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RESULTS OF THE RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY AT 76 WASHINGTON STREET (LJ010), LODI, NEW JERSEY

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HEALTH AND SAFETY RESEARCH DIVISION

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RESULTS OF THE RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY AT 76 WASHINGTON STREET (LJ010), LODI, NEW JERSEY

R. W. Doane

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Work performed as part of the
RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

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RESULTS OF THE RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY AT 76 WASHINGTON STREET, LODI, NEW JERSEY*

INTRODUCTION

A radiological survey of 76 Washington Street, Lodi, New Jersey, was conducted by a survey team from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) on April 9, 1985 at the request of the Department of Energy (DOE). This property was identified as being suspected of having contaminated material present during the mobile gamma scan of Lodi, New Jersey.[1]

The radiological survey conducted on this property was for the purpose of determining whether the property had any radioactive material onsite in excess of background radiation levels, and, if so, were these radioactive materials in excess of remedial action guidelines established by DOE such that the property could be "designated" for further investigation. This report summarizes the results of the "designation" survey performed on this property.

SURVEY METHODS

The radiological survey of the property included: (1) a gamma scan of the entire property outdoors; and (2) sampling of surface (0-15 cm) soil. No indoor survey measurements were performed. These survey methods followed the plan outlined in Reference 2. A comprehensive description of the survey methods and instrumentation has been presented in another report.[3]

SURVEY RESULTS

Applicable federal guidelines have been summarized in Table 1. The normal background levels for the northern New Jersey area are presented in Table 2. These data are provided for comparison with the survey results presented in this section. All direct measurement results presented in this report are gross readings at ground surface;

* The survey was performed by members of the Radiological Survey Activities Group of the Health and Safety Research Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory under DOE contract DE-AC05-840R21400.

background radiation levels have not been subtracted. Similarly, background concentrations have not been subtracted from radionuclide concentrations measured in environmental samples.

Systematic and Biased Soil Samples

Systematic and biased soil samples were taken from various locations on the property for radionuclide analyses. Locations of the systematic (LJ10S) and biased (LJ10B) samples are shown in Fig. 1, with results of laboratory analyses provided in Table 3. Concentrations of uranium, radium, and thorium were at normal background levels.

Gamma Radiation Levels

The gamma scan of the surface of the property showed no gamma exposure rates in excess of background radiation levels. The results of the gamma scan are shown in Fig. 2.

SUMMARY

Measurements taken at 76 Washington Street indicate that the property contains no radioactive contamination above natural background levels. High purity germanium analysis of soil samples confirms the surface gamma scan measurements that only typical background radiation levels exist on this property.

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3. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Procedures Manual for the ORNL Remedial Action Survey and Certification Activities (RASCA) Program, ORNL/TM-8600 (October 1982).

4. U.S. Department of Energy, Radiological Survey of the Middlesex Municipal Landfill, Middlesex, New Jersey, DOE/EV-0005/20, April 1980.

