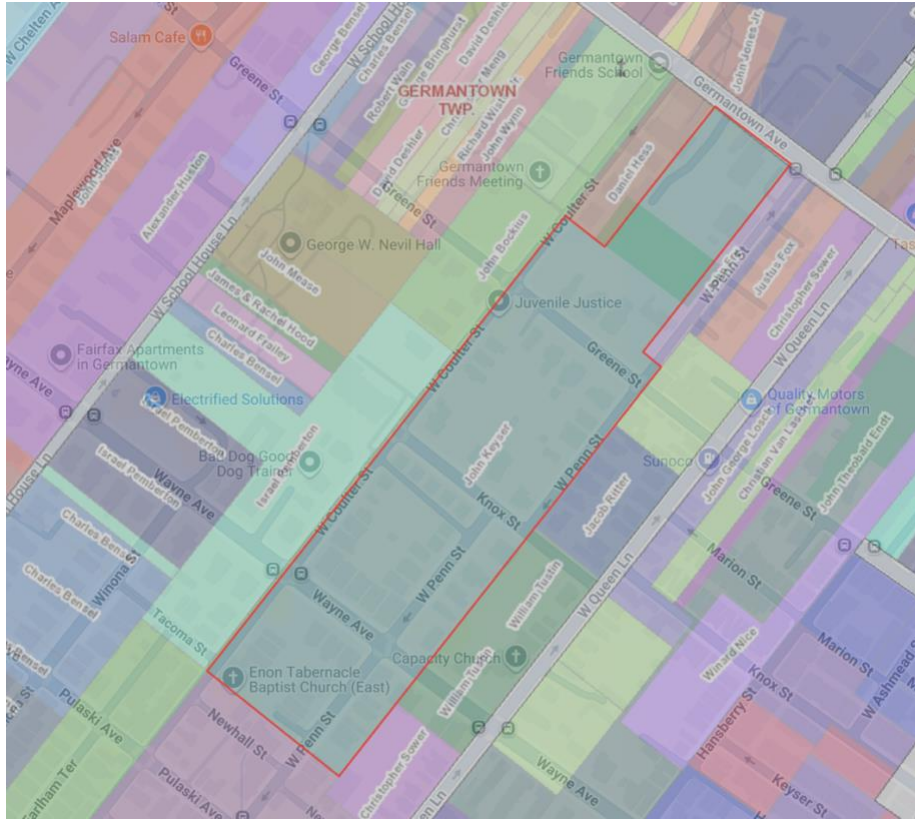
John Keyser, Mason of Germantown PA was taxed in that township in 1769 for 3.5 acres and a dwelling.<sup>3</sup> In 1784, John Keyser, Mason sold land in Germantown to his son-in-law John Crout. This land had been previously granted to John Keyser in 1754.<sup>4</sup> The 1802 will of John Crout, Cooper of Germantown names his wife as Barbara.<sup>5</sup> Barbara Keyser, father Johannes Keyser, age 39, was born January 22, 1758 and baptized January 22, 1761 at St. Michaels Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. This record names 3 other children of Johannes Keyser: Margaretha born February 1748, Henrich, born February 1751 and Michel born November 6, 1760.<sup>6</sup>

1774 tax records for Germantown shows John Keyser record that owned 19 acres of land and a dwelling, he rented some of that land to Leonard Nutz.<sup>7</sup> The 1779 tax records for Germantown have several entries for John Keyser next to his son-in-law John Crout:

1779 Tax Records for John Keyser Germantown, Philadelphia County PA <sup>8</sup>	
Name	Details
John Keyser	Assessed 900, Taxed 13.10 Same page as John Crout
John Keyser	John Keyser 6 next to John Kroust 1
John Keyser	John Keyser 6 abated 2 next to John Kroust 1
John Keyser	John Keyser 6 abated 2 next to John Kroust 1

The estate of John Keyser of Germantown, Mason was probated in 1799. The administrator of his estate was John Nutz, Tanner. Leonard Nutz, Tanner was also named on the bond as a guarantor.<sup>9</sup>

The land belonging to John Keyser, Mason is shown on the map below from the Mapping West Philadelphia Application developed by the University of Pennsylvania. Metadata for this lot indicates this 20 acres of land was purchased by him in 1754, which is consistent with the 1784 deed naming his son-in-law John Crout. Current street names and buildings are included in this images, but the landowners' names are from October 1777. The northeastern boundary of his land abuts the present Germantown Ave. near the current location of the Germantown Friends School, and the current streets bounding on the long sides of the property are West Coulter and West Penn Streets:<sup>10</sup>



