Capsule Summary **PG:62-78**

Building 192G – Scale House
USDA
Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS
Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland
1937

Building 192G was constructed in 1937 and used as a Scale House on the Central Farm within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). It was built in an area used by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI). Building 192G is a rectangular building and faces south towards Power Mill Road with a tree line to its west side that parallels North Dairy Road on its east. The single-story building is oriented on a north-south axis. Building 192G is 20' long and 18' wide. The building is two bays long and two bays wide. The wood framed structure has vertical wood siding and a side gable roof. The roof overhangs the building along the full width, providing shelter from the elements. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The east elevation of the building (gable end) has hardware for a barn door; however, the barn door is no longer present. The footprint along the east elevation, from south to north, begins with the overhang, and has two bays. The first bay had at a rolling barn door. There are no openings in the second bay. The south elevation sits under the overhang of the roof with each of the two bays having a fixed, single pane, wooden square window. The west elevation mirrors the east elevation. however, a fence prevented access to both the west and north elevations, so it is unknown if the west side still retains its barn door. The north side was not accessible. Building 192G is vacant and has been for a few years given its condition. Building 192G is in fair condition.

Building 192G is located on BARC's 2,980-acre Central Farm, the largest and oldest of all of BARC's farms. The USDA acquired the Central Farm in stages between 1910 and 1939; most of the buildings and landscape of the Central Farm were developed between 1911 and 1944. During the 1920s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division led the continued development of the site and was the largest section (i.e., in terms of both areas occupied and staff) at BARC. The division's research initially focused on the breeding of all domestic animals, except dairy (Robinson and Associates 1998). The BAI transferred other divisions to BARC during the late 1920s and early 1930s using New Deal funding sources at the Central and East Farms; the Swine Research unit was relocated from the Central Farm to the East Farm during the period between 1938 and 1942 (Robinson and Associates 1998). Over the years, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division undertook critical poultry and swine research that improved the size and health of the farm animals; the BAI's researchers conducted important research at BARC that led to major improvements in eradicating and treating contagious diseases in farm animals, reducing parasite infestations, and improving nutrition.

In 1997, BARC determined eligible for individual listing in the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP) as the largest national research facility for the USDA and for its role as the most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. The evaluation finds that while Building 192G is not individually significant, it contributes to the overall significance of BARC. Building 192G is a contributing property within BARC under Criterion A at the national level for its historical association with agricultural experimentation and under Criterion C as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of experimental agricultural architecture.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Building 192G: Scale House Inventory Number: PG:62-78

Address: 10300 Baltimore Avenue Building 192G, Central Farm, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Historic district: X yes ___ no

City: Beltsville Zip Code: 20705 County: Prince Georges

USGS Quadrangle(s): Beltsville

Property Owner: U.S.A. - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Tax Account ID Number: 01-0070151

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 0143 Tax Map Number: 0019

Project: Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS Agency: USACE-Baltimore District

Agency Prepared By: AECOM

Preparer's Name: Christina Sabol Date Prepared: 7/15/2020

Documentation is presented in: MIHP Form, PG:62-14

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

Inventory Number: PG:62-14 Eligible: X yes Listed: ___ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff ___ yes X no Name: ___ Date: ___

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) was one of the largest agricultural research facilities in the United States (Figures 1 and 2). Owned by the USDA, the facility was established in Beltsville in 1910 and significantly expanded in the 1930s and 1940s. In the 1960s, the USDA's research program began evolving from an internationally recognized research center to a decentralized model. In 1984, BARC was re-designated as a regional center. BARC's period of significance ranges from its inception in 1910 to its reclassification as a regional center in 1984.

BUILDING LOCATION

BARC identifies the address of Building 192G as 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 192G, Central Farm. Building 192G is located 767' northwest of the intersection of N Dairy Road and Animal Husbandry Road and 2,205' of Powder Mill Road.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ **Eligibility not recommended** ___

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D **Considerations:** ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Located in the USDA ARS BARC's Central Farm (Figures 3 through 6), Building 192G (Photo 1) was built as a scale house. Building 192G is a rectangular building and faces south towards Power Mill Road with a tree line to its west side that parallels North Dairy Road on its east. The single-story building is oriented on a north-south axis. Building 192G is 20' long and 18' wide. The building is two bays long and two bays wide. The wood framed structure has vertical wood siding and a side gable roof. The roof overhangs the building along the full width, providing shelter from the elements. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The east elevation of the building (gable end) has hardware for a barn door; however, the barn door is no longer present. The footprint along the east elevation, from south to north, begins with the overhang, and has two bays. The first bay had at a rolling barn door. There are no openings in the second bay. The south elevation sits under the overhang of the roof with each of the two bays having a fixed, single pane, wooden square window. The west elevation mirrors the east elevation. however, a fence prevented access to both the west and north elevations, so it is unknown if the west side still retains its barn door. The north side was not accessible. Building 192G is vacant and has been for a few years given its condition. Building 192G is in fair condition.

