

Green Sergeant's Bridge

New Jersey's Only Remaining Covered Bridge

Delaware Township

Hunterdon County, New Jersey

www.DelawareTwpNJ.org

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February 10, 2015

The Honorable Cheryl A. LaFleur, Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Docket No. PF15-1-000 Proposed PennEast Pipeline Project
PennEast Pipeline Company LLC
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, NJ
Scoping Comments

Dear Chairwoman LaFleur:

The Delaware Township Committee is submitting comments during the scoping period on the potential impacts that the proposed PennEast Pipeline may have on the cultural resources in Delaware Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Please see the enclosed comments with the supporting figures and tables.

The Delaware Township Committee would like the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to address these comments during the scoping period and when preparing the Environmental Impact Statement.

Also, please be advised that the Delaware Township Committee is in the process of preparing additional comments on potential impacts the proposed pipeline would have on other types of resources in the township. These comments will be submitted under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Joseph Vocke, Deputy Mayor

Enclosed: Delaware Township's Scoping Comments on Cultural Resources

February 10, 2015

Delaware Township's Scoping Comments on Cultural Resources
w/ Table 1 Historic Structures and Sites – Delaware Township 10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route
Table 2 Historic Structures and Site – Delaware Township 1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Pipeline Route
Figures 1-8

Via Certified Mail RRR

cc: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Cert. Mail RRR)
Julie Bell, National Park Service (Cert. Mail RRR)
Jesse West-Rosenthal, New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (Cert. Mail RRR)
Anthony C. Cox, PennEast Pipeline LLC
Congressman Leonard Lance
Senator Cory Booker
Senator Robert Menendez
Assemblyman Jack M. Ciattarelli
Assemblywoman Donna Simon
Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman

CULTURAL RESOURCES
DELAWARE TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Introduction

Delaware Township, Hunterdon County New Jersey has a rich heritage. The Township has 7 historic districts entered into the National Park Service National Register of Historic Places, numerous historic structures, documented Revolutionary War encampments and Native American Indian habitation.

Both the 10/7/14 proposed route and the 1/16/15 preferred alternate route of the PennEast pipeline go through at least one of the historic districts. In addition, both routes are located adjacent to numerous other historic structures and sites.

18 CFR §380.15(a) states that the siting, construction, and maintenance of facilities shall be undertaken in a way that avoids or minimizes effects on scenic, historic, wildlife and recreational values. In addition, 18 CFR §380.15(e)2 further states that in siting proposed facilities, the project sponsor shall, to the extent practicable, avoid places listed on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places.

The Delaware Township Committee is unclear as to what efforts PennEast has taken to avoid these historic places. It does not appear from the reports submitted by PennEast that they indicated or looked at any of the historic or cultural features of Delaware Township when siting either of the proposed routes of the pipeline.

Rosemont Rural Agricultural District

The Rosemont Rural Agricultural District is listed in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places and was entered into the National Park Service National Register of Historic Places on June 18, 2010 (ID# 4591)¹. The Rosemont Rural Agricultural District qualified under National Register Criteria A, "property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history" and Criteria C, "property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction."

¹ National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District; entered into the National Register on June 18, 2010

The Rosemont Rural Agricultural District is centered on the small hamlet of Rosemont and encompasses approximately 2,036 acres. The district is primarily a rural agricultural landscape of farms. Contributing resources of the district consist of 169 buildings dating from 1729-1942. The district is also comprised of four sites (2 burial grounds and 2 dwelling ruins), seven structures (truss bridge, 2 stone walls, 3 well curbs and a ground cellar) and 2 objects (stone hitching post and a church bell). It should be noted that the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District is made up of not only the historic buildings and sites but also the agricultural farmlands.

The Statement of Historical Significance portion of the Registration Form concludes "Distance from population centers has allowed Rosemont to remain relatively undisturbed, and to continue as a working agricultural environment. The many surviving farm fields and pastures provide broad vistas that convey a compelling sense of the district's agricultural heritage". The Statement goes on to affirm that "the majority of the farms in the district have already been preserved under the statewide farmland preservation program" and that "These ongoing preservation initiatives will help ensure the future survival of Rosemont's agricultural character."

The 10/7/14 proposed route of the pipeline transverses through the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District (see Figure 1).

The Delaware Township Committee raised its concerns and objected to the proposed route of the pipeline through the district in its 12/9/14 letter to FERC (PennEast copied on the letter).

According to the meeting minutes, the issue of the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District was discussed during the 12/22/14 bi-weekly conference call between FERC and PennEast. In addition, in item 35 of its 1/7/15 letter, FERC required PennEast to discuss the impacts to the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District and all other state protected lands in New Jersey and to provide all relevant correspondence with agencies and interested parties regarding these lands.

Yet, the 1/16/15 preferred alternate route of the pipeline continues to cut through the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District (see Figure 2).

Historic Structures

Figure 3 shows the locations of all known historic dwellings and related structures located along the 10/7/14 proposed route of the pipeline. And Table 1 contains the pertinent information about each of the historic structures depicted on Figure 3.

The locations of all known historic dwellings and related structures located along the 1/16/15 proposed route of the pipeline are indicated on Figure 4 and corresponding Table 2 contains information on these historic structures.

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It should be noted that while the Delaware Township Historical Society has made huge efforts in cataloguing these historic structures and sites in Delaware Township, there may be other historic structures and sites that have not yet come to their attention.

Revolutionary War Encampments

In a research paper published in the Hopewell Valley Historical Society Newsletter (Summer 2013)² the noted historian, David Blackwell, confirmed the long-held belief that there were not one, but several Revolutionary War encampments in the Mt. Airy, New Jersey vicinity.

The encampment location identified on the 1851 Cornell map and the official 1860 Map of the State of New Jersey is located directly within the corridor of the 10/7/14 proposed route of the pipeline (see Figure 5). The location of this encampment has also been indicated in relation to the 1/16/15 preferred alternate location (Figure 6).

Mr. Blackwell's research has proved that General Washington's entire army of 12,000 men (plus all of their aides and equipment) camped at this location on June 20-23, 1778 before they moved on to the Battle of Monmouth. It is a consensus among these scholars that, with this many troops, they probably occupied the entire area between Mt. Airy New Jersey and the position shown on these historic maps.

It had also previously been proven that a smaller contingent of the army camped in this location on Oct. 6-7, 1777 on their way to Pennsylvania via Coryell's Ferry (Lambertville). Additionally, there were several documented mills operating along the Alexauken Creek during the colonial period that reportedly helped provide grain for these soldiers.

Indian Habitations

As identified by the Max Schrabisch map of 1914-15 from the Geological Survey of New Jersey³, the Native Lenape Indian habitation in the Delaware Township vicinity is highly significant. At the confluence of the Alexauken Creek with the Delaware River, there were major village sites as well as burial grounds and campsites. As a result, countless Indian artifacts have been found and continue to remain in this localized area.

2 Hopewell Valley Historic Society Newsletter, Summer 2013, Vol. XXXII, No. 1, pgs 695-696, 698, 702-704, and 706

3 Map Showing Locations of Indian Habitations in Warren and Hunterdon Counties New Jersey by Max Schrabisch 1914-1915, State of New Jersey Department of Conservation and Development Division of Water Resources

Figures 7 and 8 show the currently known locations of these Indian campsites, villages and burial grounds in relation to both the 10/7/14 and the 1/16/15 proposed routes of the pipeline. It is important to note the close proximity of the proposed pipeline routes to the Indian campsites and especially there is at least one Indian campsite located within the corridor of the 1/16/15 preferred alternate route of the pipeline (see Figure 10).

Because the Schrabisch map should not be interpreted as exact locations of previous finds, the entire Alexauken Creek watershed area should be considered as a highly important source of Native historic information.

Delaware Township Committee's Comments on our Cultural Resources

1. The Delaware Township Committee considers any siting of a pipeline through the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District to be an unacceptable and permanently intrusive, discordant, and disruptive influence on an area that has been recognized by state and federal historical authorities as a unique setting that serves as a window into our nation's rural agricultural past. Modern industrial development would permanently disfigure the views and scenic vistas that this district affords.

Specifically, the Delaware Township Committee takes the position that the siting of the pipeline through the Rosemont Rural Agricultural District would have adverse effect as specified in 36 CFR §800.5(a)(1).

2. 36 CFR §800.4(a) defines the scope of identification efforts that are required to be undertaken. Specifically the area of potential effects must be determined and documented. This requires a review of existing information on historic properties within the area of potential effect, including any data concerning possible historic properties not yet identified, as well as seeking information from consulting parties, and other individuals and organizations, including Indian tribes, likely to have knowledge of, or concern with, historic properties in the area.

