

B-1107  
Schluderberg Packinghouse  
Baltimore City, Maryland  
private, 1867

Statement of Significance

The small brick industrial structure located at Bank and Dean Streets in Highlandtown was built in 1867 as the original meatpacking plant of the William Schluderberg Company, a firm which would later become the Schluderberg-Kurdle Company (Esskay), Baltimore's largest and oldest meatpacking firm. The Schluderberg plant is a fine example of a transitional industrial structure, marking the change from small craft shops to larger, mass-production factories. It is especially significant as one of the oldest surviving packinghouses in Baltimore.

Survey No. B-1107

Magi No. 0411075514

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Schluderberg Packinghouse

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 3701 Bank Street  not for publication

city, town Baltimore  vicinity of 3 congressional district

state Maryland county

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" 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 Newth-Morris Box Corporation of Maryland

street & number 3701 Bank Street 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 1346

street & number Fayette & Calvert Streets folio 32

city, town Baltimore, MD state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

NONE

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input 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.

The Schluderberg Packinghouse is an excellent example of the type of industrial structure which marked the transition from small craft industry to mass-production scale. Built about 1867, its size was larger than early butcher shops which slaughtered in the open (often in the back yard), one head at a time. This site originally had a slaughtering pen west of Dean Street. The meat was then taken to the two-story building which survives for cutting, curing and shipping. The site probably also contained stables for delivery horses and carts, an ice house and other related structures which are now gone.

The buildings which remain have been altered to meet changing needs. The larger is a two-story structure with very irregular fenestration. The windows on the second floor are spaced in two groupings. The smaller three-bay structure to the east appears to have been added in the late 1870's.

# 8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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 1867 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 small brick industrial structure located at Bank and Dean Streets in Highlandtown was built in 1867 as the original meatpacking plant of the William Schluderberg Company, a firm which would later become the Schluderberg-Kurdle Company (Esskay), Baltimore's largest and oldest meatpacking firm. The Schluderberg plant is a fine example of a transitional industrial structure, marking the change from small craft industry work-settings to larger, mass-production factories. It is especially significant as one of the oldest surviving packinghouses in Baltimore.

### Historical Background:

Baltimore's early butchering community settled in clusters around the city, along the main roadways that led into town. In a west Baltimore area near the junction of Old Frederick Road and the Gwynn's Fall, still referred to as "Pigtown" today, butchers and their families built their homes, using their backyards to slaughter the livestock and pack the meat.

The east side of Baltimore had similar butchering communities which grew up along the Jones Falls and the Old Philadelphia Road, including Butcher's Hill near Patterson Park. In the 19th century thousands of Germans immigrated to Baltimore, many of them skilled butchers and sausage makers. Some of these newcomers settled in an established German neighborhood near the old Patterson Estate. In 1860 they dubbed their community Highland Town (now Highlandtown), an area which would become a major Baltimore slaughterhouse district.

The Schluderberg family, arriving from Germany in 1851 with boatloads of fellow countrymen, settled in Highland Town. William Schluderberg, then only twelve years old, learned the old world methods of slaughtering, carving and sausage-making in his parents'

(cont.)



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Schluderberg Packinghouse Baltimore City, Maryland

8.1

Significance (cont.)

butcher shop. In 1858 he established his first business on Butchers' Hill, at Patterson Park Avenue and Baltimore Street. Aided by his new wife, William butchered meat in his home until 1867, when he opened a slaughterhouse at this Bank Street site. Originally the slaughterhouse included other buildings and the complex stretched from the surviving two-story building to Conkling Street (then Third Avenue). Butchering and meatpacking operations of this scale were relatively new at this time, the majority of meat processing still being done in small family butcher shops.

Thirty years later, Schluderberg had added a combination wholesale-retail store of Eastern Avenue near Broadway. Meanwhile, fellow German immigrant Thomas J. Kurdle was building his own chain of retail butcher shops in East Baltimore. In 1880, he borrowed \$50 from his mother-in-law to open a shop on Bond Street near Ashland Avenue. This was followed shortly by four other small stores and then in 1901, by a packing plant at 5th & Eastern, an establishment employing twelve men and a fleet of twelve wagons. Schluderberg's operations at his packing plant was said to have been somewhat larger at that time. In 1904, William turned over his prosperous business to his son George. Fifteen years later, George merged operations with Thomas Kurdle, establishing the now famous Baltimore meatpacking company, Esskay -- "S" for Schluderberg and "K" for Kurdle.

The Bank & Conkling Streets plant served as the new firm's main facility until a large, state-of-the-art plant at Baltimore & Haven Streets (Esskay's current site) was opened in 1920. The old Schluderberg plant was sold in 1962 to Newth-Morris Box Corp. and is currently used as a warehouse and factory by this company. The other buildings on the site, including a large row-house which stood at the corner of Bank and Conkling, was destroyed by fire and has been replaced by a large commercial building (Goldschmidt's Furniture).

1. SITE I.D. NO.

B-1107

## HAER INVENTORY

Historic American Engineering Record  
Department of the Interior, Washington, D

20240

2. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

manufacture

3. PRIORITY

DANGER OF DEMOLITION?  
(SPECIFY THREAT) YES NO UNKNOWN

5. DATE

1867

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

OWNER

ADMIN

7. OWNER/ADMIN

Newth-Morris Box Corp. of Md.

8. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

Schluderberg Packinghouse

9. OWNER'S ADDRESS

3701 Bank Street

10. STATE

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG.

DIST.

STATE

M D

COUNTY NAME

CITY/VICINITY

Baltimore

CONG.

DIST.

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

3701 Bank Street

12. EXISTING SURVEYS

 NR NHL HABS HAER-I HAER NPS CLB 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

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

Balto. Museum of Industry

DATE

9/83

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

manuf.

PRESENT USE

manuf.

ADAPTIVE USE

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

Schluderberg-Kurdle Company archives

(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





BALTIMORE

10V 1941  
NORTHWEST  
Locust Pt  
Schludberg Packinghouse B-1107  
Baltimore City MD  
USGS 7.5 Balto. East  
18° 64850 43 50420

Canton Yard

U.S. MILITARY RESERVATION

FORT HOLABIRD



SHILDERBERG PACKING HOUSE B-1107  
BALTO. CITY MD.  
P. LIEBOWITZ 9/183  
LOOKING S. E.

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SCHLUDERBERG PACKING HOUSE B-1107

BALTO. CITY MD.

P. LICHTHOFF 9/83

LOOKING S.E.



Schluderberg Packinghouse 8-1107  
Baltimore City Md  
Peter Liebhold 8/83

looking SW