



A HISTORY OF THE TRIANGLE BAR BUILDING
1822 RIVERSIDE AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

PREPARED FOR
GREATER TWIN CITIES BLUES MUSIC SOCIETY

PREPARED BY
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- 1872 On October 16, Riverside Avenue is opened for traffic. Running southeast from the intersection of Cedar Avenue and South Fourth Street, it is a rare diagonal in the city grid, which is primarily oriented to the cardinal points. Riverside cuts through a number of blocks before reaching its southeastern terminus at Franklin Avenue, creating some triangular blocks on either side of the new avenue.¹
- 1876 A horse-powered streetcar line that had ended at Washington and Nineteenth Avenues South is extended to Riverside Avenue and follows it for several blocks. Access to public transportation makes the corner at Cedar and Riverside more attractive for commercial development.²
- 1883 Block 179, in the Town of Minneapolis, which had been split by Riverside Avenue, is further altered when owners Louis and Julia Meldal and Reinert and Annie B. Sunde replat it as Meldal and Sunde's Subdivision of Block 179. Originally, composed of ten lots, the replatted block now has 38 lots. This same year, the Meldals deed a dozen lots in the new subdivision to the Sundes, including Lot 38, the future site of the Triangle Bar.³

Like many in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood, Louis Meldal and Reinert Sunde are Scandinavian immigrants. Sunde was born around 1842 in Norway and immigrated to the United States as a young man. He arrived in the port of New York on August 23, 1873, according to one source, and married Annie B. Johnson in Cook, Illinois, on February 17, 1874. Louis Meldal was born in Denmark about 1837; his wife, Julia, was born there three years later. By 1880, the couple was living in Minneapolis.⁴

In October, Reinert Sunde and others cofound the Scandia National Bank at Cedar Avenue and South Fourth Street, across the street from Lot 38. One writer later noted, "The beginning of Cedar Avenue as the main Norwegian thoroughfare of the city synchronizes with the establishment of the Scandia Bank in 1883 on the corner of Cedar and Fourth Street. Reinert Sunde, immigrant from Flekkefjord, was the president of the bank as long as it existed."⁵

- 1884 The Minneapolis Liquor Patrol Limits are established by the Minneapolis City Council. The limits restrict saloons to the city's core along the riverfront and parts of several residential neighborhoods, the area that could be monitored by horse patrols starting from city hall on an evening's rounds. One of the neighborhoods is northeast Minneapolis, which has a strong concentration of Germans; another is Cedar-Riverside, where many

¹ Scott Grakowski, Minneapolis Public Works Right of Way Office, telephone interview by author, April 9, 2008.

² Isaac Atwater, *History of Minneapolis, Minnesota* (New York: Munsell and Company, 1893), 338.

³ Hennepin County Deeds Book 140, page 220, recorded November 22, 1883. The Meldals sold Lots 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 38 to the Sundes.

⁴ "New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," Ancestry website; Family Search website (www.familysearch.org/eng/search/frameset_search.asp?PAGE=/eng/search/ancestorsearchresults.asp); 1880 Federal Census, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, page 25, Enumeration District 240. The searchable database of Ancestry Library Edition is available at the Hennepin County Public Library. It also provides a searchable database of the 1880 Federal Census.

⁵ Carl G. O. Hansen, *My Minneapolis: A Century of Life in the City* (Minneapolis: Standard Press, 1956), 145.

Scandinavian immigrants live. In the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood the main boundaries of the Liquor Patrol Limits are a rough triangle formed by the Mississippi River, the tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee and Saint Paul Railroad, Franklin Avenue, and Nineteenth Avenue South. Lot 38 of Meldal and Sunde's Subdivision is included within this boundary. The patrol limits would remain in place for the next ninety years.⁶

- 1885 The Sanborn insurance map shows five separate shops, each one story in height, on Block 38. Four of the shops front Riverside Avenue, while the fifth is at the intersection of Fourth Street and Riverside Avenue.⁷

The corner building is apparently built in December, when contractor P. Oleson Wiik obtains a permit to erect a one-story, wood-frame, "tailor shop" at 1822 Riverside Avenue.⁸ Subsequent information (see below) suggests that this building also served as a residence and saloon.

1885—

- 1886 Oscar Lyke operates a saloon at 2429 Nineteenth Avenue South and resides at 1822 Riverside Avenue. Unlike many of his neighbors, Lyke was born in the United States, in New York.⁹

- 1888 Lyke leases a one-story brick store building, plus basement, at 1822 Riverside Avenue South to Samuel Nelson. In the lease, the store is referred to as "Little Dandy," but that business does not appear in contemporary city directories. The lease says that the building is brick, while the 1885 permit indicates that it is wood-frame; perhaps it had a brick cladding over a wood structure. Nelson later assigns the lease to brothers Edward E. and Delbert F. Terrell.¹⁰

- 1889 In June, Lyke takes out a permit to re-lay the floor in the building at 1822 Riverside.¹¹

- 1890 The Terrell brothers get a permit for alterations to a saloon at 1822 Riverside.¹²

- 1893 Delbert Terrell and P. C. Hansen operate a saloon at 1822 Riverside. Delbert, along with his brother Edward, is also the proprietor of a bar at 246 Second Avenue South.¹³

⁶ *Proceedings of the City Council, Minneapolis, Minn., 1884-1885*, (Minneapolis: Minneapolis City Council, 1885), 59-60; "The City Circuit—Patrol Limits," *Minneapolis Tribune*, February 13, 1893; Jim Hathaway, "The Liquor Patrol Limits of Minneapolis," *Hennepin History*, Fall 1985, 3-7; Jay Edgerton, "Patrol Limits—A Lumberjack 'Hangover,'" *Minneapolis Star*, September 26, 1956. The *Tribune* article includes a map of the entire Liquor Patrol Limits.

⁷ *Sanborn Insurance Map, 1885-1889* (New York City: Sanborn Map Publishing Company, 1885), 13a.

⁸ Minneapolis Building Permit B5576, December 19, 1885.

⁹ *Davison's Minneapolis City Directory, 1885-1886* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1885), 483. Prior to this year, Lyke had been listed as an engineer who lived at 718 Nineteenth Avenue South. Information on Lyke's origin is from the 1880 federal census.

¹⁰ Hennepin County Miscellaneous Books 37, page 344; and 44, page 624, both recorded June 27, 1888.

¹¹ Minneapolis Building Permit B19310, June 22, 1889.

¹² Minneapolis Building Permit B22369, May 10, 1890.

¹³ *Davison's Minneapolis City Directory, 1893-1894* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1893), 920.

1897 In May, Reinert and Annie Sunde, the owners of Block 179, take out a \$9,000 mortgage on Lots 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 38 with S. S. Glarum. By October, Glarum grants them a partial release that removes Lot 38 from the mortgage. The Sundes then sell Lot 38 to the Gluek Brewing Company for \$2,500. Sunde's Scandia Bank fails in this year, which is probably why the Sundes are mortgaging and selling their assets.¹⁴

By this year, Jacob Peterson operates the saloon at 1822 Riverside.¹⁵

1898 Olaf C. Damm is now the proprietor of the saloon at 1822 Riverside and lives nearby at 1920 South Fourth Street. Damm was born in Norway in about 1859.¹⁶

1899 In October, the Gluek Brewing Company obtains a permit to construct a two-story brick saloon and flat, estimated to cost \$10,000, at 1822 Riverside Avenue. The dimensions on the permit appear to be forty-four feet by sixty-two feet by thirty-eight feet.¹⁷

The building replaces five smaller buildings that formerly stood on Block 38.¹⁸

Prominent Minneapolis architect Warren Barnes Dunnell is the building's designer. Shortly before the permit is taken out, the *Improvement Bulletin* publishes a description of the new building: "W. B. Dunnell, architect," has drawn plans and estimated costs "for the erection of a building on 4th st. and Riverside av., for the Gluek Brewing Company. It will be 42x62, two stories and basement, of red pressed brick and ornamental brick, and cut stone, galvanized iron cornice and skylights, plate glass, iron beams and column, cement sidewalks and cellar, plumbing and steam heating."¹⁹

¹⁴ Hennepin County Mortgages Books 451, page 206, recorded May 31, 1897; 398, page 558, recorded October 19, 1897; Hennepin County Deeds Book 357, page 589, recorded October 19, 1897; *Davison's Minneapolis City Directory, 1897* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1897), 1144; Lloyd Hustvedt, *Rasmus Bjorn Anderson: Pioneer Scholar* (Northfield, Minn.: Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1966), 230.

¹⁵ *Davison's Minneapolis City Directory, 1897*, 1404.

¹⁶ *Davison's Minneapolis City Directory, 1898* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1898); 343; Minnesota State Census for 1905.

¹⁷ Minneapolis Building Permit B44505, October 19, 1899. The permit has the word "triangular" written above the dimensions. The permit lists the address as 1825 South Fourth Street, but the index card for 1822 Riverside Avenue notes that this address is also known as 1825 South Fourth Street.

¹⁸ *Sanborn Insurance Map, 1912-1930* (New York City: Sanborn Map Publishing Company, 1912), 269.

¹⁹ "Construction and Contract News," *Improvement Bulletin*, October 7, 1899, 10. Warren Dunnell was born in Norway in 1851. His family immigrated to the United States in 1863 and settled in Minnesota, first in Winona and then in Owatonna. Dunnell attended the University of Minnesota in 1869, but later transferred to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He also studied at the *École des Beaux-Arts* in Paris. After working for the Supervising Architect of the Treasury in Washington, D.C., he returned to Minnesota where he initially worked with two architects in Saint Paul—briefly as a partner of Samuel J. Brown and then a draftsman for Abraham Radcliffe. In 1881, Dunnell opened his own practice in Minneapolis and went on to receive many prestigious commissions, including the Colonial Warehouse (Minneapolis, 1885); Oliver Presbyterian Church (Minneapolis, 1888); Fergus Falls State Hospital (Fergus Falls, 1888-1907); several buildings at the Minnesota Soldiers' Home (Minneapolis, 1888-1892); Pillsbury Academy (Owatonna, 1889-1891); and First Baptist Church (Battle Lake, 1893). Dunnell died in 1931 (Dunnell biographical file, Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis).

- 1900 Damm is apparently the first occupant of the apartment above the saloon at 1822 Riverside and is probably running the saloon that will later be known as the Triangle Bar, although this business does not yet appear in the city directory. He also operates a saloon at 842 Minnehaha.²⁰
- 1901 Damm still lives at 1822 Riverside. The city directory indicates that he runs the saloon at the same address and another at 1842 South Ninth Street.²¹
- 1903 Damm still operates the saloon at 1822 Riverside. He is also vice president of the International Falls Investment Company.²²
- 1910 Hans G. Stockstead, who resides at 1924 South Eighth Street, now operates the saloon at 1822 Riverside.²³
- 1912 According to the Sanborn insurance map, the property at 1822 Riverside is the Triangle Bar Building.
- 1915 Bjarne Vedler runs the saloon at 1822 Riverside and lives there as well.²⁴
- 1916 Charles G. Oman, who was born in Sweden in 1863, is now the manager of the saloon at 1822 Riverside Avenue. Oman will be associated with the building until his death in 1935.²⁵
- 1920 On January 17, the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which bans the manufacture, sale, or transportation of alcohol, goes into effect. During Prohibition saloons cannot sell alcohol, although the sale of “near beer” (containing less than 0.5 percent alcohol by volume) is allow.²⁶
- 1925 Oman sells soft drinks and probably “near beer” at 1822 Riverside.²⁷
- 1930 Oman is still selling soft drinks at 1822 Riverside.²⁸
- 1933 In March, the manufacture and sale of beer and wine is made legal. By year’s end the Eighteenth Amendment establishing Prohibition is repealed by the Twenty-first Amendment and on the national level, alcohol become legal again.

