New England Real Ale Xword
by Ucaoimhu

In honor of NERAX, all Across answers in this crossword will be modified, before being entered, so that they exhibit characteristics of the ales served there; four will get cask conditioned, four will remain unpasteurized and active, and four will be at room temperature. Down answers will be entered normally. However, in each Down clue one letter in one word must be transformed before solving; the letters before transformation, in clue order, followed by the letters after transformation, also in clue order, will indicate how this transformation might be accomplished.

ACROSS
1. Alternative location of French cab I misdirected (2 wds.)
7. Directed a Kurosawa film
10. Imitates deer
11. Base of aesthetic or pleasant architectural feature
12. Quietly poke at the left side
13. Ms. Derek takes a chance with old-fashioned undergarments
15. Uncouth people cored fruit
17. Talked about person who fixes shoes of Amen-Ra?
20. A sin involving a bit of rapaciousness!
21. One is kept in cesium containers
22. At first, jesters like argeeable responses from Germans
23. Walking stick captivates red bird

DOWN
1. Start to build second bier, and worry cow (8)
2. Cool author and yak started to communicate (5)
3. Yale, after gaining energy top to bottom once more (4)
4. Eire completely stripped dock’s ship-raising equipment (5 4)
5. Read Avery second item from cookbook, if you insist (2 2)
6. Sight leaves from most important trees (4)
8. Bowler’s tax payment’s heading to Moscow, USSR (4, abbr.)
9. Broadly speaking, tight characters that are the ultimate in plebeianess will dance around (2 1 5)
14. Wrap that’s hot being finished by Ms. Lee (4)
16. Aiming for breakfast with one’s small group (5)
17. Trish naming element Avery discovered, again (4)
18. Where Ian’s eaten, a king turned up one pickle container (4)
19. Same sponsor upset Caan (4, abbr.)