## **International Training Project 2021**



 History and Historic Photographic Technologies

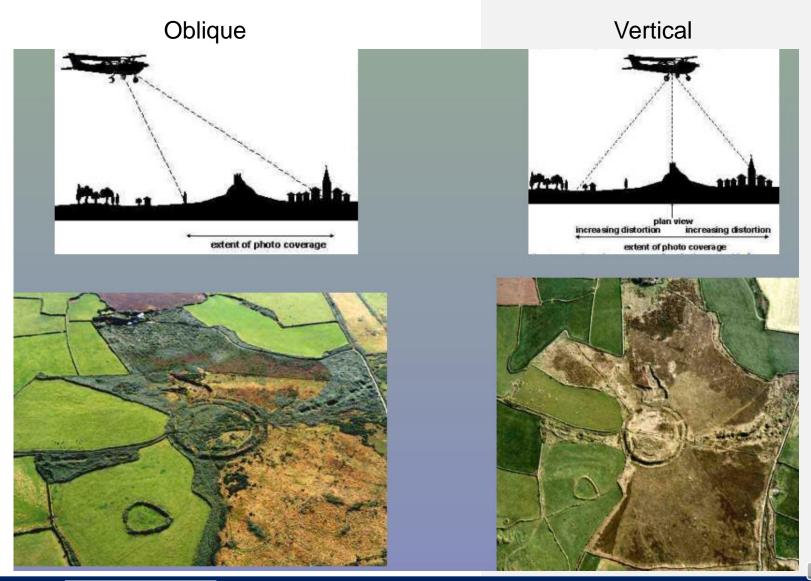
# Aerofototeca Nazionale The National Archive of Aerial Photography

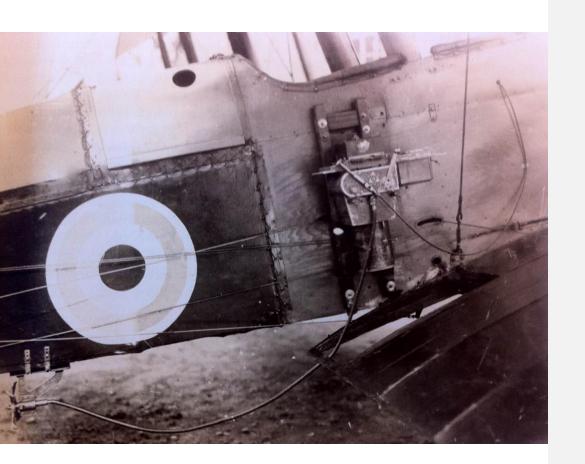
- Part B -





Different cameras... for different purposes





'L'-type camera (patent 1917) with its **wind powered** device



Williamson propeller powered airplane camera (invented in 1915), was probably the first camera to be specifically made for aerial photography.





Italian Geographic
Military Institute (IGM) –
preparation for
photogrammetric aerial
survey

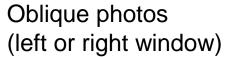


Photographers at RAF Benson base testing cameras before installing them

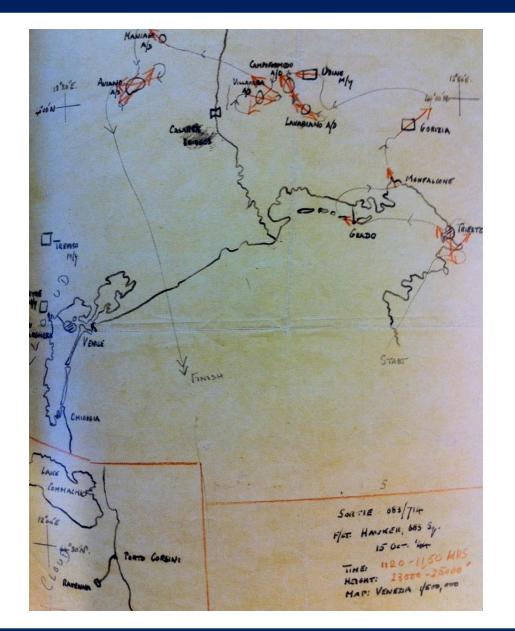


Post war F96 camera [Photo courtesy: RAF photographers memorial]