The map of the Battle of Germantown, which occurred October 4, 1777, is shown below:<sup>11</sup>



The Germantown Friends school is 1.4 miles southeast of the Germantown Brethren Church shown on the battlefield map. Both are located on Germantown Ave (labeled Germantown Rd. on the map above). This places the property of John Keyser, Mason in the

middle of the battle, which may explain the tax abatement he received in 1779. He was also taxed in Germantown in 1780:

1780 Tax Records for John Keyser, Mason, in Germantown, Philadelphia County PA <sup>12</sup>		
Name	Details	Which John Keyser
John Keyser	Assessed 600 Taxed 28.5.0 Same page as John Crout	John Keyser, Mason

### **John Keyser, Mason Qualifies as a Patriotic Ancestor**

A 1968 application for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution based on the service of John Keyser states that he was born in 1730 in Germantown PA and died in 1813 in Germantown. His wife is identified as Elizabeth Rinker. The service evidence in this SAR record references the DAR Patriot Index. Descent for this application is through Jacob Keyser, son of John Keyser, born 1754 in Germantown and died 1846 in Germantown.<sup>13</sup>

The DAR record for John Keyser born 1730 in Germantown, Philadelphia County PA died 1813 in Germantown states that he paid the Supply Tax in 1779, 1780, 1782, and 1783. His wife is identified as Elizabeth Rinker and the lines of descent for DAR members are through their children Charles, Jacob, and Mary.<sup>14</sup> John Keyser, Mason married Elizabeth Rinker and died in 1799. As stated above, there is evidence in the 1779 and 1780 tax records that John Keyser, Mason paid taxes in Germantown, qualifying him as a Patriotic Ancestor.

The evidence found supports the conclusion that the SAR and DAR records refer to John Keyser the Mason, although the death date in the SAR record is incorrect. The tax records for John Keyser in Germantown in 1779 show him next to John Crout, who was the son-in-law of John Keyer the Mason. The 1780 tax record for him in Germantown also

shows him next to John Crout. This provides evidence that John Keyser the Mason performed patriotic service by paying the supply tax in 1779 and 1780.

### **Summary of Evidence for the Identity John Keyser, Mason of Germantown PA**

- Identified as a Mason in the 1769 tax record for Germantown.
- Identified as a Mason in the 1784 deed conveying land to his son in law John Crout.
- 1802 will of John Crout identifies his wife as Barbara.
- 1761 baptismal record of Barbar Keyser identifies her father as Johannes Keyser.
- 1799 probate record for John Keyser, Mason identifies his executor as John Nutz and the guarantor of the administration bond as Leonard Nutz.
- 1774 tax record for Germantown shows John Keyser owning 19 acres and renting land to Leonard Nutz.
- The 1777 map of land in Germantown shows John Keyser owning 20 acres.
- 1779 tax record for Germantown lists John Crout next to John Keyser and records John Keyser as being entitled to an abatement of his taxes.
- The map of the Battle of Germantown shows the battle occurring along Germantown Avenue where John Keyser the Mason's property was located. This could explain his 1779 tax abatement.

### **John Keyser, Tanner (Cordwainer, Shoemaker) of Germantown PA**

John Keiser, Tanner was taxed on 5 acres and a dwelling in Germantown in 1769.<sup>15</sup>

The March 7, 1775 deed of Jacob Keyser, Yeoman of Germantown PA and Margaret his wife,

identifies John Keyser, Tanner, of Germantown as the son of the Jacob Keyser. This deed conveys 2 lots in Germantown to Mathias Rasor.<sup>16</sup>

The will of Rebecca Keyser of Germantown, Co. of Philadelphia was dated Jan 11, 1788 and probated Feb 23, 1788. She mentions a 1/6 part of her mother Anne Nedrow's estate which she had previously inherited. Her children were identified as Margaret Brunner, Mary Keyser, Thomas Keyser, and Anna Keyser. The executors were named as her trusty friend Matthias Rason and her son Thomas Keyser. Rebecca's husband John Keyser was not mentioned her the will.<sup>17</sup>

