

**MD-051**  
**Baltimore City**

- Summer State officials conduct a site  
1981 inspection of Kresson Street  
property. Samples are taken.
- 11/1981 State issues a clean-up order to  
Jacob Kline Cooperage.
- 12/7/81 Staff scientists from JRB Assoc.  
conduct a field inspection and  
estimate 200-250 drums are on  
site, many are damaged and that  
25% are full.
- 12/28/81 State issues Complaint and Order  
(#C-O-82-90) to cease and desist  
discharges, to clean the property  
and submit a report detailing all  
such activities.
- 2/19/82 A joint site investigation by EPA  
contractors, the State, and  
neighboring business found that  
approximately 600 drums were  
on site and as many as half of  
them contained waste.
- 2/21/83 State inspectors meet on site with  
new owner, and his contractors  
who mixed sawdust with drum  
contents and loaded them on a  
dump truck.
- 3/3/83 State inspectors find that all  
drums and saturated material had  
been removed and that the yard  
had been filled with crushed  
stone and graded.
- 3/21/83 State issues a letter stating that  
site has been sufficiently cleaned  
up.

**Baltimore Steel Drum Corporation**  
**Baltimore City, Maryland**

**Site Location**

The property addressed in this history is a one-acre lot located at 910 South Kresson Street in Baltimore City, Maryland.

**Site History**

A steel drum reclamation operation was ongoing at 910 South Kresson Street since the late 1930s. The original facility, Buck's Steel Drum, was passed on by the owner to his grandsons, Harry and Herman Buck. By 1980, Buck's Steel Drum was purchased by Jacob Kline Cooperage of Lehigh Valley, PA and the name became Baltimore Steel Drum Corporation. The operation was not profitable and drum reclamations ceased that same year. By 1984, the property was purchased by a neighboring establishment, Cambridge Iron and Metal to expand their existing metal recycling facility (at 910 South Kresson Street.)

**Environmental Investigations**

In the Summer of 1981, knowing that steel drum reclamation had ceased, Maryland officials conducted a site inspection of the Kresson Street property. Waste and soil samples were taken. One soil sample contained 188 parts per million of toluene. In November of 1981, the State issued a clean-up order to Jacob Kline Cooperage requiring removal of all drums and contaminated soil and installation of site security measures. On December 7, 1981, staff scientists from JRB Associates (JRB) of McClean, VA conducted a field inspection. Officials found from 200 to 250 drums on site, many of which were bulging, split and crushed. JRB estimated that 25% of these drums were full. On December 28, 1981, Complaint and Order

(#C-O-82-90) was issued by the state to Barton Kline (for the facility currently named Baltimore Barrel Company) to cease and desist discharges from the property, clean-up and remove all waste drums, chemicals and debris, and to submit a report detailing actions and disposal sites. By February 16, 1982, clean-up of the site had commenced. On February 19, 1982, a site investigation by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III contractors, the State, and representatives of neighboring businesses was conducted. Investigators estimated that the site contained 600 drums with as many as one half of them containing waste. On February 21, 1983, State inspectors met at Kresson Street with Nelson Neuman (of Abbey Drum

Company) who claimed that contrary to city records, he was the owner of the property. “Nadwoodney & Sons” were in the process of mixing contents of drums with sawdust and placing them on a dump truck. A February 28, 1983 site inspection found no activity or equipment on site, however a large pile of sawdust and several drums remained. A March 3, 1983 inspection revealed that all drums and saturated material had been removed and that the yard had been filled with crushed stone and graded. The overall appearance of the facility indicated that no further pollution problems existed on site. By March 21, 1983, a letter was sent to Mr. Nelson Neuman of Abbey Drum Company indicating cleanup had been completed to the satisfaction of the State.

A November 20, 1984 site inspection by the state was conducted. The new owners, Cambridge Iron and Metal of Baltimore, were using the on-site building as a maintenance shop. No further action was recommended.

### **Current Status**

This site is on the State Master List that identifies potential hazardous waste sites in Maryland. The Master List includes sites currently identified by the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System. EPA has given the site a designation of No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP). The designation of NFRAP by EPA does not mean that MDE has reached the same conclusion concerning further investigation at the site. The information contained in the fact sheet presents a summary of past investigations and site conditions currently known to MDE.

### **Facility Contacts**

Art O’Connell	Maryland Department of the Environment Site & Brownfields Assessment/ State Superfund Division	(410) 631-3493
---------------	--	----------------