Ministry of Olture





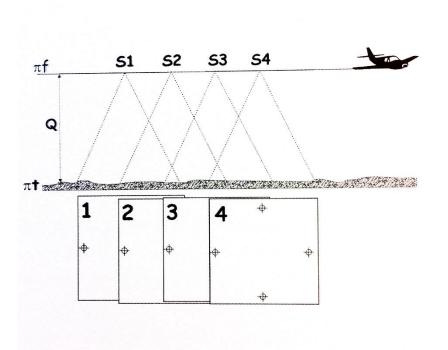


## Recording an aerial survey

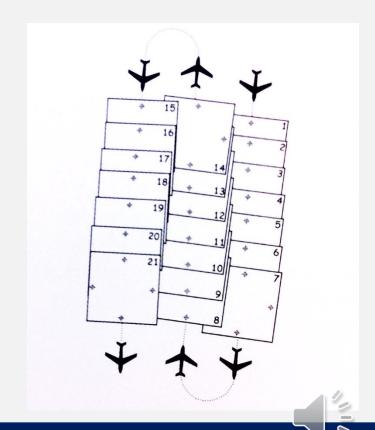
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Modern systematic (unbiased) aerial survey



Modern systematic (unbiased) aerial survey



# Overlapping

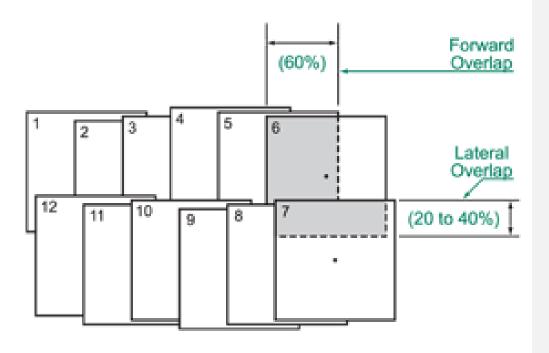


Photo printing and "reading"