HISTORY OF PROPERTY

Central Farm

Building 192G, constructed in 1937, is located on the 2,980-acre Central Farm. The largest and oldest of all of BARC's farms, the USDA acquired the Central Farm in stages between 1910 and 1939; most of the buildings and landscape of the Central Farm were developed between 1911 and 1944. The Central Farm is located at the center of BARC and is adjacent to BARC's Linkage Farm to the west, single-family homes along Odell Road to the north, facilities associated with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and U.S. Department of State (DOS) to the northeast, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway to the east, and the City of Greenbelt to the south. The Central Farm has approximately 12 clusters of buildings situated on approximately 336 acres (of the 2,980-acre total), as well as pastures, wetlands, and forested areas used for animal husbandry, production crops, animal and plant research, and wildlife management. The USDA's Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) has historically been the Central Farm's main user (Robinson and Associates 1998).

The USDA acquired the first portion of the Central Farm in 1910 when it purchased 475 acres of the Hall Farm for the Farm Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions of the BAI to establish an experimental farm. To accommodate the experimental farm's many research tasks during BARC's early period (i.e., 1910-1933), the USDA constructed laboratories, farm buildings, pastures, and staff housing. In addition, the BAI added laboratories for its Pathology and Zoological Divisions.

In the 1920s, the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) began to operate at BARC on approximately 425 acres of leased land that was subsequently purchased with Public Works Administration (PWA) funds in the 1930s, expanding the Central Farm (Wiser and Rasmussen 1966; USDA c. 1937). In 1924, the Farm Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions separated into the Bureau of Dairy Industry (BDI) and the BAI. The BDI used 190 acres for continued experiments on dairy cattle breeding, forage crop, silage, and milk research, and the BAI kept 285 acres for its animal research. By 1925, the USDA owned 1,062 acres of the Central Farm and leased about 1,000 more acres (Wiser and Rasmussen 1966). By 1933, four land purchases totaling an additional 1,381 acres further increased the Central Farm's size (USDA c. 1937, Robinson and Associates 1998).

The majority of the Central Farm was acquired under New Deal policies and funding of the 1930s, when the USDA transformed

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

_____ _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

BARC into a model experiment station. A series of land acquisitions during the 1930s grew BARC to more than 12,000 acres. With this expansion, many of the Bureaus either established, enlarged, or constructed new research facilities on the Central Farm. These included the BAI's pathology, zoology, and insecticide divisions, the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, the Bureau of Cultural and Industrial Chemistry, and the Food and Drug Administration (Robinson and Associates 1998).

The expansion of BARC required major infrastructure improvements that were undertaken with PWA funding and oversight, and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) assistance and labor. A CCC camp was established on the north end of the Central Farm in 1933; eventually, four CCC camps were established at BARC, although their exact locations are not known. The CCC workers cleared and drained land, built fences and roads, and constructed small sheds and structures. The overall design of the Central Farm in the 1930s was guided by a master plan that was the work of A.D. Taylor and Delos Smith; H.F. Seahorn of the Public Buildings Administration; Robert T. Walker, CCC landscape architect; and Hugh H. Bennet of the Soil Conservation Service (Robinson and Associates 1998). The Central Farm's character-defining landscape features include:

• Topographical and anthropogenically altered features, such as major paved roads, minor service and field roads, drainage systems, Beaver Dam Creek, and graded fields;
• Vegetation features, such as field and research crops, pastures, Beltsville Seasonal Ponds, Beltsville Bottomland Forest, and meadows;
• Circulation features, such as Dairy Farm, Powder Mill, Entomology, Research, BioControl, Poultry, and Beaver Dam Roads, as well as secondary and service roads;
• Five main clusters of development, including the 100 Area Cluster (BDI), 200 Area Cluster (BAI - Poultry Research Division), 300 Area Cluster (BAI - Parasitological Laboratory of the Zoological Division), 400 Area Cluster (Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine [BEPQ] - Entomology Research Division), and 1000 Area Cluster (Animal Disease Station); and
• Small-scale features, such as fencing, culverts, an amphitheater, and a cemetery (Robinson and Associates 1998).

