

Germania Brewing Company Building
Cambria City Neighborhood
200 Sixth Avenue
Johnstown
Cambria County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5770

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Germania Brewing Company Building

HABS No. PA-5770

Location: 200 Sixth Avenue, Cambria City, Johnstown, Cambria County, Pa.

Description: No. 200 Sixth Avenue is an assemblage of brewery buildings originally arranged around a courtyard. Ranging from two to five stories, all are constructed of brick, with flat roofs. The 1913 Sanborn map gives us an indication of the buildings' uses. The two-story building at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Bradley Alley had a bottling plant on the first floor, and storage of bottled beer on the second. The two-story building next door was the office building. The other two-story building on Sixth Avenue was the repair shop. The large five-story building, 75' high, had keg filling on the first floor and beer cellars above. The remaining buildings were used for brewing beer and storing it in kegs.

History: No. 200 Sixth Avenue was constructed in ca. 1907, according to deed records. The Germania Brewery was one of six in Johnstown by 1910. Cambria City was home to three breweries, including Goenner's, at Third Avenue and Power Street, and The Pittsburgh Brewery at 419 McConaughy. The Germania brewery operated here until 1919. With the beginning of Prohibition, the Germania company sold the building and all machinery to Louis Zang for \$38,000 in 1919. Zang sold the property to the Ferguson Packing Company two months later, for \$1.00. The Cambria County Sheriff seized the property in 1930. The property passed through the hands of several parties between 1930 and 1946. The Morris Electric Supply Company (after 1970, the Morris Paper Company; after 1977, Hammermill Paper Company) purchased the building in 1946.

Sources:

Deed Records, Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, Pa.

Johnstown City Directory, 1909-10.

Sanborn Map Company, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, (New York, The Sanborn Map Company, 1895, 1911).

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP). An overview of history of the city (HABS No. PA-5669) and an overview of the neighborhoods of Cambria City and Minersville (HABS No. PA-5672) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the downtown and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by Jeffrey Hickey in August 1988 under the direction of Alison K. Hoagland, HABS historian, and Kim E. Wallace, the supervisory historian of the project. Hickey's and other project historians' work was published as The Character of a Steel Mill City: Four Historic Neighborhoods of Johnstown, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1989), edited by Kim E. Wallace. Illustrations in the publication include large format photographs taken by HAER photographer Jet Lowe and 35 mm photographs taken by the project historians.