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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

1 KENNETH MICHAEL NERI, SR.,

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

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MS. GARYPIE:

6 Q. Mr. Neri, I am an attorney with the United
7 States Environmental Protection Agency. My name
8 is Catherine Garypie. I have with me Donna
9 Murray, who is an Enforcement Specialist, who will
10 be sitting in today, and the purpose of this sworn
11 statement or administrative deposition is to
12 investigate the Centredale Manor Superfund case
13 and this is not a hearing; it's not being taken
14 for adjudicatory purposes but it is being
15 performed pursuant to Section 122(e)(3)(B) of the
16 Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation
17 and Liability Act, also known as CERCLA or
18 Superfund.

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

23 I'm going to ask you a series of questions
24 and I'm going to ask you to respond out loud, so
25 the court reporter can get your answer and one

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1 thing that's important to remember is to, please,
2 wait for me to finish my question before you
3 answer. Sometimes I can take a little while to
4 finish my question so bear with me.

5 If you need to take a break at any time, or
6 if you'd like to get a glass of water, just let me
7 know and I think we are ready to go.

8 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

9 Q. The first question I need to ask you is
10 whether you are represented by an attorney --

11 A. No, I'm not.

12 Q. -- in relation to the site?

13 A. No, I'm not.

14 Q. And where are you currently living?

15 A. At live at 64 Cody Drive in Gloucester,
16 Rhode Island.

17 Q. What is your age?

18 A. Fifty-two.

19 Q. Have you lived in this area your entire life?

20 A. Most of my life from 19 -- actually
21 started living here in 19 -- I believe it's '56.

22 Q. And so it's --

23 A. Till 1968. Then moved to North
24 Providence from 1968 to 1989, but all my life has
25 been in the Centredale area.

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1 Q. So from '89 to the present, you've been in
2 Gloucester?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Are you currently employed?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And what is it that you do for a living?

7 A. Right now, I'm in sales. I'm employed
8 by New York Carpet World in Warwick.

9 Q. And what position did you hold prior to your
10 current position?

11 A. I owned Ken's Carpeting from 1969 to
12 1995 I believe, and that was my own carpet store.

13 Q. And prior to 1969, were you employed?

14 A. Yes. I was employed by Donatelli's
15 Carpet Service, 19 -- about 1968. Before that,
16 you want to --

17 Q. Sure.

18 A. -- when I went to school? During when I
19 was in high school and stuff, I -- I worked at
20 Cherry & Webb in Providence and I worked at the
21 gas station on top of the hill here, and I worked
22 for Bennett Corsi's newspapers, which was across
23 the street on Rhode Island Avenue, and before
24 that, I was a paper boy.

25 Q. Did you ever serve in the military?

1 A. I served in the military from March 6th,
2 1998 till April 7th, 1998.

3 Q. So a month?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And what branch in the military?

6 A. Army.

7 Q. At the time that you lived in Centredale, at
8 what age did you -- did you leave the Centredale
9 area?

10 A. Actually, the Centredale area would be
11 1989 because I -- I -- I lived -- from '56 to '68
12 I lived on Amber Street, which is in Johnston on
13 one side of the river, and from 1968 to 1989, I
14 lived across the river right near Lee Romano's
15 field, so I moved from one end of the river to the
16 other end of the river.

17 Q. So if I'm doing my math correctly, you moved
18 to Amber Street when you were about eight years
19 old?

20 A. Eight or nine, yes. I was born in '47.

21 Q. Okay. At the time that you lived on Amber
22 Street, did you live close to the river or -- how
23 close to the river did you live on Amber Street?

24 A. I'm going to say about three
25 hundred yards; three to four hundred yards.

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1 Q. And did you observe manufacturing operations
2 across the river?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. From -- I went to Saint Lawrence
6 School -- oh, boy, you're testing me really now --
7 I'm going to say six years. Six years, yes.

8 Q. And is that --

9 A. That's on Woonasquatucket Avenue, which
10 is, if you went right across here, you'd be right
11 across the parking lot, the school is right about
12 there.

13 Q. What type of activities did you see across
14 the river?

15 A. We used to walk the railroad tracks when
16 we used to get out of school and when we used to
17 go to school, going out of school, when we'd walk
18 in the tracks, there was, I believe, two pipes
19 that went into -- right into the -- directly into
20 the river from the -- I'm going to call it the
21 Centredale side and I'll call the other side of
22 the river the Johnston side.

23 There was two -- two pipes sticking out, I'm
24 going to say, maybe about 50 feet from the bridge
25 was the first one and maybe 100 or 200 yards

1 further up there was another one that used to
2 empty out fluids. I'm going to call it fluid,
3 colored, yellow, red, blue, green, different
4 colors of -- right into the -- looked like dye --
5 into the river.

6 Q. And when you say, "bridge," do you mean the
7 Smith Street bridge?

8 A. Yes. The one -- the bridge between
9 the -- the Centredale -- I call it the Centredale
10 bridge but it separates Johnston from North
11 Providence, and that would be on 44, Smith Street.
12 That's the bridge.

13 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. I'm going to hand
14 you a map, if you can mark it.

15 (Whereupon, EPA-Neri Exhibit No. 1 was
16 marked.)

17 Q. This map has been marked Exhibit 1, and it
18 is, you'll see a Sanborn Map from the year 1965,
19 and I'll ask you to just take a look at that to
20 orient yourself and let me know when you're all
21 set.

22 A. Pretty well set.

23 Q. Okay. If you could take -- I'm going to hand
24 you a green pen --

25 A. Uh-huh.

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1 Q. -- and if you could mark on the map
2 approximately where Amber Street is on the
3 Johnston side of the river, mark that with an "X".

4 A. It's right here.

5 Q. And can you, using arrows, point -- I'm
6 sorry -- draw on the -- next to the river where
7 the pipes were that you saw?

8 A. If this is the bridge, which I'm
9 assuming it is --

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. -- the pipe would be here and there was
12 another one in here and they both emptied into the
13 river.

14 Q. Okay. And did these -- the buildings that
15 are represented and marked "Metro-Atlantic, Inc.",
16 they are depicted on this map, do these buildings
17 appear to accurately portray what you saw when you
18 lived in the area at that time?

19 A. Okay. Actually, to be honest with you,
20 these -- this was all trees here.

21 Q. Okay. When you say, "here" --

22 A. On the bank of the North Providence side
23 of the river was trees. The actual -- my street
24 is probably more here. The actual -- going out of
25 what was going on in here is in this area right

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1 here. These buildings are pretty, pretty
2 accurate. I'm trying to think of where -- this is
3 the furniture store that used to be here. That's
4 a warehouse. It used to be --

5 Q. When you say, "here" for the furniture store,
6 can you put a "1"?

7 A. Yes. This is -- this burnt down. This
8 is a warehouse. When I was a kid anyway, that was
9 a warehouse. This used to be -- if I can remember
10 correctly, I'm going to say this -- this is -- the
11 building was 19 what? What did you say?

12 Q. This map is 1965.

13 A. Okay. Because this used to be A & P or
14 the supermarket here.

15 Q. Okay. Can you mark that with a No. 2?

16 A. Yes. And this was a driveway. This
17 used to go all the way around here, and I don't
18 know where this picture is from. This is
19 something that we couldn't see from our house
20 because the building was being blocked.

21 Q. Okay. And can you circle the bridge that
22 you're referring to?

23 A. (Witness complies.) No. 4.

24 Q. Okay. That's fine. No. 4. And when you
25 were living at Amber Street, besides the pipes,

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1 did you see any other type of waste disposal?

2 A. Yes. In the evening, you could hear
3 either bulldozers or heavy equipment always in
4 here burying -- as a matter of fact, they had a
5 fire in here too, but you could actually hear
6 explosions from the barrels blowing up.

7 Where it was, I couldn't tell you. I mean we
8 used to see them sometimes go in the sky and come
9 back down again, so -- but most of the activity --
10 I wish this map was a little accurate because I
11 would like to find our street because I could
12 bear -- if I found the street here, I can show you
13 exactly, you know, from where I was looking at
14 exactly where we were.

15 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. Why don't we take a
16 break and I'm going to see if I can get another
17 map.

18 (P A U S E)

19 THE WITNESS: I think we can go from
20 here. If I put this like this on here, because
21 this says Steere Avenue, okay, that will give you
22 some kind of a perspective on the way the river
23 is.

24 Q. And, for the record, if I could just note
25 that Mr. Neri is comparing Exhibit 1 with a map on

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1 the trailer wall labeled "Woonasquatucket River,
2 Soil Sampling Results for TEQ." Take your time.

3 A. It's been so long I haven't been here,
4 but I think this is Vacca, Brayton. I think this
5 would be -- this one here, the fourth street is
6 Amber Street, according to the map I mean. I'm
7 going to guess that's it.

8 MS. GARYPIE: Let's break again. I'm
9 going to see if they can get on the Internet and
10 get a map.

11 (P A U S E)

12 MS. GARYPIE: No luck.

13 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

14 Q. Why don't we go back to Exhibit 1? You can
15 see where coming down from Smith Street The
16 Metro-Atlantic building stopped.

