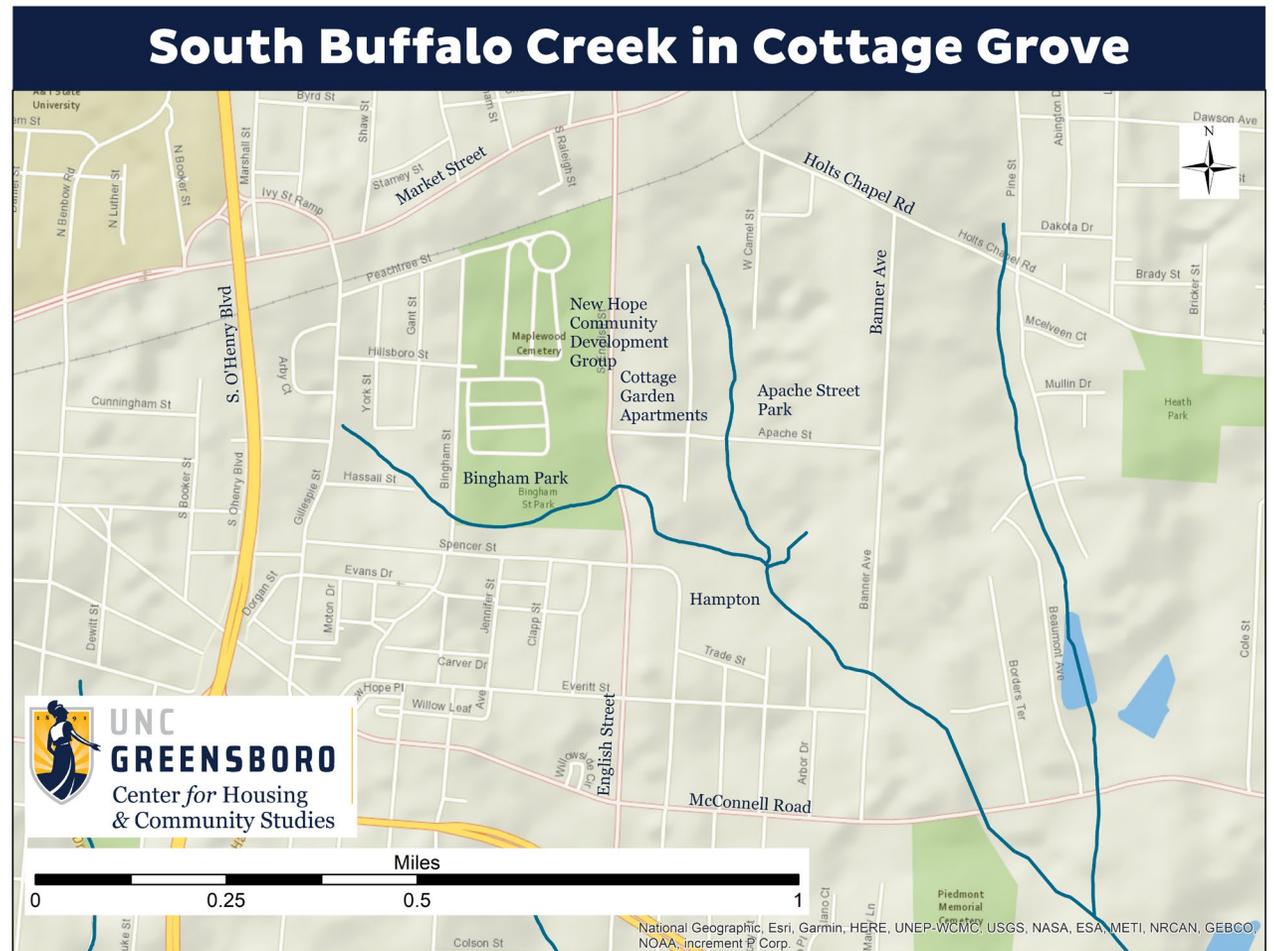




Bingham Park

Pre-regulatory
Landfill

Bingham Park, a neighborhood recreation area encompassing more than 12 acres, was built on top of an incinerator and ash that was dumped there between 1923 and 1955. The park is bisected by a tributary of the South Buffalo Creek. The tributary passes through residential areas, raising concern over environmental toxins. It also passes through the campus of Hampton Elementary School.



