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The Contaminated Realities of Post-IBM Endicott Today

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THE CONTAMINATED REALITIES OF POST-IBM ENDICOTT TODAY

Priya Desai

BACKGROUND

Endicott, a small town in the Southern Tier of New York, experienced great economic success due to the birth of IBM in 1911 through the late 1900s. Today, the town is left with environmental degradation and is tainted by carcinogens as a result. The post-industrial town has endured corporate-state mitigation efforts for years.

This research will explore the realities of the toxic plume in the twenty years since operations have ended at the IBM plant.

METHODS

1. Participant Observation at the Endicott History and Heritage Center
 - Joe Titti
2. Interviews
 - Peter Little, *Toxic Town* Author
 - Andrea Palmeri, Plume Resident
 - James Little, NYSDEC Liaison
3. Literature Review

RESULTS

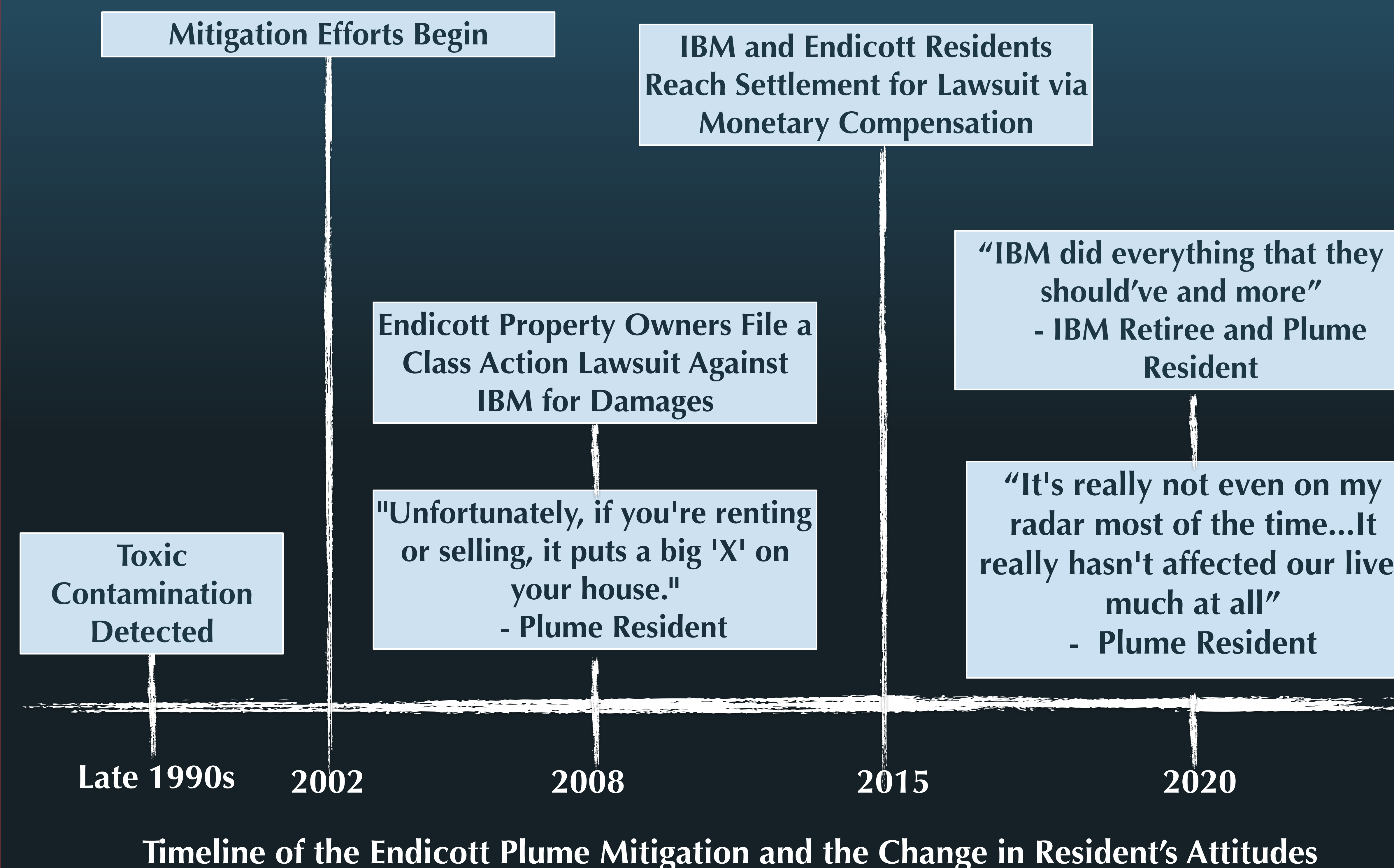
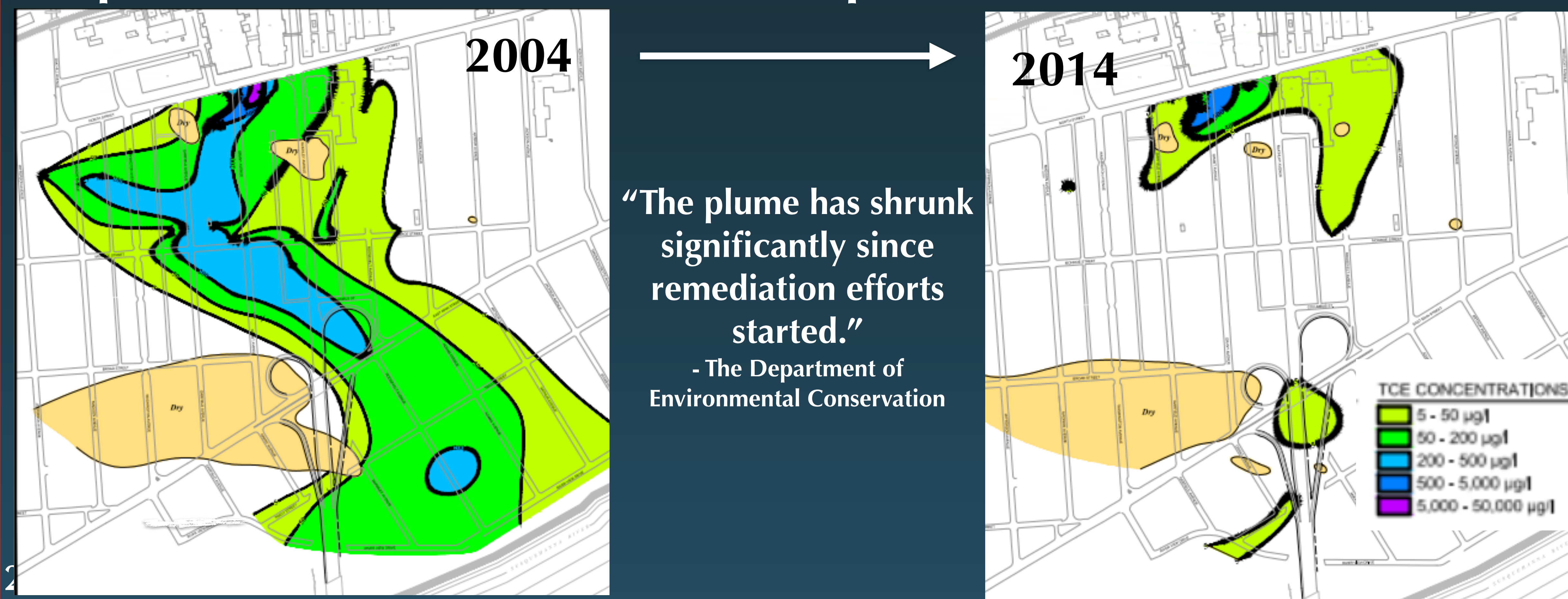
The plume's lingering situation was revealed. The chemical spill continues to leave mixed emotions within the community:

- Some are angered at IBM
- Some retain their loyalty and respect to the company

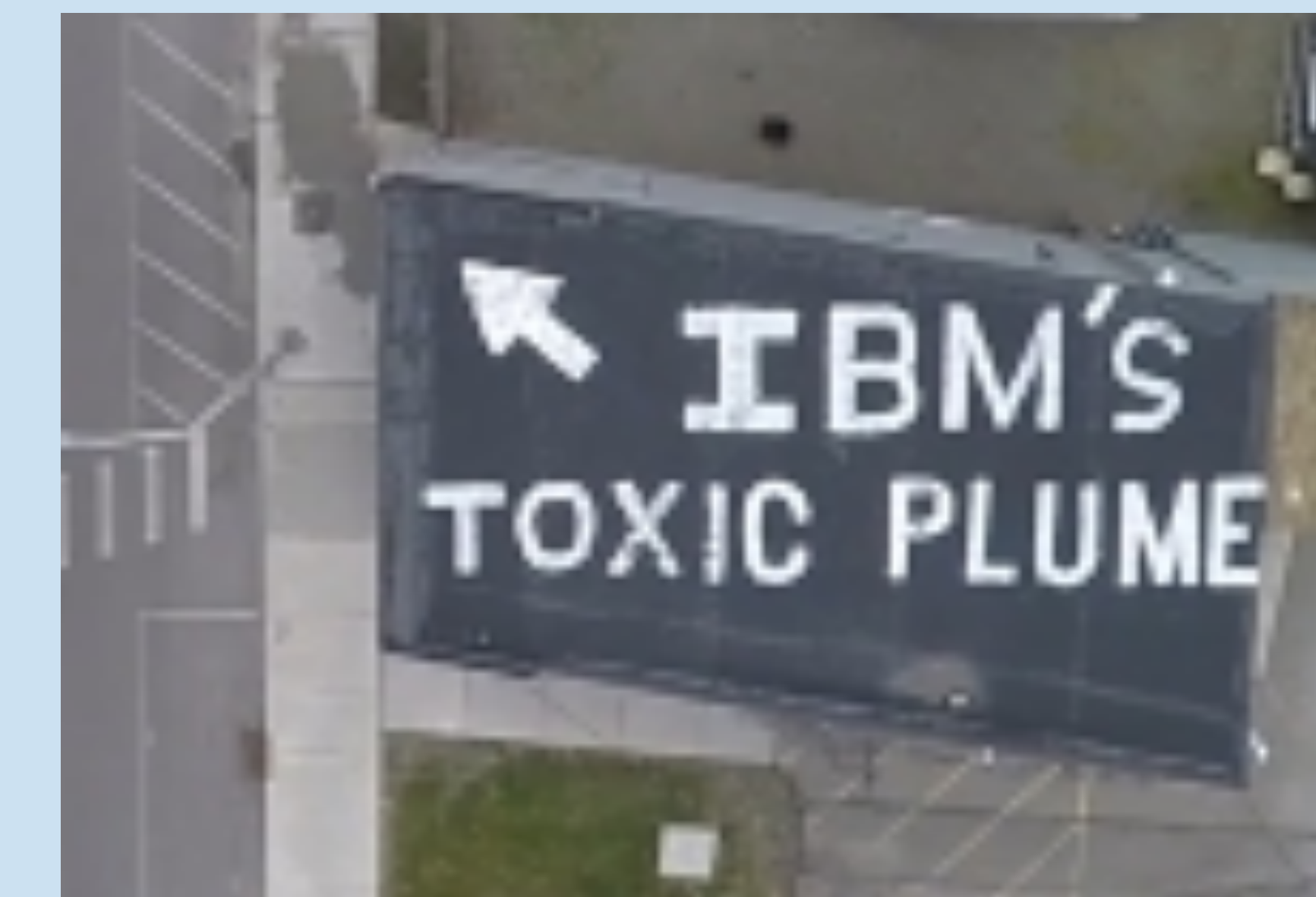
However, the majority have come to terms with the efforts made and now see the plume as a part of Endicott's history.

The Toxic Plume is Left in Endicott's History, but the Call For Environmental Justice Remains

Comparative TCE Isoconcentration Contour Map at the Former IBM Endicott Site #704014



Signs still present today in Endicott put up by a local resident who still feels remorse over the plume



CONCLUSION

This contaminated reality has become a fear for many such communities around the world. The ongoing story of the Endicott plume fits into the greater picture for the need of environmental justice; it is an example of precautions needed to be put into place so a community will never have to suffer as such.

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REFERENCES

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