36 CFR §800.4(b)(1) indicates that a reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey shall be made.

Because the information provided in this submission documents the existence of many cultural resources along both proposed routes of the pipeline, the Delaware Township Committee requests that PennEast be required to at minimum meet all regulatory mandates, including their spirit and intent, and conduct the following before they submit their application:

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- a. Demonstrate that all historic dwellings and structures along both proposed routes of the pipeline are identified;
 - b. Perform extensive research on the Alexauken Creek watershed to identify the locations of all Revolutionary War encampments along both proposed routes of the pipeline; and
 - c. Perform extensive research on the Alexauken Creek watershed to identify the locations of all Native American Indian habitations along both proposed routes of the pipeline to ensure that such sites are properly and effectively delineated.
3. The Delaware Township Committee requests that PennEast be precluded from placing a pipeline anywhere that will or may affect any historic resources.
 4. The Delaware Township Committee requests that PennEast be precluded from placing a pipeline anywhere that would or may affect any possible remains of the Revolutionary War encampments, the farms that grew the grain, and the mills that served to process this grain.
 5. The Delaware Township Committee requests that the Alexauken Creek watershed be avoided entirely in order to protect the Native American Indian artifacts.

TABLE 1
HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND SITES
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County New Jersey
10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

<u>Map Reference</u>	<u>BLOCK-LOT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>EARLY NAMES</u> <u>DATE OF STRUCTURE/S</u>
B19-25	Block 19/Lot 25	84 Sanford Rd.	Sherman late 1800s
B19-29	Block 19/Lot 29	8 Hewitt Rd.	Nixon-Sherman mid 1800s
B19-37	Block 19/Lot 37	35 Hewitt Rd.	Robinson-Hummer c 1850-70
B31-5	Block 31/Lot 5	780 Route 604	Swallow-Reading mid 1800s
B31-9	Block 31/Lot 9	160 Route 519	Updyke-Reading early 1800s
B32-13	Block 32/Lot 13	56 Route 519	Rittenhouse Farmstd mid 1800s or earlier
B32-30	Block 32/Lot 30	760 Rosemont Ringoes	Lot Rittenhouse 1788 log house
B53-5	Block 53/Lot 5	960 Route 523	Bodine Farmstead c. 1850-60
B56-16	Block 56/Lot 16	945 Route 523	Rockafellow early 1800s
B56-19	Block 56/Lot 19	26 Grafton Rd.	Hunt-Wilson-Romine c. 18thC
B59-1	Block 59/Lot 1	Seabrook Rd.	Romine c. 18th & 19thC
B61-7&8.01	Block 61/Lot 7&8.01	218 Sandy Ridge-Mt. Airy	Dennis-Lair-Holcombe c. 18thC
B62-1	Block 62/Lot 1	4 Hamp Rd.	Barber-Ennis mid 1800s

TABLE 2
HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND SITES
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County New Jersey
1/16/15 Preferred Alternate Pipeline Route

<u>Map Reference</u>	<u>BLOCK-LOT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>EARLY NAMES</u> <u>DATE OF STRUCTURE/S</u>
B19-21	Block 19/Lot 21	60 Sanford Rd.	Williamson-Schenck c. 1850-70
B19-37	Block 19/Lot 37	35 Hewitt Rd.	Robinson-Hummer c. 1850-70
B31-3	Block 31/Lot 3	740 Rosemont-Ringoes	Housel-Reading c. 19th century
B31-4	Block 31/Lot 4	760 Rosemont-Ringoes	Snyder-Allen-Johnson c. 1850-60
B31-12	Block 31/Lot 12	31 Sanford Rd.	Snyder mid 19th century
B32-5	Block 32/Lot 5	155 Lower Creek Rd.	Rittenhouse-Godown c. 1800-30
B32-32	Block 32/Lot 32	745 Rosemont Ringoes	Tunis Case Farmstead late 18th century
B33-19	Block 33/Lot 19	156 Lower Creek Rd.	Skillman-Larison late 19th century
B54-1.03	Block 54/Lot 1.03	881 Sergeantsville Rd.	Larison Farmstead c. 1874
B55-2.03	Block 55/Lot 2.03	34 Sandy Ridge Rd.	Butterfoss-Sharp [farm separated]
B55-3	Block 55/Lot 3	65 Brookville Hollow	Sharp Farmstead c. 1820
B55-8	Block 55/Lot 8	20 Sandy Ridge Rd.	Sharp-Phillips c. 1830-50
B60-12	Block 60/Lot 12[.01]	70 Brookville Hollow	Seabrook ? Lambert c. 1800-30 or earlier
B62-12	Block 62/Lot 12	40 Lambertville-HQ	Lambert Farmstead early 19thC or earlier
D449	Block 449/Lot 449	Worman Rd.	Stone arch bridge c. early-mid 1800s

Figure 1
Rosemont Rural Agricultural District
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ

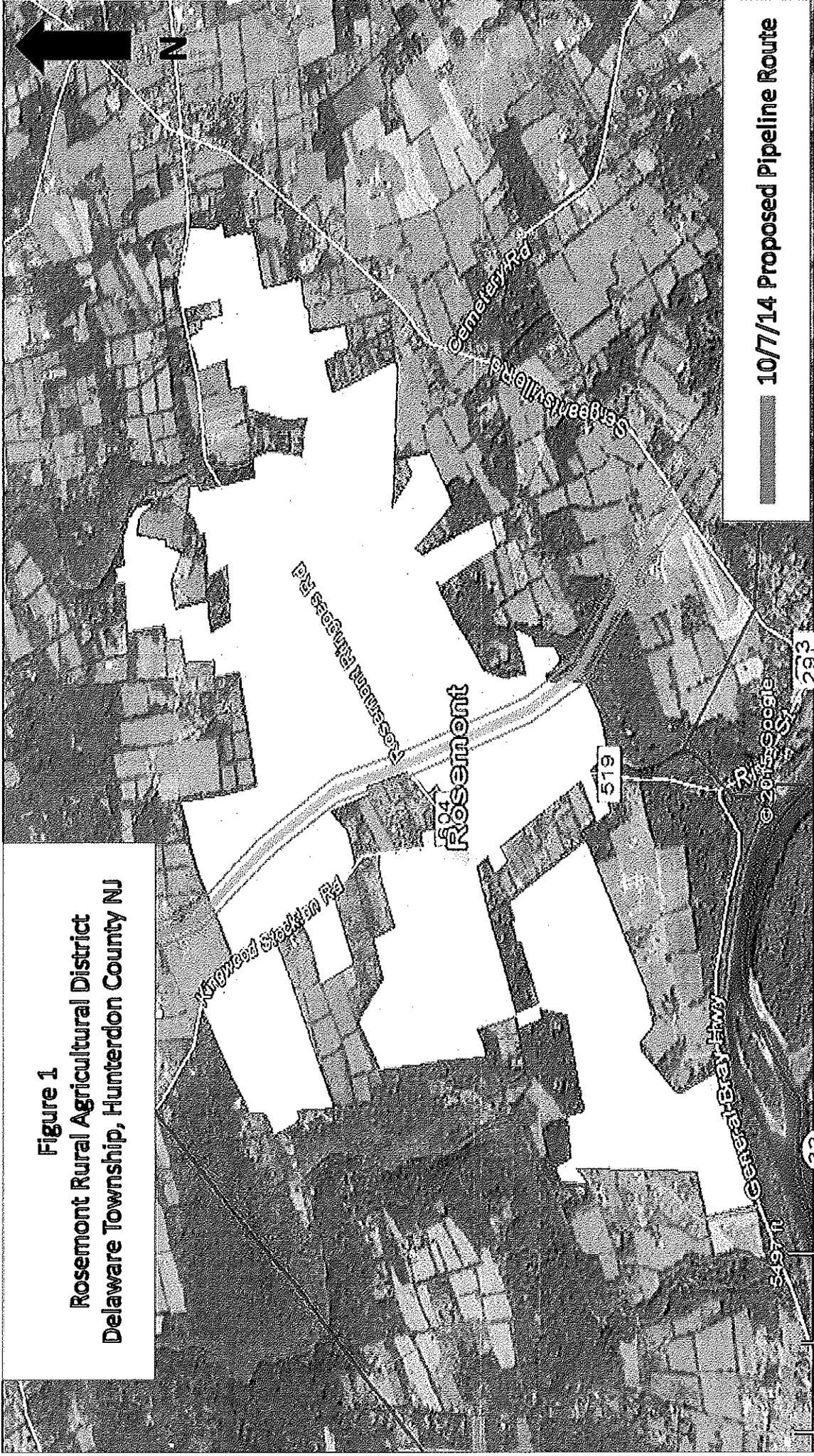
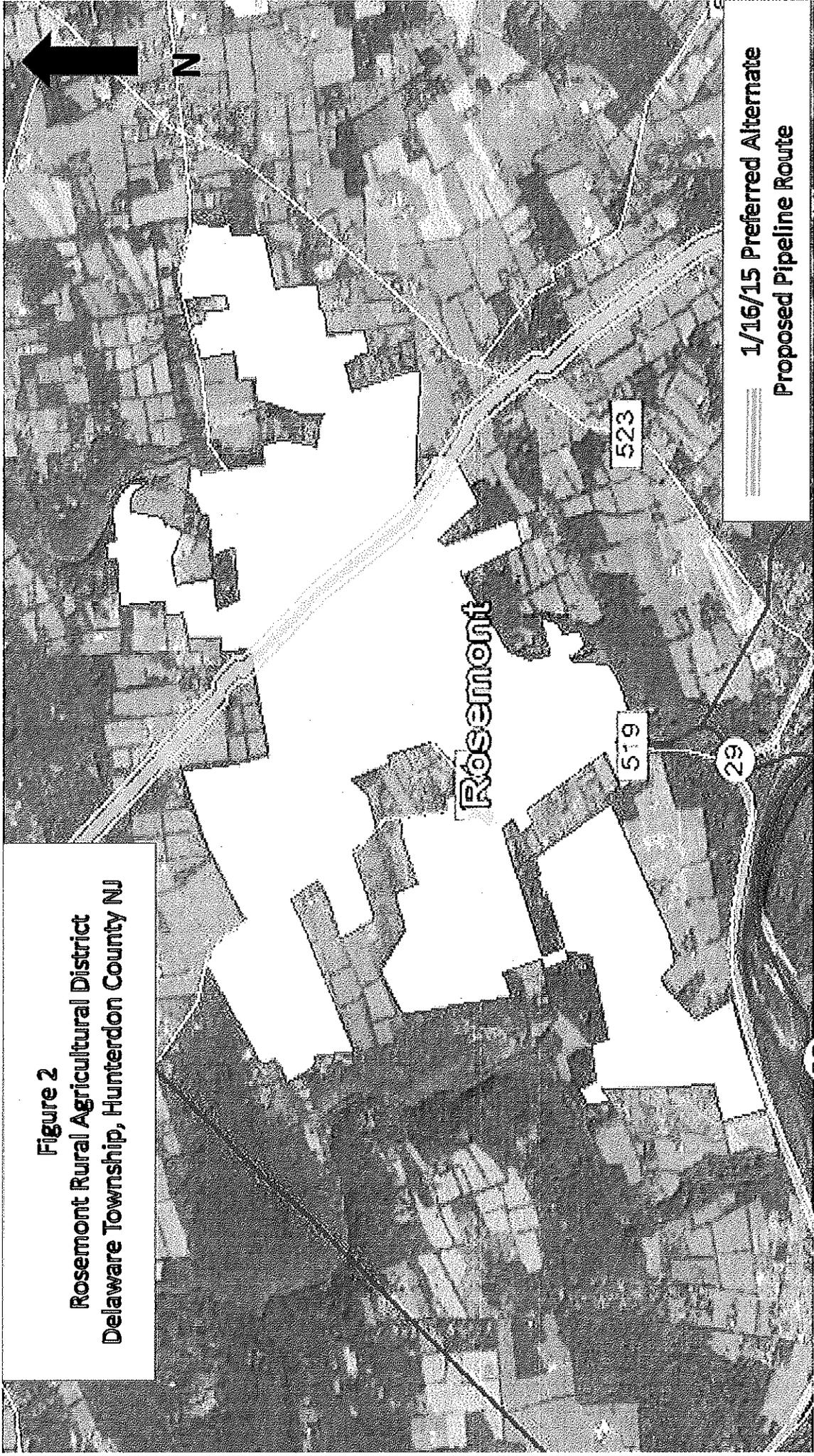