Bureau of Animal Industry

The USDA's BAI, the earliest of the USDA's research bureaus at BARC, came to the Central Farm in 1910 when its Dairy and Animal Husbandry Divisions established an experimental farm within BARC's initial 475 acres. When the USDA reorganized the Dairy Division into a separate BDI, the BAI retained 285 acres of the Central Farm for its Animal Husbandry Division. During the 1920s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division led the continued development of the site and was the largest section (i.e., in terms of both areas occupied and staff) at BARC. The division's research initially focused on the breeding of all domestic animals, except dairy (Robinson and Associates 1998).

By the early 1930s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division's needs far exceeded its facilities. To address these needs, the PWA allotted over $1 million for a major construction program at BARC that included laboratories, an abattoir (slaughterhouse), and animal buildings. These facilities were constructed at BARC with the assistance of CCC workers, with funding and oversight provided by the PWA and the Civil Works Administration. A new Main Laboratory (i.e., Building 200), constructed under this program, was the showpiece of the new animal husbandry area.

As a result of the expansion, by the mid-1930s, the BAI's Animal Husbandry Division was the largest experimental farm in the country and the center of nation's research on animal husbandry (Robinson and Associates 1998). In addition to animal husbandry, the BAI transferred other divisions to BARC during the late 1920s and early 1930s using New Deal funding sources at the Central and East Farms. The BAI's Zoological Division moved its experimental headquarters to, and the BAI's Animal

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

_____ _____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____
Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

Disease Station was established at BARC's Central Farm in 1929 and expanded in 1935 (Robinson and Associates 1998).

In 1953, the USDA undertook a major reorganization and decentralization of the USDA's agricultural research program that continued through the 1970s (Office of Technology Assessment [OTA] 1981). The decentralization had long-lasting consequences for BARC. The department's scientific bureaus, including the BAI, were discontinued and the department's research functions were centralized under the new Agricultural Research Administration (now the ARS) (OTA 1981). The USDA again reorganized in 1972 with administrative decentralization as its goal (OTA 1981). Through this process, operating responsibility was delegated to four regions, which were then subdivided into research area centers. BARC's scientists and facilities thus became a regional research facility, rather than a national one (OTA 1981). By 1980, the USDA's research program was highly decentralized, with research undertaken at 148 locations, including the much diminished 450-scientist facility at BARC (OTA 1981).

Over the years, the BAI's researchers conducted important research at BARC that has led to major improvements in eradicating and treating contagious diseases in farm animals, reducing parasite infestations, and improving nutrition. The BAI's Animal Husbandry Division undertook critical poultry and swine research that improved the size and health of the farm animals. The BAI's Zoology Division's parasite research brought innovative new approaches to treating infestations. The BAI's Animal Disease Station developed vaccines to prevent Bang's disease and developed sterilization methods for contaminated hides (Robinson and Associates 1998).

History of the Scale House, Building 192G

There are no original design drawings for Building 192G. Based on its assigned name, BDI used it as a scale house.

Building 192G is vacant and is in fair condition.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION

In 1997, BARC, a 6,582-acre federal agricultural research facility, was determined eligible in its entirety for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as the largest national research facility for the USDA and for its role as the most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. Building 192G was not described in the 1997 report. This evaluation finds that while Building 192G is not individually significant, it contributes to the overall significance of BARC. The history and development of the agricultural research facility also reflects New Deal policies and programs, and contains notable landscape architecture, Georgian Revival architecture, and experimental agricultural architecture. The criteria applied to evaluate properties for the NRHP are presented below.

Under Criterion A, Building 192G is a contributing property within BARC, which is significant at the national level for its association with events that have made significant contributions to the broad pattern of our history with agricultural experimentation. Many aspects of twentieth century living for the farmer and consumer were influenced by the scientific research conducted at BARC. BARC is a prominent example of the federal role in agricultural research, scientific agricultural research in general, and New Deal policies and programs, such as the 1930s agricultural policies and funding, the PWA, and the CCC, which all played important roles in shaping the experimental farm. BARC's scientists and researchers have made major contributions toward scientific knowledge that have resulted in incredible advances in crop production, plant and animal disease control, and pest control. Building 192G was specifically designed and operated as a scale house within the 100 Area Cluster (BDI). BARC scientists and researchers made valuable scientific contributions, both in foundational and applicable science.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

_____ _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

BARC and Building 192G have not been determined significant under Criterion B for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Under Criterion C, Building 192G is a contributing property within BARC, as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The physical appearance of BARC was strongly influenced in the 1930s by the planning team of A.D. Taylor, landscape architect, and Delos Smith, architect. The majority of BARC's buildings share a Georgian Revival style and/or display the characteristics of experimental agricultural architecture. BARC's landscape includes major paved roads, minor service roads, field and research crops, pasture lands, seasonal ponds, forests, sustainable meadows, and other landscape features and buildings. Building 192G, while relatively modest in design, represents an example of the experimental and purpose-driven agricultural architecture trends for which BARC is significant, and contributes to the overall landscape.

