

Portlandmosen *2015 II*



by
Keld Jensen

Portlandmosen

2015 II

The Portlandmosen with its five kilometre peat banks with water is the result of the production of peat, which Aalborg Portland Cement used in the furnaces during the period of the two world wars.

Today, the new owners have started a large restoration project to bring the area back to its original state as a bog. Throughout the area the trees are cut down, and simultaneously the old drainage ditches that original drained the area are removed.

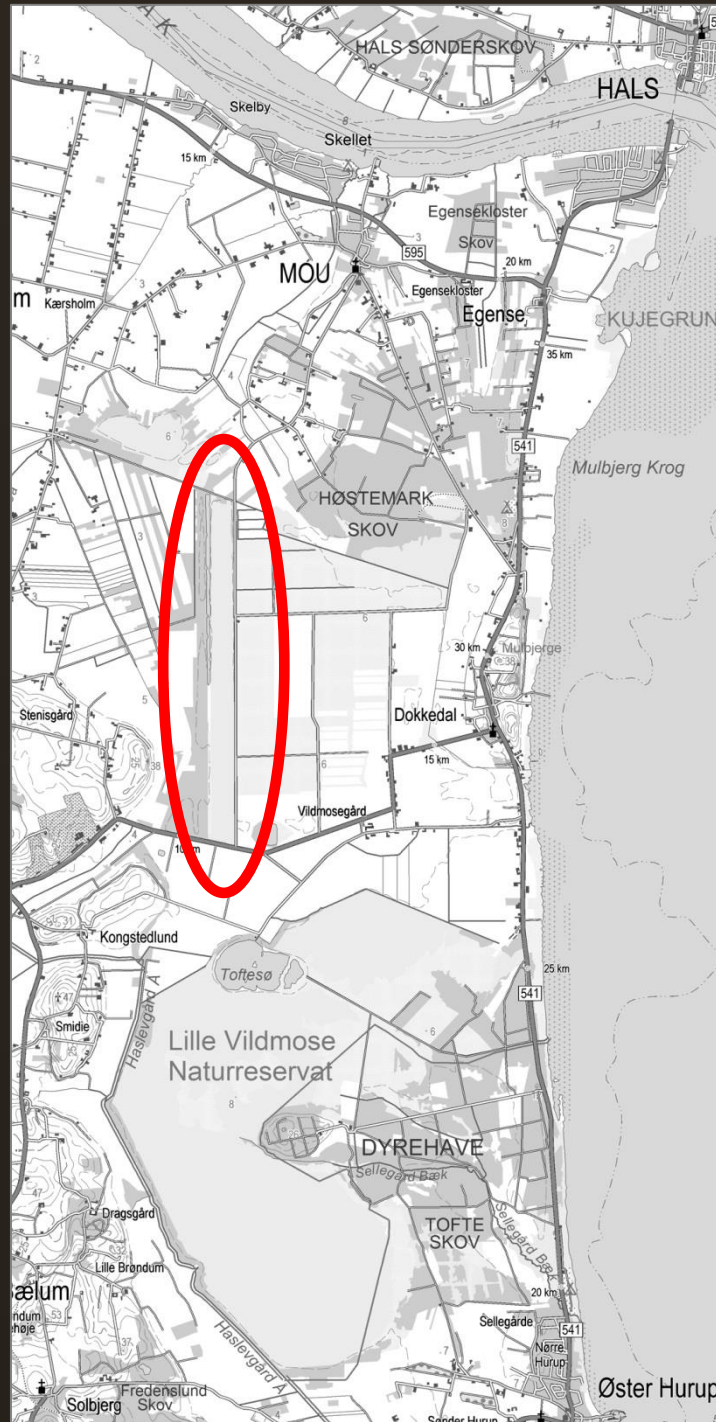
As a teenager, I experienced the Portlandmosen as an impassable and slightly dangerous place to visit. It was a place with ponds and ditches that had this blackish colour, which indicated that it was at the risk of our life, if we fall into the water. It was also a dangerous place, because it was uncertain we have the permission from the owners to stay in the area.

