APPENDIX H

Field Reports

CENAB-EN-HI (200-1C) 10 August 2004

STAFF OFFICIAL: Vernon W. Griffin, CENAB-EN-HI, (410) 962-3333

PROJECT VISITED: Fort Totten Army Garrison, Bayside Queens, NY

DATE OF VISIT: 04-05 August 2004

PRINCIPAL CONTACTS: Debra Ford, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6736; Bynum, James, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6803

PURPOSE OF VISIT: To perform groundwater sampling of newly installed monitoring well, as well as, perform pipe inspection of the floor drain located in building 615.

FINDINGS:

Conducted visual inspection of the seawall directly behind building 615 looking for discharge conduits. It was noticed that only 2 discharge pipes protruded from the seawall into the bay. Dye test would be conducted to ascertain if either of the conduits was linked to the floor drain just inside building 615.

Performed visual inspection of the storm water vaults around building 615. Only 1 storm water vault was identified around building 615. This vault was located on the corner of building 614. Upon inspection of this vault, it was noticed that there were only 2 storm water conduits connected to it. The upper conduit led to the upper portion of the site (Eastern direction) indicating that is used to channel runoff from there. The lower conduit (Western direction) led to the bay. As the tide rolled in, the water elevation in the vault could be seen changing. There were no entrances into the vault from the northern or the southern sides.

Prior to any work being conducted on the floor drain, a visual inspection was performed on both pipes (upper and lower). The upper pipe, a 1-1.5 inch steel pipe, lead in the direction of the building 615 bays, which are now occupied by the NYPD, new vehicle preparation unit. After closer evaluation, small, shiny, drops appeared to be inside the upper pipe.

Obtained a manual plumbers snake and began "snaking" it through the floor drain to identify the presence of any obstructions. Initially, the snake identified an obstruction just as the drain curved from the vertical portion. This obstruction prevented the manual snake from being pushed past it.

Performed dye test on floor drain located just inside the door of building 615. Initially, 3-5 gallons of water-dye mixture was introduced into the floor drain with no indication as to a discharge point. No "colored" discharge was observed from either discharge pipes on the seawall or in the storm water vault. An additional 5-10 gallons of water/dye mixture was introduced into the drain in an effort to ensure flow through the pipe.

Contacted DTL and discussed rental of bore-o-scope to obtain a visual record as to where the floor drain meanders. It was agreed that the bore-o-scope would be obtained via overnight express and the pipe investigation would continue at that time.

Upon opening monitoring well MW4R, it was noticed that the protective casing was full of water (runoff). This water was bailed out and the well was sampled per EPAs Low Flow-Minimum Drawdown procedure.

Bore-o-scope was obtained and was introduced into the floor drain. Visual observation was recorded on to a VHS tape.

Prior to the introduction of the bore-o-scope into the floor drain, a portion of the upper pipe had to be cut off so that the bore-o-scope could be placed in the floor drain. The portion of the pipe that was removed was placed in a double plastic bag and stored on ice to be shipped to the lab for mercury analysis.

During the visual observation of the drain, it was noticed that there was an obstruction of compacted mud just inside the elbow of the drain. The manual plumbers snake was utilized in conjunction with the bore-o-scope to break up this obstruction.

The bore-o-scope also identified the presence of large quantities of mud in the pipe. This could be seen on the monitor as the bore-o-scope was being "pushed" through the pipe.

After approximately 20 feet, the transmitter, which was located on the bore-o-scope, was turned on and the "locator" was utilized to identify where the bore-o-scope was within the pipe. The locator identified the bore-o-scope in the parking lot, approximately 3 feet outside the photo lab that is housed inside building 615.

The visual inspection of the pipe ended when an elbow in the pipe was reached. When the bore-o-scope was pushed past this elbow, mud packed the camera lens blinding the camera.

After speaking with the tenants of building 615, it was established that in the parking lot just outside the photo lab there was a "septic" or some sort of tank, which was tied into the sewer system. This beginning of this "tank" was approximately 10 feet outside the photo lab.

