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Air Photographs for Your Teaching

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GEOGRAPHY

AIR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR YOUR TEACHING

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Most aerial photographs of Minnesota can be obtained from federal agencies. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has the greatest number of aerial negatives available to the public.

The Soil Conservation Service began to photograph Minnesota aeri-ally in 1934. The Service was interested in discovering what time of year and what scale of photography would identify soils best on aerial photographs. The experimentation continues but the Commodity Stabilization Service possesses the most prints.

The Commodity Stabilization Service uses aerial photographs to check on farm activities and incomes. Ever since the service began to have air photographs taken—in 1937—the counties of greatest economic interest have been the most photographed.

The Forestry Service is the third service of the Department of Agriculture that is interested in aerial photography. It began to photograph Minnesota forests in 1936.

In 1953 the Army Corps of Engineers had the State of Minnesota photographed from high altitude. Since then it has turned the negatives over to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Geological Survey has used these high altitude photographs to develop the 1:-250,000 series of topographic maps.

In 1947 the U.S. Geological Survey began photographing areas in Minnesota so as to make modern topographic maps. The "GS—" air photographs available indicate areas that are covered or will be covered by topographic maps.

The table below indicates when each Minnesota County has been photographed aeri-ally—in part (*), or from high altitude (†):

YEARS PHOTOGRAPHED FROM THE AIR

Aitkin	1939	....			1953*	1956	
Anoka	1938	1949†			1953*	1953	1957
Becker	1939	1949†			1952*	1953	1957† 1958
Beltrami	....	1940	1947†	1949†	1953*		
Benton	1938	1947†			1953*	1953	1957
Big Stone	1938	1941†			1950	1952*	1955

* (partial county coverage due to a special interest such as forestry).

† (High Altitude Photography)

PROCEEDINGS, VOLUME TWENTY-SEVEN, 1959

Blue Earth	1938	1949*	1949†	1950	1958		
Brown	1938	....		1950	1953*	1955	
Carlton	1939	1948		1953*	1957†		
Carver	1937	....		1950	1951	1953*	1953† 1957
Cass	1939	1947†	1949†	1953*			
Chippewa	1938	....		1950	1953*	1955	
Chisago	1938	1948†		1953*	1953	1957	
Clay	1939	1948		1952*	1954	1958	
Clearwater	1939	....		1951†	1953*		
Cook	1939	1949		1950†	1953*	1957†	
Cottonwood	1938	1949*		1950	1958		
Crow Wing	1939	....		1953*	1956		
Dakota	1937	1940	1947†	1951	1953*	1957	
Dodge	1937	1948*		1951	1956		
Douglas	1938	....		1951	1953*	1958	
Faribault	1938	1949*	1949	1954†	1954	1959	
Fillmore	1934†	1937	1940	1947	1949*	1953	1954† 1959
Freeborn	1937	1949*	1949	1951†	1953	1954†	1959
Goodhue	1937	1949†		1951	1953*	1958	
Grant	1938	....		1951	1953*	1958	
Hennepin	1937	1940	1949†	1953†	1953*	1953	1957
Houston	1934†	1937	1947	1950*	1954†	1954	1956†
Hubbard	1939	1949†		1953*			
Isanti	1938	....		1953*	1953	1955†	1955
Itasca	1939	1947		1951†	1953*		
Jackson	1938	1949*	1949	1954	1959		
Kanabec	1939	....		1953*	1953†		
Kandiyohi	1938	....		1950	1953*	1955	1956†
Kittson	1939	1948		1952*	1954	1958	
Koochiching	....	1940		1951	1953*		
Lac qui parle	1938	....		1950	1952*	1955	
Lake	1937	1949		1953*	1056†		
Lake of the Woods	1939	1949†		1953*			
Le Sueur	1937	1940		1950	1953*	1958	
Lincoln	1938	....		1950;	1952*	1955	
Lyon	1938	....		1950	1953*	1955	
McLeod	1937	1940		1950	1953*	1953†	1955
Mahnomen	1939	....		1953*	1953	1958	
Marshall	1939	1948		1952*	1954	1958	
Martin	1938	1949*	1949	1954	1959		
Meeker	1938	....		1950	1953*	1953†	1955
Mille Lacs	1939	....		1953*	1957		
Morrison	1939	....		1953*	1955		
Mower	1937	1949*	1949	1954	1959		
Murray	1938	1949*		1950	1955	1959	
Nicollet	1938	1949†		1950	1953*	1955	
Nobles	1938	1949*	1949	1954	1959		
Norman	1939	1948		1952*	1954	1958	

† (*High Altitude Photography*)

* (*partial county coverage due to a special interest such as forestry*).

THE MINNESOTA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Olmsted	1937		1940		1951	1953*	1954†	1958
Otter Tail	1936†	1939	....		1953*	1953	1957	
Pennington	1939		....		1952*	1953	1958	
Pine	1939		1945†		1950†	1952†	1953*	1957†
Pipestone	1938		....		1950	1952*	1955	1959
Polk	1939		1948		1953*	1954	1958	
Pope	1938		....		1951	1953*	1958	
Ramsey	1937		1940	1947	1949	1953*	1953	1957
Red Lake	1939		....		1953*	1953	1958	
Redwood	1938		....		1950	1953*	1955	
Renville	1938		....		1950	1953*	1955	
Rice	1935†	1937	1940		1951	1953*	1958	
Rock	1936		1940	1949		1952*	1954	1959
Roseau	1939		1949†		1953*	1953	1958	
St. Louis	....		1941	1948		1950†	1953*	1953†
Scott	1937		1940		1951	1953*	1957	1956†
Sherburne	1938		1947†		1953*	1953	1957	1957†
Sibley	1938		....		1950	1953*	1953†	1957
Stearns	1938		1947†		1951	1953*	1958	
Steele	1937		....		1951	1953*	1958	
Stevens	1937		....		1951	1952*	1958	
Swift	1938		....		1950	1953*	1955	
Todd	1939		....		1953*	1953	1957	
Traverse	1938		....		1951	1952*	1956	
Wabasha	1937		1949†		1951	1953*	1959	
Wadena	1939		1949†		1953*			
Waseca	1937		....		1951	1953*	1956	
Washington	1938		1947†	1949†	1953*	1953	1957	
Watonwan	1938		1949*		1950	1957†	1958	
Wilkin	1939		1949†		1951	1952*	1958	
Winona	1936		1947		1953*	1953†	1954	1956†
Wright	1937		1940	1947†	1953*	1953	1957	1959
Yellow Medicine	1938		....		1951	1953*	1958	

† (*High Altitude Photography*)

* (*partial county coverage due to a special interest such as forestry*).

To facilitate interpretation of the table, Stearns County may serve as an example. This has been photographed by the Department of Agriculture in 1938, 1951 and in 1958. It was photographed partially in 1947 by the U.S. Geological Survey which subsequently produced the Saint Cloud and Annandale Quadrangles in 1950 and 1951 respectively. Stearns County was photographed from high altitude in 1953, and these photographs were used to make the 1:250,000 Saint Cloud area topographic map in 1958.

Private companies and individual counties have taken air photographs also. However it is best to check locally to find out when and by whom such pictures were taken.

LITERATURE CITED

AHLQUIST, G. R., 1959, Air Photographs in Your Teaching. *Minn. Jour. Sci.* 2:28-33.