



Homeland
Security

January 21, 2026

Ms. Barbara Frederick
Division Manager, Environmental Review
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

New ICE Philadelphia Processing Center, 3501 Mountain Road, Hamburg,
Pennsylvania, 19526; Initiation of Consultation and Finding of No Historic Properties
Affected

Dear Ms. Frederick:

This letter is provided to initiate consultation on a proposed Department of Homeland Security (DHS) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) undertaking subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in Hamburg, Pennsylvania (Figures 1–3). ICE is proposing to purchase, occupy and rehabilitate a 62.46-acre warehouse property in support of ICE operations. Proposed site improvements may include, but are not limited to, installing, upgrading, or rehabilitating existing parking areas, fencing, site lighting, landscaping, drainage/stormwater, recreation areas, and cameras. Tentage and a guard shack may also be installed. No site improvements are expected to be taller than the existing structure or expand beyond the current site boundaries, and all work and construction staging will occur within the developed portions of the parcel. All existing forested areas will remain forested (Figure 4).

As part of the undertaking, ICE may conduct exterior and interior modifications to the existing warehouse facility. Exterior upgrades may include, but are not limited to, painting or sealing the exterior of the structure; installing, removing, or modifying bays (truck bays, window bays, or doors); repairing or replacing the existing roof or cladding materials; adding security equipment; or adding exterior personnel/guest access controls. The interior of the structure may be renovated or rebuilt to support ICE operational requirements, which may include but are not limited to construction of holding and processing spaces, office space, public-facing visitor spaces, and installation of amenities, such as cafeterias, bathrooms, and health care spaces.

ICE has determined that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking consists of the subject property and adjacent resources with a potential viewshed of the proposed undertaking (Figure 5).

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No archaeological sites are recorded within one mile of the Project site. Fourteen architectural resources and one historic district are within one mile of the Project site. Eleven of the architectural resources are unassessed for NRHP eligibility, two have been determined not eligible for the NRHP, and one has been demolished. The historic district, the Appalachian Trail (RE No: 2008RE00385), has been determined eligible for listing on the NRHP, but is located outside the APE for this undertaking.

Potential ground disturbing work will be consistent in depth and method of disturbance with past modifications to the site. Maximum ground disturbance to construct piers and fence posts are anticipated to be no more than four feet in depth. Due to the substantial past disturbance, ICE finds the potential for encountering intact archaeological resources is low, and ICE does not recommend any further archaeological investigations at the property.

The subject property is an existing warehouse that was constructed in 2021 (Figures 6–11). Other structures within the APE include residential structures and a Camping Center and RV Center along Mountain Road to the north and structures to the southeast that were generally constructed after 1983. The subject property and adjacent modern resources and residences do not rise to the level of exceptional importance under Criteria Consideration G, per National Register Bulletin 15, and are recommended Ineligible for the NRHP under all criteria.

Historic-age resources within the APE primarily consist of a mobile home community adjacent to the Camping Center and one historic residence southwest of the subject property (Figures 12–15). A handful of residences within the mobile home community were constructed in the late 1960s, with the majority of the structures constructed in the 1970s and 1980s. The mobile home community does not contain any character-defining features, nor does it represent a planned community. ICE has determined that they are Ineligible for the NRHP.

The remaining resource within the APE consists of a residence and farm complex located immediately southwest of the subject property on Parcel 28445312765885 (Figure 16). The complex consists of a pre-1944 residence (Figure 17), a second apparent residence (Figure 17), a bank barn (Figure 18), wet stone fencing elements (Figure 18), and three auxiliary barns (e.g., Figure 19). The residence, bank barn, stone features, and two of the auxiliary buildings all feature stone foundations, likely of Pennsylvania Dutch origin. Based on the form and function of these resources, the complex is estimated to be constructed no later than 1875. A third barn is present on 1958 aerials and likely dates to the first or second quarter of the 20th century. Additional deed research would be necessary to firmly establish the date and historic ownership of the property to determine NRHP eligibility, both individually and within a larger farming or Pennsylvania Dutch context, such as the existing ‘Farms in Berks County’ multiple property NRHP listing.

