

DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER 2003 AERIAL IMAGERY



The GIS Department has recently acquired new, high resolution, aerial photography encompassing the entire District. The imagery will not only be used as background information for mapping but it will also aid in analysis. Photo-interpreters utilize aerial photography to identify features, determine land-use and gauge environmental conditions and vegetation distribution.



Zoning

The urban region of North Vancouver, including the City of North Vancouver, was captured at a flight elevation of 7,000 feet. A large digital camera mounted on a Cessna aircraft was used to capture the photography. A total of 6 flight paths criss-crossing the area were needed to obtain all of the photography in the developed region.



Utilities: Water (blue), Sanitary (red)

Once the images were taken the data was sent to Ohio, USA for processing. Part of the image processing took place here in Vancouver where the images were sewed together and colour balanced. This process ensured a seamless look and eliminated sun angle and glare effects specific to each frame.



Utilities: Fire Hydrants

While the digital files were being processed McElhanney was busy preparing a digital elevation model, or DEM. The digital images needed to be stretched over a terrain model representing our earth's surface. This process also places the images in their correct spatial location. By using GIS software one can then select a point on any one of the images and the exact location is known. This allows technicians to make precise measurements between two locations. Once all of the images were colour balanced and stretched over the DEM they were ready for delivery.

Over the past 50 years, aerial photography has played a crucial role in the development of major engineering projects such as the Trans-Canada Highway and the St. Lawrence Seaway. Aerial imagery has proved invaluable in the development of northern Canada and in the evaluation of Canada's forest resources. Today, aerial photography remains an essential tool in forestry management, pollution control, urban planning, and mapping.



Maplewood Area