Figure 2
Rosemont Rural Agricultural District
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



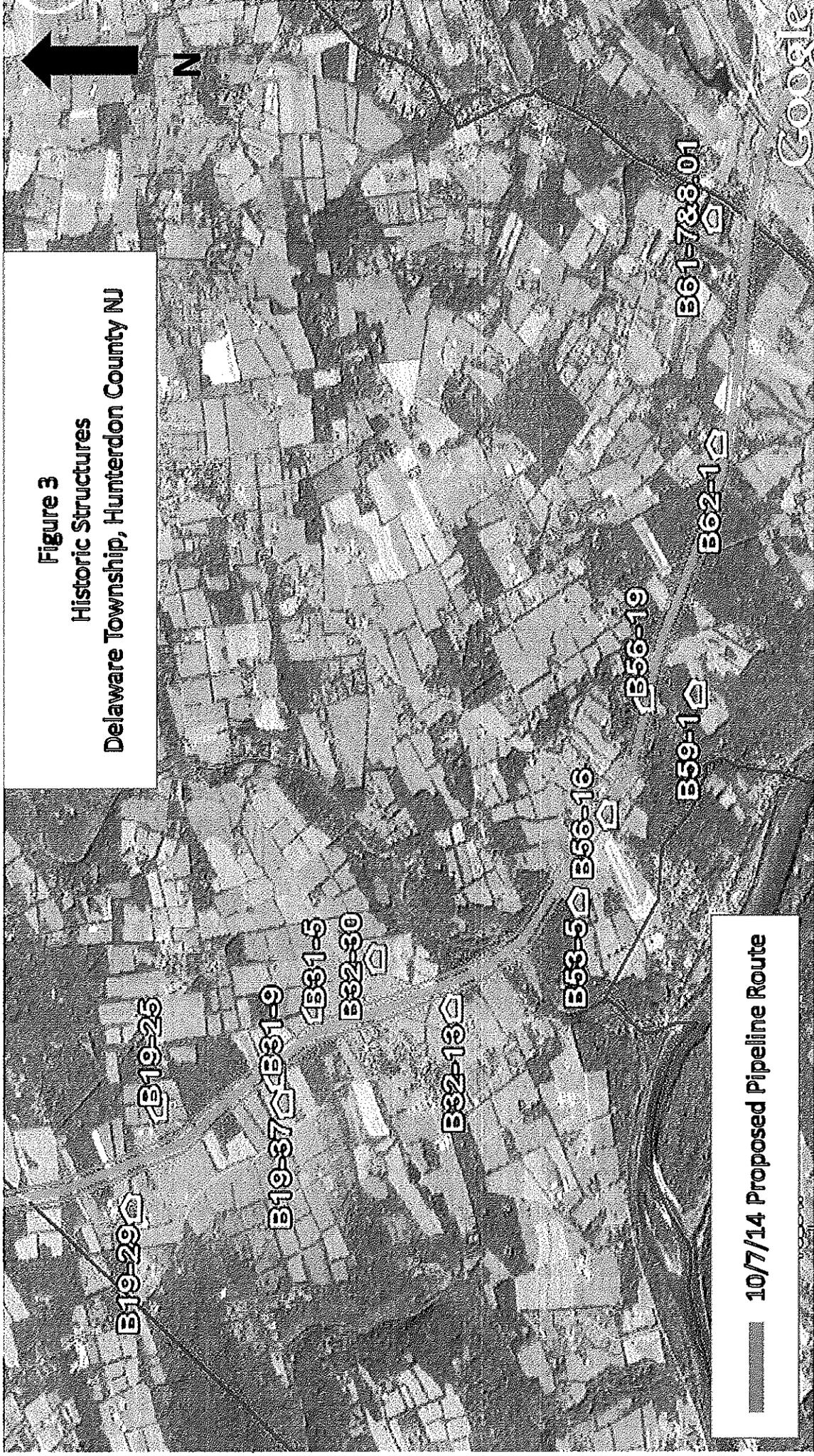


Figure 3
Historic Structures
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ

— 10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

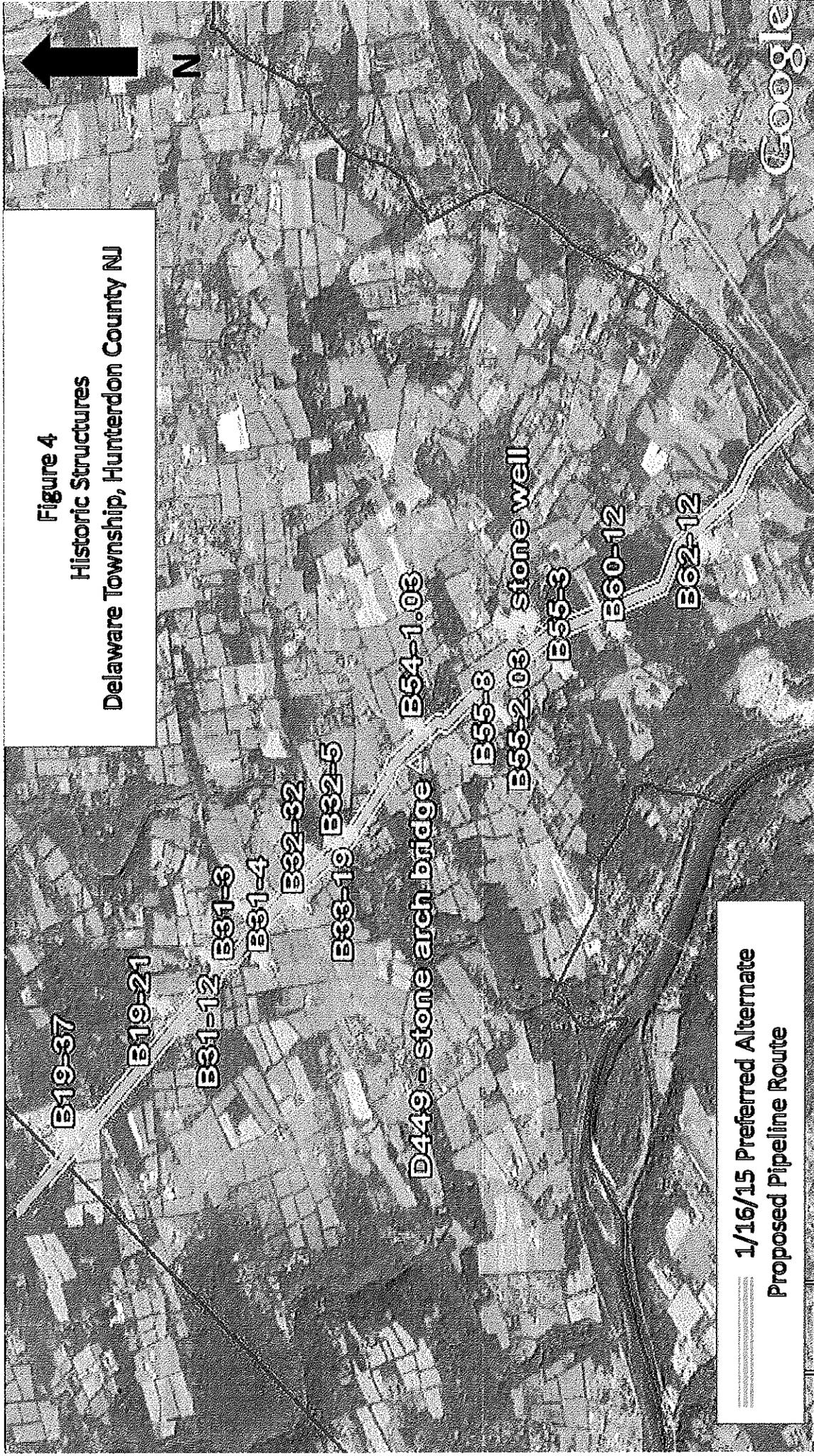


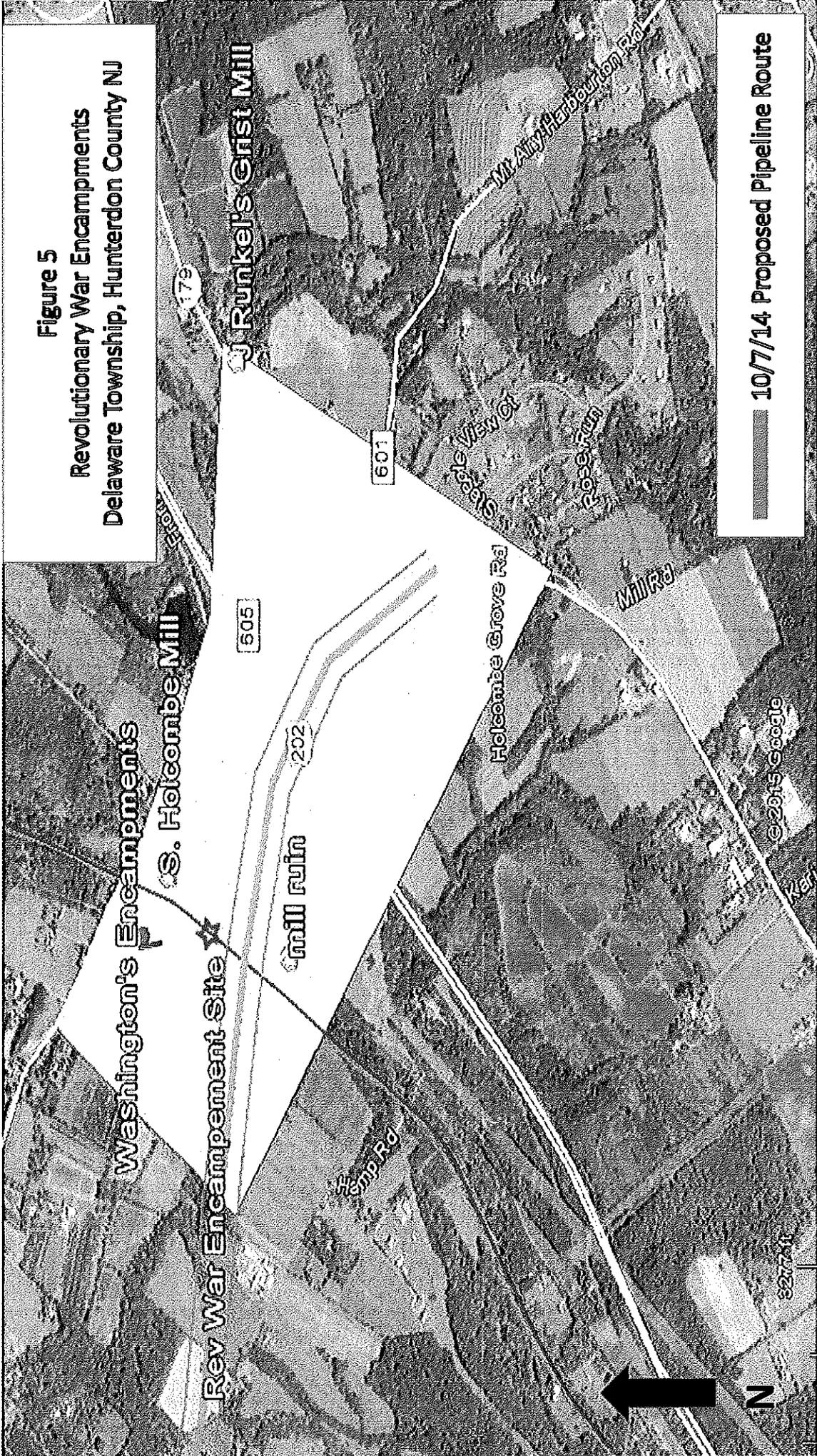
Figure 4
Historic Structures
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ

1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Proposed Pipeline Route

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Figure 5

Revolutionary War Encampments
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 6

Revolutionary War Encampments
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ

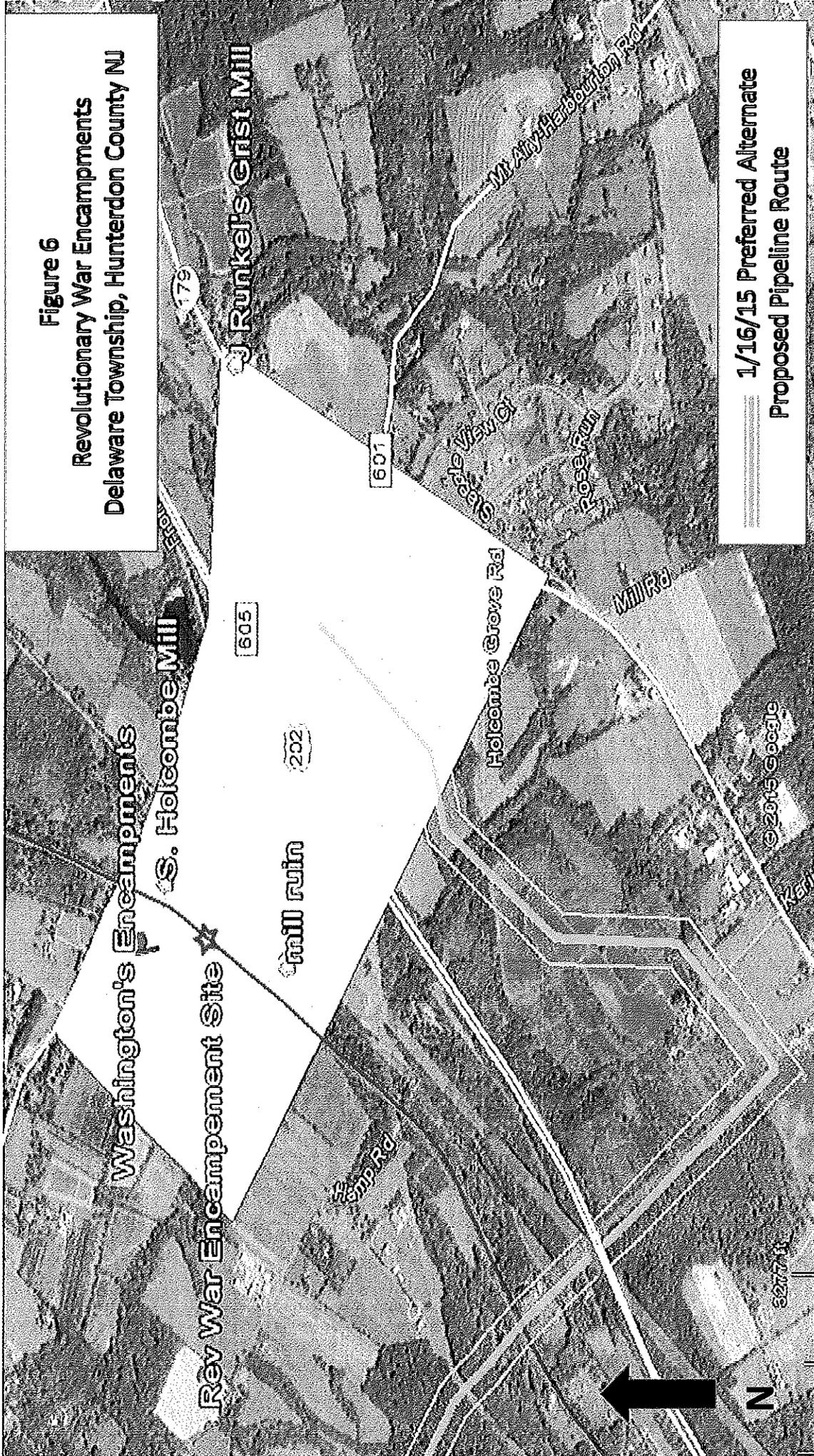
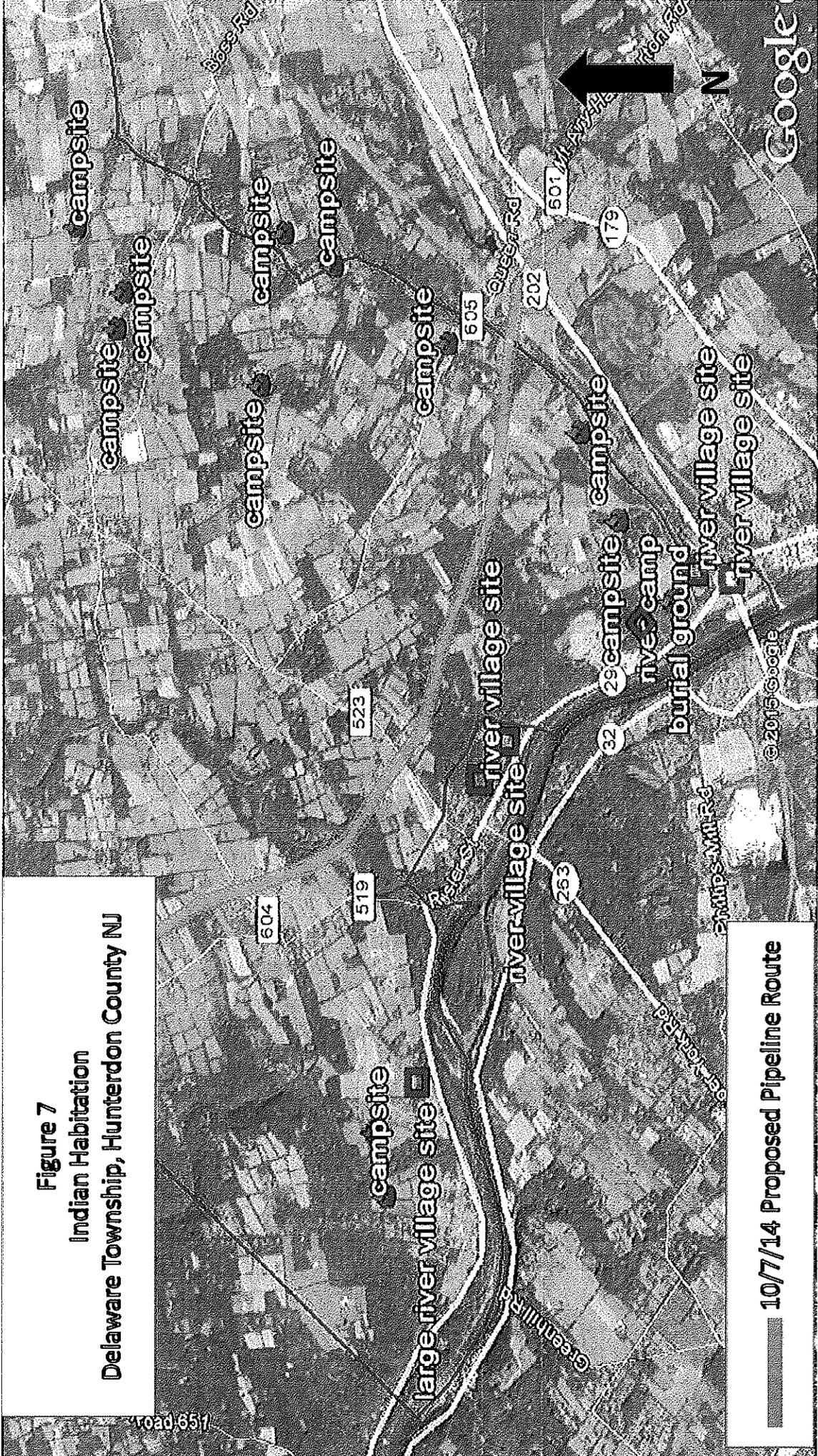
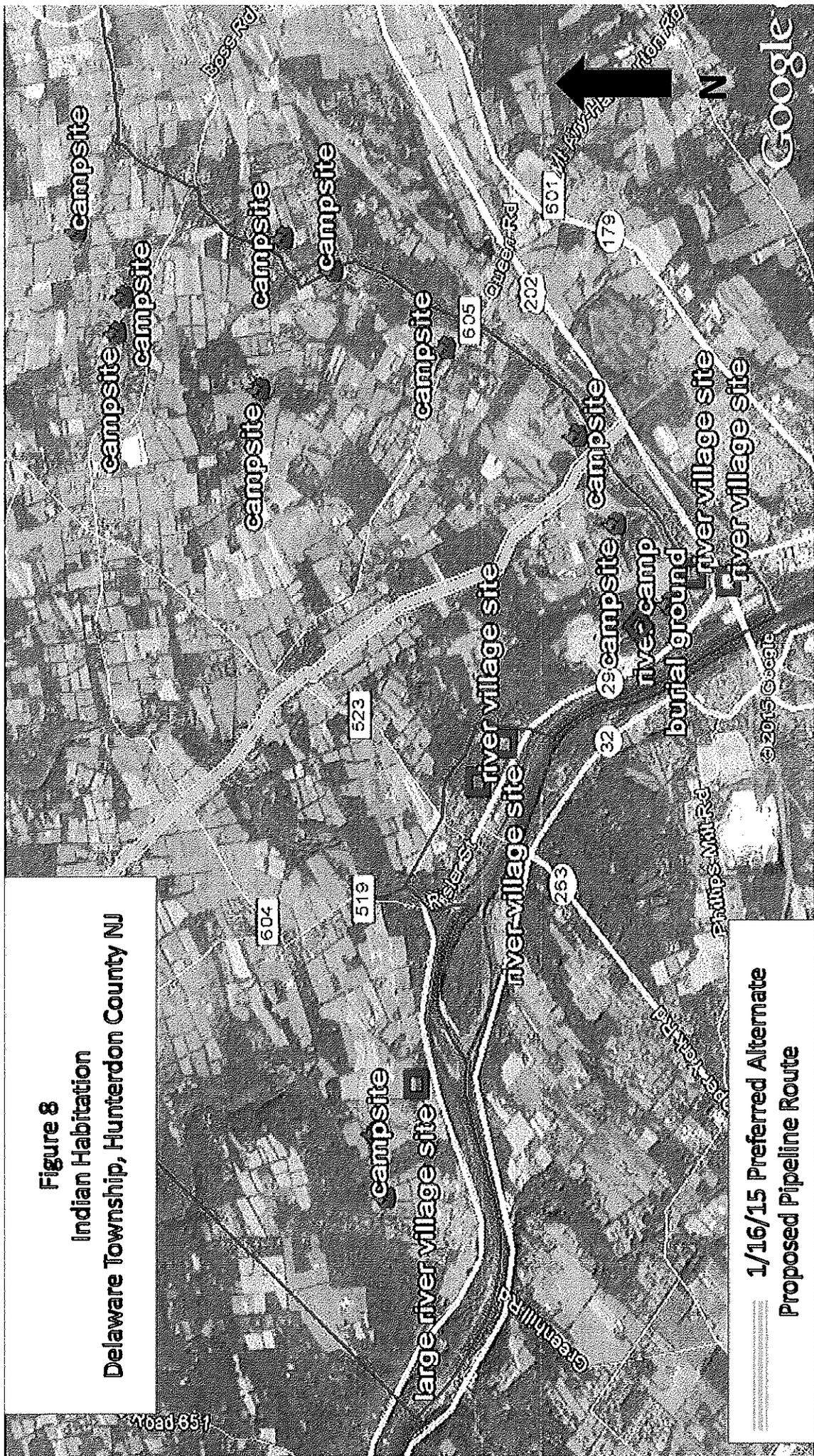


Figure 7
Indian Habitation
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 8
Indian Habitation
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