A 1788 deed of Mathias Rasor of Germantown to John and Rebecca Keyser of Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County. This deed identifies John Keyser's trade as Tanner and Cordwainer. This deed establishes a trust relationship with Matthias Rasor overseeing the trust for Rebecca Keyser's and her children's use of 3 parcels of land: 305 acres in Skippack Township, Montgomery County, 95 acres in Lampeter Township, Lancaster County, and 12 acres in Germantown, Philadelphia County . Her husband is explicitly excluded from any profit from this land. This deed also references Rebecca's will and extends the trust relationship to her children. The deed was recorded February 22, 1788 after Rebecca's will was proved.<sup>18</sup>

The estate of Ann Nedrow, of Bristol Township, Montgomery County PA was administered by Mathias Rasor and Jacob Shoemaker, who filed a petition on January 16, 1778 regarding the disposition of the assets of the estate. The estate of Ann Nedrow owned lands in Montgomery, Lancaster and Philadelphia Counties.<sup>19</sup> Ann Nedrow inherited 305

acres in Skippack and Perkiomen Townships in Lancaster County PA from her brother Richard Janson per his 1767 will. In 1788, a portion of that land was sold by the executors of Ann Nedrow's estate to support her minor children.<sup>20</sup>

John Keyser appears in these tax records for Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County:

<b>Tax Records for John Keyser, Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County PA<sup>21</sup></b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Trade</b>	<b>Tax and Details</b>
1779		Assessed £900 taxed £13.10.0
1780	Cordwainer	Assessed £4200 Taxed £15.5.0
1782	Cordwainer	8 acres and dwelling, assessment £200
1783		10 acres and dwelling, assessed £125
1785	Shoemaker	8 acres and dwelling Assessed £138
1786	Shoemaker	10 acres and dwelling Assessed £150
1787	John Keyser's Estate	Assessed £160 Taxed £0.6.9
1789	John Keyser	Assessed £183

There is a discrepancy between the Roxborough tax records and the 1788 deed of Mathias Rasor. The 1787 tax record shows the land in Roxborough as in an estate, although the 1789 record for John Keyser does not mention the estate, and the January 1788 Rasor to Rebecca Keyser deed appears to refer to John Keyser as living (no mention of deceased or estate in connection with his name), although that could be a device to deny claims by heirs of John Keyser other than Rebecca's children from making a claim to Rebecca's lands.

Margaret Brunner nee Keyser and Henry Brunner had a daughter Anna Maria Brunner born September 22, 1777 and baptized November 2, 1777 at the German Reformed Church of Germantown PA.<sup>22</sup> Thomas Keyser is recorded in the Keyser Family Bible as having been born February 22, 1765 to Rebecca Keyser, (no father mentioned), and that he married Susanna Weaver September 14, 1788.<sup>23</sup>

On March 5, 1813, John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown, sold 12 acres of land in Roxborough Township to Henry Brunner and John Brunner, both Blacksmiths of Germantown, for \$533.33.<sup>24</sup>

The 1777 landowners map application for West Philadelphia shows this 12 acre parcel in Roxborough Township owned by John Keyser Cordwainer of Germantown. The property was acquired by him in 1775:<sup>25</sup>



## **Summary of Evidence for the Identity John Keyser, Tanner, Cordwainer, and Shoemaker of Germantown PA**

- 1775 deed of Jacob and Margaret Keyser to Mathias Razor identifies John Keyser, Tanner of Germantown as the son of Jacob and Margaret Keyser.
- 1788 deed of Matthias Razor to John and Rebecca Keyser of Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County identifies John's trades as Tanner and Cordwainer. This deed established a trust for Rebecca and her children regarding property that Rebecca inherited from her mother Ann Nedrow.
- 1788 will of Rebecca Keyser names her children as Margaret Brunner, Mary Keyser, Thomas Keyser, and Anna Keyser. Her husband is not mentioned in her will.
- Margaret Brunner nee Keyser and Henry Brunner had a daughter baptized in 1777 at the German Reformed Church of Germantown.
- John Keyser was taxed in Roxborough Township in the period 1780 – 1789. His trade was variously listed as Cordwainer and Shoemaker.
- The map application of the landowners of West Philadelphia shows a 12 acre parcel of land in Roxborough Township owned by John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown. This property was acquired by him in 1775.
- John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown, sold 12 acres in Roxborough to Henry Brunner (his son-in-law) and John Brunner in 1813.