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. Assuming that this is where they -- this is
19 accurate, this is where they stopped in 1965, was
20 it below that area that you saw activities
21 occurring or was it actually up by the buildings?

22 A. The activity that we saw, when we were
23 kids, was more in this area right here. I circled
24 it.

25 Q. You marked that with a "5"?

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1 A. "5".

2 Q. And what type of activity would you see
3 there?

4 A. Heavy equipment, burying barrels, black
5 barrels. The number of barrels would be -- hum --
6 in the thousands. It wasn't something -- this was
7 done five days a week every night.

8 Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you to slow down for
9 just a bit.

10 A. Sure.

11 Q. I know you said that you were at Amber Street
12 between '56 and '68. Was it that entire time span
13 that you saw these activities every -- every day,
14 five days a week?

15 A. It was so common that it was -- I'm
16 going to say -- if I had to -- I'm going to say
17 more -- I'm going to say '68; I'm going to say
18 more like '65. I think it was heavier around
19 1965, just because I used to hang around.

20 In 1965 -- I'm trying to get my age; that's
21 what it is because, actually, when I was 16, I was
22 driving so we didn't play around -- we played in
23 this area when we were kids, this area, more from,
24 say, from probably nine-to-fourteen period,
25 whatever years that -- that that was.

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1 Q. So that would have be '57 --

2 A. Yes. That would be more of the years
3 that we really played there. I went to school. I
4 went to Saint Lawrence till 1963. So it would be
5 less -- it -- it -- it would be -- because '62, it
6 was before -- I knew the stuff was before '62, the
7 stuff that was going on. You just said '62.

8 Q. So you said you moved there when you were
9 about eight. You would have been -- in '56 you
10 would have been eight; so '57 you would have been
11 nine, so between '57 and '62?

12 A. '63.

13 Q. '63?

14 A. Definitely.

15 Q. And can you -- there's a location where the
16 Saint Mark's School appear on this map which is
17 Exhibit 1?

18 A. This is Smith Street. It would be up
19 here somewhere because this is Woonasquatucket
20 Avenue; this is Mineral Spring Avenue there.
21 That's why this is all kind of -- I think on a
22 proportion or, in other words, my street is out of
23 proportion here because I think it was more
24 towards this area, which is the 5 area I'm looking
25 at, but Saint Lawrence School should be around

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1 Steere Avenue in this area here. I'll mark that
2 "6".

3 Q. Great. Okay. And when -- going back to the
4 activity that you observed, what type of equipment
5 would you see out there?

6 A. The only thing we could see -- if we
7 were up on the hill right over here, that would be
8 Edna Street.

9 Q. When you say, "the hill right over here," are
10 you referring to the hill across the river?

11 A. Yes. In -- in Johnston, I'm referring
12 to the hill at the bottom of Edna Street. You
13 could see bulldozers -- bulldozer, period,
14 bulldozer singly.

15 Q. Was there ever more than one bulldozer?

16 A. Not that we could see because we were
17 kind of camouflaged in the -- the wooded area.

18 Q. Did the bulldozer have any markings on it?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Do you recall --

21 A. Not that I can remember.

22 Q. Do you recall what color it was?

23 A. Honestly, no. If I had to guess, I'd
24 say yellow but I don't want to do that.

25 Q. And was there any other type of equipment

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1 that you saw?

2 A. No. Not that I saw.

3 Q. How did the -- how was the burial
4 accomplished?

5 A. What we could see was the barrels
6 being -- again, I don't want to say equipment. If
7 I had to say equipment, I'd say a forklift where
8 barrels would come in and just drop them in
9 this -- in this area.

10 Q. When you say, "this area," do you mean at the
11 edge of what are you've marked as?

12 A. "5".

13 Q. "5"?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. And, you know, I mean I wasn't really
17 paying attention but they were buried at night.
18 Every night they would bury barrels and barrels
19 and barrels.

20 Q. What -- what time at night would they be
21 buried?

22 A. I used to come home from school around
23 3:30. I used to go play, come back supertime
24 somewhere around 4:30 to 7:00 we'll say. It was
25 on constantly. You could actually hear the

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1 tractors or bulldozer, the heavy equipment
2 actually, you could hear them more than see them,
3 from where I was anyways.

4 Q. Do you know where the drums, which were sat
5 at the edge of Area 5 an Exhibit 1, do you know
6 where those drums were coming from?

7 A. Coming from -- what building you're
8 talking about? This area right here.

9 Q. Okay. Can you mark that with --

10 A. "7"?

11 Q. No. 7?

12 A. Right here. No. 7.

13 Q. Do you know -- I'm sorry. Were those drums
14 placed near the building or were they in an open
15 area?

16 A. I believe they would be open area
17 because we could see the barrels, so I'm going to
18 say open area.

19 Q. Were the drums ever stacked?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. In Area 7?

22 A. In all -- in -- in -- I've seen them
23 stacked in all this area.

24 Q. Okay. And when say, "all this area," do you
25 mean between where you've marked 7 to --

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1 A. 7 to 5.

2 Q. And where you've marked 5?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. When the drums were buried in Area 5, was
5 there a hole dug first?

6 A. Like I said, from where I was, there --
7 there had to be a hole, but I'm just saying from
8 where I was, where my house was situated, all I
9 could see was the bulldozer covering, not actually
10 burying it.

11 I don't know if they dug the hole in the
12 morning or afternoon or whatever it may be. In
13 other words, I would just see the bulldozer like
14 travelling in this area.

15 Q. So would you see drums in a hole and, then,
16 the bulldozer would push dirt over them?

17 A. They were set in a hole and the
18 bulldozers would cover them; yes.

19 Q. About how many per evening do you think were
20 covered?

21 A. I know the stacks that I've seen were
22 like high. They were like maybe 5 barrels high
23 and --

24 Q. When you say, "the stacks," do you mean the
25 stacks in Area 5 or in Area 7?

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1 A. 7.

2 Q. In Area 7?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. They were stacks as far as -- on top of
6 each other, stacks and stacks and stacks. How
7 many were buried at night? I'm going to say
8 hundreds because it wasn't like -- this -- this
9 went on from, like I said, maybe around suppertime
10 to -- to dusk, so I mean it takes, you know,
11 that's quite a -- you could do a lot of work in
12 that area, so I can't tell you how many barrels
13 accurately were -- were buried, but all I know was
14 that it took a long time for them to do it and
15 there was a lot of barrels that we saw stacked
16 and, then, not there no more, so --

17 Q. You mentioned that barrels were black. Were
18 any of the barrels other colors?

19 A. They may have been but the ones that I
20 could remember, in my mind, were black.

21 Q. Did they have any markings on them?

22 A. Not from where I could see. No. I
23 couldn't tell you if there was any markings on
24 them. There might have been. I don't know.

25 Q. Did they have covers on them?

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1 A. Yes. They were because -- because --
2 because they were stacked. Some actually you
3 could see them taking the barrels like that and
4 stacking them like that.

5 Q. So they would take them from a vertical
6 position --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- and stack them in a horizontal position?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did you ever see anything leak out any of the
11 closed drums?

12 A. Actually, eyewitness, no, I did not.

13 Q. Did any of -- did you ever hear anyone speak
14 of leaking drums?

15 A. At the time, no.

16 Q. You mentioned that there were fires on the
17 North Providence side of the river. Where were
18 those fires?

19 A. Around where I have the -- the No. 5
20 circled.

21 Q. And were those fires -- I'm sorry. Was that
22 the area where you observed drums exploding?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Were there any other areas of the site where
25 you observed drums exploding into the air?

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1 A. Wherever they were burying them at the
2 time. I don't know if they put them in a hole and
3 started a fire and, you know, let them burn first.
4 I don't know what the procedure was. I have no
5 idea what the procedure was.

6 Q. When a drum went up into the air, was there
7 any -- did any material spray out of the drum?

8 A. I couldn't tell. That was the greatest
9 fire works around for the kids. I couldn't -- I
10 couldn't tell you. Again, we are talking about
11 Amber Street being on one side of the river and
12 looking to where we are sitting right about now,
13 and in that distance, you know, it's quite -- it's
14 quite a bit.

15 Q. When you saw the drums either in Area 5 or in
16 Area 7, did they appear to be new?

17 A. Definitely. Yes. Shiny.

18 Q. Both in Area 5 and Area 7?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. So the drums that were being buried appeared
21 to be new?

22 A. Yes. They were shiny, shiny barrels,
23 black barrels; the ones I saw anyway.

24 Q. Do you recall trucks entering the
25 Metro-Atlantic area from Smith street carrying

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1 drums?

