

G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Company  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B-1102  
private, 1887

#### Statement of Significance

Baltimore was a major brewing center in the nineteenth century, partly because of its large German population and partly because of its ready supply of grain. By the end of the century there were dozens of small, independently owned breweries. The industry remained prosperous 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 George Bauernschmidt Brewery, built in 1887 on the site of an earlier brewery so that modern refrigeration could be installed, is an excellent example of brewery architecture. This brewery is also significant as the first to bottle its own beer.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic    G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Company

and/or common   

### 2. Location

street & number    1501 N. Gay Street    not for publication

city, town    Baltimore    vicinity of    congressional district   

state    Maryland    county   

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name    Breslin-Rodgers Associates

street & number    1525 N. Gay Street    telephone no.:    732-1500

city, town    Baltimore    state and zip code    Maryland 21213

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.    Baltimore City Courthouse    liber    RHB 3366

street & number    Fayette and Calvert Streets    folio    431

city, town    Baltimore    state    Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing    Historical Surveys

none

date     federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records   

city, town       state

## 7. Description

Survey No. B-1102

<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.

Though some of the original 1864 structure remains, most of the original G. Bauernschmidt Brewery was replaced in 1887 by the building facing N. Chester Street on the northeast part of this triangular site. The new brick masonry structure contained the brew house. On the upper floors were bins for malt and grain storage. Below on the third floor were scales for measuring the batch which was then sent down to the mills on the second floor, probably through chutes. The mash tub and kettle for boiling the batch were below on the first floor as was the fermenting room. Beer cellars for storage still remained under the building.

A second structure was built on the south facing Gay Street. Built before 1876, this building was the tavern and hotel which dispensed the brewery beer. A narrower addition to the rear probably served as a shipping area.

About 1879 an addition was added to the north side of the brewhouse to house expanded facilities. The fourth floor contained a cooler for storage of hops. The hops were processed on the third floor before being added to the fermenting tanks on the floor below. The first floor and basement contained additional storage cellars.

The plant grew from 1885 to 1896 and several additions were built on the south to house artificial means to cool the wort. The first section housed a steam engine and refrigeration compressor of 50 ton capacity on the first floor. Faster cooling increased the brewery's capacity and the upper floors of this structure were used for more malt bins and other storage. Another compressor of 100 ton capacity was housed in the next addition along with another mash tub on the second floor and a condenser on the third. About 1895 a large refrigerated warehouse on the corner facing Oliver Street replaced two earlier wooden sheds and a two story brick bottling plant was erected north of the tavern on Gay Street. The bottling plant also housed the company office on the first floor of the north end and a pool hall above for the employees' recreation. The entire structure was later used as an ice cream plant and is in good condition.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. B-1102

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**      1887      **Builder/Architect**

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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 brewing center in the nineteenth century, partly because of its large German population, and partly because of its ready supply of grain. By the end of the century there were dozens of small, independently owned breweries. The industry remained prosperous 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 George Bauernschmidt Brewery, built in 1887 on the site of an earlier brewery so that modern refrigeration could be installed, is an excellent example of brewery architecture. This brewery is also significant as the first to bottle its own beer.

George Bauernschmidt, whose entire family was in the brewing business, started his "Greenwood" Brewery in 1864 on Gay Street between Oliver and Federal. It was a small operation housed in a two story building, with very little modern machinery. The lagering was done in the cellars. Many of the immigrant workers at the brewery boarded in Bauernschmidt's house. Bauernschmidt purchased the site, which had previously been leased, in 1881.

In 1887, Bauernschmidt decided to build a new brewery on the site so that he could install modern refrigeration. There were many advantages to the new refrigeration. Brewers would no longer need cellars or have to rely on ice. Cooling rooms could be on the top floor, enabling the process to be done on a gravity basis, which was more efficient. This also left the ground floor free for packing and shipping. The new brewhouse, built on the site of the Greenwood Brewery, was the largest in the city. It was also the first to bottle its own beer on the site.

The Maryland Brewing Company, a local "beer trust", purchased the site from Bauernschmidt in 1899. In 1901, the property again changed hands - this time to the Gottlieb-Bauernschmidt-Straus Brewing Company, a conglomerate of the powerful families in

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-1102

William Kelley Brewing in Maryland 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
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie Barr, Ann Steele, Dennis Zembala

organization Baltimore Museum of Industry date 9/83

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

G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Compnay  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B-1102

8.1

Baltimore brewing. The G. Bauernschmidt Brewery operated under this ownership until 1915, when it was closed down. The site was later used for a variety of purposes, including a bowling alley, restaurant, coat and apron supply and laundry, ice manufacturing company, sewing factory and a Schlitz of Milwaukee beer distribution plant.

