

Assunpink Pottery

6A

Other Names	Henry Speeler; Henry Speeler & Sons; Assunpink Pottery Works Henry Speeler & Sons
Present Day Municipality	City of Trenton
Historic Municipality	City of Trenton
Historic Location	Canal Street near Front Street; West Canal and Assunpink; West Canal corner of Plymouth; East Front Street Basin; Stockton and Front Street Basin
Years in Operation	1860-1872
Owners/Operators	Henry Speeler (1860, 1866); Henry Speeler & Sons (1868-1872)

PRODUCTS

Tableware <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Garden Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/>	Rockingham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Hardware <input type="checkbox"/>	Art Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/>	Toilet Sets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sanitary ware <input type="checkbox"/>	Hotel China <input type="checkbox"/>	Electrical porcelain <input type="checkbox"/>	

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

yellowware and Rockingham ware (Trenton State Gazette, Monday, August 27, 1866); yellowware (Harney 1929; Raum 1871); porcelain, Queensware, Rockingham and cane colored fireproof ware, druggist ware made to order (Goldberg 1998).

REFERENCES

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R.G. Dun & Company Collection, Mercer County. 1868-1872. 1 [44]:22.

J.H Lant & Co. 1868-1869. "The Trenton City Directory, for 1868 1869, Containing the Names of the Inhabitants, Together with a Business and Street Directory of the City, Business Directory of Mercer Co., and an Appendix of Valuable Information," pp. 187-188. Vannotte & Yard, Trenton, New Jersey.

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"Assanpink Pottery Work -- Henry Speeler & Sons." Trenton State Gazette, Saturday, August 28, 1869.

"Fire at Speeler's Pottery." Trenton State Gazette, November 28, 1870.

"A Dead Body Found in the Rubbish at Speeler's Pottery." Trenton State Gazette, November 29, 1870.

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MAP REFERENCES

Beers 1870: shown as "Assunpink Pottery Works H. Speeler & Sons"

IMAGE REFERENCES

DUN COLLECTION

April 14, 1868: Henry Speeler – “good character & good credit ... doing very good business ... married and aged about 40 years” (1 [44]:22).

1869 thru July, 1871 (several reports): Henry Speeler & Sons – “good credit” (1 [44]:22).

December 1871: Henry Speeler’s Sons – “the senior partner is dead, has continued under style ‘Henry Speeler’s Sons’.” Speeler (a son) “is said to be a little fast” (1 [44]:22).

March 1872: Henry Speeler’s Sons – the factory “will be obliged to close” (1 [44]:22).

NOTES

"The yellow and Rockingham wares are now manufactured almost exclusively in the potteries of Mr. H. Speeler and of Messrs. Lawton & Corey" ("The Manufactories of Trenton. Article II. The Pottery Trade." Trenton State Gazette, Monday, August 27, 1866).

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Detailed description of the operations of this pottery in 1869 is provided in "Assunpink Pottery Work -- Henry Speeler & Sons" (Trenton State Gazette, Saturday, August 28, 1869).

Two boys killed in fire at Speeler's Pottery on November 27, 1870 -- James Haley and John Dunn Coward (Trenton State Gazette, November 28, 1870 and Trenton State Gazette, November 29, 1870).

In 1860 "He [Henry Speeler] purchased the foundry and machine shop established by Bottom and Tiffany along the west bank of the Delaware and Raritan Canal to the north of the Assunpink Creek and converted the plant to a pottery." In 1868 Speeler was joined by his two sons and the pottery was renamed Henry Speeler and Sons. Henry Speeler passed away in 1871. In 1872 the pottery was sold to the Speeler Pottery Company (Goldberg 1998:21-22).

1870 Industrial Census

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Pottery Name in Census

Assunpink Pottery Works Henry Speeler & Sons

Capital Invested

\$85,000.00

Materials (Including Mill Supplies and Fuel)

Kinds	Quantities	Value
Coal	1385 tons	\$8,350
Clay	1500 tons	\$7,500
Chemicals	50 tons	\$5,500
Flint	125 tons	\$2,450
Spar	100 tons	\$2,200
Total		\$2,600

Products

Kinds	Quantities	Value
White Granite CC Rock & Yellow Ware		\$68,560

Motive Power

Power Type	Horsepower
1 Steam	35

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1870 Industrial Census

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Machines

Name or description	Number
Whilers, jiggers, presses, etc.	25

Average Number of Hands Employed

Male Hands Above 16 55

Female Hands Above 15 8

Children 22

Yearly Wages \$35,660

Months in Operation 12