Neither BARC nor Building 192G specifically has been evaluated under Criterion D for its yielding, or likelihood to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Building 192G retains its original location and setting within an agricultural research complex. Building 192G is specifically linked in its design and operation as a scale house and its ties to the 100 Area Cluster (BDI) research buildings. The feeling of, and association with, an agricultural research center is intact. Building 192G maintains key elements of its original design including massing, fenestration, roofing pattern, cladding, and internal layouts, despite the missing barn door on the east side. Building 192G retains its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Building 192G is currently vacant and is in fair condition.

Although Building 192G does not reach the level of significance necessary for individual listing on the NRHP, it maintains its significance within BARC under Criteria A and C.

REFERENCES

Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), U.S. Food and Agricultural Research Advisory Panel
1981 An Assessment of the United States Food and Agricultural Research System. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.
https://books.google.com/books?id=0Muy9v0PQckC&lpg=PA29&dq=The%20Role%20and%20Development%20of%20Public%20Agricultural%20Research&pg=PA29#v=onepage&q&f=false (accessed June 2020).

Robinson and Associates
1998 Historic Site Survey, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland. On file at the Maryland Historical Trust.

Wiser, Vivian and Wayne D. Rasmussen
1966 "Background for Plenty: A National Center for Agricultural Research." Maryland Historical Magazine 61:4, December 1966.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

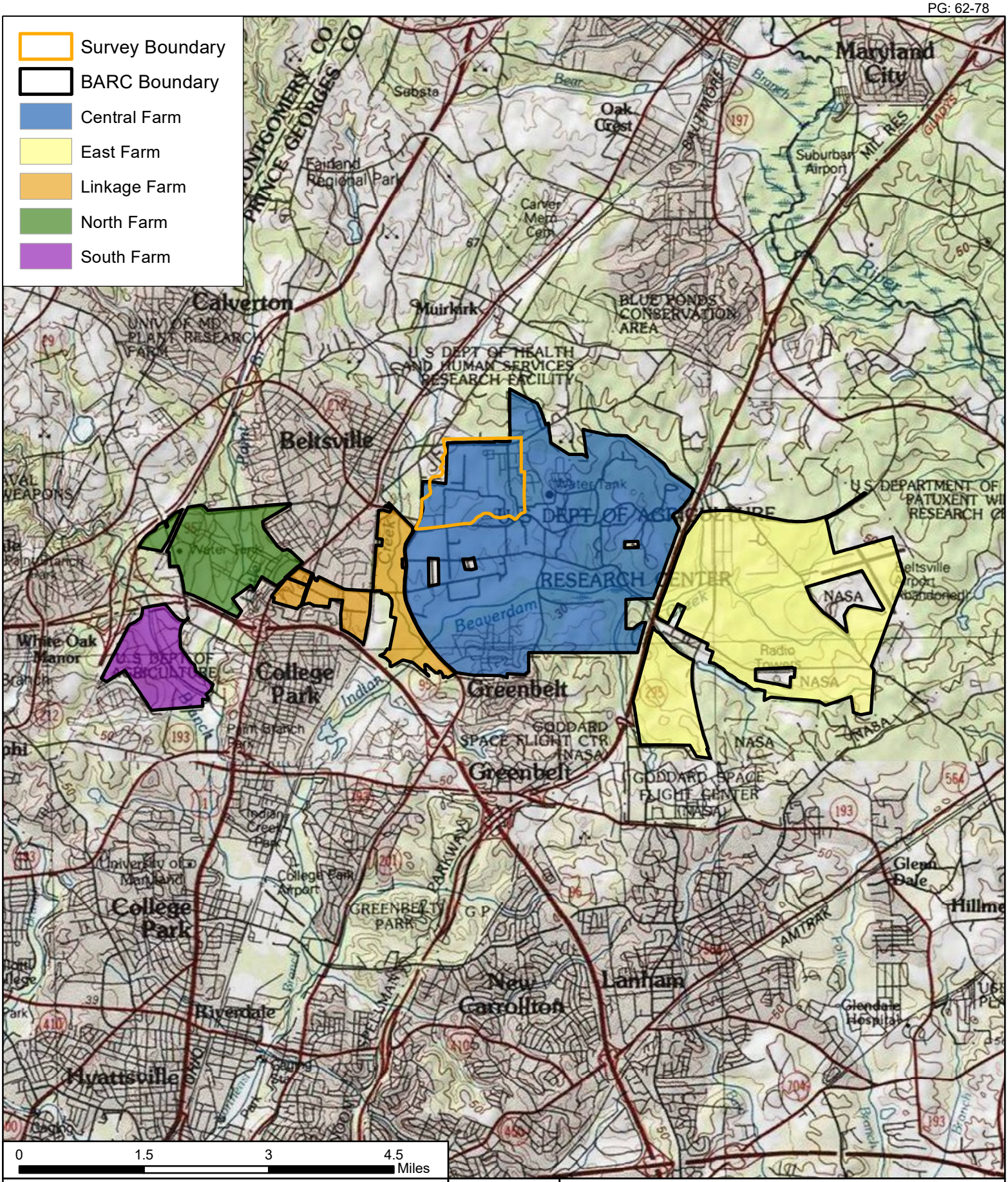
Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