1. SITE I.D. NO

8-1102

## 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

1887

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Breslin - Rodgers Associates

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

G. Bauernschmidt Brewery

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

1525 N. Gay 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)

1501 N. Gay 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

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHERQUAD  
NAME

Balto East

UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5 OTHERQUAD  
NAME

15. CONDITION

70  EXCELLENT71  GOOD72  FAIR73  DETERIORATED74  RUINS75  UNEXPOSED76  ALTERED82  DESTROYED85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Leslie Barr

AFFILIATION

Balto. Museum of Industry

DATE

9/83

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

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

Brewery

PRESENT USE

manufacture

ADAPTIVE USE

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

Brewing in Maryland Kelley 1964

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000  
POP. OR MORE? YES  NO

21. NPS REGION

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN23. EDITOR  
INDEXER

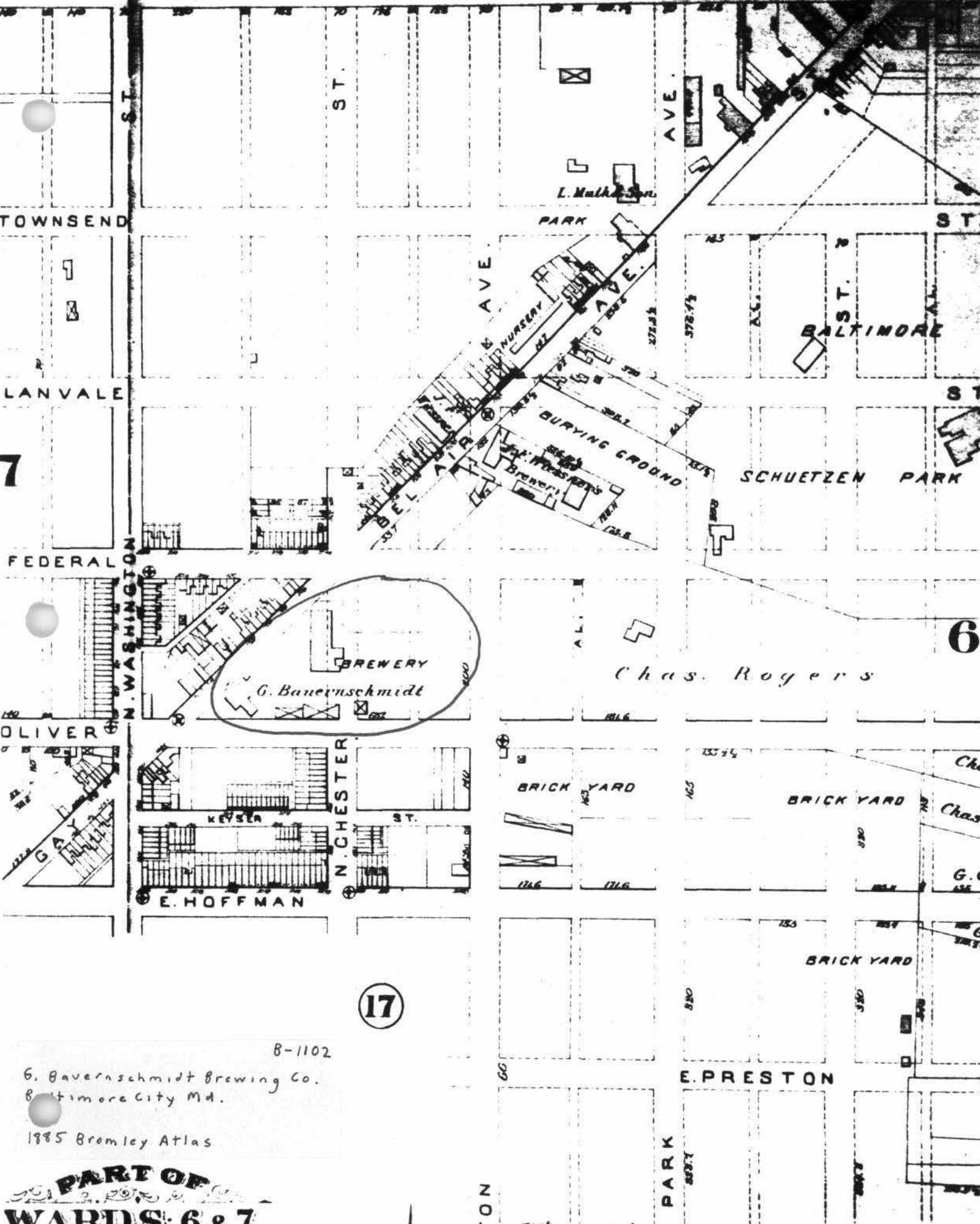
24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