- **1922:** City Council of Greensboro announced its plan to construct a new incinerator on the South Buffalo Creek.
- **1922:** South Greensboro petitioned against the decision, 300 to 400 people, mainly women, met in local schoolhouse to oppose

THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT

ESTABLISHED 1821 . PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY GREENSBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1922 SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE VOL. 101. NO. 50



New Incinerator.
The Greensboro city council decided at a meeting Friday to locate the new incinerator between the convicts' camp on the northwest side of Green Hill cemetery and the creek. It will cost \$15,000.

INDIGNANT OVER INCINERATOR SITE

Citizens of South Greensboro Draw Up Resolutions Opposing Incinerator On South Buffalo

Between 300 and 400 people met in the South Buffalo schoolhouse Tuesday night in an indignation meeting over the steps taken by the city council towards placing an incinerator on South Buffalo creek.

The body assembled emphatically declared that the plan of the city council was a decided injustice to the people of South Greensboro. A petition was circulated Tuesday afternoon and met with favor in every part of South Greensboro. The women are greatly opposed to the council's plans, and resolved to do all they can to have the proposed site changed.

Resolutions were adopted to be presented to the city council on Monday afternoon, asking the city commissioners to reconsider their decision to place the incinerator on South Buffalo.

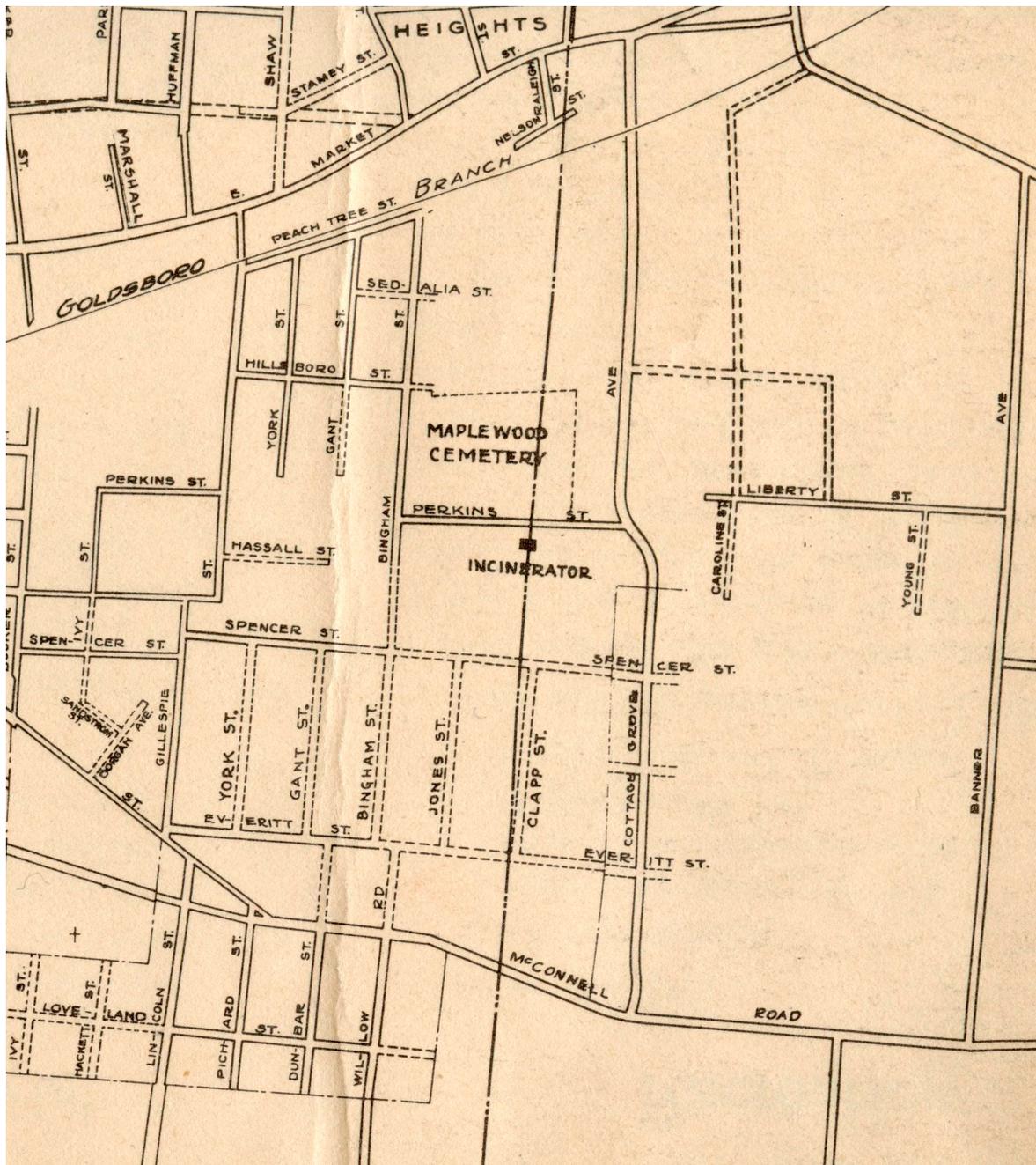
City's New Incinerator To Be On South Buffalo