²⁰ *Davison’s Minneapolis City Directory, 1900* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1900), 380. The names of these saloons do not appear in the city directories.

²¹ *Davison’s Minneapolis City Directory, 1901* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1901), 375.

²² *Davison’s Minneapolis City Directory, 1903* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1903), 447.

²³ *Davison’s Minneapolis City Directory, 1910* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1910), 1640.

²⁴ *Davison’s Minneapolis City Directory, 1915* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1915), 1546, 2035.

²⁵ Minnesota State Death Certificate No. 19490, April 25, 1935. The death certificate lists Oman’s occupation as owner of a liquor business and states that he was in this business for fifty years.

²⁶ “Many Events on Program to Mark J. Barleycorn’s Demise,” *Minneapolis Tribune*, January 16, 1920. The article noted that nationwide enforcement of prohibition begins at 12:01 a.m. on January 17, 1920.

²⁷ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1925* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1925), 1685.

²⁸ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1930* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1930), 1987.

Gluek's is "the only brewery in Minneapolis to remain open during Prohibition . . . selling root beer and 'near beer,' meaning the company brewed beer and 'de-alcoholized' it for sale. Because of the ongoing production, Gluek's was ready to sell real beer the day Prohibition ended, while other breweries were delayed by months while they aged their brew. Staff anticipated a 'traffic snarl of major proportions' near the brewery at 2021 Marshall St. NE on the date of the repeal." In all likelihood, Gluek's bar at 1822 Riverside is among the first in the city to begin selling strong beer.²⁹

- 1934 Historian Jim Hathaway notes, "When the sale of liquor became legal again in January 1934, Minneapolis reinstated the [liquor] patrol limits but for two months the city granted licenses as if the limits did not exist." This contradiction arose because of the confusion caused by two liquor bills, one from Minneapolis and the other from Saint Paul, that were introduced in the state legislature and in effect created two patrol limits. Minneapolis granted thirty-seven licenses outside the limits and these withstood court challenges until 1959, when the patrol limits were expanded in the downtown area.³⁰
- 1940 According to the city directory, Frank H. Ojile sells "beverages" in the building at 1822 Riverside.³¹
- 1945 On September 24, Frank Ojile dies at age forty-nine, but his widow, Charlotte, continues to operate the Triangle Bar.³²
- 1946 The building at 1822 Riverside is now officially known as the Triangle Bar in the city directory.³³
- 1955 James "Red" Nelson, who will later become a fixture on the West Bank, starts as a freshman at the University of Minnesota. In a later interview, he recalled what the area was like prior to the University's expansion to the West Bank. The neighborhood was populated by "hard-bitten workers and a bunch of leftover Scandinavians," Nelson reminisced. There were many retired, working-class men, such as railroad and barge workers there, living on small pensions and Social Security. The neighborhood was almost entirely white and largely male. Some residents were serious drinkers, while others used bars more as places to socialize and to get their evening meal.³⁴

²⁹ Michelle Bruch, "A Brew Review: The Gluek Brewing Co. Celebrates 150 years in Business," *Downtown Journal*, April 14, 2008.

³⁰ Jim Hathaway, "The Liquor Patrol Limits of Minneapolis," *Hennepin History*, Fall 1985, 9–10. The Minneapolis Liquor Patrol Limits were inserted into the city charter by the state legislature in 1887, and thus any changes had to be made by the legislature. In 1935, the legislature passed a law that transferred control of the limits to Minneapolis voters (Hathaway, 9).

³¹ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1940* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1940), 1782.

³² Minnesota State Death Certificate No. 21976. Unlike the earlier bartenders, the Ojiles did not live above the bar but at 2934 Thirty-fifth Avenue South.

³³ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1946* (Minneapolis: Minneapolis Directory Company, 1946), 1582.

³⁴ Interview with James "Red" Nelson, July 18, 2008, conducted at his home office and a Perkins Restaurant.

Nelson continued, citing some examples. The hard drinkers would start early in the day when a bartender would throw some stale beer out onto the sidewalk in the morning and the smell would attract them “like vultures.” This was the signal that the bar was open for business. Bars would often broadcast baseball games over speakers and some men would listen, all the while diagramming the game on paper. West Bank bars often served simple but hearty evening meals (“mashed potatoes, never French fries because they are harder to digest”). Whether it was the hard-drinking crowd or working men who stopped by for a drink and dinner at the end of the day, all the patrons tended to leave the bars fairly early, usually about 7 or 8 p.m.³⁵

1959 The Gluek Brewing Company sells several parcels of property to Eugene J. Gluek, Frank L. McDonald, and Dorothy Gluek, including the building at 1822 Riverside Avenue, under the terms of the “Marshall Street Liquidating Trust.”³⁶

1960 Charlotte Ojile still operates the Triangle Bar.³⁷

1961 The University of Minnesota begins to expand across the river. This fact receives notice in the *New York Times*: “The University of Minnesota has divided itself, amoeba-like, by leaping the Mississippi River in search of expansion space.” The article notes that excavations for three new buildings on the West Bank are under way and construction of a double-deck bridge to link the two campuses would start later that year. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new buildings are held January 4. In time, the Triangle Bar will reflect its changing neighborhood.³⁸

1962 The *Minnesota Daily* runs a photo-essay on the West Bank showing the general classroom and administration buildings under construction there.³⁹

The 10 O’Clock Scholar coffeehouse, at 418 Fourteenth Avenue Southeast, advertises the “tallest, coolest lemonade in town,” noting it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. While the coffeehouse could be open very late, it could not offer alcoholic drinks as it was in Dinkytown, outside the Liquor Patrol Limits.⁴⁰

At some point during the early 1960s, Red Nelson, along with Ann Mossman and Steve Oleson, buys the Scholar coffeehouse. Nelson later recalled that he began putting on parties that grew out of the Scholar, where he would bring together all sorts of interesting people—poets, musicians, artists, bikers, and professors. These parties would later be held on the West Bank in places such as the Red Brick Palace (221 Cedar Avenue). Nelson says he “created a bubble on the West Bank” that allowed an eclectic mixture of

³⁵ Nelson interview. Nelson stated that the practice of draining off the flat beer in the tap and dumping it on the sidewalk was not unique to Minneapolis. He thought it probably originated somewhere else in the 1890s.

³⁶ Hennepin County Deeds Book 2240, page 471, September 15, 1959. Eugene J. Gluek was the nephew of Charles Gluek, who served as president of Gluek Brewing during the 1930s (Michelle Bruch, “A Brew Review”).

³⁷ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1960* (Saint Paul: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1960), 1107.

³⁸ “Minnesota Campus Is Divided by River,” *New York Times*, January 18, 1961; “Wilson to Break Ground at West Campus Today,” *Minnesota Daily*, January 4, 1961.

³⁹ Michael Lynn Gardner, “West Bank Rises,” *Minnesota Daily*, March 30, 1962.

⁴⁰ “Tallest Coolest” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 18, 1962.

people to socialize and encouraged creativity of all sorts. These parties were also often “rent parties,” at which participants were charged an admission fee. Nelson said he did this because he did not make enough money at the Scholar to cover his expenses.⁴¹

Nelson recalled that sometime in the early 1960s, students, or people who associated with them, began patronizing the West Bank bars. This new group often arrived in the early evening just as the older customers were getting ready to leave. The bar managers started doing things to get the new patrons to stay later into the night, such as offering music or drink specials. Meanwhile, students, who often worked summer jobs (for example, in construction), might bring along their summer co-workers for an evening of drinking on the West Bank. The change from older working-class patrons was gradual. “As the older generation died out, there was a vacuum and nature abhors a vacuum, as the old saying goes. This vacuum drew students from across the river. Of course, the cheap housing, strong beer, and lack of supervision from the University helped too.”⁴²

Nelson says there was little conflict between the established customers and the new crowd. Both groups liked the West Bank bars because the drinks were cheap. Additionally, the students liked the area because it was accessible to the University (where alcohol was harder to obtain) but offered drinking opportunities because it was inside the Liquor Patrol Limits.⁴³

1963 Tony “Little Sun” Glover later recalled, “Maury was probably one of the first guys to play on the West Bank in bars. Before that there were jukeboxes. Maury would bring his accordion in and play in the corner of the Triangle.”⁴⁴

In July, musician Maury Bernstein, who has been performing in a variety of venues around the University of Minnesota, moves across the river. An advertisement in the student newspaper of the University of Minnesota notes that “Maury Bernstein has moved to The West Bank. Hear Maury and his old world folksongs, Monday thru Thursday evenings, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Joe McDonald’s Triangle Bar, 1822 Riverside Avenue.” Joe McDonald is probably related to one of the owners of the bar, Frank McDonald, and is taking an active role in its management.⁴⁵

In August, Maury Bernstein is still performing at the Triangle, playing folk songs from around the world (“German drinking songs, Russian gypsy songs, Italian, Irish, Scottish, Israeli, Greek, Romanian, Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish Folk Songs”). The advertisement urges people to “see and admire his [Bernstein’s] new wrought-iron cubicle, built to protect him from over-enthusiastic customers!” It also notes, “Be sure that you are 21. (You may be 37 or 43, and still ‘21 at heart’ but if you’re really 19 or

⁴¹ Cindy Collins, *West Bank Boogie* (Minneapolis: Triangle Park Creative, 2006), 16, 18, 61; Nelson interview.

⁴² Nelson interview.

⁴³ Nelson interview.

⁴⁴ Collins, *West Bank Boogie*, 61.

⁴⁵ “Maury Bernstein” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, July 30, 1963. Bernstein did not leave the east side of the river permanently. In 1964, an advertisement proclaimed “Maury Bernstein Is Back!” noting he would perform at the Scholar coffeehouse at 418 Fourteenth Avenue Southeast (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 8, 1965.

20—boy, are we in trouble!)” Amusing advertisements for the Triangle Bar, like this one, would become the norm during the early years of live music there and suggest the proprietors were trying to appeal to a fairly literate crowd.⁴⁶

In September, Spider John Koerner appears at the Triangle Bar to perform “authentic blues & folk songs” according to an advertisement in the *Minnesota Daily*. That same month, the album *Blues, Rags and Hollers*, which features Koerner, Dave “Snaker” Ray, and Tony Glover, receives favorable comment in the *New York Times*.⁴⁷

Tony Glover later remembered, “Koerner was the first guy to have the [Triangle] bar officially hire him. They hooked him up to the jukebox; somehow they had a mike hooked up to the jukebox. I played with him a few times there. And Dave [Ray] and me played there. It was crowded and you were sitting on the floor in these chairs and people would bang into you, hit the mikes and stuff. So they put a board over the pool table. There would be two chairs and Dave and I would get up there and play. Which pissed off the pool players. They’d lost their table.” Glover also recalled that “eventually they got a stage up there at the triangle [end of the room] that was about four or five feet off the floor.”⁴⁸

In addition to the Scholar in Dinkytown, there are other venues for live music in the University area, such as Valli Pizza (412 Fourteenth Avenue Southeast) or the Here Cafe (812 Washington Avenue Southeast), both of which featured live folk music during October. However, none of these establishments could serve liquor.⁴⁹

The idea of live music in a bar setting proves popular on the West Bank. In November, Maury Bernstein also performs at Jim’s, a bar located at 1500 South Sixth Street, a few blocks from the Triangle. Meanwhile, the Triangle Bar continues its series of humorous advertisements. One features a Saint Bernard rescue dog and urges customers that “if you are frozen and cut off at the pass, don’t wait for our part-time bartender, he’s pretty busy. Stop in and see us, we’re not far away.”⁵⁰

⁴⁶ “Enter on Cedar, Riverside, or 4TH St. So.” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, August 13, 1963; and “Until School Starts Again” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, August 22, 1963.

