

T.J. Kurdle  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
B-1098  
private, 1907

#### Statement of Significance

The former T.J. Kurdle building was built in 1907 as part of the meat-packing enterprise started by one of Baltimore's most successful butchers. In 1919, the Kurdle Company consolidated with the Schluderb rg Packing Company to form the city's largest and most successful meat-packing firms, Esskay. Although greatly altered on the first floor, this small structure retains much of its original lively character which reflected the spirit of its innovative and ambitious owner, Thomas J. Kurdle.

Survey No. B-1098

Magi No. 0410985714

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic T.J. Kurdle Building

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 4020 E. Lombard  not for publication

city, town Baltimore  vicinity of  congressional district

state Maryland  county

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas J. Comi

street & number 4020 E. Lombard telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber JFC-2240

street & number Calvert & Fayette Sts. folio 160

city, town Baltimore state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

None

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. B-1098

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This 1907 meat packing complex illustrates the impact of the railroad on the location of some Baltimore industries. Thomas Kurdle's operation was constructed next to the railroad to receive livestock from Pennsylvania and Maryland farms. A small establishment, it had no room for expansion on this site and was sold when Shluderberg and Kurdle consolidated.

The main building of this complex is the commercial structure facing Lombard Street. Built in a neo-classical period, it still retains the influence of the romantic German traditions of the late nineteenth century, especially in the steep gabled parapet wall. Slaughtering and butchering took place in a series of two -story additions in the rear.

The buildings were converted to other commercial and residential uses long ago. The Lombard Street facade has been radically altered at the first floor level.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. B-1098

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1907 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The former T.J. Kurdle building was built in 1907 as part of the meat-packing enterprise started by one of Baltimore's most successful butchers. In 1919, the Kurdle Company consolidated with the Schluderberg Packing Company to form the city's largest and most successful meat-packing firms, Esskay. Although greatly altered on the first floor, this small structure retains much of its original lively character which reflected the spirit its innovative and ambitious owner, Thomas J. Kurdle.

The T.J. Kurdle building was constructed in 1907 as part of the large meat slaughtering and packing operations of Thomas J. Kurdle, one of Baltimore's most successful meat retailers. Mr. Kurdle had opened his first butcher shop in downtown Baltimore in 1880, and by the turn of the century owned a chain of five stores around the city. In 1901 he decided to go into the meat-packing end of the trade, and built plants on Eastern Avenue and Fleet Streets in Highlandtown to house his new operations. By 1907 he had added new facilities, like this site, to accommodate the growing size of operations and the growing number of employees. By this time Mr. Kurdle's sons, Joseph, Albert, Henry and Thomas Jr. were assisting their father in managing the growing company. In 1919, the family consolidated their meat-packing and retail operations with those of the William Schluderberg family who also owned a large Highlandtown meat-packing business. The enterprise which was born was the William F. Schluderberg-T.J. Kurdle Company, now better known as the Esskay Company, Baltimore's largest and oldest meat packing firm.

Maryland Historical Trust  
 State House  
 11 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 253-2438



1. SITE ID. NO

B-1098

## HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record  
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

manufacture

3. PRIORITY

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?  
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES  NO  UNKNOWN

5. DATE

1907

6. GOVT. SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER ADMIN

Skuderberg-Kurdle Co.

8. NAMES OF STRUCTURE

T.S. Kurdle Building

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

10. STATE COUNTY

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG. DIST.

STATE COUNTY

COUNTY NAME

CITY VICINITY

CONG. DIST.

11. SITE ADDRESS (STREET &amp; NO.)

12. EXISTING SURVEYS

 NR NHL HABS HAER-I HAER NPS CL6 CONF STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14. UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5

QUAD NAME

Balto. East

14. UTM ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

SIGN

SCALE

 1:24 1:62.5

QUAD NAME

15. CONDITION

70  EXCELLENT71  GOOD72  FAIR73  DETERIORATED74  RUINS75  UNEXPOSED76  ALTERED82  DESTROYED85  DEMOLISHED

16. INVENTORIED BY

Ann Steele

AFFILIATION

Baltimore Museum of Industry

DATE

Aug. 1983

17. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

See attached

(CONT OVER)

18. ORIGINAL USE

PRESENT USE

Commercial

ADAPTIVE USE

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

Esskay company pamphlet

(CONT OVER)

20. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP. OR MORE?

