John May

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF

ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

FACT SHEET

Oswego Castings Site
375 Mitchell Street, Oswego
November 1998

Notice of Completion of Work for the Oswego Castings Site

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Health (NYSDOH) are pleased to announce the completion of the remedial construction contract for the Oswego Castings Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site by Site Remediation Services of East Windsor, Connecticut. The contractor removed and disposed off-site approximately 15,900 tons of hazardous and 4,400 tons of non-hazardous soils and sediments. Materials with PCB concentrations above 50 parts per million (ppm) are listed hazardous wastes in New York State. Samples were collected at the limits of the excavations to determine that all materials exceeding the cleanup goals had been removed. NYSDEC's Region 7 office provided construction management and inspection services throughout construction. NYSDOH was also actively involved in all phases of the project.

In general, PCB contamination was much more widespread than anticipated by the Remedial Investigation. The Department retained Advanced Cleanup Technologies, a geoprobe driller, to perform investigative work to the northeast and south of the former core sands disposal area. The geoprobe work was necessary to delineate contamination and determine the extent of the expanding excavation areas. To the northeast, the borings and analytical results confirmed the extent of fill and characterized the materials for off-site disposal. The majority of the soils in this area exceeded 10 ppm but were below 50 ppm for PCBs, and were removed under Site Remediation Services' existing contract. South of the former landfill area, the borings found widespread PCB contamination to levels as high as 3900 ppm. PCB contamination exists at levels above 50 ppm under the current owner's saw mill plant. No borings were performed under the former main plant building, but contamination was found in borings adjacent to this building.

Future Work: Additional removal work will be completed under a separate construction contract in order to allow for the further delineation of the extent of contamination and minimize impact to the current property owner's business operations. Additional investigation work and remedial design, will be followed by competition bidding and award of a second contract. As part of this second contract, the on-site pond will be remediated, since it was not done by Site Remediation Services under the recently completed contract.

Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet provides an update on activities at this site. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact:

Mr. Michael J. Cruden, P.E.
Project Manager
NYSDEC
50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233-7010
(518) 457-7878

For site-related health questions, contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) staff:

Mr. Gary Robinson
Public Health Specialist
NYSDOH
217 South Salina Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 426-7627

Ms. Nina Knapp
Health Liaison Program
NYSDOH
2 University Place
Albany, NY 12203-3399
(518) 458- 6402

Site Description: Oswego Castings, Site ID No. 7-38-033, is located at 375 Mitchell Street in the City of Oswego, Oswego County. The site occupies approximately 10 acres of the 23 acres formerly owned by B&K Metals, Inc. The property includes three former manufacturing buildings and the facility's former landfill. The landfill contains an area of spent core sands, which were part of the casting molds, and an area of miscellaneous foundry waste.

Oswego Castings, Inc., a subsidiary of Oberdorfer Foundries, Inc., operated an aluminum die casting facility at the site from 1956 to 1986, after which time foundry operations were discontinued and the equipment removed. During operation of the foundry, the disposal of core sands and foundry wastes occurred behind the manufacturing buildings. It is believed that PCBs were introduced into the process from leaks in hydraulic equipment and from core sand binders or coatings applied to core sand surfaces. Before they were banned in 1977, PCBs were used in high temperature hydraulic fluids and casting agents because of their desirable heat resistant properties.

The site has been the subject of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to delineate the extent of the PCB contamination on the property and to determine the most suitable means of addressing the contamination.

Currently, the site is occupied by the Great Lakes Veneer Corporation, buyers of slicer and rotary veneer logs.

Remedial Cost: The construction cost to implement this phase of the remedy is approximately $2,515,000.00. The cost to complete all work at the site cannot be determined until the full scope of remaining work is better defined. The attached figure one illustrates the site's location and layout; including the foundry waste and core sand disposal areas and the saw mill plant.

