









JACOB ROLLER:

DEFENDER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FRONTIER

FROM WÜRTTEMBERG TO THE FRONTIER (1749–1752)



1749 Arrival on the Ship Ranier
Jacob immigrated from Württemberg, Germany, arriving in the American colonies to start a new life.



Three Years as a "Redemptioneer"
To pay for his Atlantic passage, Jacob worked for three years as a redemptioneer before gaining his full independence.

DEFENSE OF SINKING VALLEY



The Construction of Fort Roller:
Jacob settled in Sinking Valley, where he built a fortified homestead known as Fort Roller to protect frontier families during the Revolution.

QUOTE:
"Never went out to work but with their guns"
This family rule highlights the constant danger they faced for seven years while defending the frontier from Tory and Native American threats.

A PATRIOT FAMILY LEGACY



THREE SONS IN SERVICE

Michael (Ranger)
Baltzer (Private)
John (Ranger)

All officially recognized by the DAR for their service during the war.



TIMELINE EVENT:
1783: The Sinking Valley Tragedy
In August 1783, Jacob Jr. was killed and scalped by Indians while working alone in his cornfield, a stark example of frontier risks.

THE ROLLER HEIRLOOM & HERITAGE



SUPPORTING FACT:
The 100th Anniversary Reunion
The enduring strength of the Roller family is evidenced by the 100th-anniversary reunion held in 1980 to celebrate their shared history.



DEFINITION:
The Mystery of the German Bible
Jacob's will left a "large German Bible" to his son John; the family still searches for the location of this missing heirloom today.



KEY FINDING:
Final Resting Place
While Jacob's exact burial site is unknown, it is believed he is buried on his original homestead.

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