

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
OIL & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REPORT

**Spill Number:** P-537-2011

**Report Status:** Final Report

**MCD Town:** LEWISTON

**Local Name:** LEWISTON

**Primary Responder:** STEPHEN G BREZINSKI

**Primary Product:** None {00}

**Subject/Owner:** GREAT FALLS PROPERTY LLC - -

**I. EVENT**

**Spill Info**

Type Non-Oil, Non-Hazardous Incident {I}  
Source No Source Found By Responder {NS}  
Cause Other - No Cause {00}

**Spill Date/Time**

Date and Time Unknown

**Reporter Type/Detection Method**

Type Contractor/Consultant {6}  
Method Tank and/or Piping Removal {J}

**Reported Date/Time**

07/12/2011 12:00

**Subject/Spiller (Potential Responsible Party)**

Contact --GREAT FALLS PROPERTY LLC  
PO BOX 9340  
AUBURN ME 04211 USA

Comment

**Reporter**

Contact JOHN CRESSEY--SUMMIT ENV. CONSULTANTS  
640 MAIN ST  
LEWISTON ME 04240 USA  
207-795-6009

Comment

**Primary Responder and Other Employees**

STEPHEN G BREZINSKI (Primary Responder)

**II. SITE**

**Location**

Location Type Business - Industrial {ID}  
Name COWAN MILL (FORMER)  
Street Address MILL ST  
MCD Town LEWISTON  
Local Name LEWISTON  
State/Province ME

**Spill Point**

UTM North 4,883,573.940000  
UTM East 402,268.370000

**Wells and Media Affected**

Wells Affected 0 Wells Impacted / 0 Wells At Risk  
Media Affected None{N}

**Tanks Involved**

Underground Tank(s) Involved-21701

**III. CLEANUP****Product Reported**

None {00}

**Cleanup DTREE****Products Found/Amount Spilled**

None {00}/ (Primary Product)

**Material Recovered**

None {NO} - 0 gals. ESTIMATE

**Recovery/Treatment Method:**

None {K}

**Disposal Information**

N/A

**IV. NARRATIVE****INITIAL NOTIFICATION & ASSESSMENT**

Tuesday 7/12/11: While responding to notification of a nearby mystery #6 oil discharge to the Androscoggin River (see P-534-2011) I checked out this underground storage tank (UST) facility abandonment-by-removal that could have been associated with the mystery discharge. I met on-site with the excavator from K & K Excavation which had just finished filling in the excavation (photos 1 and 2), the UST had already been trucked off. There were several old rusty pipes remaining that appeared to be an old 2" vent pipe and a 3" offset fill pipe that were required to have been removed with the UST.

**FACILITY LOCATION & ASSESSMENT**

John Cressey, with Summit Environmental, advised me that he documented no evidence of discharges from the UST. The UST was located under the mill building and the 4" pipe may have been an offset fill pipe to Mill Street. On 7/14/11, I inspected the removed 5,000-gallon, bare steel non-compliant UST at K & K's yard prior to it being cleaned. The interior of the tank and the lack of heating coils indicate that the tank held a light un-heated fuel oil such as #2 so this UST was unlikely to be the source of the #6 oil leak to the river. I noted no corrosion holes in the UST. The UST facility had been out of service at least since the mill burned down in 2009 or before, and had been unregistered with Maine DEP until recently.

The Cowan Mill was also known as the Security Heel Company in the past and had operated as a fabric mill since the early 1900s or earlier. The site is nestled between the former W S Libbey Mill and the former Columbia Mill properties. The Cowan Mill property is presently devoid of structures and there are plans for re-developing the property and it may likely go through the Maine Brownfields program in the future. Metamorphic bedrock, non-native fill, building debris and Presumpscot Formation silt-clay has been found on this peninsula.

**CONCLUSIONS**

1. As the tank appears to have been for #2 heating oil no Chapter 691 UST closure assessment was required.
2. I have advised Cressey of Summit Environmental that the remaining steel UST piping should have been removed during the UST abandonment but he wishes this to be delayed to be done later with future redevelopment work. See the records of MDEP Brownfields Unit for further information and site closure.
3. At this time no further Maine DEP Response Division actions are required. The area has already been subject to numerous soil borings and site assessments by Summit Environmental and by Sebago Technics. See the Maine DEP, BRWM Brownfields Unit and environmental site assessments for further information.

