

Activity 1 – Aerial Photographs

Students will download aerial photographs for their community from different times and examine them either in ArcGIS or simply as photographs on their computer. Students will have time to examine the photographs on their own and will be encouraged to look for what has changed through time, what is new, what is missing, etc.

Materials:

- Computer

Finding and Examining Historic Aerial Photographs

- Go to this site: <https://aerial.swc.nd.gov/>
- Find your community and zoom to the area you are most interested in exploring



- Go to the polygon tab and click on each corner of the area you are interested in to draw a polygon. If you make a mistake simply click the “Reset Drawing” button.
- Click “Query in Polygon” Below the photographs from your polygon will show up.
- Select “Download all air photo projects within your drawn polygon” and a list of all photographs will show up. Select the photographs you would like to examine and download them.

Examining Aerial Photos in ArcGIS

- Open

Open ArcMap on your computer.

- Click

Click to open ArcCatalog

- Click

Click and link to your downloads folder

- Find

Find the photographs you downloaded and drag them into the map area

- Use

Use to explore your photographs

1. What are the main differences you are finding among the pictures?
2. What could be the reasons behind these changes?