The proposed undertaking will be slightly visible from the farm property. Some changes to the setting will occur, however, the setting was already altered when the existing warehouse was constructed. The proposed undertaking is not anticipated to impact the complexes use or integrity of design, location, association, workmanship, feeling, or materials, nor impact the resources ability to be included on the NRHP. Regardless of eligibility, the proposed undertaking will not adversely impact the farm complex. Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b), ICE has determined that the undertaking will result in a finding of **No Adverse Effect** for the project as currently designed. In the event that the scope of the Project changes, ICE will reconsult with your office.

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In accordance with 36 CFR 800.3, ICE has invited the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office to participate in consultation regarding this undertaking. ICE has also invited the following federally-recognized Tribes to participate in consultation: the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma; the Delaware Tribe of Indians; the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Onondaga Nation, and the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. ICE has not received any comments from any of the consulting parties at the time of this letter.

Please provide any comments on the undertaking and ICE's finding within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt of this letter. Written correspondence may be submitted to Alexis Price via e-mail at [REDACTED]. If you have questions or wish to discuss the undertaking, please contact Alexis Price at [REDACTED]. Thank you for your cooperation on this undertaking.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Fernandez
Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer
Department of Homeland Security
[REDACTED]

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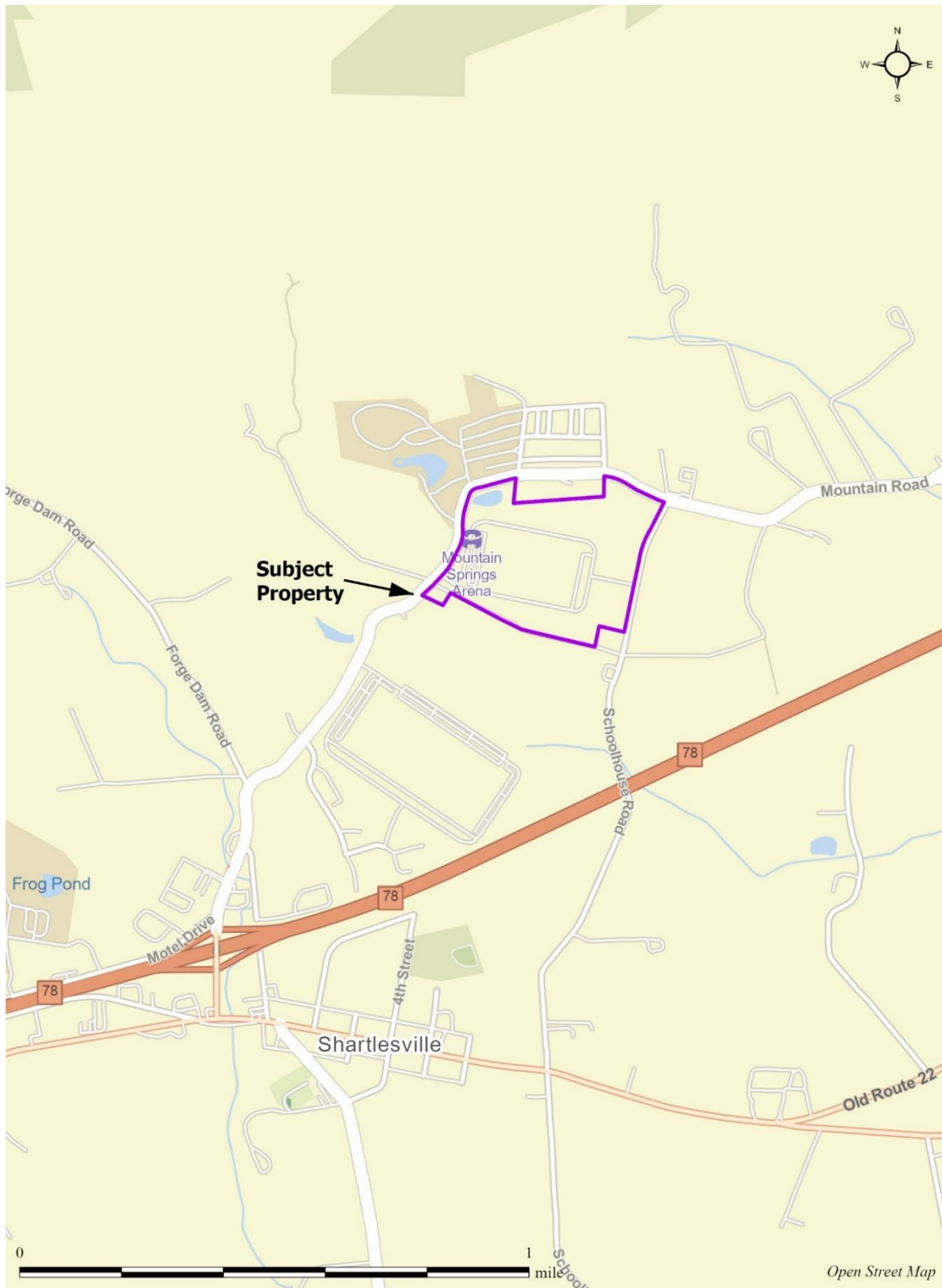