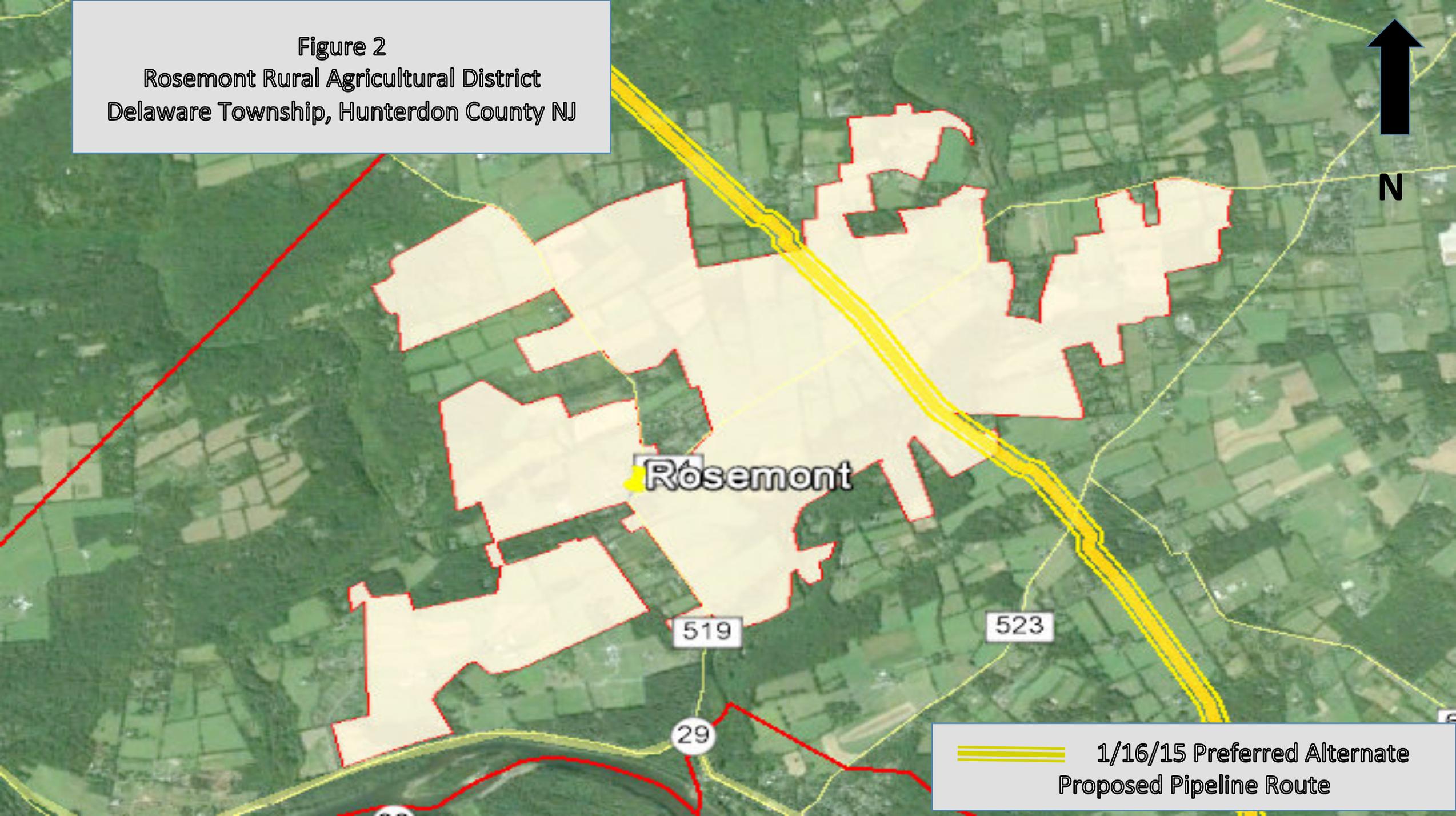
1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 1
Rosemont Rural Agricultural District
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



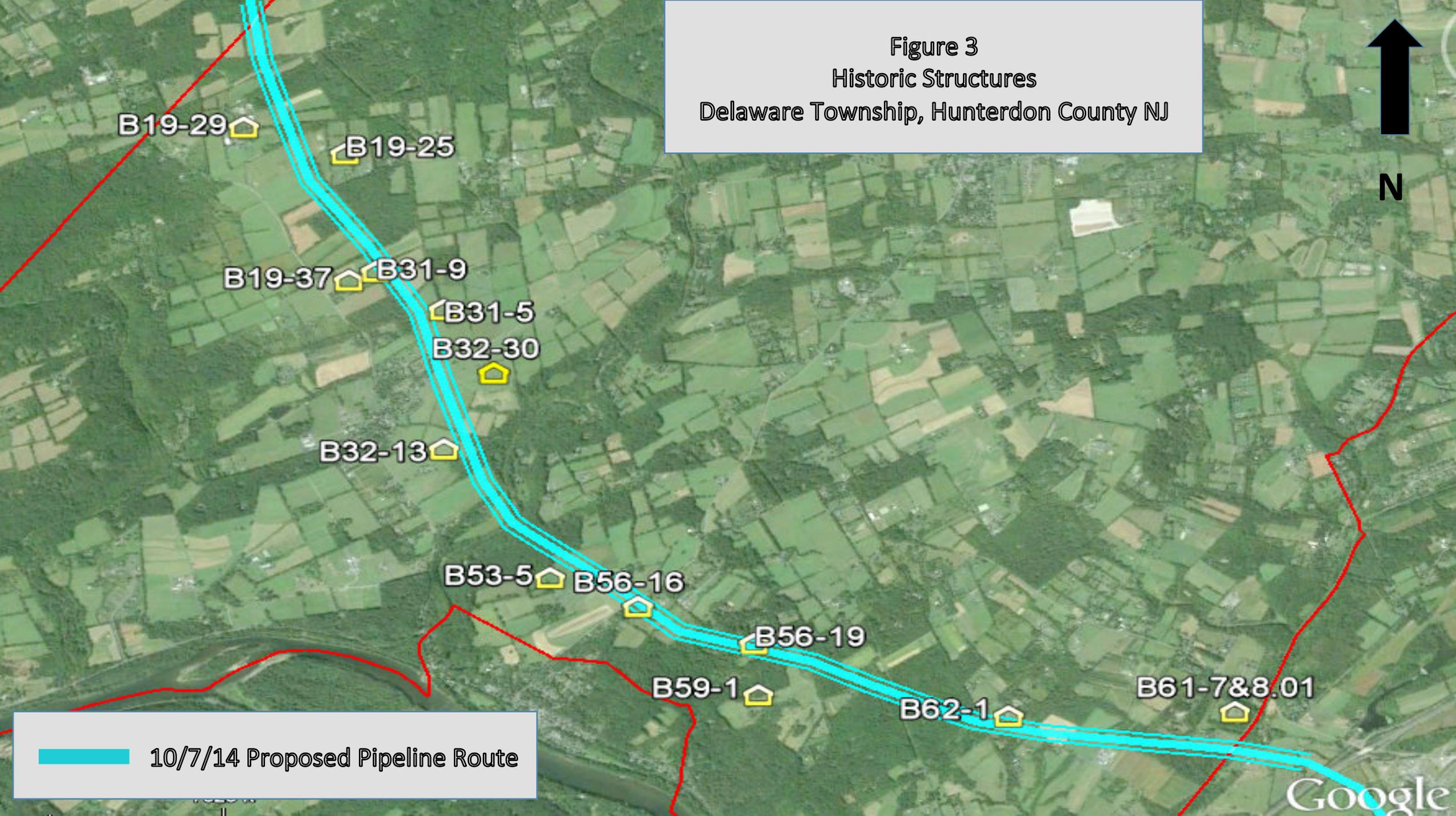
10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 2
Rosemont Rural Agricultural District
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