**John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown**

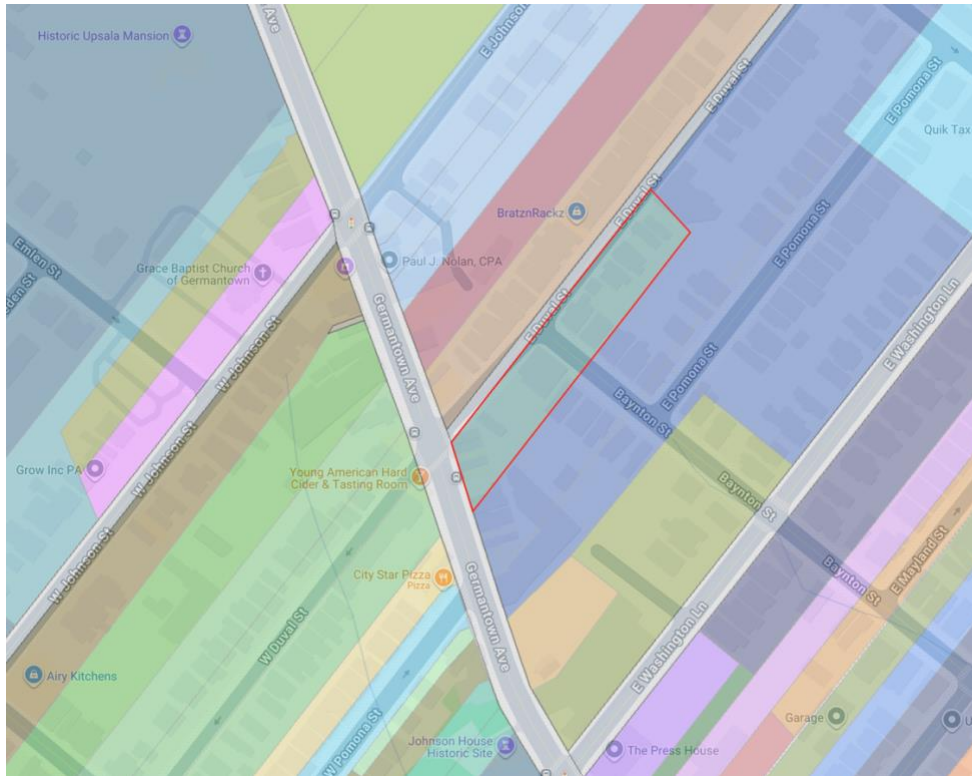
John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown is identified in a 1758 deed as the son of Dirck Keyser, deceased and Alice Keyser. Peter Keyser, Tanner is named as the brother of John Keyser.<sup>26</sup> The will of Dirick Keyser, Cordwainer dated January 2, 1756 and proved February 4, 1756, names his children as Alice, Hannah (Keyser), Elizabeth, wife of Andrew Wood, John, Peter, Dirick and Michael. Wife Alice and sons John and Peter were named the executors of the will of Dirck Keyser.<sup>27</sup>

The will of John Keyser, Cordwainer of Philadelphia dated February 10, 1803 and probated May 15, 1813 identifies these family members:

- Wife Elizabeth
- Son Abraham
- Son Jacob
- Daughter Anna Weaver
- Son Charles
- Daughter Mary Heisler, wife of William Heisler

Executors were sons Jacob, Abraham, and Charles. Witnesses to the will were William Keyser and Joseph Gorges.<sup>28</sup> John Keyser, age 82 died May 2, 1813 is buried in the Germantown Mennonite Cemetery in Germantown PA, the same cemetery where his father Dirck Keyser is buried.<sup>29</sup>

The 1 acre parcel owned by John Keyser, Cordwainer in Germantown is shown below. The metadata indicates this parcel was acquired by John Keyser in 1756. It is located on the corner of current day Germantown Ave. and East Duval St. This location is about 1 mile northwest of Germantown Friends School on Germantown Ave.



The 1782 tax record for John Keyser Cordwainer is consistent with the earlier tax records and the 1777 owners map:

1782 Tax Records for John Keyser, Cordwainer, Germantown, Philadelphia County PA <sup>30</sup>	
Name	Details
John Keyser	Cordwainer, 1 acre and dwelling Same page as Benjamin, Joseph, Jacob Keyser's estate and Hannah Keyser Widow

The 1780 tax record for John Keyser, Cordwainer refers to his eligibility for a tax abatement. It is not known why he qualified or why he refused it.

