

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1 - NEW ENGLAND

Centre 1/10 Manor
10.4
9275

IN THE MATTER OF:) ADMINISTRATIVE
) DEPOSITION OF:
)
CENTREDALE MANOR SUPERFUND) THOMAS B. CAMBIO
SITE, NORTH PROVIDENCE, RHODE)
ISLAND)

Deposition of THOMAS B. CAMBIO, a witness
herein, taken on behalf of the EPA, on WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 30, 1999, 10:00 A.M., at the Centredale
Manor Superfund Site, 2074 Smith Street, North
Providence, Rhode Island, before Vivian S.
Dafoulas, Registered Merit Reporter/Certified
Realtime Reporter.

ORIGINAL

Vivian S. Dafoulas, RMR-CRR
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East Greenwich, RI 02818
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APPEARANCES

FOR EPA:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
BY: CATHERINE GARYPIE, ESQUIRE
ONE CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 (SES)
BOSTON, MA 02114-2023

ALSO PRESENT: MS. DONNA MURRAY

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WITNESS

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THOMAS B. CAMBIO

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EXHIBITS

PAGE

1 Site Sketch of Centredale Manor Property 13

1 **THOMAS B. CAMBIO,**

2 called as a witness and having been first duly
3 sworn, testified as follows:

4 **EXAMINATION**

5 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

6 Q. Mr. Cambio, I'm an attorney, as you know,
7 with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and
8 I represent the United States, and the purpose of
9 this administrative deposition or sworn statement
10 is to investigate the Centredale Manor Superfund
11 Site and this is being taken for information
12 purposes. It's not a hearing; there's no
13 adjudication that's going on, and we are doing
14 this pursuant to Section 122(e)(3)(B) of the
15 Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation
16 and Liability Act, also known as CERCLA or
17 Superfund.

18 The information that I'll be asking you for
19 today relates to the volume and toxicity of waste
20 at the site and also potentially responsible
21 parties of the site.

22 I'm going to ask you a series of questions
23 and I'm going to ask you to answer out loud and
24 the court reporter will need to get down whatever
25 it is you're communicating, so if you're writing

1 something down, I may have to ask you to describe
2 it. And if you have any questions about what I'm
3 asking, just let me know and I'll try to clarify
4 it.

5 If you need a break at any time, let me know.

6 A. It's going to be that bad?

7 MS. GARYPIE: No. I think we'll be
8 pretty short today but if you do need a break, let
9 me know.

10 Q. So the first thing that I do need to ask you
11 is whether you're represented by an attorney with
12 regard to the site?

13 A. No. No. No.

14 Q. And we have your name. And what town do you
15 live in?

16 A. North Providence.

17 Q. And what is your age?

18 A. Seventy-eight.

19 Q. And I'm going to ask you if you can outline
20 your work experience for me starting -- we can
21 probably start from the time you retired and move
22 backwards.

23 A. Well, I retired in 1986. I was
24 superintendent from -- wait a minute -- I was
25 superintendent from 1967 to '86. Superintendent

1 of highways, that is.

2 Q. And was that for a particular department?

3 A. Department of Transportation.

4 Q. And is that the State Department of
5 Transportation?

6 A. Yes. I was hired in '56 as a shovel
7 operator. I'm going the other way now.

8 Q. That's fine.

9 A. As a shovel operator and worked my way
10 up to superintendent in the Highway Division.

11 Q. And when you were working as a
12 superintendent, what were your job duties?

13 A. I had approximately 500 laying miles of
14 highway, give or take 50 or 60 miles. My duties
15 were to maintain the highways during the summer,
16 the winter plowing, snow removal; all that kind of
17 stuff and anything that developed in the town, in
18 my division, which was -- I don't know now -- it
19 was four, five towns that I was working in.

20 My division stretched from Massachusetts
21 to -- from Massachusetts to Connecticut, the four
22 corners, and if anything went on in the waterways,
23 I would know about it and they would call on me to
24 investigate on the physical alterations that these
25 contractors take out. Am I going too fast?

1 Q. Did you have a staff?

2 A. I had -- well, when I started, I had 92
3 men but when I finished, I had maybe about 28, 30
4 men.

5 Q. And since 1986, you've been retired?

6 A. I've been retired. And these
7 contractors, whatever contractor worked in my
8 district, like I say, which covered from
9 Massachusetts to -- to part of Woonsocket, part --
10 part -- up near Blackstone, Mass, covered -- I
11 don't know if I'm saying it right -- covered from
12 Connecticut to Massachusetts.

13 Q. What were the major towns that were in
14 your -- in the area that you needed to work in?

15 A. North Providence, Johnston, Smithfield,
16 Lincoln, part of Woonsocket, Foster, Scituate. I
17 think I got them all. Burrillville is -- is -- is
18 a different town. And Burrillville, yeah,
19 Burrillville up to the Mass line. It was a big
20 area that I had, you know.

21 Q. And when you -- you mentioned physical
22 alterations --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- what did you mean by that?