DISTRICT I.D. NO

NORTH OR BOUNDARY



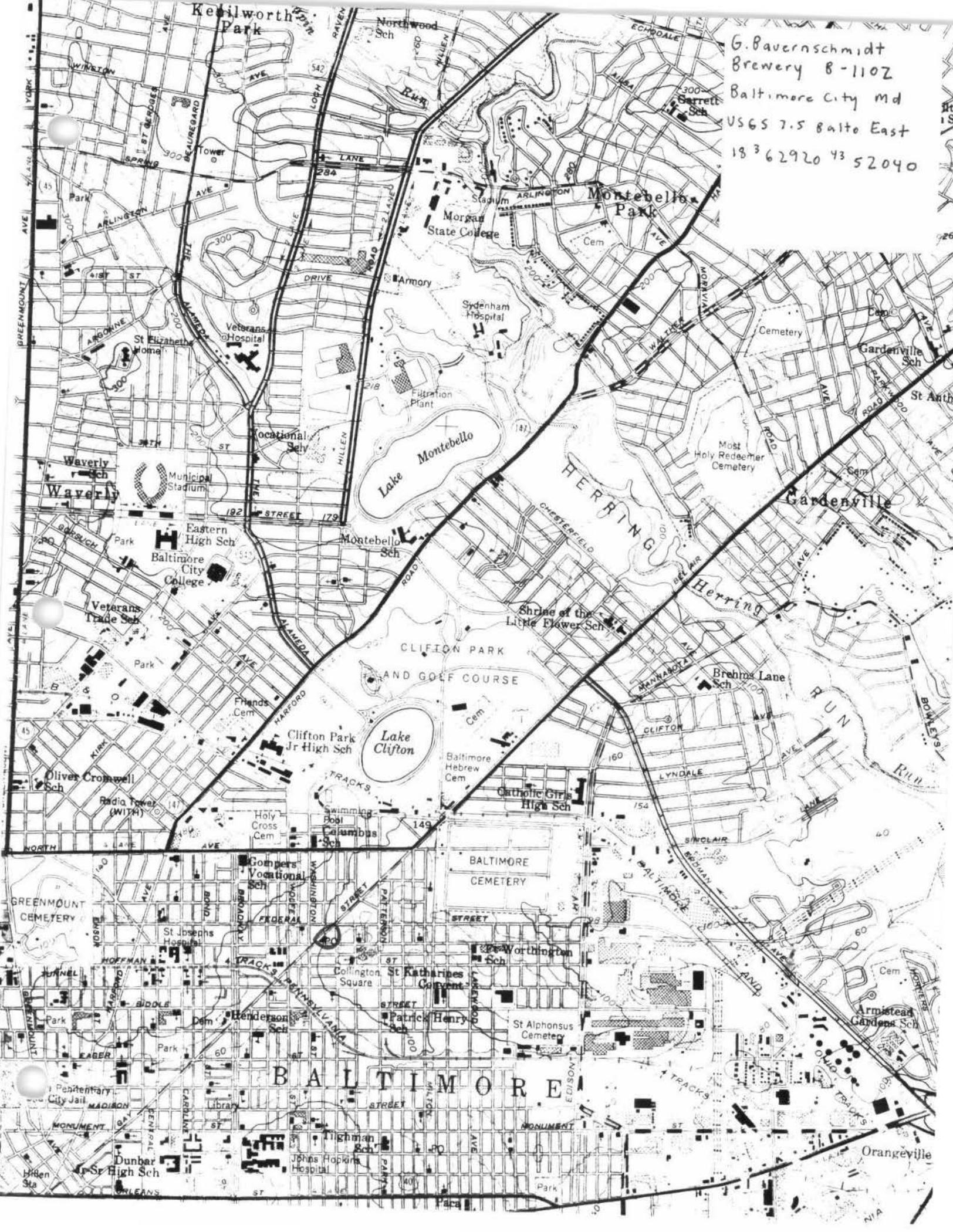
B-1102

G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Co.  
Baltimore City Md.

