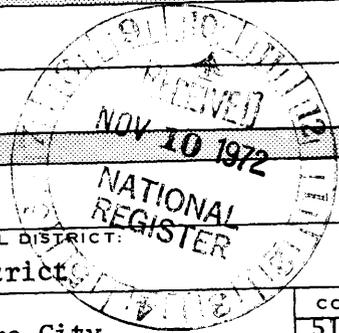


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 9 1973



1. NAME

COMMON: American Brewery

AND/OR HISTORIC: Wiessner Brewery

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1701 North Gay Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third District

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Baltimore City

CODE: 24

CODE: 510

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Allegheny Beverage Corporation

STREET AND NUMBER: 2216 North Charles Street

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Land Record Office of the Superior Court of Baltimore City

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 610, Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: [see continuation sheet]
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

DATE OF SURVEY: 1965

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER: 402 City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland	COUNTY: Baltimore City	ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 9 1973	DATE: 1973

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The American Brewery brew house is a unique example of nineteenth century industrial architecture. Its height and organization of interior spaces were predetermined by the requirements of brewing but the exterior details are expressions of the age and of the people who lived and worked in the area. In style, it can best be described as "middle-European Chalet."

The brew house is five stories high but its three towers make it seem taller. The central tower is seven stories and the two on either side are six. The building's stained glass windows, detailed exterior brickwork and varied windows with arched, rounded, rectangular, and square shapes add a sense of the unusual to the residential neighborhood. The interior of the structure is largely unaltered although some sections have been modernized and others are no longer in use.

There are two buildings across the street from the brew house that were built during the same period and the three together show how a late nineteenth century brewery would have appeared. The southernmost of these was built in 1896 as a residence for the brewery owners. It is a three story brick building with brownstone trim. The door frame and cornice are brownstone with rosette decorations. The rosette motif is repeated in the cornices of the windows with a corbel in the center. The building itself has a wooden cornice now painted green. At present, the windows are boarded up and the interior is gutted.

The office building next door is two stories high and has three sections. The southernmost section has a rusticated brownstone facade. Brownstone archivolt frame the first floor door and window. The four rectangular windows of the second floor are arranged symmetrically over the first floor divisions. Above the roof line, there is a triangular section of stone with the date 1892 inscribed on it. The middle section is the same as the first described except that it is brick with stone archivolt. The triangular stone section has the date 1896 on it. The last and northernmost section was built in 1900 and is also brick. The facade has six divisions implied by brick arches and a slightly larger central section where the garage door is. Each of the smaller sections includes one semi-arched first floor window and one arched second floor window. The central section is slightly taller than the others and includes two windows above the large door.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1887

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The American Brewery is a monument to the development of brewing, one of Baltimore's major industries, and to the Germans who worked there and lived in the area. The first brewery on the site was erected in 1863 by John Frederick Wiessner on land leased from Charles Rogers. At the time, there were 21 other breweries in Baltimore City and nearby sections of Baltimore County. Wiessner's brewery was a great success and the business quickly outgrew the original building. The present structure was built in 1887 to enlarge and modernize the brewery. The brewery was one of the finest in the state and it continued to operate until Prohibition. The Wiessners unsuccessfully attempted to produce "near-beer," 3.2% added, but, in 1931 they were forced to sell the brewery to the FitzSimmons family who owned the American Malt Company, subsequently the American Brewery. The brewery is still used to brew beer although it is now a division of Allegheny Beverage Corporation. The products made there today are Heibrau, Keg, American and Arrow beers. They also make Malta Schaefer for the Schaefer Company.

Many of the Wiessners employees were Germans who had been brewers before their emigration, and they settled near the brewery. The owners also lived in the area. The residence across the street from the brew house was built for the Wiessners and was later used by the FitzSimmons.

The keg office was in the southernmost end of the other building across the street from the brew house. The bottle shop was in the middle section and the bottling plant was in the northernmost section. The entire building is now used for office space and storage.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Electrical Contractors, Vol. 3, no. 6, January 1941, p. 9.

Industries of Maryland, Baltimore: Historical Publishing Company, 1882, p. 279.

Kelley, William J., Brewing in Maryland; from Colonial Times to the Present, Baltimore, Remington's, 1965, p. 292ff.

Power Pictorial, no. 26, September 1933, p. 9-11.

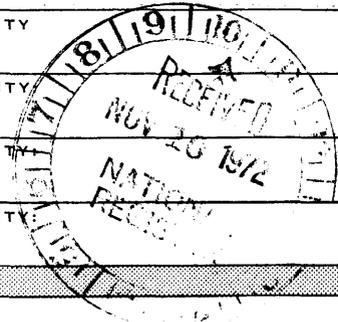
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		39 ° 18 ' 34 "	76 ° 35 ' 16 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.75 acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Catharine F. Black and A. McClellan

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust** DATE: **Sept. 27, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date Sept. 27, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert A. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/9/73

ATTEST:
W. Muntz
Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 4 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 9 1973

(Number all entries)

American Brewery

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

1972 State

Maryland Historical Trust

2525 Riva Road

Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Code: 24



BALTIMORE EAST QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1" = 1000'
photorevised 1966

4355

20'

4354

LAUREL 20 MI.
5662 I SW
(BALTIMORE WEST) SHAW 14 MI.

4352

FREDERICK 45 MI.
FINE CROCHER 4 MI.

17'30"

4350



lat: 39° 18' 33"
long: 76° 33' 16"

NOV 20 1972

BALTIMORE