COMMENTS/ASSUMPTIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

Upon the completion of this limited investigation, the following conclusions were made:

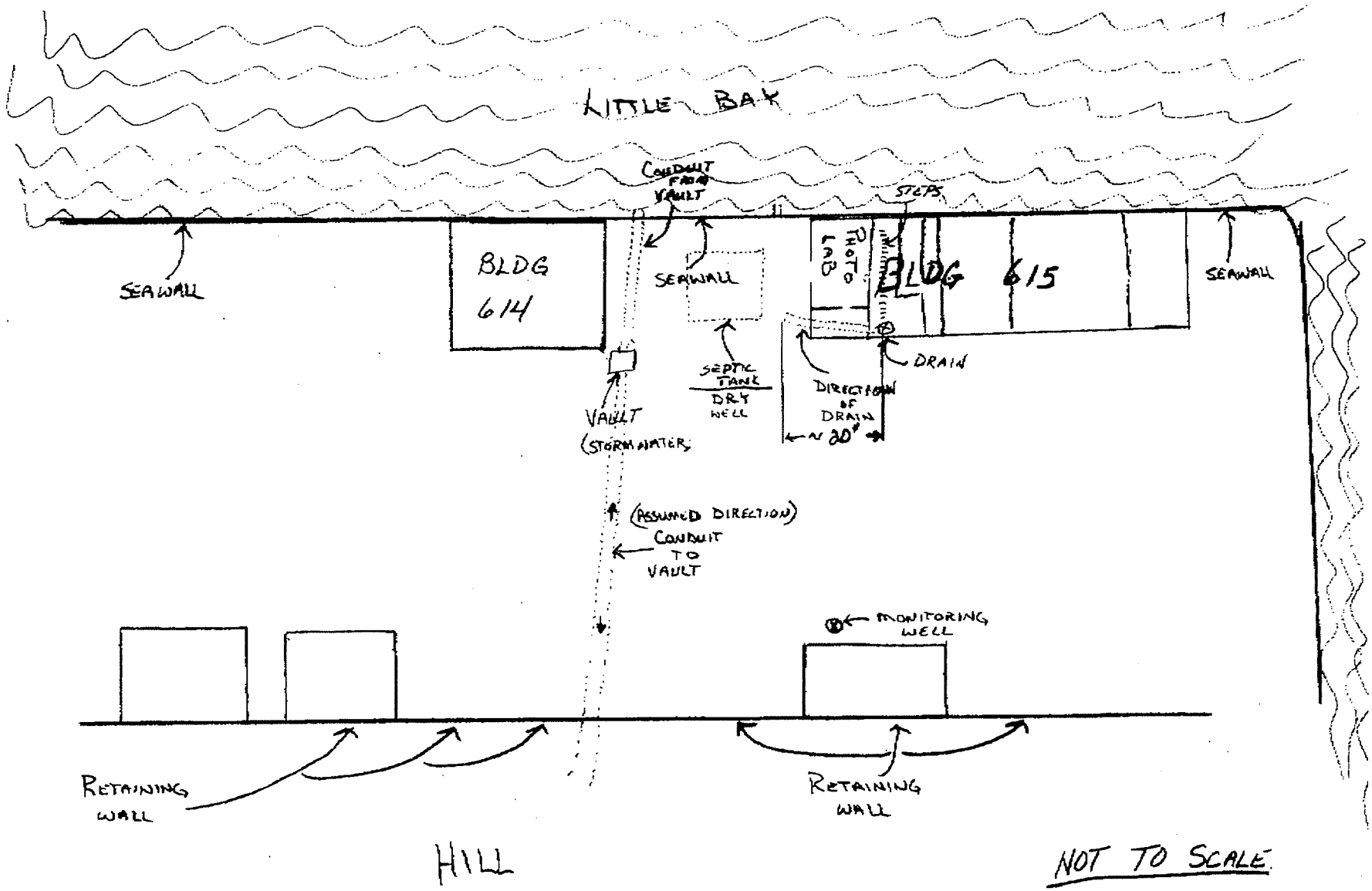
- The floor drain in the hallway of building 615 was not connected to the discharge conduits the protruded from the seawall.
- The floor drain was operational and not blocked as was once thought may be the case.
- The well cap for MW4R effectively sealed the well not allowing the runoff to enter the well.

