

Henry Eigenbrot Brewing Company  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
private, 1873  
B-1049

#### Statement of Significance

Baltimore was a major brewing center in the nineteenth century, partly because of its large German population and also because of its ready supply of grain. By the end of the century there were dozens of small, independently owned breweries. The industry remained a prosperous one until Prohibition crippled it in 1920. Brewery architecture, the only remains of this once thriving industry, with its romantic, Germanic character and elaborate decoration, has given Baltimore some of its most interesting industrial structures. The Eigenbrot Brewery in West Baltimore, founded in 1873 and remodded in 1896, is an excellent example of brewery architecture.



## 7. Description

Survey No. B-1049

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The majority of the Eigenbrot Brewery company was built in 1873 by Ferdinand Joh. This group of structures includes those which border South Warwick Street at the foot of Lipps Lane. Central to this early group is a two story brick building with a gable roof which later served as a "wash and storage" room. This was probably part of the original brewhouse. North of this building and adjacent to it is a one story brick building which later became part of the brewery's bottling plant. South of it is a three story hops storage building with a highly decorative brick cornice.

In 1892 the brewery began a modernization program which greatly increased its capacity. Key to this was the installation of a refrigeration system to expedite the cooling of the wort. An elaborate boiler house and compressor house fronting on Willard Street housed the unit. The former has a rooftop lantern now in badly deteriorated condition. In 1896 and 1897 a new brewhouse and cold storage warehouse was added. The brewhouse is a five story brick structure fronting on Willard Street just north of the office. The warehouse is also five stories but is much higher - each floor having sufficient clearance for the large wooden fermenting vats and storage tanks.

In 1906 the company added three new structures to house its expanded distribution facilities: A two story brick stable along Hollins Street, a two story addition to the bottling plant and a new stock house. In 1909 a new refrigeration plant was built between the 1873 and the new warehouse.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. B-1049

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1873, 1896 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Baltimore was a major center of brewing in the nineteenth century, partly because of its large German population (and appeal to new German immigrants) and also because of its ready supply of grain. By the late nineteenth century there were dozens of small, independently owned breweries. The industry remained a prosperous one until Prohibition crippled it in 1920. Brewery architecture, the only remains of this once thriving industry, with its romantic, Germanic character and elaborate decoration, has given Baltimore some of its most interesting industrial structures. The Eigenbrot brewery in Southwest Baltimore, founded in 1873 and remodled in 1896, is an excellent example of brewery architecture.

The Eigenbrot Brewery on Willard Street in West Baltimore was actually founded by Ferdinand Joh in 1873. Joh died in 1876, however, and the brewery was inherited by his daughter Louisa, who married Henry Eigenbrot the same year. Eigenbrot was a thirty year old machinist, the son of a saloon keeper. Though he became the manager, Louisa retained title to the brewery.

The brewery was not incredibly successful, but it did enough business to continue, and to support the Eigenbrots in a comfortable style. In 1892, however, a reorganization of the brewery came about, and Alexander Straus, the son of malt supplier Levi Straus, became the new manager. (As a result of their role as malt suppliers, the Straus family had a great deal of power in the brewing industry.) A new company was formed, and Alexander Straus became the principal owner along with Louisa Eigenbrot.

The brewery underwent a great deal of expansion and modernization under Straus. The plant was enlarged and new equipment, including refrigeration units, was installed. In 1891, the year before Straus took over, the brewery produced about 14,000 barrels of beer, but by 1895 production reached about 45,000. A fire at the brewery in 1896 precipitated the erection of a new and larger brewhouse, and in 1897 a new large storage building was erected as well.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-1049

Brewing in Maryland William Keiley 1964

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

D 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie Barr, Dennis Zembala, Ann Steele

organization Baltimore Museum of Industry date September 1983

street &amp; number 1415 Key Highway telephone 727-4808

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

Henry Eigenbrot Brewing Company  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B-1049

8.1

In 1899, the Maryland Brewing Company, a newly formed conglomerate, purchased the Eigenbrot Brewery along with seventeen other Baltimore breweries. Straus was retained as manager, but Eigenbrot retired at this time. The Maryland Brewing Company was sold to the Gottlieb-Bauernschmidt-Straus Brewing Company in 1901. This sale included the Eigenbrot property. Henry Eigenbrot died in 1906.

A two story addition to the bottling and storage house, a new stock house and a two story stable were built in 1906. In 1909, concrete floors, electric lighting and steam heat were installed, and in 1911 a 75 ton ammonia condenser and new vertical single - acting compressors were added. Straus left the brewery in 1912, and Charles Bach became brewmaster and manager. He retained this position until 1920, when Prohibition closed all the breweries. A moving and storage company took over the property at that time. It is currently owned by a furniture distribution company.

1. SITE I.D. NO

8-1049

## HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record  
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Manufacture

3. PRIORITY

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?  
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES  NO  UNKNOWN

5. DATE

1873

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Hollins Industrial Park

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

Eigenbrot Brewery

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

101 Willard Street

10. STATE COUNTY

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG DIST.

STATE COUNTY

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET &amp; NO)

101/113 Willard Street

12. EXISTING SURVEYS

 NR NHL HABS HAER-I HAER NPS CLB CONF STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN

18

357170

4350360

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD NAME

Balto. West

UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER

QUAD NAME

15. CONDITION 70  EXCELLENT 71  GOOD 72  FAIR 73  DETERIORATED 74  RUINS 75  UNEXPOSED 76  ALTERED 82  DESTROYED 85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Leslie Barr

AFFILIATION

Balto. Museum of Industry

DATE

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

see attached

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

brewery

PRESENT USE

warehouse

ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES--HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Brewing in Maryland Kelly, 1964

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE?

