**Baltimore City**

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| 1925 | Property owned by Stieff Company Operations commenced. |
| 1979 | Stieff Company merged with Samuel Kirk & Son Inc. to form the Kirk Stieff (Silver) Company. |
| 1/99 | Facility closed. |
| 10/7/99 | KS Wyman Development Company LLC submitted a VCP application. |
| 3/28/00 | Maryland Department of the Environment granted KS Wyman Development Company LLC inculpable person status and issued a NFRD for the property. |

# KIRK-STIEFF SILVER BUILDING PROPERTY
# 800 Wyman Park Drive
# Baltimore, Maryland
# (Voluntary Cleanup Program)

## *Site Description*

The inactive Kirk-Stieff Silver Building occupies 2.52 acres and is located near Druid Hill Park in Baltimore City. This triangular-shaped property is bordered to the east by Pacific Street and a vehicular service station; to the south by Wyman Park Drive and a park; to the west by Penn Central Railway spur and Jones Falls Expressway; and to the north by a residential neighborhood. Public water and sewer services are provided to the property and vicinity. Overland flow is directed to the southwest. The nearest surface water bodies are Stoney Run, Jones Falls, and Druid Lake located within a quarter mile of the property.

## *Site History*

Between 1925 and 1979, the Stieff Company owned and operated the facility. In July 1979, the Stieff Company merged with Samuel Kirk & Son Inc., to form the Kirk Stieff (Silver) Company which operated the facility until closure in January 1999. The property is currently improved with a two-story building (80,000 sq. ft), paved parking lots and limited landscaped areas. A chain-linked fence currently restricts access to the property. Originally constructed on farmland in the 1920s, the main production building was expanded in 1970 to accommodate increased demands for silver and stainless steel products.

For over 74 years, the facility principally produced flatware and hollowware. In the early 1940s, production was expanded to include electronic assemblies, radar parts and surgical instruments for the U.S. Navy and Army. In 1946, gift item plating operations began and, in 1950, pewter, an alloy of tin, antimony, and copper, was introduced. In 1981, flatware plating was initiated, but this operation accounted for only a small portion of flatware and hollowware production.

## *Environmental Concerns*

Primarily metals (silver, pewter, bronze, brass), hydraulic fluids, organic solvents (1,1,1-trichloroethane, methyl isobutylketone, methylene chloride, methylethyl ketone), and plating chemicals (nitric acid, ammonia) were utilized in manufacturing processes. The facility generated large quantities of hazardous and nonhazardous waste from manufacturing processes such as soldering, acid etching, silver and gold plating, solvent cleaning and paint stripping. Waste water streams were discharged to sanitary systems and recoverable amounts of metals and organic solvents were either recycled or reclaimed.

In September 1969, media reports alleged that artifacts related to the facility's operations were entombed in the foundation of the production building. The artifacts which were entombed in a trunk comprised of sterling silver utensils such as cups, teaspoons, a kettle, and a tea-set. An environmental audit conducted in January 1990 identified two environmental concerns: unpermitted air emission sources and inadequate storage, labeling and handling of chemical raw materials and wastes. The necessary permits were subsequently obtained for air emission sources, while recordkeeping practices were improved for chemical materials disposed off-site to recyclers and reclaimers.

Limited environmental investigations conducted in November 1989 and October 1999 identified soil contamination by metals (arsenic, antimony, chromium, copper, silver, lead, thallium), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (benzo-a-pyrene, benzo-b-fluoranthene, benzo-k-fluoanthene, benzo-a-anthracene), and petroleum hydrocarbons. The highest level of soil contamination was related to a baghouse dust collection system, an air emission source located on the northwestern side of the production building. In February 2000, the baghouse dust collection system was removed and soils in the vicinity were excavated. Post-

excavation soil samples indicated that contaminants of concern (arsenic, chromium, silver, lead) were significantly lower in concentrations.

***Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Status***

On October 7, 1999, KS Wyman Development Company L.L.C. submitted an application seeking inculpable person status and a No Further Requirements Determination (NFRD). The Department requested additional information from the applicant to complete the application. After reviewing the additional information, the Department issued a NFRD and confirmed KS Wyman's status as an inculpable person on March 28, 2000. The NFRD is contingent upon continued use of the property for commercial or industrial purposes only and no use of groundwater beneath the property for any purpose. The applicant intends to redevelop the property into an office complex.

***Facility Contact***

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| Jim Metz | Maryland Department of the Environment<br>Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfields Division | (410) 537-3493 |