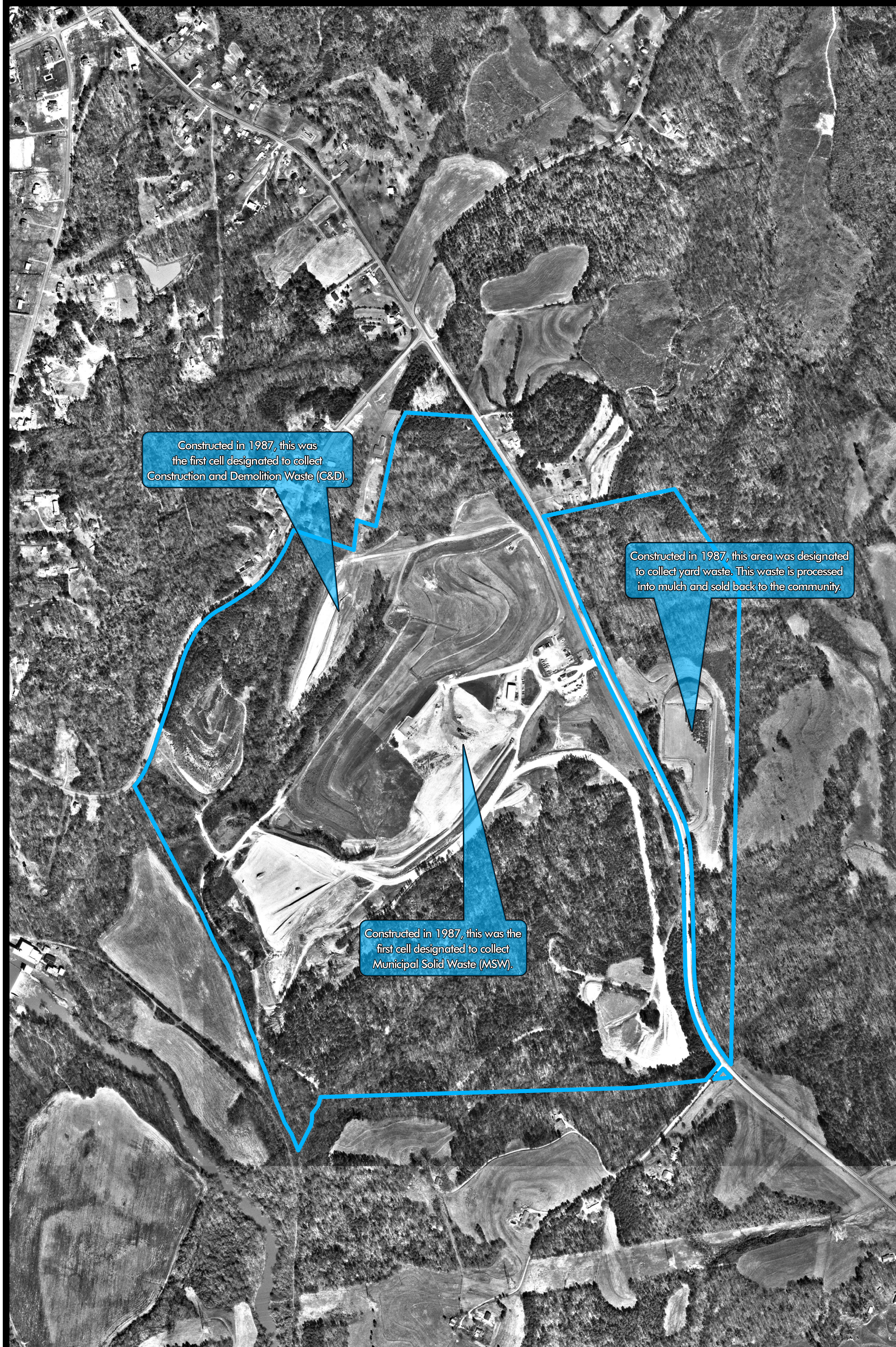


History of the Gaston County Landfill

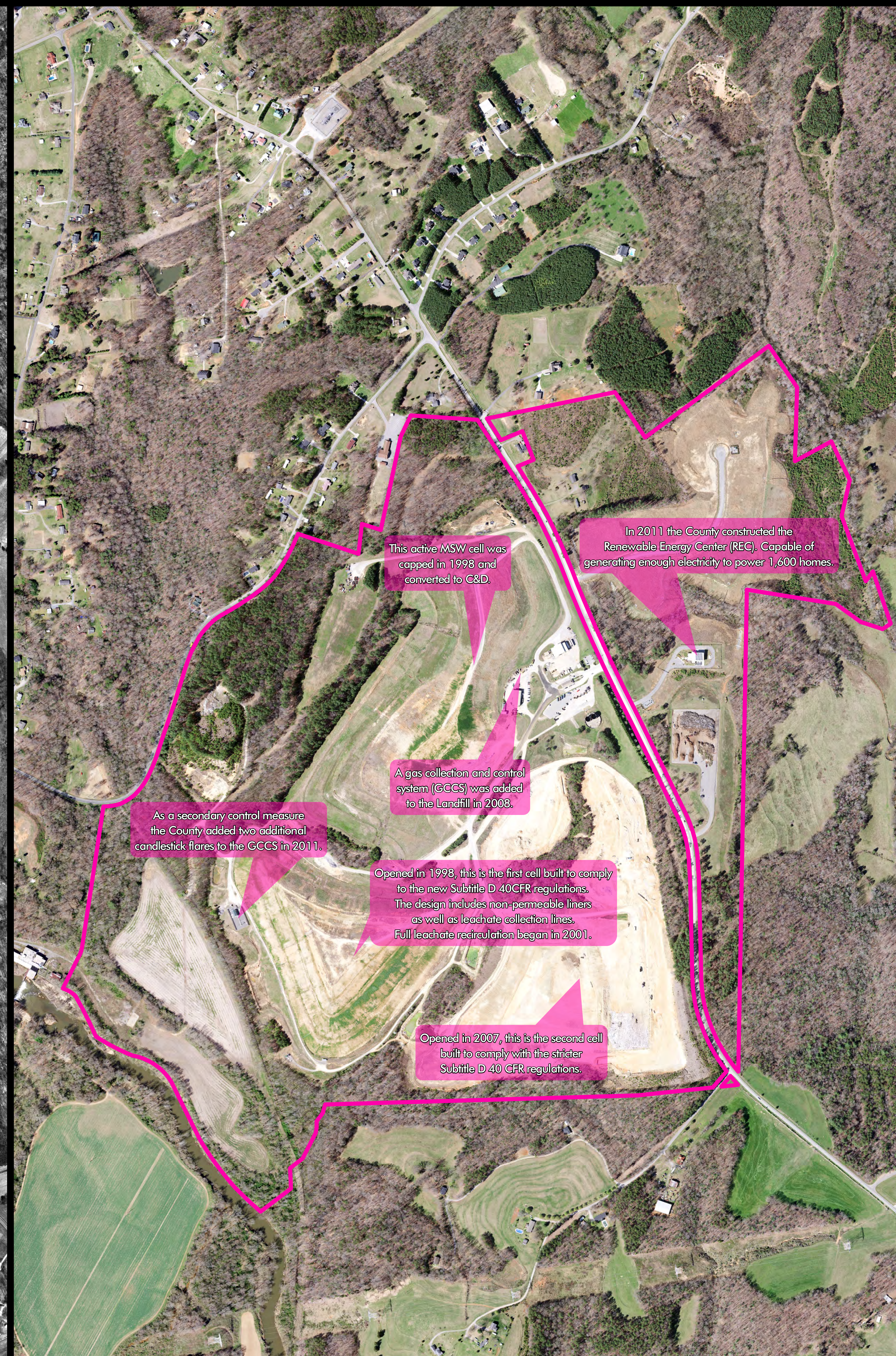
The Evolution From Waste to Resource Management

1987 - 1997
Pre-regulatory



First opening in 1987, the Gaston County Landfill served as a standard waste disposal site for the first 10 years of operations. It accepted Construction and Demolition (C&D) and Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) streams as well as yard debris which was turned into mulch and resold to the community. During this time period cells were unlined, and there were limited regulations regarding waste disposal or controls for managing environmental health.

1998 - 2015
Innovation



In 1998, stricter regulations came into effect around landfill operations. Going above and beyond the regulation, Gaston County created a Landfill Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS). This voluntary emissions control allowed Gaston County to accumulate and sell carbon credits as a revenue source. In 2011, the GCCS was expanded with the Renewable Energy Center (REC), an on-site power station capable of generating 25,000 MW of power a year.

2016 - 2026
Resource Management



With the GCCS fully operational, the Landfill is generating enough electricity to power 1,600 homes, while producing approximately 120,000 carbon credits per year (2025). These credits can then be sold and the revenue reinvested into the GCCS. This allows the County to continue developing its environmental control measures and fund system upgrades. This model has made Gaston County into the poster child for sustainable waste management in North Carolina.