The new city incinerator is to be situated on South Buffalo creek, about three-quarters of a mile from the city limits, at a cost of approximately \$20,000, and will be complete and modern in every respect.

The decision was reached by the city council Monday afternoon by a three-to-two vote. Mayor Kiser, George A. Grimsley and R. G. Hiatt voted in favor of the South Buffalo site, and Frank A. Brooks, and David White voted against it. E. J. Mendenhall and Julian A. Price were not present, but it is understood that Mr. Price was for it and Mr. Mendenhall against it.

Again Change Site For City's New Incinerator

The city council, Friday, purchased 10 acres of land two miles east of the city, about 500 yards south of the North Carolina railroad, and far removed from any human inhabitant, as the site of the city incinerator. The land was bought from a negro, Walter Huffman, for \$3,500. Under the plan garbage from South Greensboro will pass out Gorrell and East Washington streets, and from the northern part of the city out East Market and when Percy street is opened by that route.



1925: incinerator begins operation, and the ash is buried in a landfill along the creek

1930s - 40s: footprint of the landfill expands as City acquires additional land. Area begins to become more settled as subdivisions are created next to landfill. Incinerator stops being used in the early 40s, converting to a solid waste disposal only.

1953: landfill was closed with materials being covered over with soil

“Bingham Street landfill closed around 1953, its toxic contents buried over with soil, nothing more, because that was how it was done back then.”

1972: Bingham Park was established by the city with its amenities being a basketball court, baseball field, picnic tables and tents.

The park was heavily used by residents in the 70s and 80s.



