



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: ROBERT E. LEE PARK

Site Location

The nearly 450-acre Robert E. Lee Park is located in south central Baltimore County just north of the Baltimore City line. The 9.69-acre section contained in the Robert E. Lee Park that contains the “Site” consists of two railroad right-of-ways which run along Lake Roland. One section is now used by the Maryland Central Light Rail Line (CLRL) and the other is an inactive section of railroad. The portion of the CLRL that was investigated extended from Station Marker 377 north to Marker 440 and consists of a narrow strip of land approximately 66 feet wide and 6,400 feet long.

Site History

The CLRL began as the York and Maryland Line Rail Road in 1832 and became the Northern Central Railway Company (NCR) in 1854. In 1861, Pennsylvania Rail Road (PRR) acquired controlling interest in NCR and operated as a subsidiary until 1972 when hurricane Agnes caused extensive bridge damage and wash outs along much of the line. In 1976, PRR lines were transferred to a new government corporation, Conrail and the line was rebuilt in the late 1980s. In March 1990, the line was bought by the Maryland Transportation Authority.

Environmental Investigations

In February 1990, Geraghty and Miller completed an Environmental Assessment on property considered for use as part of the CLRL. No gross contamination was identified in soil and groundwater samples collected for that investigation.

On December 27, 1991, MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment that recommended further investigation of potential hazardous wastes.

On August 28, 1992, MDE completed a Site Inspection. Results from the chemical analyses of soil, surface water and sediment samples identified low levels of organic and inorganic contamination. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency subsequently on that same day archived the site from its list of potentially contaminated sites.

Current Status

MDE has no further requirements for this site at this time.



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Anderson/Land Restoration Program/December/2014