⁴⁷ “‘Spider’ John Koerner” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 30, 1963; Robert Shelton, “Folk Singers Ask: ‘Whose Blues?’” *New York Times*, September 8, 1963.

⁴⁸ Collins, *West Bank Boogie*, 61. Glover is probably referring to the mezzanine that was added in 1971. Various, perhaps facetious, explanations for the colorful nicknames that were attached to “Spider” John Koerner, Dave “Snaker” Ray, and Tony “Little Sun” Glover were put forth in an issue of the University of Minnesota’s literary magazine. In this account Koerner got his nickname because of the way he walked or because spiders crawled all over him; Ray was called “Snaker” because of the way he danced; Glover was called “Little Sun” because traditionally harmonica players are called “Sunny” (Sarah Shaw, “A Conversation with Koerner, Glover, and Ray,” *Ivory Tower*, June 1, 1964).

⁴⁹ “Earls Valli Pizza” (advertisement) and “The Here Cafe” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 11, 1963.

⁵⁰ “Maury Bernstein” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 14, 1963; and “If You Are Frozen” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 14, 1963.

In December, the *New Times* notes that John Koerner is appearing at the Bitter End on Bleecker Street in Greenwich Village.⁵¹

- 1964 In January, the Triangle Bar expands its happy hour, formerly from 2 to 4 p.m., to 2 to 8 p.m., calling it “the Granddaddy of all happy hours.” Perhaps this expanded happy hour is intended to accommodate the retirees that Red Nelson recalled, as well as the students and younger people who come to the bar for the music.⁵²

In March, the Riverside-Cedar Area Council, a civic group, meets with University officials to confer on “the bar problem in the Riverside-Cedar area near the University.” Noting that “there are over 45 bars and taverns in the area,” the council hopes to reduce crime in the area by closing some of the bars. The University has an interest in this situation because it plans to house 2,000 students in dormitories that will be built on the West Bank. E. G. Williamson, dean of students, issues the following statement: “Because of the nature of higher education and because it (the University) is also a responsible state institution, the University wishes to reside in a neighborhood characterized by decent behavior, and it also wishes students to exhibit the kind of character appropriate in an institution of higher learning.”⁵³

As part of the University’s expansion to the West Bank campus, the Studio Art Department moves to an old building on the other side of Washington Avenue South.⁵⁴

- 1965 In April, Maury Bernstein performs at the Triangle Bar. One reviewer notes, “Maury Bernstein, one of the most knowledgeable and interesting folksingers in these parts, returns to the Triangle Bar. . . . Anyone who remembers Maury Bernstein’s last appearance at the Triangle Bar will need no prodding to catch his return engagement. In the summer of 1963, Bernstein turned the Triangle into the most unusual ‘pub’ in the Twin Cities, with European music of the sort one hears rarely. Presenting music from his own Eastern European and Jewish heritage, he created a wonderful brand of ‘gemuetlichkeit’ and drew a diverse crowd.”⁵⁵

In May, an advertisement for the Triangle Bar and Bernstein takes a humorous tone that gently mocks Bernstein’s appearance and personal habits. The “S. F. P. A. E. O. F. A. P. W. C. presents Maury Bernstein.” The initials stand for the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Fat Accordion Players with Cigars. The advertisement invites people to listen to Bernstein “in the gaudy, ear-shattering comfort of the Triangle Bar.”⁵⁶

⁵¹ “Cabaret Tonight,” *New York Times*, December 11, 1963. The Bitter End website calls the club the oldest rock club in New York City; it was established in 1961 (www.bitterend.com).

⁵² “Happy Hour” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 10, 1964; and “Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 17, 1964.

⁵³ “Police Action in Bar Probe Not Expected,” *Minnesota Daily*, March 10, 1964; “University Endorses 7 Corners Clean-up,” *Minnesota Daily*, March 12, 1964.

⁵⁴ Donna Hasleiet, “Art Department Finds Home for New West Bank Studios,” *Minnesota Daily*, November 25, 1964.

⁵⁵ Todd S. J. Lawson, “Maury Bernstein, ‘Lazy Bill’ Lucas Provide Unusual Entertainment,” *Minnesota Daily*, April 23, 1965.

⁵⁶ “S. F. P. A. E. O. F. A. P. W. C.* Presents” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 14, 21, 1965.

In June, construction begins on the new West Bank library (the present-day Wilson Library).⁵⁷

In October, advertisements for the Triangle Bar proclaim “Snaker’s Back. We are happy to announce the return of Dave ‘Snaker’ Ray, tonight—9 p.m. to 1 p.m., for a series of once-a-week appearances each Wednesday night.” The same ad invites patrons to watch the World Series on the bar’s color television. Another advertisement notes that Maury Bernstein has been performing at the Triangle for the past seven months and adds that “fools rush in . . . and get the best seats.”⁵⁸

On October 7, the new Washington Avenue Bridge opens up to two-way traffic. The bridge was built in response to the University’s expansion on the West Bank.⁵⁹

During October, one advertisement announces that Maury Bernstein will be appearing at the Triangle Bar on Fridays and Saturdays in addition to Thursdays. Another notice reports that Bernstein has been appearing at the Triangle for six months. Like most other Triangle Bar ads, this one includes a bit of humor: “A penny saved . . . is a drop in the bucket—Modern Proverb. On the other hand, it’s remarkably inexpensive to spend an evening with us.”⁶⁰

Meanwhile, the *Minnesota Daily* reveals the University’s plans for how the West Bank campus should look by 1970, including a dormitory that will house 2,500 students, new classroom buildings, and an amphitheater. University enrollment is expected to top 38,600 by 1970.⁶¹

1966 The new library on the West Bank is still under construction and is scheduled to be completed in 1968.⁶²

More West Bank bars take up the idea of offering live music by local musicians. Lazy Bill Lucas and the Blue Rhythm appear at Nick’s Bar at 1501 South Sixth Street.⁶³

Advertisements for live music at the Triangle Bar appear regularly in January. Maury Bernstein has been appearing there for ten months. Dave Ray and Tony Glover are also mentioned as performing at the Triangle. At the end of the month, however, one ad notes that Spider John Koerner will be there for the last time on Monday and Thursday (January 31 and February 3). Similar to other Triangle ads, this one has a witty subtext with made-up quotes from McGeorge Bundy commenting on Bernstein (“Never heard of

⁵⁷ “Financial Difficulties Solved; Work Starts on New Library,” *Minnesota Daily*, September 27, 1965.

⁵⁸ “Snaker’s Back” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 6, 1965; “Fools Rush In,” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 29, 1965.

⁵⁹ “Bridge to Open Officially Today; City Buses to Serve Both Banks,” *Minnesota Daily*, October 7, 1965.

⁶⁰ “Isn’t That Silly?” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 7, 1965; “A Penny Saved” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 8, 1965.

⁶¹ Katie Schmid, “Area to Be Compact, Departmentalized,” *Minnesota Daily*, October 22, 1965.

⁶² Mike Schmitz, “Architect Still Optimistic About Growth,” *Minnesota Daily*, January 19, 1966.

⁶³ “Dance” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 13, 1966.

the fellow”), Koerner (“Never heard of him either”), Ray, and Glover (“Tony I know very well. And Dave I don’t know as well”). There is also a quote from one Irving Tullius Cicero: “Bars are something which if you go into too many of, you’re apt to come out singing a few of—and maybe land behind some.” McGeorge Bundy was a national security advisor in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. Irving Tullius Cicero is apparently fictional, but Tullius Cicero was a Roman statesman and lawyer.⁶⁴

In February, an advertisement for the Triangle Bar announces that Maury Bernstein is leaving. Although his original gig was supposed to last only one month, his stay lasted more than ten months. Tony Glover and Dave Ray, “Elektra Recording Stars,” will be performing at the bar Wednesday night (February 16). In an amusing attempt to drum up business during the bleak winter months, one advertisement also notes that February is frozen potato month and is celebrated at the Triangle.⁶⁵

By March, the Scholar coffeehouse in Dinkytown closes and moves to 247 Cedar Avenue on the West Bank (the site of the present-day parking lot for Theater in the Round). This same month an advertisement for the Triangle urges patrons to “bring your computerized dates . . . one of them anyhow . . . to the Triangle ([where] ‘automation reigns supreme’) for an evening of fine entertainment.” The advertisement is a droll comment on the evolving use of technology. About a year earlier, two Harvard undergraduates had put together “Operation Match,” an early computerized dating service that soon spread to other colleges and universities.⁶⁶

In April, another comic advertisement featuring a character called “Harvey Snermfeltz,” a gibberish-spouting mathematician, announces that he favors “the Triangle (as opposed to the square, in direct conflict with the parallelogram, contradicting trapezoids, showing animosity toward all octagonal or quasi-sided figures and denying the existence of solid geometry.)” This is a sly reference that associates the Triangle Bar with cool or hip, as opposed to squares, which are not. Lazy Bill Lucas, Tony Glover, and Dave Ray are the musicians featured in this advertisement.⁶⁷

Lucas, Glover, and Ray continue to perform at the Triangle Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays in May.⁶⁸

John Kolstad reminisced, “In 1966, I got a gig at the Triangle Bar, put an electric pick-up on my 12-string guitar I’d paid \$29 for—worth every penny. I worked there a lot in the

⁶⁴ “Bars” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 28, 1966.

⁶⁵ “Maury Is Leaving” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 11, 1966. Bernstein performed at other venues, including Valli Pizza in Dinkytown in April (advertisements), *Minnesota Daily*, April 1, 7, 15, 22, 1966; “February Is” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 25, 1966.

⁶⁶ Lewis Hyde, “The Finest in Folk Music for Minneapolis,” *Minnesota Daily*, January 24, 1969; “Dinkytown Remains Art Outlet With Scholar or McCosh,” *Minnesota Daily*, March 9, 1966; “Bring Your Computerized Dates” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, March 4, 1966; T. Jay Mathews, “Operation Match,” *Harvard Crimson*, November 3, 1965; and Peter Bart, “Matchmakers Use Computers; Method Popular in California,” *New York Times*, August 7, 1966.

⁶⁷ “Harvey Snermfeltz” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 7, 1966.