 YES  NO

21. NPS REGION

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

23. EDITOR

INDEXER

24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

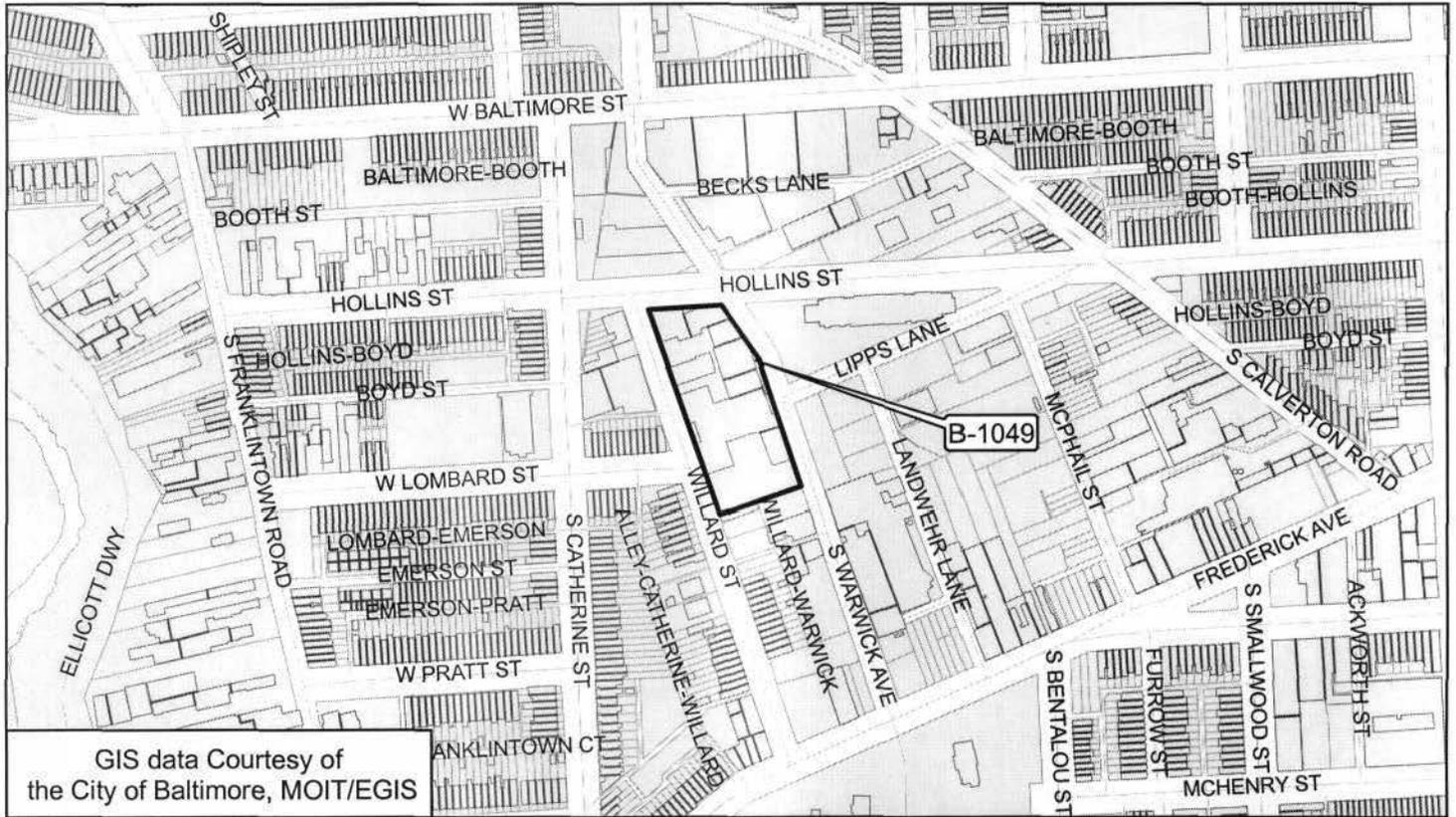
DISTRICT I.D. NO







B-1049  
Eigenbrot Brewery  
(Henry Eigenbrot Brewing Company)  
101-113 Willard Street  
Block 2173, Lot 028  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore West Quad.





ELGBROT BREWERY B-1049

BALTO. CITY, MD.

P. LIEBHOLD 9/83

LOOKING N.E. AT COMPLEX

WILLARD ST.



THE E. J. LANDEF CO  
BRICKS & GLASS  
19-21

Tyrone  
237-9600

19-21  
JA  
BOO was here

EIGENBROT BREWERY B-1049

BALTO. CITY, M.D.

P. LIEBHOLD 9/83

LOOKING N.E. AT ICE MACHINE + BOILER HOUSE



EIGENBROT BREWERY B-1049  
BALTIMORE CITY, MD.  
PETER LIEBHOLD 9/83  
LOOKING N.W. AT BOILER HOUSE



EISENBROT BREWERY

B-1049

BALTO. COVY, MD.

P. LIEBHOLD

9/83

LOOKING S.E. AT STABLE BLDG.