

G. KRUG AND SON

Artisans of blacksmithing have provided incentive and gained distinction throughout the long history of G. Krug and Son, the oldest continuously-working iron shop in the country. In this very building, in 1810, Andrew Schwatke began by shoeing horses and repairing iron parts to the wagons that these horses pulled to market. Ownership was transferred in 1841 to Andrew Merker, who, in 1848, took into the shop a young German immigrant from Schwaben (now known as the western region of Bavaria). This was Gustav A. Krug, who lived 1830-1908 and who is ancestor to all the subsequent Krug-family owners. His grandson Theodore F. Krug said of this firm, "There is hardly a building in Baltimore that doesn't contain something we make, even if it is only a nail." Otterbein Methodist Church, Zion Lutheran Church, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Washington Monument, Basilica of the Assumption and the Baltimore Zoo are some of the Baltimore City landmarks that have fencing and other ornamental wrought-iron work by G. Krug and Son. The firm has also done restoration work for Colonial Williamsburg and for the Vieux Carré of New Orleans.

submitted by Katharine R. Ellicott
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