

BLACK DIAMOND COAL COMPANY

Marion County

**Location:** A caved shaft, inclined at about 45% eastward, lies about 100 yards west of the bridge across Butte Creek, in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 15, T. 6 S., R. 1 E.W.M.

**History:** According to W. N. Mazingo, of Woodburn, who lived in Scotts Mills at the time the work was done some time between 1900 and 1910, a coal seam outcropping above the bridge was prospected with a churn drill to a depth of 400 feet. Mazingo said that in this hole a 9 foot seam of coal was encountered, followed by 40 feet of "sandstone and shale", and then 16 feet of coal was penetrated. On the basis of this prospecting hole, the incline was begun and run down for 500-600 feet before the company ran out of funds - at a point only a few tens of feet from the coal.

**General:** Coal is well-known to exist in small seams in this general area; Coal Creek thereby getting its name. Streaks up to 8" thick of coal have been found in a 150 foot drift  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile above Wilhoit Springs on Rock Creek. Coal is also known to exist in small seams to the south, at several points to the east of Scio. The formation is predominantly tuffaceous, varying from fine sandy tuff to coarse tuff-breccia and agglomerate. Limestone layers occur within the tuff to the north at Marquam, and up Butte Creek in sections 29 and 30, T. 6 S., R. 2 E.W.M.

One sample of coal was found on the dump of the shaft, and appeared to be similar to the other local lignite, in that it had slaked badly and crumbles easily. The shaft itself appeared to be in medium to fine grained obscurely bedded tuff.

12 September 1940  
John Eliot Allen-Geologist