

AL-V-A-274

Kaiser Refractories  
Zihlman  
Private

1902

Kaiser Refractories is a clay/alumina brick plant on the northern side of Route 36 in Zihlman, MD. The plant office is a 1½ story brick structure. It rests on a cement foundation and has a hipped roof with a gabled dormer.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY<sup>M</sup>

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Big Savage Fire Brick Company

AND/OR COMMON

Kaiser Refractories

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 36

CITY, TOWN

Zihlman

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

AL 1037

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Kaiser Refractories is a clay/alumina brick plant on the northern side of Route 36 in Zihlman, Md. Recent expansion and moderization of the plant have drastically altered its appearance. The plant office is a 1½ story brick structure. It rests on a cement foundation and has a hipped roof with a gabled dormer. A similar plant in Mount Savage, the Mount Savage Refractories, has retained more of its original appearance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

RL-1-A-274

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kaiser Refractories plant at Zihlman "was built in 1902 by the Big Savage Fire Brick Company to take advantage of proven and valuable clay reserves on the property." 1

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MS-A-377

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup>"Kaiser Refractoris Frostburg Profile", privately published by the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Co., 1979.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

May 1982

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

**KAISER**  
REFRACTORIES

# Frostburg

## Profile

### History

The Frostburg plant was built in 1902 by the Big Savage Fire Brick Company to take advantage of proven and valuable clay reserves on the property. In 1938 the plant was purchased by National Refractories, a subsidiary of Mexico Refractories, and was managed by that company until 1959 when Kaiser Refractories merged with Mexico Refractories. In 1967 new facilities were added by Kaiser Refractories, supplementing the plant's production of fireclay brick products with a complete line of specialty refractories.

\$6.7 million.

Clay/alumina brick plant; clay/alumina specialties plant.

63,000 tons of clay/alumina brick; 29,000 tons of clay/alumina specialties.

Steel, glass, cement.

The plant has a year-round work force of approximately 165 employees, and an annual payroll, including fringe benefits, of about \$3 million.

Extensive mining properties; and 48 acres of plant area, of which 225,000 square feet is under roof.

Approximately \$6.8 million (including salaries and benefits to employees; the purchase of supplies, utilities, and services; freight charges; and state and local taxes).

Kaiser Refractories is a division of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, Oakland, California.

The Frostburg plant is one of eight manufacturing facilities in the United States operated by Kaiser Refractories. The company also owns, either in whole or in part, six additional plants outside the U.S.