⁶⁸ “Isn’t Exactly What I had In Mind” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 13, 1966.

next three years. There were a lot of great performers there: Leo Kottke, Lazy Bill Lucas, Dave Ray, Tommy Ray, Willie Murphy, Spider John Koerner, and his brother Peter, [and] Dean Carr.”⁶⁹

Musician Bill Hinkley later reminisced about the Triangle Bar: “There were people there such as Spider John Koerner, Papa John Kolstad, Dave Ray, Willie Murphy, even John Koerner’s brother Pete. They’d each do one-hour, \$10 sets.” Willie (originally Bill) Murphy and the Bumblebees “soon became a staple at the Triangle. Many veteran West Bank music fans fondly recall the Bees doing choreographed high kicks and swinging their horns, all while walking along the top of the bar.”⁷⁰

1967 In April, Eugene L. Gluek, Frank L. McDonald, and Dorothy Gluek sell the Triangle Bar to Audrey Staber.⁷¹

Beginning in April and continuing through May, Dave Ray appears nightly at the Triangle Bar. An advertisement notes, “The electrifying snake has returned. . . . Dave ‘Snaker’ Ray will be musically cavorting and gambolling nightly.”⁷²

On June 16, John Koerner, “direct from England,” makes a one-night, special guest appearance at the Triangle from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Later in the month, however, Koerner plays two more gigs at the Triangle.⁷³

Bill Lucas appears at the Triangle Bar on June 17.

On June 24 and July 1, Dave Ray is back at the Triangle. On June 26 and July 3, Mannar Walker holds jam sessions at the bar.⁷⁴

In July and August, Dave Ray makes regular appearances at the Triangle. Ray’s new album, *Fine Soft Land*, receives a glowing review from Maury Bernstein.⁷⁵

In September, folk/blues artist Steven Unger from Chicago’s Old Town appears at the Triangle Bar.⁷⁶

On October 27 and 28, Spider John Koerner plays at the Triangle Bar.⁷⁷

⁶⁹ Collins, *West Bank Boogie*, 83.

⁷⁰ Collins, *West Bank Boogie*, 10.

⁷¹ Hennepin County Deeds Book 2583, page 197, April 7, 1967.

⁷² “The Electrifying Snake” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 14, 21, 1967; May 5, 19, 26, 1967.

⁷³ “Summer Homecoming!” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 16, 1967; “Tonight” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 23, 30, 1967.

⁷⁴ “Tonight” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 23 and June 30, 1967.

⁷⁵ “Dave Snaker Ray Hollers” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, July 21, 28, 1967; August 4, 11, 1967; Maury Bernstein, “‘Snaker’ Ray’s New Blues Record Exhibits Right Spirit, Much Vocal Skill,” *Minnesota Daily*, August 11, 1967.

⁷⁶ “Friday and Saturday” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 29, 1967.

⁷⁷ “Miss His Homecoming?” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 27, 1967.

On November 3 and 4, Koerner again appears at the Triangle.⁷⁸

On November 10, 11, 17, and 18, Spider John Koerner and Bill (Willie) Murphy play at the Triangle.⁷⁹

1968 In January, Spider John Koerner, Willy [*sic*] Murphy, and Lazy Bill Lucas appear nightly at the Triangle Bar.⁸⁰

All during this year, the West Bank has a number of live music venues, including Dania Hall at 427 Cedar Avenue, the Annex at 1420 Washington Avenue South, and Bimbos at 243 Cedar.⁸¹

In January, Spider John and Pete Koerner appear nightly at the Triangle.⁸²

In February, Steve Trosberg, “from the West Coast,” plays regularly at the Triangle.⁸³

In March, both Dave Ray and Steve Trosberg appear at the Triangle.⁸⁴

The Triangle advertises entertainment nightly during spring break at the University, but no specific artists are named.⁸⁵

At the end of March, an advertisement announces that Spider John Koerner and Dave Ray will appear nightly at the Triangle Bar. This gig lasts well into April.⁸⁶

All through May, Dave Ray is still playing regularly at the Triangle Bar.⁸⁷

Again, the Triangle offers unspecified nightly entertainment during the quarter break.⁸⁸

In September, the Triangle offers music every evening. Spider John Koerner, Pete Koerner, Tom Ray, and John Kolstad play there regularly.⁸⁹

⁷⁸ “Friday and Saturday” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 2, 1967

⁷⁹ “Friday and Saturday” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 10, 17, 1967.

⁸⁰ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 12, 1968.

⁸¹ “Freak Out” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 19, 1968; “Groove” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 2, 1968; “The Mob” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 9, 1968. Dania Hall was denied a license renewal in the summer because narcotics were allegedly sold there during dances (“Dania Hall Loses Dance License; Frame-up Charged,” *Minnesota Daily*, July 2, 1968; “Sympathetic City Cop Moves Dania Street Dance Protest,” *Minnesota Daily*, July 5, 1968).

⁸² “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 26, 1968.

⁸³ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 2, 9, 23, 1968.

⁸⁴ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, March 1, 1968.

⁸⁵ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, March 7, 1968.

⁸⁶ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, March 29, 1968; April 11, 19, 26, 1968.

⁸⁷ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 1968.

⁸⁸ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 29, 1968.

⁸⁹ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 27, 1967.

In October, the Koerner brothers, Ray, and Kolstad are still appearing regularly at the Triangle.⁹⁰

By November and into December, Pete Koerner, John Kolstad, and Tom Ray are appearing nightly at the Triangle.⁹¹

1969 In January, Pete Koerner, Willie Murphy, and Tom Ray are featured nightly at the Triangle Bar.⁹²

In March, Spider John Koerner, Willie Murphy, Tom Ray, and John Kolstad perform nightly at the Triangle Bar.⁹³

In April, Dania Hall is again an entertainment venue. Both the C. A. Quintet and Blackwood Apology perform there.⁹⁴

In May, John Kolstad, Steve Unger, Tom Ray, and Lazy Bill Lucas are listed as musicians who regularly appear at the Triangle. At this time, Kolstad is also playing with a group called the Sorry Muthas.⁹⁵

On May 29, an advertisement announces that John Kolstad, Dave Ray, Tom Ray, and Willie Murphy are appearing at the Triangle Bar.⁹⁶

In October, advertisements for the Triangle Bar in October urge people to “enjoy the moods of John Kolstad, Willie Murphy, [and] Tom Ray along with other pleasures.” These musicians appeared nightly at the bar. At the end of the month, musicians Spider John and Pete Koerner and Roy Alstad are added to the list of those performing at the Triangle Bar.⁹⁷

Audrey Staber sells the Triangle Bar to John Guy McDonald.⁹⁸

In mid-November, the Triangle Bar announces that as of November 17, nightly music will cease and that live music will be heard on Friday and Saturday nights only. The advertisement is run throughout the month, suggesting that many people regularly attended these nightly shows and that the bar wants to get the word out so as not to alienate its customer base.⁹⁹

⁹⁰ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 4, 11, 25, 1968.

⁹¹ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 1, 15, 1968; December 4, 1968.

⁹² “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 10, 17, 1969.

⁹³ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, March 6, 1969.

⁹⁴ “Dania Hall” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 1, 1969.

⁹⁵ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 21, 1969; “Muthas to Wail for the Mothers,” *Minnesota Daily*, May 9, 1969.

⁹⁶ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 29, 1969.

⁹⁷ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 10, 24, 31, 1969.

⁹⁸ Hennepin County Document No. 3855411, recorded November 12, 1970. The Warranty Deed itself is dated May 20, 1969.

⁹⁹ “Announcement” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 14, 17, 21, 24, 1969.

1970 The Scholar coffeehouse closes in February. Owner M. Justin says he never thought he would make money, but did hope to break even. In the five years he owned it, he lost \$30,000. He notes that people are more likely to buy records that can be played many times than spending money on a live performance. Justin, along with friend Dennis Burch, opened Oblivion Record Store at 247 Cedar Avenue in hopes of generating enough revenue to keep the Scholar afloat, but that was not enough. The Scholar had been in existence since 1956. Bob Dylan appeared there in 1960, and Simon and Garfunkel played there in 1962.¹⁰⁰

In February, nightly entertainment resumes at the Triangle Bar and continues into March. In midmonth, Spider John Koerner is listed as the featured artist, but there are unnamed others as well.¹⁰¹

In September, an advertisement offers folk blues nightly at the Triangle Bar. The advertisement notes, “Swingers Welcome—proper I.D.’s Required.” Tuesdays are called “Rip Night 9-11” when for the price of \$1.50 for “Females” and \$3.00 for “Males or Womens Lib.,” patrons could have all the beer or “Bar Booze Highballs” they wanted. No specific musicians are named. The similar advertisements runs in October, although by then the price of all you could drink had risen to \$3.75 for men and \$2.00 for women. By accident or design, the advertisement for the Triangle Bar commented on current events when it equated men and “women’s libbers.” This statement might offend some potential patrons, but entertain others.¹⁰²

1971 In February, an advertisement for the Triangle Bar offers “Rip Night” from 9 to 11 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when patrons can get two drinks for the price of one. Entertainment is offered nightly, but no specific artists are named.¹⁰³

An advertisement in April notes, “There will be no slide show at the Triangle Bar next week because the owner refuses to honor his agreement with the artist—Jay Hines.” A few days later, the Triangle is again advertising “Rip Nights” and nightly entertainment.¹⁰⁴

As the fall quarter of the University of Minnesota begins, the Triangle Bar advertises Monday as wine and beer night; Tuesdays and Thursdays as “Rip Nights,” with “rock and blues nightly.” The same advertisement runs until early November. In December, the

¹⁰⁰ Judy Royce, “The Scholar Shuts Down,” *Minnesota Daily*, February 3, 1970.

¹⁰¹ “Entertainment Nightly” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 18, 1970; March 6, 10, 11, 12, 1970.

¹⁰² “The Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 28, 1970; October 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 21, 26, 1970. The Triangle also held pool tournaments on Friday and Saturday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

¹⁰³ “If You’re 21” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, February 3, 1971.

¹⁰⁴ “Notice” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 5, 1971; “Triangle Bar (if you’re 21)” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 8, 13, 15, 1971.

Triangle Bar is mentioned in a full-page ad that touts the many attractions of the West Bank.¹⁰⁵

The venues for live music continue to expand. In October, the Joint, located at 913 Cedar Avenue South, advertises itself as the “West Bank’s newest bar” and features Willie Murphy and the Bumblebees on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings.¹⁰⁶

In November, a permit is taken out to build a “mezzanine addition” in the Triangle Bar. It measures twenty-nine feet across and forty-four feet deep.¹⁰⁷

In an interview, Dave Ray acknowledges that he is playing “every night” at the Triangle Bar, but does not mention when this gig began.¹⁰⁸

On December 12, the Cedar Theatre (416 Cedar Avenue, the present-day Cedar Cultural Center) offers a concert that features “music of the Triangle Bar” with appearances by musicians Dave Ray, Willie Murphy, Roy Alstad, Dean Carr, and Ken Schaffer. The event suggests that the Triangle Bar now has a musical identity that has evolved into a recognizable sound and style.¹⁰⁹

1972 Beginning in January, the Triangle regularly advertises “rock and booze every night,” with “Rip Nights” featured on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The advertisement appears through February.¹¹⁰

In April, a West Bank resident and student at the University of Minnesota writes, “The Triangle Bar is a West Bank institution. It reflects and anticipates the needs and demands of members of that community, its patrons. It may also influence those needs and demands.” The writer urges a boycott of the bar after the owner renovated the place and “traded in his motley collection of posters for a gallery of tasteless nudes . . . many of the pictures appear to be lifted from *Playboy* [magazine].” The writer speculates that the offending photographs are a backlash of “that narrow masculine ideology that largely defines and delimits the life-styles of American women and men.” Once again, the Triangle Bar had entered into the discussion on current events and changing sexual mores.¹¹¹

¹⁰⁵ “Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 27, 29, 30; 1971; October 1, 4, 8, 9, 15, 18, 22, 25, 27, 29, 1971; November 3, 5, 1971; “West Bank” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, December 3, 6, 1971. The December ad states that the Triangle Bar offers liquor and music.

