How To Obtain Aerial Photographs

The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Earth Science Information Center (ESIC) maintains an informational data base of aerial photographic coverage of the United States and its territories that date back to the 1940's.

This information describes photographic projects from the USGS, other Federal, State, and local government agencies, and commercial firms.

In this part of the original 9 x 9 inch photograph, at a scale of 1:40,000, 1 inch on the photograph represents 3,333 feet on the ground. The original photograph is from NAPPW Roll 6860, Frame 59.

The photos on this page show a portion of a standard 9- by 9-inch photograph and the results obtained by enlarging the original photograph two and four times. Compare the size of the Qualcomm Stadium, Jack Murphy Field, in San Diego, Calif, and adjacent parking lot and freeways at the different scales.

ESIC representatives will assist you in locating and ordering photographs. Please submit the completed checklist, geographic coordinates (if known), and your marked map to any ESIC.

Information

For information on these and other USGS products and services, call 1-800-USA-MAPS, or use the EARTHFAX fax-on-demand system, which is available 24 hours a day at 703-648-4888.

Please visit the USGS home page at <URL: http://www.usgs.gov/>
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Checklist for aerial photographs

1. If you know the project, roll, and frame number of the photographs you want, contact your nearest ESIC for ordering assistance.
2. If you do not know the precise aerial photograph you need, complete this form and return it with your marked map and geographic coordinates, if known, to any ESIC. A researcher will provide information about available photographs that match your requirements. Please include your daytime telephone number. If you have any questions, call 1-800-USA-MAPS.

Name (first, middle initial, last)  Date

Company or agency  Telephone number (day)

Address  FAX number

City, State, and ZIP code  E-mail address

Specific area to be shown (enclose a detailed marked map)

State:  County:  Town:

USGS quadrangle map name (if known):  

Township, range, and section (if known):  

Latitude and longitude (if known):  

Specific feature (crossroads, neighborhood, or farm) you want to see:  

Please describe your intended use (to assist the researcher):


Film type

☐ Black and white  Most aerial photographs on record were taken with black-and-white film. Color-infrared photographs are available for the entire country.

☐ Color infrared  For detailed information about color infrared, refer to the publication "Understanding Color-Infrared Photographs" available free from any ESIC.

☐ Color (limited availability)  

☐ No preference  

Date of photograph

☐ Most recent  Specific year or range of years:

☐ Oldest  Season of year, if you have a preference:

Stereoscopic coverage

☐ Yes  A three-dimensional view of the terrain can be obtained by overlapping and viewing a consecutive pair of photographs through a stereoscope.

☐ No  

Comments: