



## **AMERICAN RYE WHISKEY HISTORY BORN IN LANCASER CO, PA.**

“The Bomberger Distillery Complex (just over 5 miles from Stoll & Wolfe) represents the transformation of whiskey distilling from a seasonal agricultural enterprise into a large-scale industry specializing in the year-round production of distilled spirits.” -National Register Historic Places

- The site has a documented history of spirit production since 1753. Bomberger's was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, declared a National Historic Landmark in 1980, and was America's smallest commercial distiller at the time of its 1989 closure.
- The National Register of Historic Places lists Bomberger’s Distillery amongst the most significant locations in American Manufacturing History amongst the original Anheuser-Busch Brewery, Coca-Cola Bottling Plant in Georgia, Duke Homestead and Tobacco Factory in North Carolina, and the Milton Hershey Mansion.

### **Notable Dates in Local Whiskey History**

1753	John and Michael Shenk, Swiss Mennonite farmers, Began Distilling Rye Whiskey at the Site.
1783-1827	Rudolph Meyer (Brother in Law of Michael Shenk) Acquired the Distillery and Operated with Modest Improvements.
1827-1860	John Kratzer (Shenk’s Descendants) Runs Distillery Making Continual Improvements and Expanding Production.
1860-1919	Abraham Bomberger and Sons Operate Until Prohibition Forces Closure of Distillery.
1920-1934	Distillery is Closed Due to Prohibition
1934-1961	Operates Under Variety of Names, Mostly Small Scale Local Production and Contracts
1961-1972	Charles Everett Beam is Master Distiller
1972-1989	PA Michter’s Operational, Dick Stoll Master Distiller