



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Walter H. Voigt Brewing Industry Collection

NMAH.AC.1195

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Personal Papers, 1931-1967, undated.....	4
Series 2: Beer Industry, 1932-1979, undated.....	6
Series 3: Publications, 1891-1969, undated.....	8
Series 4: Organizations, 1934-1966, undated.....	11

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Walter H. Voigt Brewing Industry Collection
Date:	1891-1979
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1195
Creator:	Voigt, Walter H. (Creator)
Extent:	3 Cubic feet (8 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection documents the history of the brewing beer industry in the mid-Atlantic region primarily between the 1890s and the 1960s. Materials include correspondence, class notes, beer labels, journal reprints, technical papers, trade literature, legal papers, magazine articles, cartoons, books, and literature from the Master Brewers Association of America.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated to the National Museum of American History in 1967 by Walter H. Voigt, along with artifacts from the brewing industry.

Provenance

Transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work and Industry in 2010.

Separated Materials

Related objects from Walter H. Voigt are in the Division of Work and Industry and include beer bottles. See accessions: AG.65.2068, AG.65.2093, AG.65.2094, AG.65.2096, AG.65.2353, AG.67.0834, AG.67.0838, AG.67.0839, and AG.67.0840.

Related Materials

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Christian Heurich Brewing Company Records (AC1104)
Warshaw Collection of Business Americana (AC0060)
Landor Design Collection (AC0500)
Francis Mair Papers (AC0548)
Archives Center Brewing History Collection (AC1419)
DFS (Dancer, Fitzgerald Sample) Advertising Agency Falstaff Beer Advertisements (AC0332)
Albert W. Hampson Commercial Artwork Collection (AC0561)

Processing Information

Collection processed by Eva Buchanan-Cates, Katie DeFonzo, Stephanie Haeg, and Emily Woessner interns; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist, 2017.

Preferred Citation

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Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Walter Herbert Voigt was a brewer and collector of beer related materials. He began in the beer brewing business soon after the 21st Amendment repealed Prohibition. He was born in 1906 in Vermillion, South Dakota of German immigrant parents, Fritz and Minna Voigt. Voigt attended the Siebel Institute of Biotechnology, the oldest beer brewing school in the United States. During the 1930s, he spent two years training in brewing at the Largay Brewing Company in Waterbury, Connecticut. Voigt began his career with the Amsterdam Brewing Company in Amsterdam, New York, and then moved to the American Brewing Company in Baltimore, Maryland about 1941 as assistant brew master. During his life, he was a member of the Master Brewers Association (MBA) and held the position of Secretary of the District of Baltimore for the Master Brewers Association (MBA). Voigt later retired from the American Brewing Company and died in 1983 at the age of seventy-seven in Salisbury, Connecticut.

Scope and Contents

Collection documents the history of brewing beer in the mid-Atlantic region primarily between the 1890s and the beginning of consolidation and large-scale, industrial production in the 1960s. Materials consist of correspondence; class notes on the brewing process; beer labels; journal reprints and technical papers on brewing; trade literature on beer, bottling and the bottling process; printed material from beer events, such as the meetings of the Master Brewers Association of America; papers on the legal aspects of brewing; articles, including historical articles on beer; cartoons; and brewing magazines and books. The collection is arranged into four series: Series 1, Personal Papers, 1931-1967, undated; Series 2, Beer Industry, 1932-1979, undated; Series 3, Publications, 1891-1969, undated; and Series 4, Associations, 1934-1966, undated.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into four series.

Series 1, Personal Papers, 1931-1967, undated

Series 2, Beer Industry, 1932-1979, undated

Subseries 2.1, Technical Information, 1938-1979, undated

Subseries 2.2, Sales, Marketing, and Distribution, 1932-1966, undated

Series 3, Publications, 1891-1969, undated

Subseries 3.1, Books, 1891-1964, undated

Subseries 3.2, Periodicals, 1910-1969, undated

Series 4, Organizations, 1934-1966, undated

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Beer
- Beverages
- Bottling
- Brewing

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements -- 20th century
- Cartoons (humorous images) -- 20th century
- Correspondence -- 20th century
- Labels
- Notebooks
- Notes
- Reprints

Names:

