

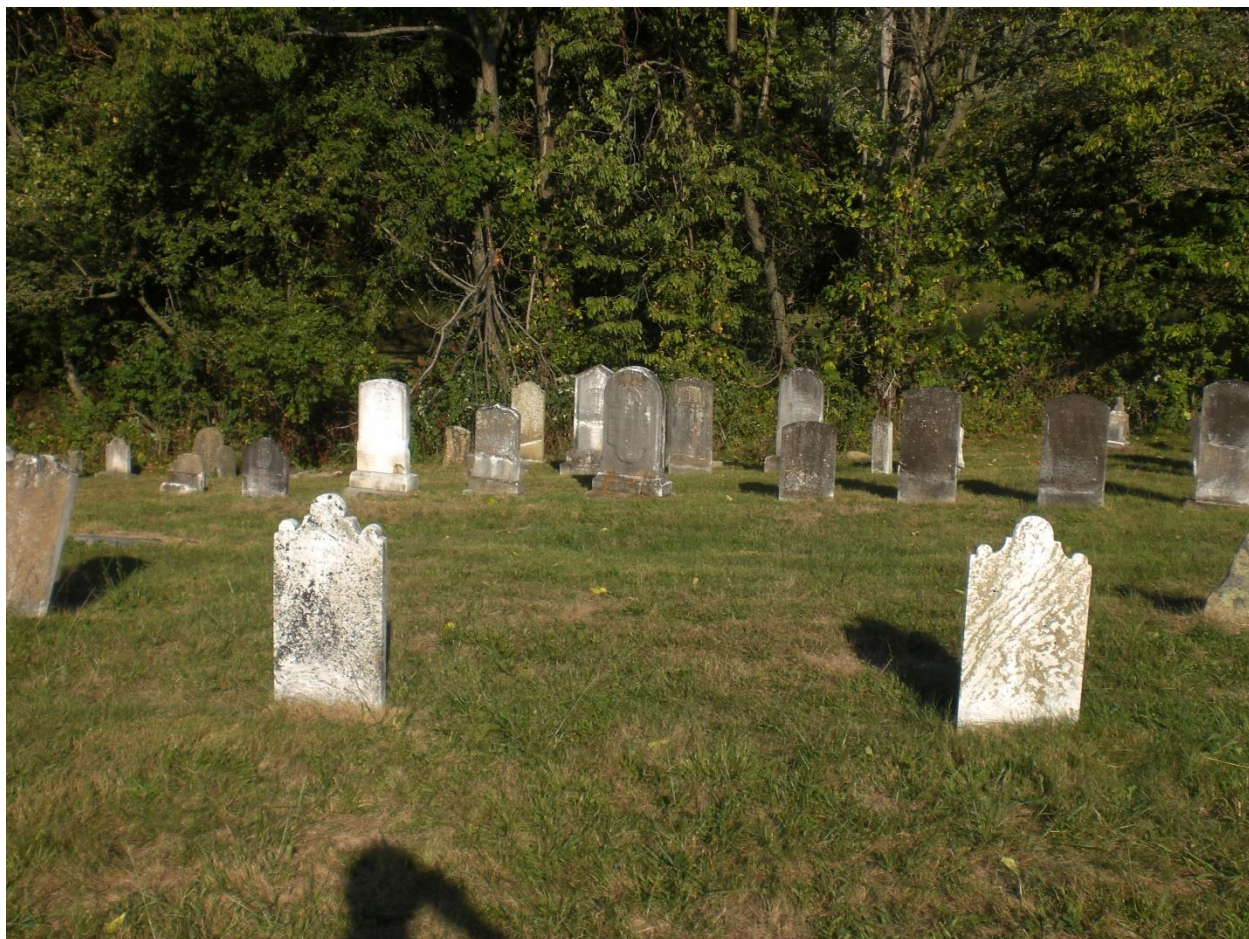
Cemetery note

Christian Gottlieb Ruse (1746 - 1821) and Anne Catherine Ruse (1756? – 1802) came to our attention because they were early owners of the land on which the Lovettsville Community Park is being constructed, on the east edge of Lovettsville between Milltown Road and the Elementary School. Christian may have been farming that land as early 1769, when his name first appears on the Loudoun County Tithable (tax) list. In 1793, he leased the land; he purchased it in 1803, and it stayed in the family for decades. (Many of the Germans who came to this area were welcomed as “squatters” at first; after the Revolution they were more easily able to lease land, and eventually buy it.)

Christian Ruse was naturalized in Frederick, Maryland in 1765 by Rev. Schwerdfeger of Evangelical Lutheran Church, who also served here at New Jerusalem part time. Although the Anglican Church was the official church in the Maryland colony, the Lutheran church was also allowed to conduct naturalizations.

In 1774, Christian, then 28 years old and already a widower, was remarried, to Anna Catharina Lembach, by the Rev. John Andrew Krug of Evangelical Lutheran in Frederick, who was also serving New Jerusalem. Catharina appears to be the daughter of Anthony and Christina Lembach, both also buried in our old cemetery.

Christian and Catherine had 15 children between 1775 and 1797, most baptisms recorded either at Evangelical in Frederick or later at New Jerusalem. Some stayed here, others went west to Ohio.



Catharine Ruse (left) and Christian Ruse (right), center rear of old cemetery. In between is the gravesite of their grand-daughter Elisabeth who died in 1807 at eight months of age.