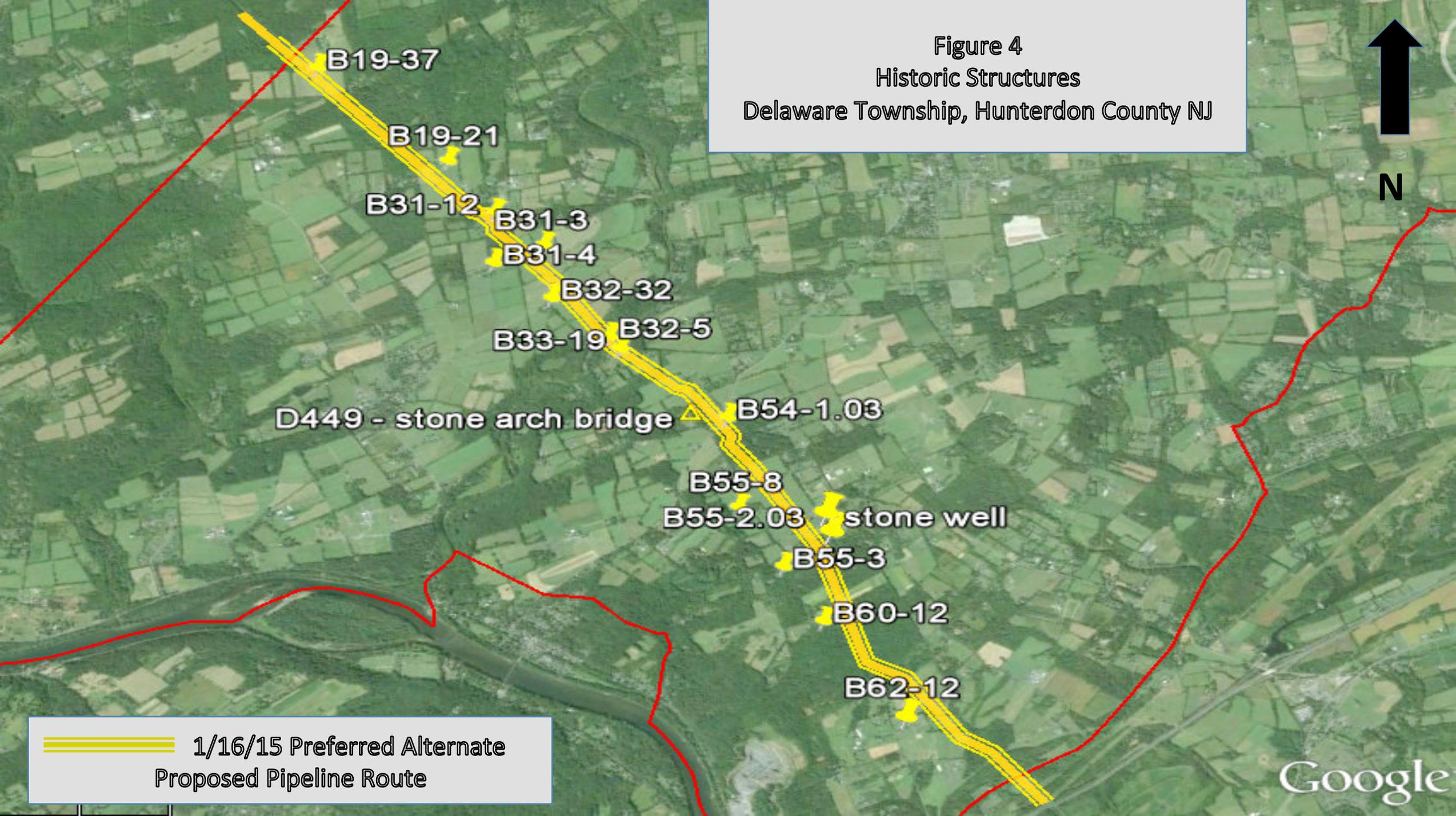
==== 1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 3
Historic Structures
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



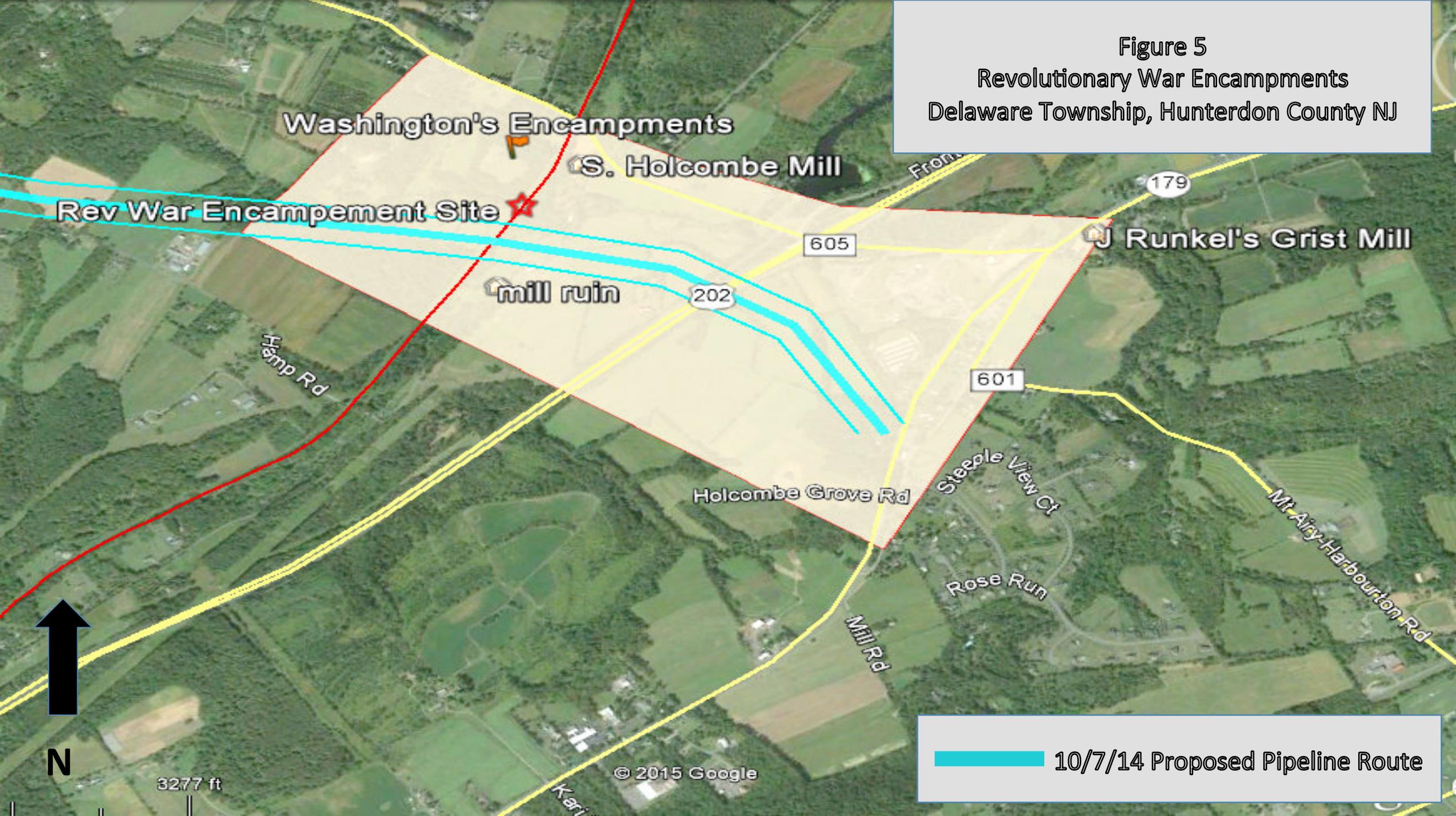
10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 4
Historic Structures
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



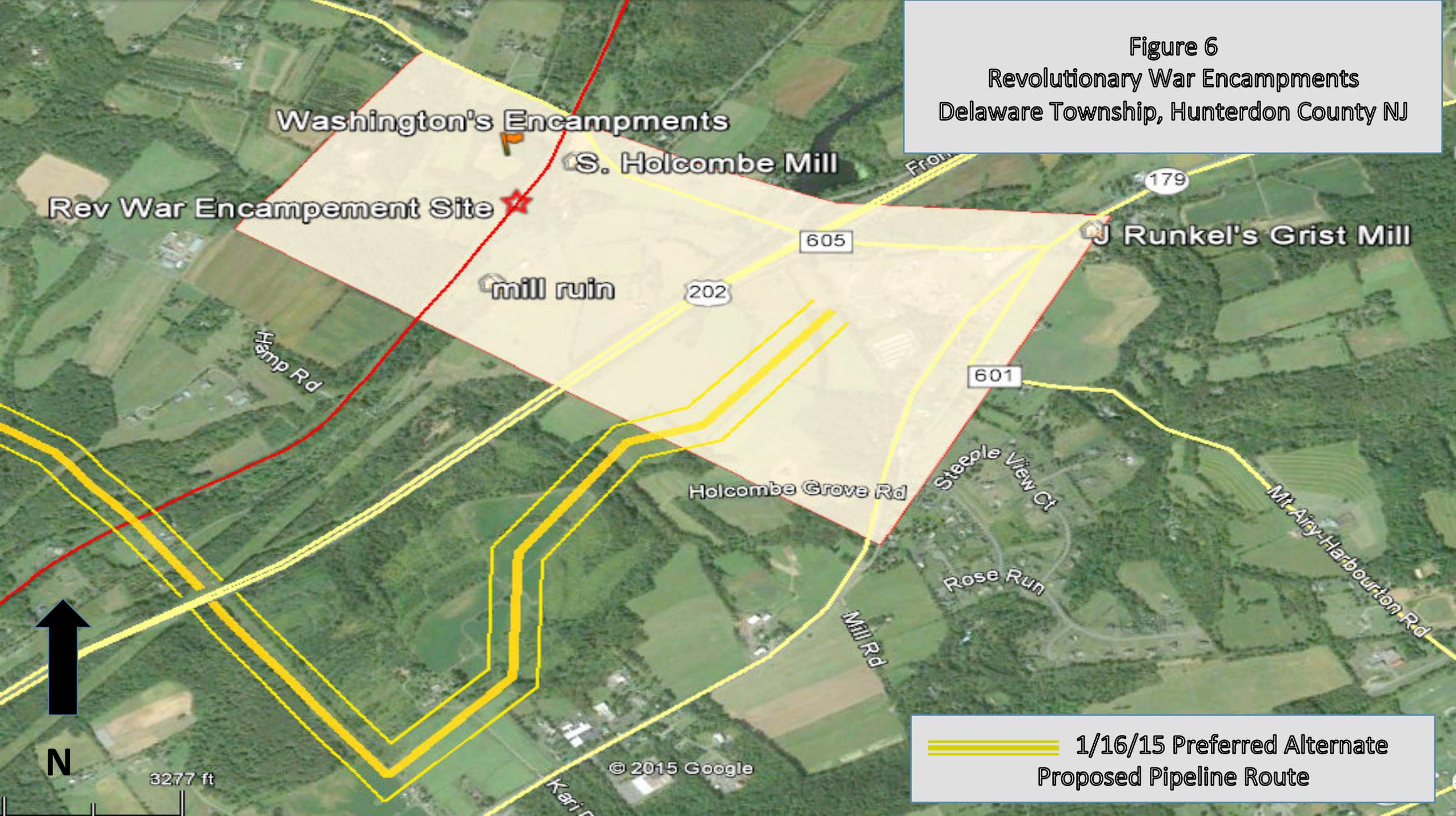
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Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 5
Revolutionary War Encampments
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