1780 Tax Records for John Keyser, Germantown, Philadelphia County PA <sup>31</sup>		
Name	Details	Which John Keyser
John Keyser	Cordwainer, assessed 6200 Abated 1200, Refused to qualify, taxed 30.0.0	John Keyser, Cordwainer

John Keyser Cordwainer died May 2, 1813 and is buried in the German Mennonite Cemetery in Germantown, the same cemetery where his father is buried.<sup>32</sup>

### **Summary of Evidence for the Identity of John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown PA**

- John Keyser Cordwainer of Germantown is identified in a 1758 deed as the son of Dirck Keyser and his wife Alice.
- John is named as a son of Dirck Keyser in the latter's 1756 will.
- The Germantown tax records for 1780 and 1782 show that John Keyser, Cordwainer paid taxes in that town.
- John Keyser is buried in the German Mennonite Cemetery, the same cemetery where his father is buried.

### **Eligibility of John Keyser, Cordwainer for Patriot Ancestor Status**

The tax records for 1780 and 1782 provide evidence that John Keyser, Cordwainer qualifies as a Patriot Ancestor by paying the supply taxes that supported the Patriot cause. In addition, according to Daughters of the American Revolution records, John Keyser, born c. 1732 Germantown died 1817 probably in Philadelphia County, served in Captain Snyder's Company of the Philadelphia Militia. His wife was identified as Rebecca Nedrow and the line of descent to DAR members were through their daughter Margaret.<sup>33</sup> John Keyser the Tanner married a woman named Rebecca. Rebecca Keyser's 1788 will names her daughter as Rebecca Brunner. This DAR records does however caution that there were 2 men named John Keyser in Germantown(although there were in fact 3 John Keyser's in Germantown in the Revolutionary era), indicating that confusion of identity is a concern in this instance. Examination of the available records will enable a conclusion supported by evidence to be reached regarding John Keyser of the Philadelphia County Militia.

### Philadelphia County Militia Records

<b>Men with the Surname Keyser Who Served in Captain Christian Snyder's Company 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Philadelphia County Militia</b>			
<b>Name/Dates Life, Service<sup>34</sup></b>	<b>Tax Records<sup>35</sup></b>	<b>Burial<sup>36</sup></b>	<b>Keyser Line of Descent<sup>37</sup></b>
Benjamin Keyser ( - 1808) 1777	1779 – 1783 Germantown 1787 – 1789 Philadelphia	Germantown Mennonite	Grandson of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Jacob Keyser (1710 – 1781)
Derick Keyser Tanner (1737 – 1810) Nov 20, 1778	1769 – 1789 Germantown	Germantown Brethren	Grandson of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Dirck Keyser (1702 – 1756)
Jacob Keyser Cordwainer ( - 1781) 1777	1769 - 1787 Germantown	unknown	Son of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724)
Jacob Keyser Jr., Mason ( - 1786) 1777	1769 - 1787 Germantown	unknown	Grandson Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Andrew Keyser (1703 – 1776)
John Keyser, Cordwainer ( - 1813) Nov 20, 1778	1769 – 1789 Germantown	Germantown Mennonite	Grandson of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Dirck Keyser (1702 – 1756)
Joseph Keyser Cooper Captain	1774 – 1783 Germantown	unknown	unknown
Joseph Keyser Private Shopkeeper ( - 1793)	1779 – 1793 Germantown	unknown	Grandson of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Jacob Keyser (1710 – 1781)
Peter Keyser Tanner (1736 – 1819)	1769 – 1789 Germantown	Germantown Brethren	Grandson of Pieter Dirck Keyser (1676 – 1724) Son of Dirck Keyser Jr. (1702 – 1756)
William Keyser Tanner ( - 1786)	1769 – 1787 Germantown	unknown	Grandson of Dirck Keyser Jr. (1702 – 1756) Son of Andrew Keyser (1703 – 1776)

Eight of the nine men with the surname Keyser who served in Christian Snyder's company were descendants of Pieter Dirck Keyser Sr. of Germantown. Christian Snyder, the company commander, also lived in Germantown. Germantown tax records show that the Keyzers and Christian Snyder were listed close together. The 1774 tax record for Germantown shows Jacob, Benjamin, Jacob Jr., Joseph, Derrick, and John Keyser (6 of the 8 descendants of Pieter Dirck Keyser who served in Snyder's Company) on the same page with Christian Snyder.

8, Lewis Bidding <sup>Marr.</sup>  
 10 acres Land & Dwelling. 12. 7. 4  
 1 House. 1 Cow. . . . . 1  
 £ 8. 4

7, Jacob Keyser,  
 8 acres Land & Dwelling. 12. 7. 4  
 1 Cow . . . . . 6. 8  
 £ 7. 10. 8

15, Andra Cornelius Comadi <sup>Estate</sup>  
 £ 25. of Michael Smith . . . . . 15  
 22 10 8

Ph. Benjamin Keyser,

25, Jacob Keyser jun.  
 27 acres Land & Dwelling. 16. 9. 12  
 5 Houses. 2 Cows . . . . . 4  
 £ 20. of Jacob Lash . . . . . 12  
 £ 25. 12.

