



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: DAVID TAYLOR NIKE CONTROL SITE

Site Location

The David Taylor Annapolis Nike Control site is located at 640 A Broadneck Road, near the intersection of Broadneck Road and Benson Lane, approximately 15 miles northeast of the City of Annapolis, in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The Maryland grid coordinates are 435,500 north and 957,500 east. The geographic coordinates are 39° 01' 37" north latitude by 76° 25' 46" west longitude.

Site History

Between 1954 and the early 1970s, Nike Ajax and Nike Hercules missile batteries were constructed throughout the continental United States. The program required the U.S. Army to maintain, handle, store and dispose of missile components and propellants. Nike Ajax missiles were first deployed in 1954 and remained in use until 1964. Nike Ajax missiles became operational at the site in 1955. In 1962 and 1963, Ajax missiles at the site were replaced by Hercules missiles. This system remained in place until 1969.

Typical Nike batteries consisted of two main operating areas: the control area and the launch area. Equipment limitations stated that the two areas could not be closer than 900 meters and no further apart than 3.5 kilometers. The control area contained all radar, guidance, electronics, and communication equipment for missile guidance and control. The launch area contained the facilities and equipment required to assemble, test, and maintain the missiles and associated launchers. Maintenance facilities generally included the motor pool and generator buildings, in addition to the defuel/refuel facilities. The generator building and motor pool were normally equipped with 1-2 cubic meter gravel pit sump where waste oil, solvents, and paints were routinely dumped and allowed to soak into the ground. Some launch batteries had an additional rock-filled pit in the defuel/refuel area, which was used for missile fuel additives. Fuel tanks were common at both the control and launch areas. Most bulk storage was in underground storage tanks, although aboveground tanks were also used.

Environmental Investigation and Action

There is not a record of any site exclusive investigations or remediation at this facility.

Current Status

No further data is found in the Maryland Department of the Environment's files.



Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard | Baltimore, MD 21230-1718 | www.mde.state.md.us
410-537-3000 | 800-633-6101 | TTY Users: 800-735-2258

cox/lrp/april/2014