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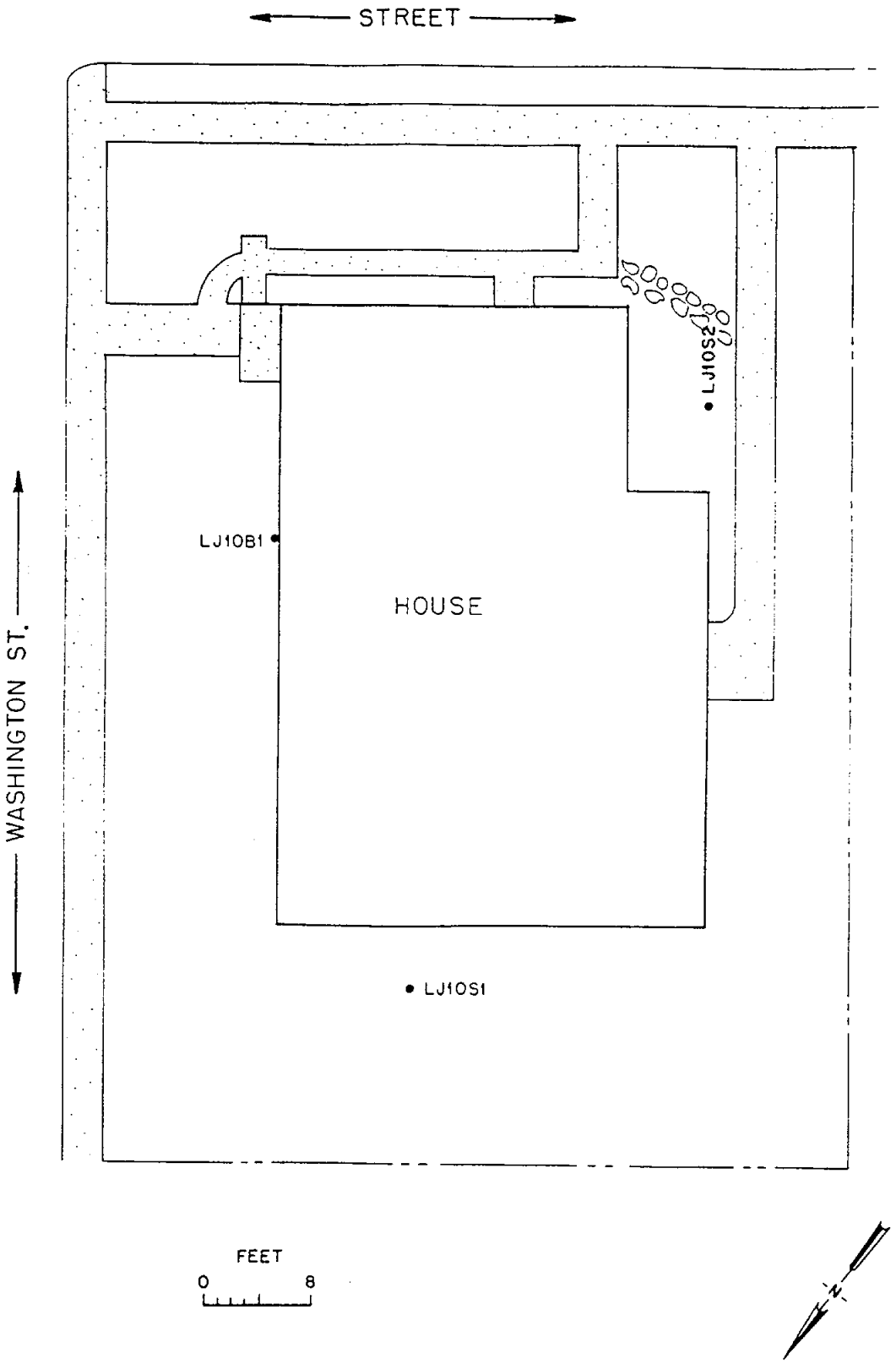

Fig. 1. Diagram showing locations of soil samples taken at 76 Washington Street, Lodi, New Jersey.

