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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



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Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—8723

July 25, 1995

Mr. Robert Stokes
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Green Acres Program
CN-412
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Stokes:

MAYWOOD SITE - KENNEDY PARK IN LODI, NEW JERSEY

It was a pleasure speaking with you on Monday July 24. I understand your interest in the Department of Energy's (DOE) involvement at the John F. Kennedy Municipal Park in Lodi, New Jersey. Allow me to summarize our role there and to describe our support to the landscape construction activities now being performed by the borough and its contractors.

The park property is included in the overall Maywood Site, which is part of DOE's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). There are 85 properties located in the Boroughs of Lodi and Maywood and the Township of Rochelle Park that comprise the Maywood site. The John F. Kennedy Municipal Park is one of 37 properties that will be addressed during the next phase of our cleanup at the Site, which is slated to begin this fall. The park was designated for cleanup following radiological surveys that were performed first in 1981 and later in 1984. Characterization of the property to determine the full nature and extent of contamination on the property was performed in November and December 1987. The primary contaminant at the property is the radioactive element thorium, which resulted from commercial processing work performed at the former Maywood Chemical Works during the early to mid 1900s.

Under our current schedule, we will address the residential properties slated for cleanup first, beginning at the "upstream" end of contaminated properties in Lodi in the area of Interstate 80 and working southwest toward Kennedy Park. This helps assure that no properties are re-contaminated due to flooding after being cleaned up. Under this schedule, cleanup of the park likely will not be performed for some two to three years based on projected annual funding from Congress.

In the meantime, the park property does not pose a heightened risk to public health or the environment. Contamination exists in an isolated area on one end of the park. (The enclosed drawings will help illustrate the situation at the property.) The majority of the contamination is subsurface and, therefore, not in a direct exposure pathway to the public. The property is

Mr. Robert Stokes

2

July 25, 1995

not used for residential or agricultural purposes, which further limits possible exposures. The most feasible possibility for exposure is through direct gamma radiation, and levels for this type exposure are extremely low. For instance, if a person stood directly over the area of the park where contaminant concentrations are highest 24-hours a day for an entire year, he or she would receive an estimated dose of 13 millirem above normal background. This scenario is, of course, highly exaggerated, so actual doses for area residents who use the park would be significantly less. Nevertheless, the 13 millirem dose is still well below DOE's allowable above-background dose of 100 millirem per year.

DOE and its contractor for the Maywood Site, Bechtel National, Inc., have been closely involved with the planned park renovations from the very beginning, when a contractor for the borough notified us of the landscaping plans. Representatives from DOE and Bechtel met with the engineering and landscape contractors in February, June and July of 1995 to discuss the renovations and how DOE/Bechtel could help. We have also exchanged correspondence on the subject several times with the borough and its contractors.

In support of the borough's work at the park, we arranged for a civil survey of the property and physically staked out the areas where contamination exists. We have also provided full-time health physics support to work with the borough's engineering and landscaping contractors in performing radiological scans of soil excavated from those areas of the park to ensure that if contaminated material is encountered it is handled properly and that no contaminated material leaves the property. To date, no contamination above cleanup guidelines has been encountered by the landscape contractors.

An issue that has occasionally come up with regards to the state funding for the park renovations is that of DOE's plans for near-term excavations there. This is understandable, but I believe that our plans may not be at odds with the borough's desire to upgrade the property. After we perform remedial actions at the park, we will restore the property to the condition it was in prior to our work. Therefore, if the park is renovated now as is planned, our restoration in the future will be to the newly landscaped condition.

