

Some Definitions

- Photography: The art or process of producing images on a sensitized surface by the action of light or other radiant energy
- Image: A reproduction or imitation of the form of a view of objects
- Photo interpretation: The act of examining aerial photographs/images for the purpose of identifying objects and judging their significance
- Photogrammetry: The science or art of obtaining reliable measurements by means of photography

1858 Photography takes to the air



1858 - Gasper Felix Tournachon "Nadar" takes the first aerial photograph from a captive balloon from an altitude of 1,200 feet over Paris

Origins of Photogrammetry

- 1887 Germans began experiments with aerial photographs and photogrammetric techniques for measuring features and areas in forests
- 1889 Arthur Batut take the first aerial photograph from using a kite of Labruguiere France





















Photo Interpretation Tasks

- Detection and identification of features, phenomena, or processes
 - Detection and interpretation
 - Labeling
 - Confidence assessment
- Measurement and estimation
- Use in topographic and special purpose mapping
- Map update
- Problem solving
 - Object complexes
 - Object relations
 - Assessments/causes
- Rating of evidence
 - Assembly of information
 - Ranking and assessment































































Fort Huachuca, AZ



Summary

- Air photos have been used for mapping for over 100 years
- Science of photogrammetry
- Satellites, planes, kites, balloons, drones
- Images are systematically distorted, and must be corrected for mapping
- Interpretation: A skill
- Images and maps now almost interchangeable