In a Greensboro community, a city park sits atop a toxic landfill

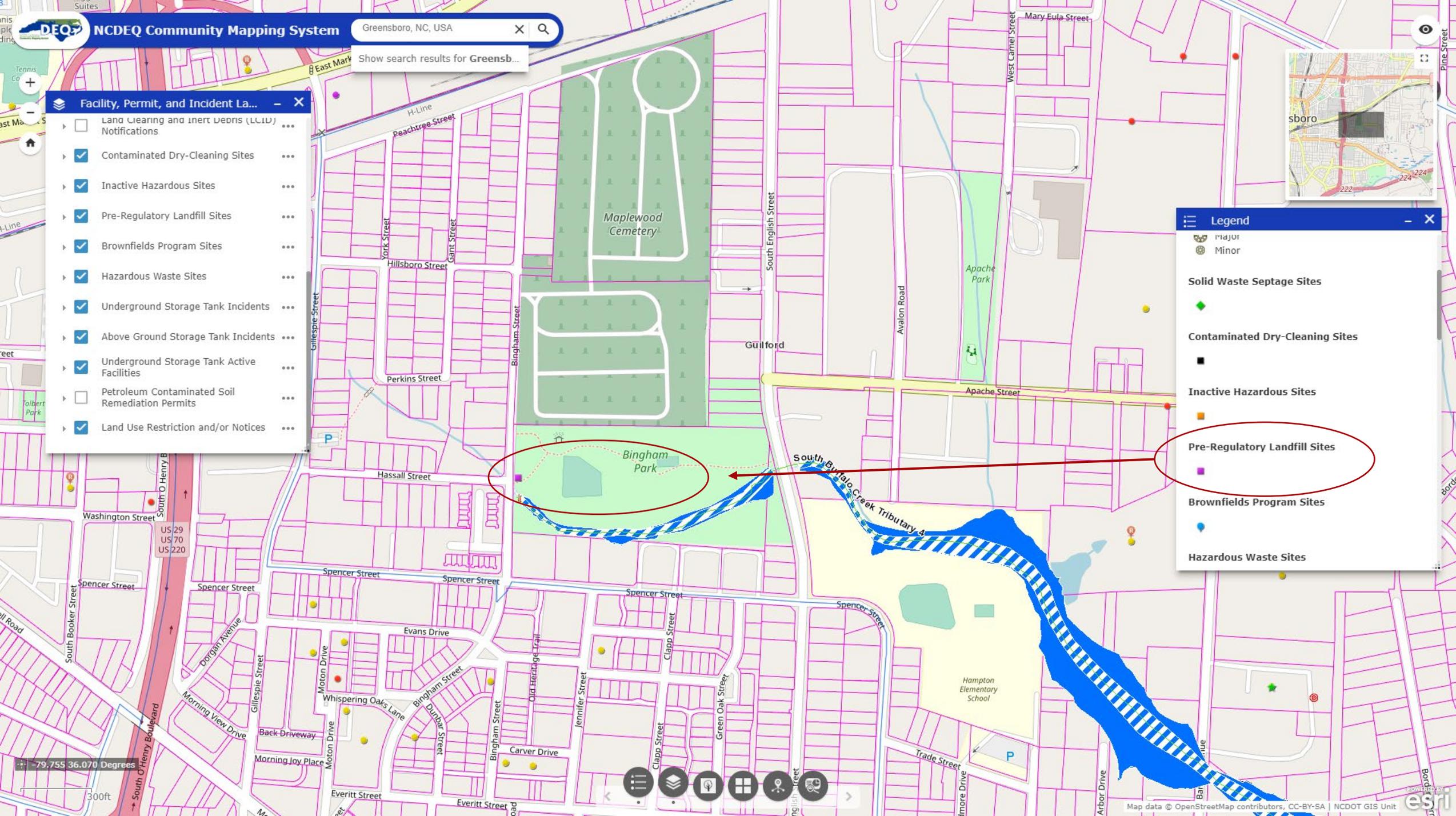
December 29, 2020

State officials plan to clean up and restore Bingham Park in the Cottage Grove community beginning next year. Residents say the state of the park reflects racial and environmental inequities.

Show search results for Greensb...