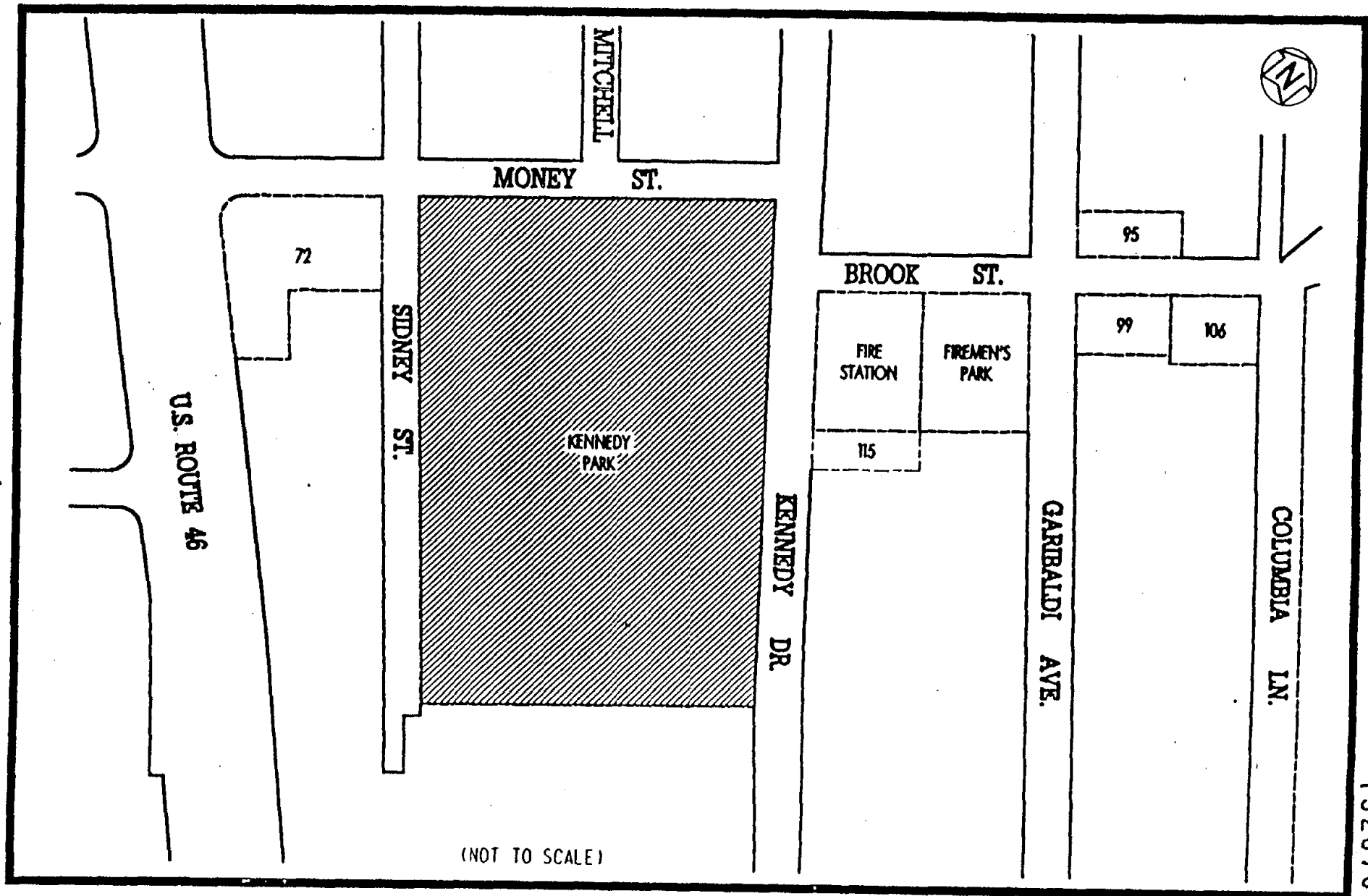
If you have any further questions or would like to discuss DOE's work at the Maywood Site, I will be glad to assist you. My number in Oak Ridge, TN, is (615) 576-5724.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Cange, Site Manager
Former Sites Restoration Division

Enclosures



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FIGURE 1-2 LOCATION OF KENNEDY PARK

