

## 1939 Imagery

### **Photography Author:**

Actual author unknown, but, more than likely, U.S. Government (military).

### **Inventory:**

14 images in total. More are available but they fall outside of this project's study area.

### **Background:**

These photographs were originally "discovered" at the Natural Resource Conservation Services in Northampton, MA by Eve Preus (Hampshire College). Dr. Preus has now moved on from her position with the Department of Natural Sciences. However, records indicate that Dr. Preus contracted to King Visual Technology (Bara-King Photographic, Inc.) in Hyattsville, Maryland, to acquire the imagery from a National Archives facility in Maryland. Unfortunately, King Visual Technology is no longer in business and could not be contacted.

Contact information for King Visual Technology:

4805 Frolich Lane  
Hyattsville, MD 20781-1290  
(301)322-7900

Dr. Preus was interested in purchasing black and white 10" x 10" reprints of these photographs. Hampshire College has these reprints in their possession and they are of superb quality.

Dr. Steve Roof, at Hampshire, is now in possession of the imagery and uses it quite often for his GIS classes. Dr. Roof was more than happy to share the data and can be contacted at [sroof@hampshire.edu](mailto:sroof@hampshire.edu)

### **Methodology:**

For this project, all of the 1939 aerial images were scanned and geographically referenced. From there, per request of the Town of Amherst, the images were stitched together using a feathering technique and imported into a geodatabase for faster/easier display.

This data was submitted to the Town of Amherst as a deliverable on May 1, 2009. The products provided in this deliverable include:

- a.) The original scanned, raw images.
- b.) Georeferenced version of each image tile.
- c.) Mosaicked image that was clipped to a smaller study area (the footprint of the 2004 orthophoto provided by the Town of Amherst).
- d.) An Index map.

**Recommendation:**

The quality of re-prints in the possession of Hampshire College indicate that they were produced using original film. Therefore, with the use of modern technology, the data could be scanned at a much higher resolution.

If there is significant interest in higher-resolution versions of these photos, they could be tracked down through the National Archives. While possible, it may prove to be a significant undertaking due to the date of the data and the vague references cited in the letters of Dr. Preus (i.e. "the archives in Maryland").

If the data were to be tracked down, a contracting firm, approved by the National Archives, would need to be contacted to provide the services. Unfortunately, this step alone would significantly increase the cost associated with the project.

For more information on this product, or project, contact:  
Michael Warner at [mbwarner@gmail.com](mailto:mbwarner@gmail.com) or,  
Michael Olkin with the Town of Amherst at [OlkinM@amherstma.gov](mailto:OlkinM@amherstma.gov)