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 - Hazardous Waste Sites
 - Underground Storage Tank Incidents
 - Above Ground Storage Tank Incidents
 - Underground Storage Tank Active Facilities
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 - Land Use Restriction and/or Notices

- Legend
- Major
 - Minor
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 - Contaminated Dry-Cleaning Sites
 - Inactive Hazardous Sites
 - Pre-Regulatory Landfill Sites**
 - Brownfields Program Sites
 - Hazardous Waste Sites



-79.755 36.070 Degrees



Bingham Park on hold due to environmental concerns

Archive Manager | September 16, 2015 | Archives | Comments Off | Views: 571 | 0

by Jeff Sykes

jeff@yesweekly.com | @jeffreysykes



Bingham Park north of Willow Oaks in Greensboro.

Jeff Sykes

The late summer sun shines crisply down across the varied elevations of Bingham Park. It's quiet and peaceful, beautiful almost, until you remember that a City of Greensboro incinerator once sat on this spot adjacent to Maplewood Cemetery.

The ground is firm as you rise up the terraced-like landscape, past the softball field to the basketball court with its 8-inch thick concrete surface that's cracked and sinking. Over the past five years, several environmental impact studies have been completed for this 11-acre site situated between English and Bingham streets in East Greensboro, just north of the Willow Oaks community. Those studies have found elevated levels of arsenic, iron, lead, and manganese in the soil and the green waters of an unnamed creek that runs along the south edge of the site before it flows beneath English Street and onto property owned by Guilford County Schools.

“Hampton Elementary was built in 1960, just a couple of years after the incinerator shut down. A comprehensive survey of hundreds of pages of DENR records indicates that environmental engineers believe the western portion of the school property, a wooded area near English Street, contains contaminated soil. In 2015, DENR requested that engineers expand their search to include a field behind the school.”

Hampton Elementary School was severely damaged in a tornado in 2018. Officials announced that it will not be rebuilt due to environmental concerns.



Environmental toxins

- Recent investigations by the City of Greensboro (2010-2012, EPA Brownfield Studies) North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (2013-2020 NC DEQ Site Reports) found that materials have been eroding from the banks of the tributary.
- Semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), lead, other heavy metals, and volatile compounds were detected in the soil, ground water, and surface water.
- A report synopsis from NC DEQ provided to the community in 2017 revealed:
- “Several contaminants were detected in the soil and stream sediment which include antimony, arsenic, cadmium, iron, lead, manganese, benzo(a)anthracene, and benzo(b)fluoranthene. Surface water sampling results identified several contaminants above applicable standards which include copper, nickel, and zinc.” (DEQPRLF244_20170810 Bingham Information Session).



Community Concerns



FACT SHEET

Bingham Park
400 Bingham Street, Greensboro, NC

Contact: Analee Thornburg, Hydrogeologist
919-707-8227

Pre-Regulatory Landfill Unit
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch - Superfund Section
Division of Waste Management - NCDEQ

LANDFILL HISTORY

The landfill site operated from approximately the mid-1920's to the mid-1950's as a disposal facility for incinerated municipal waste. The waste is located on multiple privately and publicly-owned properties.

LANDFILL ASSESSMENT

A contaminant and waste assessment, extending beyond the waste disposal boundary, has been conducted by the Pre-Regulatory Landfill Unit of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ).

Subsurface investigations concluded the total waste area is approximately 12.7 acres.

