



**ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE REMEDIATION**  
**TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC INFORMATION SHEET**  
**April 2007**

**INTRODUCTION**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is overseeing the investigation and remediation of the new Roosevelt Middle School site. This public information sheet is part of the planned citizen participation activities for this site to notify the public of the latest developments. This public information sheet precedes a public meeting planned for spring of 2007. A detailed notice will be distributed before the meeting.

**SITE BACKGROUND**

The site, located at 335 East Clinton Avenue in Roosevelt, is south of the Southern State Parkway and west of the Meadowbrook Parkway. Residential properties are located to the west and south, Roosevelt High School is located to the northwest, and the Town of Hempstead Department of Public Works (TOH DPW) Roosevelt highway yard is located to the east. Figure 1 shows the location of the new school building and the surrounding properties. Smith Pond, a freshwater pond, is located approximately 1,600 feet to the south-southeast. Groundwater flows towards the south-southeast.

The new Roosevelt Middle School site includes a 10.74-acre parcel (lots 35 and 327). This site formerly consisted of two buildings that were used by the former Nassau County Mosquito Control Unit from around 1953 until 2005. The county used the buildings for vehicle maintenance, refueling, and mixing pesticides. Areas of interest are shown on Figure 2.

In 2003 and 2004, consultants hired by the Roosevelt Union Free School District found pesticide contamination in some areas of the new school site. The primary contaminants detected were 4, 4'-DDT, related breakdown products 4, 4'-DDD, and 4, 4'-DDE, dieldrin, and chlordane. They are relatively immobile, bind strongly to soil and remain in the environment for a long time. The low mobility of the contaminants limits the potential for migration to nearby properties and the underlying groundwater. These pesticides were banned between 1970 and 1988.

During excavation in February 2006 to construct the foundation, a large amount of buried debris was discovered in the northern portion of the new school. Some of the debris contained significant concentrations of pesticides. Contractors halted construction to evaluate this area. Contractors removed contaminated soil in this area and collected end point samples from the bottom and sidewalls of the excavation to determine if further excavation was necessary.

**REMEDIAL WORK PLAN**

In early 2006, the consultants for the school district developed a Remedial Work Plan (RWP), which was reviewed and approved by the DEC on July 26, 2006. The plan ensured that all the debris and contaminated soil would be stockpiled and sampled. Based on the results of this sampling, the debris and soil found to contain contaminants at concentrations above the soil cleanup objectives would be removed from the site. Soil with contamination below the New York State's soil cleanup objectives (SCO) would be re-used on site as fill and covered with a minimum of 18 inches of clean soil or several inches of pavement. The SCO for the site will be protective of groundwater quality and public health for residential use. After the completion of the soil remediation, the New York State Education Department (SED), which is responsible for carrying out the

cleanup, will submit a Remedial Action Report and an Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan that will be made available to the public.

**REMEDICATION STRATEGY**

DEC will use a three-prong strategy to remediate the Roosevelt Middle School site: **The first action** will include investigating the extent to which soil on the school property is contaminated with pesticides and cleaning it (remediating it) up to meet SCOs for residential use (as provided in 6 NYCRR Part 375-6.8 (b)). The cleanup objectives also protect the quality of the groundwater. The SCOs in parts per million (ppm) of site related contaminants are:

<b>Contaminant</b>	4, 4'-DDT	4, 4'-DDD	4, 4'-DDE	dieldrin	chlordane (alpha)
<b>SCO</b>	1.7	2.6	1.8	0.039	0.91

**The second action** will include sampling the soil on properties off the middle school site, including adjacent yards, and analyzing these samples for pesticides found on site to determine whether contaminants or contaminated soil have migrated from the school property. **The third action** will include sampling groundwater to determine if prior disposal of pesticide wastes on the site has adversely affected groundwater quality. If so, the extent of groundwater contamination will be determined and remediated, as necessary.

SED will continue to conduct the investigation and remediation of the on-site soil contamination under the oversight of DEC’s Division of Environmental Remediation (DER). DER will carry out the investigation of soil and groundwater off site.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES**

Soil and debris with contaminant levels above the soil cleanup objectives are being and will be excavated and disposed of at off-site facilities. Soils with contaminant levels below SCOs will be covered with either paved areas such as parking lots or a minimum 18 inches of clean soil for field areas. The school **will not open** until the property has been cleaned up to the satisfaction of DEC and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) in order to protect the health of students, faculty and staff of the school.

DDT, DDD, DDE, dieldrin and chlordane pesticides have limited mobility in soil and groundwater. The available groundwater data indicates that the site-related groundwater contamination is very limited. There are no known private wells located in the vicinity of the site that could be impacted by contamination at the site. Anyone using a private well located within one-quarter mile to the south or south-southeast of the site, is encouraged to contact DEC or DOH to determine if the water quality in your well should be evaluated.

