



FACT SHEET Environmental Restoration Program

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Site Name: Independent Leather Tannery
DEC Site #: B00158
Address: 321-333 South Main Street
City of Gloversville, NY 12078

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

NYSDEC Certifies Cleanup Requirements Achieved at Municipal Brownfield Site; Final Engineering Report Approved

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has determined that the cleanup requirements to address contamination related to the Independent Leather Tannery site ("site") located at 321-333 South Main Street, City of Gloversville, Fulton County under New York State's Environmental Restoration Program have been met. Please see the map for the site location.

The cleanup activities were performed by City of Gloversville with oversight provided by NYSDEC. As a result, NYSDEC has issued a Certificate of Completion regarding the site. A copy of the Certificate of Completion is available at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Completion of the Project

The Independent Leather Tannery Site received investigation funding under the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act. The remedial investigation was conducted from November 2001 to February 2003. Significant petroleum and metal contaminated soils were excavated and properly disposed of from both on and off site locations during and after investigation activities. The certificate of completion for the site was issued in October of 2016.

The February 2004 Record of Decision identified the remedy for the site, which includes:

- Demolition and proper disposal of the secondary tannery building to allow access to contaminated areas under the structure (completed 2006).
-Excavation and proper disposal of an estimated 3,225 tons of petroleum contaminated soils and 1,770 tons of arsenic contaminated soils, and placement of clean fill in the excavated areas (completed 2008).
-Provide a barrier to contact in site locations where arsenic, chromium, and petroleum contamination above SCGs exists (completed 2006).

-Development of a site management plan to (a) address remaining soils that may be excavated from the site during future redevelopment. The plan would require soil characterization and, where applicable, disposal/reuse in accordance with NYSDEC regulations; (b) evaluate the potential for vapor intrusion for any buildings developed on the site; including provision for mitigation of any impacts identified; and (c) restrict the use of groundwater as a source of potable or process water, without necessary water treatment as determined by the NYSDOH (completed 2008).

-Imposition of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement that would:(a) limit the use and development of the property to commercial or industrial uses only; (b) restrict the use of groundwater as a source of potable or process water, without necessary water treatment as determined by the NYSDOH; and (c) require the property owner to complete and submit to NYSDEC an annual certification (completed 2015).

-the property owner will provide an annual certification, prepared and submitted by a professional engineer or environmental professional acceptable to the Department, which would certify that the institutional and engineering controls put in place, are unchanged from the previous certification and nothing has occurred that would impair the ability of the control to protect public health or the environment or constitute a violation or failure to comply with any operation and maintenance or site monitoring plan (ongoing).

-Notification of the NYSDEC prior to site development and change in ownership.

Final Engineering Report Approved

NYSDEC has approved the Final Engineering Report, which:

- 1) Describes the cleanup activities completed.
- 2) Certifies that cleanup requirements have been or will be achieved for the site.
- 3) Describes any institutional/engineering controls to be used. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction, when contamination left over after the cleanup action makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination such as a cap or vapor barrier.
- 4) Certifies that a site management plan for any engineering controls used at the site has been approved by NYSDEC.

The following institutional controls have been put in place on the site:

- Land Use Restriction
- Groundwater Use Restriction
- Environmental Easement
- Site Management Plan
- Monitoring Plan

The following engineering controls have been put in place on the site:

- Cover System
- Fencing/Access Control

Background

Location: The Independent Leather Tannery site is located at 321-333 South Main Street in a commercial area in the City of Gloversville, Fulton County and is 3.725 acres in size. Hill Street intersects the southern portion of the property.

Site Features: The site currently is a vacant grassed parcel. The Cayadutta Creek runs thru the center of the property in a north to south direction. A wooden bridge connects the portions of the property split by the creek. A bike path (rail trail) runs along the eastern portion of the property, a fence separates the bike path from the site.

Current zoning and land use: The site is currently vacant and inactive, and is zoned for commercial use.

Past Use of the Site: The site has been used to de-hair, tan, dye, and finish animal skins since the beginning of the 20th Century. The tanning and finishing of hides involved many processes, each of which utilized particular chemicals and generated various liquid and solid waste streams. In the mid 1990's, Independent Leather shut down operations. Based on conditions of the site in 2000, it appeared that the tannery was vacated in an "as is" condition at that time. Numerous animal hides, supplies, equipment, and hundreds of various sized metal, plastic, and fiber containers and tanks of numerous and varying chemicals were scattered and abandoned throughout the facility. In early 2000, the main tannery building was in severe disrepair and portions of the roof structure had collapsed.

From April 2001 until December 2001, EPA, under their Emergency Removal Action Program was on-site packaging and removing hundreds of drums of chemicals, including corrosives, metallic pigments, resins, acids, lab chemicals, water reactive solids, chromium solutions, and biological waste consisting of animal hair, skin fleshing, and small body parts. Once the wastes were properly disposed off-site or relocated on-site for subsequent disposal, EPA demolished three buildings, the main tannery building and smaller maintenance building on the west side of the creek and the storage shed located on the east side of the creek. EPA also cleaned the interior of the secondary tannery building on the east side of the creek. Due to inclement weather, EPA demobilized for the winter months and again mobilized to the site on May 13, 2002 to finish the removal action. This final phase of the work consisted of the following: cleaning and demolition of the waste water treatment plant and concrete foundation walls, disposal/recycling of remaining scrap steel and wood beams from the old bridges, placement of, grading and seeding of 13,000 cubic yards of backfill over the entire west side of the site, closure of an unknown 300 gallon underground storage tank found along West Main Street, closure of an abandoned 20,000 gallon underground storage tank and removal of associated petroleum contaminated soil, reconstruction of damaged areas of creek banks, and completed exploratory trenches in designated areas where geophysical surveys identified anomalies, and performed extensive chromium and arsenic sampling and investigation. \$1.6 million was spent by EPA at the location.

