



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: POWHATAN PROSPECT – SITE TWO

Site Location

The only information on the location of the Powhatan Prospect sites dates to a 1917 mining report where an asbestos mine is reported to be on Fred Mett's property outside of Powhatan (Woodlawn). Property records document that Fred and Florence Mett acquired a 6.5 acre parcel of land in Woodlawn in September 1921. This was the only property in the Woodlawn area that was linked to Fred Mett. The 1917 date of the asbestos mining operation indicates that the mine may have been on property under the control of but not legally owned by Mr. Mett.

There are three potential sites for the early Mett mine; the first site is the northeast corner of Dogwood Road and Gwynn Oak Avenue and is based on a 1904 topographic map for the Woodlawn area that identifies a mine at this location. The second site is a property near the intersection of Ridge Road and Dogwood Road, which was at one time known as Asbestos Ridge. The third site is the Powhatan Plant property.

An early 1900s plat map for the Woodlawn area identifies a mine located northwest of the intersection of Dogwood Road and Ridge Road. The State Department of Assessments and Taxations (SDAT) property maps for the area show that the mine was located on what is now Parcel 12 of Map 87. The geographic coordinates for the site are 39.3218856° north latitude and 076.7778900° west longitude. The Maryland Grid coordinates are 542,000 North by 862,300 East.

Site History

Records document that Fred Mett operated a mine on the edge of his property some time around 1917. The exact location of this mined area is not known. The second Powhatan Prospect mine was identified from historic records as being located on a large parcel northwest of the intersection of Dogwood Road and Ridge Road. The property is currently owned by Dogwood Resources, LLC. Property records for the site have been traced back to 1911 when it was auctioned off in a legal proceeding.

Environmental Investigations

In July 2012 MDE performed a Preliminary Assessment of the property. There are no records of Phase I or II environmental studies having been done prior to that date.

Current Status



Maryland Department of the Environment
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The area of the suspected Mett mine is currently commercial property; however, all surrounding properties are residential. The second prospect site is located on Asbestos Ridge on a parcel identified as a mine on an early 1900s plat map of the surrounding properties. Historic aerial photographs depict tailings piles and the remains of a pit and/or shaft mines on the property. This site is closely associated with the Bok Asbestos Mine and may actually be an extension of the same mine. Future development of this site may require further assessment.



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