

Ohio Historic Preservation Office  
 1985 Veina Avenue  
 Columbus, Ohio 43211  
 614-456-1500



# OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

1. No. <b>ERI-1618</b>	4. Present Name(s) <p style="text-align: center;">Monarch Wine Company Ruins</p>													
2. County <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ERIE</b></p>	5. Other Name(s) Jacob Rush Winery; Otto Brown Winery; Sweet Valley Wine Company													
3. Location of Negatives <p style="text-align: center;">C.H.S.</p>														
6. Specific Location On w side of Division St, about 1500' n of intersect. with Ward Rd.	16. Thematic Category <p style="text-align: center;">Manufacturing; Winery-4206</p>	28. No. of Stories <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>												
7. City or Town If Rural, Township & Vicinity <p style="text-align: center;">Kelleys Island, Ohio</p>	17. Date(s) or Period <p style="text-align: center;">1872 &amp; 1880c.</p>	29. Basement? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>												
8. Site Plan with North Arrow <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>	18. Style or Design <p style="text-align: center;">Vernacular</p>	30. Foundation Material Sqr'd & coursed limestn												
9. U.T.M. Reference <table style="width:100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>17</td><td>357</td><td>640</td><td>46</td><td>077</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Easting</td> <td colspan="4">Northing</td> </tr> </table>	17	357	640	46	077	60	Easting		Northing				19. Architect or Engineer <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	31. Wall Construction Stone bearing wall
17	357	640	46	077	60									
Easting		Northing												
10. Site Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	20. Contractor or Builder <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	32. Roof Type & Material <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>												
11. On National Register? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	21. Original Use, if apparent <p style="text-align: center;">Winery</p>	33. No. of Bays Front 4 Side N/A												
12. Is It Eligible? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	22. Present Use <p style="text-align: center;">Ruins</p>	34. Wall Treatment Squared & coursed stone												
13. Part of Estab. Hist. Dist.? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23. Ownership Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	35. Plan Shape <p style="text-align: center;">Rectangle</p>												
14. District Potent'l? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	24. Owner's Name & Address, if known Kelleys Island Investment Company K.I., Oh.	36. Changes (Explain in #42) Addition <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/>												
15. Name of Established District <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>	25. Open to Public? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	37. Condition Interior Ruins Exterior Ruins												
16. Further Description of Important Features (Continue on reverse if necessary) The building corners are highlighted by quoin-like dressed stones. The fairly intact east wall features two ground level service entries with the older arched north entry above. This entry features a stone segmental arch round arched windows and door treated with round arches and lug sills, with some brick arch construction now visible beneath the face stone. The north and west	26. Local Contact Person or Organization Kevin Pape:KI Hist Survey	38. Preservation Underway? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>												
17. History and Significance Born in Bavaria, Jacob Rush (Rusch) came to Kelleys Island in 1855. Three years later he constructed his first wine cellar near the North Bay. In 1872 he built a new two story cellar of native stone with a distillery in the back. Its dimensions were 104'x36' (the north portion of the Monarch Wine Co.). The press and shipping rooms were located above a 70,000 gallon	27. Other Surveys in Which Included <p style="text-align: center;">N/A</p>	39. Endangered? By What? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> neglect & deterioration.												
18. Description of Environment and Outbuildings Set back from the island's main north-south road in a lightly wooded area in low-lying section known as Sweet Valley. The winery sits atop a low man made hill. When originally built the cellar had a 150 ac. vineyard.	40. Visible from Public Road? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	41. Distance from and Frontage on Road 50 yds.												
19. Sources of Information Tax Records, Erie Co. Grand List Sandusky Register, Newspaper articles: Frohman Collect., Hayes Presidential Center Nichols: Handy Guide to Put-in-Bay, Middle Bass & K.I., 1888	42. Prepared by Kevin Pape & Kyle Johannsen	43. Organization KI Planning Commiss												
20. Date 8/85	44. Revision Date(s)	45.												

ERI-1618  
 Erie  
 Monarch Wine Company Ruins  
 J. Rush Winery/O. Brown Winery/

## 50. House Type No.

Code No. Name

\_\_\_\_\_

## 51. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

Barn Type(s)

Code No. Type

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Corn Crib or Shed  Smoke House  Privy   
 Silo  Spring House  Carriage House   
 Summer Kitchen  or Ice House

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 52. Archaeological Site on Property?

Yes   
No 

Basis for Information

Owner Collection   
 Above Ground Earthworks or Mound   
 Cultural Materials Noted  OAI No. \_\_\_\_\_

## 53. Farmstead Plan

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## 54. Photo

Roll No. 14 Picture No(s). 12

## 42. (Cont'd)

walls display openings for double hung 1/1 and 6/6 windows. Rear window openings feature plain wood lintels. The winery sits atop a small man made hill with cellar entries at grade level. The original structure built by Rush had a gable roof. Later, after Otto Brown built his addition, the entire structure was capped by a gambrel roof.

## #43. (Cont'd.)

capacity cellar where up to 40,000 gallons of still wine and 1,000 to 2,000 gallons of grape brandy were manufactured per year.

Otto Brown, previously a foreman at the Kelley Island Wine Company, purchased the winery in 1879. He enlarged the building to 110x55' and increased the capacity to 140,000 gallons. Four wine presses, a 5,000 gal. mixing vat, and a steam boiler for heating and pumping were used in the operation. In 1887, Brown merged with island grape growers R.R. Moysey, Henry Trieschman, Frederick Kastning, Adam Miller to form a joint stock company entitled the Sweet Valley Wine Company, named for the beautiful valley in which it was situated and where many of the company's 150 acres of vineyards were located. Six employees manufactured exclusively still wines: Catawba, Delaware, Riesling, Elvira, Norton, Ives, Concord, Sherry, Port and altar wines. "Rex Champ", a special unfermented grape juice, was made for medicinal and sacramental use. Their products were shipped primarily to New York and other leading midwest cities.

Around 1900, W.H. Reinhart became president and general manager, and the company moved its headquarters to Sandusky, Ohio. To increase their storage capacity, the Koster Wine Cellar was leased, and for a while it was known as the Sweet Valley Wine Company, Cellar No. 2. In 1902 the wine company had built a new, well-appointed winery in Sandusky, and by 1904 all operations were moved to that facility.

That year the island winery was sold to Frank Hauser who, in 1885, was super-