

Welcome to the NCAP Autumn 2014 newsletter, which aims to keep our subscribers informed of new releases and upcoming projects here at NCAP.

NEWS

[Rosenheim 1864-2014 exhibition uses NCAP aerial photography](#)



NCAP aerial photography featured in an exhibition, Rosenheim 1864-2014, about the south-east German city. Hosted in the Rathaus der Stadt Rosenheim from 7-31 July, the exhibition charted the growth and development of the Bavarian city using historical mapping and aerial photography.

Using more than 90 NCAP aerial images which record the attacks on the city by the United States Army Air Force (USAAF) on 9 and 20 April 1945, the destructive impact of the Second World War on the city was highlighted from an aerial perspective.

[NCAP Website imagery assists weapons search](#)



Geophysical investigations were carried out at an Elgin primary school following the identification of a Second World War trench in the school grounds.

RAF aerial photography of Elgin dating from 1943 was examined on the NCAP website by contaminated land staff at Moray Council. Using the council's commercial subscription to the NCAP website, staff members were able to zoom into the wartime imagery and identify the zigzag pattern trench and numerous military vehicles parked in the playing fields of West End Primary School.

It was thought that the site was occupied by the Home Guard during the Second World War, and while it was not likely that live ammunition was stored there, the local authority believed that weapons could have been buried at the site.

Subsequent geophysical survey and investigative work was completed before

children returned to school in August, with no weapons or munitions found.

Link: [BBC Website](#)

3D model of Rome created

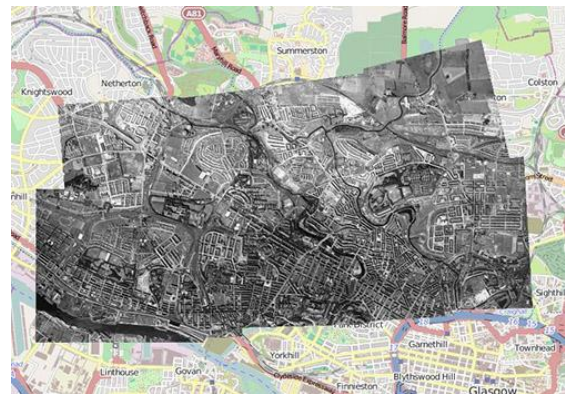


A joint research project between NCAP and the University of Vienna Aerial Archive enabled the creation of a 3D model of Rome in 1944 by Christopher Sevara, of the University of Vienna.

The visualisation of Rome on 20 August 1944 was made using a combination of 30 aerial reconnaissance photographs from the NCAP archive. The model and photographic orthomosaic were generated using image-based modelling software which can extract 3D information from overlapping sets of photographs, even when there is no information known about the cameras with which the photographs were taken. As the photographs are the sole source of data used for the reconstructions, this software makes it possible to build 3D reconstructions and visualisations of buildings and landscape features which have since changed or even disappeared entirely.

During his work at NCAP, Christopher also carried out a rigorous assessment of distortion inherent in digitising historical aerial film and prints using a range of digital imaging systems.

Mosaics now available to subscribers

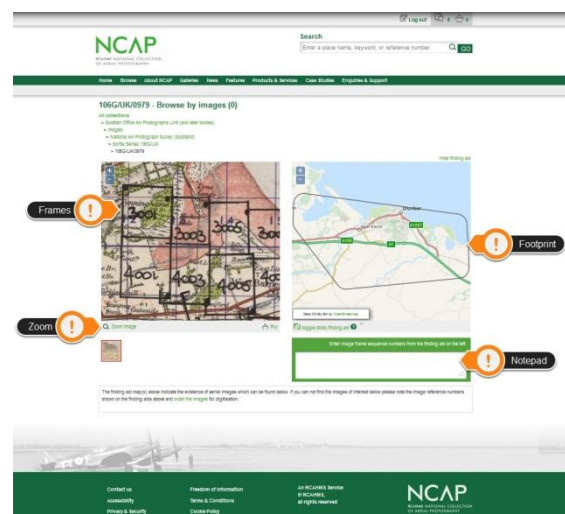


Mosaics of parts of Sardinia, Glasgow and Scotland are now available again to NCAP website subscribers. These mosaics of historical aerial photographs are overlain on modern mapping, allowing direct comparisons with modern features to be made.

Mosaics of Toulon and Rome will be re-released in coming months.

Images and Finding Aids Uploaded

During September, over 2,000 Second World War aerial images of locations in Bavaria were uploaded to the NCAP website, with many more to come in the next few months.



Also uploaded were over 1,000 Finding Aids from the ACIU archive. These Finding Aids give access to over 285,000 undigitised aerial photographs of locations across Western Europe from 1940-1941. Included in these are finding aids for sorties flown by the RAF to monitor [Operation SEALION](#) - German preparations for the invasion of Britain in September 1940. Imagery from these sorties was analysed by photographic interpreters to assess the build-up of landing barges and support vessels in Channel ports including Calais, Oostende, Boulogne and Antwerp.

Subscribers can now search for cover of an area of interest, zoom into the digitised finding aids for that area and identify the specific aerial photographs covering their target location. They can then order copies of these to be digitised for further study.

NEW FEATURES

Check out our new Feature articles:

[Directorate of Overseas Surveys](#)

[Saving the DOS Collection](#)

[The All Scotland Survey](#)

NEW GALLERIES

[Rome, 20 August 1944](#)

[Whitebeam Battlefield Research Forum](#)

Members of the Whitebeam Battlefield Research Forum have been busy in recent weeks, studying online aerial images taken on D-Day. Their gallery shows frames that we were unable to locate from sortie plots but have now been identified by Forum members.

NEW VIDEOS

Check out these Videos on YouTube:



1. Former Directorate of Overseas Surveys surveyor Dr Arthur Allan explains the use of a stereoscope to view aerial photographs.



2. Using historical aerial photography to resolve land ownership issues in Kenya.



3. British Pathé film documenting an RAF aerial survey sortie over London in 1949, part of Operation REVUE, the national air photograph survey of the UK.