


**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FIELD OFFICE #2
MASON CITY, IOWA 50401**

CON12-15
DOC# 35742

DATE: October 24, 1994
TO: The Record
FROM: Clay Swanson 
RE: Soil Contamination (Petroleum) - Building Addition
Stoyles Graphic Services, 19 8th S E., Mason City, Iowa

On October 10, 1994, Mr. Willis Bull, Stoyles Graphic, advised that they were planning to excavate the petroleum-contaminated soil recently found on the building addition site. The contaminated soil would be hauled to the Cerro Gordo County Landfill for disposal. I visited the excavation site on October 10 and 11, 1994. I met with Mr. Bull on both occasions.

The source of petroleum contamination appeared to be a 300 gallon UST. The UST was uncovered when the contaminated soil was being removed. It was located within a few feet of the southwest corner of the 30' x 40' demolished building (see figure). The UST contained water with some floating oil. The UST had several areas with large rust holes. The tank appeared to be very old. Approximately 200 gallons of water were pumped (5 drums were used) from the UST. I believe the contaminated water was going to be taken to the wastewater treatment plant.

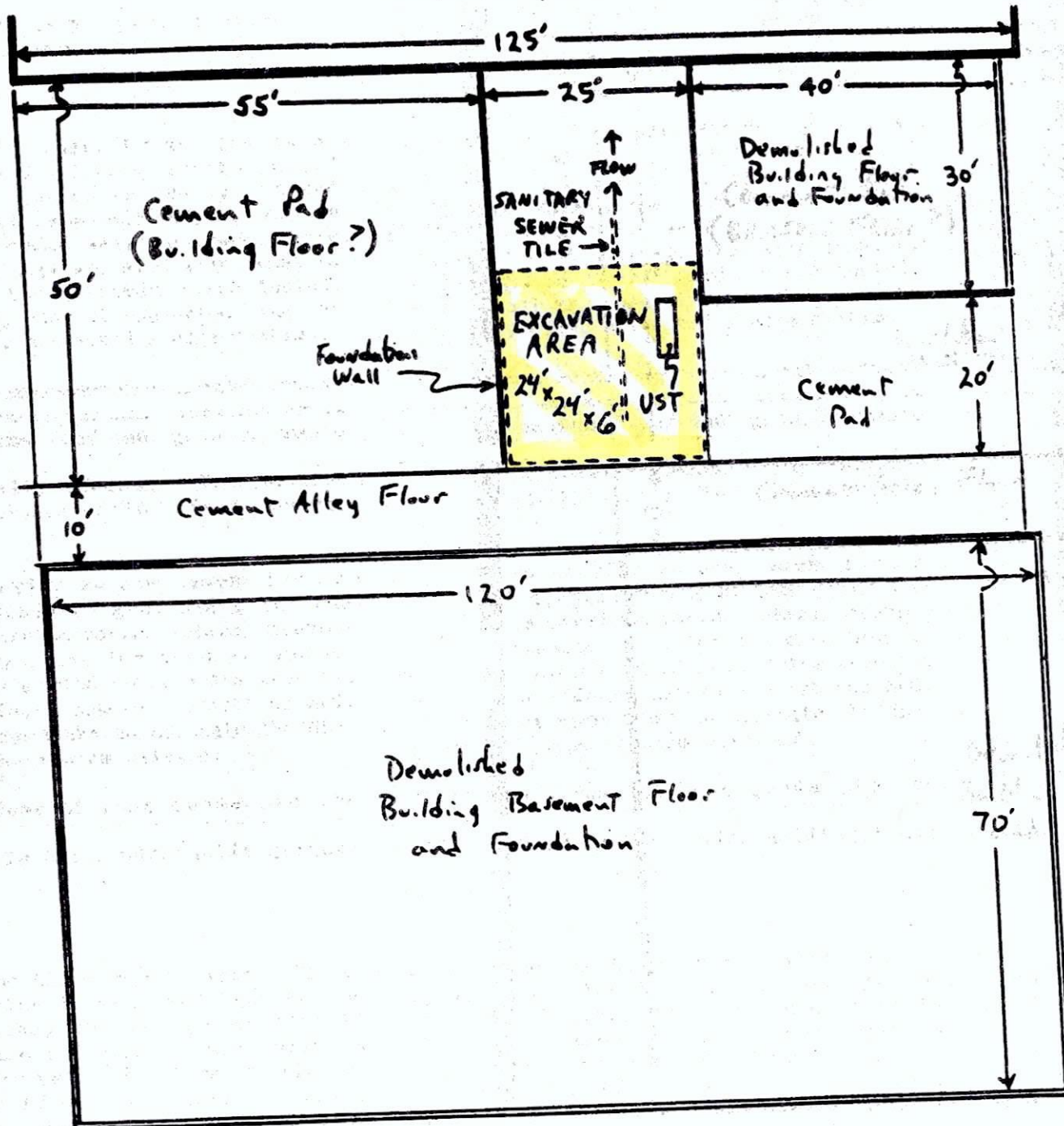
After excavation was completed, the trench measured about 24 feet by 24 feet by 6 feet deep. An abandoned sanitary sewer tile was found about 5 feet below the ground surface in the excavation area (see figure). The tile was found to be plugged. Tile flow had been to the north.

The excavation trench was inspected. Contamination was, or had been, heaviest around the tank and the length of excavated/removed tile. The clay on the trench floor appeared to be free of soil contamination although several inches of contaminated water covered 25% of the trench bottom (there was a sheen on the water).

Petroleum contamination had reached a foundation wall to the west. A foot seam of contamination was visible about 5 feet below grade near the middle of the excavation wall. I did not notice contaminated soil elsewhere on the west wall. The only place I noted soil contamination on the north wall was around the sanitary sewer line (2 feet wide by 1 foot deep). A layer of soil contamination about 1 foot thick was observed along the east wall and east one-half of the south wall. The contaminated layer was about 5 feet below grade. A cement pad and concrete alley covered the ground beyond the trench of the east and south walls.

Existing Stoyles Graphic Building

1 inch \approx 20'



Stoyles Graphic Services
19 & SE
Mason City, Iowa
October 10 & 11, 1994