

**STARK COUNTY**

Planning Unit 035: AML Printout #360: T139N, R98W, Section 6, SW

Additional Legal Location: T139N, R99W, Section 1, SE

Name:	Owner:
Zenith Coal Mine (aka Zenith Briquet & Mines Corporation) (1909-1932)	Zenith Coal Company (1909-1913)
Zarak Coal Mine (1933-1935)	Dakota Lignite Mines Co. (1914-1917)
	No data (remaining years)

Category: Commercial/regional and local; Possibly Industrial/local (see Notes, below)

Type: Underground, slope, double entry (1909-1922); Underground, shaft (1923); Underground, slope (1923); underground, drift (1926-1928); Strip (surface) (1929); Underground, drift (1930-1935)

Overburden:	Coal Seam:	Thickness Mined:	Source:
100 ft.	18-22 ft.	8 ft.	SEBR:1910
100 ft.	18-24 ft.	8-10 ft.	SEBR:1912
70 ft.	20-22 ft.	7-8 ft.	SEBR:1914
10-40 ft.	20-22 ft.	9-10 ft.	SEBR:1916
30-75 ft.	18-22 ft.	8-9 ft.	SEBR:1918
45-70 ft.	16-22 ft.	No data	Leonard et al.:1925
No data	14 ft.	8 ft.	CMID:1926

Cultural Resource Site Number: Not formally recorded

Basic Data (excerpted from primary sources):

This mine is not listed as a new mine in 1909; however, the 1910 SEBR (which includes the year 1909) indicates that "During the summer of 1909 the work at the old mine north of the track was discontinued and operations begun on the new mine, located just on the south side of the railroad." Now many years the "old mine north of the track" was operated is not known. The 1910 SEBR also indicates that "there is an abundance of water in the mine which requires a steam pump to keep down." The main entry of this mine was 1,000 ft. long by March 1912; additionally, the tipple (which apparently was built in about 1908 or 1909) had been completely destroyed by fire and a "cave in had occurred in the main entry." The 1912 SEBR also indicates that the mine was "very wet, the water overlying the coal and seeping through vertical cracks, keeps the mine in a very muddy condition." The 1914 SEBR indicates that the main entry of the mine extended 3,000 ft. Additionally, no regular system of ventilation can be maintained on account of numerous openings caused by cave-ins in the rooms (150-300 ft. by 25 ft." that have been worked out," and two 300 gallon capacity pumps had been installed, one or the other of which was kept in operation day

Zenith/Zarak Coal Mine (continued)

and night. The 1916 SEBR indicates that the main entry extended 3,500 ft., and ventilation was secured "by means of three air shafts, and an old caved in room permits the miners to enter the mine near the present works." The 1918 SEBR indicates that the main entry of the mine extended 4,300 ft., and mine buildings included a power house [no mention noted of use of electrically-powered equipment being used at the mine], boiler room, powder magazine, bunk house, boarding house, and an office. A 1920 WCB map indicates that the Zenith townsite was situated a short distance east of the mine workings; it is possible that this townsite was established in combination with the mine's bunk house, boarding house, etc. The 1923 CMID indicates that the mine was in fair condition in the part of the mine where the coal was being taken out but is nearly exhausted and the other part of the mine could not be entered on account of water." The 1923 CMID indicates that this mine had been condemned, likely because of cave ins. The 1926 CMID indicates that at the time of inspection pillars were being robbed back to finish up." The 1929 CMID indicates that the old mine had been abandoned, and it lists this mine as a strip mine; it is not known if this mine was operated as a strip mine in this year or if the 1929 CMID is in error, since following listings indicate that the mine continued to be operated as an underground mine. The 1933 CMID Summary of Inspection indicates that the Zarak Coal Mine was "Formerly Zenith Mine," and the 1935 CMID lists this mine "not operating."

Descriptive information pertaining to this mine is included in:

[source:year (pages) ]

CMID:1920 (22)	SEBR:1916 (100)
CMID:1926 (50)	SEBR:1918 (160-161)
Leonard et al.:1925 (142)	WCB Map:1909
SEBR:1910 (93)	WCB Map:1920 (updated 1921 and 1924)
SEBR:1912 (118-119)	
SEBR:1914 (138)	WCB Map:1926

Notes:

The 1926 WCB map illustrating this mine refers to it as the Zenith Briquet & Mines Corporation; however, no reference was noted in SEBRs, CMIDs, or other sources about coal from this mine being used to manufacture briquets. Additionally, as indicated in the basic data section above, the 1918 SEBR indicates that a power house was located at the mine. It is possible that this power house was operated, using coal from this mine, and that it supplied the nearby community of Zenith with electricity; however, no definite information was noted. Provided that briquets were manufactured from coal produced at this mine and electricity was generated using coal from this mine, the mine was a local industrial mine as well as a local and regional commercial mine.

Zenith/Zarak Coal Mine (continued)

Sources (primary and secondary):

CAL:1912(162)

CMID:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Harrington:1934(15)

Leonard et al.:1925(144)

NDGS:1920(Bulletin 4)

School of Mines:n.d.(15)

SEBR:see table, next page, for appropriate years

WCB:1909, 1920(updated 1921 and 1924), 1926

Mine: Zenith Coal Mine (1909-1932)  
 Zarak Coal Mine (1933-1935)

Planning Unit: 035  
 AML Number: 360

Year	Days Operated	Employees	Price Per Ton	Tons Produced	Tons		Owner or Superintendent*
					Local Trade	Tons Shipped	
1909	no data	70	1.25	11,550	yes	yes	Zenith Coal Company
1910	280	15	1.35	11,575	yes	yes	Zenith Coal Company
1911	280	15	1.35	10,000	yes	yes	Zenith Coal Company
1912	216	14	1.75	15,050	yes	11,008	Zenith Coal Company
1913	204	13	1.75	12,258	yes	11,008	Zenith Coal Company
1914	205	14	1.50	12,000t	yes	11,000t	Dakota Lignite Mines Co.
1915	215	16	1.46	25,876	yes	25,142	Dakota Lignite Mines Co.
1916	312	34	1.75	27,836	yes	26,584	Dakota Lignite Mines Co.
1917	312	40	2.50	30,443	yes	30,155	Dakota Lignite Mines Co.
1919	131	33	no data	4,371	no data	no data	Mr. Smith**
1920	295	11	3.15	15,008	415	14,583	Hanson Evesmith**
1921	300	33	2.55	14,616	2,335	12,281	Hanson Evesmith**
1922	298	19	2.75	10,122	1,129	8,993	Hanson Evesmith**
1923	270	24	2.75	8,949	399	7,149	Wm. Zarak**
1923	"Condemned."						
1924	35	15	2.75	2,600	978	1,622	R. Evesmith**
1925	30	4	2.00	1,000	1,000	none	Wm. Zarak**
1926	75	6	2.00	1,000	1,000	none	Wm. Zarak**
1927	90	5	1.75	700	700	none	Wm. Zarak**
1928	90	5	1.75	825	825	none	Wm. Zarak**
1929	60	2	1.75	400	400	none	Wm. Zarak**
1930	60	2	2.00	400	400	none	Wm. Zarak**
1931	90	2	1.50	315	315	none	Wm. Zarak**
1932	90	1	1.50	265	265	none	Wm. Zarak**
1933	30	1	1.50	135	135	none	Wm. Zarak**
1934	no data	no data	1.50	135	135	none	Wm. Zarak**
1935	"not operating"						

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

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

t"Estimated."