Ph. Joseph Keyser,

3, Christopher Hergshemer.

1, Christopher Hinkle.

2, Christopher Witt,  
 and for William Keyser's Estate

7, £ 13. of Christopher Witt . . . . . 7. 16

1, Frederick Godshalk

5, Derrick Keyser <sup>Senior</sup>  
 £ 9. of William Eden . . . . . 5. 8

1, George Hooton

1, John Nice,

1, Michael Zinner,  
 1 Cow . . . . . 6. 8

Ph. Michael Rutt

9, Jacob Knorr, <sup>Senior</sup>  
 10 acres Land & Dwelling. 16. 9. 12

9, Christian Huber  
 12 acres Land & Dwelling. 16. 9. 12  
 1 Cow . . . . . 6. 8  
 £ 9. 10. 8

6, John Keyser <sup>Junior</sup>  
 1 acre Land & Dwelling. 10. 6  
 1 Cow . . . . . 6. 8  
 £ 6. 6. 8

8, Ann Moyer <sup>Widow</sup>  
 20 acres Land & Dwelling. 14. 8. 8  
 2 Horses. 2 Cows . . . . . 2  
 £ 10. 8

Ph. Jacob Moyer

47, Christian Snider <sup>Junior</sup>  
 20 acres Land & Dwelling. 25. 15  
 2 Horses. 2 Cows . . . . . 2  
 £ 40. of David Snider of Dublin 24  
 1/2 a Fulling Mill Roxboro. 10. 6  
 £ 47

40, Leonard Stoneburner,  
 65 acres Land & Dwelling. 30. 22. 16  
 14 Horses. 2 Cows . . . . . 10  
 £ 16. of Edward Drinker Esq. 9. 12  
 £ 12. 8  
 Gr. To William Coats . . . . . 2. 11  
 £ 39. 17

Paul Engle,  
 20 acres Land . . . . . 3. 3  
 1 House . . . . . 13. 4  
 £ 12. 10. of Jacob Rice . . . . . 7. 10  
 £ 28. . . . for 1/4th. of a Fulling Mill  
 Roxboro. 16. 16  
 £ 12. of Garet Holcomb Esq. 7. 4  
 £ 35. 3. 4  
 Gr. To Friends Meeting . . . . . 2.  
 £ 33. 3. 4  
 Head & Estate £ 3. 1. 6 36 4 10

Another correlation within these records is that the 8 Keyzers and Christian Snyder were all involved in the related trades of Tanner, Skinner, and Cordwainer, making it more likely that they interacted with each other regularly. The records found of the 8 Keyser men who served in the Philadelphia County Militia support the conclusion that the John Keyser who served was John Keyser, Cordwainer.

## **Conclusion**

The 3 men named John Keyser who lived in Germantown PA in the Revolutionary era are clearly distinguishable due to the records identifying their respective trades. Each of the 3 are also qualified to be considered Patriotic Ancestors due to the records showing them paying supply taxes in the period 1779 – 1783. The John Keyser who served in Captain Snyder’s Company of the Philadelphia Militia was John Keyser, Cordwainer.

---

<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 332, images 3, 10, and 13 of 290.

<sup>22</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1774, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 332, images 26, 29, and 33 of 290.

<sup>3</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 332, image 3 of 290.

<sup>4</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Deeds 1766 – 1800, Book D10, pages 530 – 531, November 9, 1784, deed of John Keyser of Germantown, Mason to John Crout, son in law of John Keyser, land in Germantown, previously granted to John Keyser on May 29, 1754, FHL film# 21911, image 266 of 285, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>5</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Will Index, will of John Crout, will date June 17, 1802, will of John Crout of Germantown, Cooper, will proved August 5, 1802, Lineages, Inc., comp. *Philadelphia County*,

---

*Pennsylvania, U.S., Will Index, 1682-1819* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2000. Original data: *Philadelphia County Wills, 1682-1819*. Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1900.

<sup>6</sup> Pennsylvania, Church and Town Records, Philadelphia, St. Michaels Lutheran Church, baptism of the children of Johannes Keyser, page 430. Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Historic Pennsylvania Church and Town Records.