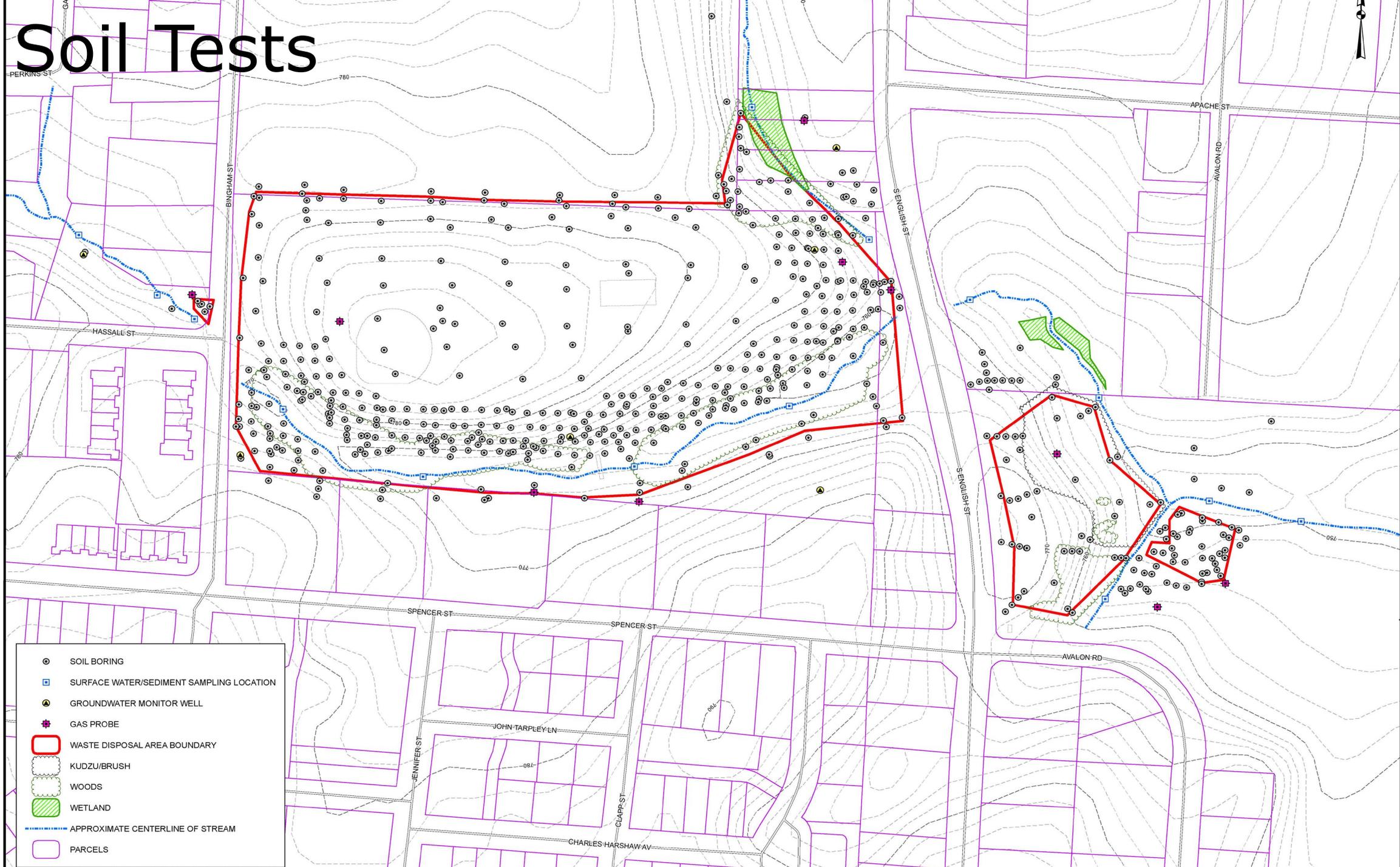
Soil (surface and subsurface), groundwater, landfill gas, landfilled waste, surface water, and stream sediment have been sampled.

Several contaminants were detected above natural background and acceptable risk in the soil/waste within the landfill cells including antimony, arsenic, cadmium, iron, lead, manganese, benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, and asbestos.

Note, during the time of operation waste was burned and those ashes along with limited soil cover over the waste may contribute to contaminants being present in stream sediments. Contaminants found in stream sediments include antimony, arsenic, iron, manganese, benzo(a)anthracene, and benzo(b)fluoranthene. However, some of the contaminants are coming from upstream sources or are at naturally occurring levels in area soils and sediments.