- Master Brewers Association of America

Container Listing

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1931-1967, undated

Scope and Contents: Consists primarily of Voigt's class notes and notebooks relating to brewing beer. In addition, there is some outgoing and incoming correspondence which reveals Voigt's interest in preserving the history of beer brewing in America before brewmasters were as he stated "replaced by chemical engineers and highly trained chemists in modern laboratories." Membership cards and a convention badge from the Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA) can also be found among these materials. Voigt wrote a paper on the history of brewing in Maryland and the vicinity in 1949 which was probably presented at one of the conventions or possibly as a piece for the newletters. In addition a list of the materials that Voigt intended to donate to the Smithsonian Institution is also found among the materials. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 1, Folder 1	Notes on the history of beer brewing, 1931-1961
Box 1, Folder 2	Notebook, 1935
Box 1, Folder 3	Class notes, 1935-1936
Box 1, Folder 4	Menus, 1936
Box 1, Folder 5	Notebook, 1936
Box 1, Folder 6	Special events, 1937
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence, 1937-1958
Box 1, Folder 8	Notebook, 1939-1958
Box 1, Folder 9	Labor union materials, 1939-1958
Box 1, Folder 10	Notes, 1940
Box 1, Folder 11	WWII materials, 1940
Box 1, Folder 12	Membership cards and badge, 1942-1959
Box 2, Folder 1	Paper, History of Brewing in Maryland and Vicinity, 1949
Box 2, Folder 2	Wahl course application and letter, 1952
Box 2, Folder 3	Memorabilia, 1966-1966, 1954
Box 2, Folder 4	University materials, 1958

Box 2, Folder 5	List of collection items intended for donation to the Smithsonian Institution, 1967
Box 2, Folder 6	Class notes relating to Chemistry and Physics, undated
Box 2, Folder 7	Class notes, Professor Volkman, relating to malting, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Notes on breweries in New York and New Jersey, undated
Box 2, Folder 9	Cartoons, undated
Box 2, Folder 10	Froedtert Service, speech, undated
Box 2, Folder 11	Photograph, undated
Box 2, Folder 12	Notebook cover, undated
Box 2, Folder 13	Notebook, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Beer Industry, 1932-1979, undated

Scope and Contents: Consist of materials primarily documenting the technical aspects of brewing and distributing beer. Series is arranged into two subseries: Subseries 2.1, Technical Information, 1938-1979, undated and Subseries 2.2, Sales, Marketing and Distribution, 1932-1966, undated.

Subseries 2.1: Technical Information, 1938-1979, undated

Scope and Contents: Contains literature created for the commercial beer brewing industry rather than for home brewing. The materials are arranged chronological order.

Box 2, Folder 14	Hops pamphlets, 1938
Box 2, Folder 15	Methods for Determining the Percentage of Seeds, Strigs, Stems, and Leaves in Commercial Hops, 1939
Box 2, Folder 16	Grow and Market Good Quality Barley, 1939
Box 2, Folder 17	The Levels of Some of the Vitamin B, Complex Factors at Various Stages of Brewing, 1942
Box 2, Folder 18	Bottle house layouts, New York and New Jersey, 1943 September 1-4
Box 2, Folder 19	A Practical Approach to Reducing Air in Beer, 1949
Box 2, Folder 20	Studies of the Nitrogenous Constituents of Beer, 1956-1958
Box 2, Folder 21	Crop Barley Malt and Beer Evaluation Summary, 1959-1965
Box 2, Folder 22	Brewing Industries Research Institute -- "Research Notes," 1960-1965, 1960-1965
Box 2, Folder 23	Packaging information, 1979
Box 2, Folder 24	A Presentation for American Brewery, 1979
Box 2, Folder 25	Business cards, undated
Box 2, Folder 26	Specifications for new buildings, J. F. Wiessner Brewing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, undated
Box 2, Folder 27	Beer production line graphs, undated
Box 2, Folder 28	The Effect of Protein Modification on Laboratory Brews, undated
Box 2, Folder 29	Production of Hops, undated

Subseries 2.2: Sales, Marketing and Distribution, 1932-1966, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes specifications for equipment and beer labels, bottles and cans. There is some information relating to annual sales made by major beer brewers and distributors, advertising, and advice on how to market certain products. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 2, Folder 30; Beer bottle literature, 1932-1965

Box 8, Folder 2

Box 3, Folder 1; Beer labels, 1933-1966

Box 3, Folder 11;

Box 8, Folder 3

Box 3, Folder 2 Beer making literature, 1934-1964

Box 3, Folder 4 Receipts and payments, 1935, 1949 - 1949

Box 3, Folder 3 Promotional literature, 1939-1943

Box 3, Folder 6; Brewery liquidation announcements, 1942-1963

Box 8, Folder 4

Box 3, Folder 5 Beer can literature, 1947-1963

Box 3, Folder 7 Case unloaders literature, 1950-1951

Box 3, Folder 8 Distribution and marketing materials, 1952-1953

Box 3, Folder 9 Annual sales of beer companies, 1955-1961

Box 3, Folder 10 Marketing literature, 1959

Box 3, Folder 12 Cooperative Advertising Program for the New Handy Beer Bottle, 1962

Box 3, Folder 13 Forms, undated

Box 8, Folder 1 Equipment diagram, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Publications, 1891-1969, undated

Scope and Contents: Consists of literature created for the beer industry and its consumers. Materials include books, periodicals, magazine articles, newsletters relating to the history of beer, directories of brewers, prohibition, and equipment. The series is arranged into two subseries: Subseries 3.1, Books, 1891-1964, undated, and Subseries 3.2, Periodicals, 1910-1969, undated.

