

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
BOILER PLANT NO. 2, BUILDING 2278, PARCELS 23(7) AND 226(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

JUNE 2001

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcels at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7), the U.S.

Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7). A list of background documents for Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response

Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consists of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR BOILER PLANT NO. 2

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, June.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

QST Environmental, Inc. (QST), 1998, *Final Site Investigation Work Plan, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278 (Parcels 23[7] and 226[7]) is located near the intersection of Castle Avenue and 14th Army Band Road in the northwestern portion of the FTMC Main Post (Figure 1). Boiler Plant No. 2 was built in 1954 and is operated and maintained by Johnson Controls, Inc. The boiler plant is fired by natural gas. However, the plant has a dual-fired boiler that can also operate using heating oil.

Two 25,000-gallon underground storage tanks (UST) were used to store heating oil at the site. The two USTs were installed in 1984 and were closed in-place in 1991. Two new 25,000-gallon fiberglass USTs were installed to replace the closed-in-place USTs. A closure report for the closed-in-place USTs was not available (ESE,

1998).

The two 25,000-gallon fiberglass USTs installed in 1991 were located on the southwest side of Building 2278 (Figure 1). The USTs were used to store heating oil, which was a backup fuel source for the boiler plant. These USTs were removed by Karst Environmental, Inc. in August 2000 in accordance with ADEM regulations.

A steel aboveground storage tank is located on the southeast side of Building 2278 (Figure 1). The tank has a capacity of approximately 300 gallons and is situated on a concrete saddle within a concrete secondary containment vault. The tank is used to store diesel fuel to power a backup generator at the site.

One reported release was noted at Boiler Plant No. 2. In November 1984, approximately 500 gallons of an alkaline solution (pH of 10.9 to 12) was discharged to Cane

Creek (ESE, 1998). Spill mitigation included pumping out the contaminated holding pool, neutralizing the solution, and discharging the solution to the sanitary sewer. In addition, the storm water drains were flushed out (ESE, 1998).

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) were categorized as CERFA Category 7 parcels in the

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

In 1998, QST Environmental, Inc. (QST) conducted an SI at Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) to

determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (QST, 1998; IT, 2001).

QST collected six surface soil samples, nine subsurface soil samples, and four groundwater samples during the SI at the site. Surface soil samples were collected from the upper 1-foot of soil. Subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 3 feet below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from four existing UST monitoring wells at the site. Samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), and semivolatile organic

compounds (SVOC). In addition, one surface soil sample was analyzed for total organic carbon.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background

screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998), and SVOC concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs in surface soils were compared to polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) background screening values (IT, 2000).

The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be low. Although the site is projected for reuse by the Alabama Army National Guard, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for unrestricted land reuse. In soils, the metals concentrations that exceeded SSSLs were below their respective background concentration or within the acceptable range of background values and do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health. VOC and SVOC concentrations in soils were below SSSLs.

In groundwater, several metals were detected in two samples at concentrations exceeding SSSLs and background concentrations. However, the samples with the elevated metals results had high turbidity at the time of sample collection, which is believed to have caused the increased metals concentrations. The SVOC bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate was detected in two groundwater samples at concentrations exceeding the SSSL. However, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate is a common laboratory contaminant and is not believed to be related to activities at the site.

Several metals were detected in surface soils at concentrations exceeding ESVs and background concentrations. However, with the exceptions of lead and selenium in

one sample each, the metals concentrations were within the range of background values. Two VOCs (tetrachloroethene and trichloroethene) exceeded ESVs in surface soils. Two PAHs (fluoranthene and pyrene) exceeded ESVs in one surface soil sample. However, the concentrations of these PAH compounds were below PAH background values. The site is located within the developed area of the Main Post and consists of buildings and paved roads/areas. Viable ecological habitat is limited and is not expected to increase in the projected land reuse scenario. Therefore, the potential threat to ecological receptors is expected to be low.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

The two 25,000-gallon USTs associated with the boiler plant were removed in August 2000. UST removal activities were conducted in accordance with ADEM regulations.