S Brezinski

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

<u>Attachment Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>File Name</u>
Paper Attach	MDEP photos	
Paper Attach	Summit Env. photos	
Paper Attach	Summit Env. Figure 1 & 2	
Paper Attach	Response Spill location maps (2)	





1. Looking north of the area of the removed UST. At center right is steel piping remaining from the removed UST that has yet to be properly abandoned. See also the earlier photos of the UST abandonment taken by Summit Environmental showing the fill before being filled in by K & K Construction.

Tues. 7/12/11:



2. Looking south at the former UST location with new fill compacted by the excavator. At upper left are the 4" steel pipe (offset fillpipe?) and a 2" diameter pipe (product or vent pipe?). In the background is the city's Heritage Park and the location of the #6-oil discharge to the river.

Tues. 7/12/11:





3. Tues. 7/12/11:  
The area immediately below the UST location in what used to be the mill building before it burned; at upper right corner is the river. The square manway or drain opening has some horizontal piping below the concrete but no UST or riser pipes evident at the time.



4. 7/19/11: Looking east at the brick wall forming the west containment of the UST area. At right is a steel drain pipe protruding thru the wall; above is the tank's vent and offset fill pipe. I noted no evidence of oil seeps through the wall or in the soil.





5. 7/19/11: Looking SE at the former building wall of the Cowan Mill with multiple pipes of varying sizes coming out of the wall.