Subseries 3.1: Books, 1891-1964, undated

Scope and Contents: Includes almanacs, directories, reference books and guides primarily relating to the brewing of beer in the United States. These books contain information on both ancient and modern methods. While most of the publications are directed toward the trade there are some that contain information on home brewing and serving. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 3, Folder 14	Twenty-Five Years of Brewing with an Illustrated History of American Beer, 1891
Box 3, Folder 15	The Art of Serving Ale and Beer in Your Home, 1934
Box 3, Folder 16	How We Make the Beer You Drink, 1938
Box 3, Folder 17	Brewery Age: Buyer's Guide and Brewery Directory, 1939
Box 3, Folder 18	Beer and Brewing, 1944
Box 3, Folder 19	Brewers Journal Directory: Breweries and Their Personnel, 1947
Box 3, Folder 20	The West Coast Brewer, 1947
Box 3, Folder 21	The Brewing Industry in the United States: Brewers Almanac, 1949
Box 3, Folder 22	Standards for Beer Bottles, 1950
Box 3, Folder 23	Industrial Evaluation of Three Varieties of Barley Grown in 1950 and Annual Report 1950-1951, 1952
Box 4, Folder 1; Box 4, Folder 3	The Brewing Industry in the United States: Brewers Almanac, 1956-1956, 1952
Box 4, Folder 2	Warme Beere, 1955 January
Box 4, Folder 4	Brewers Journal Directory: The Complete Western Hemisphere Directory of Brewers and their Personnel, 1958
Box 4, Folder 5	American Brewer: Directory of Breweries, 1958-1959
Box 4, Folder 6	Modern Brewery Age, 1959

Box 4, Folder 7	Voigt Personal Reference Book, 1959
Box 4, Folder 8	Brewers Journal Directory for 1960, 1960
Box 4, Folder 9	Modern Brewery Age, 1960
Box 4, Folder 10	British Brewery and Soft Drinks Equipment, 1964
Box 4, Folder 11	The Addition of Fluorine to Municipal Water Supplies, undated
Box 4, Folder 12	An Ancient Beverage and a Modern Industry, undated
Box 4, Folder 13	To Make Malt in the Family Way, undated

Subseries 3.2: Periodicals, 1910-1969, undated

Scope and Contents: Primarily consists of magazine and journal articles and newsletters. While most focus on the American market there is one Canadian publication. Included among these materials are a small number of newspaper clippings. The materials are arranged chronological order.

Box 4, Folder 14	Quarterly Journal, articles, 1910-1912
Box 4, Folder 15	Magazine articles, 1930-1939
Box 4, Folder 16	Magazine articles relating to bottling and brewing, 1934-1952
Box 4, Folder 17	Brewers Digest, 1938
Box 4, Folder 18	Bulletin, number seven, 1938
Box 4, Folder 19	Newspaper clippings, 1939-1960
Box 5, Folder 1	Brewers Journal, article, 1940 March
Box 5, Folder 2	Magazine articles, 1940-1949
Box 5, Folder 3	Brewers Journal, articles, 1943
Box 5, Folder 4	The Crown, 1945
Box 5, Folder 5	The Tyranny of Prohibition, 1947
Box 5, Folder 6	WIT Newsletter, 1951 December
Box 5, Folder 7	The Brewer's Digest, 1954
Box 5, Folder 8	Wallerstein Laboratories Communications, 1955

Box 5, Folder 9	Western Brewing and Distributing, 1960
Box 5, Folder 10	Magazine articles, 1960-1969
Box 5, Folder 11	Canadian Beverage and Review, 1962
Box 5, Folder 12	Brewing and Bottling Business, 1965
Box 5, Folder 13	Modern Brewery Age, 1967
Box 5, Folder 14	Magazine articles, undated
Box 5, Folder 15	Miscellaneous magazine clippings and articles, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Organizations, 1934-1966, undated

Scope and Contents: Materials document the communications and events of organizations created to promote the interests of the beer brewing industry. Such organizations include American Brewery Incorporated, Master Brewers Association (MBAA), and United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated. Found among these materials are convention programs, photographs, newspapers clippings, newsletters, constitutions and by-laws, meeting speeches, and correspondence. The materials are arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the organization.