### Investment to Date

### Principal Production Units

### Principal Products and Annual Capacities

### Principal Industries Served

### Employment

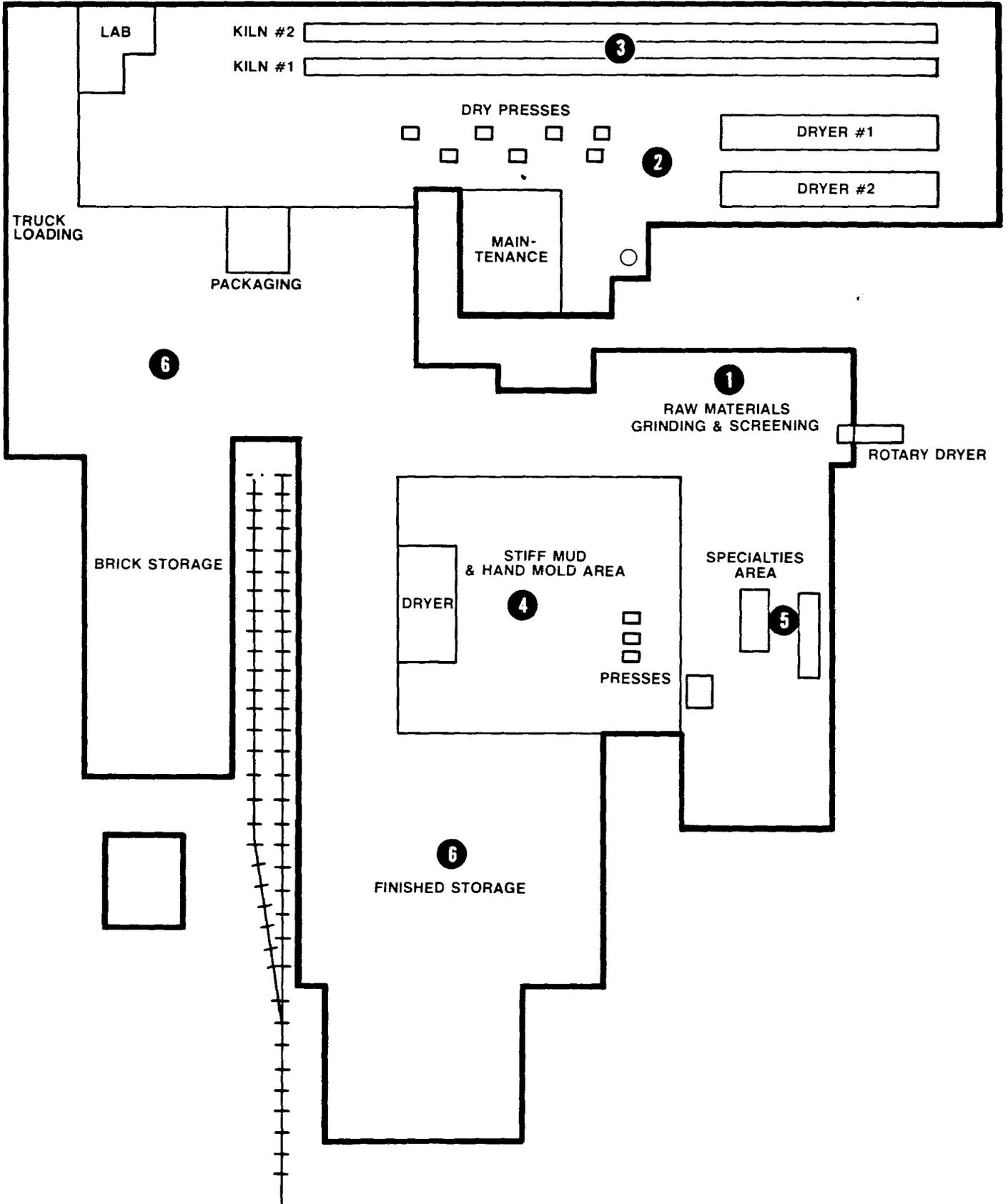
### Land Area

### Annual Economic Impact On Community

### Ownership

### International Scope

- 1 Raw Materials Processing** The primary raw materials used at Frostburg are high-grade refractory clays (most of which are mined at the plant's Ohiopyle mine, about 45 miles from the plant site), and imported bauxite. Both enter the plant here, where they are crushed and sized to specification.
- 2 Dry Presses and Dryers** Here mixtures of clays and bauxite are formed into brick by one of seven Boyd presses. Each press exerts up to 500 tons of pressure and can make up to 28 brick a minute. After the brick are formed they move through continuous tunnel dryers where moisture is removed.
- 3 Tunnel Kilns** Leaving the dryers, all brick at Frostburg are then sent through one of the plant's two 400-foot-long tunnel kilns. Firing in kilns eliminates chemically combined water and develops a ceramic bond between the refractory aggregates which contributes to such physical properties as density, porosity, and strength. Temperatures inside the kilns – in which the brick stay for up to three days – peak at about 2500 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 4 Stiff Mud and Hand Mold Area** In stiff mud refractory production varying mixtures of clays are tempered and then extruded. The column of clay produced is then sliced with wire into desired lengths and formed by one of three presses. Brick produced in this manner are dried for 48 hours in adjacent dryers and fired in a tunnel kiln. Small percentage of refractory shapes at Frostburg are made by the hand mold process. These shapes are also dried and then fired in a tunnel kiln. Stiff mud brick are denser than those made on dry presses, while hand molding is used where particularly intricate shapes are required, or for especially small orders.
- 5 Specialties Area** Refractory specialties are non-brick products – plastics, ramming mixes, castables, mortars, and gunning mixes, as examples – which may be used for initial furnace linings, for maintenance purposes, and to bond brick. Specialty materials are sacked in granular form or otherwise packaged for application at the customer's plant. In addition to supplying packaged specialties, Frostburg sells and rents equipment for applying specialties and trains customers in application technology.
- 6 Packaging and Shipping** Using standard procedures set forth by the Refractories Institute, brick are palletized according to specified counts, and then wrapped in a shrink film or a cardboard-banded package based on customer preference. In addition to normal domestic procedures, stringent export packaging requirements also must be met. All refractory products leaving Frostburg are protected in transit to prevent breakage or contamination.