25 A. If a contractor was going to do any work

1 at all in my division, he would have to come to me
2 for a physical alteration, which is removal of
3 curbing, removal of gravel, removal of any -- any
4 type of property that belonged to the state.

5 If there was going to be any work at the
6 river bed, then they still come to me for an
7 alteration and, in turn, they would get into the
8 bridge department; they get involved.

9 Physical alterations, for instance, when
10 they -- when they built this high-rise, I call it
11 the high-rise here, they had to get an opening.
12 There were openings from the mills that were here
13 before, the chemical mills.

14 Q. When you say, "openings", you mean a driveway
15 onto Smith Street?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. That's where I come in and make sure
19 they do what's got to be done, so this -- I don't
20 know if I'm jumping the gun or not.

21 Q. Okay. Why don't we -- the site itself, we've
22 touched on that a little bit. Did you have
23 occasion to come to this site when there was
24 construction occurring?

25 A. Yes, yes, yes.

1 Q. When was that?

2 A. That's something that -- that I can't
3 honestly swear to but it had to be around the
4 middle of '75 or '76 or the latter part of the
5 seventies. I can't honestly say.

6 It could be even before that. You got the
7 records when they started this high-rise here. I
8 don't know. But the high-rise was up when I came
9 here.

10 Q. And why were you -- why did you visit the
11 site?

12 A. Well, my supervisor, Mr. Dick Beretta,
13 Richard Beretta -- I can't remember correctly --
14 either called me or sent me a memo to check up
15 that somebody was filling in the basin of
16 Woonasquatucket River.

17 Q. Is this the type of activity that you would
18 check up on --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- in other areas?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. So this was not an unusual request?

23 A. No, no, no. He used to stay in his
24 office and give out orders and we used to follow
25 them, you see.

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1 Q. And why did he say he needed you to visit the
2 site?

3 A. Somebody was filling in the basin.

4 Q. And did -- did he tell you with what?

5 A. No, he didn't tell me with what. We
6 wasn't even -- to tell you the truth, we weren't
7 even dreaming of barrels at that time, you know,
8 pollution stuff and all that stuff.

9 My job was to go there, find out who's doing
10 it, tell them to cease and desist what he's doing
11 or I would get the state police and he would have
12 to dig them out; dig everything out again.

13 Q. So if you had a filling of a -- of a river in
14 another area, was it usually soil or debris or
15 could it be anything?

16 A. It would call -- if it was in my
17 division, I would have to investigate.

18 Q. What kinds of things did you see, other than
19 drums at this site?

20 A. Now, actually a full drum, I did not
21 see, but I've seen blackened material, dirty
22 material and trucks hauling gravel in and mixing
23 it with this material and pushing it into the
24 basin.

25 Now, there used to be -- there used to be a

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1 basin. I showed Teddy where it was. It's not
2 there anymore. The picture shows where it was and
3 the picture shows where it's not.

4 I drove up and it was in the parking lot out
5 here; I drove up and asked who was in charge. It
6 was Mr. Pezza. There were two contractors there
7 but I didn't run into Marshall at all. Marshall
8 was here too but I didn't see him at all that day.
9 All I seen was Pezza. This was about 11:15 in the
10 morning. And I asked --

11 Am I going too fast? Just tell me if I'm
12 going too fast because I'm crazy sometimes, you
13 know.

14 I asked who was in charge and this fellow
15 says, "I am." It was Mr. Pezza. I knew him from
16 previous -- previous --

17 Q. Do you know his first name?

18 A. Oh, boy. He owns the asphalt plant up
19 here, back here. As a matter of fact, he had
20 trouble with the state before with that asphalt
21 plant out here. I can't think of his name.

22 Q. Okay. That's fine.

23 A. He had trouble with the Town of
24 Johnston. He still got trouble. He was ordered
25 out of the Town of Johnston and he's still staying

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1 in business. I don't know. He says, "I am." I
2 says, "What do you think you're doing?" He says,
3 "Who are you?" And I -- I identified myself. I
4 says, "Well, I'm told to tell you to cease and
5 desist."

6 Q. Now, before you talked to him, did you see
7 filling going on?

8 A. Yes, yes. A bulldozer was pushing the
9 stuff into the river.

10 Q. So you -- and what you mentioned before, the
11 gravel and the dirt and the drums, that was the
12 type of material --

13 A. It was dirt that was here. You could
14 see it was old mud and stuff all mixed up with
15 flattened pieces of steel; might have been
16 barrels. I don't know. Like I say, our mind was
17 not about barrels at the time, you know.

18 I'm trying to tell the truth as best as I
19 know how and he says, "Who do you think you are?
20 Why? What are you bothering me for?"

21 I says, "I'm going to bother you just once.
22 I'm going to tell you just once to stop this."
23 "All right," he says, "you win."

24 So I waited around 20, 30 minutes. He didn't
25 make a move to pull his machinery out of there but

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1 he -- he stopped filling in.

2 Now, whether he continued after I left or
3 not, but I reported back to Dick Beretta that
4 everything was ten-four; I stopped Pezza
5 Construction from filling in the basin.

