

# Resources for Using Google Earth

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Google Earth is a constantly evolving tool, with regular updates and new features. The Google Earth community of users is constantly adding new content in the form of overlays, photographs, and information about the surface of the earth, environmental and political causes, and human history and culture.

The software is easy to use for many people, but getting help from others can save a lot of headaches and time. Here are some good resources:

## **Google Earth itself**

<http://earth.google.com/> The software is available for all common computer platforms, and there are even smartphone versions. Google also has extensive help and assistance files.

## **Panoramio**

This is Google's online file sharing service, [www.panoramio.com](http://www.panoramio.com). Photos linked on Google earth sit on this service and are available to anyone using the service.

## **Google Earth Hacks**

<http://www.gearthhacks.com/>. The site describes itself as fun stuff for Google Earth, but I've found many historic maps for significant events, such as WWII emplacements around London, 19<sup>th</sup> century map overlays, and historic air photos. It's worth a look

## **Genealogy and Google Earth on About.com**

<http://genealogy.about.com/b/2009/06/07/historic-map-overlays-in-google-maps.htm> is a tutorial for using overlays on Google earth.

## **Genealogy Insider, June 21, 2010**

<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2010/06/25/SeeTheWorldWithGoogleEarth.aspx> has a plug for a DVD course on using Google Earth for genealogy research. Since I'm not a genealogist, I can't vouch for how good it is, but you might want to take a look.