Box 5, Folder 16	American Brewery Incorporated, meeting information and speeches, 1956-1956, 1936
Box 5, Folder 17	American Brewery Incorporated, 1939-1966
Box 5, Folder 18	American Brewery Incorporated, brewing formulas and reports, 1940-1954
Box 5, Folder 19	American Brewery Incorporated, photographs, 1942-1948
Box 5, Folder 20	American Brewery Incorporated, materials relating to restrictions on materials during the Korean War, 1950 - 1952
Box 5, Folder 21	American Brewery Incorporated, newspaper clippings, 1964
Box 5, Folder 22	American Brewery Incorporated, floor plans, undated
Box 5, Folder 23	Amsterdam Brewing Company, 1934-1939
Box 5, Folder 24	International Union of United Brewery and Soft Drink Workers, Brewery Workers Local, 1940 March 10
Box 5, Folder 26	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), 1936-1966
Box 7, Folder 16	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Constitution and By-Laws, 1940
Box 5, Folder 25	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1944 April
Box 5, Folder 27	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1945 July and August
Box 5, Folder 28	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1955 January-February
Box 5, Folder 30	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1956 January/February-November/December
Box 5, Folder 29	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1957 Septbmer/October

Box 5, Folder 31	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1960 January-December
Box 5, Folder 32	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1961 January/February-November/December
Box 5, Folder 33	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1962 March/April
Box 5, Folder 34	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1963 January-December
Box 5, Folder 35	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1965 March-1966 February
Box 6, Folder 1	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Communications Newsletter, 1966 January-June/July
Box 6, Folder 2	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Technical Quarterly, 1964 January/February-March
Box 6, Folder 3	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Technical Quarterly, 1965 October-December
Box 6, Folder 4	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1934 October 6-10
Box 6, Folder 5	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention proceedings, 1940 October 20-24
Box 6, Folder 6	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1940 October 19-25
Box 6, Folder 7	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1941 October 5-8
Box 6, Folder 8	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1941 October 5-8
Box 6, Folder 9	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Board of Governors, meeting, 1942 September
Box 6, Folder 10	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), Board of Governors meeting, 1945 October 26
Box 6, Folder 11	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1947
Box 6, Folder 12	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1948 October 28-30

Box 6, Folder 13	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1950 October 4-6
Box 6, Folder 14	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1951 September 26-29
Box 6, Folder 15	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1952 November 16-21
Box 7, Folder 1	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1956 September 23-28
Box 7, Folder 2	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1957 November 19-21
Box 7, Folder 3	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1959
Box 7, Folder 3	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1959 September 20-25
Box 7, Folder 4	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), letters to Mrs. Master Brewers Association of America, 1960 - 1965
Box 7, Folder 5	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1960 September 25-29
Box 7, Folder 6	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1961
Box 7, Folder 7	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), seminar, 1962
Box 7, Folder 8	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), crab feast, 1962
Box 7, Folder 9	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1962 October
Box 7, Folder 10	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1963
Box 7, Folder 11	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), paper presented by Phillips Petroleum Company, 1963
Box 7, Folder 12	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), banquet, 1965
Box 7, Folder 13	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), 78th Anniversary, 1965
Box 7, Folder 14	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), International Brewing Industries Exposition, 1965 October 26-29
Box 7, Folder 15	Master Brewers Association of America (MBAA), convention program, 1966

Box 7, Folder 27	United Brewers Industrial Foundation, References Ancient and Modern to the Literature on Beer and Ale, 1937
Box 7, Folder 28	United Brewers Industrial Foundation, stories about beer and brewing, 1938-1939
Box 7, Folder 29	United Brewers Industrial Foundation, Scientific Moderation in Drinking, undated
Box 7, Folder 17	United States Brewers' Association, The History of Brewing, 1937
Box 7, Folder 18	United States Brewers' Association, newsletter, 1964
Box 7, Folder 19	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, bulletin, 1946-1948
Box 7, Folder 20	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, statement, 1948
Box 7, Folder 21	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, statement in opposition to bills to restrict alcohol beverage advertising, 1948
Box 7, Folder 22	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, directory, 1948
Box 7, Folder 23	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, annual reports, 1948
Box 7, Folder 24	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, employee relations in the brewing industry, 1948
Box 7, Folder 25	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, correspondence, 1952-1956
Box 7, Folder 26	United States Brewers' Foundation Incorporated, questions and answers relating to beer, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)