Figure 1. Project site location map.

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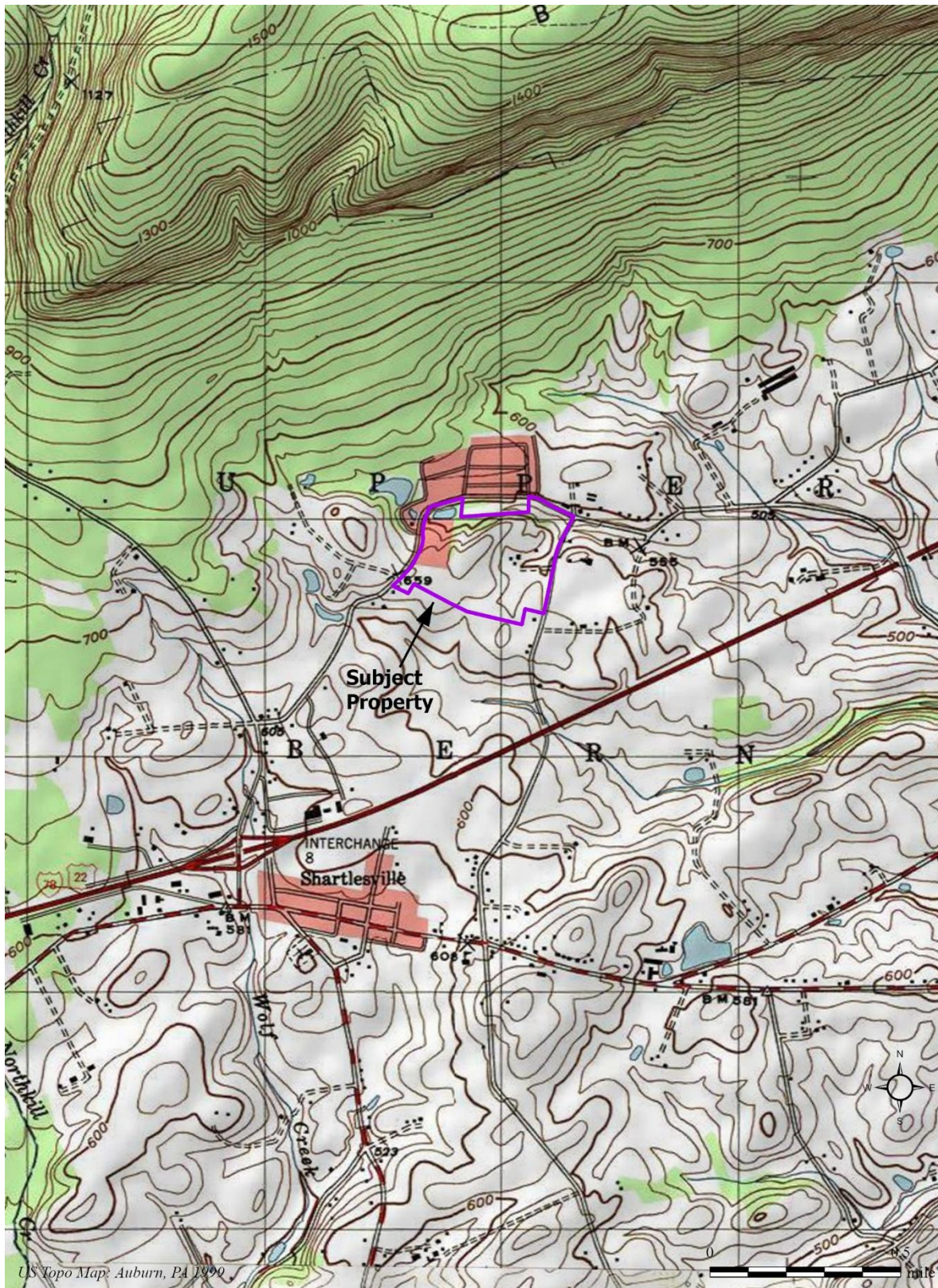