2 A. Oh, that was -- that was -- that was a
3 common thing.

4 Q. What kind of trucks did you see entering that
5 area?

6 A. Flatbed trucks with railings, with
7 barrels in them. That's how I can best describe
8 them.

9 Q. Do you know if the trucks belonged to
10 Metro-Atlantic?

11 A. I can't say for sure.

12 Q. Did they have any markings on them?

13 A. They might have. They might have but
14 you're talking a long time.

15 MS. GARYPIE: You bet.

16 Q. Do you recall what color they were?

17 A. There was a few but I remember in my
18 mind -- I don't know -- but I got a red cab, red
19 cab, red color cab and -- and it might not have
20 been all red trucks but I can remember trucks
21 coming in with a red cab on it, had a red cab and
22 a flatbed like.

23 Q. Were the drums on the trucks empty or full?

24 A. Oh, I -- I don't know.

25 Q. Did they have covers on them?

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1 A. They were -- they would be vertical.
2 They were vertical.

3 Q. So the covers would have been on the top?

4 A. Yes, so you wouldn't be able to tell.

5 Q. Were they stacked on the truck did you say?

6 A. Uh-huh.

7 Q. How high?

8 A. In other words, they would -- they would
9 have a -- a wooden corral type look and they would
10 be vertical and -- and I don't -- I don't even
11 know -- I can't -- I don't believe they were
12 stacked per se. In other words, on top of each
13 other. I think they were just on there vertical.

14 Q. So they would be one layer?

15 A. Yes. The ones that, you know --

16 Q. Approximately how many drums would be on each
17 truck?

18 A. More than ten. I -- I really couldn't
19 tell you.

20 Q. Did you also see trucks leaving the
21 Metro-Atlantic area and turning onto Smith street
22 containing drums?

23 A. Turning into Smith Street? I -- I can't
24 tell you. No, I don't know.

25 Q. But you do remember them?

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1 A. I know they used -- they used to come
2 and go all day long. Some were full; some had
3 barrels; some did not, you know, but there was
4 activity here all day long, in and out, in and out
5 type of deal.

6 Q. Was there any other type of waste disposal
7 activity that you observed in the Metro-Atlantic
8 area?

9 A. Other than dumping into the -- into the
10 water with the dyes or whatever that was, that was
11 in there, there was a -- I think there was a stack
12 here. I'm not sure about that though. It was so
13 long ago.

14 I can't remember if it was -- it was the
15 flames I'm looking in my mind seeing that were
16 from the barrels or they had a furnace going too
17 but I can't remember that, and there used to be
18 fires but I don't remember if they were from the
19 furnace or from the -- from the activity in the
20 barrels.

21 Q. Returning to Area 5, did you ever see smoke
22 coming from that area?

23 A. Oh, definitely. I couldn't tell if it
24 was from the furnace or from -- we saw exploding
25 barrels, so there was a flame there with smoke,

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1 yes. That's what I was trying to get to.

2 Q. I guess what I meant to say was, was it usual
3 to see smoke or mist coming from that area?

4 A. It was very unusual to see smoke, you
5 know, different colors of smoke, you know, yellow
6 and different colors but that was -- that came
7 with the explosions too.

8 Q. And how often would those explosions occur?

9 A. We heard them every night.

10 Q. During from -- I'm sorry -- from 1957 to '63?

11 A. Boy, it was so common, I mean I don't
12 want to say the wrong thing but it was so common
13 that, yeah, we used to sit and watch, you know,
14 wait for the big explosions.

15 Q. And this was -- this was Monday through
16 Friday?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. And was there ever activity on Saturday or
19 Sunday?

20 A. I -- I want to say, yeah, because I
21 remember my father saying to me how come they're
22 doing this on the weekend? I remember an incident
23 like that but if they did it regularly, I don't
24 know; I can't remember, but I -- I remember there
25 was occasions that they would be down there

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1 because I remember my father saying it was like
2 even on Sundays they would do this. You know what
3 I'm saying? So -- because Sundays used to be
4 peace and quiet and he'd hear the tractors going
5 once in a while down here, but I don't think -- I
6 don't think it was an ongoing thing; I think it
7 was -- I think it was more of a sporadic type of
8 deal. I don't remember.

9 Q. It was sporadic on the weekends?

10 A. I think so. Because I don't remember --
11 I don't remember every weekend but, again, you're
12 going back a couple of years, two, three.

13 Q. Okay. And just -- just focusing on those
14 years, '57 to '63, did you ever take any
15 photographs of the area where the drums were seen?

16 A. No. No. We were kids and we would ask
17 questions, you know, but I mean that's as far as,
18 you know --

19 Q. Who did you ask questions?

20 A. We'd ask questions, you know, why -- you
21 know, what's going on here? I would ask my father
22 and, you know --

23 Q. And how would he respond?

24 A. Well, they are just doing their job, you
25 know. That's the type of deal. They are on their

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1 land; you're on your land, you know, that type of
2 deal.

3 Q. Do you know between '57 and '63 the name of
4 the company that was operating?

5 A. The only -- I always remembered this as
6 Metro-Atlantic warehouse; it wasn't warehouse;
7 chemical plant. That was the word for it. It was
8 the Metro-Atlantic Chemical Plant as far as I
9 know. If somebody else was in here, it would
10 still be called Metro-Atlantic Chemical Plant, so
11 I don't know.

12 Q. Was that the common name in the community for
13 this area?

14 A. I believe so. That's what it said on
15 the sign, Metro-Atlantic. They used to have the
16 sign out in front.

17 Q. And there was no other name on the sign?

18 A. Not that I can remember. I can remember
19 Metro-Atlantic and just like I remember Jack &
20 Harry's. There was other stores but you always
21 remember Jack & Harry's or whatever you want to
22 call it.

23 MS. GARYPIE: I'm going to take a quick
24 break.

25 A. Okay.

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1 (P A U S E)

2 (Whereupon, EPA-Neri Exhibits No. 2A
3 through 2F were marked.)

4 **BY MS. GARYPIE:**

5 Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibits 2A, 2B, 2C,
6 2D, 2E and 2F. I'm going to ask you to take a
7 look at those and let me know when you're done
8 reviewing them.

9 A. (Witness complies.)

10 Q. Done?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Okay. And what do those photographs appear
13 to be?

14 A. A Metro-Atlantic truck.

15 Q. Did you see those trucks when you were living
16 on Amber Street?

17 THE WITNESS: Coming and going?

18 MS. GARYPIE: Right.

19 THE WITNESS: This is all one truck,
20 right?

21 MS. GARYPIE: I believe so.

22 A. Yeah. I've seen maybe one or two of
23 these but I mean I more see -- remember the other
24 trucks with the red cab on it with the -- I
25 remember those more vividly than -- than these

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1 here.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. I don't know how many of these they had
4 but I know the ones that I was talking about,
5 because we used to walk right by the place and we
6 used to stop because they used to come out of the
7 gates, so I remember there was more than those.

8 Q. So you just mentioned gates. Were there
9 gates at the driveway --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- where the -- the property met Smith
12 Street?

13 A. Yes, on Smith Street. This is the end
14 of the buildings. The gates are here.

15 Q. Did you ever -- again, focusing on the years
16 '57 through '63, did you ever walk on the
17 Metro-Atlantic property?

18 A. No. Not on the property, no.

19 Q. Did you ever walk on the property, the area
20 south of what you've marked as 5 on this map?

21 A. On the North Providence side, no. As
22 far as we'd go would be Steere Avenue, which would
23 be here.

24 Q. So would you walk west on Steere Avenue until
25 you reached the tailrace, the water?

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1 A. Yes, only because we had friends that
2 lived on the street and we used to -- we used to
3 play ball, baseball and stuff like that or cut
4 through the yard and stuff like that but not
5 actually go on the property, no.

6 Q. And when you were on the Steere Avenue side
7 of the property, could you observe any of the
8 activities you just described?

9 A. No. No. I never saw any activity from
10 the Steere Avenue side because of the time of day.
11 We used to play here during the day and on
12 weekends and this activity, most of it was done on
13 evening time.

14 Q. Do you know the names of anyone who worked at
15 Metro-Atlantic at that time?

16 A. No, I do not.

17 Q. Did you have any friends whose fathers worked
18 at Metro-Atlantic at that time?

19 A. Not that I recall.

20 Q. When you left Amber Street in approximately
21 1968, did your parents continue to live there?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And are they still living?

24 A. My -- my mom is living.

25 Q. And is she still on Amber Street?

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1 A. She's right in that building across,
2 right there.

3 Q. And when you say, "that building," are you
4 referring to Centredale Manor?

5 A. Centredale Manor, yes.

6 Q. Does she have any recollection or did she
7 ever discuss the activities that you just talked
8 about?

9 A. Not to me.

10 Q. And does she have the same last name as you
11 do?

12 A. Yes, she does.

13 Q. After you left Amber Street in 1968, did you
14 ever come back to visit the area near the
15 Metro-Atlantic facility?

16 A. Yes. When I visited my parents, yes.

17 Q. Did you --

18 A. I also took a walk with my sons down --
19 because there's a -- if you walk from Centredale
20 down here, there's another place -- Allendale Mill
21 used to call it; there's a bridge there, and it
22 goes into North Providence just before Lee Romano
23 field.

24 Q. So when you're talking about where you used
25 to walk, was it on the Johnston side of the

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1 Woonasquatucket?