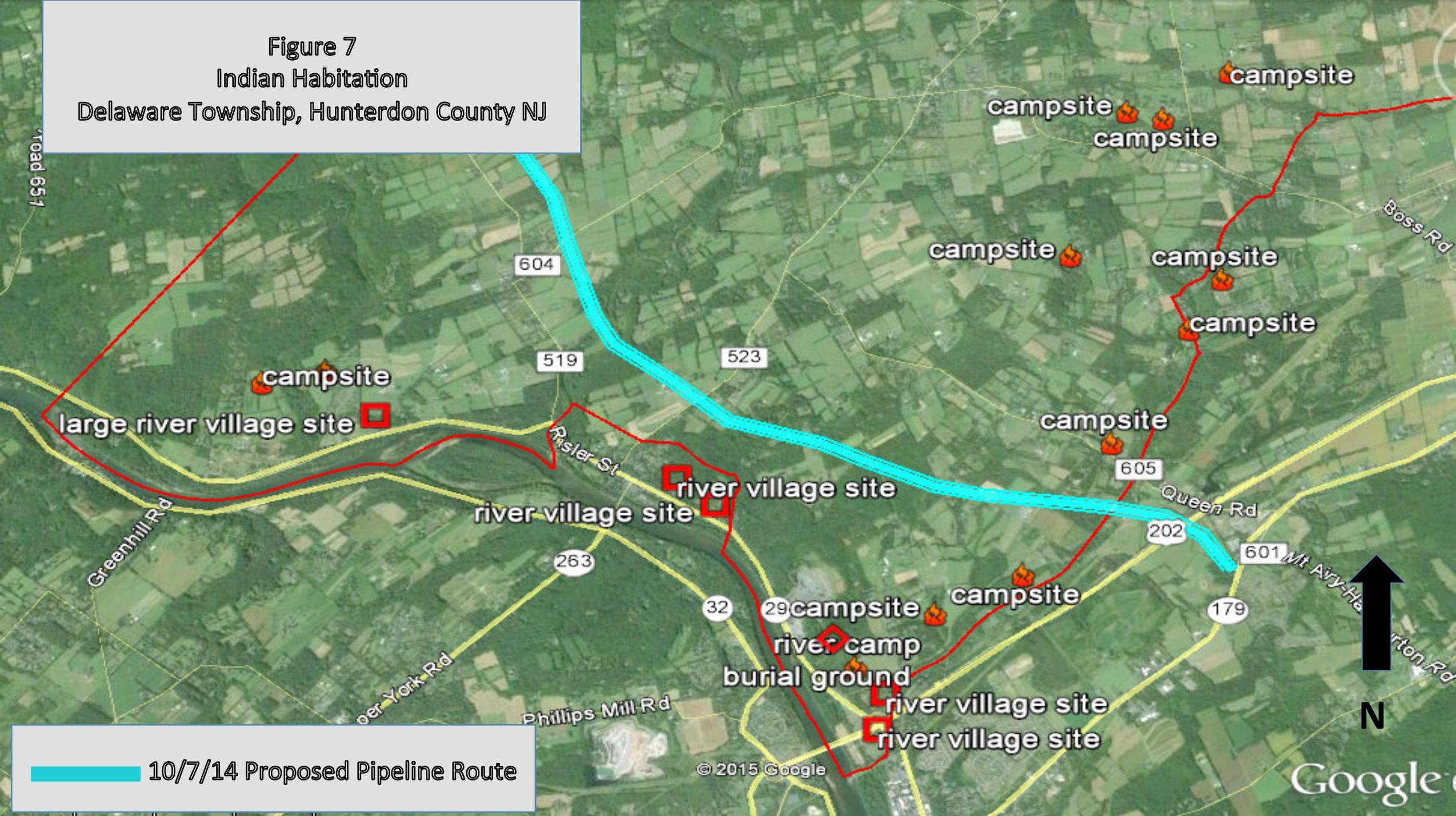
10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 6
Revolutionary War Encampments
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Proposed Pipeline Route

Figure 7
Indian Habitation
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ

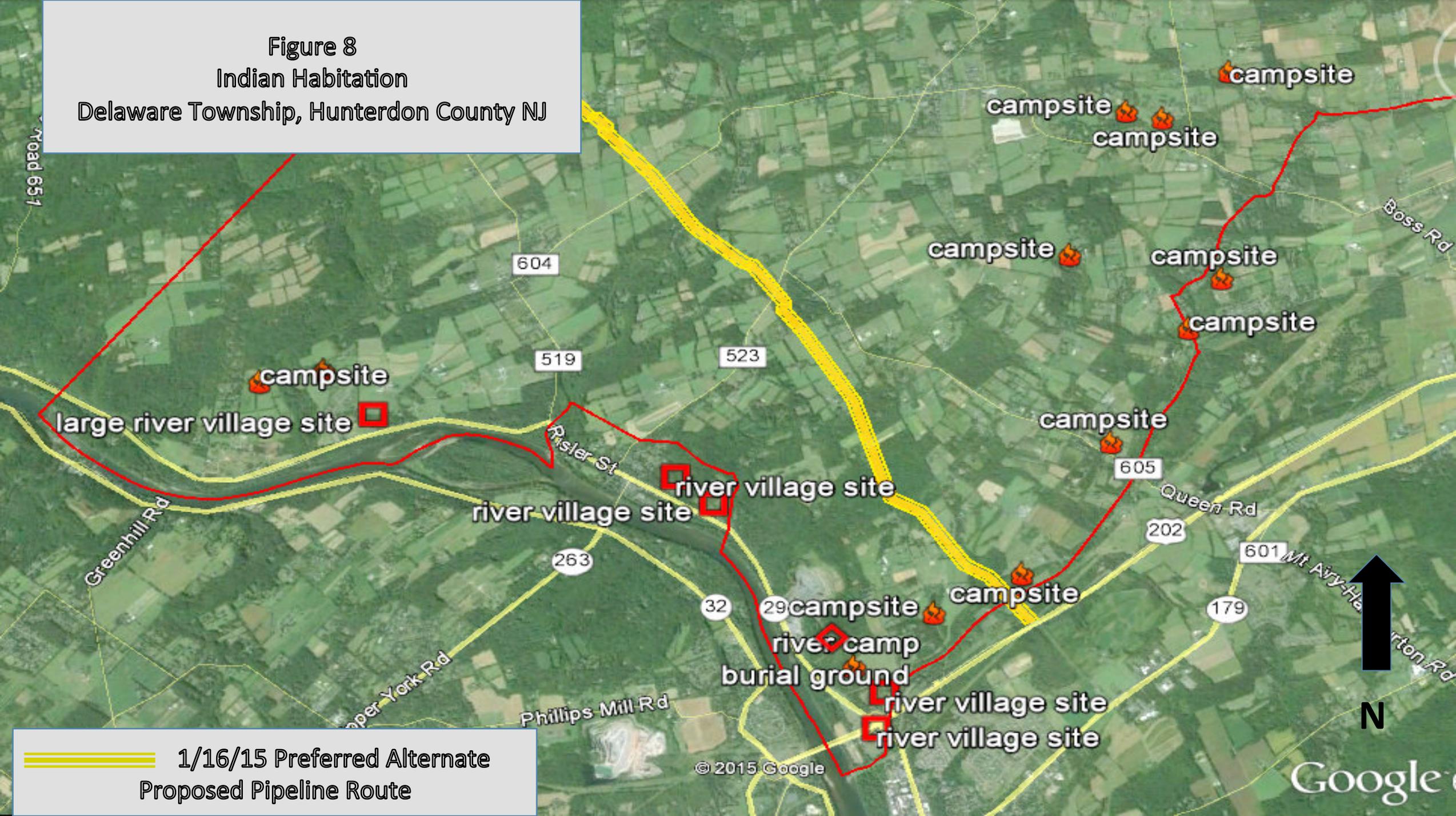


10/7/14 Proposed Pipeline Route

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Figure 8
Indian Habitation
Delaware Township, Hunterdon County NJ



1/16/15 Preferred Alternate
Proposed Pipeline Route