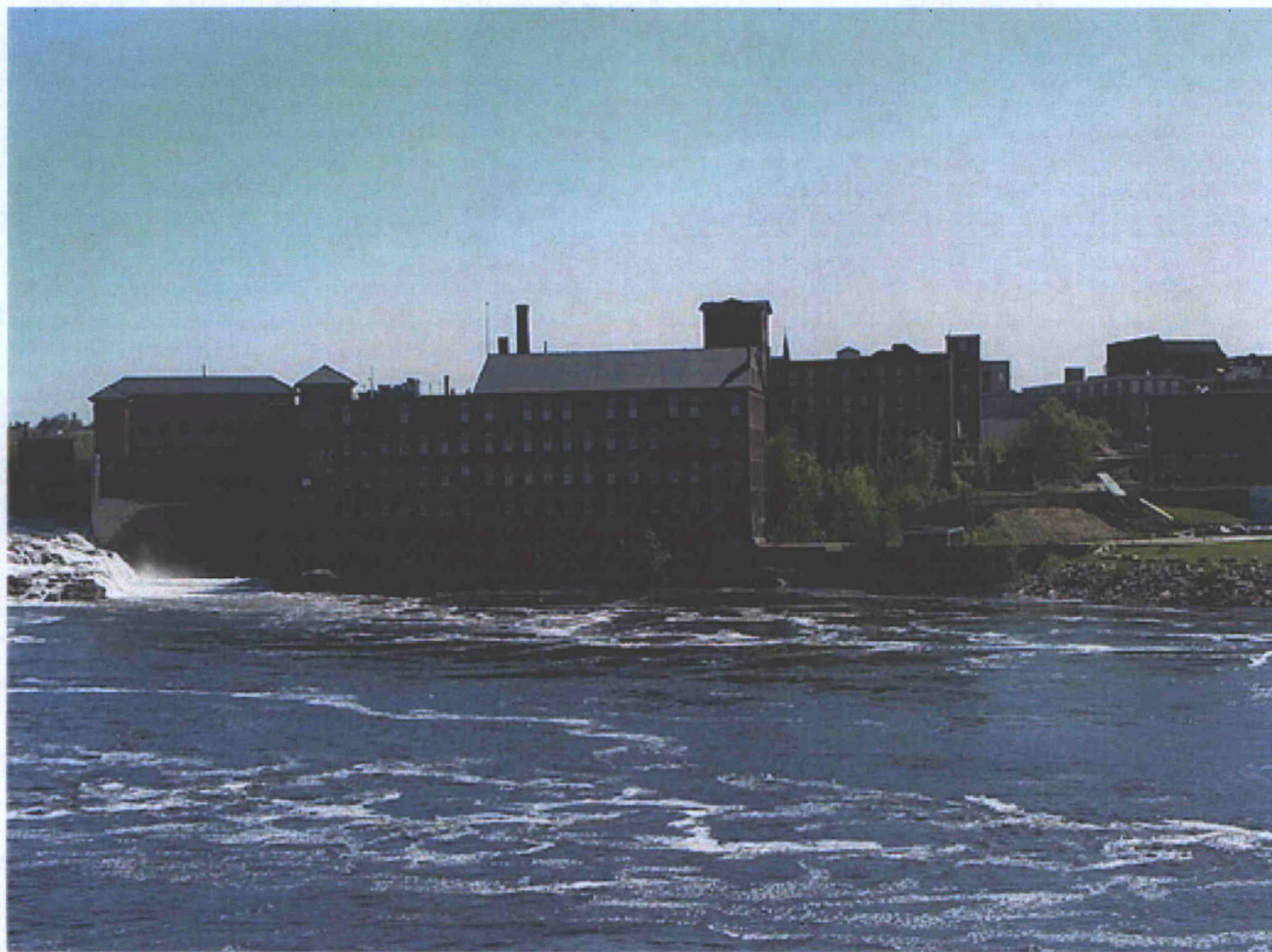


6. Thurs. 7/14/11: Inside of the removed UST while in storage at K & K in Turner. The UST has not been cleaned by EPI yet but appeared to contain no #6 oil. I noted no obvious corrosion perforations. No heating coils imply that the UST was not used for heavy (#6 and #5) fuel oils.



7. Thurs. 7/14/11: Inside of the removed UST while in storage at K & K in Turner. The UST has not been cleaned yet but appeared to contain no free oil. I noted no obvious corrosion perforations from the inside or outside. At the bottom is some free liquid that did not appear to be a heavy, black oil.