 YES  NO

21. NPS REGION

22. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

 YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

23. EDITOR

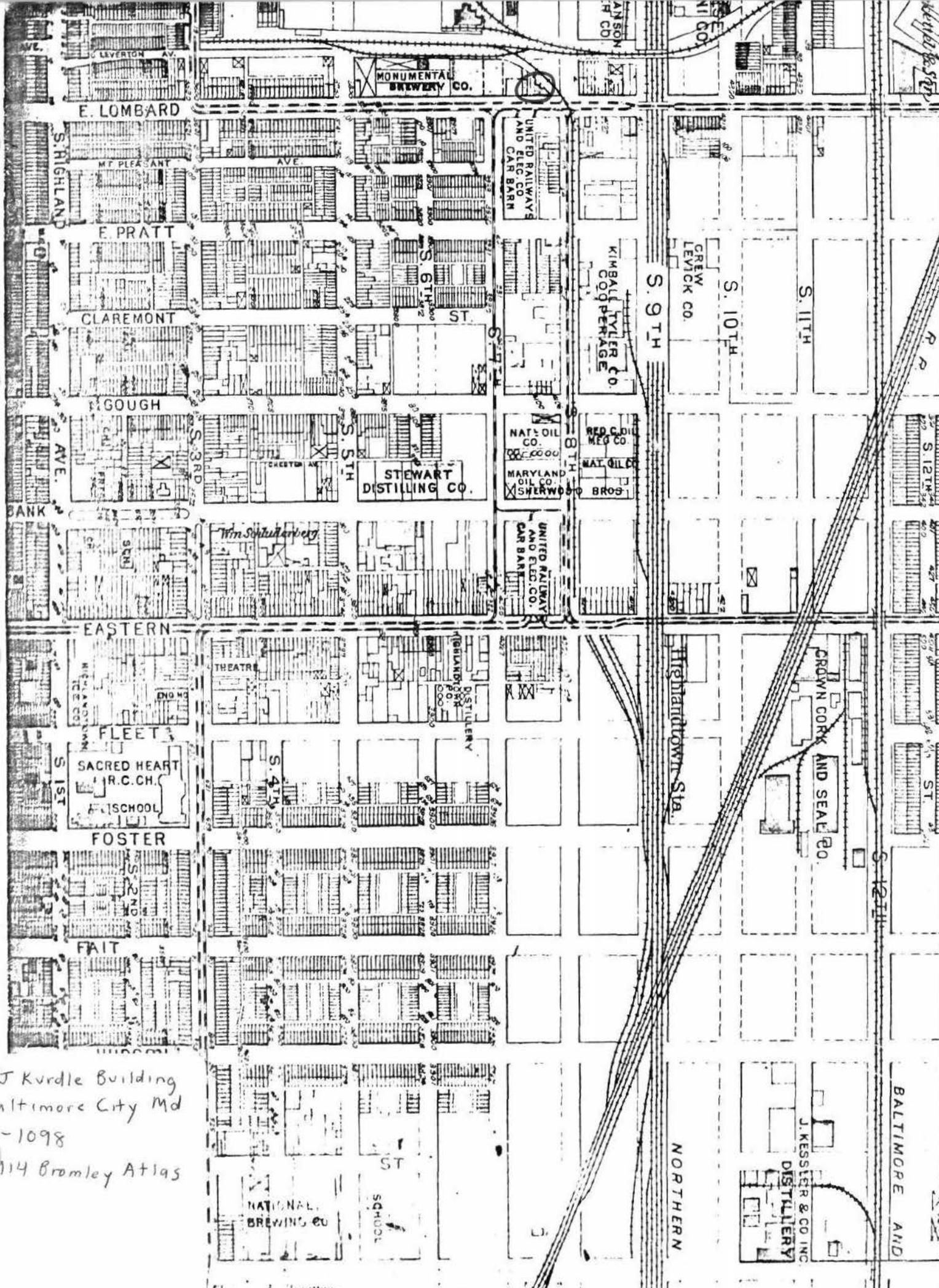
INDEXER

24. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

 YES NO

NAME

DISTRICT I.D. NO.