2 A. Yes, it was.

3 Q. Was --

4 A. I'm sorry. What there was, there's
5 railroad tracks that the railroad train used to
6 come right by here along the Woonasquatucket
7 River.

8 Q. Right next to the shore?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And on the other side of the track or
12 the other side of Smith Street --

13 Q. The north side?

14 A. Yes. Towards the Waterman Avenue side,
15 that was a train station at one time and cars, you
16 know, railway cars used to be parked in there; we
17 used to play in there, so what I did was took my
18 sons for a walk from my old house on 11 House
19 Street on North Providence, which is on the other
20 side of Woonasquatucket Avenue. That's up near
21 the Lee Romano field, and we walked from the
22 Allendale Mill right down -- right down this --
23 the railroad tracks -- I call them the railroad
24 tracks -- which is now a path looks like on the
25 Johnston side and I showed them where I lived and

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1 stuff.

2 Q. And when did you -- was it more than one time
3 that you took that walk?

4 A. I took it a couple of times, yes.

5 Q. Approximately what year?

6 A. Oh, you're really testing me.

7 Q. Take your time.

8 A. I'm going to say '87; around '86, '87,
9 all of the activity was gone, you know. I mean it
10 was -- these buildings were up and stuff like
11 that, so it wasn't that we saw anything by taking
12 the walk or anything.

13 Q. When you say, "these buildings," do you mean
14 Centredale Manor and Brook Village?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. When you were back in the area after 1968,
17 other than the walks with your sons, did you
18 observe activities continuing, drum activities
19 continuing?

20 A. I would say the -- the -- they were
21 declining at that time.

22 Q. I'm sorry?

23 A. They were declining, if anything, at
24 that time, '68. The reason why I'm saying that is
25 because it was funny because I had my next-door

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1 neighbor, which wasn't from this area, and he
2 asked me to go fishing one day and he goes, "Let's
3 go fishing down the Woonasquatucket River," and I
4 laughed and I said, "What are you, nuts?"

5 He said, "Why? There's great fishing in
6 there, you know," but that was, I'm going to say
7 about '72, '69, '72, somewhere in that area where
8 the water, I believe, was starting to come -- come
9 back because of the -- I guess the activity wasn't
10 being polluted or whatever.

11 I don't know if it was that early '72, but I
12 remember him saying, "Let's go fishing down here,"
13 and I know my son was born -- he was born in '72,
14 that's why I'm saying '72, so around '72, in that
15 area, because when I was a kid, there was no fish
16 in this area.

17 There was some snapping turtles, you know,
18 turtles used to come up between the railroad
19 tracks and they just actually ceased to be. I
20 mean I took a walk down after I got married in '68
21 and there was -- there wasn't any at all, and I
22 couldn't believe how in a few years -- I'm going
23 to say five -- that the -- all the stuff had --
24 because they had, I guess, gone out of business or
25 whatever Metro-Atlantic and they were building

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1 these buildings here. I don't remember what year
2 this was built but the river was starting to -- to
3 come around again. What I mean by "coming
4 around," I mean activity in the water.

5 Q. Do you know what products were produced at
6 the Metro-Atlantic facility?

7 A. Not at all. I know it was a chemical
8 plant. I assume -- I thought in my mind it was
9 dyes but -- but maybe I'm wrong. Because I saw
10 those colors going into the water, so I -- I
11 assumed it was dyes.

12 Q. And when material would come out of the
13 pipes, was that constant?

14 A. I -- I believe -- I believe it was not
15 constant. I believe they put it on at certain
16 times and shut it off at certain times. I don't
17 believe it was constant because I didn't see
18 constantly -- I didn't see dye going in
19 constantly.

20 If you walked by at 3:30 in the afternoon,
21 the dye was flowing but in the morning, when I
22 went to school, I don't remember seeing anything
23 being -- anything going, so if I had to make a --
24 a -- I don't want to say guess but I'm going to
25 say it was turned on and turned off because it

1 wasn't constant.

2 Q. How thick was the material that was
3 discharged?

4 A. It was liquid. The pipes that they had
5 I believe weren't no bigger than the cover of this
6 Dunkin' Donuts. If I say anything, it would be a
7 little smaller; they weren't any bigger than this;
8 they were smaller.

9 Q. How many inches in diameter?

10 A. That's about, I'm going to say,
11 four inches, so I would say the pipe was probably
12 three inches; no more than four.

13 Q. How high was it from the water surface?

14 A. It was the bank. It was about maybe
15 two feet down from the top and it came out and
16 it -- it went into the water, so it was like a --
17 it wasn't that the pipes were in the water at all.
18 And any time the water being high and low, because
19 this -- this river does get high and low, at any
20 time, this pipe was not on the water; it was above
21 the water.

22 Q. Would the pipe hang out over the water?

23 A. Yes. The pipe stuck out two, maybe
24 three feet from the -- from the bank. In other
25 words, it stuck out maybe about that far.

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1 Q. Was it buried once it reached the shore?

2 A. Correct. It was about probably -- I'm
3 going to say a foot to two feet down. As a matter
4 of fact, I still, I -- I haven't been here in a
5 while but you might -- it might still be there.

6 Q. I'm going to ask you just a few more
7 questions about the operations before things
8 slowed down in the early 1970s.

9 There's a building, which is depicted on
10 Exhibit 1, just to the left of where you've marked
11 the No. 7. Do you recall any particular
12 activities in that building?

13 A. No. I'm trying -- that's why it's so
14 important to find out where my street is on this
15 because I don't know if my street is on this side
16 of it or that side of it. I don't remember that
17 building at all.

18 Q. So in other words, you're not sure how far
19 north or south Amber was --

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. -- on the Johnston side?

22 A. Right, because on the building here, I
23 know we were more in the back of Metro-Atlantic
24 than the front of Metro-Atlantic.

25 Q. So, in other words, you were on the south

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1 end?

2 A. I believe so, because I mean if you
3 notice my "X" over here, it's at the end of the
4 building and I think we were more towards the back
5 end of the building because we saw more. That's
6 where all the activity was. I'm saying that this
7 "X" might be -- might not be perfect in this spot
8 where it should be, so this building could be more
9 north or more south --

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. -- in other words, from my vision.

12 Q. But you don't -- do you have -- other than
13 the drum burial activities in Area 5, and the drum
14 stacking in Area 7, do you recall any other types
15 of activities around the buildings in that north
16 end of the site?

17 A. No. Like I said before, we had a tree
18 line here that really could hear things but you
19 couldn't really -- you have to really go down and
20 investigate to really see what's going on. Don't
21 forget we are up -- we were up -- in other words,
22 if you look on the Johnston side, they are up
23 higher, maybe 20 feet higher than the North
24 Providence side, so you're kind of looking down
25 into a tree line type of deal all the time.

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1 Q. So when you were looking down onto Area 5
2 here on exhibit -- when you were looking over to
3 Area 5 here on Exhibit 1, you were looking down
4 onto the --

5 A. Yes. If you're looking for my house,
6 yes, but playing in this area, on the railroad
7 tracks and, you know, riding the cars and stuff,
8 you -- you would be -- you would be eye level and
9 you could see the stuff.

10 Q. So did you know that drums were in a hole in
11 Area 5 because you were observing from the
12 elevated side on the Johnston side?

13 A. No. I mean you could see -- by walking
14 the tracks -- like I said, I used to walk the
15 tracks every day, the railroad tracks, from
16 Allendale Mill to -- back to my house because my
17 girlfriend lived in North Providence and I walked
18 back every night, so that's most of the times I
19 would -- that's why I'm saying at suppertime that
20 I would see the activity, most of the activity.

21 Q. Did you ever see any old drums being moved
22 around in Area 5?

23 A. The drums that I can recall in my mind,
24 there might have been, but the ones I've -- they
25 were black, and for some reason they are in my

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1 mind black. If they were old, new or whatever,
2 they looked, some of them, you know, looked shiny,
3 so I would say new but --

4 Q. Were any of the drums crushed in any way or
5 dented?

6 A. Oh, yeah. They were dented.

7 Q. Were they dented --

8 A. I mean they weren't perfectly round
9 barrels. They were just like scooping these
10 babies, you know, and throwing them; it wasn't
11 that they were being neat with these things or
12 anything, so they would be dented and stuff like
13 that.

14 Q. So were they dented in the process of burial
15 do you think?

16 A. Oh, I would say definitely. I mean
17 nobody was being -- I don't think anybody was
18 taking their time stacking, putting -- like to
19 say, putting one barrel on top of it like that.

20 I don't think that's -- I think it was more
21 like, you know, they picked it up with a bulldozer
22 whatever, they dumped it in there. I don't -- I
23 don't -- again, you know, I wasn't really on this
24 property or right close to see exactly what was
25 going on, but I don't think they were taking it

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1 and getting the things and, you know, stacked
2 perfectly, you know, being dainty about it. I
3 think it was just like throw it in the hole type
4 of deal.