Operable Units: The site is divided into two operable units. Unit 01 is the Site itself, Unit 02 is the off-site area to the south of the Site.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Site groundwater is shallow and flow converges to the Cayadutta Creek which flow thru the Site. Bedrock was not encountered during the site investigation.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=B00158>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

NYSDEC Region 5
Attn: Michael McLean
1115 State Route 86
Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296
Phone: (518) 897-1242
mike.mclean@dec.ny.gov

Project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37562.html>

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

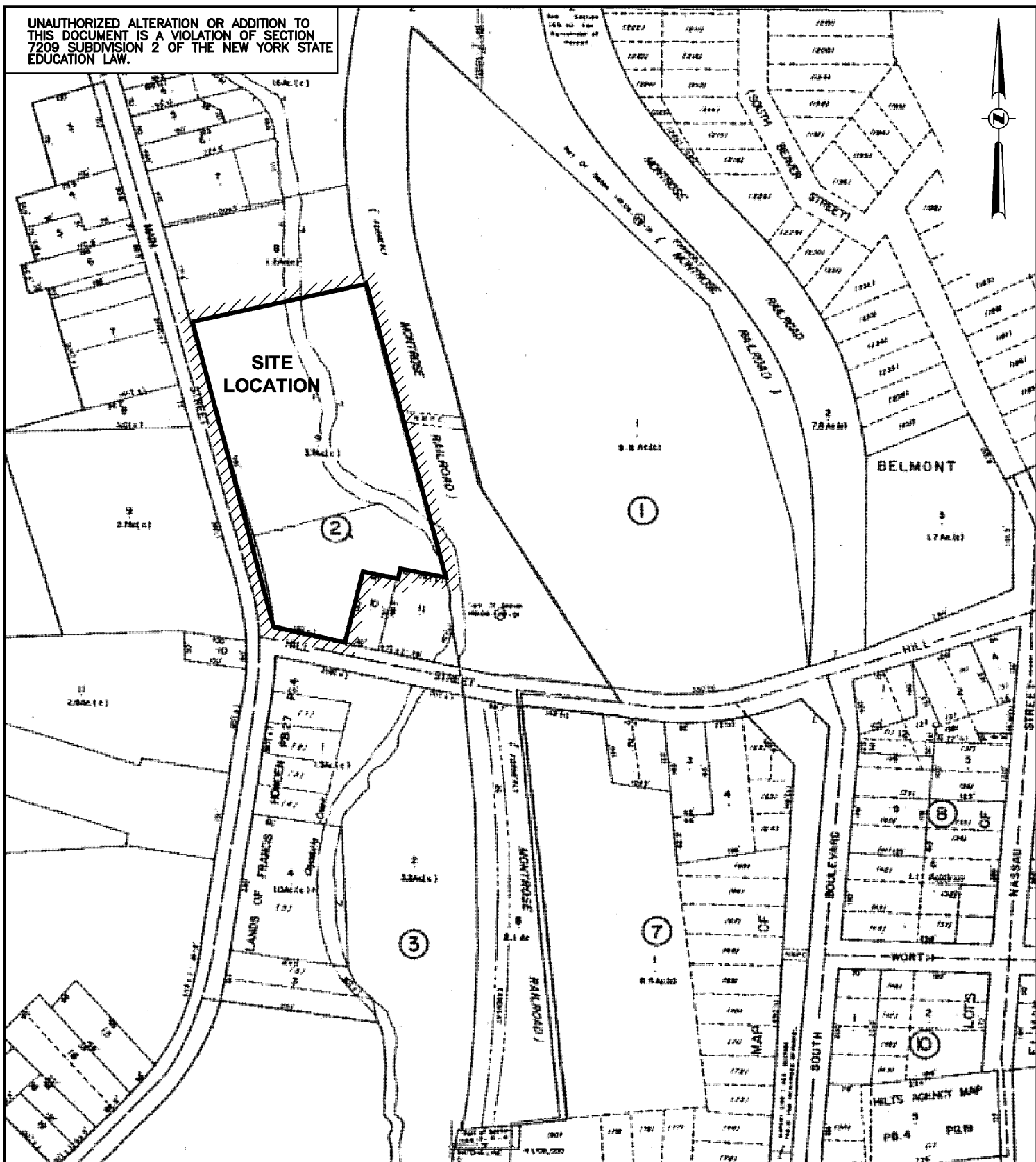
Project Related Questions

Michael McLean
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
1115 State Route 86 PO Box 296
Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296
518-897-1254
mike.mclean@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Ian Ushe
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower –Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237
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| Drafter: J.MARX | Checker: | |
| Appr. by: | Proj. No. 01.7293 | |

FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP
INDEPENDENT LEATHER TANNERY SITE
321-333 SOUTH MAIN STREET

CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE FULTON COUNTY, NEW YORK

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Architecture & Building Systems Engineering * Civil Engineering
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SCALE: NOT TO SCALE DATE: FEB. 20, 2008