_____ _____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____
Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**



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PROJ	Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS
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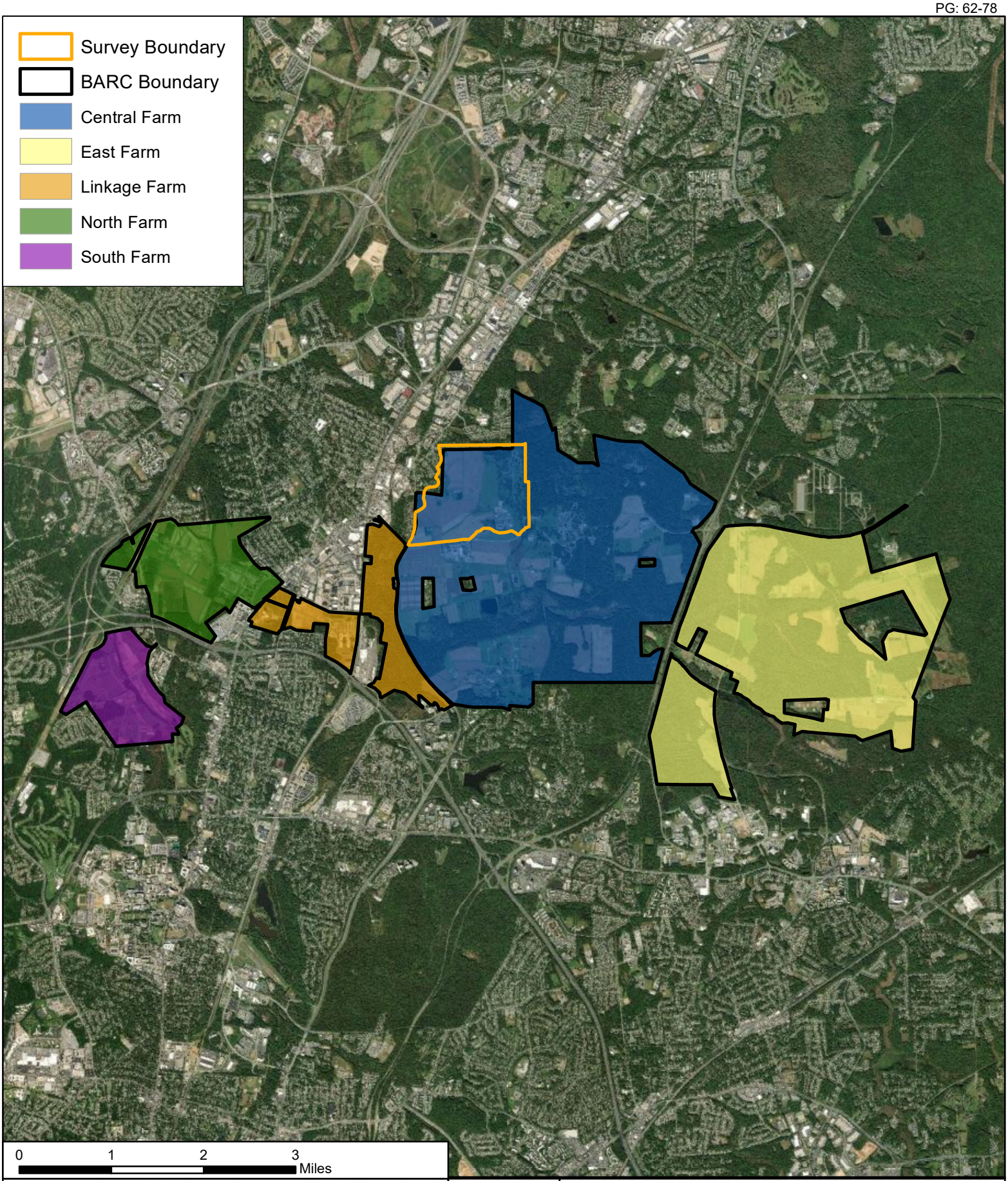
TITLE Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Overview Map
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 1