1885 Bromley Atlas

PART OF  
WARDS 6 & 7

G. Bavenschmidt  
Brewery B-110Z  
Baltimore City Md  
USGS 7.5 Balto East  
18362920 43 52040

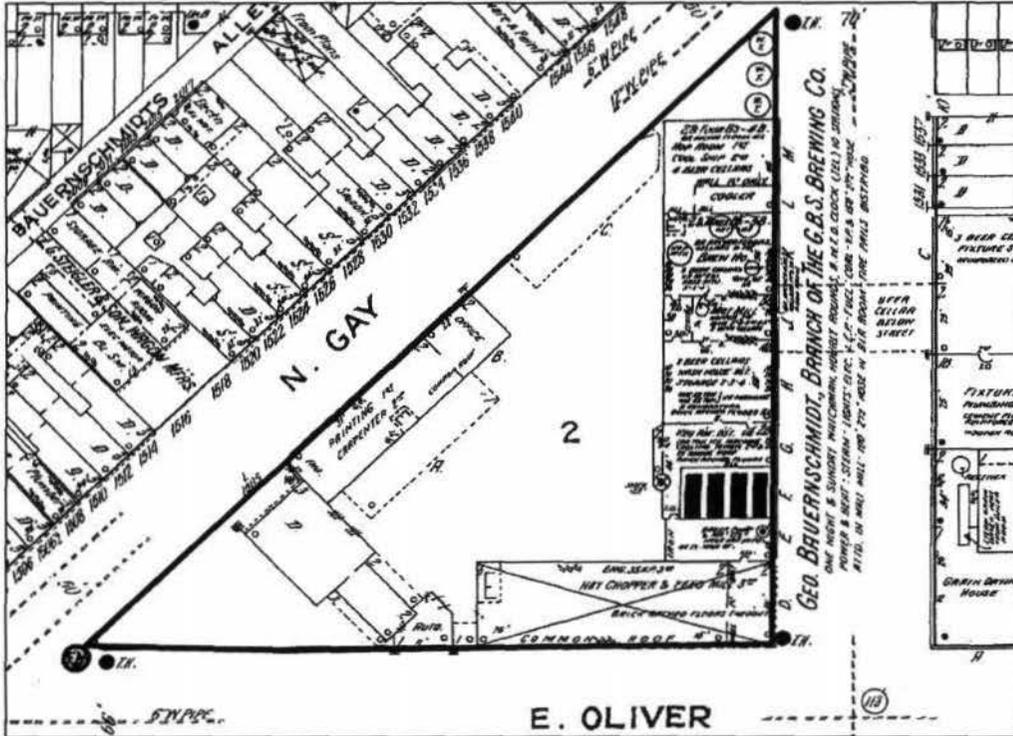


B-1102

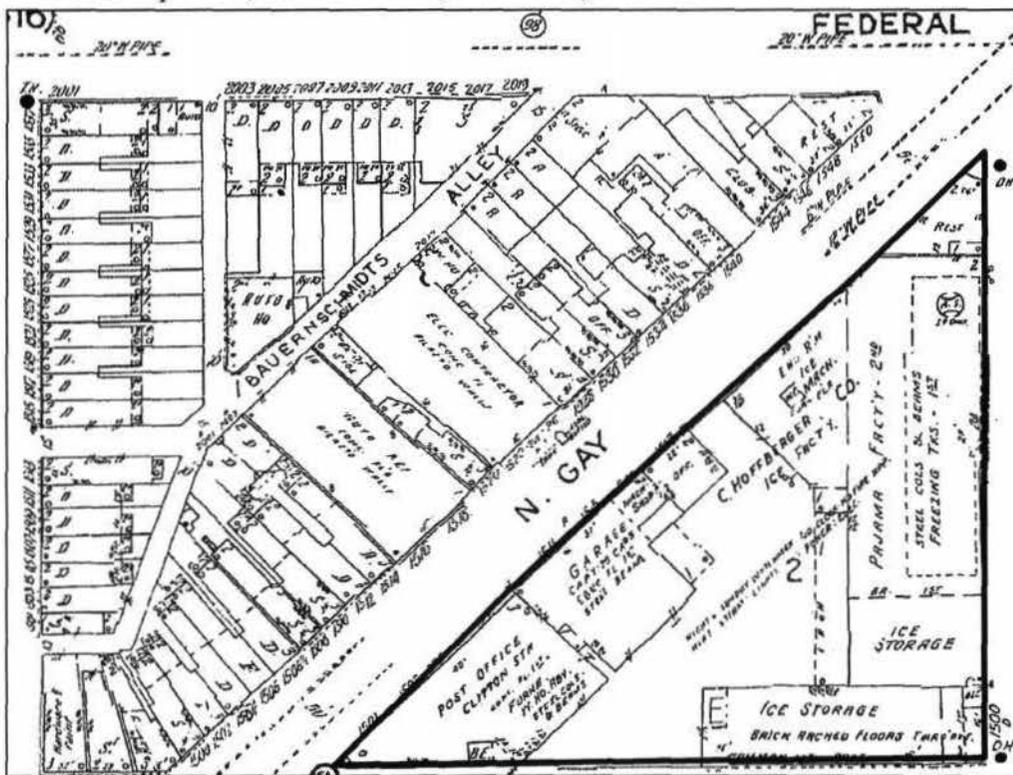
G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Company

1501 N. Gay Street

Sanborn Map 1914; Volume 3, Sheet 299



Sanborn Map 1914, Revised 1953; Volume 3, Sheet 299



B-1102  
G. Bauernschmidt Brewing Company  
1511 N. Gay Street  
Block 1481, Lots 001, 002, and 003  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

**Demolished**