6 See, this is a brook that runs down here but
7 it became a small basin maybe about a hundred feet
8 down from the last trailer, a good-size basin.
9 The water would congregate there, you know, and
10 he'd fill that right in.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. It shows on the map.

13 Q. Okay. I think what I'm going to do, at this
14 point, is show you a map and ask you to mark on
15 the map the areas that you saw these activities.

16 A. Okay.

17 (Whereupon, EPA Cambio Exhibit No. 1 was
18 marked.)

19 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

20 Q. Okay. What I'm going to hand you is a map
21 that was put together by some EPA consultants and
22 it's intended to show the site as it appears
23 today, and there's some -- there are some
24 handwritten notes on the map that are not yours,
25 so I'd just like to mention, for the record, that

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1 the handwritten notes state: "Lot 200 sold to
2 Brook Village Associates in 1976." And the second
3 handwritten note states: "Lot 250 sold to
4 Centredale Manor Associates in 1982."

5 So I'm going to hand you this map and ask you
6 to take a look at it, take your time, get
7 oriented, and, then, I'm going to ask you some
8 questions about it, so just let me know when
9 you're ready.

10 A. (Witness complies.) We are here, right?
11 This is Johnston, George Waterman Road here.

12 Q. This is the Woonasquatucket.

13 A. Right.

14 Q. This is Smith Street.

15 A. Right.

16 Q. Or Route 44.

17 A. Right.

18 Q. And the trailer that we are now sitting in is
19 here, and I'm going to put an "X" on the map where
20 we are now sitting.

21 A. All right. This is the trailer that we
22 are in. This is the -- the Brook Village here.

23 Q. Right.

24 A. This corner. The map that Ted showed me
25 was an aerial shot.

1 Q. Right.

2 A. It showed the basin and, then, it showed
3 no basin.

4 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. I'm going to see if
5 I can find some aerial photos, so let's break for
6 just a moment.

7 (P A U S E)

8 BY MS. GARYPIE:

9 Q. I'm going to move from the map to an aerial
10 photo, which I'm not going to mark as an exhibit,
11 but if I can just read in the corner of the aerial
12 photo, it states: "Woonasquatucket River,
13 Providence, Rhode Island. PIC 9901116S. Date
14 flown: September 20, 1979. Source: NOS. Frame
15 No. 131. Approximate scale 1 inch equals
16 195 feet." And I'm going to ask you to take look
17 at the aerial to the --

18 A. This is Providence.

19 Q. And see if you can orient yourself and let me
20 know if you're able to identify Brook Village and
21 the river on the map.

22 A. This is Providence; this is not North
23 Providence or Johnston, is it?

24 Q. It's actually North Providence even though
25 the tag on the corner says Providence, and if

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1 you're having difficulty, I can show you this is
2 Route 44 moving diagonally across and, then, this
3 is the Woonasquatucket River moving straight down
4 north to south, and the Brook Village building is
5 located here. So this would have been before
6 Centredale Manor was built, and although this is
7 dated 1979, it sounds like, from your earlier
8 testimony, this is approximately how the site
9 would have appeared.

10 A. This is the Brooks Manor, right?

11 Q. Brook Village.

12 A. Brook Village. I call it the high-rise.
13 Yeah. Okay. This is the river. This must be the
14 basin. When was this picture taken?

15 Q. This was taken September 20th, 1979. I also
16 have earlier aerial photographs, if you'd like to
17 look at them; if you think it would aid your
18 testimony.

19 A. I -- I got -- I got in here someplace.
20 I got in here and came to this spot. This must be
21 the spot. Here's the building; here's the spot
22 right here. That's the one I showed Ted. They
23 were filling in here.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. If you can find a picture of this, I

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1 presume that's the -- that's the water; that's the
2 basin, right?

3 Q. Yes. That appears to be water.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. Because it's dark.

6 A. You got -- you got a map of '79 and
7 early part of eighties, that should not be there;
8 that would be filled in. That's the one I think I
9 showed Ted when I walked it that day, you see.

10 Q. When you're referring to Ted, do you mean Ted
11 Bzenas, who's with U.S. EPA working on the
12 Centredale Manor site?

13 A. The what?

14 Q. Do you mean Ted Bzenas?

15 A. Yes.

16 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. Thank you.

17 Q. And the year you said was '85 you thought?

18 A. No. I retired in '86.

19 Q. I'm sorry. For --

20 A. I said either -- either the early part
21 of the seventies or the latter part of the
22 seventies is when I was --

23 MS. GARYPIE: Okay.

24 A. -- you should have one identical to this
25 but this would be filled in. That -- that is the

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1 basin. I -- I think they had three different
2 businesses there. They were washing barrels with
3 chemicals in them and whatnot.

4 Q. Okay. I'm going to see if this will help.
5 I'm going to hand to you -- and, again, I'm not
6 going to make this an exhibit, but it's an aerial
7 photograph that's labeled: "Woonasquatucket
8 River, Providence, Rhode Island. PIC 9901116S.
9 Date flown is September 2, 1963. Source is ASCS.
10 Frame No. 158. Approximate scale 1 inch equals
11 185 feet."