¹⁰⁶ “The Joint” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, October 1 and 8, 1971, and “The Joint” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 5, 1971.

¹⁰⁷ Minneapolis Building Permit B432565, November 5, 1971. The cost of the mezzanine was \$8,000.

¹⁰⁸ Jim Gillespie, “Dave ‘Snaker’ Ray,” *Minnesota Daily*, December 10, 1971.

¹⁰⁹ “Naive Q: What Do You Do for a Study Break on Saturday Nite?” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, December 10, 1971.

¹¹⁰ “Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 1972; February 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 1972.

¹¹¹ Scott C. Jackson (letter to editor), *Minnesota Daily*, April 5, 1972.

In July, the *Minnesota Daily* reports that the legal sale of 3.2 beer will return to Dinkytown after a thirty-year absence. Business owners there had wrongly assumed that beer could not be served, but a rereading of the law indicates that 3.2 beer licenses could be granted. Valli Pizza is the first the restaurant to obtain a beer license from the city. The sale of wine and stronger alcohol is still prohibited in Dinkytown.¹¹²

In September, after a long hiatus, the Triangle Bar starts advertising in the *Minnesota Daily* again, offering “great entertainment every night” and “Rip Nights” Monday through Thursday. The ad appears regularly until the end of the University’s fall quarter in December.¹¹³

1973 In January, the Triangle Bar runs a different advertisement. Liquor is not mentioned, but rather food and nightly entertainment are featured in this ad, which runs periodically through February.¹¹⁴

In March, a reporter describes the Triangle Bar as having a manager who is “a freak in his twenties.” Although the bar is having a slow night, owing to the fact that Willie Murphy and the Bumblebees canceled because of illness, the reporter recalls, “I’d been to the Triangle before when the place was packed. The Triangle draws West Bank freaks—spooky people with dark glasses, cowboy hats, patched jeans [,] leather jackets. It’s so crowded that at times you can only stand there and watch a musician rub his belly, groping for the microphone: ‘Testicles, 1, 2, 3.’” The reporter concludes, “The bands at the Triangle seem devoted to making as much noise as they can—it spills out the door and keeps the whole West Bank awake till 1 a.m.”¹¹⁵

In May, the Triangle Bar begins advertising that as of June 1, eighteen-year-old patrons will be welcome in the bar, signaling the new lower legal drinking age in Minnesota. The announcement also claims that the bar has the “Best Music in Town” with “six different groups” appearing each week. An article on the changing law reports that some University-area bars are increasing staff levels to deal with the expected crowds. However, the manager of the Triangle Bar, Art McDonald, states that he is not making any special preparations. “‘We can’t accommodate anymore people,’ he said.” Later in the month, the advertisement is changed to read “Every night, best music in town.” This ad runs for the rest of the summer.¹¹⁶

¹¹² “Beer to Return to Dinkytown after Thirty-Year ‘Dry Spell,’ ” *Minnesota Daily*, July 16, 1972.

¹¹³ “Great Entertainment” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 29, 1972; October 2, 6, 13, 16, 20, 1972; November 3, 10, 17, 22, 1972; December 1, 4, 1972.

¹¹⁴ “Full Dinners and Sandwiches” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 5, 12, 22, 26, 1973; February 2, 9, 16, 23, 1973.

¹¹⁵ Jeff Holman, “The Night Time Is the Right Time: Bars,” *Minnesota Daily*, March 9, 1973.

¹¹⁶ “18 Years Old” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, May 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 1973; June 1, 7, 1973; David A. Peterson, “Local Law May Face Under 21 Drinkers with Bars,” *Minnesota Daily*, May 30, 1973; “Every Night” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 22, 26, 29, 1973; July 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31, 1973; August 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 1973.

In September when the University is back in regular session, the Triangle runs a somewhat different advertisement that features nightly entertainment and offers special prices Monday through Thursday from 9 to 11 p.m.¹¹⁷

- 1974 Beginning in April, the Triangle Bar features jazz on Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. as well as nightly entertainment. The Saturday afternoon jazz sessions continue into the summer.¹¹⁸

By August the jazz sessions are discontinued and the Triangle Bar advertises rock and blues seven nights a week. When the University opens for fall quarter, the Triangle offers “two [drinks] for a buck” Sunday through Thursdays, in addition to live music.¹¹⁹

In November, the Minneapolis Liquor Patrol Limits are repealed by Minneapolis voters. While some restrictions, such as zoning regulations, still apply, liquor licenses can now be granted in more areas of the city. In the future, establishments outside the old Liquor Patrol Limits will offer increased competition to places like the Triangle Bar.¹²⁰

- 1975 The Triangle continues to advertise two-drinks-for-a-dollar specials from Sunday to Thursday and rock and blues every night in January and into February.¹²¹

John McDonald sells the Triangle Bar to Arthur N. McDonald.¹²²

The scene at the Triangle Bar is described in an article about West Bank music. “We ambled over to the Triangle Bar at Cedar and Riverside, where the usual crowd of a few dozen salamanders tapped webbed feet to a one-off jam group composed of Roy Allested [*sic*] (ex-Mill City Band), bassist Greg Gilmore (of Hot Saki), and Cisco Grove’s fine drummer (also ex-Mill City). The group ran through some Fats Domino and Stones standards to appreciative grunts from the crowd. Allsted’s guitar playing has improved markedly and a new set of teeth hasn’t impeded his singing ability at all.” The writer notes that Maurice Jacox of the Bumblebees, named one of the “Ten Sexiest People in Minneapolis” by *Mpls.St.Paul* magazine, was in attendance.¹²³

Willie Murphy later recalled, “The Triangle Bar was a wonderful place. It was legendary! It was the place where all the beatniks hung out. Everywhere Koerner and I went when we were touring *Running, Jumping, Standing Still*[,] people asked about the Triangle.” But at some point, he noticed a shift. “At first in the early ’60s everyone hung out at the

¹¹⁷“Great Entertainment Nitely” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 25, 1973

¹¹⁸“Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, April 1, 5, 12, 26, 1974; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 1974; June 7, 21, 28, 1974; July 5, 12, 19, 1974.

¹¹⁹“Triangle Bar” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 1974; “Triangle Bar Rock and Blues” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, September 27, 1974; October 4, 25, 1974; November 1, 8, 22, 1974; December 4, 1974.

¹²⁰Hathaway, “Liquor Patrol Limits,” 13; “All Four City Charter Amendments Passed,” *Minnesota Daily*, November 6, 1974.

¹²¹“Triangle Bar Rock and Blues” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 10, 17, 31, 1975; February 7, 1975.

¹²²Hennepin County Document No. 4128812, February 18, 1975.

¹²³Seth Schwartz, “West Bank Wandering,” *Minnesota Daily*, May 9, 1975. Roy Allested/Allsted should be Roy Alstad.

Triangle. Then the music scene moved on to the Mixer's bar." Once the Mixers became too crowded, "we'd go over to the Viking (1829 Riverside Avenue), where there were only seven older Scandinavians."¹²⁴

The increasing availability of liquor near the University campus is illustrated by an advertisement from Stub and Herb's, located at 227 Southeast Oak Street, which offers "booze and beer" with a happy hour lasting from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. Another ad for Bootlegger Sam's, in Dinkytown, boasts of sixty-five-cent bar drinks and martinis and Manhattans for one dollar in addition to live music played by the West Bank Trackers. West Bank bars now have competitors on the East Bank campus.¹²⁵

At the start of the fall quarter a newspaper article noted that "the choice of dining and drinking spots in the University area will be broadened in coming months when the construction of two new restaurant-bars is completed." The new venues are the Improper Fraction, 712–714 Washington Avenue Southeast, and Sgt. Preston's of the North, which will replace the Mixers Bar at 221 Cedar Avenue South. The Improper Fraction will offer a limited menu, but would not be a fast-food operation. Sgt. Preston's is to be modeled after San Francisco bars with open spaces and arched windows, according to one of its owners, Michael Andrews. Sgt. Preston's owners seem to be modeling their establishment after Henry Africa's Bar, which opened in San Francisco in 1969. Henry Africa's is credited with being the first "fern bar" and was decorated with a collection of Tiffany-style lamps, motorcycles, model trains, and overstuffed furniture. When owner Norman Hobday sold the bar, he was called "the man who brought liquor and ferns under one roof in San Francisco to revolutionize the saloon business." At the time Henry Africa's "staked its claim to the corner of Polk and Broadway, before moving to Van Ness and Vallejo, it began a new era in American drinking etiquette. 'I took the opium-den atmosphere out of the saloons,' he [Hobday] said, by bringing in 'antique lamps and Grandma's living-room furniture. It was like writing a best-seller.'" Sgt. Preston's will be among the first fern bars in Minneapolis and signals change on the West Bank scene. Sgt. Preston's is located in the same building that was called the Red Brick Palace featured in "Spider" John Koerner's song "The Red Palace"; Red Nelson often held his after-hours parties there.¹²⁶

1976 In the first part of the year, the building at 1822 Riverside is still home to Triangle Enterprises Inc. and operates as a bar, according to the city directory.¹²⁷

¹²⁴ Collins, *West Bank Boogie*, 120.

¹²⁵ "Stub and Herbs" (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 27, 1975; "Bootlegger Sam's" (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, July 16, 1975. The following week (July 25, 1975), an advertisement notes that Willie and the Bumblebees would appear at Bootlegger Sam's.

¹²⁶ Bob Berg, "New Bar-Restaurant Planned for U Area," *Minnesota Daily*, October 2, 1975; Johnny Miller, "Henry Africa Planned to Leave Fern Bar in '83," *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 6, 2008. The Mixers Bar relocated to 1201 Washington Avenue South.

¹²⁷ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1976* (Saint Paul: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1976), 378 (reverse directory section).

In August, Arthur McDonald sells the Triangle Bar to Ole Piper Inc. Ole Piper immediately sells it to CAM Investment Company. The investment company is described as a copartnership consisting of Harry A. Murphy Jr. and Douglas Chestnut.¹²⁸

By November, the Triangle Bar has been transformed into the Ole Piper Inn. One advertisement describes it as “Cedar at Riverside, formerly the Triangle,” with “great food and drinks” and the promise of live entertainment in the near future.¹²⁹

1977 In January, the Ole Piper Inn announces that it serves “great drinks, great food” and offers live entertainment from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The advertisement appears regularly into March. Unlike other similar venues in the neighborhood, however, the Ole Piper Inn advertisement does not name the musicians who will be playing. For example, the Cabooze (917 Cedar Avenue) names the artists (Koko Taylor, Wolf Creek, and Sky Blue Water Boy) who will be playing during the next two weeks. Or the Cafe Extempore (325 Cedar Avenue), which features Charlie Maguire, Eric Peltoniemi, Scott Alarik, Mark Gaddis, Mad Jack and the Black Label Boys, Jeff Cahill, and Donna Penna and Friends. It suggests the Ole Piper Inn may not be the cutting-edge venue for live, local music that the Triangle Bar once was.¹³⁰

In April, a building permit is issued for changes to the entryway of the Triangle Bar Building and for the addition of awnings.¹³¹

The Ole Piper Inn does not prove a success. In June, an advertisement announces the grand opening of Oscar B. Lykes, June 27 through July 2. Calling itself the “West Bank’s newest eating and drinking establishment,” at 1822 Riverside Avenue, the name of the new restaurant is a variant of Oscar Lyke, who operated a saloon at this address in the late 1880s. The name is not the only allusion to the past. Even the line drawing in the advertisement harkens to an earlier time with a horse-drawn carriage standing by the entrance to the Triangle Bar Building. A subsequent version of the advertisement emphasizes that the new restaurant will have “class,” yet offer inexpensive homemade soups and bread. Neither ad mentions music, but both note that credit cards are welcome, something the old Triangle Bar never advertised. Unlike the advertisements for the Ole Piper Inn, which identified it as “formerly the Triangle,” there is reference to the previous business. The proprietors of Oscar B. Lykes are trying to distance this establishment from its predecessor.¹³²

¹²⁸ Hennepin County Document No. 4226187, August 12, 1976; Hennepin County Document No. 4226189, August 12, 1976.