5 Q. In the Area 7 where you saw drums stacked --

6 A. They were coming out on -- they would be
7 coming out on a -- on a pallet.

8 Q. Do you know where they were coming out from?

9 A. No. Well, I don't know exactly because,
10 I believe, it was around in this area right here
11 and what they --

12 Q. When you say, "this area," you mean the
13 general area of what you've marked as 7?

14 A. 7, yes; in that general area. This
15 building is bothering me because I don't remember
16 seeing this building.

17 Q. And when you say, "this building," you're
18 referring to the building just to the left of
19 No. 7 on the map?

20 A. Yes. Was this a big building do you
21 know?

22 Q. I don't know.

23 A. I mean a high building or --

24 Q. I don't know.

25 A. Because we had clear -- that's why I'm

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1 saying, we had a clear view of -- of what was
2 going on here. I don't remember a building being
3 in my way.

4 Q. And the drums that you saw stacked in Area 7,
5 were they dented?

6 A. They were -- all I know, they were on
7 pallets. If they were dented or not, I can't say
8 if they were or not per se. I'm not going to make
9 a statement like that. I don't know.

10 Q. Did you ever see these drums being moved
11 around without heavy equipment? In other words,
12 with one man moving one drum?

13 A. I have -- I didn't see one man doing it,
14 put it that way, no. I can't remember if they
15 were -- what I saw was what I saw and, like I
16 said, it was pallets, boom, drop them off; go get
17 some more, boom, come back.

18 Now, if they were taken from a truck, I
19 couldn't tell you because my view is blocked or
20 whatever but we are coming from this area and
21 going to that area. They could -- they could have
22 been coming from the truck. I don't know.

23 Q. When the drums were dumped into what you've
24 marked as Area 5, did they ever break open?

25 A. Again, if they did, I couldn't see from

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1 where I was. I mean you're talking a long view.
2 I -- I -- you know, I just saw them being, you
3 know, buried.

4 Q. Do you recall the name New England Container
5 Corporation being associated with this property
6 depicted on Exhibit 1?

7 A. I've heard the name before but I
8 don't -- I don't -- I don't know where I saw it.

9 Q. And you were describing the Woonasquatucket
10 as being essentially barren in terms of water
11 life, birds, that sort of thing?

12 A. More -- more fish. I was talking about
13 fish.

14 Q. Fish? Okay. Were there other areas along
15 the Woonasquatucket River that you believe may
16 have been discharging fluids into the river?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Or that may have affected the river?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And what area or areas would that be?

21 A. If you get to Waterman, go to Waterman
22 Avenue, which is right here, this -- this is --
23 I'm -- I put the bridge here because there's water
24 going on both sides so I -- okay -- but if you go
25 on the other side of the bridge, there's a bunch

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1 of islands here. There's a Masonic Temple right
2 here. There it is right here, there is a Masonic
3 temple.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. All right? Behind the Masonic Temple,
6 there's a cove, which it shows right here.

7 Q. Okay. Can you mark the cove with a No. 8?

8 A. Okay. There was a place called D & S
9 Screw Products. I don't know if this is the
10 building or not, but this is the cove and they
11 used to dump and they wouldn't even put the barrel
12 in. They would just dump their liquids right into
13 the -- right into the water.

14 Q. And can you mark the approximate area that
15 that building would be for D & S Screw Products
16 with a No. 9?

17 A. I would say around here. It's -- it's
18 this building or the one next to it but this the
19 cove.

20 Q. When you're saying, "this building" --

21 A. There's only showing one building here.

22 Q. Near the No. 9?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. And I thought there were two buildings,

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1 one on each side. This could be like out of
2 proportion or whatever. This could be a building;
3 that could be a building, but I know it was D & S
4 Screw Products because I worked there.

5 Q. How long did you work there?

6 A. One day was enough for me.

7 Q. Approximately what year was that?

8 A. '66 or '67.

9 Q. And why did you only work there one day?

10 A. Or '65, '66, '67, somewhere in there
11 because I was in high school. Somewhere in there.
12 I graduated in '67 so somewhere in there.

13 Q. Why were you there just one day?

14 A. It was a slave shop.

15 Q. How do you mean?

16 A. Well, I had -- my job was to put -- get
17 the screw and put a little thing on the top like
18 this and -- I don't know -- with a drill and it
19 wasn't for me. My hands were too big.

20 Q. And when you talk about dumping into the cove
21 that you've marked as Area 8, how would the
22 dumping be accomplished?

23 A. They would -- one man or two men would
24 actually get the barrels and -- and roll them.

25 Q. Were they in a vertical position --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- when they were being rolled?

3 A. Yes. In other words, they had no covers
4 on them. They just brought them down the bank and
5 they just poured them into the water.

6 Q. And what was in the drums?

7 A. What they call raw fastenings or what do
8 you call it? Raw -- the waste that they have from
9 their dipping of their -- plating, whatever you
10 want to call it. Is it plating?

11 Q. Was there a plating operation in the screw
12 company? In other words, was there a shiny
13 metal --

14 A. Right.

15 Q. -- that was being applied to the screw?

16 A. I believe -- if it wasn't D & S Screw
17 Products, they were -- they were in the same
18 building or whatever, but that's why I said D & S
19 Screw Products because I remember the name because
20 I worked there, but the building, that building
21 there, that's where the barrels came out -- came
22 out of, and there was -- it was the stuff they
23 use -- I guess all the waste that they had. I
24 don't know the process of jewelry, so I couldn't
25 tell you exactly what it was but it was a liquid.

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1 Q. Just so I understand, was it from the screw
2 company or was it from the building, the -- the
3 company next door?

4 A. I believe it was from the -- like I
5 said, I don't know if those two guys were
6 together, the same company or not.

7 Q. But it was a separate operation from the
8 screw --

9 A. I don't know. I don't know.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. All I'm saying is that building with D &
12 S Screw Products was in. There might have been
13 more than one company in that building. I don't
14 know. But I only used D & S Screw Products
15 because I -- I worked there, so I knew the name of
16 it. They used to bring the stuff down and dump it
17 into the water.

18 Q. What -- what color was the liquid -- I'm
19 sorry. Was it liquid in the drums?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. And what color was it?

22 A. Mostly, I believe, were clear than
23 anything else, but it wasn't water. It might have
24 been oil; it might have been -- because when it --
25 when it was put in the water, it made that

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1 gasoline type of cloud or what do you want to call
2 that when you --

3 Q. Was there a sheen on the water?

4 A. Yes. Correct.

5 Q. Did it turn a color when it hit the water?

6 A. Not that I could see. Again, I was on
7 the other side of the water. This cove that we
8 drew here, the -- the -- in other words, the
9 railroad station was here, and you're talking
10 probably from here to the edge of the building, so
11 it was, you know, a good hundred yards anyways
12 away, maybe more.

13 Q. Between the building and the cove?

14 A. No. The cove and where -- where we saw
15 it happening.

16 Q. So when you saw the -- the drums being
17 emptied in Area 8, did that happen on the day you
18 worked at D & S Screw Products?

19 A. It happened more than once because we
20 used to play -- like I said, we used to play in
21 the railroad cars. At 4:30 at night, between 4:30
22 and 5:30 at night every day, that they pushed that
23 in there.

24 Q. So what years did you observe that?

25 A. Okay. Let's see, '47. I was about 14,

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1 so it would be '57 --

2 Q. '61?

3 A. Yes, about '61.

4 Q. And was it just during that one year?

5 A. Like I said, we started getting older;
6 we started not hanging around in those areas, so,
7 you know, we didn't really pay much more
8 attention. It might have still went on. I don't
9 know. I mean, like I said, we are talking about
10 stuff that we observed that was done on a
11 day-to-day basis that nobody even questioned.

12 Q. Was there any other source of pollutants that
13 you observed entering into the Woonasquatucket?

14 A. Besides the dead bodies? No.

15 Q. That was a joke?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. You haven't found any yet? I -- I can't
19 remember anything else. Sorry about that.

20 Q. Did you observe any of the construction
21 activities associated with Brook Village or
22 Centredale Manor?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. No. I'm trying to think of the years.

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1 What years were they built?

2 Q. Our information is that Brook Village was
3 built in, approximately, 1976 and Centredale Manor
4 was built in, approximately, 1982 or '83.

5 A. Yeah, because I was living on House
6 Street at the time.

7 Q. Do you know anyone who was associated with
8 the construction of these buildings?

9 A. Associated? What do you mean
10 "associated"? That actually built it?

11 Q. Right.

12 A. No.

13 Q. Or prepared the land for the building?

14 A. The only one I always -- I used to talk
15 to would be Sal, Sal Mancini.

16 Q. And who is that?

17 A. That used to be the mayor of North
18 Providence.

19 Q. And what would you discuss with him with
20 regard to the buildings?

21 A. I used to make a joke of it with him,
22 how they ever got the thing approved to be built
23 in the first place.

24 Q. And what were your concerns with regard to
25 building the buildings here?

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1 A. The barrels, number one; this was
2 wetland, as far as I know, number two. I just
3 couldn't believe that they -- they built these
4 buildings on this land after knowing that it was
5 so polluted.

