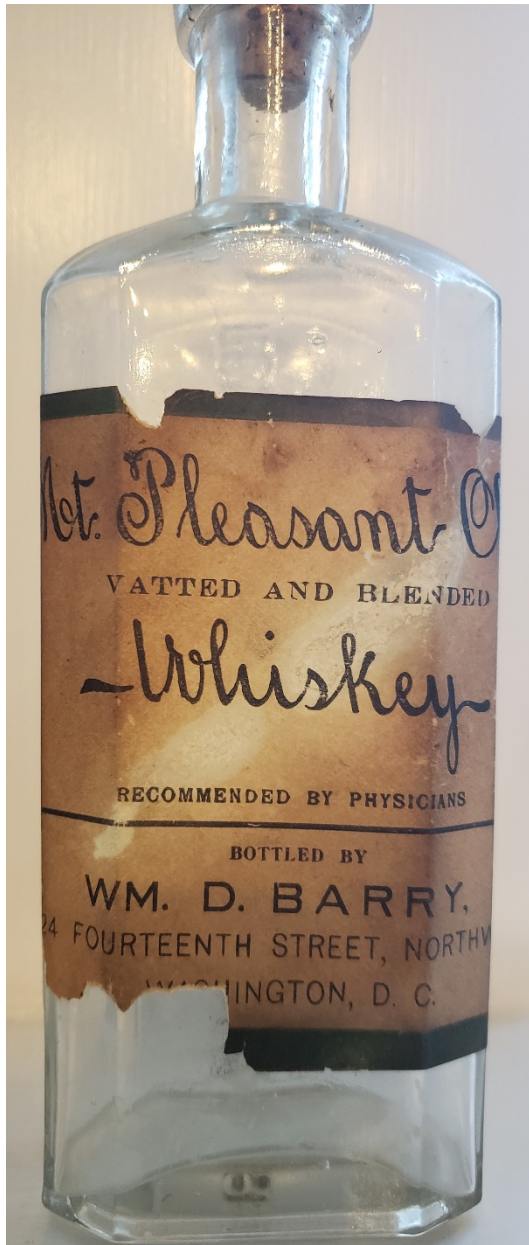


The History Behind the Mt. Pleasant Club Whiskey Shirt



It all started with the old bottle found in our house by the previous occupants. Discovered in the roof during a renovation, the bottle was likely left behind by the original builders in 1911, when the house was built. Apparently, it was a tradition for roofers to leave an empty whiskey bottle of whatever the crew drank upon completion of the job.



William D. Barry owned the “Reliable Family Liquor Store” at 2024 14th ST NW (where the D.C. Government Reeves Building at 14th and U Streets now sits) between 1909 and 1914. He bought the store from a P.F. Neligan who had the store and sold the whiskey previously. Here is the text from an ad in the May 14, 1905 Washington Post:

To Cure a Cold

This is the season when an epidemic of colds is prevalent. Once of the best remedies for the ordinary cold is a wine glass of our Mt. Pleasant Club Whiskey, diluted with some hot water, the juice of a lemon, and some quinine. Take when going to bed. Our line of imported wines and whiskeys is as good as any in the northwest. Our facilities for supplying the family trade are exceptional. Orders delivered immediately. Our special Mt. Pleasant Club Whiskey, \$1.00 the quart. P.F. Nelligan, 2024 14th. Phone, North 757.

Later, Mr. Barry moved his store, but still sold the Mt. Pleasant Club, here is an ad from the August 28, 1915 Washington Herald:

WM. D. BARRY
Highest Grades of
Family Wines and Liquors
BUDWEISER AND SCHLITZ BEERS
ON DRAUGHT
MT. PLEASANT CLUB
Vatted and Blended Whiskey
TELEPHONE NORTH 757 BUFFET IN REAR
2008 14th Street N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

In 1935, Mr. Barry filed an application to trademark five labels that he sold in his store “Barry’s Liquor Store” at 2016 14th St. Though registered, they were subsequently cancelled or invalidated and removed from the registry. He died on August 28, 1936 and is buried in the Mount Olivet Cemetery.

mtpleasantwhiskeyclub@gmail.com for more info and/or to order shirts