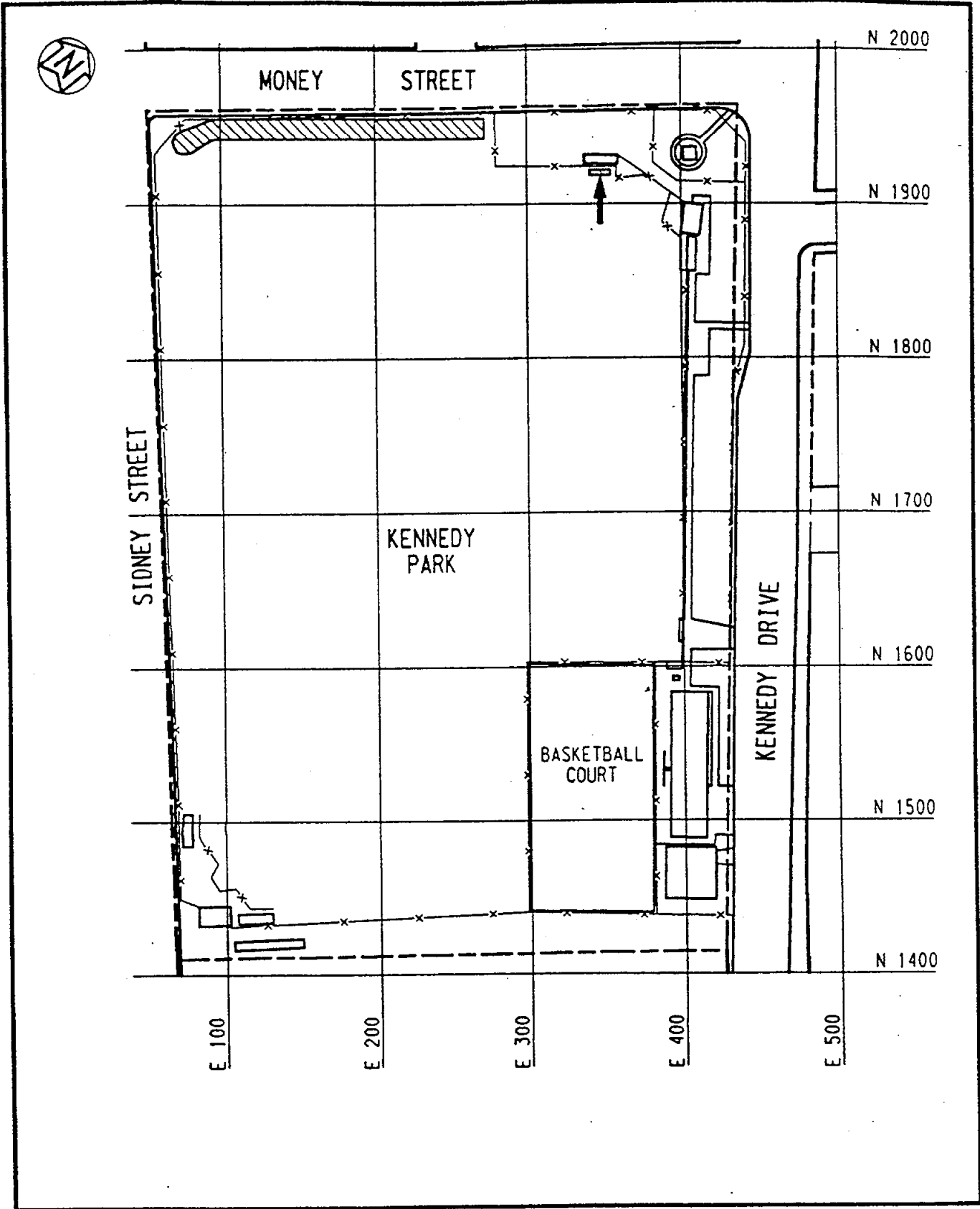


FIGURE 5-1 AREAS OF SURFACE CONTAMINATION AT KENNEDY PARK