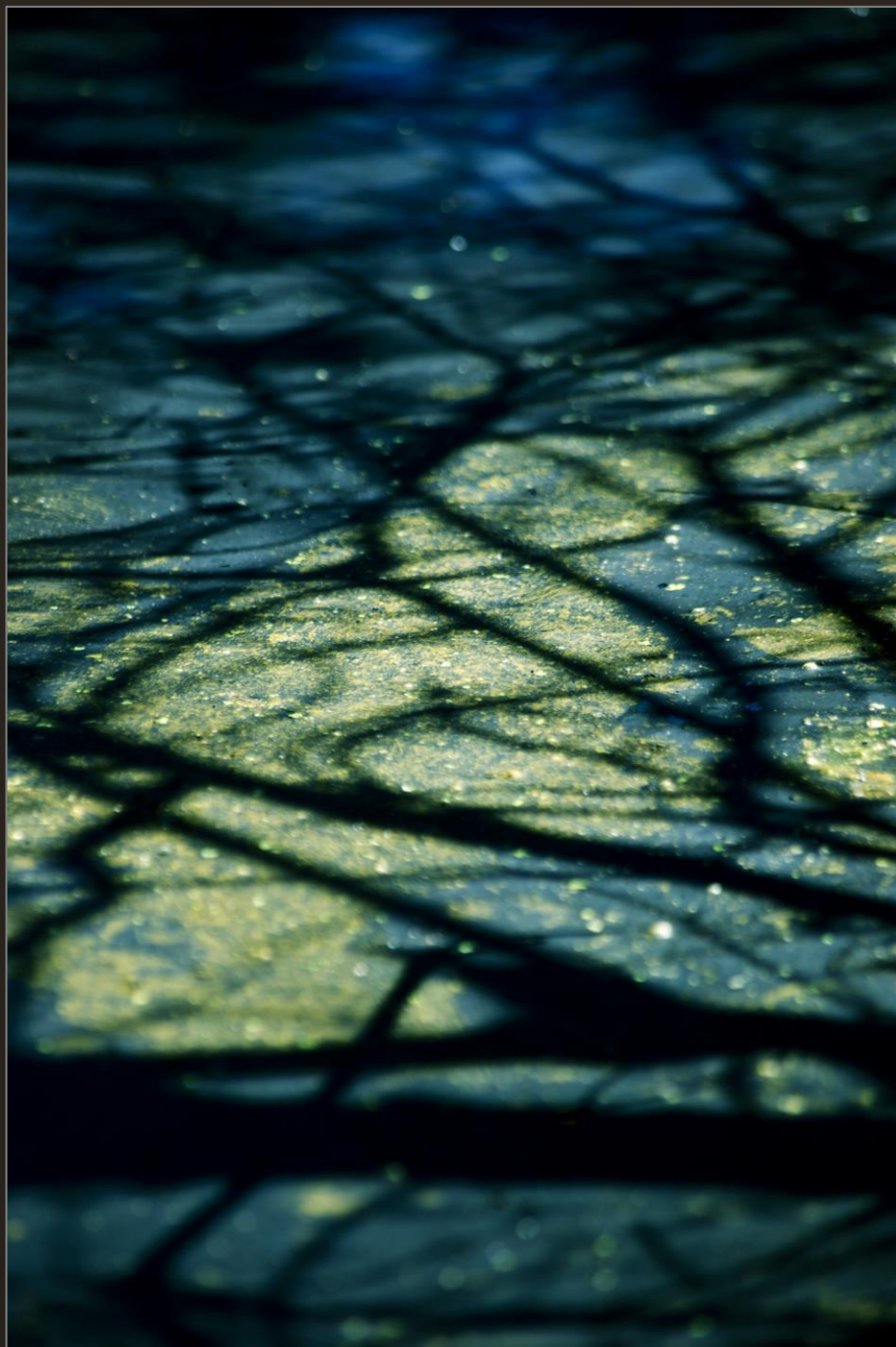
On the Portlandmosen we can really see

the stagnant, dark waters that appears bottomless, and which we should keep away from. Between the peat banks the black and brown water runs in small streams that are often completely hidden by the surrounding vegetation of large ferns.

This is an area where both vipers and snakes can be observed if we have the necessary patience and have learned to spot them. In the first warm rays of sunshine in the spring, it is easier to spot these poikilothermic animals because they choose to crouch in the sunbeams on the paths and bare places of vegetation. The cold weather in the spring causes they are still not agile enough to disappear silently in time, when they are disturbed.

Out here on the Portlandmosen we can also experience the feel of the shaky ground of the bog. Only a fine network of roots ensures that we do not sink into the deep mud.





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Thumbnails





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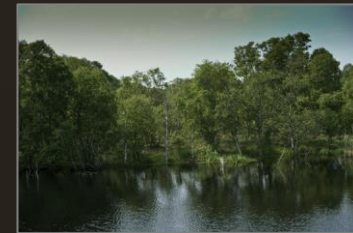
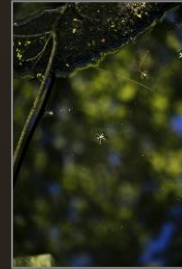
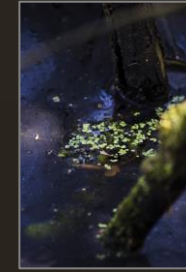
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COLOPHON

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