12 And I'll point out on this, you'll see Route
13 44 and the Woonasquatucket River, and this would
14 have been prior to the construction of Brook
15 Village when there were some old industrial
16 buildings in the area where Brook Village and
17 Centredale Manor are now located.

18 So when you were referring to the area that
19 was being filled in, if we compare the 1963 photo
20 with the 1979 photo, it appears that the '63
21 photo, south of the industrial buildings, the '63
22 photo has much more water --

23 A. That's right.

24 Q. -- than --

25 A. That's right.

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1 Q. -- as compared to --

2 A. That's right.

3 Q. -- the September 20, '79 photo at the south
4 end of the site, south of Brook Village?

5 A. Right. Now, that other building that
6 is down below here, that was built in this area
7 here.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. I think the front of it, the parking lot
10 in there, that's where all the material -- I guess
11 this used to be the basin in here and it's all
12 filled in but this -- this -- this is -- this was
13 narrowed down right here.

14 Q. So we are looking at a part of the river
15 that's -- that's actually east of the main route
16 of the Woonasquatucket River?

17 A. That's right. Yeah. Yeah.

18 Q. And so the area that appears as water in
19 1963 --

20 A. Right. This was all brook all the way
21 down to here. The main basin but this was part of
22 the basin right here, right in here.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. That's my estimation now. I don't --

25 Q. So the area that appeared as water in the '63

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1 photograph that appears to be filled in in '79,
2 that was the area that you saw some filling
3 occurring by Mr. Pezza, is that right?

4 A. That must be the area. One way to be
5 sure is to call Ted in and ask him if that's the
6 place I -- I pointed out to him when I walked
7 along. He would know. The -- the maps here are
8 bigger than this and, then, we walked down there,
9 you know, and I pointed it out to him.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And he did tell me that they had metal
12 sounding down there.

13 MS. GARYPIE: I'm going to break for
14 just a moment, and I'm going to talk to Ted.

15 (P A U S E)

16 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

17 Q. I'm going to direct your attention back to
18 the map that we identified as Exhibit 1 and you
19 mentioned that you were out here at the site a
20 week or two ago and spoke with Ted Bazenias?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And when you were at the site talking to Ted,
23 were you able to point out where the filled area
24 was?

25 A. Pretty close.

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1 Q. Okay. I put an "X" where the EPA trailers
2 are located, so this is where we are right now for
3 the interview.

4 A. Uh-huh.

5 Q. And this is Smith Street here to the north,
6 so we all came in this way, and here are the
7 trailers.

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. So do you recall where you pointed out the
10 fill area to Ted?

11 A. Right in here. That's where I called it
12 out.

13 Q. Okay. I'm going to hand you a pen and ask
14 you to put a check mark in the area where you
15 think the fill area was, and I understand that
16 this was about 20 years ago, so that I know this
17 is to the best of your recollection, so I'm going
18 to ask you if you could just put a check mark.

19 A. This is something, I'll tell you. These
20 are the trailers.

21 Q. Correct.

22 A. We walked right down here; we walked all
23 along here and some stone -- there was some broken
24 concrete stone and stuff like that down here, and
25 I'd say -- I'd say down around here.

1 Q. Okay. And I'm going to ask you --

2 A. That's pretty close.

3 Q. I'm going to ask you if you could just put
4 your initials by that mark that you just said.

5 A. (Witness complies.)

6 Q. And if we can talk a little bit more about
7 the fill material that you saw and the equipment.

8 How many pieces of equipment did you see
9 doing this filling?

10 A. To my recollection, there was a
11 bulldozer and a backhoe, and the backhoe was the
12 front part, the bucket and it's got the -- the
13 bucket in the back where they dig and I hear the
14 guy was digging and the bulldozer was pushing.

15 Q. So before you spoke with Mr. Pezza you
16 observed --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- the filling occurring?

19 A. Yes. Because I didn't want to tangle
20 with him unless I knew what was going on, see.

21 Q. And did Mr. Pezza tell you that those were,
22 in fact, his workers and his equipment doing the
23 filling?

24 A. Well, he said he was the boss.

25 Q. Okay. What material was being moved?

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1 A. It seemed to me like it was -- I
2 remember plain as day, it was like dug material
3 where they dug it and get it out of the way, and
4 threw gravel on top of it to kind of hide it; just
5 kept pushing and pushing and pushing, see. I saw
6 it before --

7 Q. The dug material, was that soil or were
8 there --

9 A. It was soil from the river.

10 Q. Was there anything mixed in with the soil?

11 A. No. The gravel, he was -- he was
12 throwing the gravel on top of where he dug. Then
13 the -- the machine would come in and grade and
14 push the excess into the river and all that stuff
15 at the bottom of the river.

16 Q. I think earlier you mentioned there were some
17 metallic objects?

18 A. Flattened -- flattened. It might have
19 been barrels, flattened barrels or something like
20 that, that kind of junk.