TJ Kurdle Building  
Baltimore City Md  
B-1098  
114 Bromley Atlas

E. LOMBARD

E. PRATT

CLAREMONT

GOUGH

EASTERN

FLEET

FOSTER

FAIT

MONUMENTAL  
BREWERY CO.

UNITED RAILWAYS  
AND ELEC. CO.  
CAR BARN

KIMBALL TYLER CO.  
COOPERAGE

STEWART  
DISTILLING CO.

UNITED RAILWAY  
AND ELEC. CO.  
CAR BARN

NAT. OIL  
CO.

RED C. D. I.  
MEO CO.

MARYLAND  
OIL CO.

MAT. OIL CO.  
BROS.

*Wm. Schulerberg*

THEATRE

DISTILLERY

SACRED HEART  
R.C. CH.  
SCHOOL

CROWN CORK  
AND SEAL CO.

J. KESSLER & CO. INC.  
DISTILLERY

NATIONAL  
BREWING CO.

SCHOOL

Highlandtown Sta.

NORTHERN

BALTIMORE AND

S. 9TH

S. 10TH

S. 11TH

S. 12TH

S. 12TH

S. HIGHLAND

S. 3RD

S. 1ST

S. 6TH

S. 5TH

S. 4TH

ST

114 Bromley Atlas





T.J. Kurlie Company  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
Peter Liebhold 8/83

B-1098

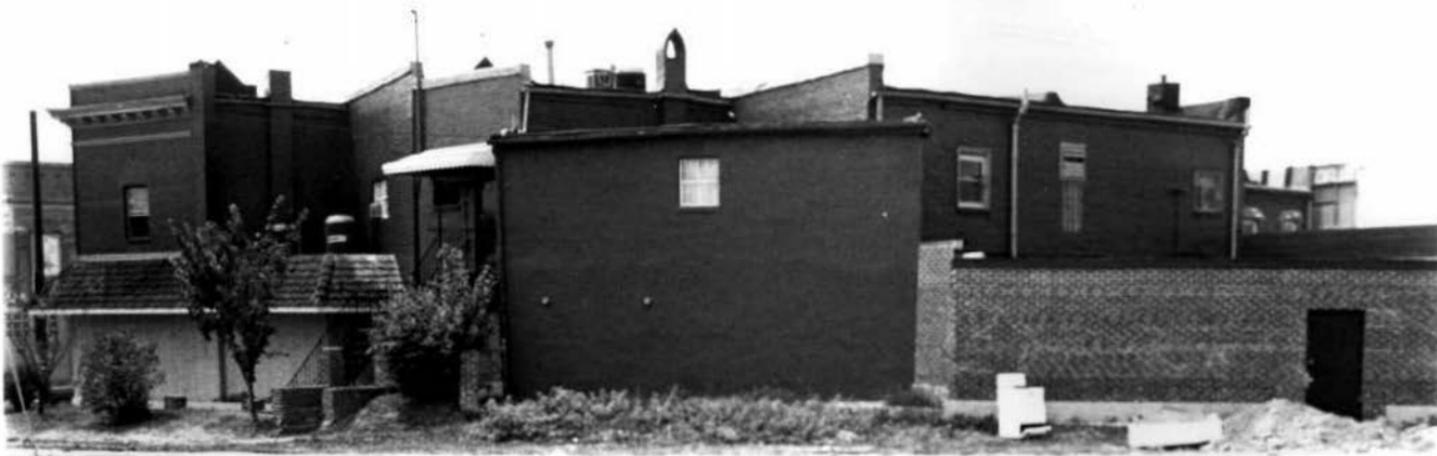
Looking N.W. from Haven and Lombard  
Sts. at facade of Building



T. J. Kurdle Company  
Baltimore City, MD  
Peter Liebhold 8/83

B-1098

Looking West from Lombard & Haven  
Sts.



B-1098

T.J. Kordle Company  
Baltimore City, MD  
Peter Liebhold 8/83

Looking South at the Rear of Building