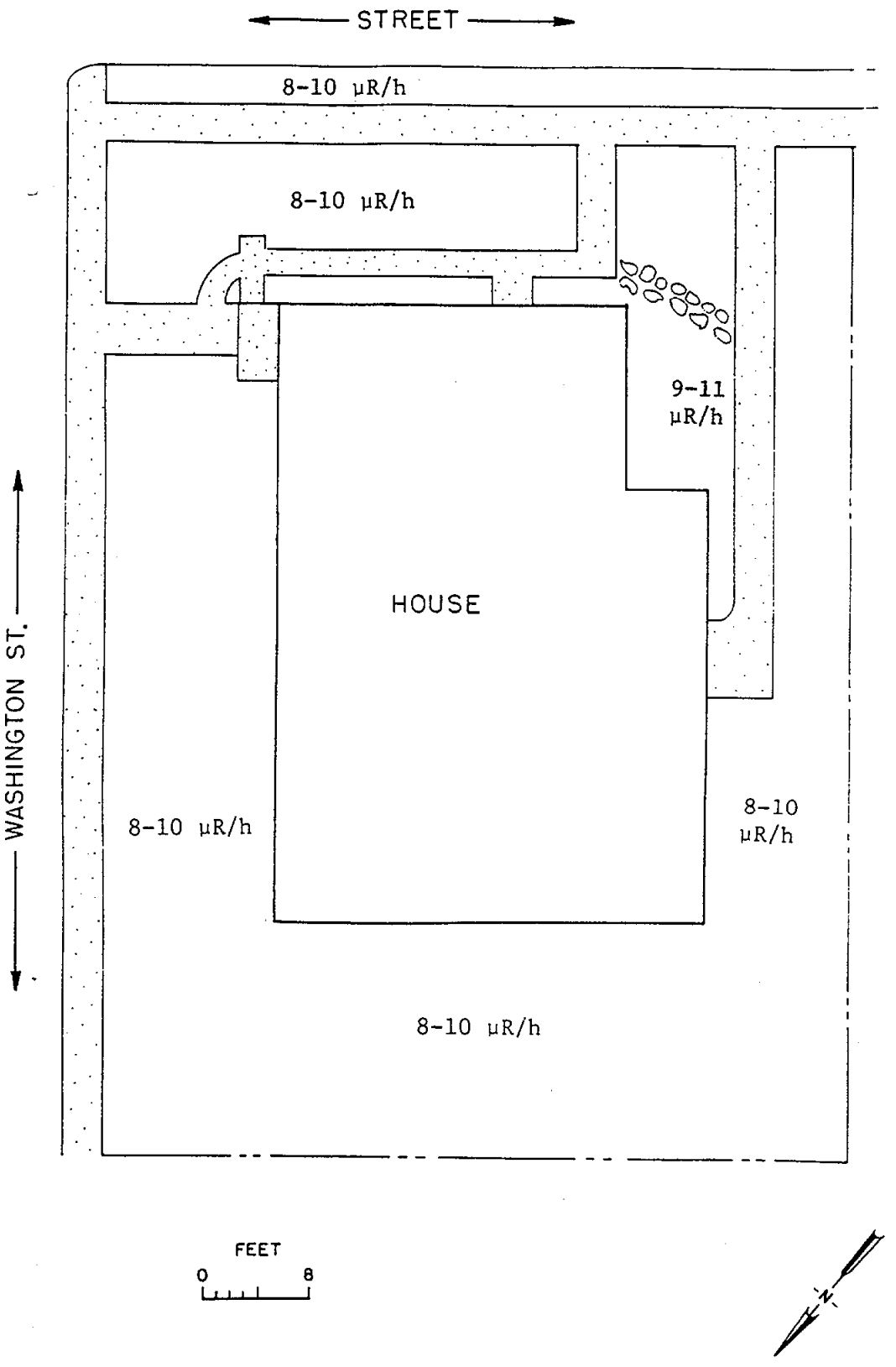

Fig. 2. Gamma radiation levels measured at 76 Washington Street, Lodi, New Jersey.

Table 1. A summary of applicable radiation guidelines for the FUSRAP program (July 1985).

	Mode of exposure	Exposure conditions	Guideline value	Guideline source
1.	Gamma radiation	Continuous exposure to individual in general population (whole body)	57 μR/h	DOE Order 5480.1A Chapter 11 Requirements for Radiation Protection
2.	Radionuclide concentrations in soil	Maximum permissible concentration of the following radionuclides in soil above background levels averaged over 100 m^2 area		U.S. Department of Energy Guidelines for Residual Radioactivity at Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program Sites (Revision 1, July 1985)
		^{226}Ra ^{232}Th	5 pCi/g averaged over the first 15 cm of soil below the surface; 15 pCi/g when averaged over 15-cm thick soil layers more than 15 cm below the surface and less than 1.5 m below the surface	

Table 2. Background radiation levels for the northern New Jersey area.

Type or radiation measurement or sample	Radiation level or radionuclide concentration
Gamma exposure rate at 1 m above floor or ground surface (μR/h)	8[a]
Concentration of radionuclides in soil (pCi/g)	
^{232}Th	0.9[b]
^{238}U	0.9[b]
^{226}Ra	0.9[b]

[a]Reference 4.
[b]Reference 5.

Table 3. Concentrations of radionuclides in soil at 76 Washington Street, Lodi, New Jersey.

Sample[a]	Depth (cm)	Radionuclide concentration (pCi/g)		
		^{226}Ra[b]	^{232}Th[b]	^{238}U[c]
		Systematic samples		
LJ10S1	0 - 15	0.87 ± 0.06	1.2 ± 0.4	0.88
LJ10S2	0 - 15	0.95 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.3	0.95
		Biased samples[d]		
LJ10B1	0 - 15	0.84 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.07	0.94

[a]Locations of soil samples are shown on Fig. 1.

[b]Indicated counting error is at the 95% confidence level (± 2 σ).

[c] Total analytical error of measurement results is less than ± 5% (95% confidence level).

[d]Biased samples are taken from areas shown to have elevated gamma exposure rates.

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