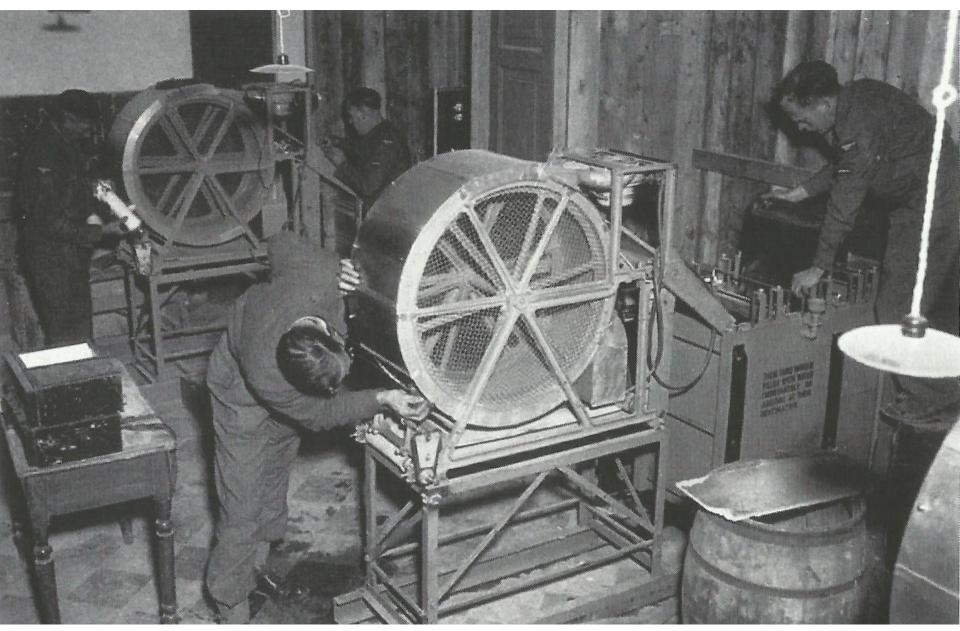


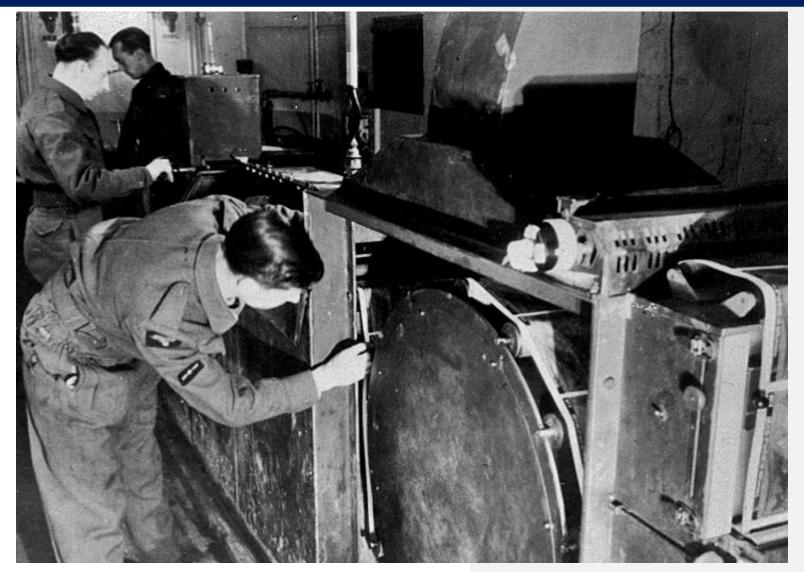
Photo printing machines at San Severo (1944) - Ph. J.H. Eggleston, RAF



Post war F96 camera [Photo courtesy: RAF photographers memorial]



WW2 Type B darkroom tent France 1940



WW2 - MFPS Print processor





**Photo-sorting** [Photo courtesy: RAF photographers memorial]



Photo printing and photo-interpretation at San Severo (1944) - Ph. J.H. Eggleston, RAF

## Connecticut First State To Have Its Picture Taken From Air Best Map Ever Made Is Clever Blend of 10,500 Photographs

'Shots' Every 25 Seconds Were Made From Planes Flying 100 Miles An Hour

Twelve Thousand Exposures Made In 153 Hoi Aloft At Altitude Of 11,400 Feet—Rehind-Ti Scenes Duties Outlined—Matching Prints Tilish Job—Maps Of All Sizes Available

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Gianluca Cantoro



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Value Of Aerial Survey
Already Made Apparent
To Official Departments

Four Square Miles Not Taxed Before Discovered In Fairfield County—Township Line Error Rectified Near Danbury—Military, Highway, Health And Water Office Forence Aid

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Photo-map made of 10.500 photographs

March 31st, 1935





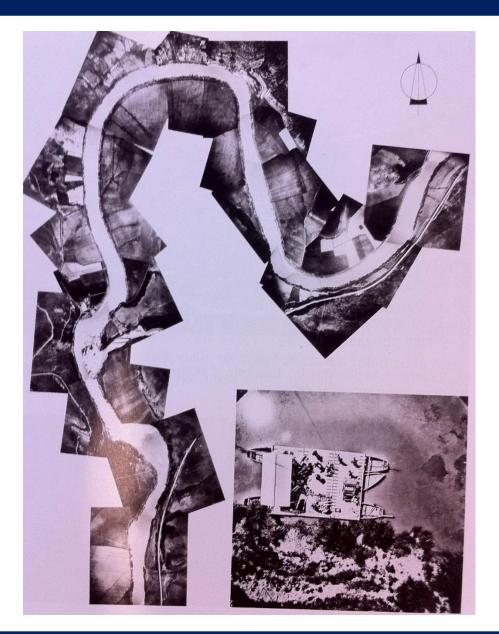


Photo-mosaic (tethered balloon from a boat in the river)

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Photo-mosaic

Steel mat runway and taxiways constructed by Corps of Engineers Spots in adjacent fields are wheat shocks