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SOURCE	ESRI 2019

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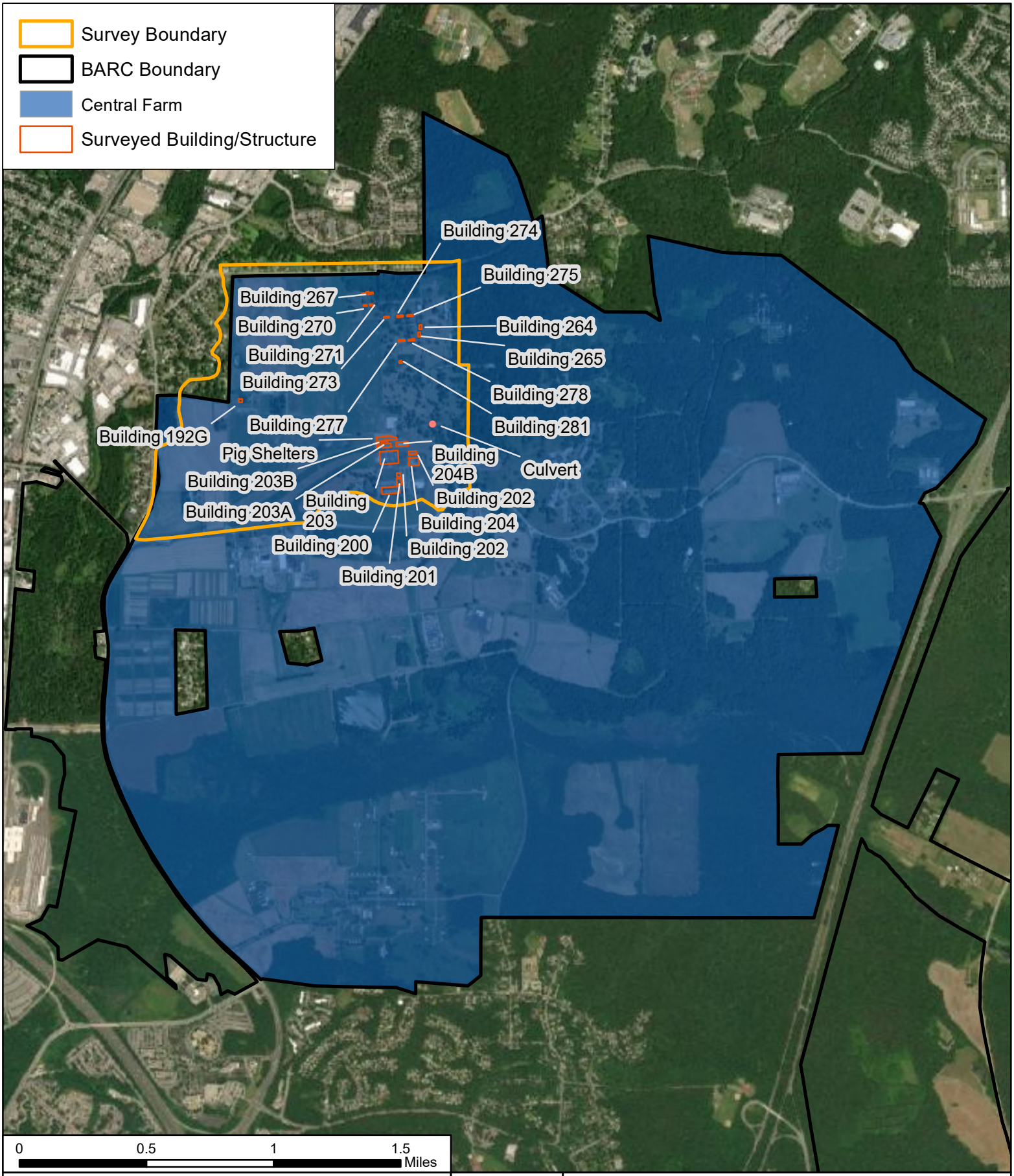
TITLE Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Overview Map
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 2