6 I mean you're talking about something that
7 was -- this is a very small community where, you
8 know, everybody knows each other. I mean you
9 pass, you go through the window, I mean it's very,
10 very close knit and everybody knew what this was
11 and it was -- it was -- it was -- it was a joke.
12 I mean it wasn't really a joke; it's not a joke
13 but I'm just saying it was -- it was so -- it was
14 such an atrocity, the whole mess from day one, you
15 know, that I -- I was -- I just couldn't believe
16 they built anything here.

17 Q. How did he react to your comments?

18 A. He laughed.

19 Q. Was he aware of the drum activities here?

20 A. Oh, I'm sure.

21 Q. Do you know if complaints were made about the
22 manufacturing activities or the drum activities at
23 the time they were going on?

24 A. I mean, now, I was a kid at the time. I
25 mean I'm sure -- I mean I heard, you know, you

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1 only -- you don't really hear what you hear from
2 your parents, but I mean I don't think anybody in
3 this area wanted it to go on; it just went on,
4 and, you know, and on and on and on, you know,
5 until the -- I don't know if it was somebody
6 stopped them to do it or they just went out of
7 business. I don't really know the -- the -- the
8 end result. I don't know how it stopped, you
9 know.

10 Some people went out of business and that's
11 the end of the thing or somebody said, "Okay. You
12 can't do this anymore." I don't know about that.

13 Q. Do you know if anyone, besides yourself,
14 expressed concern about drums and drum activities
15 and -- and the building of Centredale Manor and
16 Brook Village?

17 A. Yeah. My dad and I used to talk about
18 it a lot but, unfortunately, he's not here no more
19 but we used to talk about it a lot, you know.

20 Q. Were there any community groups that
21 expressed concern?

22 A. Not that I know of. If there was, again
23 being from Johnston, a community group in North
24 Providence would get together here and they
25 wouldn't -- they wouldn't -- it's not like today

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1 with communications so -- so great, you know, you
2 can make a phone call, gee, you know.

3 I think if they did, it was from the North
4 Providence side because this is where it really
5 was. We were more viewing it than being it, if
6 you know what I'm saying. I'm terrible in
7 describing stuff but I'm doing the best I can.

8 MS. GARYPIE: You're doing a fine job.

9 Q. Is there any other information that you can
10 think of that might help us to understand the type
11 of hazardous waste we are seeing in the area or
12 the cause of it?

13 A. I think the main cause is right -- right
14 here; that was the main cause of it.

15 Q. When you say, "right here," what do you mean?

16 A. The -- the ground that we are on right
17 now. To me -- like I said, from day one they
18 built this place I was -- I couldn't believe
19 because of seeing what I saw, the thousands and
20 thousands of barrels.

21 There's probably millions of barrels. I
22 don't have no idea. I have no idea. I probably
23 count them of. Somebody said that they took some
24 of the stuff out of here. That's what Sal told
25 me. They already took all the barrels out of

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1 here, but I kept on saying to myself, "That's
2 impossible; there was just too many of them."

3 And barrels to me, corrode and decay, and if
4 you touch them, they are going to -- even if you
5 could get to them, if you touch them, they'll
6 probably disintegrate anyways, so the stuff that
7 was in the barrels are probably into soil, which
8 is in the water, which is the whole bit, you know.

9 But I mean the ground where we are on right
10 now, and I mean this parking lot, this whole
11 parking lot, starting from -- I'd say where the
12 corner of that building starts --

13 Q. And when you say -- you mean the corner of
14 Brook Village?

15 A. Brook Village. Is that what you call
16 it, the building right here?

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. Okay. From there on, there's barrels
19 buried here. I don't care what anybody says. I
20 don't believe -- I can't believe that they took --
21 it just took years and years to put in. That's
22 what I'm trying to say. It took years and years
23 to put in. How could it come out in a -- in a
24 little project? And what did they do with them if
25 they did take them out?

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1 Q. Is there any person -- can you give us the
2 name of any person who would have information
3 about operations or construction? And by "any
4 person" I mean including friends of your parents,
5 friends that you grew up with that observed these
6 activities between '57 and '63 or anyone else who
7 might have knowledge that we can talk to?

8 A. I do, but the persons don't want to get
9 involved. I already talked to them about it.
10 Because he -- he used to play -- we used to play
11 down here together but he doesn't want to get
12 involved but I told him he's stupid but --

13 Q. Did you ever observe drums floating down the
14 river?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How often would that occur?

17 A. Once in a while I'd see them. It would
18 be more, like I says, this is what I'm saying,
19 this back end --

20 Q. Going back to Exhibit 1, would it be from the
21 Area 5 that you've marked?

22 A. See, what's -- on this what's gaffing me
23 up is that, at one point, this was water somewhere
24 around here.

25 Q. So that the tailrace and the Woonasquatucket

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1 would be --

2 A. Yeah. Somewhere in here this met and
3 this is where we saw the barrels.

4 Q. So it may have been even further south --

5 A. Oh, yes.

6 Q. -- than what you've marked as 5?

7 A. Oh, yes.

8 Q. Would it be all the way down where the
9 tailrace and the Woonasquatucket met?

10 A. This is only Steere Avenue, which is
11 right here. So I mean you've got another hundred
12 yards just for the parking lot and, then, you got
13 trees there, and I believe that's where it opens
14 up into a -- we used to go skating there; like a
15 cove type of deal. Opens up -- the -- the
16 Woonasquatucket River opens up down here further.

17 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. I'm going to break
18 for just a minute.

19 THE WITNESS: Sure.

20 (P A U S E)

21 THE WITNESS: Sometimes we used to take
22 the barrels and make rafts out of them.

23 Q. I'm going to show you -- this is not marked
24 as an exhibit but I'm going to show you an aerial
25 photograph and the -- I'm going to read the label

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1 into the record. It's labeled in the lower
2 left-hand corner: "Woonasquatucket River,
3 Providence, Rhode Island. PIC 9901116S. Date
4 flown: September 2, 1963. Source: ASCS. Frame
5 No. 158. Approximate scale 1 inch equals
6 185 feet."

7 Do you see -- do you see where the
8 Woonasquatucket River appears on this aerial
9 photo?

10 A. I'm assuming this is it right here.
11 This is supposed to be the plant right here?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. Okay. This is the Woonasquatucket
14 River. The Centredale bridge, Route 44. I'm
15 trying to think. What year is this?

16 Q. 1963. So this would have been two years
17 earlier than Exhibit 1, which is the map we've
18 been referring to.

19 Now, you'll see on this aerial photo that
20 the -- the tailrace extends all the way down to
21 where it meets the Woonasquatucket River --

22 A. That's what I was talking about.

23 Q. -- which does not appear on Exhibit 1?

24 A. Correct. Correct.

25 Q. And you've marked Area 5 here as just below

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1 where the buildings stop on the aerial photo?

2 A. Uh-huh. This is what I'm -- this has to
3 be George Waterman Road. Let me see how many
4 streets there is. There's one, two, three -- I'm
5 trying to figure out where Amber Street is now.
6 Now, is this Rhode Island Ave, the cemetery?

7 Q. Take your time.

8 A. This -- I'm -- I'm going to say this
9 looks like Edna Street, and I would say this could
10 be Amber Street because this -- okay -- this is
11 Vacca, Brayton. Let me see -- there's one other
12 one.

13 This is Amber; this must be Edna, and South
14 and North Street. So, as I say, if this is true,
15 this -- this is the street -- okay -- let me see
16 if my house is on this street. That looks like
17 Morra's house; Morra, the name of the people who
18 used to live there.

19 This is my grandmother's house and that was
20 our house, if that's -- if this is true. So we
21 would -- if you see right here, that's what we --
22 that's where we came in. Remember I said to you,
23 you know --

24 Q. It appears that at the end of the street that
25 you're identifying as Amber, there's a small

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1 trail --

2 A. Right.

3 Q. -- leading to the river?

4 A. Right. Exactly.

5 Q. And if we look -- if we look at where the
6 trail meets the river, where would Area 5 be on
7 the aerial photograph? Would that be directly
8 across?

9 A. Directly across the street, across the
10 water.

11 Q. And if we go -- and so that's just south of
12 the -- the most southern Metro-Atlantic building,
13 correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And if we go even further south, which on the
16 aerial photo you start to see trees and you start
17 to see the area where the tailrace meets the
18 Woonasquatucket --

19 A. Right.

20 Q. -- did you ever observe drum or excavation
21 activities in that area starting where you see the
22 trees beginning at the south and moving in where
23 the tailrace and the Woonasquatucket meet?

24 A. Okay. As I said before, we couldn't see
25 that from where we are; we couldn't see this

1 activity here.

2 Q. Okay. So really you could see directly
3 across from where the trail --

4 A. Right.

5 Q. -- meets the -- the Woonasquatucket?

6 A. Right. If you told me -- Remember when
7 I told you about the tree lines before?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. This is the tree lines I was talking
10 about, and this is where the activity is that we
11 used to see or hear the tractors and stuff at
12 night.

