

Former Notre Dame High School
(a.k.a. Former Burgess School)
411 School Street, Berlin



DES Site Number: 198605173

ONESTOP Master Id.: 329

Date of update: February 7, 2012

Description: This site is occupied by an historic school that was first operated as a City elementary school and then as a Catholic High School. The building has been vacant for over 12 years. The gymnasium was destroyed by a fire set by arsons. The fire resulted in the exterior co-mingling of fire debris and asbestos pipe insulation. The property is currently owned by the City of Berlin.

Potential Environmental Concerns: Potential concerns associated with this property are limited to the confirmed presence of asbestos containing materials, lead-based paint, and lead-contaminated soil beneath the building drip edge.

Previous Work: A Hazardous Building Materials Survey and Limited Site Investigation were completed by NHDES on behalf of the City in July 2005. A Brownfields Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was completed by NHDES on behalf of the City in June 2008. This work was funded by NHDES' EPA Brownfields State Response Program Grant.

A Remedial Action Plan was prepared to address the exterior and interior asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) on behalf of the City by Nobis Engineering, Inc. in April 2009. The interior and exterior ACMs were abated under the supervision of Nobis Engineering, Inc. and MARCOR during the summer and fall of 2009.



NHDES authorized Nobis Engineering, Inc. to prepare cleanup planning documents to address the remaining lead-based paint and lead contaminated drip edge soils. This work included a phase of supplemental assessment work to determine whether PCB-containing paints were present within the building. A supplemental assessment report was submitted on September 21, 2010. The report indicated that although PCB-containing paints were present within the building, these materials were co-located with the previously identified lead-based paint that was to be abated during the second phase of cleanup.

A draft cleanup plan to address the lead-based paint, PCB-paint and exterior lead-impacted soils was submitted to NHDES in March 2011 and finalized in June 2011.

Copies of all available Brownfields reports for this site can be accessed from NHDES' ONESTOP Database at <http://www2.des.state.nh.us/DESONestop/BasicSearch.aspx>.

Current Work: Nobis is currently preparing a Remedy Completion Report on behalf of the City which summarizes the second phase of cleanup work and documents compliance with all applicable cleanup standards.

Scheduled Public Events: A public meeting was held on April 26, 2011 to present the second phase of cleanup planning to the public. There are no public meetings currently scheduled for this site.

Cleanup Activities: A Remedial Action Plan was prepared to address the exterior and interior asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) on behalf of the City by Nobis

Engineering, Inc. in April 2009. The interior and exterior ACMs were abated on behalf of the City by Nobis Engineering, Inc. and MARCOR during the summer and fall of 2009.

Cleanup planning documents for the remaining lead-based paint and lead-contaminated drip edge soils were submitted in June 2011. The cleanup of the lead-based and PCB-containing paint and exterior lead-contaminated soils was completed to NHDES' satisfaction between June 2011 and January 2012.

Cleanup work at this site was financed by the City of Berlin, an EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant (\$200,000) and two Cleanup Sub-Grants totaling \$400,000 from the NHDES Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Grant and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Grant.

Section 106 of Historic Preservation Act: NHDES and the City of Berlin consulted the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources – Division of Historical Resources (DHR) for guidance concerning all cleanup actions at this site as they relate to potential impacts to this historical resource. Determinations of No Adverse Affect” were issued by DHR for this work.

Funding: The assessment work completed by NHDES was funded via our EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant, EPA State and Tribal Response Program Grant, and our Cost Recovery Fund..