21 Q. So there was debris mixed in with the soil?

22 A. There was debris, yeah.

23 Q. And did you see any barrels that were not
24 flattened?

25 A. No. I can't honestly say but, like I

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1 say, we weren't looking for barrels at the time.
2 I had to take note of the material, so I could
3 report back to Dick Beretta, you know, but I
4 never, never noticed any barrels.

5 Q. Did you notice any particular color
6 associated with the debris?

7 A. Black. Black.

8 Q. Was the soil also black?

9 A. Black. The soil was black. The debris
10 was mixed in with it. I guess it was pushed out
11 flattened out. I don't know. I really can't --
12 that was the first time I went to that area.

13 Q. And did you see any names on any of the
14 debris?

15 A. No. See, when I approached him -- if I
16 may say, when I approached him, there was a swamp,
17 there was a swamp area, ten, fifteen, muddy area,
18 so I couldn't get right to where he was. He was
19 in the opposite side of the muddy area pushing the
20 stuff towards me, towards the -- the basin, you
21 know.

22 Q. Do you know where the material they were
23 using for fill was coming from?

24 A. From -- from where they were digging
25 around -- around the area. I think they were

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1 building the parking lot at that time down here.

2 Q. So did it look like -- did it look like the
3 fill was coming from the same area; they were just
4 maybe moving it ten or fifteen yards?

5 A. Yes. Because they took all the material
6 from there, pushed it all here before the building
7 went up.

8 Q. Were they creating a flat area?

9 A. Yeah. And I never approached them there
10 because the big shots downtown were handling all
11 that kind of stuff, you know, building and stuff
12 like that.

13 I did try -- I would call the state police
14 and have them dig it out, all out of that basin.
15 That's what kind of stopped them.

16 Q. Did you notice any particular smell --

17 A. No.

18 Q. -- associated with the fill?

19 A. I wasn't there that long.

20 Q. Did you see any drums on any other -- on any
21 part of the property --

22 A. No.

23 Q. -- any drums that were not flattened?

24 A. No. If I did -- if I did, I would have
25 reported it right back to Dick Beretta, and I'm

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1 sure if you talk to him, I never mentioned any
2 drums.

3 Q. What happened after your --

4 A. Because you've got to remember this too.
5 Where I was, them drums had been pushed from way
6 over there, you know, where the mill was, all
7 flattened and pushed out, you know. I -- I
8 wouldn't see any drums. Because one of them --
9 one of the mills that was there -- I call them a
10 mill -- one of them plants was underground; it ran
11 underground, like one floor underground, you know.

12 Q. And when you say -- and when you say the
13 underground mill, was that located where Brook
14 Village is now?

15 A. Yes, it was. That and the front that
16 goes ought to the road.

17 Q. Over by Smith Street?

18 A. Yes, yes. And I remember that good,
19 too, because I grew up in the area. I grew up in
20 the area. The old railroad tracks; the old
21 choo-choo train blow the whistle. We used to go
22 watch it, you know, and I drove a truck and I
23 delivered over to the old railroad station right
24 next door. I knew the area. Yeah. That's what I
25 told Ted. There's no pollution on the east,

1 northeast side of Woonasquatucket; the brook,
2 there's no pollution there; it's all down here.

3 Q. Now, when you were -- well, let me finish
4 with this -- this site visit.

5 A. Like I say, excuse me if I keep on
6 rattling because --

7 Q. No problem. When you -- when you left the
8 site, after you spoke with Mr. Pezza, what
9 happened next?

10 A. I never went back. I -- I spoke with
11 Mr. Beretta and told him that everything was
12 ten-four and nothing to worry about and never went
13 back.

14 Q. Did you create any documents related to the
15 site visit?

16 A. I'm sure because if -- if you can find
17 the documents, you would find the documents.

18 Q. So did you --

19 A. There's got to be -- there's got to
20 be -- there's got to be a bunch of physical
21 alterations for the work they done here. There's
22 got to be a lot of them on file; a lot of them.

23 Q. And would those be on file with the
24 Department of Transportation?

25 A. They would. Maybe you could find my

1 files too. They took all of my files out of my
2 office.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. The funny thing, nobody ever got their
5 files back. Nobody. Nobody.

6 Q. When you mentioned that your files were
7 taken, what -- what year was that?

8 A. Well, now that -- that -- I'd say '83.

9 Q. And who took the --

10 A. '84, '83, '84 I think. I got
11 transferred right after that. Something was going
12 on there.

13 Q. Do you know who took the files from your
14 office?

15 A. I know who sent the order. Rocco
16 DeLuca.

17 Q. And who was that?

18 A. He was the chief -- he was the chief
19 highway maintenance engineer at the time.

20 Q. Was he above Mr. Beretta?

21 A. Yes, he was.

22 Q. And do you know why he asked for files to be
23 removed from your office?

24 A. No. Something was going on there but I
25 don't know. I can't honestly say. There was two

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1 or three different occasions that happened about
2 the same time and one -- one statement was that --
3 You're putting this all down?