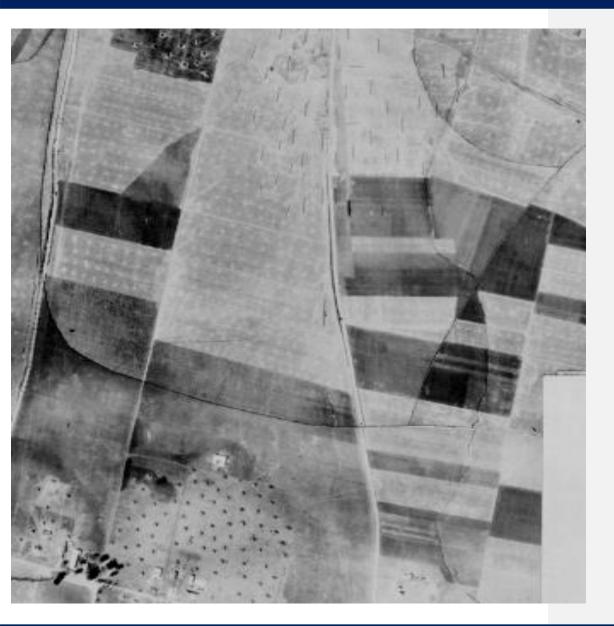
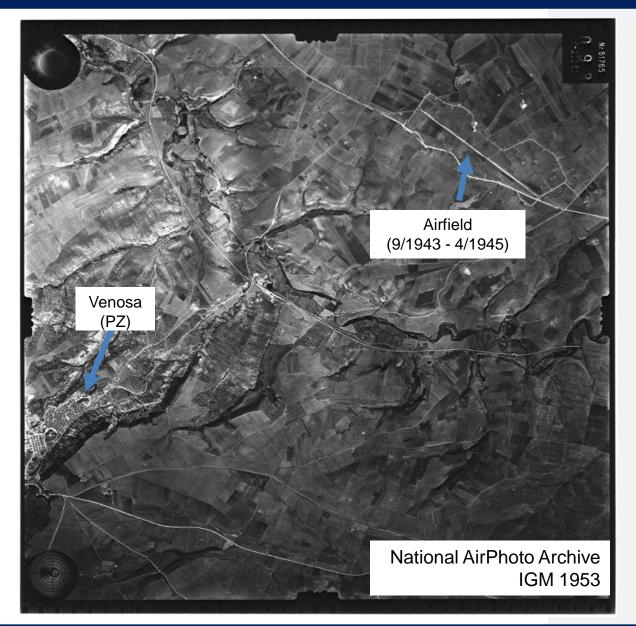


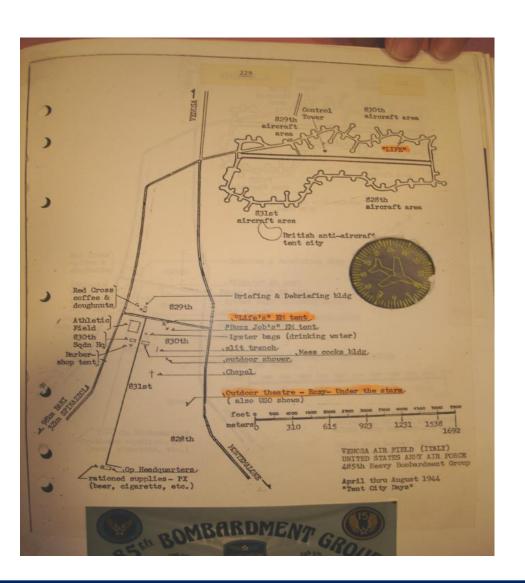
Photo-mosaic (detail)



Abandoned WWII airfield (base for the *485th Heavy Bombardment Group* US Airforce) in use between 1943 and 1945, still visible in 1953.

Very little memory remains today about the airfield between the locals.