# **KAISER** **REFRACTORIES**

## **WORLD HEADQUARTERS**

300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA 94643, U.S.A.  
Cable: KAISEREF Telex: 335315

## **DISTRICT SALES OFFICES (U.S.A.)**

**ALABAMA**  
Birmingham

**ARIZONA**  
Tempe

**CALIFORNIA**  
Newark

Los Angeles (Mira Loma)

**COLORADO**

Denver (Englewood)

**FLORIDA**

Tampa

**ILLINOIS**

Chicago (Bridgeview)

**INDIANA**

Indianapolis

**IOWA**

Bettendorf

**KANSAS**

Kansas City

**LOUISIANA**

Baton Rouge

**MARYLAND**

Severna Park

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Wayland

**MICHIGAN**

Detroit (Dearborn)

**MISSOURI**

St. Louis

**NEW JERSEY**

Cranford

**NEW YORK**

Buffalo

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Charlotte

**OHIO**

Cleveland (Rocky River)

Columbiana

Marietta

Toledo

Youngstown

**OKLAHOMA**

Tulsa

**OREGON**

Portland

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Pittsburgh

Plymouth Meeting

**TEXAS**

Houston

**UTAH**

Springville

**WASHINGTON**

Tacoma

## **EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST**

Kaiser Refractories International  
London, England

## **PUERTO RICO**

Kaiser Refractories International  
Santurce, Puerto Rico



## **SUBSIDIARIES**

### **AUSTRALIA**

Kaiser Refractories, Division of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation  
(Australia) Limited, Unanderra, N.S.W.

### **CANADA**

Kaiser Refractories, Division of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical of Canada Limited,  
Oakville, Ontario

## **LICENSEES**

### **ARGENTINA**

KICSA Industrial y Comercial S.A., Buenos Aires

### **FRANCE**

KER France S.A., Paris

### **SWEDEN**

Bohlin & Lofgren AB, Goteborg

### **UNITED KINGDOM**

KER (U.K.) Limited, Leeds

### **JAPAN**

Nippon Reona Company, Ltd.

AL-1-1-274

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.

	<b>Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation</b> <b>ALLEGANY COUNTY</b> <b>Real Property Data Search</b>	<a href="#">Go Back</a> <a href="#">View Map</a> <a href="#">New Search</a>
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**Account Identifier:** District - 30 **Account Number -** 002806

**Owner Information**

<b>Owner Name:</b>	MT SAVAGE REFRACTORIES CO A DEL CORP	<b>Use:</b>	INDUSTRIAL
		<b>Principal Residence:</b>	NO
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	5741 CENTRE AVE PITTSBURGH PA 15206-3707	<b>Deed Reference:</b>	1) / 559/ 595 2)

**Location & Structure Information**

<b>Premises Address</b>	<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Legal Description</b>
ROUTE 36 ROAD FROSTBURG 21532		28.608A RT 36 COR SUGAR ROW RD ZIHLMAN
<b>Map</b>	<b>Grid</b>	<b>Parcel</b>
13	19	330
<b>Sub District</b>	<b>Subdivision</b>	<b>Section</b>
<b>Block</b>	<b>Lot</b>	<b>Group</b>
		81
<b>Plat No:</b>	<b>Plat Ref:</b>	
<b>Special Tax Areas</b>	<b>Town Ad Valorem Tax Class</b>	
<b>Primary Structure Built</b>	<b>Enclosed Area</b>	<b>Property Land Area</b>
0000		28.60 AC
<b>Stories</b>	<b>Basement</b>	<b>Type</b>
		Exterior

**Value Information**

	Base Value	Value As Of 01/01/2002	Phase-in Assessments	
			As Of 07/01/2003	As Of 07/01/2004
<b>Land:</b>	65,300	65,300		
<b>Improvements:</b>	449,400	449,400		
<b>Total:</b>	514,700	514,700	514,700	514,700
<b>Preferential Land:</b>	0	0	0	0

**Transfer Information**

<b>Seller:</b> KAISER ALUMINUM & CHEMICAL CORP	<b>Date:</b> 10/09/1986	<b>Price:</b> \$100,000
<b>Type:</b> NOT ARMS-LENGTH	<b>Deed1:</b> / 559/ 595	<b>Deed2:</b>
<b>Seller:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Price:</b>
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Deed1:</b>	<b>Deed2:</b>
<b>Seller:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Price:</b>
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Deed1:</b>	<b>Deed2:</b>

**Exemption Information**

<b>Partial Exempt Assessments</b>	<b>Class</b>	07/01/2003	07/01/2004
<b>County</b>	000	0	0
<b>State</b>	000	0	0
<b>Municipal</b>	000	0	0

