

Henry Schmulbach House
(Chapline Street Row Historic District)
2311 Chapline Street
Wheeling
Ohio County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-194

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WVA,
35-WHEEL
13-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HENRY SDEMULBACH HOUSE

HABS No. WV-194

Location: 2311 Chapline Street, Wheeling,
Ohio County, West Virginia.

Present-Owner: Kathern Maganus.

Present Occupant: Mary J. Druschel.

Present Use: Two family dwelling.

Significance: This residence was built for Henry Schmulbach, a leading Wheeling industrialist and president of the Schmulbach Brewing Company. This is a highly personalized building which features a brewery motif with hops decorating the trim. The initials H. S. have been etched into the glass windows of the double front door

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: The original portion of the structure was built c. 1868. The City and County Land Book of Ohio County in 1882 states that a building, assessed at \$3,500.00, had been added to the Schmulbach property. A final alteration dates from c. 1893.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The Schmulbach House was built on the south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition, Webster District of Wheeling. The following references to the Title of this Lot are found in the Ohio County, West Virginia Deed Books:

1864 Deed, 23 November, recorded in Deed Book 48, page 396. Northwestern Bank of Virginia to Edward Reid and wife \$1500.00 for Lot 1500.00 for Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

1866 Deed, 21 May, recorded in Deed Book 50, page 340. Edward Reid and wife to William Del Brugge \$1,000.00 for the south one half of Lot 155. Chapline and Eoff Addition.

- 1870 Deed, 2 March, recorded in Deed Book 57, page 96. William Del Brugge and wife to F.C.H. Lampe and wife \$4,500 for the south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1872 Deed, 18 June, recorded in Deed Book 60, page 485-6. page 485-6. F. C. H. Lampe and wife to Henry Schmulbach \$3800.00 for the south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1913 Deed, 7 June, recorded in Deed Book 143, page 590. Henry Schmulbach and wife to A. E. Marchner south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1917 Deed, 21 August, recorded in Deed Book 158, page 549. A. E. Marschner and wife to John E. Marschner south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1927 Deed, 8 November, recorded in Deed Book 211, page 394, John Marschner and wife to A. E. Marschner south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1928 Deed of Trust, 27 August, recorded in Deed of Trust Book 229, page 129. A. E. Marschner and wife to Anton Bieberson, Trustee, south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1938 Deed, 12 May, recorded in Deed Book 249, page 438. Anton Bieberson, Trustee to Citizens Mutual Trust Company \$3,000.00 for south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1939 Deed, 29 April, recorded in Deed Book 253, page 561. Citizens Mutual Trust Company to Wheeling Dollar Savings and Trust Co. 28 parcels of land, including the south one-half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition, called Parcel 21.
- 1940 Deed, 9 March, recorded in Deed Book 258, page 110. Wheeling Dollar Savings & Trust Co. to Kathern Maganus and her son Paul Guy Maganus south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1946 Deed, 2 July, recorded in Deed Book 287, page 567. Paul Guy Maganus to Kathern Maganus undivided one half interest in south one half of Lot 155, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

5. Alterations and additions etc.: There has been at least one addition to this house. The original plan of the house was rectangular with a recession in the exterior wall immediately behind the front hall stairway. A door located behind the stairway leads directly to the outside. This doorway has been opened up and a two-sided frame addition has enclosed part of the formerly recessed area.

A small bath has been inserted in the back portion of the house underneath the back stairway. Another bathroom has been installed off the kitchen by the addition of a wall.

