



**MAUREEN AND MIKE
MANSFIELD LIBRARY**

Archives and Special Collections Aerial Photography Project

Montana Imagery Summit Roll-Call
December 12, 2023

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Describe the imagery your organization has

- Aerial negatives on 9" reels
- Primarily from 1932-1944
 - also some color infrared from the late 60s and early 70s
- 30k+ images from 1932-1939
 - we believe these include some of the first aerials of Montana
- Most images are of Montana, but also Idaho and Washington (and a few British Columbia and Alberta)
- These are duplicates returned to USFS Region 1 from the National Archives
 - though some may be unique
- No logical organization to a reel - multiple flight lines / projects / years

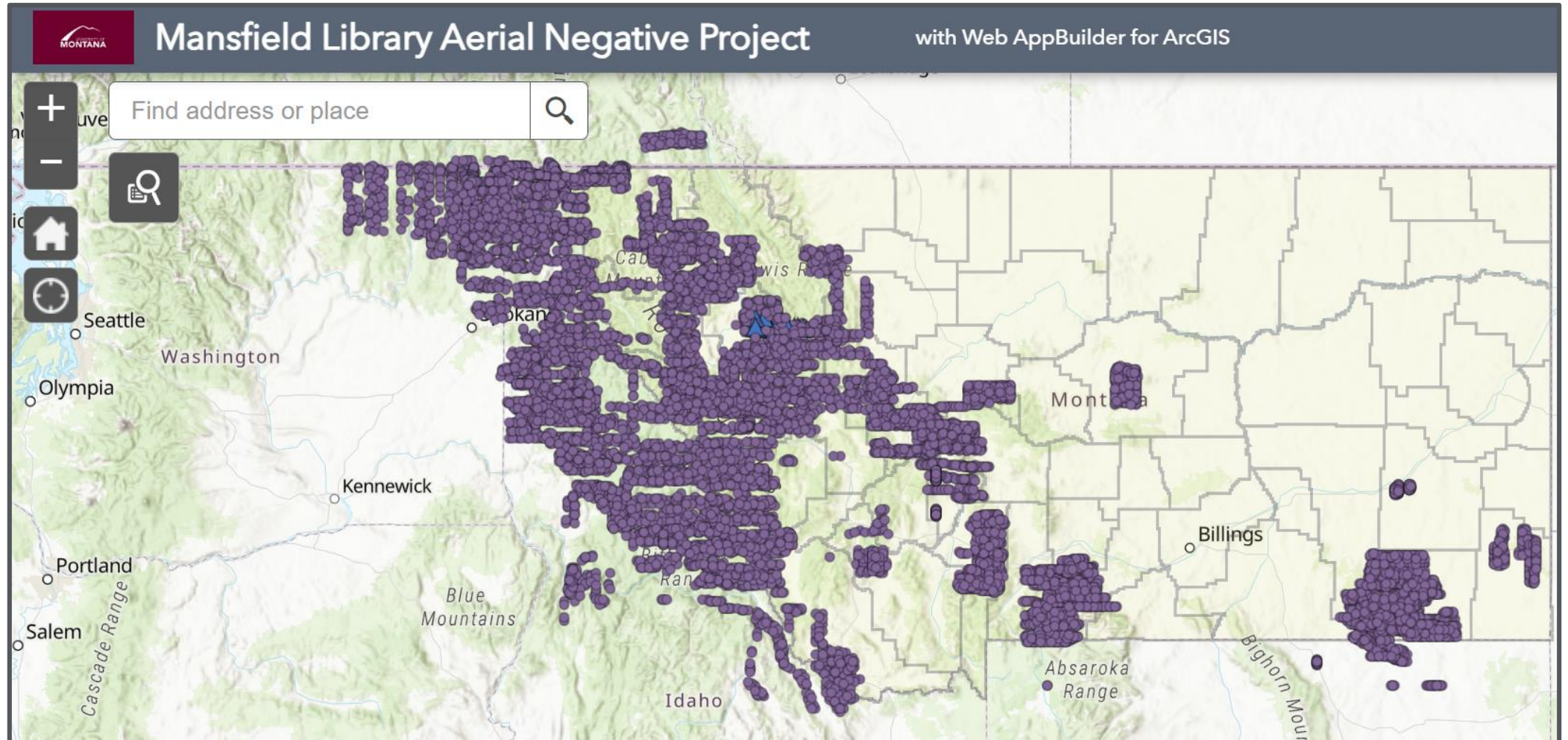


Describe how your imagery is made available

The primary public access 'index' to collection images is an ArcGIS webmap –

<https://umontana.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5467e94ab6b743148f226e097e1a26bf>

- Purple circles = images in the collection (not all images are on this map yet)
- Blue triangles = jpgs available online



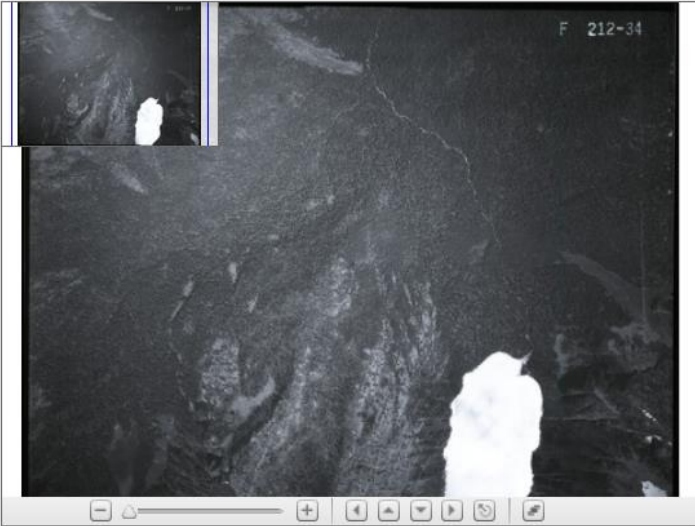
Describe how your imagery is made available

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UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS, 1934

Aerial photograph F_03_0212, Flathead County, Montana, 1934



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PLUMX METRICS


KEYWORDS

Aerial photographs; Aerial photography in forestry--West (U.S.)

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IMAGE LOCATION



United States. Forest Service. Northern Region

Date Created
7-11-1934

Center Latitude Dec
47.7480833333

Center Longitude Dec
-113.606191667

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Scanned images are made available online via UM's institutional repository, ScholarWorks.

https://scholarworks.umt.edu/aerial_photographs/



What are your top 2 to 3 business uses for imagery?

Archives and Special Collections is the image provider, not the image user. We believe uses include (but are not limited to):

- Documenting changes in landscape (such as the size of glaciers, the channels of rivers, evidence of forest fires, etc.)
- Documenting the footprint of industrial sites (for example, to inform cleanup / remediation efforts.)
- Documenting changes in municipalities through time.
- Documenting the existence or non-existence of access points (for example, to prove there was a road through an area that pre-dates a private land acquisition.)

What are your organization's challenges / pain points with aerial imagery?

- No Archives staff have GIS experience, and this is no one's primary project.
- Is this the best use of our time and effort?
- Uncertain who our audience is and how to reach them effectively.
- Uncertain if we are providing data in a useful way.
- Are we duplicating efforts? Is someone else scanning 1930s Montana?
- Image scans take a long time, and we have many 'skips' (images that won't scan).



What would you want to see out of a state imagery program?

- Help us determine if these images do have value / do have an audience.
- If they have value, help us get the word out about the image collection, and help connect Archives and Special Collections with that audience.
- If possible, help with resources for making images and associated data available in ways that are beneficial and that facilitate access and use.

thank you

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