[The research has been undertaken in collaboration with the Faculty of Archaeology at the University of Leiden (NL)]

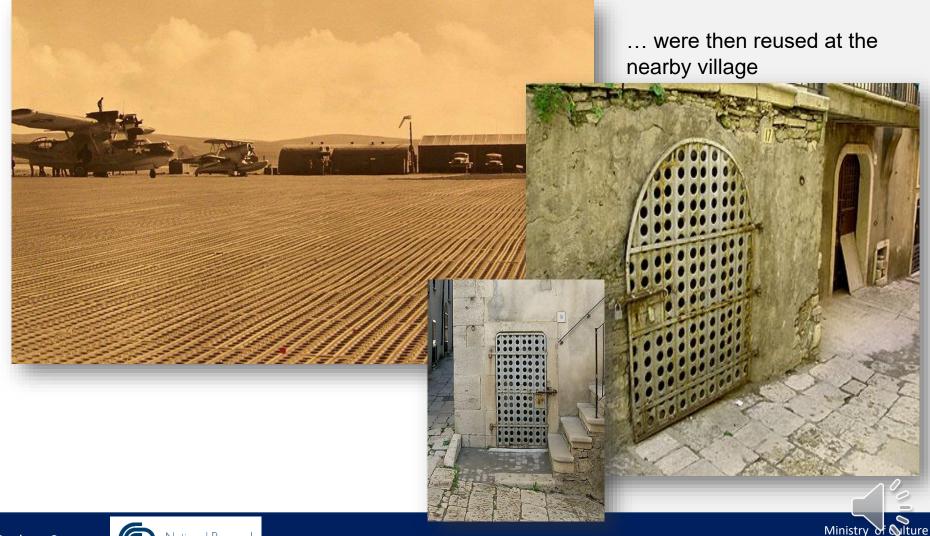


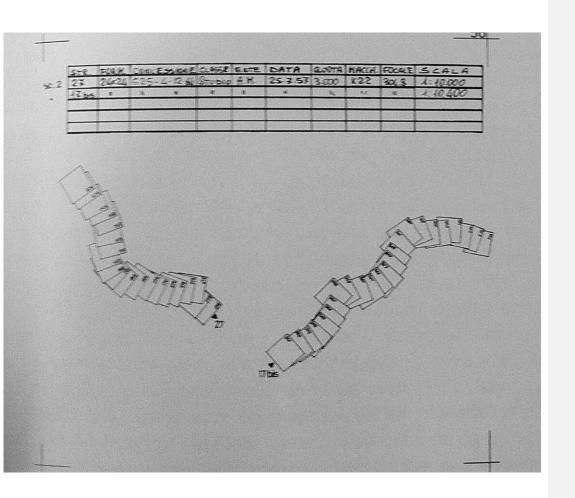


From the private (unpublished) diary of Sergeant Clarence "Deacon" Miller [nose gunner for the 485th Heavy **Bombardment Group**]



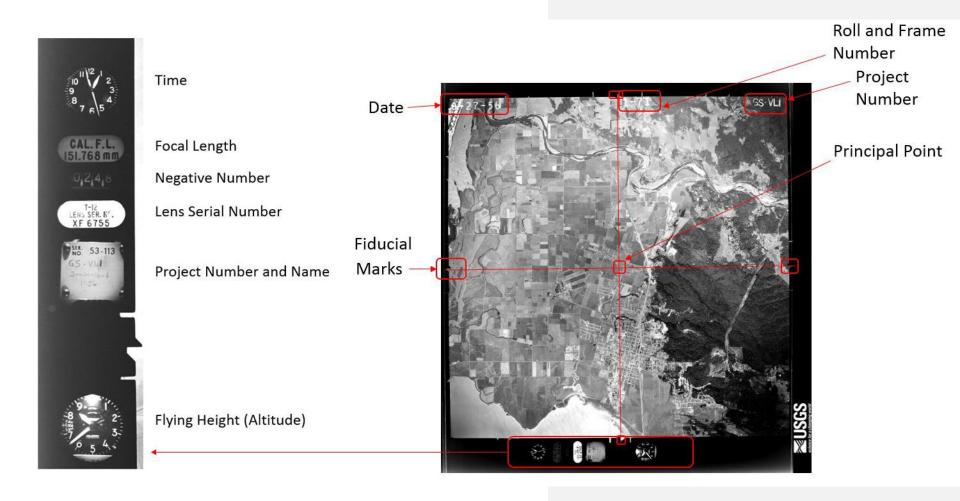
The Marston Mat (or PSP, Perforated Steel Planking), employed for the muddy soil of the airfield...