At the conclusion of the limited investigation it is assumed, based on anecdotal information, the location of the bore-o-scope inside the pipe, the direction of the pipe, and the flow through the pipe that the pipe is somehow connected to the tank in the parking lot outside building 615.

At the time of this resume of staff visit, it is not known whether the upper pipe was found to contain traces of mercury, nor is it known if the upper pipe was connected to the original pipe that was removed inside the bay area. Furthermore, the type of tank located in the parking lot is not known.

If there are any questions concerning this Resume of Staff Visit, please contact the undersigned at (410) 962-3333.

Vernon W. Griffin
Industrial Hygiene Technician
IH&C Section, HTRW Branch



AERIAL VIEW OF BLDG 615 AREA

CENAB-EN-HI (200-1C) 30 August 2004

STAFF OFFICIAL: Vernon W. Griffin, CENAB-EN-HI, (410) 962-3333

PROJECT VISITED: Fort Totten Army Garrison, Bayside Queens, NY

DATE OF VISIT: 25 August 2004

PRINCIPAL CONTACTS: Debra Ford, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6736; Bynum, James, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6803

PURPOSE OF VISIT: Due to sample data that did not correlate, surface and subsurface soil samples had to be recollected from SB11.

FINDINGS:

Upon arrival to the site the two USACE representatives, (Ms. Debra Ford and Mr. Vernon Griffin), met with the NY State regulator (Mr. Jon Greco). A briefing was given pertaining to the surface and subsurface soil sampling, as well as the floor drain located in building 615.

Retrieved a sample (0-2 feet) from SB11 utilizing a clean, split spoon and a 140-pound hammer. The split spoon was driven into the ground by manually lifting and dropping the hammer. The boring was placed approximately 1 foot North of the original borehole.

Observation of the sample revealed that the soil was laden with coal, coal ash, asphalt, glass, and other debris.

The sample was split down the middle of the split spoon, where the inner portion of the spoon was removed and placed in a clean stainless steel bowl. There it was thoroughly homogenized before being placed in the sample jars (0-12 inches and 12-24 inches). The NY State representative also collected split samples. The soil containers were rotated between scoops.

The containers, once they were filled, were placed in a cooler and stored on ice.

The soil samples were shipped via Federal Express Overnight to TriMatrix for Semi-Volatile analysis. The samples that were obtained by the state were hand carried to the NY State laboratory by the NY State representative.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based on the makeup of the soil, it is understandable why the samples did not correlate. Although every effort was taken to remove as much of the debris as possible, it was impossible to eliminate all the debris. Therefore, it is highly conceivable that one lab may extract soil that has more debris in it than another resulting in varied results between the two labs.

If there are any questions concerning this Resume of Staff Visit, please contact the undersigned at (410) 962-3333.

Vernon W. Griffin
Industrial Hygiene Technician
IH&C Section, HTRW Branch

CENAB-EN-HI (200-1C) 30 August 2004

STAFF OFFICIAL: Vernon W. Griffin, CENAB-EN-HI, (410) 962-3333

PROJECT VISITED: Fort Totten Army Garrison, Bayside Queens, NY

DATE OF VISIT: 30 August 2004

PRINCIPAL CONTACTS: Debra Ford, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6736; Bynum, James, USACE, Baltimore, (410) 962-6803

PURPOSE OF VISIT: To collect sediment samples from the floor drain located in the hallway of building 615.

FINDINGS:

Per prior concurrence from the NY State regulator (Mr. Jon Greco), a sample of the sediment in the floor drain was collected utilizing an electric plumber's snake.