4 One statement was that the governor thought
5 that the superintendents, like myself, became too
6 friendly with the vendors because, like I said,
7 this -- this -- I don't want to mention his
8 name -- this fellow got caught putting in --
9 hiding equipment on snow removal, which makes the
10 job -- he got paid for the trucks that -- this is
11 beside this case here -- but he got paid for
12 trucks that didn't report to work and he got
13 prosecuted for that, and -- it's a long story
14 anyways.

15 The governor wanted all the superintendents
16 transferred. That's what I heard, but now I can
17 see different. I was put out of the way. I think
18 I was just sent out and that was it.

19 Q. So when the files were periodically removed
20 from your office, were they taken from other
21 people's offices as well?

22 A. Yes. Yes. All of them.

23 Q. And the file removals, were they related in
24 any way to the Centredale Manor-Brook Village site
25 and the incident with Mr. Pezza?

1 A. My information between myself and Dick
2 Beretta would be there, and there's got to be
3 files because I think -- I think the state was --
4 was responsible for the people that entered the --
5 the office -- the offices in Scituate and put
6 torches to the lockers there.

7 They had no business doing that. They opened
8 up private lockers to haul the material out of
9 there and they went to court on that. There's got
10 to be records; there's got to be records. I mean
11 I can't -- can't explain it.

12 Q. I'm going to ask you about -- you mentioned
13 that you grew up in the area. Did you -- did you
14 grow up in Centredale?

15 A. Lymansville.

16 Q. And how far is that from where we are now?

17 A. Just about a mile. Less than a mile.

18 Q. And how old were you when you lived in
19 Lymansville?

20 A. I've been here 78 years. I used to
21 canoe right up here through the bridge here
22 through Greystone, all the way up.

23 Q. So you've lived here all your life?

24 A. Oh, yeah.

25 Q. Do you have memories of industrial operations

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1 at this site where Brook Village and Centredale
2 Manor are now?

3 A. Chemical -- chemical plant was -- there
4 was three companies up here, two or three
5 companies.

6 Q. Do you remember the names of the companies?

7 A. One I knew. One I knew. Metro
8 Chemical.

9 Q. And were there separate operations by each
10 company that was here?

11 A. Yes, there was. There was.

12 Q. What kinds of operations were happening?

13 A. It was all chemicals; it was all
14 chemical. The changes -- the changes came when
15 they put in the bypass; the bypass; that's when
16 all the changes started coming.

17 Q. When you say the bypass, do you mean on Route
18 44?

19 A. Yeah, right here; the loop.

20 Q. When there was manufacturing occurring here,
21 do you recall seeing drums?

22 A. I picked them up. Empty drums. I was
23 the guy that put drums in Centredale so that
24 people would throw their waste paper in them and
25 the company would give me the drums.

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1 Q. The company that operated here --

2 A. Yeah. Yeah.

3 Q. -- would give you empty drums?

4 A. Empty drums; clean drums. They used to
5 clean them right there.

6 Q. And what were those used for again?

7 A. Different places. In front of the town
8 hall, in front of the schools, where the people
9 would throw their waste in. They'd go by with the
10 car, stop, drop it in. There was no Dumpsters at
11 that time.

12 Q. Do you know if the city purchased those
13 drums?

14 A. No. They were given to me.

15 Q. They were given to you personally?

16 A. Uh-huh.

17 Q. And how did you know to come to pick up the
18 drums?

19 A. The snow plows would go by and open
20 their driveways, you know, stuff like that. Ice
21 conditions; they'd want a sand truck over there
22 and they used to send them there, and I got
23 friendly with them and I'd ask them for drums or
24 something, they would give me drums. They give me
25 12 of them as a matter of fact.

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1 Q. Was this when you were working for the
2 highway department?

3 A. Yes. Yes. I'm going way back quite a
4 few years now. If I'm not mistaken, didn't one of
5 them companies -- I don't know. You wouldn't know
6 anyway. I think one of them moved up to 116 in
7 Smithfield, one of them companies.

8 Q. Do you know if that was the chemical company?

9 A. I think it was. They were washing
10 barrels. It must be the same company washing the
11 barrels here.

12 Q. Do you know how the barrels were washed here?

13 A. I can't say. I don't know. They were
14 clean. When I got them, they were clean.

15 Q. Were there any markings on the barrels that
16 you got?

17 A. I don't remember. They gave me 12. I
18 had 12 just for Centredale and so as far as the
19 old school, that was it. Then they disappeared.
20 People started stealing them.

21 Q. Do you know the name of the person who gave
22 you the barrels?

23 A. No. It's too far back.

24 Q. Do you know what products were manufactured
25 here?

1 A. What?

2 Q. What products were manufactured here by the
3 chemical companies?

4 A. No. No.

5 Q. Do you know anyone who worked here?

6 A. No. That's a long time ago.

7 Q. Do you know anyone whose parents worked here?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Do you know if there were ever fires at the
10 chemical company?

11 A. It seems to me, there was a fire one
12 time but that's a long, long time ago and I can't
13 honestly say. I can't honestly say. Now, I could
14 be going back when I was a teenager, you know.