Surface water sampling results identified several contaminants above applicable standards which include copper, nickel, and zinc. No health risks were identified in groundwater or landfill gas.

Soil Tests



- ⊙ SOIL BORING
- SURFACE WATER/SEDIMENT SAMPLING LOCATION
- GROUNDWATER MONITOR WELL
- ⊕ GAS PROBE
- ▭ WASTE DISPOSAL AREA BOUNDARY
- ▭ KUDZU/BRUSH
- ▭ WOODS
- ▭ WETLAND
- APPROXIMATE CENTERLINE OF STREAM
- ▭ PARCELS

WWW.SMEINC.C
 970 CHARLOTTE, NC 28226
 (704) 524-7278
 ENGINEERING FIRM LICENSE # 11

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK	APP

SAMPLE LOCATIONS

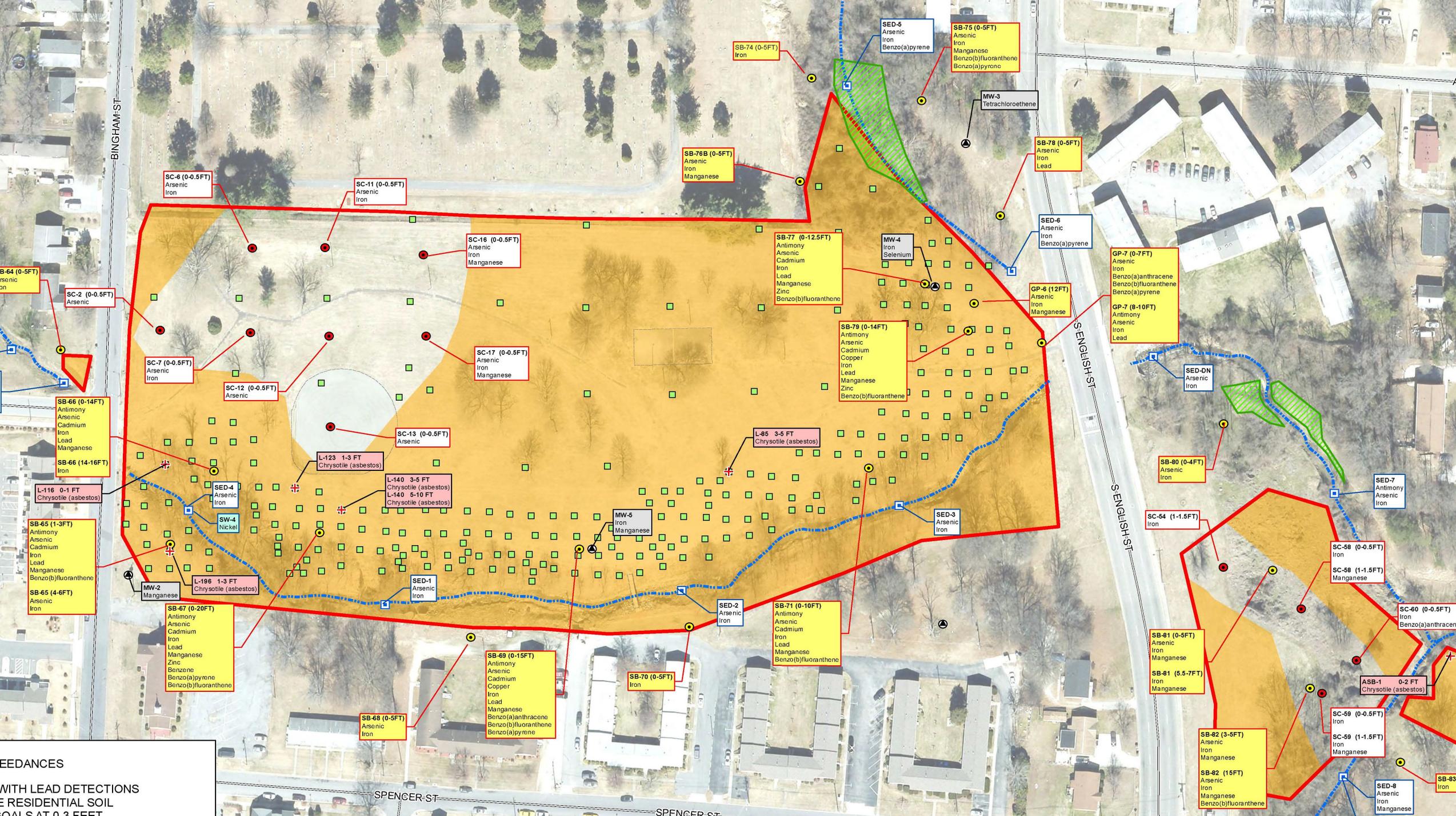
BINGHAM PARK
 GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

