

STARK COUNTY

Planning Unit 063: AML Printout #142: T139N, R92W, Section 5, NE NE
Planning Unit 063: AML Printout #143: T139N, R92W, Section 5, NE NW
Planning Unit 063: AML Printout #144: T139N, R92W, Section 5, NW NE

Additional Legal Location: T139N, R92W, Section 5, Lot 1--see Notes

Name:	Owner:
North Star Coal Mine (1914-1924)	Albert Koesel (1914-1915)
Ostoj Coal Mine (1925)	John Ostoj (1916-1919)
North Star Coal Mine (1926)	Ostoj Family (remaining years)
John Ostoj Mine (1927-1929)	
North Star Coal Mine (1933-1935)	

Category: Commercial/local; Private

Type: Underground, slope and/or shaft, double entry

		Thickness	
Overburden:	Coal Seam:	Mined:	Source:
40 ft.	5-5 ft.	5.5 ft.	SEBR:1916
50-100 ft.	6 ft.	5 ft.	SEBR:1918

Cultural Resources Site Number: Not formally recorded

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Basic Data (excerpted from primary sources):

This mine is not listed as a new mine in 1914, and it may have been in operation prior to that time. By early 1916, the main entry of the mine extended 300 ft., and it had reached 400 ft. by early 1918. Rooms were from 150 ft. by 17 ft. to 250 ft. by 18-20 ft. The 1916 and 1918 SEBRs indicate that no water was found in this mine's workings. The 1920 CMID indicates that "A new shaft was made for ventilation and also used for escapement." The 1926 CMID indicates that this mine "was a new opening, old mine being abandoned." The mine continued to be operated and reported from 1927 through 1929, when it is listed "Closed." A new North Star Coal Mine was begun in 1933; this mine also was operated by John Ostoj," so it appears likely that it was situated in the general vicinity of the original North Star/Ostoj Mine. This North Star mine was an underground drift mine; production figures are reported for the mine in 1933. The 1934 CMID does not list production figures for this mine; however, Harrington (1934a) indicates that the mine produced 100 tons of lignite in 1934. The 1935 CMID indicates that the mine was being operated only "for own use." No further listings were noted for this mine; therefore, it is not known for how many years following 1934 the mine was operated and/or if it was operated only for private use.

North Star/Ostoj Coal Mine (continued)

Descriptive information pertaining to this mine is included in:

[source:year(pages)]

CMID:1920(22)
CMID:1926(50)

SEBR:1916(148)
SEBR:1918(159-160)

Notes:

The legal location listed for this mine in 1916 and 1918 SEBRs is 140 92 5 Lot 1; however, descriptions of the mine in both reports indicate that the mine was situated "just north of Richardton" (SEBR 1916) or "situated about a quarter of a mile north of Richardton" (SEBR 1918). If the mine was situated at 140 92 5 Lot 1, it would have been situated over 6 mi. north of Richardton; therefore, it appears that the legal locations noted in the SEBRs (1916 and 1918) are in error and that they should read 139 92 5 Lot 1.

Since the designation of "Lots" apparently was somewhat arbitrary, it is impossible to determine in what specific portion of the N1/2 of Section 5 the mine was located. Therefore, information about the mine has been included with the above three AML locations, all of which describe some portion of 139 92 5 N1/2.

Sources (primary and secondary):

CMID:see table, next page, for appropriate years
Harrington:1934a(15) Leonard et al.:1925(145)
SEBR:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Mine: North Star Coal Mine (1914-1924)
 Ostoj Coal Mine (1925)
 North Star Coal Mine (1926)
 John Ostoj Mine (1927-1929)
 North Star Coal Mine (1933-1935)

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Year	Days Operated	Employees	Price Per Ton	Tons Produced	Tons Local Trade	Tons Shipped	Owner or Superintendent**
1914	238	3	1.80	1,500	yes	no	Albert Koesel
1915	198	4	1.80	2,040	yes	no	Albert Koesel
1916	216	5	1.50	3,000	yes	no	John Ostoj
1917	216	4	2.00	1,523	yes	no	John Ostoj
1919	300	4	no data	3,053	no data	no data	John Ostoj**
1920	no data	no data	no data	1,295	1,295	none	Mike Ostoj**
1921	50	1	2.80	276	276	none	John Ostoj**
1922	no report						
1923	no data	3	3.00	2,589	2,589	none	John Hencz**
1924	280	2	2.70	1,222	1,222	none	John Henoz**
1925	45	2	2.00	224	224	none	John Ostoj**
1926	122	3	1.50	555	555	none	John Ostoj**
1927	300	4	2.25	2,400	2,400	none	John Ostoj**
1928a	100	3	2.25	,500	1,500	none	John Ostoj**
1929	"Closed"						
1933	30	2	1.40	25	25	none	John Ostoj**
1933	"new mine"						
1934	no report						
1935	"for own use"						

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

**Individual was superintendent of the mine; owner not listed.

a Mine production was "Estimated" in 1928.