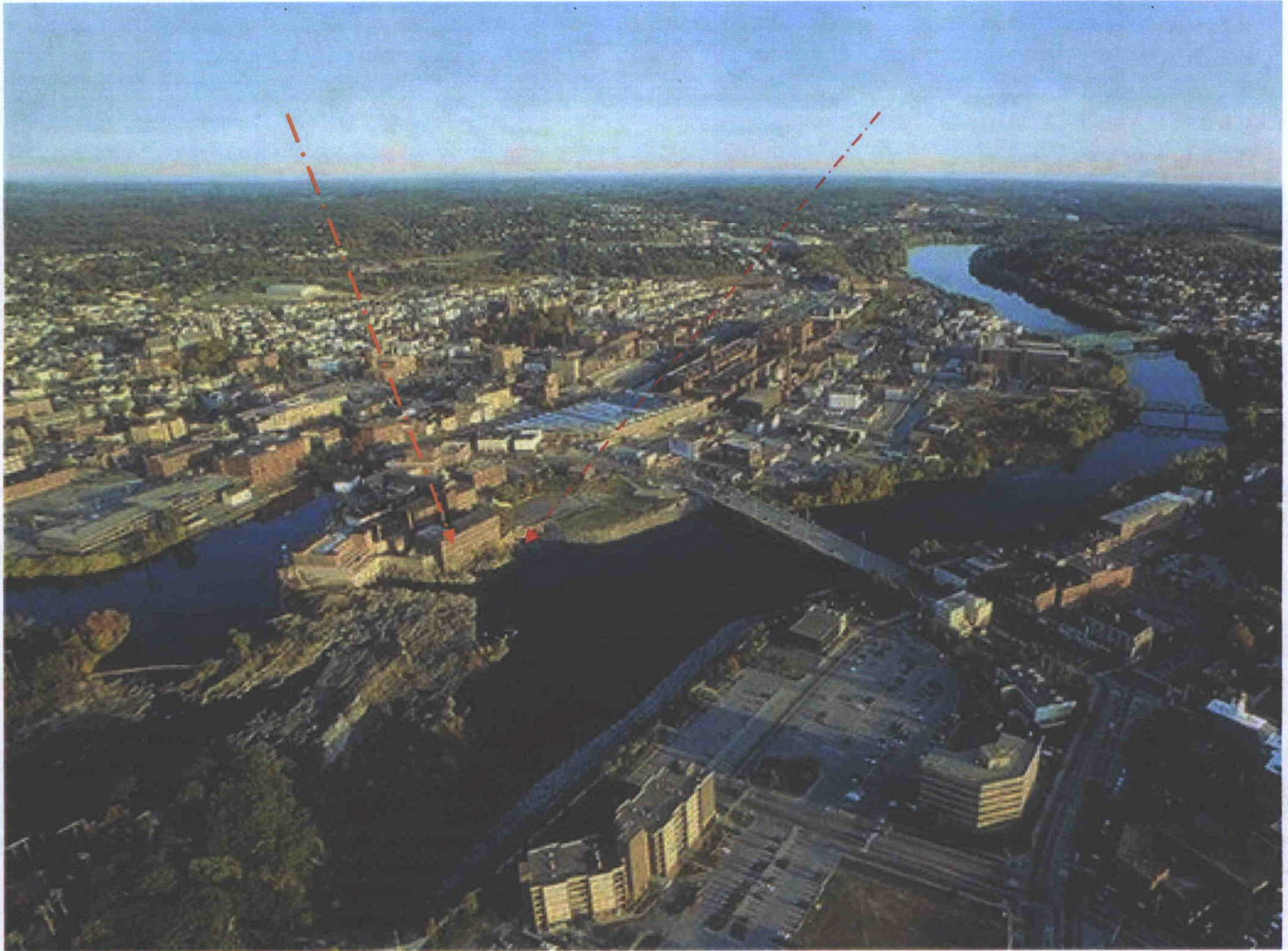


8. Historical photo of the Cowan Mill at center next to the river with the Libbey Mill behind it that burned down about 1992. The former Columbia Mill building was located in the open area off to the right.



9. Old stereoscopic photo of the Columbia Mill area at far right and the Cowan Mill Building left of center along the river. Close examination shows multiple old penstocks entering the river beneath the buildings.





10.

City of Lewiston aerial photo looking SE over the Lewiston area with *The Falls* of the Androscoggin River at lower left and the orange arrow pointing to the Cowan Mill building prior to its burning and demolition in 2009. The red arrow points to the #6-oil discharge to the river covered in P-534-2011. Left of the Co3an Mill building is FPL's Monty Station hydroelectric facility.





**Photograph 1:**

Photograph of exposed UST. The tank was located in a 16 foot by 25 foot vault filled with sand. Photographer standing on the foundation of the former smoke stack, looking towards Mill Street.

Tie-down  
points



**Photograph 2:**

Photograph of exposed UST from a different angle.



**Photograph 3:**

Sand below tank. Rusty areas were present, but there was no evidence of a release. Two samples of soil immediately below the UST were collected for analysis of extractable petroleum hydrocarbons (EPH). TANK BOT DOWN (down river side of UST), TANK BOT UP (up river side of UST).

P-537-11





**Photograph 4:**

Bottom of the UST. All seams were welded and no evidence of broken seams or extensive rusting were observed.