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SOURCE	ESRI 2019

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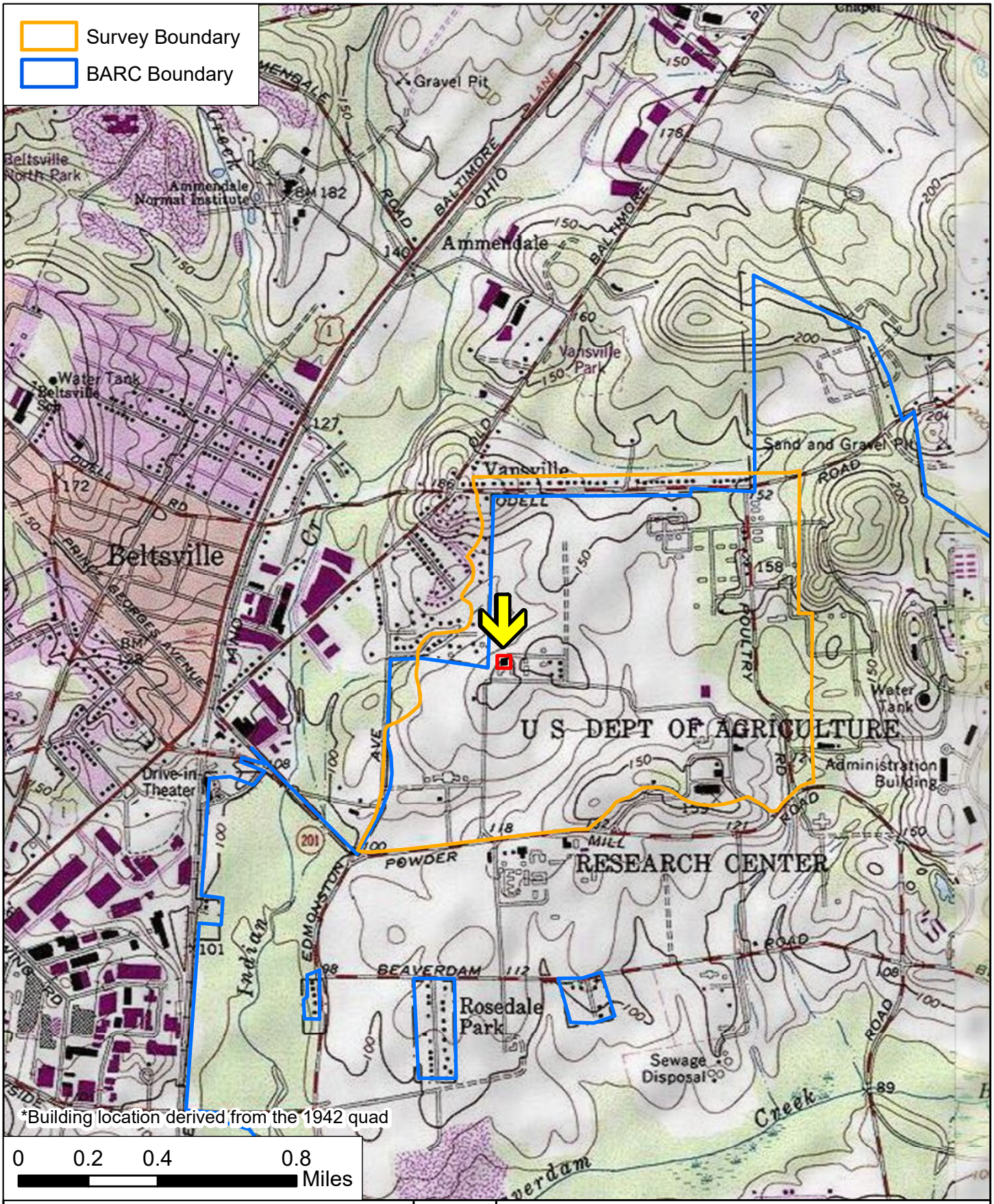
TITLE Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Central Farm
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 3



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SCALE	1:24,000
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TITLE Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 4

CLIENT	USACE - Baltimore District
PROJ	Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS
SCALE	1:6,000
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	Q:\Projects\ENV\IAP\CRM\USACE Baltimore District\Bureau of Engraving & Printing, EIS, at USDA BARC\900-GIS and Graphics\920