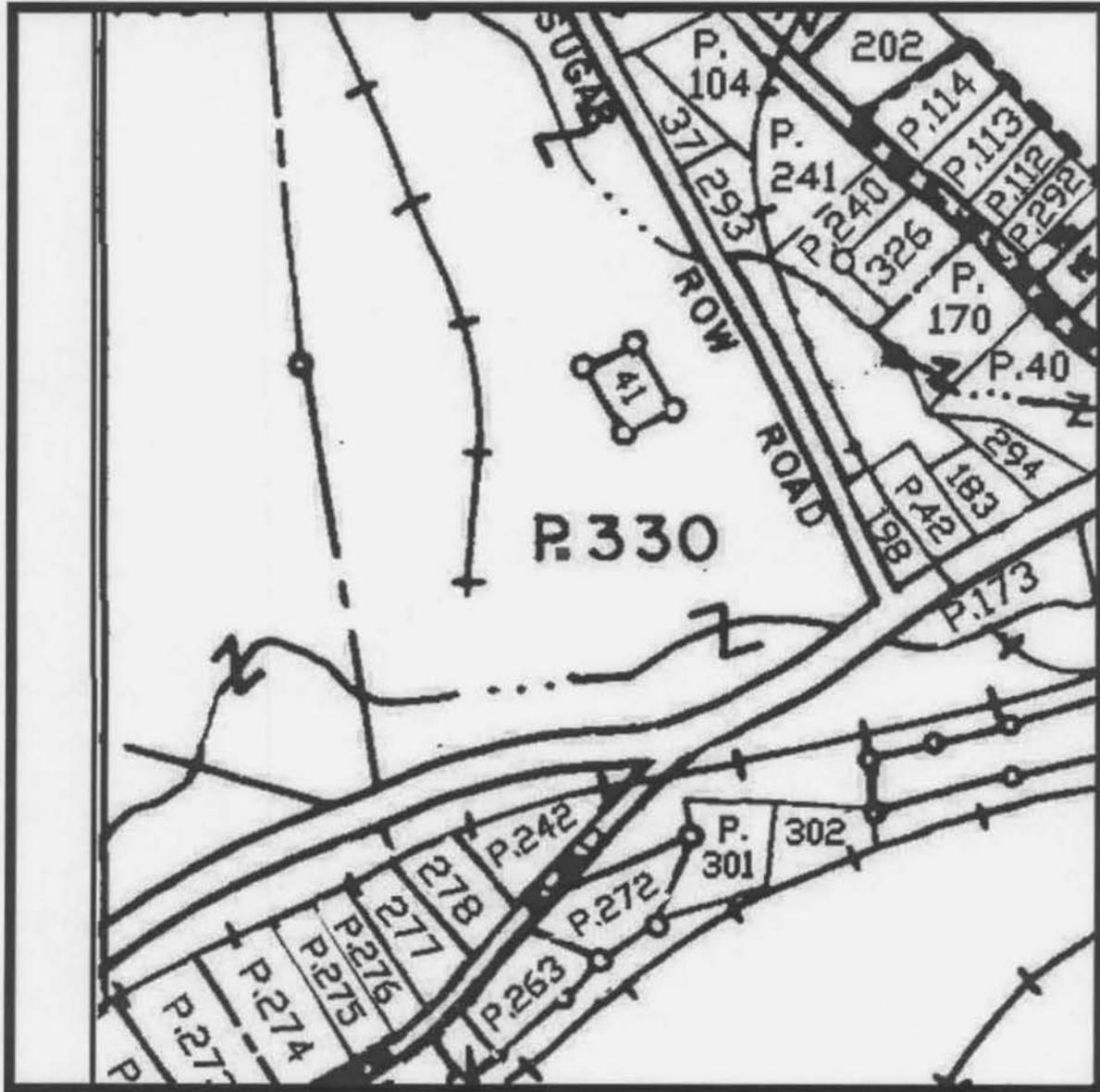
<b>Tax Exempt:</b> NO	<b>Special Tax Recapture:</b>
<b>Exempt Class:</b>	* NONE *