Transparency layer with photo-footprints





Ministry of Olture

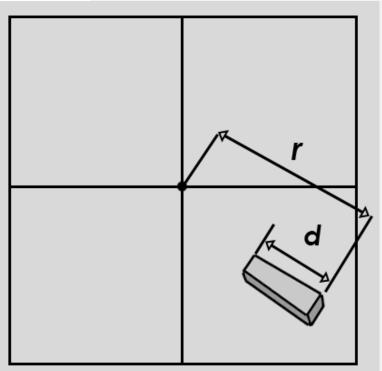
$$h^{\circ} = \frac{dH'}{r}$$

h° = height of the object

d = length of displaced object on the photo

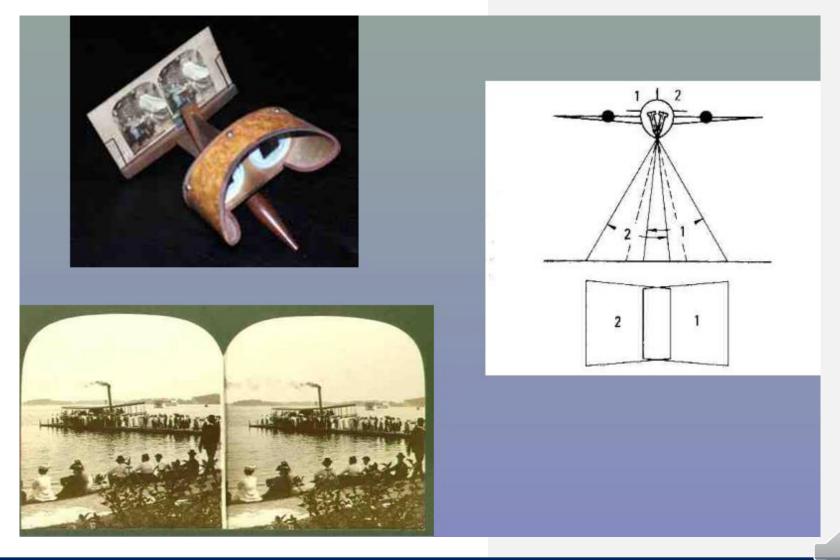
r = radial distance from principal point to displaced image point

H' = flying height above the surface (flying height above sea level – average elevation)



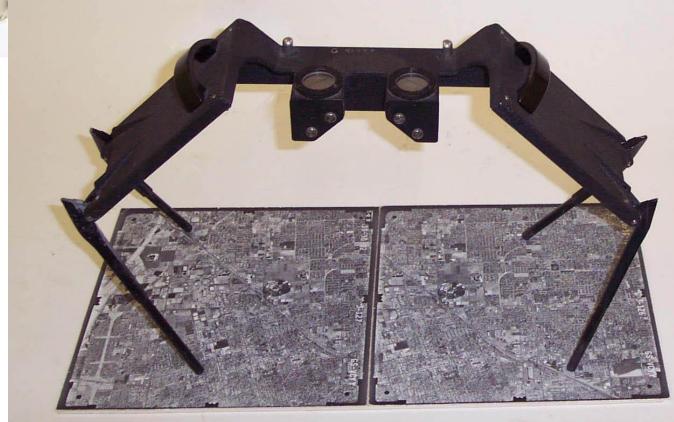
Using "fiducials" to measure object in the photo-frame

# Stereoscopic images for stereoscopic view



# Stereoscopic images for stereoscopic view





Aerial photographs. What are we looking for?

