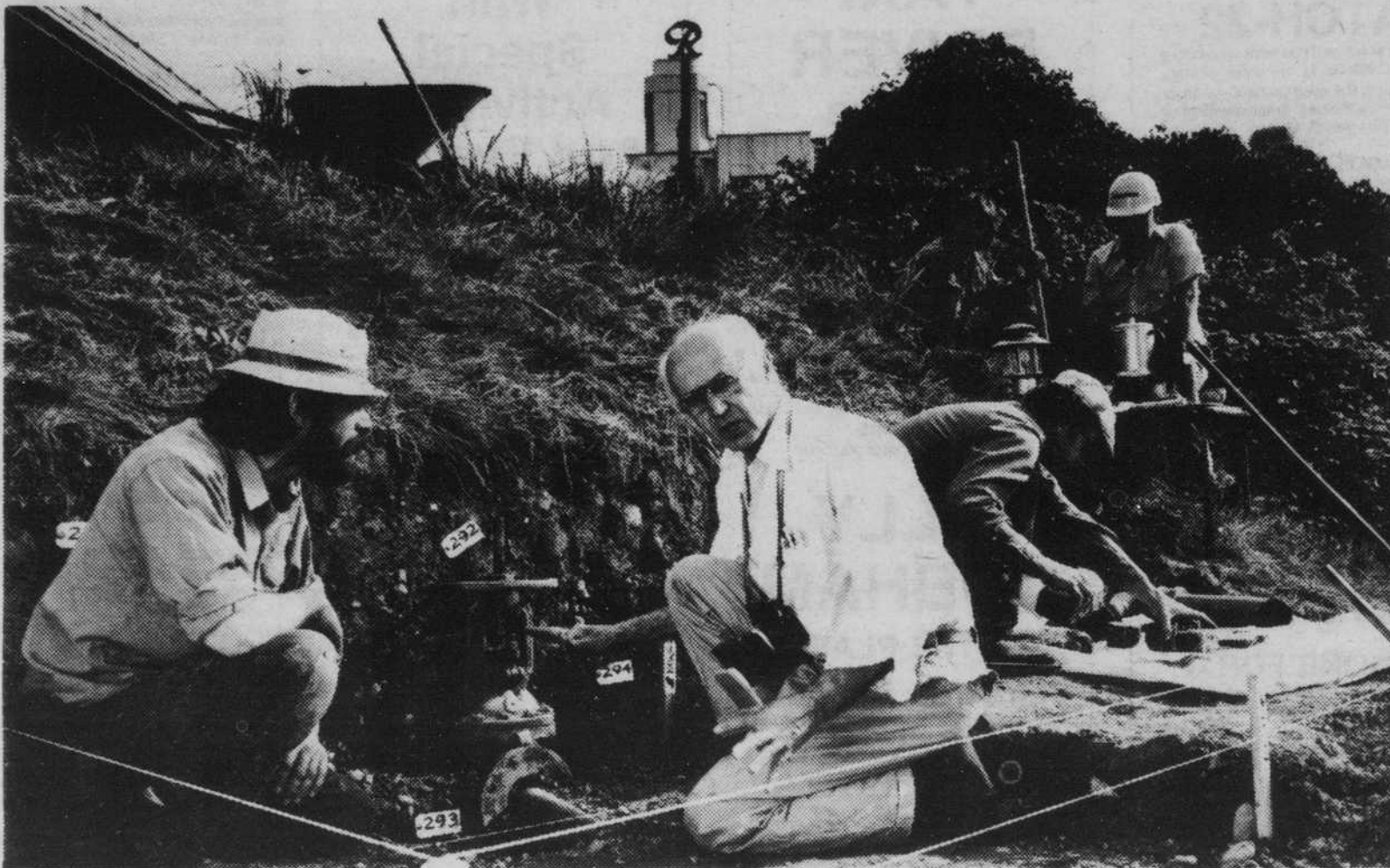


Remains of Ancient Brewery Sought



"Hap" Holstetter looks on as Professor Horton Lacombe of the Tacoma Institute of Parahistorical Research examines a gate valve unearthed at the dig

site. The existing Rainier brewery is seen directly behind Lacombe's head.

Discovery of Old Valve Spurs Dig

SEATTLE, May 12, 1978. Discovery today of several artifacts, including a "remarkably well-preserved" gate valve and two pieces of pipe dating from the Heimrich period, rekindled efforts of scientists to uncover the site of the ancient Rainier brewery, believed to be buried under tons of rubble beneath Beacon Hill near the site of the present Seattle brewery.

The legendary brewery is believed by most experts to be a treasure trove of priceless antique brewing equipment, and successful excavation would be a valuable addition to the body of scholarly research on everyday life in ancient Pacific Northwest. The Heimrich-Rainier brewery dates from 1878 A.D.

Exact location of the ancient brewery, built by philosopher-brewer Andrew Heimrich, has eluded archaeologists and students of carbonated phenomena for the better part of a century. Unearthing of the metal, brick, and glass relics in the latest find, however, has convinced at least one team of researchers that a find "of major proportions" is not only possible but likely, and may come as early as this year.

The team of archaeologists, brewologists, and students of carbonated phenomena is led by Professor Horton Lacombe, chairman of the Department of Brewology at the Tacoma Institute of Parahistorical Research. Also associated with the project is Lamont L. "Hap" Holstetter, who had acted as supervisor and foreman at earlier brewery digs in Utah and Arkansas. Holstetter is a noted chronicler of carbonated phenomena and author of the book "Yeast Cultures in Ancient Civilizations." Assisting Lacombe and Holstetter are several graduate students from T.I.P.R.