¹²⁹ “Ole Piper Inn” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, November 24, 1976; December 3, 1976.

¹³⁰ “Ole Piper Inn” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 14, 21, 28, 1977; February 4, 11, 18, 25, 1977; March 4, 11, 1977; “The Cabooze” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 14, 1977; “Try Some Live Music” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, January 14, 1977.

¹³¹ Minneapolis Building Permit B469191, April 4, 1977.

¹³² “Oscar B. Lykes!” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 24, 1977; “Oscar B. Lykes” (advertisement), *Minnesota Daily*, June 27, 1977.

- 1978 Oscar B. Lykes is listed in the city directory as a restaurant-tavern.¹³³
- 1979 Oscar B. Lykes is listed in the city directory as a restaurant-tavern. In December, a building permit is taken out for the construction of a balcony on the interior of Oscar B. Lykes.¹³⁴
- 1980 Oscar B. Lykes is listed in the city directory as a restaurant-tavern.¹³⁵
- 1981–
- 1982 Oscar B. Lykes is listed in the city directory as a restaurant-tavern. Apparently, the apartment upstairs is vacant at this point.¹³⁶
- 1983 Oscar B. Lykes is listed in the city directory as a restaurant-tavern. The upstairs apartment remains vacant.¹³⁷
- 1985 In May, the Triangle Bar is back in business and apparently sponsors the first Jazz Guitarathon. This event is mentioned a year later in a newspaper article.¹³⁸

CAM Investment sells the Triangle Bar to Florence and Robert Johnstone on a contract for deed. The city directory lists the property as the Triangle Bar and Bruce Berg as the manager.¹³⁹

- 1986 John Koerner comes out with a new album, *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Been*, and during an interview, he indicates that he has mostly given up on the music business, at least for the time being. But his connection to the Triangle Bar remains intact. He proclaims “the joys of working at the Triangle, ‘the best bartending school you could find anywhere.’”¹⁴⁰
- 1987 The Triangle Bar shows up in the city directory, but has no telephone number listed. The Triangle appears to be falling on hard times, but it is still a venue for live music in the early part of the year. One account notes, “Boperators celebrates its first full year of Monday-night bebop gigs at the Triangle Bar . . . tonight. They’re offering no door prizes, no dance contests, no video premiere, no guest DJs and requiring no reservations

¹³³ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1978* (Saint Paul: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1978), 374 (reverse directory section).

¹³⁴ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1979* (Saint Paul: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1979), 373 (reverse section); Minneapolis Building Permit B495064, December 3, 1979.

¹³⁵ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1980* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1980), 361 (reverse directory section).

¹³⁶ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1981–1982* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1981).

¹³⁷ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1983* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1983). There is no city directory for 1984.

¹³⁸ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1985* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1985), 357 (reverse section); John Habich, “Stringing Us Along,” *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, October 25, 1986.

¹³⁹ Hennepin County Document No. 5055906, November 25, 1985. The contract was paid off the following year (Hennepin County Document No. 5321175, September 9, 1986). *Minneapolis City Directory, 1985*. This is the last year the Triangle Bar has a telephone number. There is no city directory for 1986.

¹⁴⁰ Tom Surowicz, “After Hiatus, Koerner Is Back with LP,” *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, December 12, 1986.

and no cover charge. But they promise a hot-jazz celebration of their own survival and that of the West Bank's only live-jazz club."¹⁴¹

1988–

1989 The Triangle Bar shows up in the city directory, but still has no telephone number listed.¹⁴²

1990 On March 28, the city issues a building permit to L. Opitz and Associates, the new owners, to convert the restaurant at 1822 Riverside Avenue to an outlet store that sells clothing. The Triangle Bar is still listed in the city directory, but does not appear to be operating as a bar or restaurant and does not have a telephone number. No one can recall exactly when the bar closed down.¹⁴³

1992 In August, Scott Beers, Steve Parliament, and Marjorie Lokich, known as the Triangle Building Partnership LLP, purchase the Triangle Bar Building. Lokich, a chiropractor, operates the Riverside Holistic Health Clinic. Beers operates a tax and financial investment service.

1992–

1997 Shortly after purchase by the partnership, renovations are begun on the building to convert it to office and commercial uses. Starting with some nonstructural, interior demolition and moving to alterations on the second floor and first floors, the building is remade over a period of five years. Apparently, the glass-block windows on the first floor are installed near the end of the remodeling process.¹⁴⁴

In a later interview, Beers recalled that he had been renting on the West Bank for about ten years before buying the Triangle Bar Building. "First, I was in the basement of the West Bank Co-op [Holtzerman Building] and later above the New Riverside Cafe [now Acadia Cafe]. I was not really interested in buying a building, but Marje Lokich, a chiropractor friend, told me that this building was for sale and persuaded me to look at it. When I first looked at, the area now occupied by my office [in the point of the triangle] was a stairway. I said I might buy it if I could have the point of the triangle for my office. And now I do. It provides a great view of downtown. It is a great little building, an economical building because it is so small. I am told it is the smallest block in Minneapolis that has running water!" When he first moved into the Triangle, many of his clients would mention that they "misspent their youth in this building" when it was the Triangle Bar.

¹⁴¹ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1987* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1987), 363 (reverse directory section); and John Habich, "Just Bopping Along," *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, January 19, 1987.

¹⁴² *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1988–1989* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1988), 389 (reverse directory section).

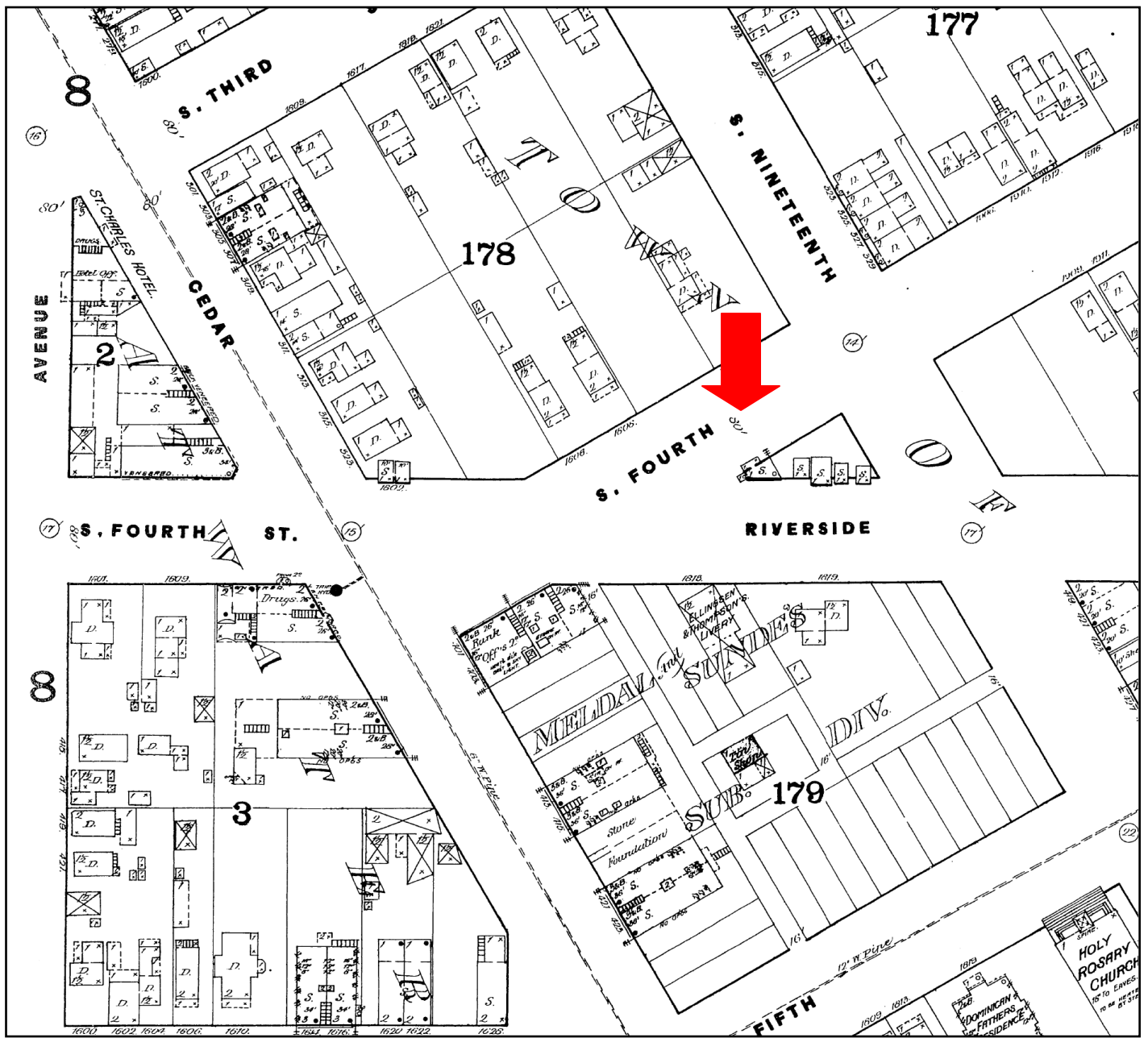
¹⁴³ *Minneapolis City Directory, Minnesota, 1990* (Kansas City, Mo.: R. L. Polk Directory Company, 1990), 365 (reverse section); Minneapolis Building Permit B571327, March 28, 1990; Nelson interview; and interview conducted with Scott Beers, April 24, 2008, at his office. The conversion of the building from bar-restaurant to retail outlet cost in excess of \$20,000.

¹⁴⁴ Minneapolis Building Permits B591662, August 13, 1992; B592026, August 24, 1992; and B630974, July 3, 1996. A note on the last permit states that the safety glass was installed as of May 26, 1997.