PROJECT NUMBER:
 4305-16-142

©2011 S&M 1008 Bingham Park GreensboroSitePlanLocations.mxd plotted by D.Hammant 07/28/2017

Waste Sites Located





LEAD CONCERNED AREAS WITH LEAD DETECTIONS IN RESIDENTIAL SOIL AT 0.3 FEET

B-64 (0-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-2 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic

SB-66 (0-14FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Iron
Lead
Manganese

SB-66 (14-16FT)
Iron

L-116 0-1 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)

SB-65 (1-3FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

SB-65 (4-6FT)
Arsenic
Iron

MW-2 Manganese

SB-67 (0-20FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Zinc
Benzene
Benzo(a)pyrene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

L-196 1-3 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)

SB-69 (0-15FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Copper
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Benzo(a)anthracene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene
Benzo(a)pyrene

SB-68 (0-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-6 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-11 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-7 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-12 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic

SC-13 (0-0.5FT)
Arsenic

L-123 1-3 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)

L-140 3-5 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)
L-140 5-10 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)

SED-4 Arsenic
Iron
SW-4 Nickel

SED-1 Arsenic
Iron

SED-2 Arsenic
Iron

SB-71 (0-10FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

SB-70 (0-5FT)
Iron

SB-74 (0-5FT)
Iron

SB-76B (0-5FT)
Iron
Manganese

SB-77 (0-12.5FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Zinc
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

SB-79 (0-14FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Cadmium
Copper
Iron
Lead
Manganese
Zinc
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

MW-3 Tetrachloroethene

MW-4 Iron
Selenium

SED-5 Arsenic
Iron
Benzo(a)pyrene

SB-75 (0-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Manganese
Benzo(b)fluoranthene
Benzo(a)pyrene

SB-78 (0-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Lead

SED-6 Arsenic
Iron
Benzo(a)pyrene

GP-5 (12FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Manganese

GP-7 (0-7FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Benzo(a)anthracene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene
Benzo(a)pyrene

GP-7 (8-10FT)
Antimony
Arsenic
Iron
Lead

SED-DN Arsenic
Iron

SB-80 (0-4FT)
Arsenic
Iron

SC-54 (1-1.5FT)
Iron

SED-7 Antimony
Arsenic
Iron

SC-58 (0-0.5FT)
Iron

SC-58 (1-1.5FT)
Manganese

SC-60 (0-0.5FT)
Iron
Benzo(a)anthracene

SB-81 (0-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Manganese

SB-81 (5.5-7FT)
Iron
Manganese

ASB-1 0-2 FT
Chrysotile (asbestos)

SC-59 (0-0.5FT)
Iron

SC-59 (1-1.5FT)
Iron
Manganese

SB-82 (3-5FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Manganese

SB-82 (15FT)
Arsenic
Iron
Manganese
Benzo(b)fluoranthene

SED-8 Arsenic
Iron
Manganese

SB-83 Iron

BINGHAM ST

SENGISH ST

SPENCER ST

SPENCER ST

Hampton Contamination