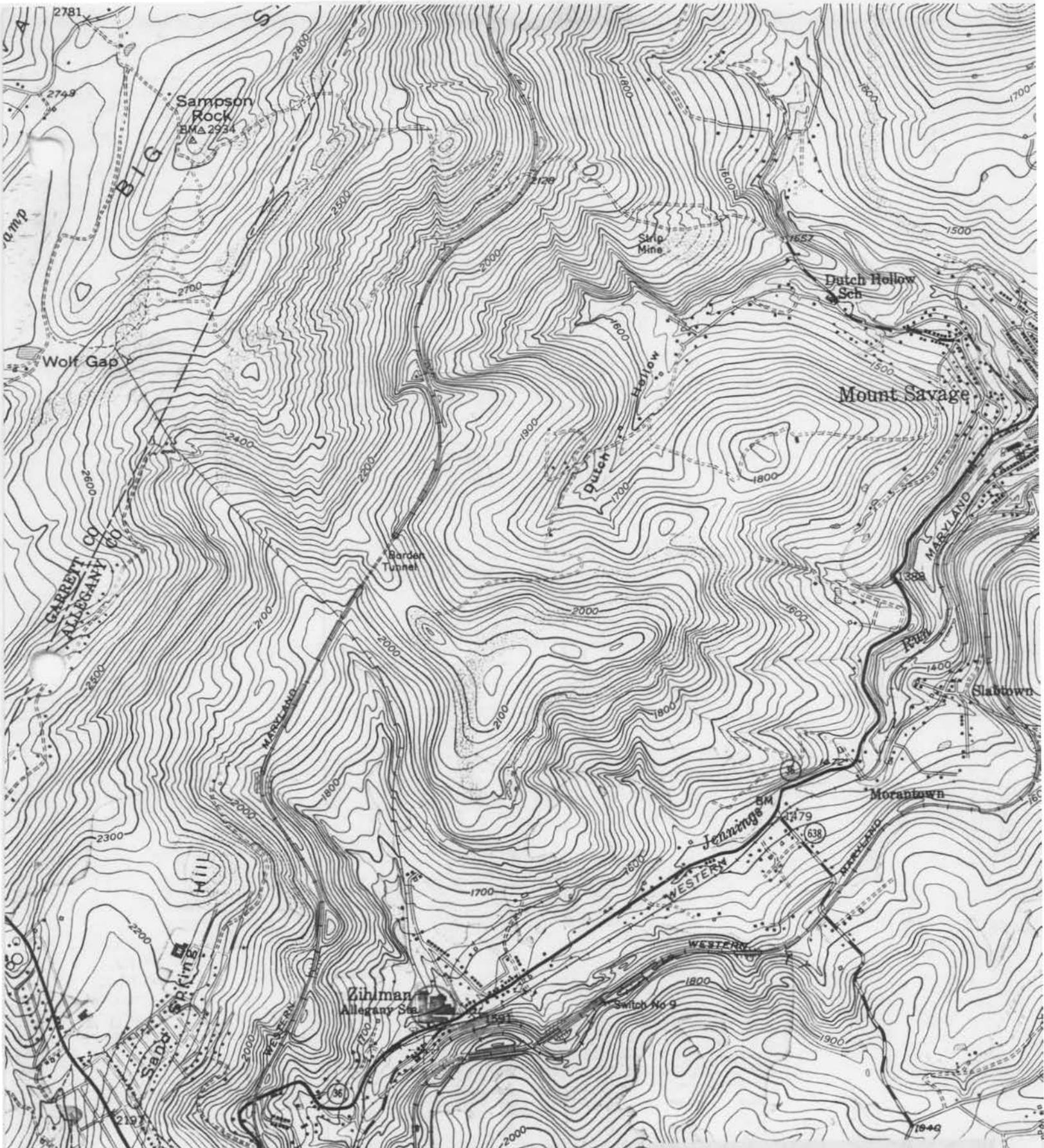
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation  
ALLEGANY COUNTY  
Real Property Data Search

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[New Search](#)

District - 30 Account Number - 002806



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For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning  
web site at [www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html)