<sup>7</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1774, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 332, image 33 of 290.

<sup>8</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1774, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 333, images 48, 59, 73, and 75 of 290.

<sup>9</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Administration Files, Book H, Page 270, estate of John Keyser, Mason, of Germantown, images 116 – 122 of 442, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>10</sup> University of Pennsylvania, Mapping West Philadelphia Application, Landowners in October 1777, created by J.M. Duffin, accessed on June 5, 2026 at <https://maps.archives.upenn.edu/WestPhila1777/map.php>.

<sup>11</sup> American Battlefield Trust, Germantown, Battle Map, October 4, 1777, accessed June 9, 206 at <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/maps/germantown-oct-4-1777>.

<sup>12</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1780, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 334, images 26, 109, 112, and 122 of 290.

<sup>13</sup> South Carolina Citadel-Charleston Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Membership Application of Robert Hiland Dewey III, March 13, 1868, U.S., Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970, image 426-7 of 645, [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

<sup>14</sup> National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, DAR Ancestor #A065457, John Keyser, accessed on June 3, 2026 at [https://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/search\\_adb/?action=full&p\\_id=A065457](https://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search_adb/?action=full&p_id=A065457).

<sup>15</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 332, image 13 of 290.

<sup>16</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Deeds, 1766 – 1800, pages 592 - 594, deed of Jacob Keyser, Yeoman of Germantown PA and Margaret his wife, John Keyser, Tanner, of Germantown and Rebecca his wife, son of the said Jacob Keyser, to Mathias Raser of Germantown, conveying 2 lots in Germantown, images 290 - 291 of 334, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>17</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Wills, 1784 – 1790, Book U, pages 66 – 68, will of Rebecca Keyser, will date January 1, 1788, proved date February 23, 1788, FHL film 21729, images 347-349 of 599.

<sup>18</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Deeds, 1766 – 1800, January 5, 1788, pages 91 – 95, deed of Matthias Raser of Germantown to John Keyser, Tanner and Cordwainer and Rebecca his wife, 3 parcels of land: 305 acres in Skippack Township, Montgomery County, 95 acres in Lampeter Township, Lancaster County, and 12 acres in Germantown, Philadelphia County, images 47 – 48 of 293, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

---

<sup>19</sup> Pennsylvania, Montgomery County, Court Records, Petition of Mathias Raser and Jacob Shoemaker, administrators of the estate of Ann Nedrow of Bristol Township, deceased, January 16, 1788, pages 87-8, images 72-3 of 513, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org)

<sup>20</sup> Pennsylvania, Montgomery County, Deeds, No. 8, pages 11 – 13, May 24, 1794,, deed of Jonathan Meridith of the City Of Philadelphia, and Elizabeth his wife to Henry Roosen of Worcester Township, Montgomery County, Confectioner, lands in Skippack and Perkiomen Townships, Montgomery County, FHL film #21569, images 10 – 11 of 705, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>21</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762–1794. John Keyser, Roxborough Township, Series No. 4.61; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4. Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, images 12, 26, 38, 55, 73, 83, 94, and 104 of 114.

<sup>22</sup> Pennsylvania, Church Records, German Reformed Church, Germantown, 1753 – 1856, transcribed records, page 63.

<sup>23</sup> Philadelphia, Family Bible Records, Keyser Bible, Supplementing Record from Bible of Thomas Keyser, b. 1765, page 366, FHL film# 856296, image 383 of 553.

<sup>24</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Deeds, Book I.C. 31, pages 528-9, March 5, 1813, deed of John Keyser, Cordwainer of Germantown, to Henry Brunner and John Brunner, both Blacksmiths of Germantown, land in Roxborough Township, FHL film#21975, images 247-8 of 731, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>25</sup> University of Pennsylvania, West Philadelphia Map Application, Landowners 1777, John Keyser, 12 acres, Roxborough Township, acquired 1775, accessed on June 7, 2026 at <https://maps.archives.upenn.edu/WestPhila1777/view-parcel.php?pid=77&popup=1>.

<sup>26</sup> Pennsylvania, Deeds, Book I.C. 13, pages 395-7, October 6, 1758, deed of Alice Keyser, widow of Dirck Keyser of Germantown, et al to Anthony Snyder, lot of land in Germantown, FHL film #21966, images 203-4 of 773, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

<sup>27</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Will Index, page K: 375, will of Dirick Keyser, will date January 3, 1756, will proved February 4, 1756, index record, [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

<sup>28</sup> Wright, F. Edward, Abstracts of Philadelphia County Wills, 1810 – 1815, Westminster MD: Heritage Books, 2017, page 121.