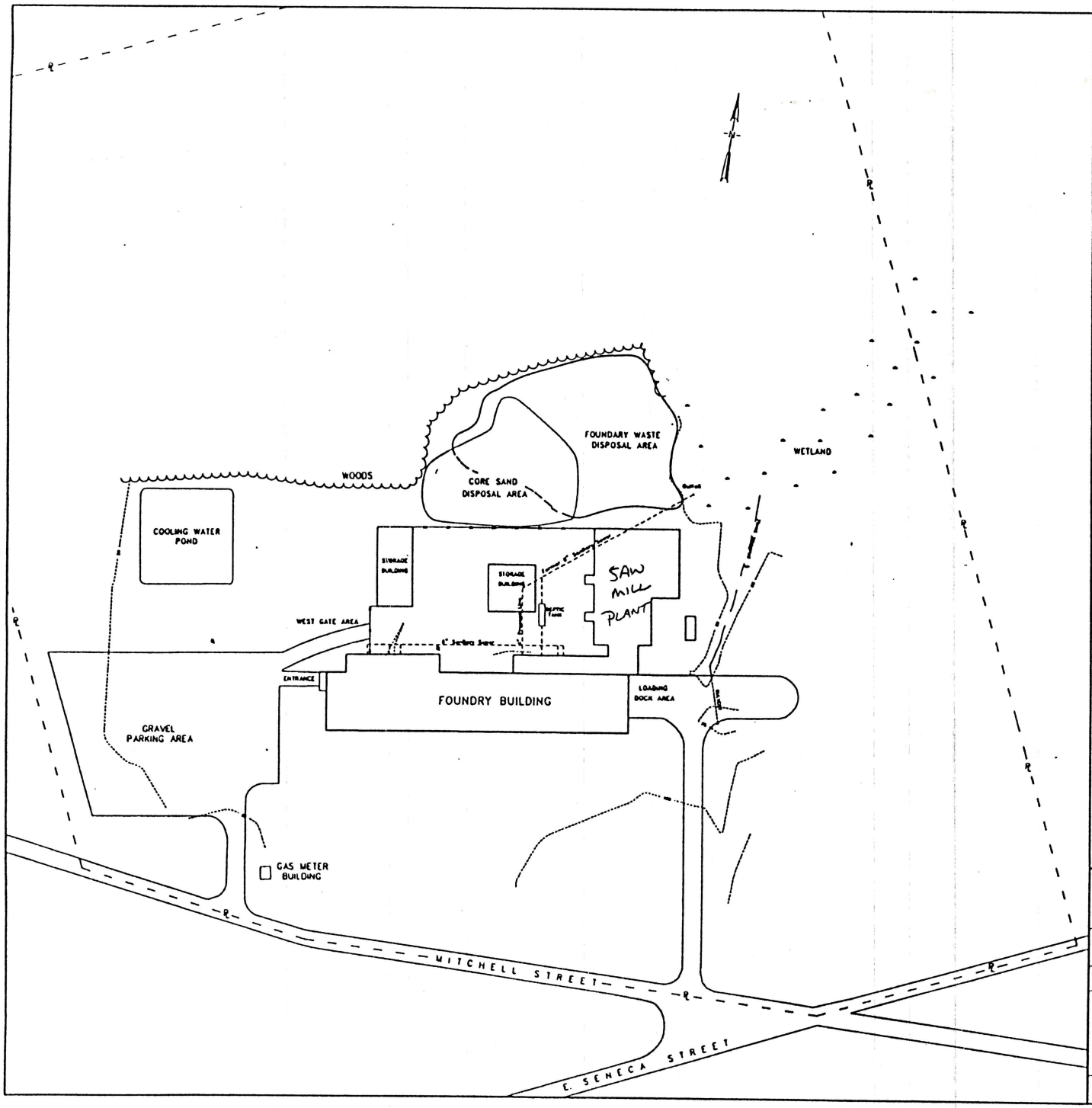
Document Repositories: Three locations have been established as document repositories to provide you with access to project information. The ROD and other site related documents are available for review at the following locations:

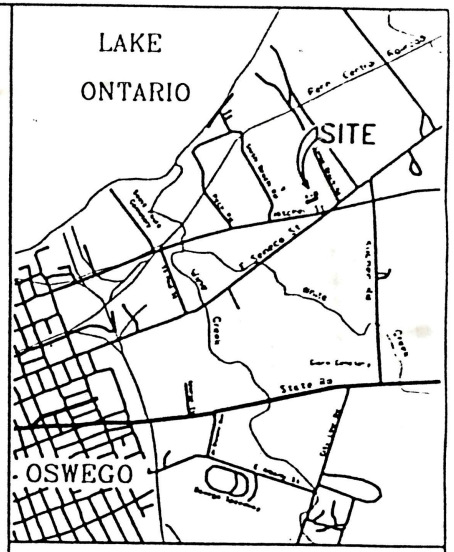
Oswego City Library
120 East Second Street
Oswego, NY 13126
(315) 341-5867

NYSDEC, Region 7 Office
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
(315) 426-7400
Attn: Charles Branagh

NYSDEC, Central Office
50 Wolf Road Room 242
Albany, NY 12233-7010
(518) 457-4343
Attn.: Robert Schick

Your Opportunities to be Kept Informed and Involved: The NYSDEC and NYSDOH will keep you informed throughout the remedial process. Your understanding and involvement in this project has helped to ensure an effective remedial program. You are encouraged to contact us at any time with questions, comments or concerns (see sidebar, page 1).





FENCE LINE

PROPERTY LINE

UNDERGROUND PIPING

0 40' 80'
SCALE

OSWEGO CASTINGS SITE
Oswego, Oswego County, New York
Site No. 7-38-033

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

FILE: FS-OCF1.DWG | DRAWING: DRAWN FROM STEARNS AND WHEELER BASE MAP

SITE PLAN AND LOCATION MAP

DATE: 2/3/97 | FIGURE 1