



Facts About...

Severn Street Plant
State Master List Site (MD-245)

Site Location

The 2.781-acre Severn Street Plant site is located at 1700 Bayard Street, according to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, in an industrialized area of southwest Baltimore City. The site is identified on the Baltimore City tax map 21, section 8 in block 825 as lot 1. The property address was formerly identified as 1401 Severn Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Site History

The former manufactured gas plant (MGP) operated from 1883 until 1914 and used the coal carbonization process to manufacture gas. On August 24, 1914, the H.B. Davis Company purchased 1.106 acres and began marine, industrial and household paint manufacturing operations. In 1915, Chesapeake Iron Works purchased 1.675 acres of the original MGP site and operated an iron works facility for approximately one year. In October 1924, the H.B. Davis Company expanded operations and purchased the Chesapeake Iron Works property. On June 20, 1979, the Valspar Corporation assumed ownership of the paint manufacturing facility. On December 3, 1998, the site was sold to Engineered Polymer Solutions, Inc. Jotun Paint, Inc. leased a portion of the site in March 1999. On March 13, 2003, the site was sold to Gas Light Square, LLC. with plans for redevelopment into office and retail space.

Environmental Investigations

The site was first regulated by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Air Quality Programs in 1982 until the paint related operations ceased in March 2008. The site was also under MDE's Hazardous Waste Program's enforcement and held a National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System permit issued by MDE's Water Management Administration.

In October 1986, MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment (PA) which focused on potential environmental impacts from the former MGP operations. The PA recommended a low priority for further site investigation. On January 23, 1996 EPA archived the site from its inventory of active Superfund hazardous waste sites.

On May 22, 2000, the Valspar Corporation submitted an application to the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) as a responsible person. On December 15, 2005 VCP issued Valspar Corporation a Certificate of Completion.

Current Status

Gas Light Square, LLC. is currently working with the Baltimore Development Corporation to redevelop the site into an office/retail facility.

Contact

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

Last Update: January 2011

