



Facts About...

Carvel Hall
(Brownfield Site)

Site Location

The Carvel Hall facility is located at 4251 Crisfield Highway approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the Crisfield City limits on the lower Eastern Shore in Somerset County. The flat 23.35 acre industrial site is identified on the Somerset County tax map 50 as parcel 134.

Site History

The Carvel Hall manufacturing site was originally known as the Chas. D. Briddell manufacturing plant and was constructed in 1920. The plant received many U.S. Government contracts during World War II, including at least one for the manufacture of bazooka shells. The plant also made seafood and ice tools and cutlery items. In 1946, an employee designed a fine-bladed letter opener that would soon become the design of the world famous Carvel Hall steak knife. The Main Street plant was destroyed by fire on March 3, 1951. A new state-of-the-art facility was constructed at the new 4251 Crisfield Highway location. Production of the Carvel Hall steak knife continued there, as did the manufacture of many other cutlery types and even a series of U.S. Mail scooters. Manufacturing operations ceased in 2000 and retail operations ceased in 2003. In late 2006, Aerospace Manufacturing, Inc. operated at the site until September 2008.

In June 1981, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene issued a “warning notice” for a leaking 55-gallon drum of chromium waste.

In October 1986, MDE issued a Site Complaint for evaporating and treating waste plating solution without a permit and storage of Controlled Hazardous Substances (CHS) in unmarked drums and unsealed drums without an approved CHS storage area and on October 29, 1986, the facility was issued Consent Order C-O-87-091.

The Carvel Hall facility operated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Handler identification number MDD022570923 and under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System identification number MDP00000002. The site was also permitted by MDE’s Air and Radiation Management Administration.

Environmental Investigations

In April 2011, MDE completed a Brownfield Site Assessment (BSA) that identified elevated levels of inorganic contamination from metals in the soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment on site as well as organic contamination from chlorinated solvents in the soil and groundwater.

Current Status

Based on the results of the BSA, MDE is recommending that the City of Crisfield prepare a Universal Environmental Covenant to restrict the property to commercial or industrial purposes, prohibiting the use of



the groundwater for any purpose, to ensure all future intrusive activities be conducted in accordance with an OSHA compliant health and safety plan and that all soil and groundwater excavated, pumped or otherwise removed from the property be tested, properly characterized and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Contact

For additional information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at 410 537-3440.

Last Update: April 2011