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcels 23(7) and 226(7). No further action is selected because further remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release,

disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(3) and 226(3) (formerly Parcels 23[7] and 226[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	\$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	\$0
Present Worth Cost:	\$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Further remedial action is unnecessary at Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(3) and 226(3) (formerly Parcels 23[7] and 226[7]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcels 23(7) and 226(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated

with implementing no further action at Boiler Plant No. 2, Building 2278, Parcels 23(3) and 226(3) (formerly Parcels 23[7] and 226[7]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

Mr. Ronald M. Levy
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Environmental Coordinator
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E-mail: LevyR@mcclellan-emh2.army.mil

ACRONYMS

ADEM	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IT	IT Corporation
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon
QST	QST Environmental, Inc.
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
UST	underground storage tank
VOC	volatile organic compound

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Date

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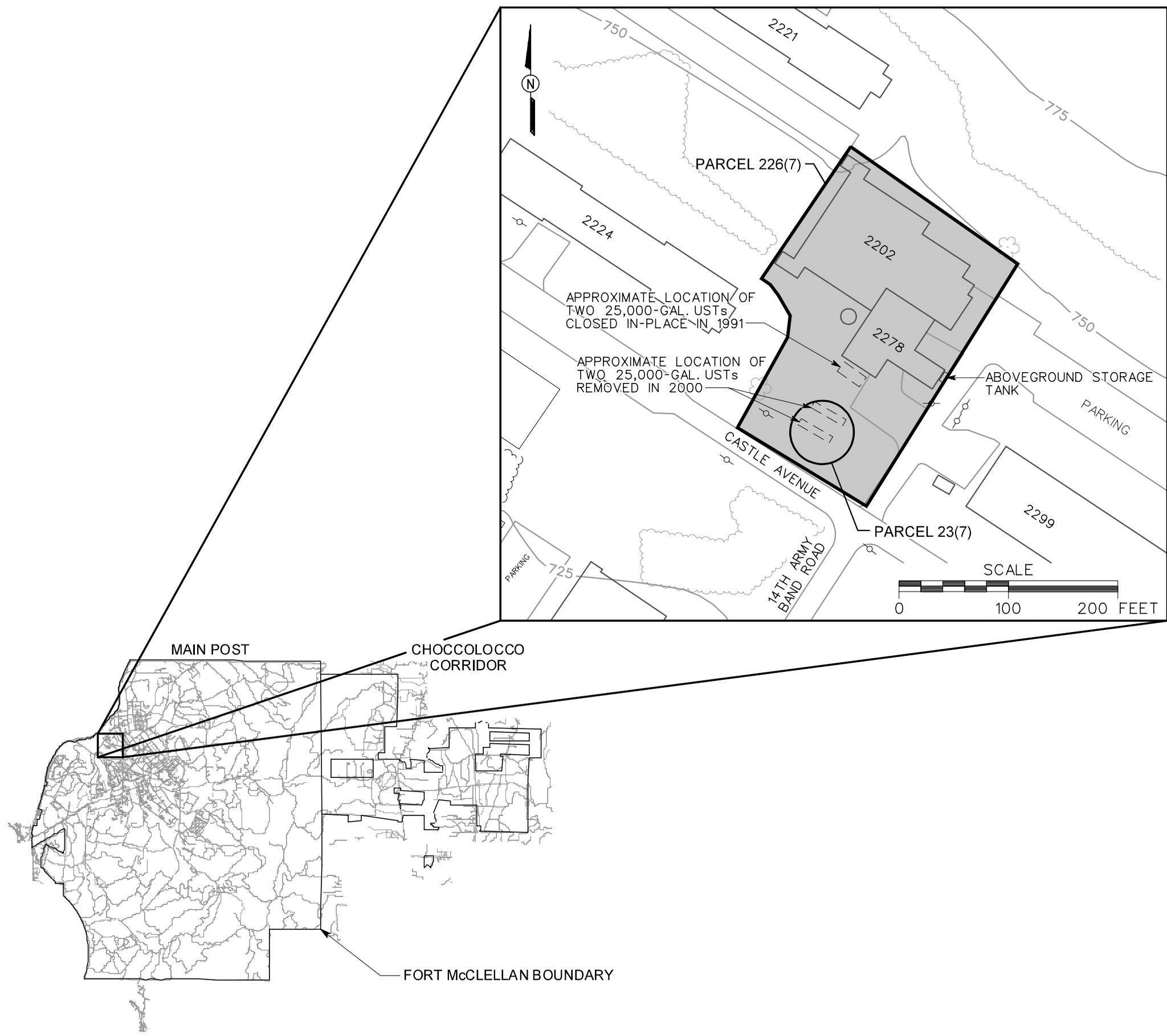
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Approved by:

Glynn D. Ryan
Site Manager
Fort McClellan, Alabama

Date

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LEGEND

-  UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
-  PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
-  BUILDING
-  TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 25 FOOT)
-  TREES / TREELINE
-  PARCEL BOUNDARY
-  UTILITY POLE

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
 BOILER PLANT No. 2
 BUILDING 2278
 PARCELS 23(7) AND 226(7)

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 MOBILE DISTRICT
 FORT McCLELLAN
 CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
 Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018