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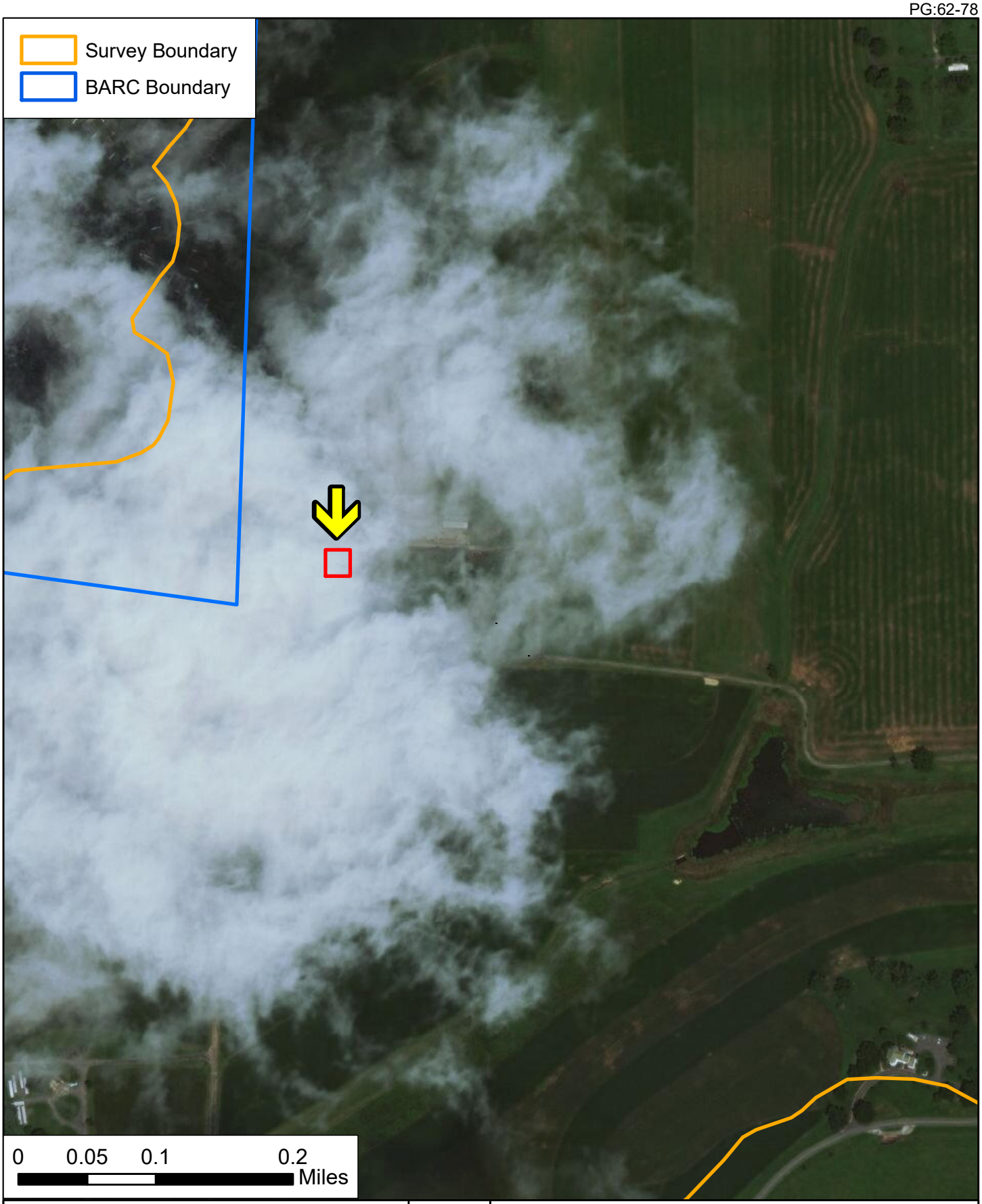
TITLE
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 5



CLIENT	USACE - Baltimore District
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SOURCE	ESRI DigitalGlobe Imagery

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TITLE: Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Building 192G - Scale House (PG: 62-78)

AECOM
12420 Milestone Center Dr.
Germantown, MD 20876

PROJ NO 60613151

FIGURE 6

Photograph Log **PG: 62-78**

USDA
Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS
Building 192G: Scale House
10300 Baltimore Avenue, Central Farm
Prince George's County, MD
Photographer: Christina Sabol, Architectural Historian
June 2, 2020
MD SHPO

Archival Black and White Photographs and Digital Photographs for the Maryland Historical Trust.

1. PG62-78_2020-06-02_01.tif, Building 192G, Scale House, Central Farm, View of East Elevation, Looking West

Photo 1 - Building 192G, Scale House, Central Farm, View of East Elevation, Looking West

CLIENT	USACE - Baltimore District	TITLE	Photographs Building 192G: Scale House (PG: 62-78)
PROJ	Bureau of Engraving and Printing EIS		
SCALE	-		
SOURCE	AECOM		
Q:\Projects\ENV\IAP\CRM\USACE Baltimore District\ Bureau of Engraving & Printing, EIS, at USDA BARC\400-Technical\430 Reports\ 432 Draft Deliverables\DOEs\Building 192G\Photos		AECOM 12420 Milestone Center Dr. Germantown, MD 20876	PROJ NO 60485181 FIGURE