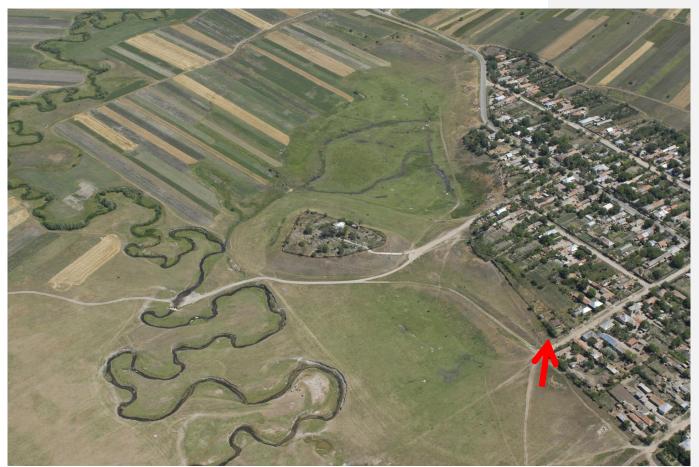




- The main components of the picture;
- Time of year;
- 3. Time of day?
- 4. Any shape to the
  - ground? High/low
  - places'
- 5. The "island"?



- The main components
   of the picture; [a,b,c,d]
- 2. Time of year;
- 3. Time of day?
- 4. Any shape to the ground? High/low places?
- 5. The "island"?



- 1. The main components of the picture; [a,b,c,d]
- 2. Time of year; [e,f]
- 3. Time of day?



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- The main components
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- 2. Time of year; [e,f]
- 3. Time of day?
- 4. Any shape to the ground? High/low places? [g,h,j,k]
- 5. The "island"?

#### The National Archive of Aerial Photography



TELL-UL MGURA, Teleorman Romania [44.040 N – 25.389 E]

By so doing we have put the occupation site and its inhabitants in an **environmental context** that may help explain how they lived.

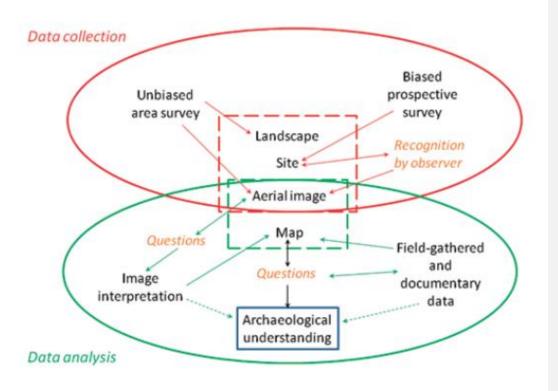
The alternative description made by going directly to the archaeological site on the photo and describing it as a tell by a river would have given us less information and a lower level of understanding of what may have happened in the past.



- Aerial and satellite photographs/images come in two types:
  - Biased (airborne observer to record what has been recognized and thought to be of interest)
  - Unbiased (large extent of the ground as completely as possible at the time of capture)
- •Both types of image can be examined stereoscopically although our flying observers often do not take such suitable photographs.
- •Image interpreters have to work with a mix information and, if they are able, to link this with knowledge gained by other means.







The diagram (by Rog Palmer) outlines the processes of data collection (aerial and satellite photography) and its analysis (photo interpretation) and draws in other sources of information to seek greater archaeological understanding

## Photo-interpretation not only for archaeology

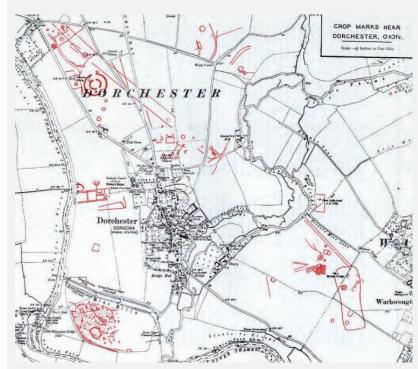


Densities of forest cover: 1 closed, 2 semiclosed, 3 semi-open, 4 open and 5 deforested

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#### The National Archive of Aerial Photography

- •Many manuals identify several stages in the process of photo examination of which 'interpretation' is the highest level.
- •In most cases they note that interpretation must <u>end with</u> a **map** as this is a necessary part of interpretation.
- •Without interpretation, aerial photographs, satellite images, airborne laser scans (and others) remain little more than illustrations although this is one of their occasional uses.



An interpretative map of Dorchester by Major G. W. G. Allen



### **International Training Project 2021**



History and Historic Photographic Technologies

Aerofototeca Nazionale
The National Archive of
Aerial Photography

- Part B -

# Thank you!

For any other question or comment

gianluca.cantoro@cnr.it



