

PA. 16-3

PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF
WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION
EAST PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Work performed
by the
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Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

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Remedial Action Program

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION
EAST PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

At the request of the Department of Energy (DOE, then ERDA), a preliminary survey was performed at the Westinghouse Electric Corporation's East Pittsburgh Plant in East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (see Fig. 1), on October 22, 1976, to assess the radiological status of those facilities utilized under AEC/MED contract during an early phase of the Manhattan project. Wayne Bickerstaff, Jerry Brady, Dave Whitehead, and Paul Curtis provided background information about the project and assisted in locating facilities used in the project. The area used in the project was located in "L" Building and was designated Lab 2L (approximate dimensions: 24 x 45 ft with a 24-ft ceiling). The process involved uranium separation using a laboratory-scale magnetron. Uranium was prepared for the Stagg Stadium reactor at the University of Chicago.

From information obtained in discussions during the survey, the area utilized was apparently cleaned, and tools and equipment were decontaminated and subsequently sealed in drums and shipped to other locations when the project ended. An industrial hygiene group surveyed the area and issued clearance at that time; however, there are no remaining records. Apparently, all historical records pertaining to the project were put on microfilm and were stored in a cave near Butler, Pennsylvania.

Present Use of Facilities

The area utilized in the AEC/MED project was being renovated at the time of the survey. A partition in the lab was being dismantled.

Results of Preliminary Survey

The preliminary survey was conducted by H. W. Dickson of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and W. T. Thornton of the DOE/Oak Ridge Operations Office. A survey of the area of the "L" Building was performed and consisted of gamma-ray exposure-rate measurements made at 1-m heights above the floor surfaces and direct alpha activity and direct beta-gamma dose-rate measurements made on the surface of floors, walls,

and potentially contaminated spots such as cracks in brick and wooden floors, etc.

Results of the survey measurements of the direct surfaces indicated that alpha and beta-gamma activity were all within background levels. The maximum gamma exposure rate at 1 m above the surface of the floor was 6 μ R/hr. It appears that additional radiological measurements are not required at this site.

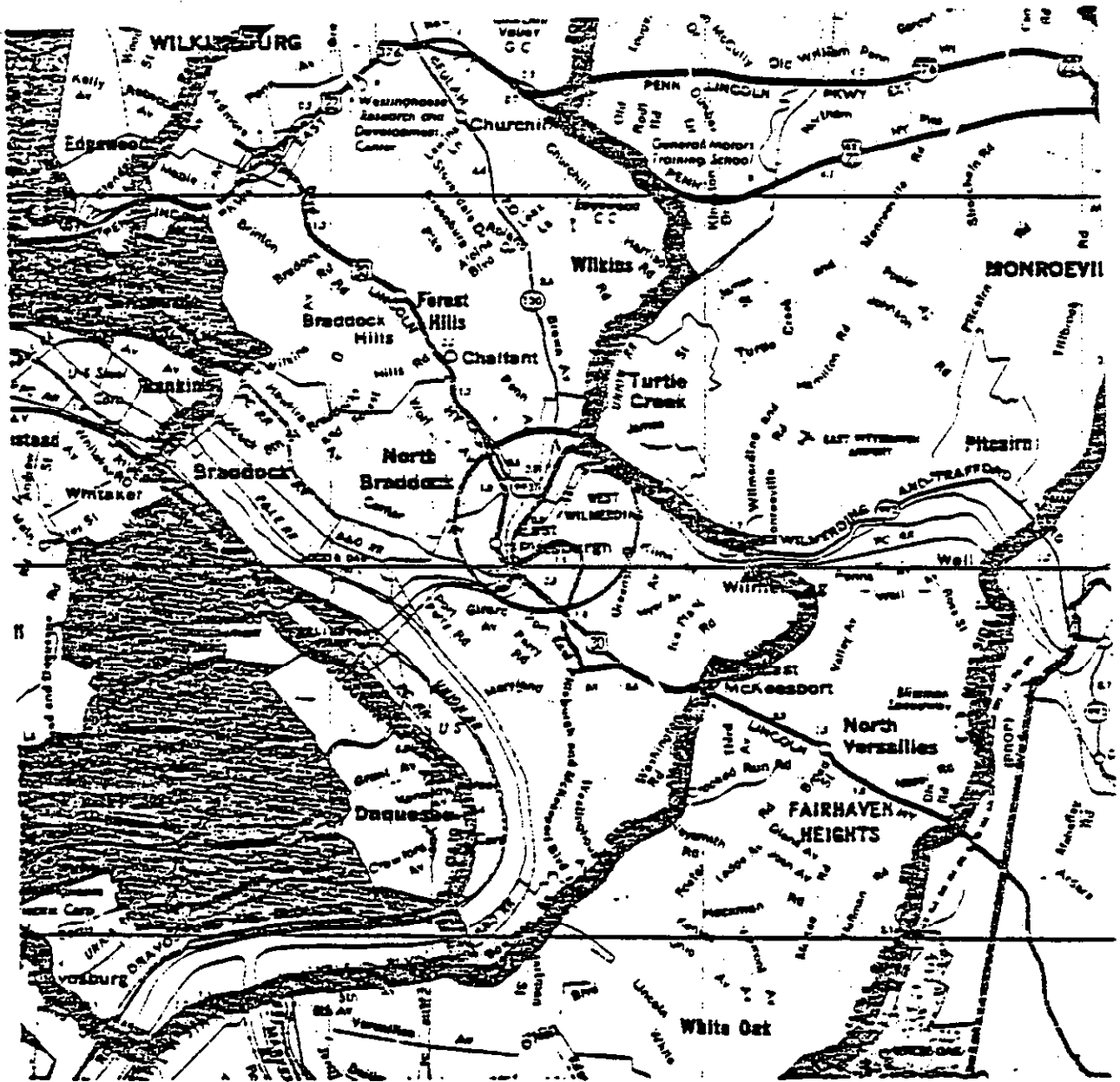


Fig. 1. Location of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation Plant in East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.