13 Q. So would you say, then, that the area that
14 you have marked as 5 --

15 A. 5.

16 Q. -- on Exhibit 1 is correct?

17 A. I would say 5 would be exactly where I
18 had said the activity was. If I put this 5 right
19 on top of this, this is the whole area right
20 there, but I don't see -- I still don't see this
21 house.

22 Q. And when you say, "this house," are you
23 referring --

24 A. The building you're talking about.

25 Q. The building to the left of what you've

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1 marked as 7?

2 A. Right. So I mean that's what I'm
3 saying, I don't really -- even in the photo, it
4 doesn't show anything here on top, on the water
5 like that.

6 MS. GARYPIE: Okay. I think that unless
7 there's anything else that you think may be
8 important to tell us about, we may be through.

9 THE WITNESS: Well, to be -- to be
10 honest with you, a lot of the people -- and, like
11 I said, I don't want to get anybody -- people who
12 don't want to get involved involved, but this is
13 the environment that we are talking about; it
14 affects not only us but our kids, and that's what
15 I'm upset about because this should have been
16 stopped a long time ago, but a lot of the people
17 who live in this area -- and I'm not going to say
18 where -- but in this area right here, they still
19 live there, and they've lived there since this --
20 this incident occurred so --

21 Q. Since you -- since you moved there in 1956?

22 A. Correct. And I'm trying to look at the
23 church here. This is where -- this is where --
24 this is the Saint Lawrence School, so it's up a
25 little further. That looks like the school.

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1 MS. GARYPIE: Okay.

2 THE WITNESS: All right?

3 MS. GARYPIE: I think we are done.

4 Thank you very much.

5 THE WITNESS: All right. Great. I hope
6 I helped you.

7 MS. GARYPIE: You helped us a great
8 deal.

9 (Adjourned at 2:55 p.m.)

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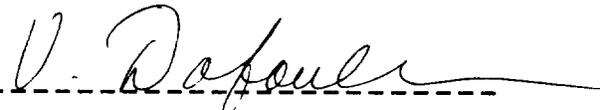
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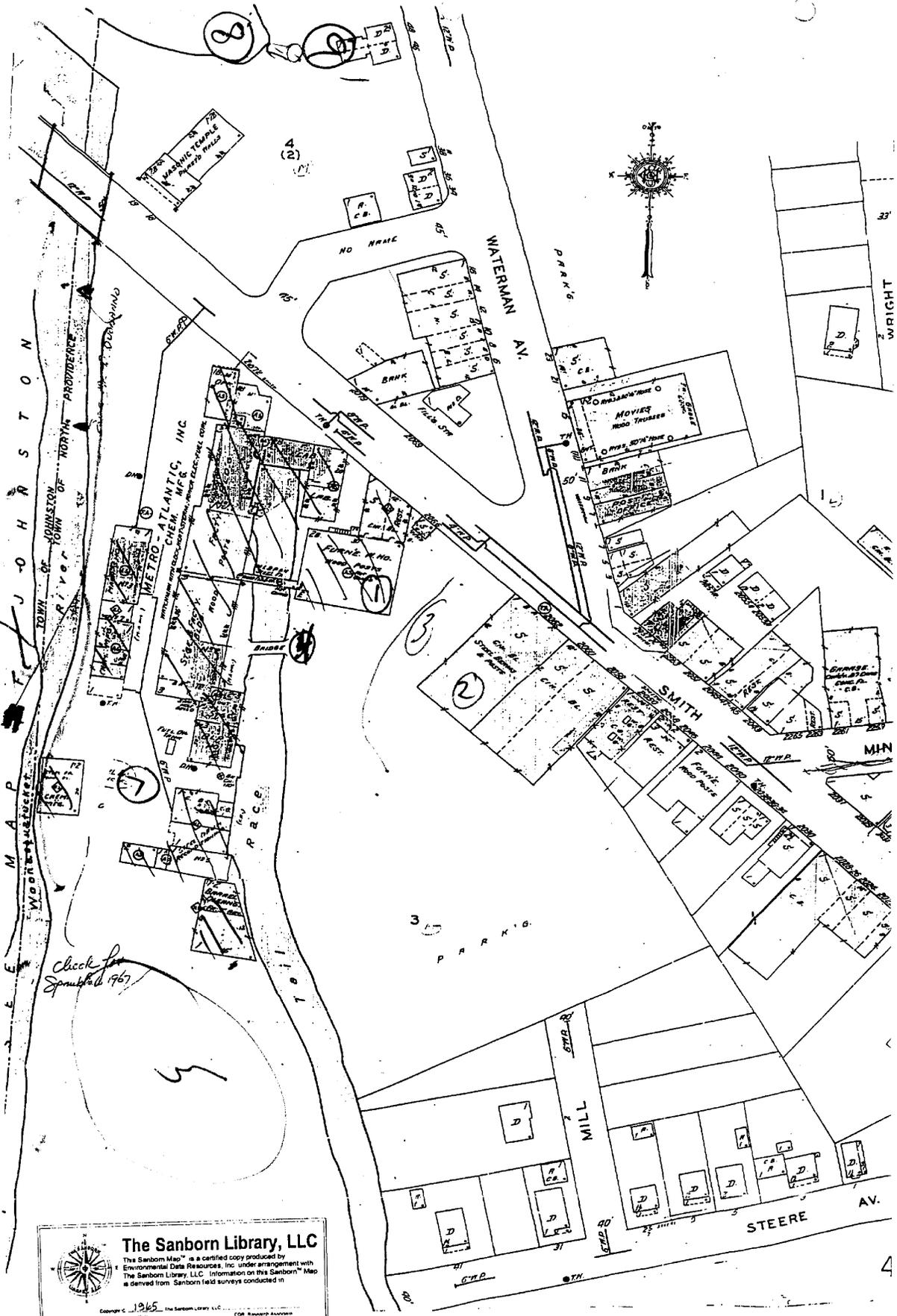
1 STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
2 KENT, Sc.

3
4 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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

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

19
20
21 
22 Vivian S. Dafoulas, RMR-CRR
23 465 Stone Ridge Drive
24 East Greenwich, RI 02818
25 (401) 885-0992