**Photograph 5:**

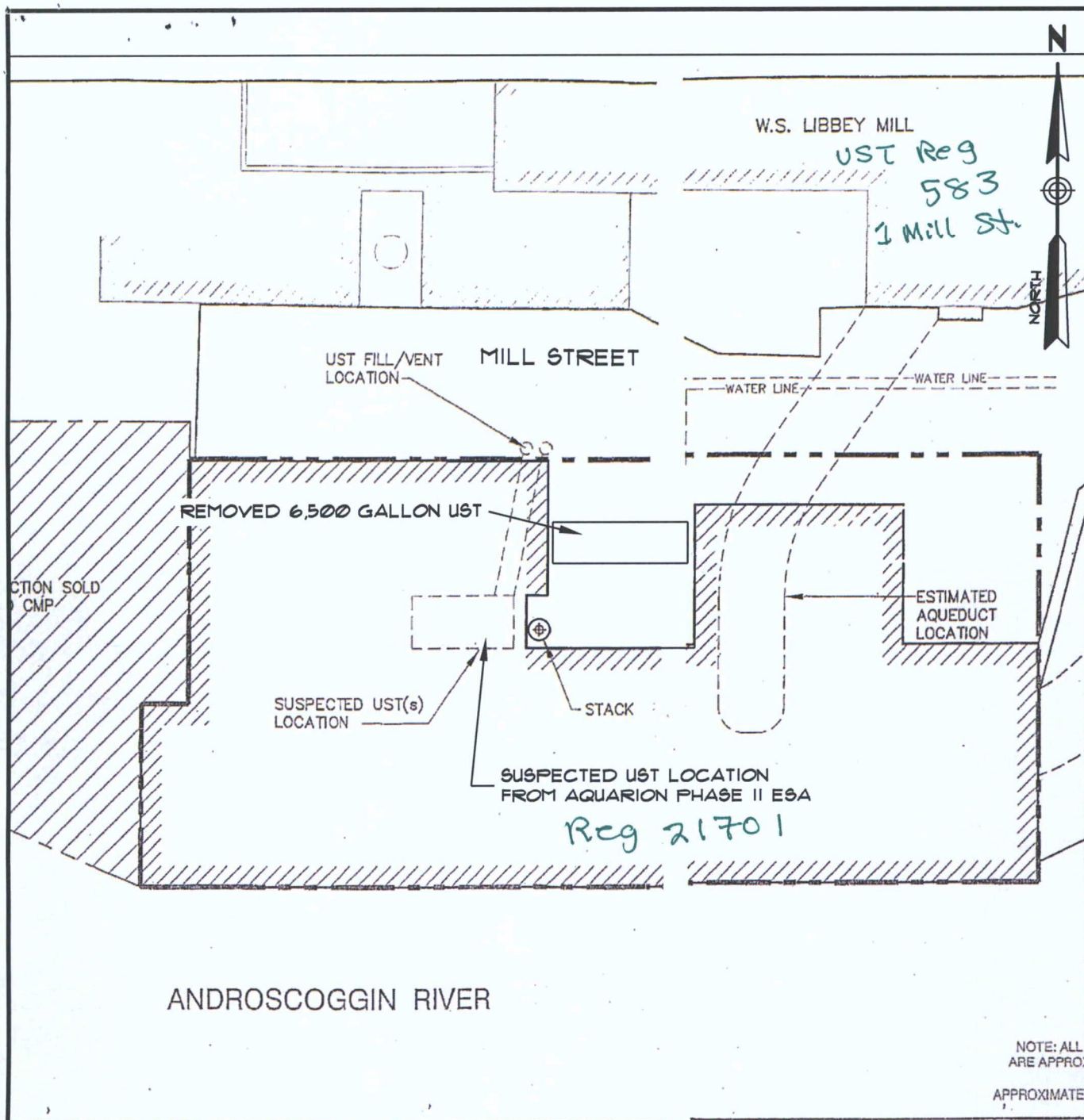
Bottom of the UST from a different angle.



**Photograph 6:**

UST excavation after backfilling. Looking toward Mill Street.





**NOTES:**

1. SITE PLAN BASED ON PREVIOUS PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT "SAMPLING LOCATION PLAN" FOR THE GROUND LEVEL OF THE FORMER COWAN MILL BY AQUARION ENGINEERING SERVICES.

**FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN FOR UST REMOVAL ASSESSMENT**

FORMER COWAN MILL - MILL STREET - LEWISTON, MAINE

PREPARED FOR

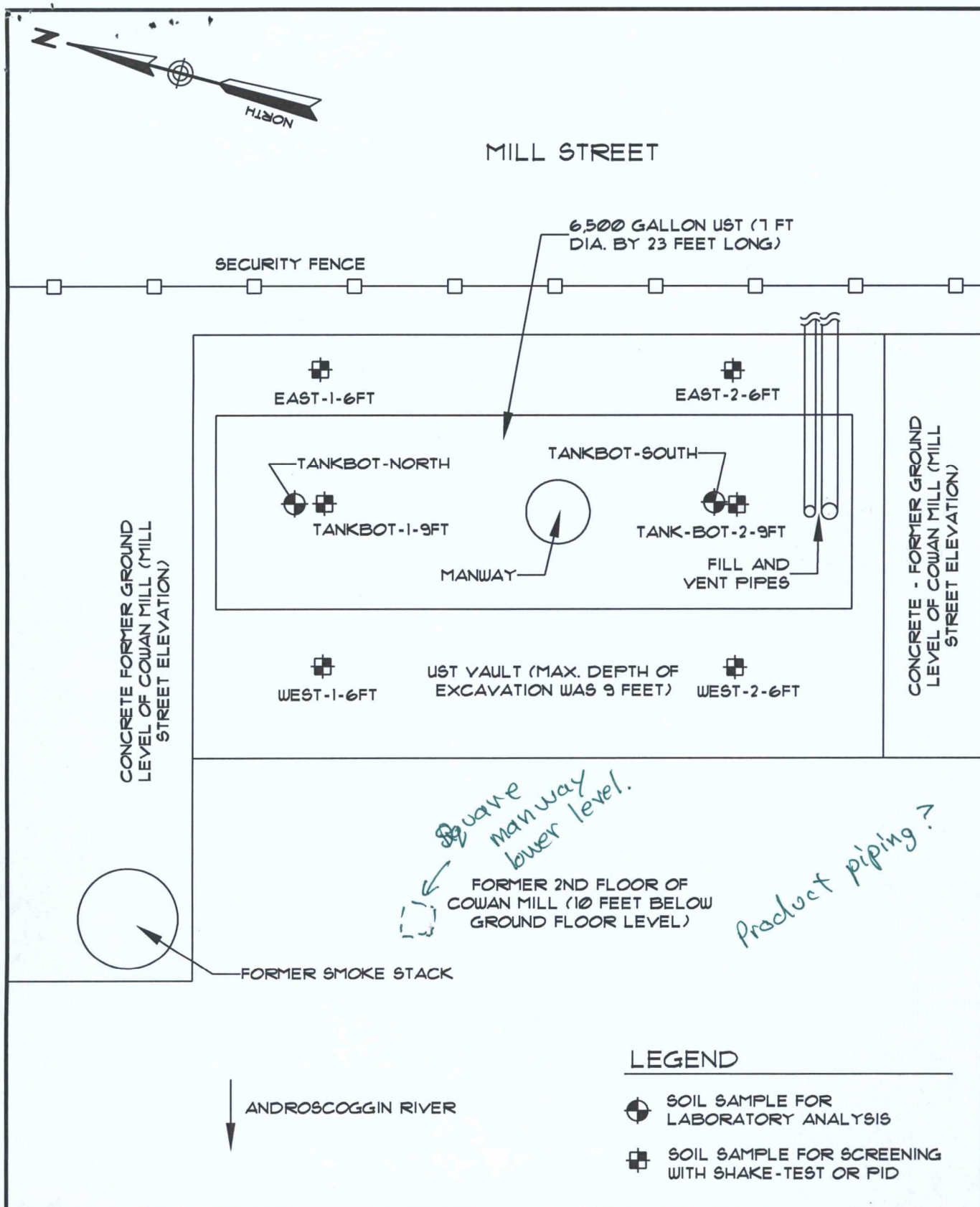
**STONEBROOK CONSULTANTS**

DATE: JULY 2011	DRAWN BY: SBM	CHECKED BY: MAD
JOB: 11-3019	1" = NOT TO SCALE	FILE: N/A

**Summit**  
Environmental Consultants, Inc

640 MAIN ST.  
LEWISTON, MAINE 04240

Tel.: (207) 795-6009  
Fax: (207) 795-6128



## FIGURE 2: EXCAVATION DETAIL & SAMPLE LOCATION MAP

FORMER COWAN MILL - MILL STREET - LEWISTON, MAINE

PREPARED FOR

**STONEBROOK CONSULTANTS**

DATE: JULY 2011	DRAWN BY: SBM	CHECKED BY: MAD
JOB: 11-3019	1" = 5 FEET	FILE: N/A

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P-537-11



Matt Reynolds Drumlin  
assessed, (771-5546) for CMP.  
4000 gal. 1980s age, vaulted AST.  
old VST's still in ground o-o-s. A north  
is lot, two VSTs on old drawings  
140,000 gal bunker.

6-23-11





0 25 50 75  
Feet

1 inch = 75.55 feet

P-537-11  
Cowan Mill, Lewiston

\*47749 - SECURITY HEEL CO

\*47748 - WS LIBBY CO

- Response\_Spill\_Points
- AST Tank
- UST Tank
- Tank\_BRWM
- Roads\_E911
- Public Drinking Water S
- Public Drinking Water S
- Public Drinking Water 1
- Public Drinking Water 2
- Public Drinking Wa
- Sand and gravel aquife
- Sand and gravel aquife
- Bedrock-MODERATE p