<sup>29</sup> FindaGrave memorial, John Keyser, died May 2, 1813, age 82, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave memorial, Dirck Keyser, died January 8, 1756, age 54, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

<sup>30</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1782, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 334, image of 290.

<sup>31</sup> Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1780, Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration, Philadelphia County, Germantown, 1769, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Roll: 334, images 26, 109, 112, and 122 of 290.

---

<sup>32</sup> FindaGrave memorial, Dirck Keyser, died January 8, 1756, age 54, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave memorial, John Keyser, died May 2, 1813, age 82, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

<sup>33</sup> National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, DAR Ancestor #A065466, John Keyser, accessed on June 3, 2026 at [https://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/search\\_adb/?action=full&p\\_id=A065466](https://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search_adb/?action=full&p_id=A065466).

<sup>34</sup> Pennsylvania, Veterans Card Files, surname Keyser, Revolutionary War, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Christian Snyder's Company, return of 1777, Pennsylvania State Archives; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Revolutionary War Military Abstract Card File; Series Number: 13.50, images 2092, 2097, 2109, 2110, 2116, 2120, 2122, 2138, and 2145 of 3715.

<sup>35</sup> *Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Germantown Tax Rolls, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission; Records of the Office of the Comptroller General, RG-4; Tax & Exoneration Lists, 1762-1794; Microfilm Rolls 332 - 336, images 1, 9, 26, 31, 33, 47, 122, 124, of 290.*

<sup>36</sup> FindaGrave memorial, Dirck Keyser, died January 8, 1756, age 54, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave Memorial, Benjamin Keyser, died August 11, 1808, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave Memorial, Dirck Keyser Jr., died June 20, 1810, burial Germantown Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave memorial, John Keyser, died May 2, 1813, age 82, burial Germantown Mennonite Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

FindaGrave Memorial, Peter Keyser, age 83, died May 1819, burial Germantown Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Germantown PA, [www.FindaGrave.com](http://www.FindaGrave.com).

<sup>37</sup> Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Wills, Book K, pages 378 – 378, will of Dirck Keyser of Germantown, Cordwainer, will date January 2, 1756, proved date December 4, 1756, FHL film #21724, images 526 – 528 of 645, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org). Will identifies wife Alice, sons John, Peter, Direck, and Michael.

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Wills, page 236, Book, Q, will of Andrew Keyser of Germantown, Yeoman, will date May 26, 1764, will proved January 8, 1776, FHL film #21727, image 422 of 594, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org). Will identifies his sons as Mathias, Jacob, and William, and his brother as Jacob.

Pennsylvania, Will Index, will of Jacob Keyser of Germantown, will date June 1, 1781, proved date September 1, 1781, wife Hannah, children Enoch and Ann, father in law Richard Miller and brothers Benjamin and Joseph Keyser executors, index record, [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Wills, 1806 – 1811, Book 2, will of Benjamin Keyser of the City of Philadelphia, will date May 26, 1808, will proved August 24, 1808, FHL film #21732, images 208-9 of 695.

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia County, Will Index, will of Joseph Keyser, Shopkeeper, City of Philadelphia, will date April 14, 1784, will proved November 7, 1793, index record, [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

Pennsylvania, Will Index, will of Jacob Keyser of Germantown, Mason, will date June 30, 1786, wife Elizabeth, brothers William and Mathias, index record, [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com).

Pennsylvania, Deeds, Book I.C. 13, pages 395-7, October 6, 1758, deed of Alice Keyser, widow of Dirck Keyser of Germantown, et al to Anthony Snyder, lot of land in Germantown, FHL film #21966, images 203-4 of 773, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).

Wright, F. Edward, Abstracts of Philadelphia County Wills, 1810 – 1815, will of John Keyser, of Germantown, Cordwainer, Westminster MD: Heritage Books, 2017, page 121.

---

Pennsylvania, Will Index, Lower Chichester, Chester County, will of William Keyser, will date August 30, 1786, will proved September 5, 1786, Estate Papers, 1713-1810; Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Register of Wills.

Hull, William I, Dutch Quaker Migration to Pennsylvania, originally published by Swarthmore College, 1935, reprinted by Genealogical Publishing, Baltimore MD in 1990, page 420.

Hodgekin, S.L., History of Germantown, Philadelphia: Ziegler and Co., 1889, pages 271-2.