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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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District K Building	Public P	oblic Acquisition	11	[X] Occupied	Yes:	
Site Structure	Private	☐ In Proce		Unoccupied	⊠ Restricted	
Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Co	maidered	Preservation work	☐ Unrestricted	
	SETTLEMENT			in progress	□ No	
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DESCRIPTION						100	
	☑ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Foir	(Check One) Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed	47
CONDITION	_	(Check Or	10)		(Che	ck One)	
	☐ Alte	red	☑ Unaltered		☐ Moved	Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Joseph Knoble Brewery building looks today very much as it did in 1851. Mr. C. H. Wortz, Jr., has restored the building to its original appearance and re-equipped it for its original purpose.

The building is rectangular in shape, of three stories, and is constructed of native cut stone, coursed, and with a natural finish. The first floor window and door surrounds consist of native stone sills and arches with radiating voussoirs. The second and third floor window surrounds are of stone with flat lintels and sills. There is one door, on the west side, located midway between the first and second stories, which was used to load and unload wagons. Its treatment, as regards arch and sill, conforms to that of the first floor.

Windows are, generally, double hung sashes with 12 lights. The exceptions to this are on the third floor, east and west sides, where the windows are single hung sash with 6 lights.

The roof framing is of wood, with (at present) a composition roof. Cornice fascia, soffit and frieze are of very simple design. There are eaves returns on the north side of the building, but not on the south side. The roof itself is a medium gable type.

A street entrance on the north side of the building leads to a family beer garden which was constructed at the second floor level of the building. The outside beer garden was built over a beer vault which is on the same level as the first floor of the building, but not part of the building. The beer vault is to the east of the main structure and is connected to the main building by a stone tunnel. After construction the beer vault was covered with earth and the surface was later developed into the outdoor beer garden.

The beer vault was constructed to store the beer kegs. At one end of the vault there is an inclined opening which leads to the surface. Ice, cut from the Arkansas River, was placed in this vault by means of this opening and inclined ramp.

The third floor of the building was the brewing floor of the brewery. The malting floor and mash tank, wort tank, cool slip tank, and fermentation tank is located here. The floor below was the kegging room. A pipe leads from the fermentation tank on the third floor to the kegging room on the second. The beer was kegged here and then stored in the beer vault. Eorm 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Arkansas	The state of the s
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FOR NPS USE ONL	Y 🔯
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

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7. Description

The first floor was used as a tavern or beer garden during the winter months.

This building has been restored and equipped to almost the same state that it was in between 1851 and 1885.

IGNIFICANCE			
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 Applicab	le and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Approp	riate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi.	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry ⊥	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
Architecture	☐ Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
	☐ Literature	itarion	
☐ Communications	Militory	☐ Theorem	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of this building is three-fold. The building itself is of value from the standpoint that it the only surviving example, in Arkansas, of a mid-nineteenth century brewery. While it displays no unique architectural features, it does survive as an example of the type structure needed to house a brewery. It also serves to illustrate the mechanics of an early Arkansas industry, or craft. Joseph Knoble, as builder and owner of this building, is also an important figure in the socio-economic history of the City of Fort Smith, Sebastian County and the State of Arkansas.

A native of Wittenberg, Germany, Joseph Knoble settled in Fort Smith, Arkansas in 1851. In all probability the large German population which had emigrated to the area was one of the factors which influenced the brewmaster to establish his home and brewery in Fort Smith.

Shortly after his arrival in Fort Smith he purchased the land upon which the brewery is now situated. He immediately commended construction of a substantial house to shelter his family. Once Joseph Knoble's family had moved into the house, Knoble immediately began building the brewery adjacent to the house. He constructed both of these buildings of native stone.

Joseph Knoble was one of the leading German merchants in the Fort Smith area. He actively pursued his profession until his death in 1881. He is interred in the Catholic Cemetery on Lexington Avenue in Fort Smith.

9. MAJOR	BIBLIOGRA	PHICAL	REFERENCE	S

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Mapes, Ruth B. Old Fort Smith, Little Rock: Pioneer, 1965.

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Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Arkansas

COUNTY

Sebastian

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ENTRY NUMBER DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE	
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FOR NPS USE ON	1LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

