

INTRODUCTION

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This issue of *Brewery History* is indeed a special one, in that it focuses on American, rather than British breweries and their histories. We appreciate this opportunity to provide for our British colleagues an overview of some of the many ways in which American breweries have been and are being studied. The five authors included here come from a variety of backgrounds, the mixture of which demonstrates the interdisciplinarity of historic brewery studies. We include historians, an architectural historian, a geologist, an archeologist, and a practical brewer, all of us with our own points of view and particular interests. Taken together, our approaches complement one another and broaden what we can come to know collectively about the brewery in American history. As a small group of five, we cannot and do not claim to provide a complete picture of the development of brewing and breweries in the United States, but we can serve to suggest how intriguing this general topic is from so many angles.

The organization of the issue is somewhat chronological, at least in terms of the initial time frames that occupy each author; however, the topics frequently overlap. As a result, the initial two articles focus on caves and their connections with brewing, specifically early examples of American lager brewing. Greg Brick's article discusses the intersection of natural caves and brewery vaults for a brewery in St. Paul, Minnesota, beginning in the 1850s. Greg's geological background led him to explore the brewery's impact on geological forms and processes in caves before and after the closing of the Stahlmann, later Jacob Schmidt brewery. Somewhat similarly, Craig Williams also focuses on a natural cave adapted for brewery use, the Lemp cave in St. Louis, Missouri. His investigation, however, was

archaeological in nature, informed by his experience in both archaeology and anthropology. His exploration of this cave thus takes into account what is known of human activities here, both when the cave began to be used for lagering in the 1850s, and through later days, when the Lemp family found recreational uses for this space, once artificial refrigeration made the cave unnecessary for lagering beer. He also discusses post-Prohibition, mid-20th-century developments that affected the cave and nearby spaces.

By contrast with the preceding, the next two articles focus on the appearance and activities of two prominent brewery architects, both of whom helped establish and develop the notion of brewery design as a new specialty in the field of architecture. My own article studies Edmund Jungenfeld, a German-born and German-trained designer working in St. Louis from the 1870s into the mid-1880s. This essay concerns how and why professional designers like Jungenfeld found their way into the design of breweries in the period following the American Civil War (1860-64). It also looks too at how one 'pioneer' brewery architect helped to shape the next generation of brewery designers. Rich Wagner's article focuses on a younger architect, the very prolific Otto C. Wolf of Philadelphia, whose work from the 1880s to the 1910s reflects the growing sophistication of American breweries at the height of their pre-Prohibition development. Rich demonstrates the impressive breadth of Wolf's activities, largely in Philadelphia and the eastern part of the U.S. Along with those of Jungenfeld and his successors, Otto Wolf's projects show how American breweries of diverse sizes and varieties came to require architectural expertise as the later 19th century rolled over into the 20th.

All of the topics above at least imply, eventually, the great gap in American brewing history, thanks to National Prohibition, that arose from long-active temperance agitation in the U.S., shut down the brewing industry between 1920 and 1933, and in many cases brought to their ends even major breweries that never recovered from this blow. The fate of a smaller Wisconsin brewery before and after Prohibition is Doug Hoverson's topic, which, while it reveals and explains the brewery's post-Prohibition decline, also serves as a success story in the preservation of a long-neglected brewery. Doug's focus on the former Potosi Brewing Co., Potosi, Wisconsin, tells the story of how a once-thriving brewery eventually came to be abandoned for decades. This familiar story, which has too often led to the total loss of breweries in many American places, had

a different outcome in Potosi. Doug reveals how many individuals and groups came together to adapt this little brewery into a promising new center of brewing-related activities, including serving as a national museum of brewing and as the location of a new brewpub, that has reintroduced the beers of yesteryear, as it has had broader positive effects in its community.

We hope our British friends will find these studies of interest, and that this special issue may at least introduce some of the varied ways in which American researchers approach the study of American breweries. And we thank Tim Holt sincerely for encouraging us to contribute to your society's fine journal and for his patience in its preparation.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE AUTHORS

Susan Appel has been investigating the architectural history of Midwestern American breweries for close to three decades, beginning with research for her doctoral dissertation in the early 1980s. That work and the additional research since have been supported by several grants, including a significant one from the Society for Industrial Archeology/Historic American Engineering Record. Focusing on four Midwestern brewing centers - Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, and Milwaukee - she is also especially interested in the architects who came to specialize in brewery design. She has traveled widely, searching for historic breweries and information about them, and she has presented papers and published articles and book chapters on many aspects of her research. Her participation in organizations related to architectural and art history, historic preservation, industrial archeology, and breweriana collecting reflects some of the interdisciplinary nature of her investigations. Now that she has retired from many years of teaching art and architectural history at Illinois State University and else-

where, she is focusing again on bringing that research into book form.

Greg Brick, PhD, is a college geology instructor, editor of the *Journal of Spelean History*, and recipient of the 2005 Peter M. Hauer Award from the National Speleological Society for his research in cave history. An active and noted caver, his second book, *Subterranean Twin Cities* (University of Minnesota Press, 2009) has a chapter devoted to the brewery caves of St. Paul. His paternal ancestors included several German brewers.

Doug Hoverson is the author of *Land of Amber Waters: The History of Brewing in Minnesota*, and a forthcoming book on the history of the breweries in Wisconsin (both published by the University of Minnesota Press). He has also written about beer and brewing history for several publications, including *Brewery History*. In addition, he is a National Director of the American

Breweriana Association. Doug is a history and government teacher at Saint Thomas Academy, a prep school in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Rich Wagner has been researching Pennsylvania brewery history since 1980. As a resident of the Philadelphia area much of his research has been concentrated in the many libraries and collections there. He finds many outlets for his research in writing and giving presentations and tours. This includes the recently published *Philadelphia Beer a Heady History of Brewing in the Cradle of Liberty* (The History Press, 2012). Rich was given the opportunity to interpret seventeenth-century brewing methods in 1990 at Pennsbury Manor's bake and brew house, a State historic site on the Delaware River about 15 miles north of Philadelphia. Three years later he worked with a cooper over a seven-month period to construct his own colonial-style system, and ever since, has conducted frequent brewing demonstrations at historic sites and beer festivals.

Craig Williams's interest in caves and archaeology began in the early 1990s while interviewing people regarding stories of local folklore. Markings on cave walls or concentric rock circles on ridges above caves and stories of them left by outlaws and Native Americans intrigued Craig. He holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in Anthropology/Archaeology. He eventually joined cave organizations in Texas, New Mexico, and Missouri, becoming an active caver. His research interest led him to a circle of professional cave archaeologists with whom he consulted while documenting archaeological sites in the caves. Craig and his wife, Susie Jansen, founded Cave Archaeology Investigation Research Network (or C.A.I.R.N.) in 2008 as a way to identify, document, and protect archaeological sites in and around caves while educating cavers, landowners, archaeologists, and the general public on the importance of these amazing places.