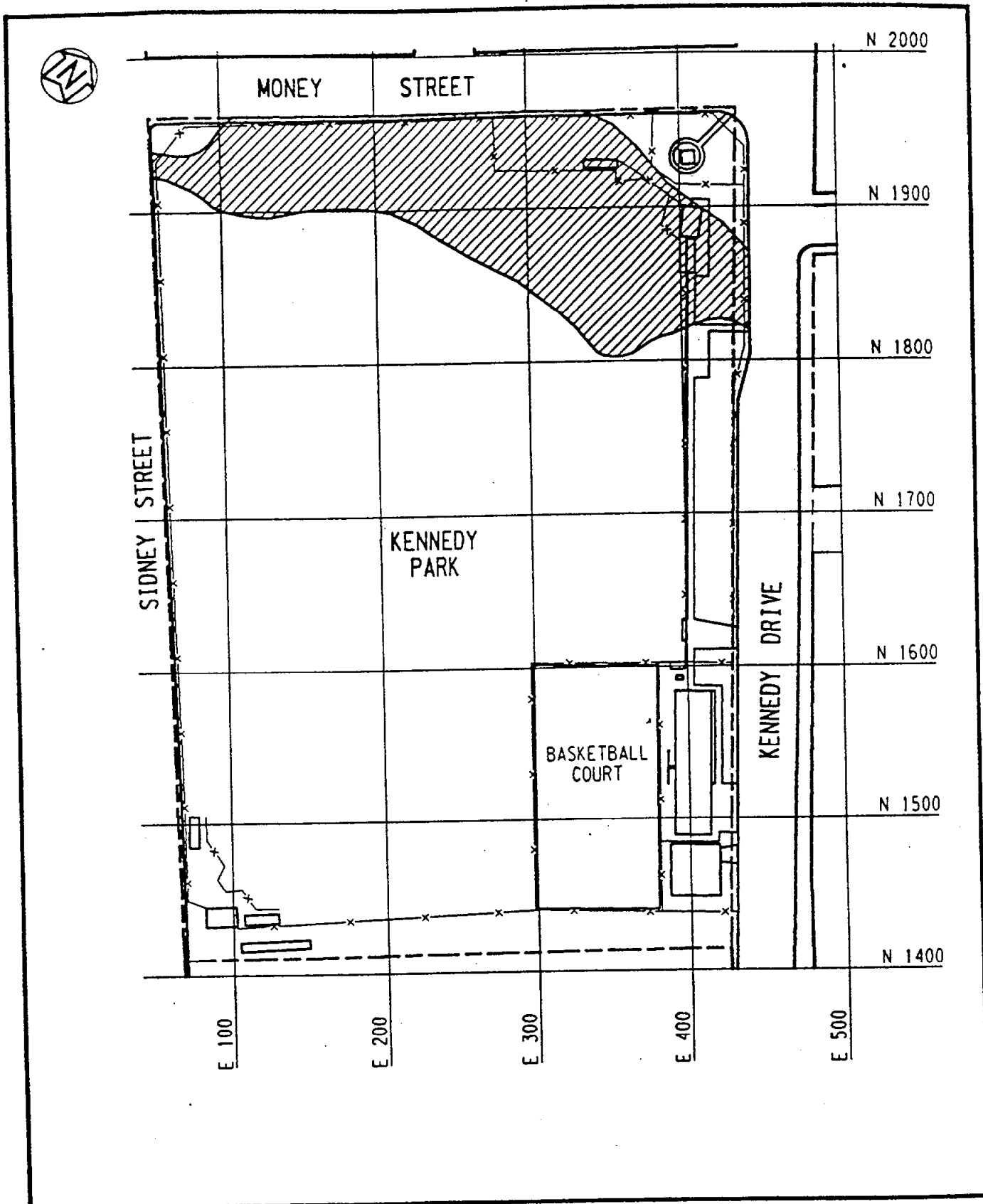


FIGURE 5-2 AREAS OF SUBSURFACE CONTAMINATION AT KENNEDY PARK