Figure 2. Project site on USGS topographic map.

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Figure 3. Aerial View of Project Site.

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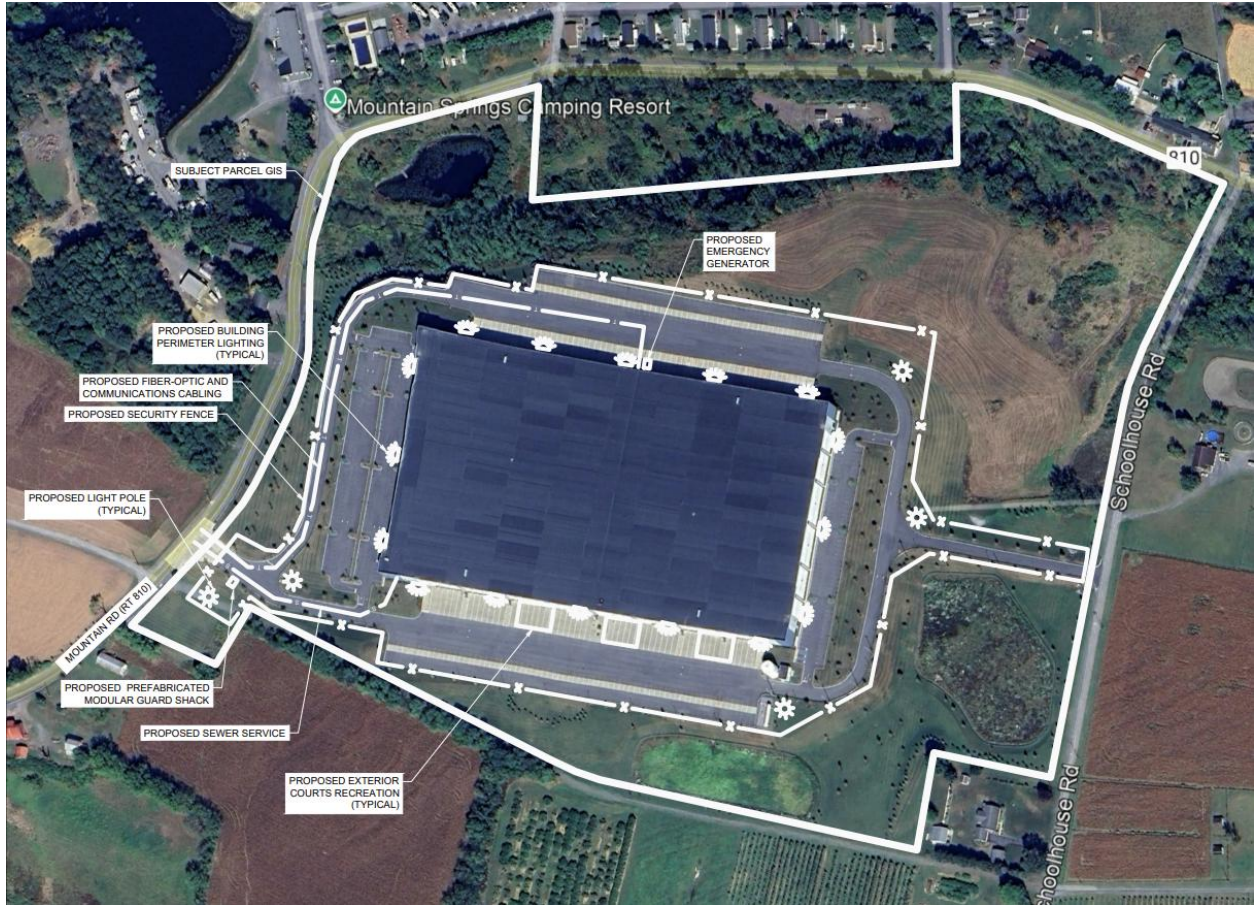