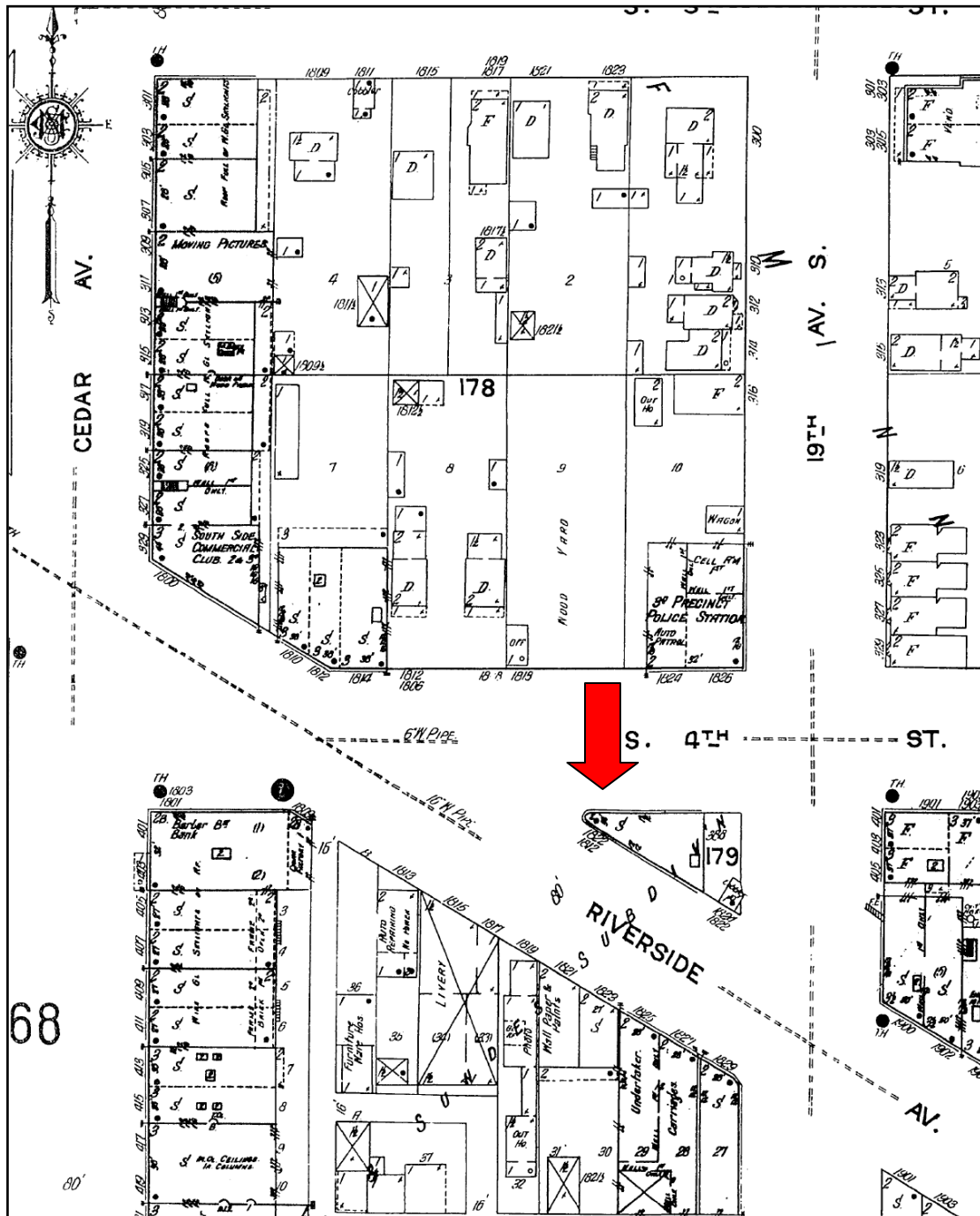
Beers recalled, “When I bought the building, the West Bank was in decline, but I thought since it was within a block or two of the University, it would never get that bad in terms of crime. It would always be well-lit and relatively safe as the U would exercise some control over the area. That has proved to be the case. My clients are not afraid to come to my office.” Right now, Beers believes the West Bank is in a holding phase.¹⁴⁵

2010 The Triangle Building Partnership is the current owner of the building.

¹⁴⁵ Interview conducted with Scott Beers, April 24, 2008.



Arrow indicates the site of the future Triangle Bar Building
 Sanborn Insurance Map, 1885-1889



Arrow indicates location of the Triangle Bar Building
 Sanborn Insurance Map, 1912-1930

MAURY BERNSTEIN
has moved
to
The West Bank

**HEAR MAURY AND HIS
 OLD WORLD FOLKSONGS**

**Monday thru Thursday Evenings
 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

of
 Joe McDonald's

Triangle Bar

1822 Riverside Ave. (Across from Moppet Playhouse)

Minnesota Daily, July 30, 1963

ENTER ON CEDAR, RIVERSIDE, OR 4TH ST. SO.
 (Yes, the Triangle Bar is actually triangular!)

**ENJOY AN EVENING OF OLD WORLD
 FOLKSONGS AND FUN WITH
 MAURY BERNSTEIN**

Monday thru Thursday — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

- See and admire his new wrought-iron cubicle, built to protect him from over-enthusiastic customers!
- Sing along to German drinking songs, Russian gypsy songs, Italian, Irish, Scottish, Israeli, Greek, Romanian, Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish Folk Songs! (Oops, we forgot French, Yiddish, Turkish and English.)
- Be sure that you are 21. (You may be 37 or 43, and still "21 at heart" but if you're really 19 or 20—boy, are we in trouble.)

MID-WEEK FUN ON THE WEST BANK

Joe McDonald's

TRIANGLE BAR

1822 Riverside Ave. (across from Moppet Playhouse)
 "Where Cedar, Riverside, and 4th St. Meet"

Minnesota Daily, August 13, 1963

Until School Starts Again . . .

You won't be hearing from us through the pages of the Daily until school starts again in the fall. Nevertheless, the mid-week excitement at the Triangle Bar continues right through the summer break.

**MAURY BERNSTEIN
AND HIS OLD-WORLD FOLKSONGS**

will be with us through the end of the summer (at least!)

EACH MONDAY THRU THURSDAY—9 P.M. TO 1 A.M.

"One of the best of the best folk singers I have encountered . . ." — Don Morrison, Mpls. Star

"The magic is not in the voice or the accordion playing . . . Bernstein creates a party, and he is a very gracious host." — Minnesota Daily

MID-WEEK FUN ON THE WEST BANK AT
joe mc donald's

TRIANGLE BAR

1822 Riverside Ave. (across from Moppet Playhouse)
"Enter on Cedar, Riverside, or 4th St. So."

Thursday, August 22, 1963

Minnesota Daily, August 22, 1963

"Spider" John Koerner
Sings Authentic Blues & Folk Songs
TONITE!
at *joe mc donald's*
TRIANGLE BAR
1822 Riverside Ave. (across from Moppet Playhouse)
"Where Cedar, Riverside, and 4th St. Meet"

Come on in and get acquainted!
[if you are 21 or over]

Minnesota Daily, September 30, 1963

EARLS VALLI PIZZA
 Presents
 EXCITING SOUNDS OF FOLK MUSIC
FRIDAY: MUFFIE & GENE
SATURDAY: THE ROVERS
 Shows 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 — in Grappa Room
 Take Out or Speedy Delivery — FE 1-1361 — No Cover
 Open 4:30 p.m. til 2 a.m. (Fri. & Sat. 2:30 a.m.)
 412 - 14th Ave. S.E., Duluth, 221-1361

Friday, October 11, 1963

THE HERE CAFE
 on
SUN. thru THURS.
 Features
JOHN BRANENY
 Traditional Folk Music
 Fri.: The Greenwood Trio
 Sat.: The Blizzards
 Open 8:30 - 12:00
 812 Washington Ave. S.E.

Minnesota Daily, October 11, 1963

MAURY BERNSTEIN
 AND HIS OLD WORLD FOLKSONGS
TONIGHT!!
 9 P.M. - 1 A.M.
 (EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHT)
JIM'S
 1500 SO. 6th ST.
 (MUST BE 21)

Minnesota Daily, November 14, 1963



If you are frozen and cut off at the pass, don't wait for our part-time bartender, he's pretty busy. Stop in and see us, we're not far away.

JOE McDONALD'S
TRIANGLE BAR
 1822 Riverside
 Must Be 21

Minnesota Daily, November 22, 1963



**HAPPY HOUR
TODAY
2 TO 4 P.M.
JOE McDONALD'S
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside
Must Be 21

Minnesota Daily, January 10, 1964

S. F. P. A. E. O. F. A. P. W. C. * presents:
If you are 21 — Snack-time
lunch Monday thru Thurs.
4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
5c

**MAURY
BERNSTEIN**

**TONIGHT AND
SATURDAY
9 P.M. TO 1 A.M.**

in the
gaudy, ear-shattering comfort of
THE TRIANGLE BAR

1822 Riverside Avenue
on the west bank


*Society for the Preservation and
Encouragement of Fat Accordion
Players with Cigars



Minnesota Daily, May 21, 1965

**TRIANGLE
BAR**

*Presents the
Granddaddy*



of all

**HAPPY
HOURS**

2 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Today

TRIANGLE BAR
1822 RIVERSIDE

*Minnesota Daily,
January 10, 1964*

SNAKER'S BACK!

We are happy to announce
the return of

Dave "Snaker" Ray

TONIGHT—9 p.m. to 1 p.m.

FOR A SERIES OF ONCE-A-WEEK
APPEARANCES EACH
WEDNESDAY NIGHT

(We are sorry that he can't
be with us more often)

**REMEMBER: WEDNESDAY
IS "SNAKER" NIGHT!**

in the truly triangular comfort of

THE TRIANGLE BAR

**1822 Riverside Avenue
on the West Bank**

"Where You Gotta Be 21 and
Able to Prove It"

P.S.: JOIN US TODAY, FOR THE
WORLD SERIES ON COLOR TV

Isn't That Silly?



I NEARLY FORGOT THAT,
BEGINNING TONIGHT,
I'LL BE AT THE TRIANGLE
3 NIGHTS A WEEK,
INSTEAD OF TWO.—M.B.

Join

MAURY BERNSTEIN

**Tonight, Friday & Saturday
9 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

in the truly triangular comfort of

The Triangle Bar

**1822 Riverside Avenue
on the West Bank
YOU MUST BE 21**

"A PENNY SAVED

... is a drop in the bucket."—Modern Proverb.

On the other hand, it's remarkably
inexpensive to spend an evening
with us.

**HELD OVER! SIXTH MONTH!
MAURY BERNSTEIN**

"One of the best of the best folk-
singers I have encountered."
—DON MORRISON, Mpls. Star

TONIGHT & SATURDAY

(Thursdays, too)

9 P.M. to 1 A.M.

NO COVER CHARGE

in the truly triangular comfort of

THE TRIANGLE BAR

1822 Riverside Avenue on the West Bank

"Where You Can Hear Dave 'Snaker' Ray Every Wednesday."
YOU MUST BE 21



Top left: *Minnesota Daily*,
October 6, 1965

Above: *Minnesota Daily*,
October 7, 1965

Left: *Minnesota Daily*,
October 8, 1965

"FOOLS RUSH IN"

... and get the best seats."

—Modern Proverb.

We never did have too many chairs anyhow. Our customers tend to be peripatetic. We don't know why. Perhaps they're all looking for the coin-operated bowling machine. We don't have it anymore. Not enough class.

**HELD OVER!
SEVENTH MONTH!**

MAURY BERNSTEIN

"One of the best of the best folk-singers I have encountered."

—DON MORRISON, Mpls. Star

TONIGHT & SAT.

(Thursdays too)

9 p.m. to 1 a.m.



MON. & TUES.: Lazy Bill Lucas

Blues Chicago Style

WED.: Dave "Snaker" Ray

And his electrified 12-string.

in the gaudy, ear-shattering comfort of

THE TRIANGLE BAR

1822 Riverside Avenue on the West Bank

You must be 21

Friday, October 29, 1965

Minnesota Daily,

October 29, 1965

... DANCE ...

LAZY BILL LUCAS

& THE

BLUE RHYTHM

CHICAGO RHYTHM & BLUES

NICK'S BAR

1501 So. 6th St.

Must be 21

Fri. & Sat., Jan 14th & 15th only

9-1

Minnesota Daily,

January 13, 1966

BARS

are something which if you go into too many of, you're apt to come out singing a few of—and maybe land behind some."