15 MS. GARYPIE: I think we are almost
16 done.

17 Q. I'm going to ask you one more question about
18 your site visit when you spoke with Mr. Pezza.

19 Did you get the names of any other persons
20 who were working --

21 A. No.

22 Q. -- at the site at that time?

23 A. No. No.

24 Q. Can you think of any other person who might
25 have information about the chemical manufacturing

1 or the drum cleaning or the building?

2 A. I had -- I had -- I had two foremen.
3 One is dead. He was -- he was with me. The other
4 foreman, the other foreman I had, had a different
5 area. He -- he was not -- not pertaining to this
6 part of it. He was up in the Lincoln area.

7 I had four foremen altogether but I had one
8 that was working with me right along.

9 Can you hear me?

10 Q. Did you have anybody with you that day?

11 A. Yes, I did.

12 Q. Who was that?

13 A. He's dead. William Hunt.

14 Q. Was he the only person with you?

15 A. Yes. He was my top foreman.

16 Q. Is there anyone in the area that you can
17 think of that might be able to give us information
18 about operations in the 1950s and sixties?

19 A. I could probably give you a good name.
20 Louis Graziano. That would be Senator
21 Graziano's --

22 Q. Can you spell that last name?

23 A. G-R-A-Z-I-A-N-O. Graziano.

24 Q. And who was he again?

25 A. Hum?

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1 Q. Who was he again?

2 A. He's -- he's Senator Graziano's son --
3 husband. I think it's 351-2454. I could be wrong
4 on that but that might be my dead foreman's
5 number.

6 Q. Is that a current senator or --

7 A. State senator.

8 Q. State senator. Okay.

9 A. He probably could give you some
10 information. You can tell him that I told you to
11 call him. It's okay with me.

12 Q. Is there anyone else in the area that you can
13 think of that might know about operations at the
14 site?

15 A. Yeah. How about -- how about this kid
16 that runs the Yacht Club? He's had a lot of
17 problems here. He's had -- well, his problem was
18 he made a statement here that his water was
19 polluted and -- I don't know.

20 Q. When you say the Yacht Club --

21 A. Right here. Yacht Club soda. He's on
22 the bypass. And he and his father both, they are
23 really tied in with this area.

24 Q. And do you know their names?

25 A. William Sgambato, Jr., John Sgambato,

1 Sr.

2 Q. Do you know how to spell their last name?

3 A. S-G-A-M-B-A-T-O. There's all
4 Mediterranean Irishmen around here. They would
5 know. They would know something because the
6 fellow that -- the fellow that -- that they bought
7 that business off of, I think owned part of this,
8 part of this business here, old man Sweet. Now,
9 you see, you got me going back when I was in
10 grammar school.

11 Q. So Mr. Sweet owned this property and also --

12 A. I think he owned part of this property.

13 Q. And also the property where the Yacht Club --

14 A. Where it is now, yeah.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. It's right there on the bypass.

17 Q. And is there anyone else you can think of?

18 A. Not that I -- not that would help you.

19 Q. And besides the -- the State Department of
20 Transportation, can you think of any other place
21 where we might look for records about the site,
22 either operations of the chemical company or about
23 building of Brook Village and Centredale Manor?

24 A. Mr. Beretta would be the only one. Dick
25 Beretta, Richard Beretta, whatever you want to

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1 call him. He'd be the only one that was tied in
2 with that drainage business. He was my superior
3 in that -- in that respect.

4 (P A U S E)

5 MS. GARYPIE: We are going to go back on
6 the record. Hope just a few more questions.

7 THE WITNESS: Don't worry. I'm retired.
8 I go back, I got to work now. My wife is in the
9 garden.

10 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

11 Q. Is Mr. Beretta still working for the state?

12 A. No, he's retired.

13 Q. Do you know where he lives?

14 A. Jamestown.

15 Q. Do you know if he has any affiliation with an
16 architectural firm called Robinson, Green and
17 Beretta?

18 A. Could -- could be. I don't know.
19 Beretta is a prominent family. They owned
20 Durastone at one time, Durastone curbing on 116.
21 A couple of lawyers in their family. What was
22 that name?

23 Q. Robinson, Green and Beretta.

24 A. I would say yeah. He should know where
25 the records -- Beretta should know where them

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1 records are. He should know.

2 Q. Is there anything else that you can think of
3 that might help us identify where the wastes are
4 at the site or --

5 A. No. The only thing that I can identify
6 is, like I showed Ted there, where there was --
7 there was a pond, and there was no pond, the
8 bottom of the pond. I don't know. It's a long
9 time ago.

10 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. I think we are
11 done. Thank you.

12 THE WITNESS: I wish I could be more
13 help to you. I don't know anybody else.

14 MS. GARYPIE: Well, thank you very much
15 for your time.

16 (Adjourned at 11:05 a.m.)

17

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23

24

25

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
KENT, Sc.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, **VIVIAN S. DAFOULAS**, Registered Merit Reporter/Certified Realtime Reporter, Notary Public in and for the State of Rhode Island, do hereby certify that the witness was first duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth in the matter of CENTREDALE MANOR SUPERFUND SITE, NORTH PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND; that I am in no way related or have any interest in said matter and that the testimony of said witness was duly recorded by me in computerized stenotype and is a true and accurate transcription of my notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 2nd day of July, 1999.