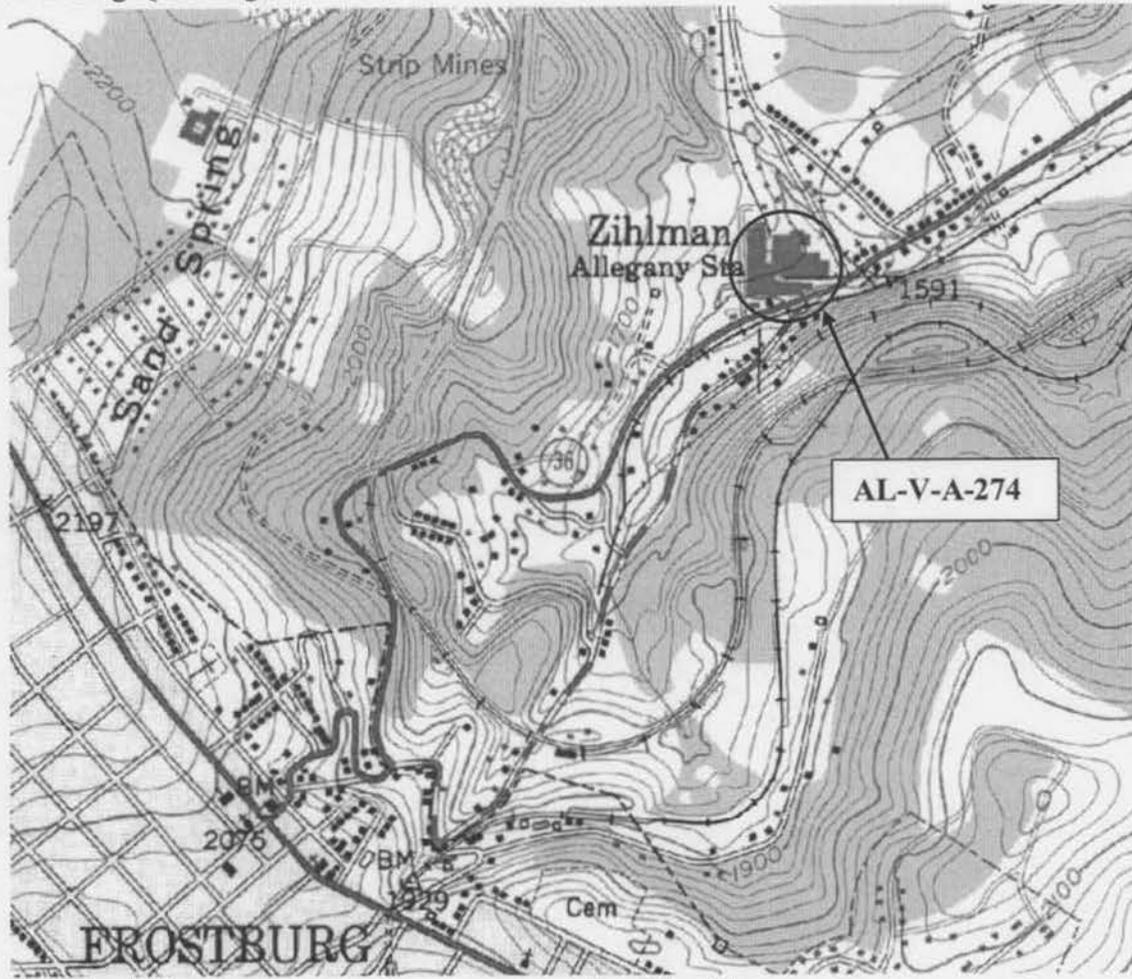


Frostburg, MD:PA  
USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
Scale 1:24,000  
1949; photorevised 1974

AL-V-A-274  
Kaiser Refractories  
Route 36, Zihlman

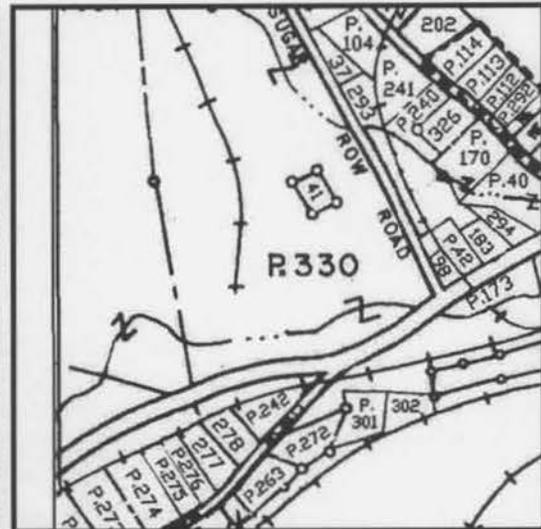
FROSTBURG

AL-V-A-274  
Kaiser Refractories (Big Savage Fire Brick Company)  
Mt. Savage Road (MD 36) & Sugar Row Road  
Frostburg Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo

Tax Map 13





AL-V-A-274

Kaiser Refractories..

Allegheny Co., MD

David A. Dorsey 10/80

Looking West