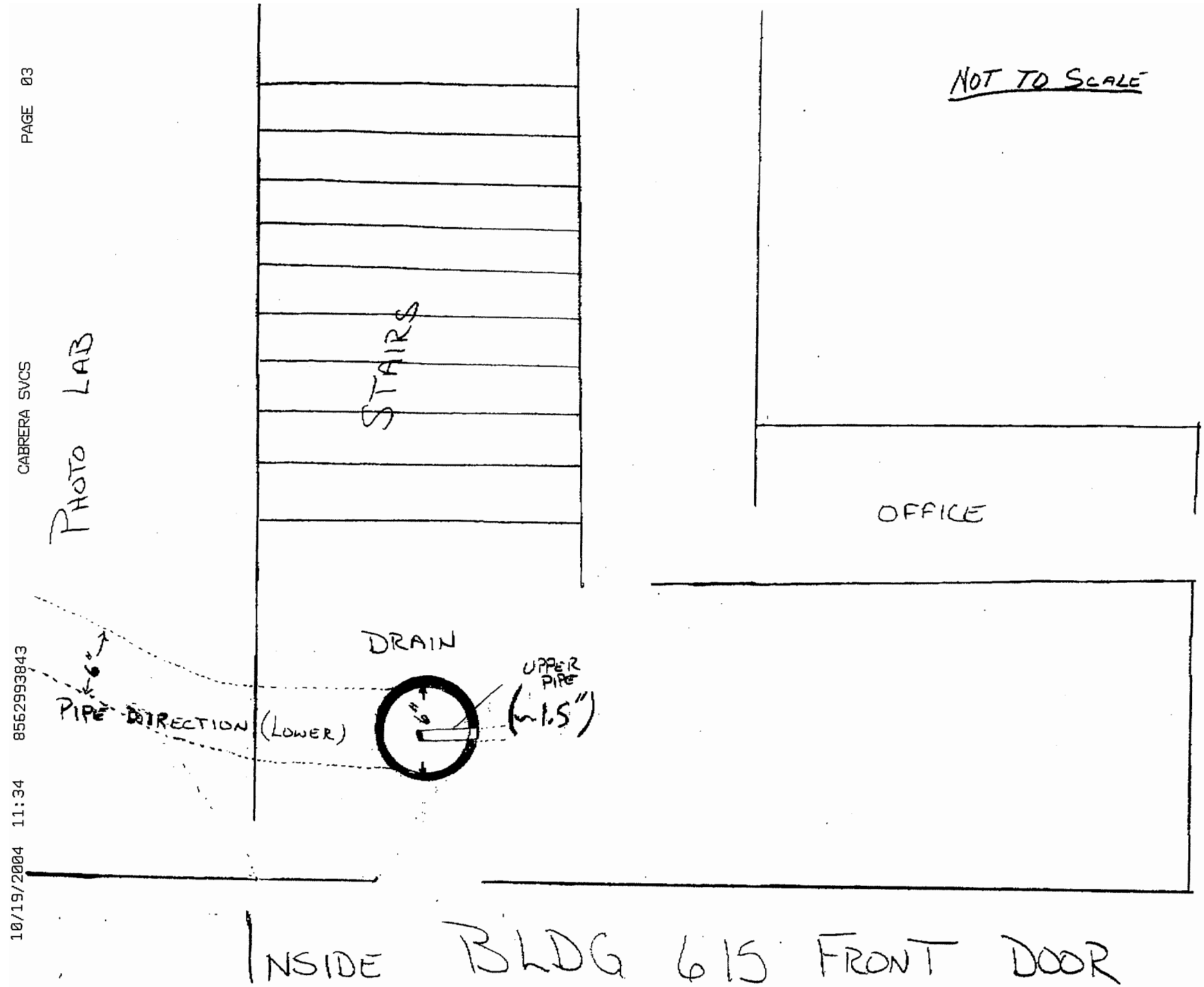
The plumber's snake was introduced into the pipe 15-20 feet before being retrieved.

Sediment was removed from the plumber's snake and placed in a 4-ounce jar, where it was stored on ice.