B. Historical Events and Persons Associated with the Building:

Henry Schmulbach was a leading Wheeling industrialist and president of Schmulbach Brewing Company. Born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany in 1844, Schmulbach came to the United States and settled in Wheeling in 1852. He joined his uncle, George Feller, as a partner in a retail grocery business. After four years they opened a wholesale liquor business. Feller retired from their partnership in 1870 and Schmulbach continued on in this enterprise until 1882

In 1882 Schmulbach, the majority stock holder of Nail City Brewing Company, took possession of the property and incorporated it as the Schmulbach Brewing Company. Schmulbach was the president of this company and set about increasing the production of beer. The capacity of the old company was 6,000 - 8,000 barrels annually. Under the new organization the works were improved and enlarged. New buildings were erected and modern machinery installed. The result was the immediate increase in production to 50,000 barrels annually, and by 1890 the capacity was further increased to 200,000 barrels per annum. This was a most popular product which was sold throughout West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Schmulbach was active in steamboat enterprises and at one time owned as many as six steamboats. He was affiliated both as a stockholder and director with the Wheeling Iron and Nail Company, the Junction Iron and Nail Company, the Hobbs Glassworks, and the German Bank. He was active in civic affairs and served both as a member and as president of the Board of Public Works. He also served on the Board of Education.

C. Sources of Information:

Anonymous, History of the Upper Ohio Valley

Callins' Wheeling City Directory 1890-91.

Prepared by: Candace Reed
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
September 1976

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This residence has a striking facade of curved arched windows and door, ornamental relief designs, a projecting bay window and the personal touch of the owner's initials, H.S., etched into the glass windows of the double front door.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Rectangular; twenty-five feet across three-bay front by seventy-two feet; three stories in front, two in rear.
2. Foundations: Coursed stone and brick.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Red brick, painted beige on the front, with frame additions painted dark brown.
4. Structural system, framing: Wood timber.
5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: There is a stone front stoop projecting from the double doorway. At the rear, there is a modern concrete and concrete block porch where a frame porch had rotted.
6. Chimneys: Three.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doors and doorways: The double front doorway is handsomely detailed, similar in motif to the windows. The doors are set into the wall with three panels to each door. The top panel of each one is glass with the street number and owner's initials H.S. etched into the glass. There is one exterior door on the south side and one in the rear.

- b. Windows and shutters: For front windows, SEE photographs. There are narrow double-hung windows in a frame bay addition on the north wall as well as other windows on each elevation.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The three-story front section is sloped from the front to the rear. The back section is gabled. The roof is covered with tar paper.
- b. Cornice, eaves: SEE photographs.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The main entry and foyer are to the left along the south side. To the right of the entry foyer are two parlors. Directly behind the stairs is a small room that has been added. Beyond the back parlor is a stairway to the upper floors. These spaces constitute the front three-story section of the house. In the back on the first floor there are three other rooms. The second floor is similar to the first. The third floor contains three relatively large rooms. The basement extends under only part of the building.
2. Stairways: The main stairs to the second floor run straight along the south wall in the entry foyer. The newel post and banister are original. The stairway beyond the rear parlor connects all three floors plus the basement.
3. Flooring: All three floors have wooden floors. They are exposed on the first, third and part of the second. Part of the second floor has linoleum. The floor of the basement is concrete.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls and ceilings are in general painted plaster. The front two rooms of the first floor have decorative plaster cornices.
5. Doors and doorways: Most of the doors and casings are original.
6. Special decorative features: The plaster ceiling mouldings previously mentioned plus the interior window casings on the east wall, third floor. In addition, the fireplace mantel, second floor-room, with its free standing columns flanking each side of the firebox.

7. Mechanical equipment: Steam heating.

D. Site and Surroundings:

The building fronts onto the Chapline Street with buildings in close proximity to the north and south. An ornate cast iron fence extends along the front, parallel to the street. The property slopes down in the rear, and there are masonry walls at each side separating the yard from adjoining property. In the rear northwest corner of the property is a brick garage, formerly a carriage house, opening to the alley.

Prepared by: John McRae
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
September 1976

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, HABS Principal Architect, in cooperation with the Friends of Wheeling, Inc. The measured drawings were made during the summer of 1976 under the supervision of John M. McRae (University of Florida) with architectural technicians Mark L. Hall, Foreman, (Pennsylvania State University); Edward C. Freeman (Arizona State University); Ruthie D. Wiley (Mississippi State University); Alan G. Wilig (City College of New York); and Architectural Historian Candace Reed (George Washington University). The photographs were taken in 1977 by HABS Photographer Jack E. Boucher.