—Irving Tallist Cicero

**HELD OVER!
TENTH MONTH!**



MAURY BERNSTEIN

"Never heard of the fellow."
—McGeorge Bundy

**TONIGHT
& SATURDAY
9 P.M. to 1 A.M.**

**MON. & THURS.
VERY LAST TIMES!
"Spider"**

John Keerner

"Never heard of him either."
—McGeorge Bundy

**WEDNESDAY, 9 to 1
Dave "Snaker" Ray
& Tony "Little
Sun" Glover**

"Tony I know very well. And Dave I don't know as well."

—McGeorge Bundy
IT'S VERY TRIANGULAR AT

The TRIANGLE BAR
1822 Riverside Ave. (West Bank)
You Must Be 21

MAURY IS LEAVING

This, in fact, is his final weekend. It's ten months since his engagement here began. It was to have lasted only a month. But your warm response brought first one extension, then another.

Maury wishes to express to you his sincerest thanks. So do we.

Why not join us this weekend?



MAURY BERNSTEIN

"One of the best of the best folk-singers I have encountered."

—DON MORRISON, Mpls. Star

**FINAL TIMES!
TONIGHT, & SATURDAY
9 P.M. to 1 A.M.
NO COVER CHARGE**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
9 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

**DAVE "SNAKER" RAY
TONY "LITTLE SUN"
GLOVER**

Elektra Recording Stars.

It's very triangular at

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21.

Minnesota Daily, January 28, 1966

Minnesota Daily, February 11, 1966

FEBRUARY IS

**FROZEN
POTATO
MONTH**

**CELEBRATE AT
THE TRIANGLE
SATURDAY WITH**

Lazy Bill Lucas
(Blues Chicago Style)

And

Tony Glover
(Elektra Recording Artist)

MON. & WED.

**TONY AND
DAVE RAY**
(Also on Elektra)

*If Remains Very
Triangular At*

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**
1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21.

Minnesota Daily, February 25, 1966

**BRING YOUR
COMPUTERIZED
DATES . . .**

One of them Anyhow . . .

**TO THE TRIANGLE
FOR AN EVENING
OF FINE
ENTERTAINMENT**

ON SATURDAY:

LAZY BILL LUCAS
(Blues Chicago Style)

And

TONY GLOVER
(Elektra Artist)

9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

ON MON. & WED.:

**TONY AND
DAVE RAY**

9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

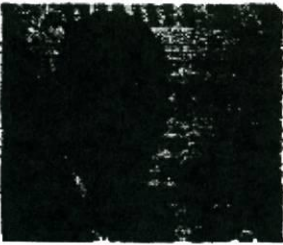
*Automation
Reigns Supreme at*

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**
1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21.

Friday, March 4, 1966

Minnesota Daily, March 4, 1966

NOW...



SATURDAY:
LAZY BILL LUCAS
 AND
TONY GLOVER
 9 P.M. - 1 A.M.

MON. & WED.:
TONY AND
DAVE RAY
 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

AND AFTER
FINALS . . .

MON. & WED.:
DAVE RAY

FRI. & SAT.:
BILL LUCAS
 And
TONY GLOVER

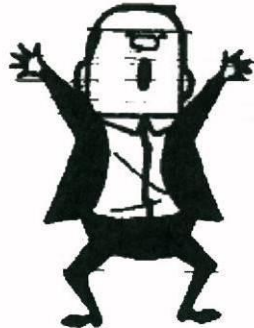
Fine Entertainment At

THE
TRIANGLE BAR
 1822 Riverside Avenue
 You Must Be 21.

Minnesota Daily, March 10, 1966

Minnesota Daily, April 7, 1966

Harvey Snerfultz Favors
the Triangle



(as opposed to the square, in direct conflict with the parallelogram, contradicting trapezoids, showing animosity toward all octagonal or quasi-sided figures and denying the existence of solid geometry.)

Besides
mathematicians
you'll find

LUCAS & GLOVER
 (Lazy Bill & Little Sam)
 Veteran Chicago bluesman
 and exciting mouth-harp
 virtuoso.

Friday & Saturday
 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

RAY & GLOVER
 .65667 of Koerner, Ray
 and Glover
 In Person
Monday & Wednesday
 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

NO COVER CHARGE

in the triangular atmosphere of

THE
TRIANGLE BAR
 1822 Riverside Avenue
 You Must Be 21

**"ISN'T EXACTLY
WHAT I
HAD IN MIND..."**



"... BUT ..."
— Anonymous Spanish Lover

**LUCAS & GLOVER
LAZY BILL &
LITTLE SUN**

Play Chicago Blues
Tonight & Saturday
9 P.M. TO 1 A.M.

**DAVID RAY &
TONY GLOVER**

Big Band Grooves
MON. & WED.
7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

*In the Major Key
Atmosphere of*

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21

*Minnesota Daily,
May 13, 1966*

The electrifying snake
has returned . . .

Dave
'Snaker' Ray
will be musically
cavorting and
gambolling
nightly

at

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21

Now! Delicious Lunches
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Minnesota Daily, April 14, 1967

**SUMMER
HOMECOMING!**

TONIGHT ONLY
(In a special
guest appearance)

**SPIDER JOHN
KOERNER**

... direct from England!
9 P.M. to 1 A.M.

SATURDAY ONLY
LAZY BILL LUCAS
BLUES CHICAGO STYLE
... back by popular demand!
In the air-conditioned
comfort of

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21
New! Delicious Lunches
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Minnesota Daily, June 16, 1967

Tonight
Spider John Koerner

Saturday
Dave Snaker Ray

Monday
**Mannar Walker
JAM SESSION**

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

AIR CONDITIONED

1822 Riverside Avenue

You Must Be 21

New! Delicious Lunches

11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Minnesota Daily, June 23, 1967

**Dave SNAKER Bay
HOLLERS**



LOTSMORE

at

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue
You Must Be 21
New! Delicious Lunches
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Minnesota Daily, July 21, 1967

Friday & Saturday

Folk Blues

Steve Unger

from

Old Town - Chicago

**THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

AIR CONDITIONED

1822 Riverside Avenue

You Must Be 21

New! Delicious Lunches

11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Minnesota Daily, September 29, 1967

**ENTERTAINMENT
NIGHTLY**
During
Quarter
Break

Bill Murphy

Steve Unger

**Spider
John
KOERNER**

**THE
TRIANGLEBAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue

New! Delicious Luncheon
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
You Must Be 21

If you are 21 we want your
business. False ID's will be
prosecuted!
(The Management)

Minnesota Daily, December 7, 1967

**ENTERTAINMENT
NIGHTLY**

WILLY MURPHY

**SPIDER
JOHN KOERNER**

LAZY BILL LUCAS

**THE
TRIANGLEBAR**

1822 Riverside Avenue

New! Delicious Luncheon
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
You Must Be 21

If you are 21 we want your
business. False ID's will be
prosecuted!
(The Management)

Minnesota Daily, January 12, 1968

ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective Mon.. Nov. 17

Entertainment Only
Friday & Saturday Evenings

No Entertainment
Monday thru Thursday

Day Prices at Night
Monday thru Friday

**THE
TRIANGLEBAR**
1822 Riverside Avenue

Minnesota Daily,
November 14, 1969

If you're 21, come to
THE TRIANGLE BAR
FOLK BLUES NIGHTLY

Rip Night Tues. 9-11, Includes Entertainment —
All you can Drink — Choice of Tap Beer —
Ball Hit — Bar Booze Highballs.

Males or Womens Lib. \$3.00 Each, Females \$1.50
Pool Tournaments 5-7 Fri. & Sat.

Swingers Welcome — Proper I.D.'s Required

Minnesota Daily, September 28, 1970

**NAIVE Q: WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A
STUDY BREAK SATURDAY NITE?**

**KNOWLEDGEABLE A: COME TO THE ROCK & BLUES
CONCERT AT THE CEDAR THEATRE.**

**MUSIC FROM THE
TRIANGLE BAR**

**In Concert at Cedar Theatre
ROCK AND BLUES AT ITS BEST**

Solo Appearances By

**DAVE RAY WILLIE MURPHY
ROY ALSTAD DEAN CARR
KEN SCHAFFER**

SAT., DEC. 12, 8:00 — only \$1.50

(Sponsored by the West Bank School of Music)

Minnesota Daily, December 10, 1971

**Great Entertainment
Every Night
Mon-Thurs. Rip Nights
Triangle Bar**

Minnesota Daily, September 29, 1972



Minnesota Daily, January 5, 1973



Minnesota Daily, May 24, 1973

**Great Entertainment
Nitely!**
**SPECIAL
PRICE
NITE**
Mon. thru Thurs.
9-11 P.M.
TRIANGLE BAR

Minnesota Daily, September 25, 1973

TRIANGLE BAR
ENTERTAINMENT
NIGHTLY
JAZZ 3-7
Sat. Afternoons

Minnesota Daily, April 1, 1974

**OLE PIPER
INN**

Cedar at Riverside (formerly the Triangle)

GREAT FOOD

Breakfast served on weekends
 Sat: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Sun: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Full menu except during breakfast hours

Live entertainment:
 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

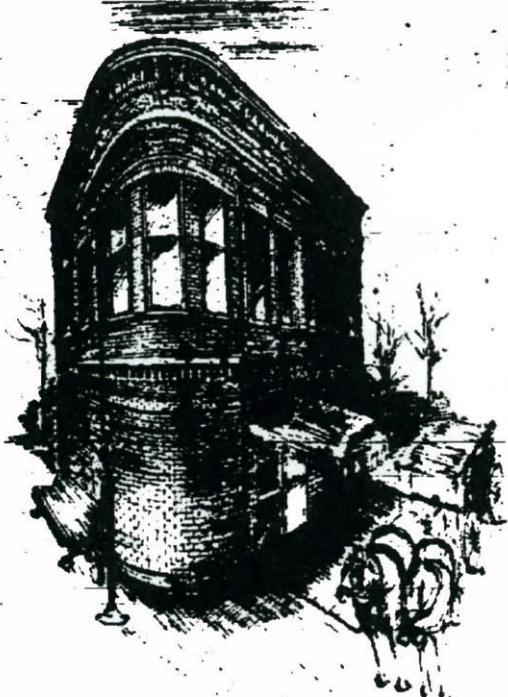
GREAT DRINKS

Mon. nite: 5 p.m. - 1 a.m.
 pitcher of beer - \$1
 Tue.: 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 bar drinks \$1.60
 bar cocktails \$1.75
 Wed.: pitcher of beer \$1
 with any large pizza
 Mon-Fri: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers,
 Beards, Dequiris \$1.75

Minnesota Daily, January 14, 1977

Minnesota Daily, June 24, 1977

Oscar B. Lykes!



**THE WEST BANK'S NEWEST
EATING AND DRINKING
ESTABLISHMENT.**

**GRAND OPENING!
JUNE 27-JULY 2**

**1822 RIVERSIDE AVE.
333-1268**

Master Charge, American Express, Visa



Triangle Bar, 1972

Eugene Debs Becker, photographer—Minnesota Historical Society Collections



Triangle Bar, 1974

Linda Gammell, photographer—Hennepin County Public Library



North facade of Triangle Bar Building
Penny Petersen, photographer



North and west facades
Penny Petersen, photographer

The “point” of the
Triangle Bar Building,
looking east
*Penny Petersen,
photographer*



Detail of the “point”
and second floor
*Penny Petersen,
photographer*