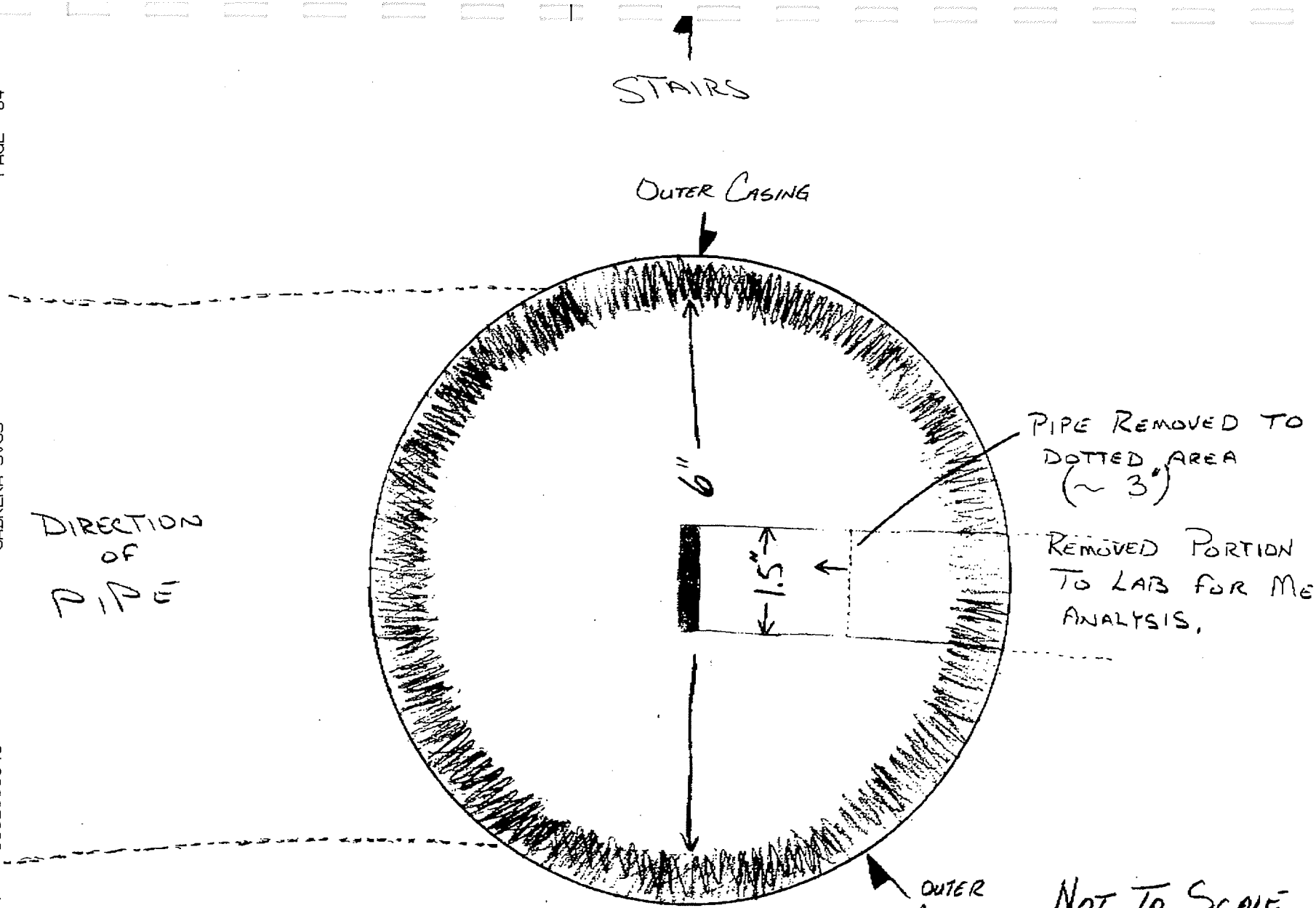
The sediment was shipped via Federal Express Overnight to TriMatrix for mercury analysis.

If there are any questions concerning this Resume of Staff Visit, please contact the undersigned at (410) 962-3333.

Vernon W. Griffin
Industrial Hygiene Technician
IH&C Section, HTRW Branch



INSIDE BLDG 615 FRONT DOOR



VIEW INSIDE FLOOR DRAIN (2 PIPES)