Figure 4. Proposed site plan.

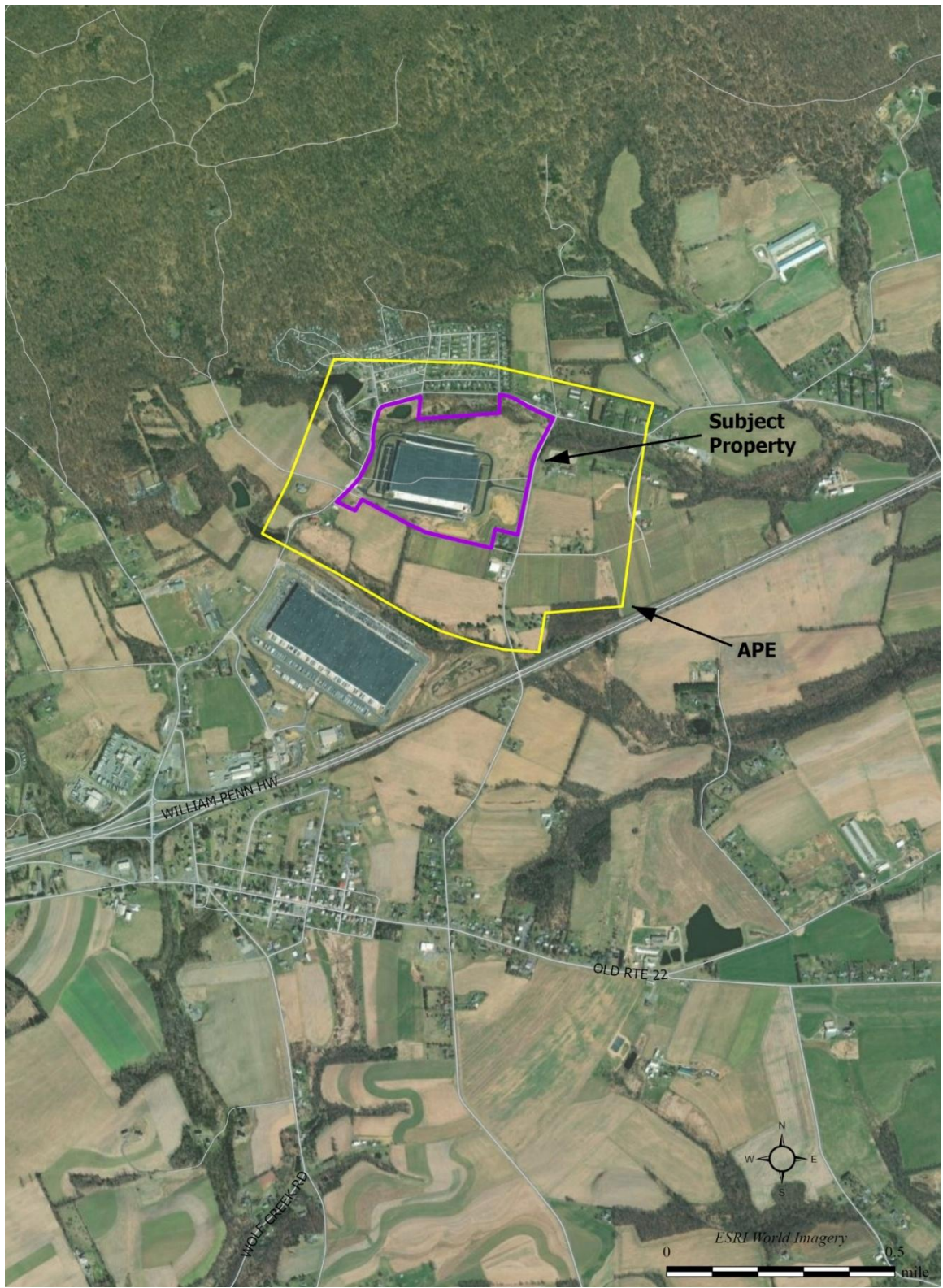


Figure 5. Area of Potential Effects (APE) for cultural resources.

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Figure 6. South and west sides of the building at main entry point.



Figure 7. South side of building.

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Figure 8. South and east sides of building.



Figure 9. North side of building.

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Figure 10. Office area.