A 501- foot deep public supply well is located approximately 3,000 feet to the south of the site and is considered to be downgradient of the site. Due to the depth and distance of this well from the site, the limited site-related groundwater contamination does not present a threat to this well. Drinking water supplied by public water sources is routinely monitored and treated, if necessary, to ensure that it complies with federal and state drinking water standards.

**CURRENT STATUS OF INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIATION**

Contractors and consultants working for the school district have completed the following tasks:

- Four underground petroleum storage tanks were removed and associated soil contamination found during two of these tank removals was removed.
- All debris and contaminated soil beneath the new middle school building was removed.
- A plastic barrier and vacuum system has been installed under the school as a safeguard to prevent

contamination vapors from rising up through the ground and entering the school. No contaminant vapors have been detected under the school building.

- There is a community air monitoring plan to ensure vapors and dust are not affecting areas surrounding the site during remediation.
- Almost all the buried wastes on the school property to the north of the new middle school building have been excavated. As of March 15, 2007, approximately 2,000 cubic yards of debris (i.e., garbage, metal, tires, etc.), 11,000 tons of non-hazardous contaminated soil, and 8,500 tons of soil contaminated with hazardous levels of pesticide have been excavated.

DEC is evaluating the potential for off-site migration of the contaminants and has completed the following work:

- DEC observed soil sampling in ten soil borings performed on the adjacent Town of Hempstead Public Works property. The samples were taken by the property border between the two properties to determine if some of the contamination found on school property had extended onto Town property. Two out of ten samples detected some DDD pesticides above the soil cleanup objectives used for the school property. Based on these results, the extent of this soil contamination is limited.
- In March 2007, DEC reviewed sampling results from six monitoring wells on the adjacent Town of Hempstead property. These wells are downgradient of the school property. This pesticides data indicate minimal impacts to the off-site groundwater. A few of the samples from one well contained detectable levels of chlordane pesticide. Data from the other five wells do not show any history of contamination.
- DEC sampled three of the six monitoring wells on the adjacent public works property for pesticides on March 19, 2007. The other wells were unavailable for sampling. No pesticides were detected in these samples.
- In response to public comments during the January 18, 2007 public meeting, DEC developed an off-site soil sampling plan. Off-site soil samples at adjacent properties were collected on April 13, 2007. The final results should be available in May.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- I. The on-site remediation should be completed before summer 2007.
- II. The middle school should be completed in early 2008.
- III. DEC will determine the need for further on-site or off-site groundwater sampling once the soil remediation is finished.

### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

DEC has prepared a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that describes how the state agencies involved with this project will provide information to and communicate with the public. DEC has also established repositories, locations where the CPP and other documents related to this project will be kept so the public can read them. The CPP and other site related documents will be placed in the document repositories. DEC, DOH and SED conducted a public meeting on January 18, 2007. These agencies will hold periodic public meetings to share the information and hear the residents' comments and concerns. Please refer to the enclosed for responses to comments and concerns regarding site cleanup/contamination, off-site contamination and other Roosevelt Middle School related environmental issues raised at the January 18<sup>th</sup> public meeting. The next public meeting will be held on May 23, 2007 at the United Cerebral Palsy Center in Roosevelt. See the enclosed public meeting notice for details. The last page of this fact sheet lists the names and telephone numbers of DEC, DOH, SED and Roosevelt School District staff who can provide information and answer questions, and contains the locations of the document repositories.

(April 30, 2007)

## **ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE REMEDIATION TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU COUNTY**

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

For questions on Investigation and Remediation of Roosevelt Middle School and off-site properties, please contact:

**Robert Stewart**, Project Manager  
Stony Brook Office  
Phone: 631-444-0244

**Walter Parish, P.E.**, Regional Hazardous Waste Remediation Engineer, Stony Brook Office  
Phone: 631-444-0241

**William Fonda**, Citizen Participation Specialist  
Stony Brook Office  
Phone: 631-444-0350

**Guy Bobersky, P.E.**, Section Chief  
Albany Office  
Phone: 518-402-9621

**Chittibabu Vasudevan, Ph.D., P.E.**,  
Bureau Director, Remedial Bureau A, Albany Office  
Phone: 518-402-9625

For questions about solid waste or transfer stations or hazardous substances storage, disposal or treatment:

**Syed Rahman, P.E.**, Regional Solid Waste Engineer,  
Stony Brook Office  
Phone: 631-444-0375

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

For site-related health concerns:

**Jacquelyn Nealon**, Public Health Specialist III  
Troy Office  
Phone: 518-402-7880 or  
1-800-458-1158, extension 27880.

**NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

For questions on the Construction of Roosevelt Middle School, or School District Budget Issues or other related topics, please contact

**Carl Thurnau, P.E.**  
Director, Office of Facilities Planning  
Phone: 518-474-3906

**Diana Hinchcliff**  
Director, Office of Governmental Relations  
Phone: 518-486-5644

**ROOSEVELT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

For questions on the Construction of Roosevelt Middle School, dust, noise, truck traffic or other construction related issues, please contact:

**James O'Beirne**  
School District's Representative  
Phone: 516-241-7995

**James Pagano**  
On-Site Construction Manager  
Phone: 516-868-0828

**DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES**

Places where people can go to familiarize themselves with the public documents pertaining to a site:

**Roosevelt Central Administration**  
240 Denton Place, Roosevelt, NY 11657  
Phone: 516-345-7200  
Hours: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday to Friday

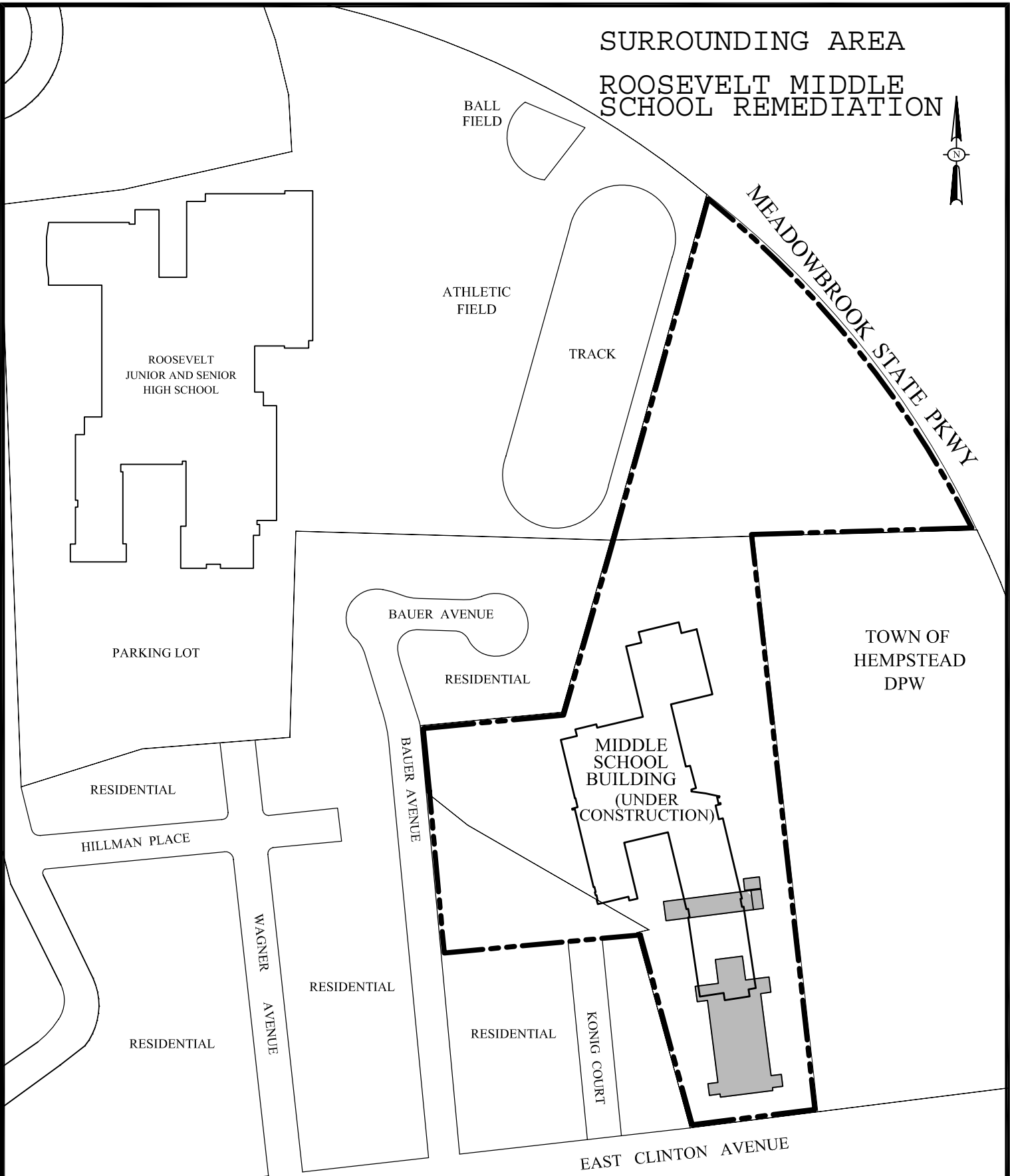
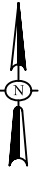
**Roosevelt Library**  
27 West Fulton Avenue, Roosevelt, NY 11550  
Phone: 516-378-0222  
Hours: M & W - 12 pm - 8 pm, T & Th - 9 am - 8 pm,  
Fri. & Sat. - 9 am - 5 pm

**NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation**

Region One Headquarters,  
Hazardous Waste Remediation Unit,  
SUNY Campus, Bldg. 40,  
Stony Brook, NY 11790  
Phone: 631-444-0350  
Hours: Monday to Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

SURROUNDING AREA

ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL REMEDIATION



Legend:



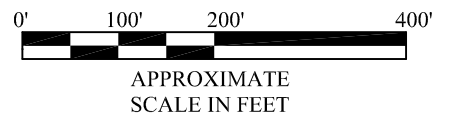
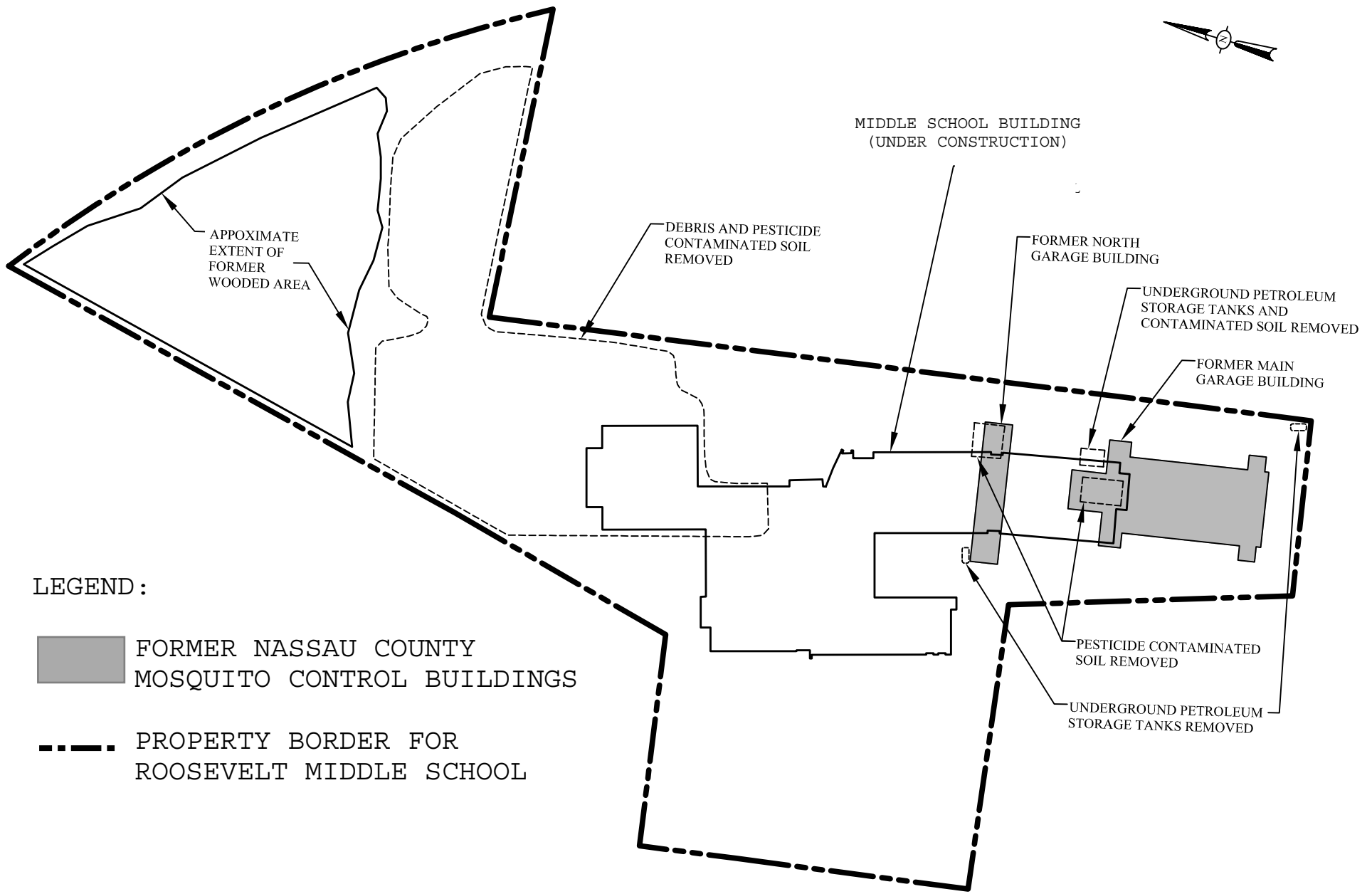
-  Former Nassau County Mosquito Control Buildings
-  Property Border for Roosevelt Middle School

Figure 1





LEGEND:

- FORMER NASSAU COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL BUILDINGS
- PROPERTY BORDER FOR ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL

AREAS OF INTEREST, FORMER NASSAU COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL UNIT - FIGURE 2