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 Vivian S. Dafoulas

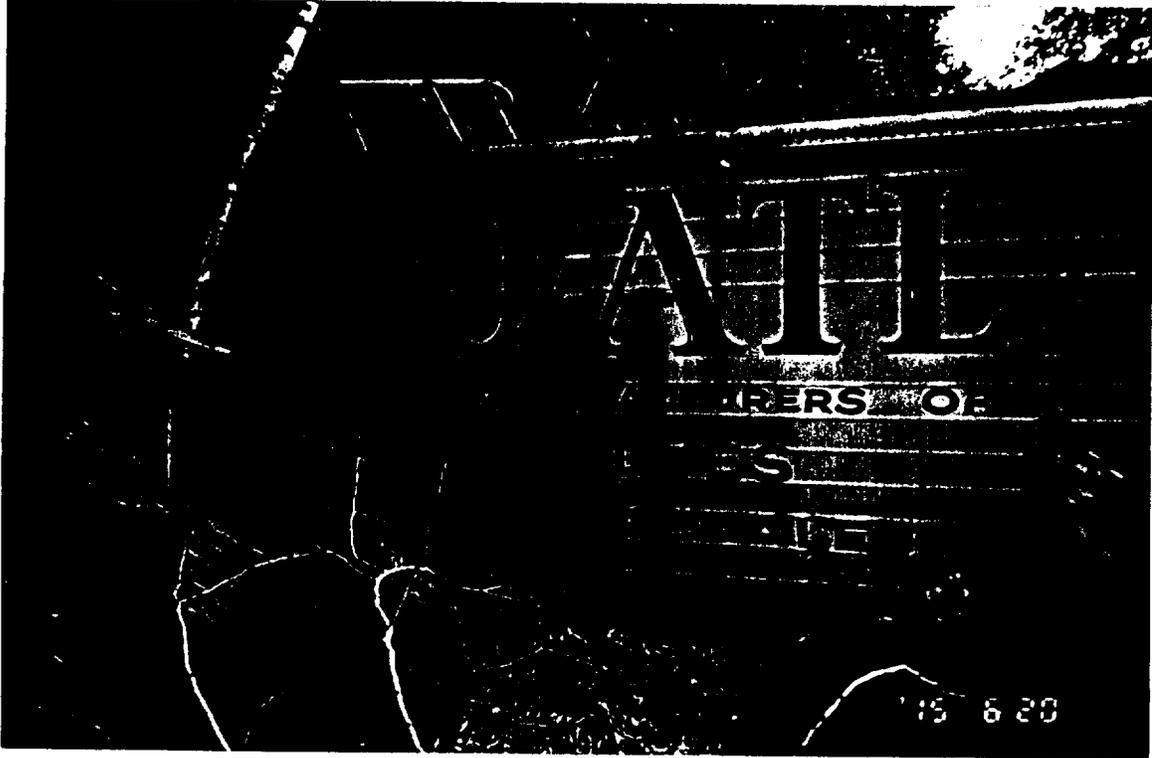


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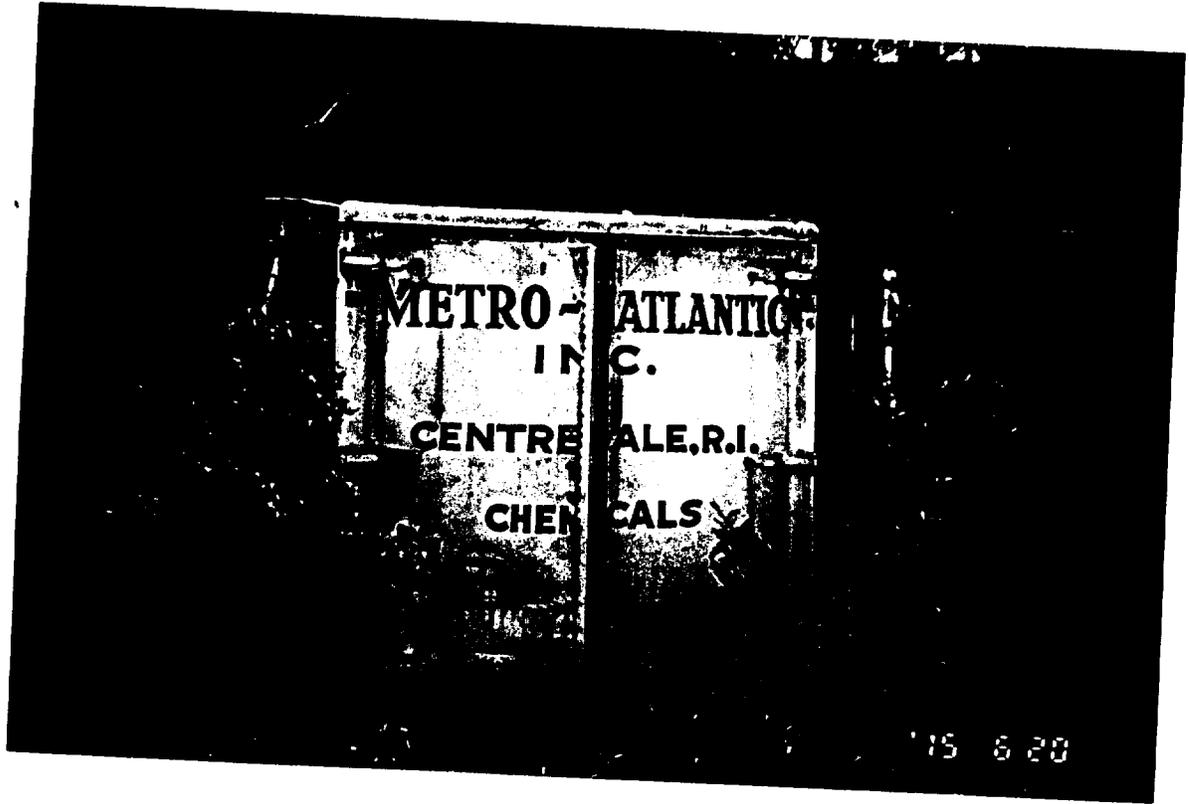


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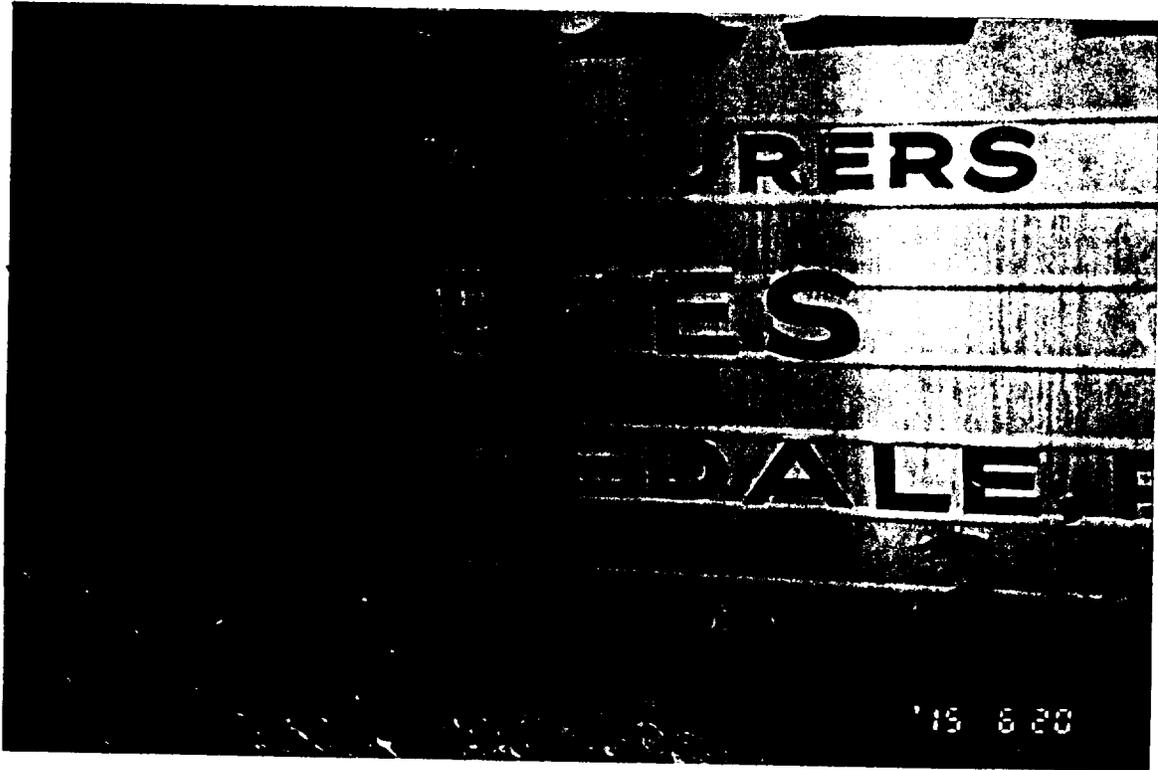


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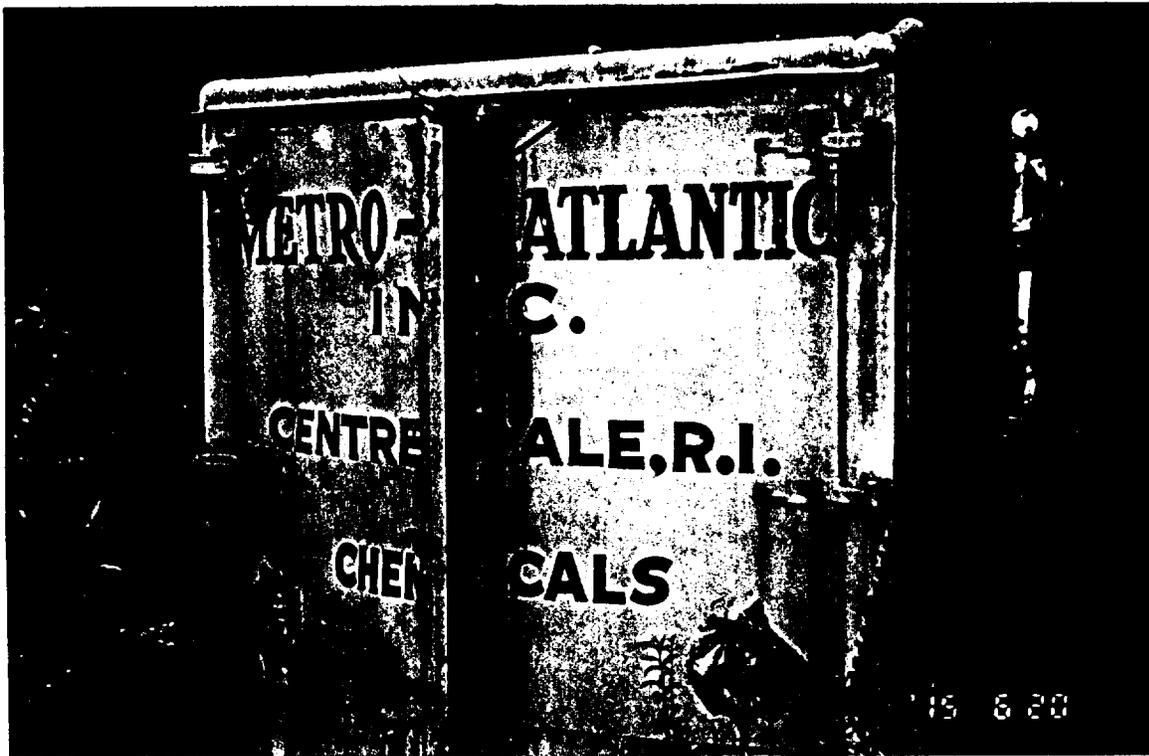


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