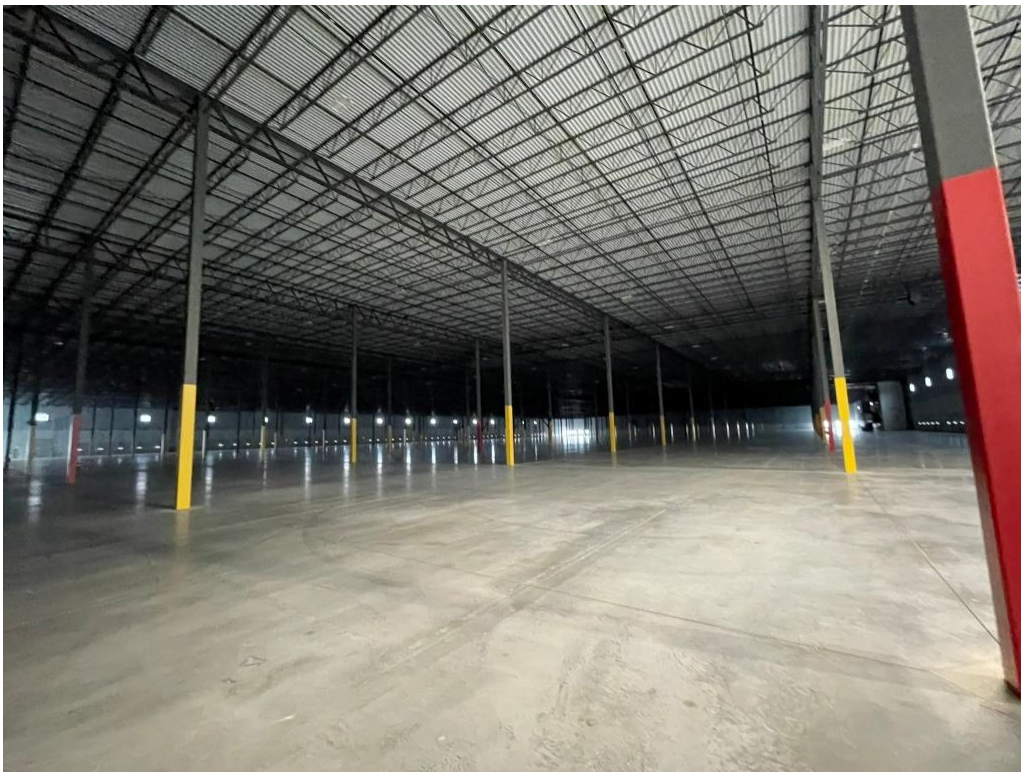


Figure 11. Interior of warehouse.

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Figure 12. Project site northeast of building and north adjoining residences on Mountain Road.



Figure 13. Northeast adjoining Camping Report and RV Denter on Mountain Road.

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Figure 14. South adjoining undeveloped and/or agricultural land.



Figure 15. Southeast adjoining farm/residence.