"The gate valve is amazingly well-preserved," according to Lacombe, "and displays the careful detailing and attention to workmanship characteristic of the period in question. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the artifacts date from Heimrich."

Heavy rains earlier in the month washed away gravel and topsoil from above the Beacon Hill excavation site, located between a major north-south Interstate Highway and the existing Rainier brewery. The gate valve itself was found protruding from the soil by a night-watchman who notified Rainier authorities, who in turn contacted Professor Lacombe. Preliminary excavations revealed several bricks and brick fragments, numerous bottle caps, two pieces of pipe, a pipe fitting, a bottle opener of an unfamiliar design, and three pieces of an unidentified luminous metal believed to be part of an early fermenting tank.

As exciting as these initial finds are, Professor Lacombe indicated that they were "only the beginning. There is no telling what lies below," said Lacombe.

A major dig, which may last throughout the summer season, is already underway.

The "Lost Brewery"—What Happened?

Rainier Beer was brewed at Andrew Heimrich's fabled old brewery from 1878 until expansion following in the wake of overwhelming popularity of Rainier caused the brewery to be moved to larger quarters at the nearby Bayview Brewery. It was a time of mammoth geological movement in the Duwamish Waterway and Harbor Island. At one time a private company actually began to dig into Beacon Hill, near the brewery, to construct the first Lake Washington Ship Canal from Puget Sound to fresh water. The project was later abandoned, but tons of rubble and momentous movements of earth changed the topography of the area forever.

In 1904, with even broader distribution and increased public acceptance, Rainier Beer moved to new and larger quarters at a new brewery in Georgetown, where it remained until prohibition. By the time the state of Washington went dry, Rainier had become the sixth largest brewery in the world. Meanwhile, rubble and dust of the ages continued to obscure Heimrich's original brewery.

Following the repeal of prohibition in 1933, brewing was resumed at the rebuilt Bayview Brewery. Debris and earth buried the original brewery even deeper.

As the old brewmasters began to die, the exact location of the

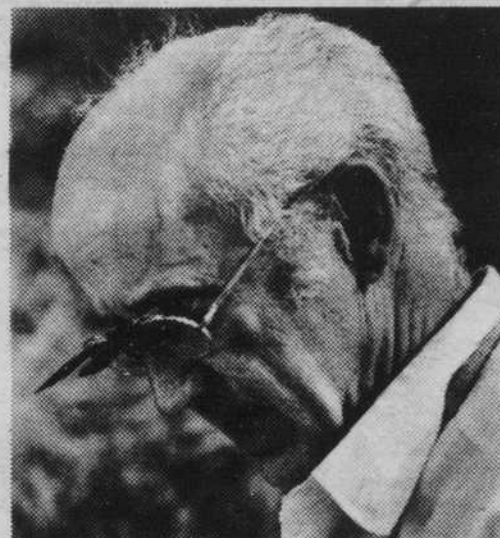
ancient brewery became lost.

In 1953, to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary of Rainier Beer, a statue, which had stood watch over the Georgetown Brewery for forty years, was relocated at a spot believed to be near the original brewery, vestiges of which had by then completely disappeared. Ancient brewmasters still living in 1953, some of whom had actually seen the brewery in early childhood, located the statue near what they believed to be the actual site of the old brewery.

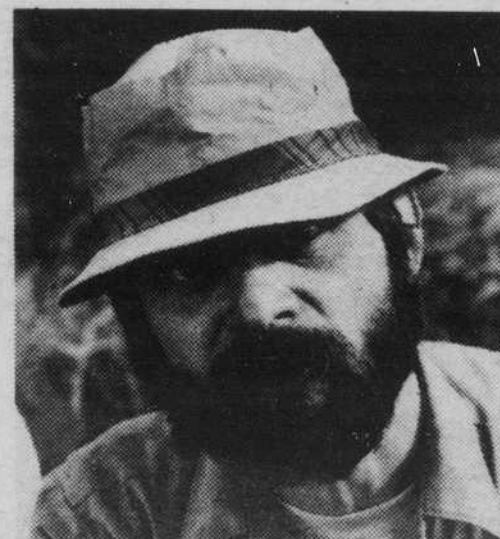
In the 1960's, the last traces of the original brewery, its outbuildings, minor sites, and an old smokestack were destroyed when Interstate 5 was constructed.

Most experts believed that the ancient brewery was buried forever under tons of concrete and asphalt, but a few scholars held stubbornly to the unpopular theory that it was located much closer to the present brewery, and that diligent excavation would bring its wonders to light.

Professor Lacombe has been convinced of the buried brewery's existence since 1957, when he met a retired Rainier brewmaster on a trip to Munich, who claimed to have actually seen the ancient brewery. Legends of exotic treasures have persisted for generations, but no one, expert or layman, knows for certain what lies under the earth.



PROFESSOR HORTON LACOMBE, PhB, is chairman of the Department of Brewology at Tacoma Institute of Parahistorical Research. An expert on ancient breweries, he has excavated brewery sites in Wisconsin, Bavaria, and Sumeria. He has appeared on several TV talk shows, and is executive director of the 1978 Rainier dig.



LAMONT L. "HAP" HOLSTETTER, associate director, brings a wealth of scholarly knowledge and personal experience to the Rainier dig. Author of the widely acclaimed book "Yeast Cultures in Ancient Civilizations," he is a veteran of earlier brewery digs in Utah and Arkansas.