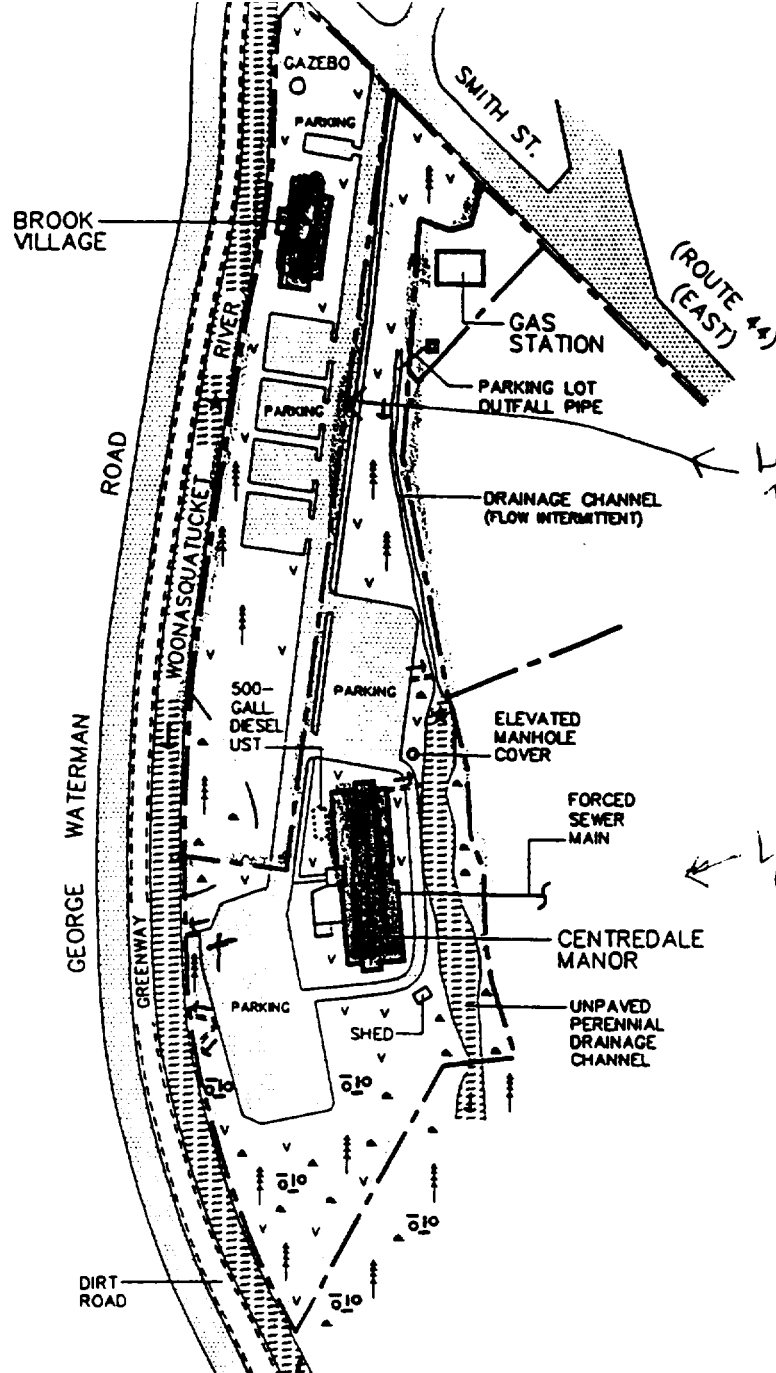
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EXHIBIT
EPA - CAMBID
NO. 1 6-30-99
Vivian S. Dafoulas



Lot 200 sold to
Brook Village
Associates in
1976

Lot 250 sold to
Centredale
Manor
Associates
in 1982

SOURCES:
NORTH PROVIDENCE TAX ASSESSORS
PLAT MAP - PLAT NO. 14
DECEMBER 1992, REVISED DECEMBER 1994
WESTON/START FIELD BOOK NO. 00343-S
FOR CENTREDALE MANOR - 1998
NOT TO SCALE

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| SURFACE WATER | PROPERTY LINE | UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) | PROBABLE POINT OF ENTRY TO SURFACE WATER PATHWAY |
| FLOW DIRECTION | PAVED DRAINAGE SWALE | WOODED AREA | INTERMITTENT STREAM (DURING FLOOD PERIODS) |
| DRUM, DEBRIS, OR METAL FRAGMENTS | PAVED AREAS | CATCHBASIN | |
| GRASS | WETLANDS | | |

SITE SKETCH

CENTREDALE MANOR PROPERTY
CENTREDALE MANOR SITE
2074 SMITH STREET
NORTH PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



REGION I SUPERFUND TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE TEAM

TOD # 98-06-0017	DRAWN BY: W. SHAW	DATE 3/9/99
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FILE NAME: S:\98060017\FIG2	FIGURE 2
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