

BURKE COUNTY

Planning Unit 097: AML Printout #519: T164N, R93W, Section 31, NE
Planning Unit 096: AML Printout #598: T164N, R93W, Section 31, NE

Additional Legal Location: See notes, below

Name:	Owner:
MacKee Coal Mine (1908-1909)	S.G. Ruffcorn (aka G.G.,
Mackee Coal Mine (1910-1913)	F.G., and G.S) (1908-
Makee Coal Mine (1914-1919)	1913)
	Shannon G. Ruffcorn
	Estate (1913-1919)

Category: Commercial/local

Type: Underground, drift, double entry (1908-1913); Underground,
shaft single entry (1914-1919)

Overburden	Coal Seam:	Thickness Mined:	Source:
30 ft.	7-8 ft,	6 ft.	SEBR:1910, 1912
30 ft.	6-7 ft.	6 ft.	SEBR:1914
30 ft.	6-6 1/2 ft.	5 1/2 ft.	SEBR:1916, 1918

Cultural Resource Site Number: Not formally recorded

Basic Data (excerpted from primary sources):

This mine is not listed as a new mine in 1909, and it apparently had "been in operation for a number of years" by 1912 (SEBR 1912). According to the 1910 SEBR, coal was found at this mine along the border of the south side of Short Creek. By 1912, the mine "entry [was] so long that further economical operation of the mine will require the sinking of a shaft." A new shaft had been driven by 1916; however, in 1918, the "mine was found practically worked out," and no listings were noted following 1919. Therefore, it is assumed that the mine ceased operations in about 1919; however, it may have continued to be operated but not reported or it may have been operated and reported under some other name following 1919.

Descriptive information pertaining to this mine is included in:
[source:year(pages)]

SEBR:1910(86)	SEBR:1916(129-130)
SEBR:1912(108)	SEBR: 1918 (135)
SEBR:1914(125)	

Notes:

It should be noted that Planning Unit 097, AML location 519 and Planning Unit 096, AML Location 598 both identify legal location: T164N, R93W, Section 31, NE.

MacKee Coal Mine (continued)

The name of this mine also was spelled McKee, and the mine apparently also was known as the Ruffcorn Mine (Pioneer and Progress n.d.).

A number of locational discrepancies were noted for the MacKee Coal Mine. Each of these is listed and discussed below:

1910: T164N, R93, Section 30, NW (Lot 1, Portal)

The community of Portal, North Dakota, is located in T164N, R92W, Section 36, NW. Descriptive information provided in 1910 indicates that the MacKee Coal Mine was located about 12 miles west of Portal, which could place it somewhere in T164N, R93W, Section 31 (the location identified in both Planning Units and AML locations).

1912: T162N, R94W, Section 30

The legal location listed in the 1912 SEBR would place the Mackee Coal Mine in Canada, as would the 1912 SEER descriptive information, which places the mine 8 miles north of Columbus, North Dakota.

1914: T162N, R94W, Section 30, NW

The legal location listed in the 1914 SEBR would place the Mackee Coal Mine in Canada; no distance from a North Dakota community is provided in the 1914 SEER descriptive section.

1916: T164N, R93W, Section 32

The legal location listed in the 1916 SEBR would place the Makee Coal Mine in North Dakota, but would not place it in a Planning Unit or AML location; the 1914 SEER descriptive information places the mine about 7 miles north of Columbus, North Dakota, which could apply to T164N, R93W, Section 31 or Section 32.

1918: T164N, R93W, Section 32

The legal location listed in the 1918 SEBR would place the Makee Coal Mine in North Dakota, but would not place it in a Planning Unit or AML location; the 1918 SEBR descriptive information places the mine about 7 miles north of Columbus, North Dakota, which could apply to T164N, R93W, Section 31 or Section 32.

It should be noted that descriptive information provided in all above mentioned reports places the mine a few hundred feet south of the North Dakota/Canada border and near the Short Creek. The Short Creek appears to traverse both Section 31 and Section 32, T164N, R93W.

Leonard et al. (1925) indicate that coal was mined from Section 31, T164N, R93W; however, Leonard et al. (1925) provide no mine name for this legal location. Wilder (1902) indicates that an unnamed

MacKee Coal Mine (continued)

underground mine was operated in Section 31, T164N, R93W, and that this mine operated continuously for two years. It is not known if these sources refer to the MacKee mine, or if they refer to some other mine(s).

Sources (primary and secondary):

CAL:1912(162)

CMID:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Leonard et al.:1925(79)

Pioneers and Progress:n.d.(863)

SEBR:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Wilder:1902(131)

Mine: MacKee Coal Mine (1908-1909)
 Mackee Coal Mine (1910-1913)
 Makee Coal Mine (1914-1919)

Planning Unit: 097
 AML Number: 519
 Planning Unit: 096
 AML Number: 598

Year	Days Operated	Employees	Price Per Ton	Tons Produced	Tons Local Trade	Tons Shipped	Owner or Superintendent*
1909	no data	5	2.00	3,000	yes	no	S.G. Ruffcorn
1910	150	6	1.80	1,200	yes	no	G.G. Ruffcorn
1911	100	3	1.80	370	yes	no	G.G. Ruffcorn
1912	45	2	1.80	300	yes	no	G.S. Ruffcorn
1913	12	2	1.80	300	yes	no	G.S. Ruffcorn
1914	64	1	1.50	100	yes	no	Shannon G. Ruffcorn Estate
1915	126	3	1.50	500	yes	no	Shannon G Ruffcorn Estate
1916	240	3	1.50	1,469	yes	no	Shannon C. Ruffcorn Estate
1917	168	2	1.75	891	yes	no	Shannon C. Ruffcorn Estate
1919	250	4	no data	1,000	no data	no data	no data

*Unless otherwise indicated, name listed is that of owner.