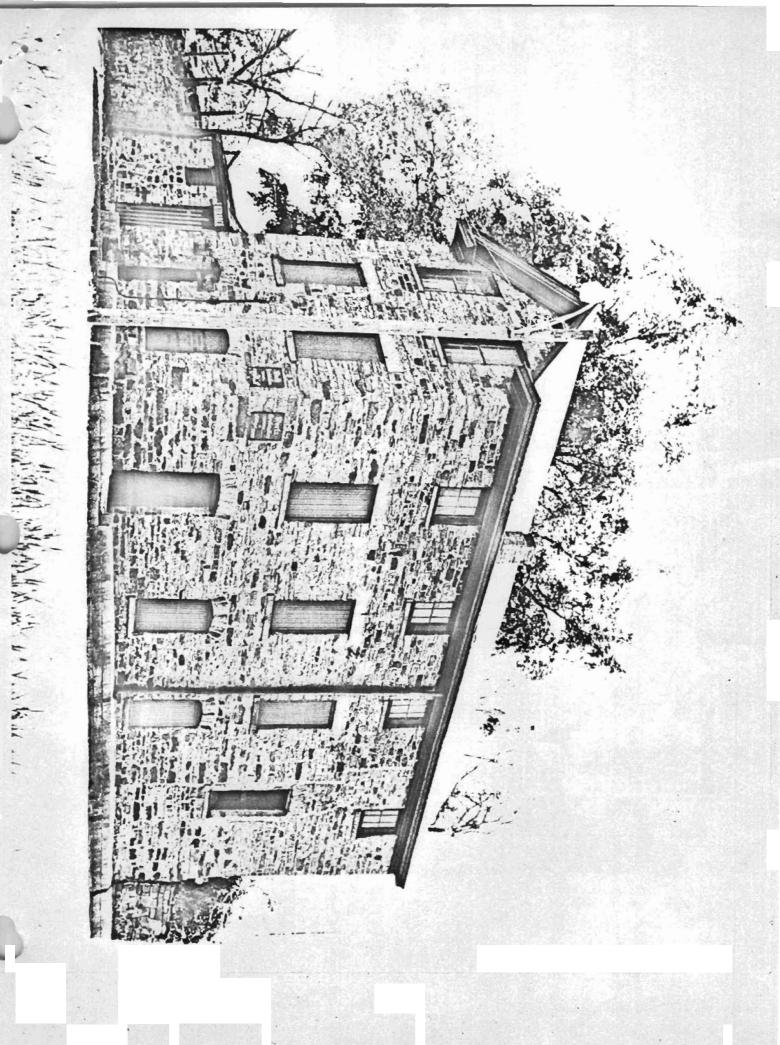
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

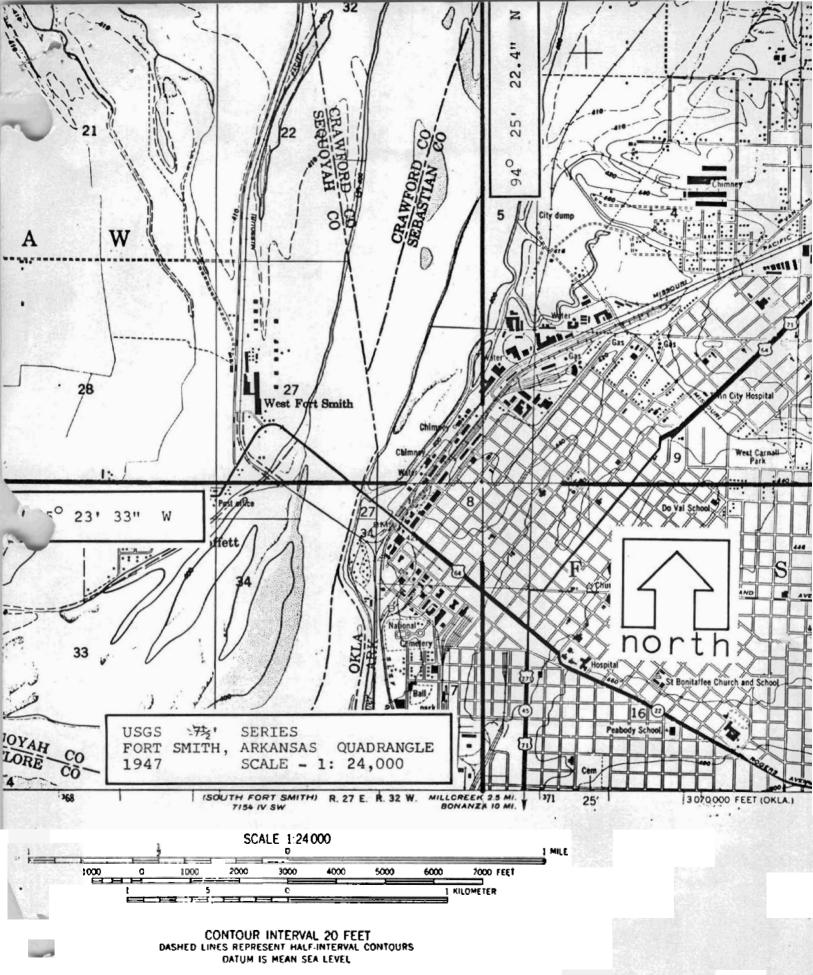
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Arkansas COUNTY Sebastian FOR NPS USE ONLY FNTRY NUMBER

STATE

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1.	NAME					
	COMMON:	Joseph Knoble's	Brewery			
	AND/OR HISTORIC:					
2.	LOCATION					
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	CITY OR TOWN	Fort Smith	and the second	in the con-		
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THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

SALE-BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242

AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

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