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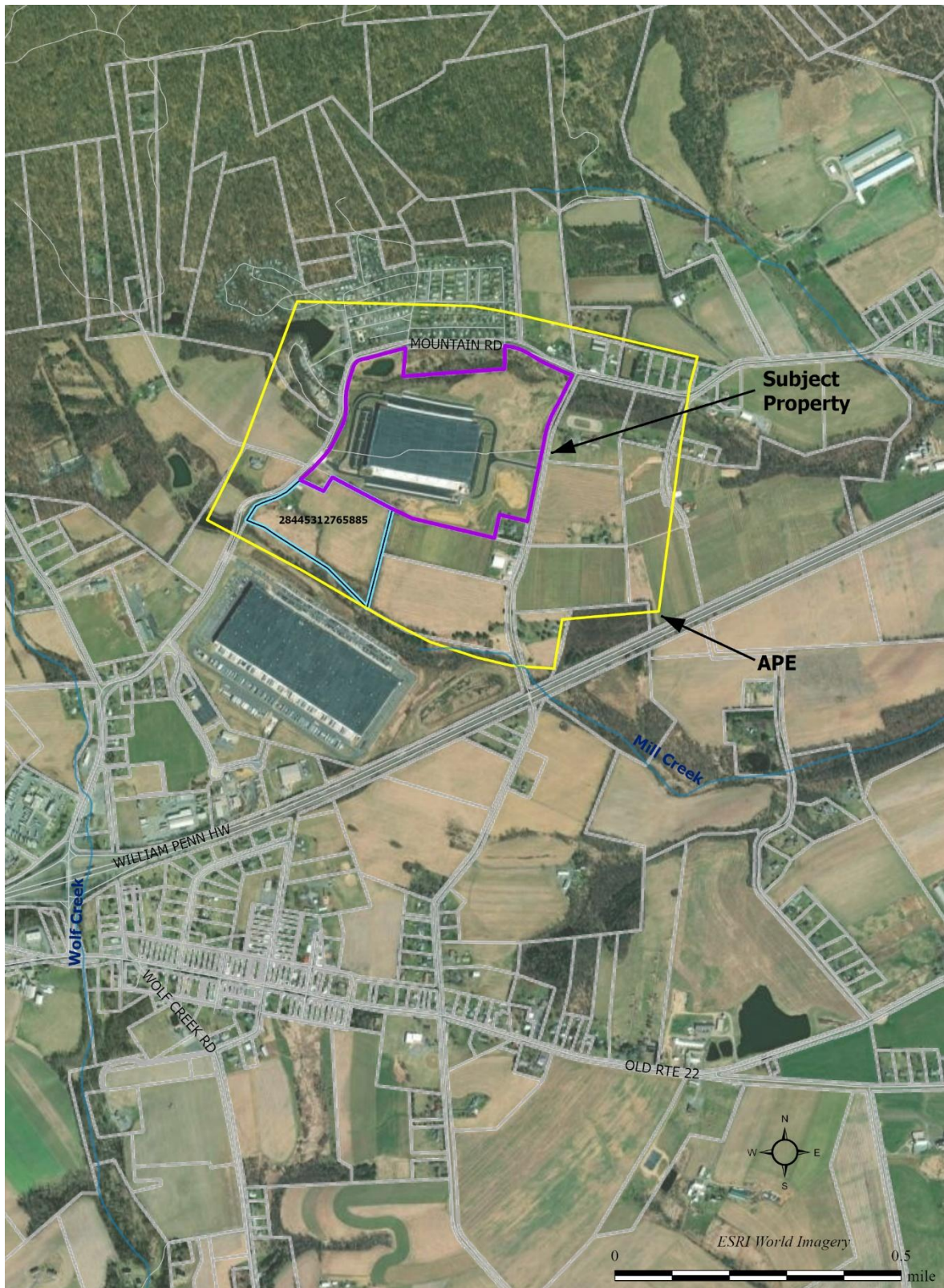


Figure 16. Location of Parcel 28445312765885 in relation to Project site and APE.

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Figure 17. Principal and secondary residential structures on Parcel 28445312765885 to southwest, facing east.



Figure 18. Bank barn on Parcel 28445312765885 to southwest, facing southeast.

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Figure 19. Secondary barn on Parcel 28445312765885 to southwest, facing east.